

**International Sled Dog Racing Association**  
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Press Release – For Immediate Release  
9/20/2006

**'East Meets West Dryland Challenge'**

**Sled dogs on wheels are coming to Brainerd Lakes area!** November 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> will see mushers converging on **Brainerd International Raceway** for competitions in new forms of sled dog racing. In response to the absence of reliable snow in many parts of North America, mushers are turning to new styles of racing that don't require the white stuff. **Rig racing, Bikejoring, Scooter racing** and **Canicross** (which doesn't even require wheels!) will be featured over a 3.7 mile course starting at Turn 6 at the BIR raceway. The dogs will run on a special dirt/sand trail along side of the asphalt road track and a good portion of the course will be visible from the bleachers at Turn 6.

**Rig racing** is done with 3 or 4 wheeled rigs and will be divided into 3 classes; 4 dogs, 6 dogs and 8 dogs. **Bikejoring** is done with adapted mountain bikes and 1 or 2 dogs, while scooter racing is done with special 'mountain scooters' and 1 or 2 dogs. **Canicross** is a person and a dog, no wheels. Similar to skijoring, the musher is hooked to their dog via a tugline and runs behind. For Juniors, an adult may also assist for safety reasons.

**Sportsman classes** will be offered in the 4 dog Rig, 1 & 2 dog Bikejoring, 1 & 2 Scooter and Canicross classes and anyone is invited to participate. Rules and entry forms can be found at <http://www.isdra-dryland-racing.info>. Pros will compete for a **\$5,125.00 purse** and must qualify to race, see the web site for details.

The **first official entry** for the **Pro 4 dog Rig class** has been received from **Devon Anderson of St. Ann's Bay, Jamaica**. Devon races for the **Chukka Cove Farm's Jamaican Sled Dog Team** which is sponsored by **Jimmy Buffett**, singer and songwriter. Visit <http://www.jamaicadogsled.com> for more information.

Founding sponsors include **Grand Casino, Mille Lacs, Tuffy Pet Foods, Perham and the Brainerd/Baxter Lodging Association**. Supporting sponsors include **KLKS 104.3 FM of Breezy Point, National Dog Food of New Holstein, WI and Mushing Magazine of Fairbanks, AK**. Team sponsors include **Midwest Mountaineering of Minneapolis, MN and Seal Tech Sealcoating of Brainerd, MN**. More are being added daily.



This event is produced in collaboration with Brainerd Community Action, Brainerd International Raceway and the International Sled Dog Racing Association.

Local co-organizers are Dave Steele, Merrifield and Maury Duval, Brainerd.

See <http://www.isdra-dryland-racing.info> and <http://www.isdra.org> or call (218) 765-4297 for more information.

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**Devon Anderson, Jamaica Sled Dog Team** trains for the **'East Meets West Dryland Challenge'**