

# Biggest Dog Race in The World at Bethel

The dates for the largest sled dog race in the world have been set. The Bethel Winter Carnival Committee has slated the biggest dog race for January 28th and 29th.

The race may likely attract more than 100 teams, far more than any other Alaskan sled dog race, with some teams having to journey as long as eight

trail-days to reach Bethel, the site of the big race.

Teams will assemble in Bethel from Eskimo villages on the Kuskokwim and Yukon Rivers, the tundra villages, and the Bering Sea Coast.

One of the first place prizes is a free trip to the smaller Anchorage fur rendezvous race in February.

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# ***Biggest Race . . .***

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Last year's race was won by Nick Pavilla, of Kasi-gluk, a village about 20 miles away from Bethel.

With over 100 teams in the race there will be anywhere from 1,000 to 1,500 dogs in the race. The 1964 race featured 101 teams.

More than 100 visitors from Anchorage and Fairbanks are expected this year, according to Carnival Chairman Mike Rowan. Charters are expected from the Greater Anchorage Inc., group, the Anchorage Prospectors, and three other groups.

Weekend events will include the 75 miles of dog racing, sponsored by the V.F.W., Eskimo dances throughout the weekend, an arts and crafts show, prepared by a non-profit store here, and two dances—the Coronation Dance and the Kuskokwim Ball. There will also be a queen contest, sno-go races on the Kuskokwim River, and a mushers dinner and best parka contest.

Dancers are being imported from the village of Chevak by the Kuskokwim Valley Native Association and more than 500 visitors from nearby villages are expected.