

Lack of snow causes race cancellation

The Settlers Bay dog sled race was cancelled last week due to lack of snow. The race, scheduled for January 10 and 11, was moved up to be run on January 31 and February 1, according to Richard Romer, of the Settlers Bay Resort.

"We're talking to somebody about getting some snow here," Richard said. "over the weekend about two inches of snow fell. There was some light rain also which put a thin crust over the snow. We're expecting more snow by race time."

There was no snow on race day last weekend. "There was no snow here, all gravel, the trail was icy," Richard said. "We cancelled the race because we didn't want to damage the sled dogs feet."

Richards is optimistic. He expects the race to be run at the end of the month at Settlers Bay. "I think we'll have a good showing," Richard said. "Dick Mackey and Joe Reddington have done a good job getting mushers. I expect about 25 mushers to run."

Entry fee for the race is set at \$100.00. The purse is set at \$5,000. The race course totals 120 miles, with an overnight at Rabbit Lake some 60 miles up the Iditarod Trail and return. Dick Mackey, past iditarod champion will be the race

marshall.

The mushers meeting and position drawing will be held on Saturday, January 31 at Noon at the Settlers Bay Lodge. The first team will leave on the trail at 1 p.m. Teams are expected back at Settlers Bay the next

day at about noon. For further information, contact Settlers Bay at 376-5298.

Awards will be presented at about 7 p.m., hopefully that will give all the mushers time to take care of their teams and rest up before awards," Richards said.