




POLARDISTANS 2022

Trail description

Generally

During the competition the teams will meet a varied nature consisting of pine and spruce forests, bogs, mountain birch forest and bare mountains. During all stages, the team will meet all these habitat types. The trail runs mainly along winter-marked snowmobile trails, which sometimes run on unpaved forest roads. The exceptions from this apply during the first 13 kilometers from checkpoint Öjvasslan to the point where the snowmobile trail coming from Dalakojan enters from the left, and for PD300 stage 2 where the trail along Lofssjön does not go on any snowmobile trail.

 The trail is marked in accordance with regulations with confirming, turning and warning signs. In addition, there are snowmobile signs (red crosses) along the snowmobile trails and these signs are of good quality on the bare mountain, which means that the cross has a bright red color that is very clearly visible and there is also a reflex on the posts. This means that it is only in very hard weather with snow drifts that it can be difficult / impossible to see from one cross to another. In the forest areas, the quality of the red crosses is variable and sometimes really poor. Keeping an eye on the map at all times so that you know where you are is **always** important, but where the markings are of poorer quality, this becomes extra important.

The description of the trail below is general. A more precise description is given in connection with the musher/handler meetings, where all difficult passages and points of importance will be explained.

Mass start is applied within each class and the start will take place on Särna lake just below Särna Camping.

The distance indications in the trail description below are approximate and the numbers mentioned in the description are shown in the "Snowmobile trail map for the northern area of Dalarna". The snowmobile map can be purchased at www.sond.se or at Särna Camping.

Stage 1: Start – Öjvasseln about 85 kilometer (PD 160 och PD 300).

From the start, the trail runs 1 kilometer in a northwesterly direction on Särna lake and then goes ashore and follows an unpaved forest road to Kringelfjorden, 13 kilometers from the start. Here, the trail get very close to highway 70 and at the same time turns north and into a snowmobile trail and after 9 kilometers the trail reaches Foskvallen (junction # 43).

At Foskvallen, the trail turns off to the east (right) and continues along a new snowmobile trail. This part of the trail runs partly along unpaved forest roads, passes Fiskvasselsjön to, after about 8 kilometers, arrive at a new snowmobile trail at junction #42, The trail now turns

north (left) and follows the new trail for 3 kilometers until junction #41 where the trail takes off to the northeast (right). Now follows a slightly bumpy section with a slightly hilly terrain, passage of a stream (Fjätan) and after Dalakojan a few sharp turns in an uphill slope. This part of the trail is 3 kilometers and when it is passed, the trail comes up on an unpaved forest road and turns off to the north (left). Now follow a few kilometers that are very different from the lastest kilometers. Easy uphill and no challenges

After 3 kilometers, the trail passes junction #40, the trail continues straight ahead and one kilometer later the trail turns west (left) down towards junction #52. Until the trail turns off, it has been slightly uphill climbing all the time, from 420 to 700 meters above sea level. at the highest point before a light descent down to Fjätervålen.

At junction #52 the trail turns to the north-northeast (right) and continues about 7 kilometers through bog landscape and birch forest. Before Storfjäten a stream (Fjätan) is passed. From here, the trail follows a snowmobile trail up the bare mountain to junction #54 and this part of the trail is one of the most challenging sections on the trail. The part of the trail from Storfjäten and to junction #54 is a 5 kilometers run with a total climb of 256 altitude meters.

At junction #54 the trail turns off to the south-southeast (right) and after 2 kilometers the trail passes junction #53. Now is a long, gentle downhill run for 8 kilometers before the trail starts the climb up to junction #36 where the trail turns south (right). Just a few hundred meters after junction #36, the trail reach junction #37 and continues straight ahead. The trail goes in south west direction down to junction #38. The distance from junction #54 to junction #37 is 12 kilometers.

From junction #36 to junction #38, a distance of about 3 kilometers, it will be a fairly steep downhill run with about a 140 altitude meters drop. At junction #38 the trail turns southeast (left) down towards the checkpoint, which is reached after 5 kilometers. Just before the checkpoint the trail passes right through junction #83.

Stage 2: Öjvasseln - Öjvasseln ca 120 kilometer (only PD 300).

The start from Öjvasseln goes in a westerly direction and after 2 kilometers the trail goes up on an unpaved road. After another 5 kilometers, the trail turns north (right) at an intersection. After another 7 kilometers, the trail connects to the snowmobile trail. Stage 2 then continues along the same trail as stage 1 (junction #40, #52, Storfjäten and #54). At junction #54 the trail continues north (slightly left) towards Hågentjärn junction # 55 which is reached after 5 kilometers.

At Hågentjärn, the trail turns east (right) and goes in that direction for 5 kilometers. At the intersection, the trail turns east (left). After about 3 kilometers, the trail turns off to the north (left), leaves the bare mountain and comes down into the forest land. After another 7 kilometers, you have reached down to Lofssjön. The trail runs alongside the lake on an unpaved road, which turns into a summer trail. Note that the summer trail passes a couple of narrow bridges. At the end of the summer trail comes a right turn, which goes out into the snowmobile trail. The snowmobile trail continues down to Lofssjön and initially continues

straight across the lake and then on the northern side connects with the westbound trail out on the lake. After about 2 kilometers on the lake in a westerly direction, the trail goes up on the northern shore.

Here, the trail continues on the south side of Lofsdalsvägen until Slagavallen, a distance of 9 kilometers and on that part the trail increases by close to 200 altitude meters. In Slagavallen, the trail turns south-southeast (left) and enters a snowmobile trail. Continue in that direction for 17 kilometers to Hågtjärn, junction #55. This part goes slight up and down all the time. At Hågtjärn, junction #55, the trail turns south (right). Note that the trail turns 180 degrees to the right! The part of the trail from Hågtjärn junction #55 to junction #54 is the same trail as before but in the opposite direction. Here, teams can meet head-on, but there is plenty of space. At junction #54, the trail turns southeast (left) down towards junction #53. From junction #53 applies the same trail as for stage 1 (junction #36, #37, #38 and #83) down to checkpoint Öjvasseln

Stage 3: Öjvasseln – Finish ca 85 kilometer (PD 160 och PD 300).

The start from Öjvasseln goes in a westerly direction and after 2 kilometers the trail goes up on an unpaved road. After another 5 kilometers, the trail turns north (right) at an intersection. After another 7 kilometers, the trail connects to the snowmobile trail, which continues to junction #40. The distance from checkpoint to junction #40 is about 18 kilometers. At junction #40, the trail turns off to the east (right) and an approximately 3 kilometer rather heavy uphill slope awaits. The total climb is about 260 altitude meters. Then it will be easy downhill for about 1 kilometer to junction #39. The trail now takes off to the north (left) and pretty soon the cabins in Morvallen are passed. When the trail has passed Morvallen, it is first easy uphill and you then reach the bare mountains. After about 1 kilometer comes the steepest part of the trail - a steep uphill of a few hundred meters. When that climb is completed, it flattens out and you are soon up on the highest point of the entire trail, about 940 meters above sea level. From the highest point the trail continues in the same direction, first slightly downhill and then slightly uphill, towards junction #53 (Västra Långheden). The distance from junction #39 to junction #53 is 8 kilometers.

At Västra Långheden (junction #53), the trail turns south (right) and follows the snowmobile trail to junction #36, a distance of about 9 kilometers. At junction #36, the trail now continues straight ahead and after only a few kilometers it starts to go downhill. A locked cabin is passed about 2 kilometers after junction #36. At the cabin, the trail continues straight ahead for about 3 kilometers where the trail turns right down to junction #35. At junction #35 the trail turns off to the east (left) and winds its way through a rather sparse forest and bog landscape and turns off more and more to the south. Junction #31 (Dyvelberget) is reached 11 kilometers after junction #35. At junction #31, the trail continues in southwest (right) direction, first passing junction #30, a stream (Fjätan) and a road just before junction #28.

At junction #28 the trail turns off to the north (right) and after 5 kilometers you reach junction #29. Now the trail turns off to the south (left) and there is now only 6 kilometers of downhill running to the awaited finish in Särna.

Warmly welcome!

