

Montana Sled Dog, Inc. Presents

Mushing Webinar – Nov. 7, 14, & 21 at 7 PM CST

Three online talks by experienced, knowledgeable dog mushers and an expert in canine genetics.

Thursday, November 7th Training For and Running Mid-Distance Races

Matthew Failor, Musher - Matthew is a veteran Iditarod and Yukon Quest musher, Kuskokwin 300 Champion and multi-time humanitarian award winner in mid-distance racing. In 2019, Matthew and his dogs set a new speed record in Bethel's Kuskokwin 300 which they continue to defend each year. He also has four second place finishes in the Kusko. He has received the humanitarian award in the Kuskokwim 300 and the Copper Basin 300. His mid-distance resume also includes a top five finish in the Copper Basin and several finishes in the Knik 200 , the Northern Lights 300, and the Denali Doubles. Matthew is a 12 time Iditarod finisher, based out of Willow, Alaska. Matthew and wife, Liz, have a team of 55 Alaskan huskies.

Thursday, November 14th Training For and Running Long Distance Races

Paige Drobny, Musher - Paige is a nine time Iditarod finisher. Paige has 3 top 10 finishes, including finishing 5th in 2024 with a race time of 9d 13h 12m 26s. In 2019, Paige was awarded the Iditarod Most Improved Musher Award. She is a six time Yukon Quest finisher and received the Vet's Choice Award in 2017. Paige has also completed

the Copper Basin and Kuskokwim 300 multiple times. She finished the Copper Basin 6th place in 2023 and was awarded the Vet's Choice Award. Paige and her husband, Cody Strathe, operate Squid Acres Kennel. They offer a variety of mushing experiences from two locations, Cantwell, AK on the Denali Highway and Susitna Adventure Lodge, Mile 77 on the Denali Highway.

Thursday, November 21st Alaskan Husky
Encephalopathy: Understanding the Disease and Managing the Genetics in Your Kennel

Dr. Robert Grahn, Associate Director of Services and Test Development, Veterinary Genetics Lab, UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine - Dr. Grahn has dedicated over 25 years to the discovery and testing of inherited diseases in companion animals, contributing to more than 60 peer-reviewed publications in the field. He serves as a standing member of the International Society of Animal Genetics, participating in both the Companion Animal Genetics and Genomics and the Canine and Feline Comparison Test committees.

As one of two geneticists on the AKC Genetics Advisory Panel, Dr. Grahn brings valuable expertise to the realm of canine genetics. He is also a member of the National Institute of Standards and Technology's Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science, emphasizing his commitment to advancing scientific standards in animal genetics.

Dr. Grahn's primary research focuses on uncovering the genetic basis of inherited diseases and traits in cats and

dogs. He collaborates closely with veterinarians, breed clubs, owners, breeders, and students to identify genetic causes of inherited disorders. His mission is to enhance public resources that promote the genetic health of our animal companions. Dr. Grahn is passionate about engaging with pet owners to address concerns and provide solutions related to breed-specific inherited disorders.

All talks will be an hour, including approximately 20 minutes for Q &A

Don't miss this helpful information. Get ready for a great 2024-2025 mushing season!

Registration: \$30 for the three online sessions--entire Mushing Webinar. We will email the Zoom log-in to you after you register.

[Click here](#) to register for this Mushing Webinar on Nov. 7, 14 & 21, 2024.

Join us in Montana for the beauty and hospitality of Montana's Race to the Sky, February 7 – 11, 2025!

[Click here](#) to sign up for Race to the Sky