



Iditarod 2021 - Return to the Trail

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Dear Iditarod Volunteers, Mushers and Staff,

It seems that there isn't a person on this planet who hasn't been affected by COVID19 in some way. I couldn't start this letter without first saying that our hearts, souls and minds stand with all those who have lost loved ones during this challenging time in our world. I'd also like you to know that we stand firmly with our frontline workers. They are the true superstars in all of this.

It is with the reality that this virus is still with us and would be devastating to the Alaskan communities on the trail that we created this cautious and detailed plan to race the 2021 Iditarod safely with a goal of zero COVID19 spread to volunteers, mushers, staff, official media and (most importantly) communities.

We want to be abundantly clear that there is no way we would consider this effort without a plan that takes extreme measures to mitigate as much risk as possible and to protect all involved. We believe our plan will do just that. This plan was created by an experienced team of infectious disease epidemiologists led by Dr. Jodie Guest (ITC COVID19 Epidemiology Czar). This team includes Dr. Kristin Nelson (Infectious Disease Epidemiologist) and Lisa Chung and Zoe Schneider (Emory COVID19 Outbreak Response Team). The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services including Dr. Ann Zink (Alaska Medical Director) have provided advice and consultation for this plan. Adam Crum, commissioner Alaska Health and Social Services, Austin Quinn-Davidson (MOA Acting Mayor), Vern Halter MSB Mayor, John Handeland (Nome Mayor) have additionally reviewed this plan.

We are reaching out to communities on the Iditarod trail to seek their feedback on this this plan as we intend to be inclusive in the ways in which we govern, congregate and exist in communities during the 2021 Iditarod. The Iditarod will not enter any community on the trail without the approval of and invitation from the community leaders.

This race will be like no other. We are requiring each participant, (mushers, volunteers, staff, official media) to undergo continuous testing during the 2021 Iditarod. This is being done to protect all Alaskans and preserve the rich tradition of our Alaskan way of life.

In advance, we thank you for your commitment to this race, the dogs, the communities and to each other.

Rob Urbach

Core Tenants of Iditarod COVID19 Prevention Plan

- Proactive, strategic and anticipatory
- Negative bubble with minimal interaction with community
- This year, “The Last Great Race” will be different

Key Strategies of Iditarod COVID19 Prevention Plan

- Minimize to essential personnel without compromising safety
- Negative “Bubble”
- Consistent surveillance through testing and daily health screening
- Two negative tests before travel to Anchorage for race
- Multiple tests in ANC to confirm negative status
- Mandatory masking reduces spread of COVID
- All test results/contact tracing/daily surveillance maintained by Dr. Guest and COVID Team Personnel
- Inclusive communication with all stakeholders
- Manage expectations (participants, villages, sponsors, mushers, Iditariders, etc.)
- Iditarod.com dashboard to keep track of cases/tests
- Zero tolerance for not following protocols

Standards of Iditarod COVID19 Prevention Plan

- Mandatory masking (a gator is not an acceptable facemask although they may be worn over facemasks)
- Required testing
- Required daily screening with questionnaire and temperature checks
- Social distance except with pod
- Routine handwashing/hand sanitizer
- Eat/sleep in Checkpoint Bubble
- Distance/approved interaction with community

Overview of Iditarod COVID19 Prevention Plan

- **Mushers Testing and Screening.**
 - All mushers will be required to provide a negative PCR Lab Test (nasal or saliva) 14 days before race. This is not covered by the Iditarod.
 - All mushers will be tested with a Molecular Nasal Lab Test by the Iditarod COVID tech team at the Lakefront Hotel on Thursday 3/4/21. Mushers will be assigned morning and afternoon times for arrival for testing.
 - All mushers will be given a Rapid Test at the start on 3/7/21. If negative, mushers will be retested when they reach McGrath. If positive, mushers will be retested with a Molecular Nasal Lab Test (for this test, if negative, the musher is set for race. If positive, the musher does not race and must isolate for 7 days. If they have a personal car and reside in Alaska, they can travel home for isolation.)
 - All mushers will be given a Rapid Test at McGrath. If negative, the musher continues the race. If positive, the musher will be retested with a Molecular Nasal Lab Test. If this test is negative, the musher continues the race. If this test is positive, the musher does not continue the race and isolation begins. Return to Anchorage happens after isolation unless medical transport is necessary.
 - If a musher has documentation of a positive COVID-19 test within the previous 90 days and submits it to the Iditarod by 3/1/21, they will not be tested for COVID-19 but will spend 20 minutes in MCG to account for the time other mushers will spend being tested.
 - Facemasks will be available with the checker at each checkpoint for mushers as they enter a checkpoint. Mushers may wear a thick/2-ply gator over their nose for a facemask. No other Iditarod participant can use a gator without a facemask.
 - Handlers entering the start area with the musher are required to have a facemask on at all times while at the start and to distance from all other mushers, workers and volunteers. They will not be tested at the start and it is the responsibility of the musher to only bring handlers who have been conscientious about COVID-19 precautions.

- **10-14 Days before arrival at the Lakefront Hotel for all volunteers, staff and official media:**
 - All participants required to social distance, wear masks and hand wash regularly.
 - All participants need a negative PCR Lab Test (nasal or saliva) 10-14 days before arriving at the Lakefront Hotel. This is not covered by the Iditarod.
 - It is required that all participants submit negative test results before travel to COVID@iditarod.com.
 - All participants will receive confirmation after all documents have been received.
 - It is strongly recommended that all participants get a flu shot if they have not already had one but this should be separated by 14 days from COVID-19 vaccination.

- **Within 72 Hours of Arrival at the Lakefront Hotel in Anchorage:** All participants need to have a PCR Lab Test (nasal or saliva) result and receive a negative result within 72 hours of travel to Anchorage/Lakefront Hotel. Participants, staff, mushers and official media should quarantine during this time. This is not covered by the Iditarod. No participant can travel if this test is positive.

- **Travel to Anchorage:** All participants should wear their facemasks in airports and during flights. Protective eye gear is recommended on planes as well.

- **Arrival in Anchorage:** Upon arrival in Anchorage Airport (if applicable), proceed to the Capstone COVID testing site if before 2/26/21 or between the hours of 6pm and 8am, Beginning 2/26/21, between the hours of 8am and 6pm, proceed to the Lakefront Hotel for Capstone COVID testing site in the parking lot. You cannot enter the Lakefront Hotel without a negative COVID19 test at one of these two locations. Social distancing and facemask guidelines will continue to be required. You will need to display confirmation of your negative test on your COVIDSecure App to enter the hotel.

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- **Arrival at Lakefront Hotel:** Upon arrival, participants will be tested in the Iditarod Testing Facility outside the Lakefront Hotel with a Molecular Nasal Lab Test and will wait for the results before proceeding into the Lakefront Hotel (expected 30 minutes). All participants must have a negative test before entering the Lakefront Hotel. You will need to display confirmation of your negative test on your COVIDSecure App to enter the hotel. If you were tested at the airport, please show these test results on your COVIDSecure App to enter the hotel.
- **Testing Results:** Participants with a negative Molecular Nasal Lab Test will be admitted into the Lakefront Iditarod bubble. If anyone tests positive, COVID Team personnel will notify the individual and strict guidelines will be followed for securing proper medical attention and isolation. If the participant has travelled by personal car from instate, they may return home immediately to isolate. If the participant is from outside of Alaska, they will be moved to isolation and cannot travel home until isolation is over (3 days post symptoms or day 7 from test if asymptomatic).
 - **Alaska residents:** Once they have tested negative, they will move into a Checkpoint Bubble room. Facemasks and social distancing are still required at all times.
 - **Non-Alaska residents:** Non-Alaska residents must adhere to the Governors Orders for strict social distancing upon arrival in Alaska for 5 days. If Molecular Test is negative, and once these 5 days are over, they will be moved into a Checkpoint Bubble room. Facemasks and social distancing are still required at all times.
- **During the Race:** At the beginning of each day, all participants will be required to undergo the Health Survey Questionnaire and Temperature Check. In the event that anyone is feeling sick based on the survey, and/or has a temperature, the COVID Team personnel will be consulted, and the participant will be sequestered in their room or an identified location at their checkpoint. At that point, they will immediately undergo Molecular Nasal Lab Test and will increase Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to Level Orange gear. If the test is negative, symptoms and temperature will continue to be monitored for three days. A negative test is required for participants to be able to return to duties. If anyone tests positive, COVID Team personnel will notify the individual and strict guidelines will be followed to engage proper medical attention, and isolation from others. The participant cannot be transported off the trail until isolation is complete (3 days post symptoms or day 7 from test if asymptomatic) unless it is a medical necessity.
- **All participants are required to wear facemasks at all times.** Exceptions are when in room alone or eating with their Checkpoint Bubble.
- **All participants will undergo additional Molecular Nasal Lab Testing at each of these events:** every 5 days, before any trail movements, and if a Checkpoint Bubble member tests positive.
- **Exit testing will be required** for all participants when they return from the trail to confirm negative status. Upon arrival at the Lakefront Hotel, participants will be tested in the Iditarod Testing Facility using Molecular Nasal Lab Test and will wait for the results of the test before entering Lakefront Hotel. Participants who do not return to Anchorage from the trail will be tested before leaving their checkpoint with the Rapid Test.
- **Participants who have had a positive COVID-19 PCR Test (nasal or saliva) within 90 days of arriving for the Iditarod** need to provide documentation of positive test and that they have recovered. With this documentation, these participants
 - Will not undergo the testing protocols
 - Are excused from the strict social distancing upon arrival in Alaska for 5 days (for non-Alaskan residents).
- **Participants who had received either the Pfizer or the Moderna vaccine for COVID-19** should provide the date of their second dose. All participants who have been vaccinated for COVID-19 must still comply with all parts of the Iditarod COVID-19 Prevention Plan including mandatory masking, social distancing, no

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interaction with communities and all testing protocols. Non-Alaskan participants who have been vaccinated must still follow strict social distancing upon arrival in Alaska for 5 days.

- **Testing and COVID Team Personnel.** All COVID testing and the COVID Tech Team will be led by Dr. Jodie Guest. The COVID Tech Team consists of volunteer certified EMTs. All testing will be administered by certified COVID Team Personnel wearing full PPE gear, including face mask, face shield, hair cover, and disposable hazmat suit/gown, and 2 pair of gloves (top layer gloves changed for each person)
 - a. Molecular Nasal Lab Test Nasal Lab Test methods (sensitivity 99%, specificity 98%)
 - Nasal Testing Method for Initial and Final Testing of all participants and mushers
 - Lab partner is CUE Health and Capstone Clinic
 - Lab results, up to 40 minutes in Anchorage at the Lakefront Hotel Testing site
 - b. Abbot Labs 15-Minute Rapid Antigen Test (sensitivity 97.1%, specificity 98.5%)
 - Used as immediate testing, routine surveillance testing and symptom testing on trail
 - 15 Minute Results on-site
 - c. For Negative Results – participant permitted to work and must follow all health and safety guidelines including wearing face masks and social distancing at all times
 - d. For Positive Results in Anchorage
 - participant will immediately be notified via COVID Team personnel
 - participant will be moved to isolation section of Lakefront Hotel (not in Iditarod Bubble) until isolation is over (3 days post symptoms or day 7 from test if asymptomatic). If the participant has travelled by personal car from instate, they may return home immediately to isolate.
 - If Molecular Nasal Lab Test is positive, participant will be given immediate contact of medical professional for follow up and will be isolated until safe to travel home, or will be moved to the hospital as needed. They will wear Level Orange PPE when near anyone.
 - Anyone who came in 6 feet or less contact of participant for more than 15 minutes inside will have temperature taken, undergo healthy survey questions, and be quarantined. Quarantine is 7 days followed by a negative test.
 - e. For Positive Results on the Trail
 - participant will immediately be notified via COVID Team personnel
 - participant will be immediately removed from community space at the checkpoint by COVID Team personnel wearing proper PPE gear (disposable hazmat suit, face mask and face shield, neck and hair covering, double-gloved
 - All checkpoint spaces will be thoroughly sanitized by COVID Team personnel
 - Everyone in the Checkpoint Bubble will have immediate temperature taken, undergo healthy survey questions, and be tested via Rapid Test method

Anyone who came in 6 feet or less contact of participant for more than 15 minutes inside will have temperature taken, undergo healthy survey questions, and be quarantined. Quarantine is 7 days followed by a negative test.

“Checkpoint Bubble” Definition and Principles:

- Everyone inside “Checkpoint Bubble” has undergone the required COVID19 testing with negative results
- Everyone inside “Checkpoint Bubble” undergoes daily Health Survey Questions and Temperature Check
- Everyone inside “Checkpoint Bubble” undergoes subsequent COVID19 Rapid Antigen Testing every 5 days
- Everyone inside “Checkpoint Bubble” undergoes COVID19 Rapid Antigen Testing before movement on the trail
- Everyone inside “Checkpoint Bubble” practices safety measures including:
 - Frequent Hand Washing/Sanitizing
 - Wearing Face Masks at all times when around others
 - Wears PPE gear as needed
 - Frequently sanitizes personal surfaces and work gear
 - Practices Social Distancing
- Participants cannot exit and re-enter “Checkpoint Bubble”
- Mushers, IAF pilots and participants who have been tested before travel are the only participants who can enter a “Checkpoint Bubble”
- Community engagement with the “Checkpoint Bubble” will be community specific and agreed upon by the community and the Iditarod in advance. This includes an agreement about Iditarod’s use of Checkpoint buildings and the community’s access to these buildings during the race.
- Areas Off Limits to anyone outside of “Checkpoint Bubble”
 - Checkpoint tents
 - Checkpoint sleeping areas
 - Checkpoint eating areas

Testing and COVID Tech Team Personnel

- All COVID testing and the COVID Tech Team will be led by Dr. Jodie Guest. The COVID Tech Team consists of volunteer certified EMTs.
- All testing will be administered by certified COVID Team Personnel wearing full PPE gear, including face mask, face shield, hair cover, and disposable hazmat suit/gown, and 2 pair of gloves (top layer gloves changed for each person)
- CUE Molecular Nasal Lab Test (sensitivity 99%, specificity 98%)
 - Lab Partners: CUE and Capstone
 - Lab results within 40 minutes
- Abbott Rapid Antigen Testing method (sensitivity 97.1%, specificity 98.5%)
 - Used for musher testing at start, MCG and finish
 - 15 minute results on-site
- For Negative Results – Participant permitted to work and must follow all health and safety guidelines including wearing face masks and social distancing at all times
- For Positive Results in Anchorage
 - Participant will immediately be notified via COVID Team personnel
 - Positive participant will be kept in isolation until isolation is over and it is safe to travel home. If Alaska resident and travelled in personal car, the participant may travel home for isolation.
 - Anyone who came in 6 feet or less contact of participant for more than 15 minutes inside will have immediate temperature taken, undergo healthy survey questions, and be tested by Molecular Nasal Lab Test
- For Positive Results on the Trail
 - Participant will be immediately notified via COVID Team personnel
 - Participant will be immediately removed from community space at the checkpoint by COVID Team personnel wearing proper PPE gear (disposable hazmat suit, face mask and face shield, neck and hair covering, double-gloved)
 - All checkpoint spaces will be thoroughly sanitized by COVID Team personnel
 - Everyone in the Checkpoint Bubble will have temperature taken, undergo healthy survey questions, and be tested via Rapid Antigen Test method
 - Everyone in the Checkpoint Bubble will be retested via Rapid Antigen Test in 2 days
 - Anyone who came in 6 feet or less contact of participant for more than 15 minutes inside without a mask will have temperature taken, undergo healthy survey questions, and be quarantined. Quarantine is 7 days followed by a negative test.
- Daily Health Survey Questionnaire and Temperature Check will be done via the COVIDSecure App when internet is available. This will be done by the COVID Tech team at checkpoints without internet.

- In Anchorage - In the event a participant reports feeling sick or has a temperature over 100.4
 - They will be connected with COVID Team personnel
 - They will be given a Molecular Nasal Lab Test
 - Asked to self-isolate or go home if residence is near Anchorage
 - Must have (3) consecutive days of no symptoms or temperature
 - Must re-test upon return (Molecular Nasal Lab Test)

Onboarding Information and Health App for all Iditarod Participants

The following documents/information must be received prior to travel to Anchorage or arrival at Lakefront.

- Negative test results from 10-14 days before arrival at the Lakefront Hotel
- Negative test result taken and results received within 72 hours of travel to race
- Date of second dose of COVID-19 vaccination (if applicable)
- Proof of positive COVID-19 PCR (nasal or saliva) test within 90 days of arrival at Iditarod (if applicable)

Please email these documents to COVID@iditarod.com before 3/4/21

Download the app **COVIDSecure** on your phone prior to travel to Anchorage or arrival at Lakefront.



- Please fill out patient details before arriving at the Lakefront
- You do not need to include health insurance information
- Under organization/school, click Iditarod Trail Committee from the pull down menu
- You must do a daily health screening each morning from the first day of interaction with the Iditarod race 2021. For checkpoints with minimal internet connectivity, the daily screening will be done by the COVID Tech Team.

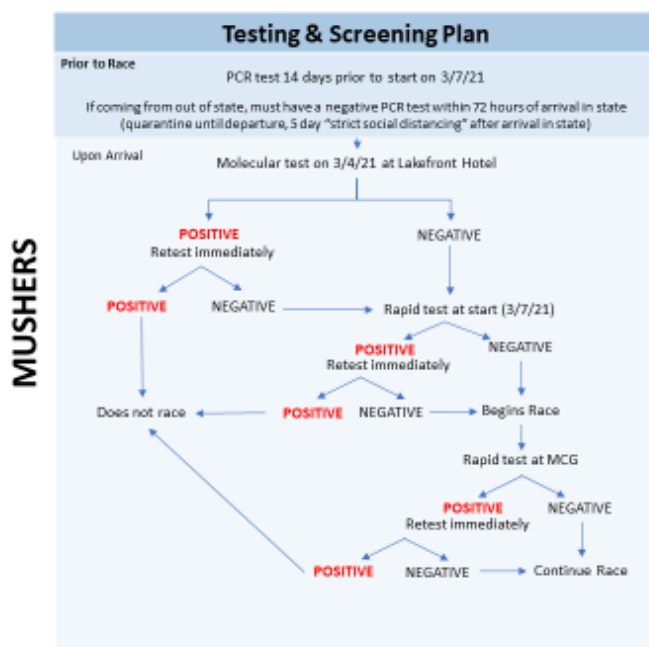
Detailed Prevention Plan by Participant Activity

Mushers Testing and Screening

- Required negative PCR Lab Test (nasal or saliva) 14 days before race
- Required negative Molecular Nasal Lab Test 3/7/2021 at the Lakefront Hotel in Anchorage. Times for testing will be assigned by the Race Marshall.
- Rapid Antigen Test at start on 3/7/21
 - Negative: set for race
 - Positive: retest with a Molecular Nasal Lab Test
 - Negative: set for race
 - Positive: does not race and must isolate for 7 days.
- Rapid Antigen Test at MCG
 - Negative: continues race
 - Positive: retest with a Molecular Nasal Lab Test
 - Negative: set for race
 - Positive: does not race and begins isolation at checkpoint. Dog care done by Vet team. Medical transport to Anchorage will occur if necessary.
- Rapid Antigen Test at finish

If a musher has documentation of a positive COVID-19 test within the previous 90 days and submits it to the Iditarod by 3/1/21, they will not be tested for COVID-19 but will spend 20 minutes in MCG to account for the time other mushers will spend being tested.

Testing Plan



Volunteers, IAF Pilots, Staff and Official Media

Pre-Race Period - Before Arrival and Travel to Anchorage

- **10-14 Days before arrival at the Lakefront Hotel at the start of the race:**
 - Iditarod preparation begins before the race to keep participants and communities safe
 - Participants should be social distancing, mask wearing, and hand washing regularly
 - Required:
 - Negative PCR Lab Test (nasal or saliva) 10-14 days before arrival at the Lakefront Hotel at the start of the race (test 1)
 - Self-isolate as much as possible
 - Sign community contract (standards, zero tolerance)
 - Strongly recommended:
 - Participants get a flu shot if they have not already had one, separate by 14 days from COVID-19 vaccination.

- **Within 72 Hours before Arrival at the Lakefront Hotel in Anchorage:** All participants need to have a PCR Lab Test (nasal or saliva) result and receive a negative result within 72 hours of travel to Anchorage/Lakefront Hotel (test 2). Participants, staff, mushers and official media should quarantine during this time. No participant with a positive test should travel to the Lakefront hotel.

- **Travel to Anchorage:** All participants should travel wear their facemasks in airports and during flights. Protective eye gear (glasses, faceshield, sunglasses, safety glasses) is recommended on planes as well.

Arrival in Anchorage - Quarantine Begins, Movement to Checkpoint Bubble

- Molecular Nasal Lab Test (test 3) given outside of Lakefront Hotel in Iditarod Testing Tent (or at airport based on dates and times of arrival). All participants will wait for results and can no enter Lakefront without a negative test . Participants with a positive test will be isolated. If the participant has travelled by personal car from instate, they may return home immediately to isolate. If the participant is from outside of Alaska, they will be moved to isolation and cannot travel home until isolation is over (3 days post symptoms or day 7 from test if asymptomatic).
 - Alaskan Resident:
 1. Negative Molecular Nasal Lab Test: Participant moved into Checkpoint Bubble room in Lakefront. Facemasks and social distancing are still required at all times.

- 2. Positive Molecular Nasal Lab Test: Continue isolation until can travel home. If in personal car, can travel home to self-isolate.
- Non-Alaskan Resident:
 - 1. Negative Molecular Nasal Lab Test: After 5 days of strict social isolation, participant moved into Checkpoint Bubble room in Lakefront. Facemasks and social distancing are still required at all times.
 - 2. Positive Molecular Nasal Lab Test: Moved to isolation and cannot travel home until isolation is over (3 days post symptoms or day 7 from test if asymptomatic).
- Molecular Nasal Lab Test (test 4) given to all participants as leaving for trail if they have been at Lakefront for more than 48 hours.

Testing at Checkpoint Bubble

- Tests on trail: Molecular Nasal Lab Test (test 5+)
 - Every 5 days on trail
 - Before moving to new checkpoint
 - If positive morning screening
 - If someone in “Checkpoint Bubble” tests positive
 - Pilots/logs/Mark/Jodie/Joe: tested every 3 days

Daily Health Screening

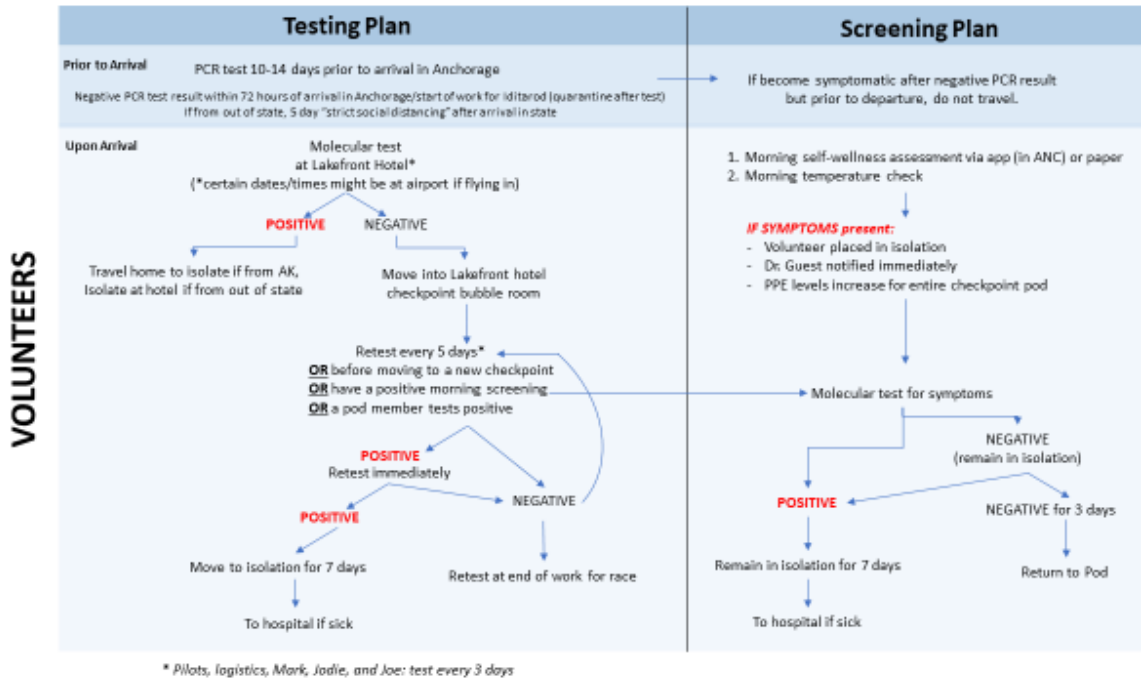
- Begins at Lakefront and continues daily until off trail
- Required morning self-wellness assessment via app or paper
- Required morning temperature check recorded on spreadsheet by COVID Tech
 - If symptoms present:
 - Participant placed in isolation
 - Dr. Guest notified immediately
 - PPE levels increase to Level Orange for entire checkpoint bubble (N95, Faceshield)
 - Molecular Test administered
 - Negative Molecular Test:
 - Continue isolation while symptomatic
 - Retest on Day 2 and 3
 - Negative: return to Checkpoint Bubble
 - Positive: isolation until can return to ANC
 - Positive Molecular Test:
 - Continue isolation until can return to ANC
 - Test all Checkpoint Bubble with Molecular Test
 - Report case to Health Department
 - Contact tracing
 - Transport to ANC if medically unstable

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Sleeping and Eating at Checkpoint Bubble

- Sleep/eat in pods
 - Logs/Pilots
 - Return dogs
 - Checkpoint: Communications/checkpoint vets/judge/trail/COVID tech

Testing and Screening Schematic for Volunteers, IAF Pilots, Staff and Official Media



IAF Pilots

All testing/screening/surveillance as above plus the following

- IAF pilot masks
 - Pilot to wear surgical/KN95/KFN95 or double mask at all times in plane with passengers
 - Pilots should rotate masks every day
- Pilots to wear glasses (sunglasses or other protective glasses in plane)
- Pilots do not provide headsets/mics to participants
- All participants will be given several sets of earplugs to use in flight in their participant supply kit
- After each passenger, plane seats, doors, handles, dash get cleaned with Clorox wipes
- Consider flying passengers in back seat(s) and not front passenger seat
- Pilots who have been vaccinated for COVID-19 and are two weeks post second dose will be prioritized for passenger flying

Entering Lakefront Hotel ANC LOGS room

- Entrance to room will be limited to those with a “necessary need to enter” and will only include IAF pilots, logs team members and staff
- Combined time for those visiting room should be 15 minutes or less a day
- Windows should be kept open, if possible
- IAF pilots coming to and from Lakefront at start of race will be given a rapid test every day before entering Lakefront Hotel
- IAF pilots coming to and from Lakefront at start of race should minimize contacts outside of the Iditarod during this time

Race personnel staff/logistics who stay at Lakefront

- Negative PCR Lab Test (nasal or saliva) 10-14 days before arrival at Lakefront Hotel (test 1) (not covered by Iditarod)
- Negative PCR Lab Test (nasal or saliva) taken and results received within 72 hours of arrival at Lakefront Hotel (test 2) (not covered by Iditarod). No participant with a positive test should travel to the Lakefront hotel.
- Molecular Lab Test outside of Lakefront Hotel (test 3).
 - Negative: Participant is moved into ANC Staff Bubble room in Lakefront
 - Positive: Participant is moved to isolation. If the participant has travelled by personal car from instate, they may return home immediately to isolate. If the participant is from outside of Alaska, they will be moved to isolation and cannot travel home until isolation is over (3 days post symptoms or day 7 from test if asymptomatic).
- Molecular Lab Test (test 4+)
 - Every 5 days
 - If positive morning health questionnaire
 - If someone in Lakefront Bubble is positive
- Required morning self-wellness assessment and temperature via app
 - If symptoms present:
 - Participant placed in isolation
 - Dr. Guest notified immediately
 - PPE levels increase to Level Orange for entire Iditarod Lakefront Hotel Bubble (N95, Faceshield)
 - Molecular Lab Test given to entire Iditarod Lakefront Hotel Bubble
 - Molecular Lab Test administered
 - Negative: return to work
 - Positive
 - Continue isolation until can travel home
 - Report case to Health Department
 - Contact tracing
 - Transport to hospital if sick
- Eat/sleep with Iditarod Lakefront Hotel Bubble (all stay at Lakefront)
- Social distance/mask with anyone outside of pod (airport personnel, handlers, prison personnel, inmates, vet hospital, etc.)
- These necessary personal will have all testing/screening as standard participants and will stay in Iditarod Lakefront Hotel Bubble at the Lakefront Hotel.
- They will have a counterpart who will not enter the Iditarod Lakefront Hotel Bubble who will run errands as needed and will bring supplies to the Lakefront Hotel with no contact or will take supplies as needed to airport for departure to checkpoints. This person will have no physical interaction with participants.

ANC/Lakefront Return Dogs vet/vet tech team

- Negative PCR Lab Test (nasal or saliva) 10-14 days before arrival at Lakefront Hotel (test 1) (not covered by Iditarod)
- Negative PCR Lab Test (nasal or saliva) taken and results received within 72 hours of arrival at Lakefront Hotel (test 2) (not covered by Iditarod). No participant with a positive test should travel to the Lakefront hotel.
- Molecular Lab Test outside of Lakefront Hotel (test 3).
 - Negative: Participant is moved into ANC Staff Bubble room in Lakefront
 - Positive: Participant is moved to isolation. If the participant has travelled by personal car from instate, they may return home immediately to isolate. If the participant is from outside of Alaska, they will be moved to isolation and cannot travel home until isolation is over (3 days post symptoms or day 7 from test if asymptomatic).
- Molecular Lab Test (test 4+)
 - Every 5 days
 - If positive morning health questionnaire
 - If someone in Lakefront Bubble tests positive
- Required morning self-wellness assessment and temperature via app
 - If symptoms present:
 - Participant placed in isolation
 - Dr. Guest notified immediately
 - PPE levels increase to Level Orange for entire Iditarod Lakefront Hotel Bubble (N95, Faceshield)
 - Molecular Lab Test given to entire Iditarod Lakefront Hotel Bubble
 - Molecular Lab Test administered
 - Negative: return to work
 - Positive
 - Continue isolation until can travel home
 - Report case to Health Department
 - Contact tracing
 - Transport to hospital if sick
- Eat/sleep with Iditarod Lakefront Hotel Bubble (all stay at Lakefront)
- Social distance/mask with anyone outside of pod (airport personnel, handlers, prison personnel, inmates, vet hospital, etc.)

Logs and Commercial Flights in ANC (stay at Lakefront, combined is referred to as ANC Logs):

This room and team will be in a quasi-bubble due to the need to have pilots come in and out of the room during the beginning of the race. Routine surveillance testing will be more frequent due to this flow. Additionally, time in these rooms for those not working Logs will be time-limited.

- Negative PCR Lab Test (nasal or saliva) 10-14 days before arrival at Lakefront Hotel (test 1) (not covered by Iditarod)
- Negative PCR Lab Test (nasal or saliva) taken and results received within 72 hours of arrival at Lakefront Hotel (test 2) (not covered by Iditarod). No participant with a positive test should travel to the Lakefront hotel.
- Molecular Lab Test outside of Lakefront Hotel (test 3).
 - Negative: Participant is moved into ANC Staff Bubble room in Lakefront
 - Positive: Participant is moved to isolation. If the participant has travelled by personal car from instate, they may return home immediately to isolate. If the participant is from outside of Alaska, they will be moved to isolation and cannot travel home until isolation is over (3 days post symptoms or day 7 from test if asymptomatic).
- Molecular Lab Test (test 4+)
 - Every 3 days
 - If positive morning screening
 - If someone in bubble has symptoms or test positive on screening
- Required morning self-wellness assessment and temperature via app
 - If symptoms present:
 - Participant placed in isolation
 - Dr. Guest notified immediately
 - PPE levels increase to Level Orange for entire ANC Logs Bubble (N95, Faceshield)
 - Molecular Lab Test administered
 - Negative: return to work
 - Positive
 - Continue isolation until can travel home
 - Report case to Health Department
 - Contact tracing
 - Transport to hospital if sick
- Eat/sleep with ANC Logs Bubble (all stay at Lakefront)
- Social distance/mask with anyone outside of ANC Logs Bubble

Prevention strategies for the ANC Logs and Commercial Rooms at Lakefront:

- Entrance to room will be limited to those with a “necessary need to enter” and will only include IAF pilots, logs team members and staff
- Combined time for those visiting room should be 15 minutes or less a day
- Windows should be kept open, if possible
- Strategies for touchless paperwork should be used
- IAF pilots coming to and from Lakefront at start of race will be given a rapid test every day before entering Lakefront Hotel
- IAF pilots coming to and from Lakefront at start of race should minimize contacts outside of the Iditarod during this time

Pre-race vet techs

- Negative PCR Lab Test (nasal or saliva) 10-14 days before arrival (test 1) (not covered by Iditarod)
- Negative PCR Lab Test (nasal or saliva) taken and results received within 72 of arrival (test 2) (not covered by Iditarod). No participant with a positive test can participate.
- Facemask/faceshield in exam truck
- Only vet techs in exam truck
- Handler/musher pass dogs to vet techs at door

Musher handlers at Race Start on 3/7/21

- Each musher can bring up to four musher handlers.
- Requested negative PCR Lab Test (nasal or saliva) taken and results received within 72 of start (not covered by Iditarod).
- Facemask at all times at start
- Do not attend start if exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19
- Do not attend if exposure to COVID-19 in previous 14 days
- Health screening and temperature check will be administered upon arrival at start
- Distance from other mushers and volunteers

ITC volunteer handlers at Race Start on 3/7/21

- Negative PCR Lab Test (nasal or saliva) taken and results received within 72 of start (not covered by Iditarod).
- Facemask at all times at start
- Do not attend start if exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19
- Health screening and temperature check will be administered upon arrival at start
- Distance from mushers and volunteers

Race communications participants (typically at Lakefront)

- Take calls from home/zoom
- No admittance at Lakefront

Checkpoint Information

Checkpoint Rules

- Facemasks required at all times (a gator is not an acceptable facemask although they may be worn over facemasks)
- Mushers wear facemask when interacting with vets, vet techs or other checkpoint personnel
- Other PPE Gear worn as directed by COVID Team personnel
- Must observe all health and safety protocols
- No reentry of Checkpoint Bubble
- Everyone helps clean
- No tolerance for not following COVID19 safety rules
- Each Checkpoint will have a quarantine/isolation space to use if needed

Checkpoint Cleaning Plan and PPE

- Daily housekeeping of common surfaces
 - 2-Hour Rotation
 - COVID Team personnel oversees cleaning
- Equipment, Supplies and Materials Sanitizing
 - Required for all common surfaces
 - All packaging of equipment, material and supplies must be sanitized
 - All equipment, material and supplies delivered without packaging must be sanitized
- “Safety Kit” provided to all in “Checkpoint Bubble”:
 - (2) Reusable KN95 Face Masks
 - Disposable Face Masks
 - Reusable Face Shields
 - **Disposable Medical Hazmat Suits (only to be used per instruction from COVID Team personnel)
 - Disposable Nitrile Gloves (only to be used per instruction from COVID Team personnel)
 - Hand Sanitizer
 - Sanitizing Wipes for Surfaces
- Required personal protective gear, i.e. face mask – required at all times
- Cleaning supplies provided for checkpoint

Communities and the Checkpoints

Each community will work with the Iditarod Race Marshal to agree on arrangements for interaction between the Checkpoint, volunteers and mushers, and the community.

Possible scenarios for community engagement and level of COVID19 risk:

No contact/no risk:

- Closed checkpoint to all community members
- Provide lodging (community centers, city and tribal buildings, private businesses, schools, etc.) for volunteers and mushers
- All indoor buildings and spaces used by the Iditarod are cleaned before departure and community does not enter these buildings for 3 days after Iditarod departure
- Transportation of all checkpoint supplies (i.e., straw, trash, HEET, drop bags, checkpoint heating fuel, replenish water as needed, etc.)
- Provide fuel for generators and trail breaker snow machines, Insider crews, sweeps
- Provide local Search & Rescue
- Spectators outside

Community engagement/minimal or no risk:

- Provide maintenance shops for repair of snow machines and equipment (e.g., trail breakers, trail sweeps, IAF, etc.)
- Act as checkers and park dog teams
- Prepare and drop off meals for the Iditarod volunteers/mushers
- Maintenance to provided lodging during the event
- Volunteer transportation from airport to checkpoint (volunteers in back of truck/snow machine, everyone masked)
- Transportation of returned dogs with vets to airport (volunteers in back of truck, everyone masked)
- Assist volunteers in setting up communications and trouble shoot problems (everyone masked)
- Volunteers use community stores to supplement race supplies (always masked)
- Volunteers eating at local restaurants with only Iditarod volunteers
- Volunteers get take out from local restaurants and eat at checkpoint

Community engagement/moderate risk:

- Volunteer transportation from airport to checkpoint (volunteers in truck, community member not masked)
- Transportation of returned dogs with vets to airport (volunteers in truck, community member not masked)
- Volunteers are provided local health services
- Volunteers use community “washeterias” for showers

- Community involvement when special awards are given out (e.g. Lakefront's First Team to the Yukon dinner)

Community engagement/high risk events not acceptable on the race trail in 2020:

- Community members in/out of the checkpoint frequently
- Community engagement with Iditarod volunteers unmasked
- Community entertaining volunteers in their homes
- Community providing housing for trail breakers outside of the checkpoint in resident homes
- Volunteers attending public community events including funerals
- Volunteers eating inside local restaurants with community members
- Volunteers attending community craft and fundraising fairs
- Vets visits to schools to provide talks about animal care

Iditarod COVID Levels Defined

- **Level Green**
 - No COVID cases
 - No symptomatic personnel
 - COVID Bubble intact
 - Standards
 - Facemask at all times
 - Social distancing
 - No exit/entrance of Bubble
 - Routine cleaning

- **Level Orange**
 - Possible reasons to move to Level Orange
 - Symptomatic personnel
 - Positive Rapid Antigen Test on trail
 - Positive COVID19 case in community
 - Standards
 - Facemask at all times
 - Faceshield
 - Isolation of symptomatic personnel
 - Retesting of symptomatic personnel or routine test that is positive
 - Testing of all personnel in Bubble
 - Social distancing
 - No exit/entrance of Bubble
 - Immediate additional cleaning

- **Level Red**
 - Possible reasons to move to Level Red
 - Symptomatic personnel who tested positive on 2 Rapid Antigen Tests
 - Two or more personnel with positive Rapid Antigen Test
 - Standards
 - Facemask at all times
 - Faceshield
 - Isolation of symptomatic personnel
 - Testing of all personnel in Bubble
 - Social distancing
 - No exit/entrance of Bubble
 - Immediate additional cleaning
 - Removal of checkpoint team

APPENDIX

COVID19 Test Specifications

 Molecular Tests

 Rapid Antigen Tests

Modeling Expected Number of False Positive Results and Probability of False Negative Based on Iditarod Bubble Size using Abbott's BinaxNOW COVID19 Ag Card

Modeling Expected Positive Cases Entering Iditarod Bubble

COVID19 Test Specifications

All testing will be administered by trained staff wearing full PPE (facemask, faceshield, disposable gown, gloves; gloves changed for each person)

Molecular Lab testing:

These will be the standard test for the race.

- Mid turbinate swab (Sensitivity 99%, specificity 99%)Highest chance of false negative is if test is done too soon
- Samples run on site at Lakefront Hotel, Anchorage Airport, and at all checkpoints
- Results take approximately 40 minutes

Rapid Antigen Testing

These will be used in the following situations: for mushers at start, McGrath and finish, and as a backup for the Molecular testing as needed.

Abbott's BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag Card

- Results in 15 minutes
- Does not require machine, electricity, or equipment beyond card and reagents
- Lateral flow; visual read test
- Anterior nares swab (Sensitivity = 97.1%, Specificity = 98.5%)
- Mupirocin (nasal antibiotic) may cause false negative
- Each package of 40 tests provides 1 positive swab for quality control
- Store kit at 35 to 68F, everything should be at "room temp" upon use
- <https://www.fda.gov/media/141570/download>

For negative results:

- Individual is allowed to continue to work/race, and must continue to follow health and safety guidelines, including wearing a facemask and socially distancing at all times unless eating or sleeping with their pod
- The likelihood of having any false negatives, even with a large (400 people) population and averaging 4 Rapid Antigen Tests per individual, is under 5%
- Note: current best window for testing during infectious has not been determined. Currently, we do not know how soon in infection these tests can detect COVID. If someone is infected a few days before being tested, they may test negative and become infectious before the next test. These data are constantly being updated.

For positive results:

- Individual is immediately notified of results
- Individual is immediately quarantined, and safety precautions for all contacts are increased to Level Orange
- Molecular test is repeated to rule out false positive

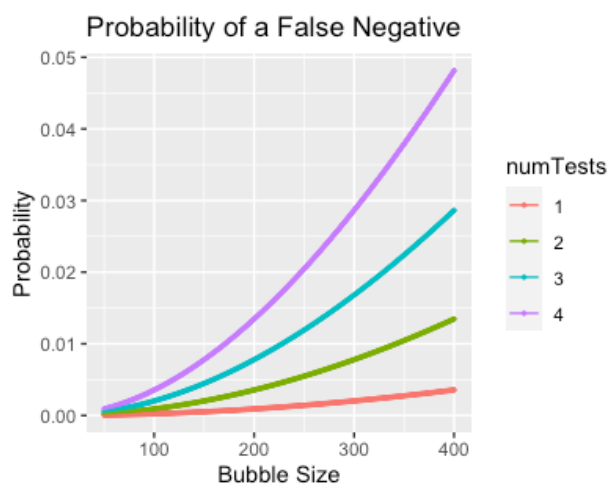
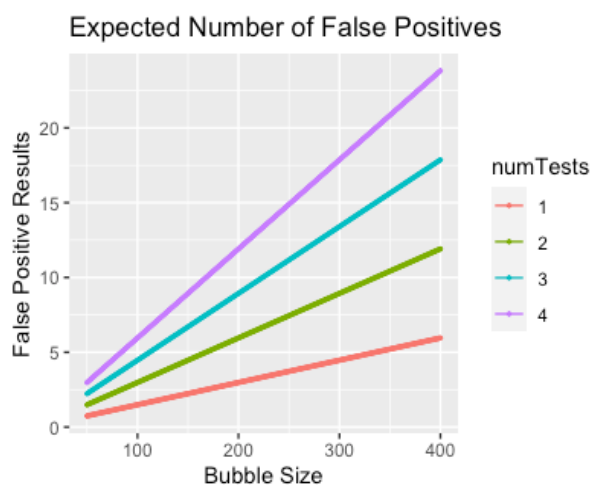
Modeling Expected Number of False Positive Results and Probability of False Negative Based on Iditarod Bubble Size using Abbott’s BinaxNOW COVID19 Ag Card

Sensitivity = 97.1%, Specificity = 98.5% within the first 7 days among patients with suspected COVID19 in a sample of 100 patients [Only false negative had a CT>33 (infectiousness unlikely with CT>33)]

Projected COVID19 prevalence in the US in February is 749.8 per 100k people at any given time (243,435 new infections per day in the United States * around 10 days of positivity per case, according to IHME)

	COVID+	COVID-	
Test +	728.1	1488.8	2216.9
Test -	21.7	97761.7	97783.4
	749.8	99250.5	100,000

- Projected COVID prevalence in Alaska in February is 736.3 per 100k (538.63 new infections per day out of 731545 population * 10 days of illness per person); which is similar to US projected prevalence
- PPV and NPV are calculated based on US and Alaska-specific influenza-like surveillance numbers for pre-test probability of infection with COVID. These can be re-calculated closer to departure for individuals with symptoms.
 - PPV = 32.8%
 - NPV = 99.97%



Modeling Expected Positive Cases Entering Iditarod Bubble

Assuming the bubble is effective at preventing transmission between the Alaska community and participants, we are most concerned about individuals entering the bubble COVID+.

The probability of at least one participant having COVID19 at the start and the expected number of participants with COVID19 at the start was modeled given different levels of COVID19 prevalence and different bubble sizes. Models used the projected US prevalence of 749.8 per 100k people in February (likely higher than true number, since most people are not infectious for the full 10 days).

