

EXPEDITION CLASS 2024

Team 50

Sponsors: Woody's Traction Products, Klim, Grace Performance, Finish Line Shocks, Weiss Equipment



TED BAUER

Age: 51 **From:** Reese, Mich.

Riding: Polaris XCR

Pro Class status: Rookie

Bio: I am a fifth-generation owner/operator of a family farm in mid-Michigan. I am married to

my wife, Megan, and have four children. Snowmobiling has always been my passion with all my riding experience in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. It has been a bucket list item of mine to ride the Iron Dog Trail, and I look forward to this next adventure in Alaska.

Personal sponsors: Austin Beyerlein, RX Goggles, Woody's Traction Products, Klim and Grace Performance



JOHN BEYERLEIN

Age: 60 **From:** Reese, Mich.

Riding: Polaris XCR

Pro Class status: Rookie

Bio: I was born and raised in Reese and am an avid outdoorsman and snowmobiler for more than 45 years.

Personal sponsors: Beyerlein and Son Electric and Austin Beyerlein, Woody's, Klim, and Grace Performance



DAVE HAUSBECK

Age: 62 **From:** Reese, Mich.

Riding: Polaris XCR Switchback

Pro Class status: Veteran

Race history: 2016: DNF, 2017: 14th, 2018: 12th

Bio: I've lived in Michigan my whole life and enjoy snowmobiling in the Upper Peninsula and Ontario, logging in 5,000 to 6,000 miles per year. I love adventures, challenges, outdoor activities and all different forms of racing. The prestigious Iron Dog race seemed like a perfect fit. In the Pro Class my rookie year I had a DNF, 2017 finished in 14th, and 2018 finished in 12th. This year in the Expedition Class, it will be fun to run it with four good friends.

Personal sponsors: Weiss Equipment, DHT, Woody's, Klim, Grace Performance

Team 51

Sponsors: Kebrt Iron Dog Experience, Kim Bergeron, Bedard Brothers Racing, Polaris Engineering, Klim, Hatcher Pass Polaris



MIKE BEDARD

Age: 57 **From:** Roseau, Minn.

Riding: Polaris XCR

Pro Class status: Rookie

Bio: My love of snowmachining started in 1971 when our dad brought home our first sled. You could say

that was the first time we were bitten by "The Dog." I spent my life pursuing the dream of racing and developing better machines. I am a proud veteran and served in the U.S. Army and National Guard. I graduated from college and landed a career in engineering at Polaris in 1991. I've spent years working with Iron Dog racers, getting feedback to improve our machines. This will be a very special year as I run with my (recently retired) big brother Randy Bedard. My wife, Joni Bedard, and I both retired in April after a combined 65 years at Polaris.

Personal sponsors: Hatcher Pass Polaris, Kebrt Iron Dog Experience, Team 15 Kim Bergeron and JP Bernier, Jim Huttemier, Jeff (Yukon) Sowada, family, friends

Other race history: I started racing in Minnesota in 1983. Cross Country, Ice Lemans, Snow Cross, I-500 two times on vintage sleds, multiple vintage sled races in Minnesota, Iron Dog Ambassador in 2011, finished in Nome; Iron Dog Ambassador in 2012, finished in Fairbanks.



RANDY BEDARD

Age: 61 **From:** Willow

Riding: Polaris 650 INDY XCR 136

Pro Class status: Rookie

Bio: I am a warrior of winter and started riding snowmachines at age 9 in 1971. Despite health challenges

with prostate cancer for five years, Iron Dog gives me a goal to stay strong, healthy, and motivated toward the finish line. I retired from my day job at Hatcher Pass Polaris on Dec. 30, 2023, after 37 years serving the snowmachine industry. I'm looking forward to many more extreme Alaska adventures for years to come.

Personal sponsors: Hatcher Pass Polaris, Kebrt Iron Dog Experience, Team 15 Kim Bergeron and JP Bernier, Mike Bedard, Jim Huttemier, Jeff (Yukon) Sowada, Dianne Lapham

Team 52

Sponsors: Woody's Traction Products, Grace Performance, Klim, Finish Line Shocks, Weiss Equipment



DAVID HOUGHTALING

Age: 65 **From:** Reese, Mich.

Riding: Polaris Indy

Pro Class status: Rookie

Bio: I have enjoyed the sport of snowmobile trail riding for decades, especially saddle bag trips across the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Personal sponsors: David Houghtaling Farms, Inc., Woody's, Klim, Grace Performance



LARRY LEVINE

Age: 60 **From:** Anchorage

Riding: Polaris XCR

Pro Class status: Veteran

Race history: Finished: 2016, 2018, 2019

Bio: I was born and raised in

Anchorage and retired as a physician after breaking some of my own parts. I raised three wonderful children here and have been with my wonderful wife, Karen, since 1983 and still going strong. This will be my sixth fray in the race, the first time in Expedition Class, and having finished as a Pro three times.

Personal sponsors: Karen Levine, Dani Levine, Dave Hausbeck, Jerry Alward, Mathew Spernak, Daniel Thibault, Stan English, Rick Rodgers, Woody's, Klim, Grace Performance

Other Race History: 2013-2017 Arctic Man

Team 60



TIM NUNLEY

Age: 54 **From:** Wasilla

Riding: Polaris

Pro Class status: Rookie

Bio: Tim Nunley is a lifelong Alaskan who has loved snowmachining since the age of 6. He loves

to fly, hunt, fish, golf, and ride ATVs with the family. He has participated in several cross-country races in the 90s and won trophies. He always had a dream to run the Iron Dog, and now he's finally able to make that dream a reality. He has been married to Sena for 27 years and has three children, Janae (21), Bradley (22), and Braden (23). He's worked as a parts manager at Continental Subaru/Mazda for the past 25 years.

Other race history: Trophy Class -Talkeetna, first place; Hatcher Pass 60, K400, and The Sheep Creek to Petersville race, first place.

TRIVIA: Today's Iron Dog is the longest it has ever been, at roughly 2,500 miles. The original Iron Dog ended in Nome, but now returns back to Southcentral Alaska for the finish. For those who are more accustomed to living and traveling in the Lower 48, today's Iron Dog course is roughly the distance from Las Vegas to New York City, Miami to Salt Lake City, or Seattle to Pittsburgh. It is almost as long as the entire length of Chile, and if you started in Moscow, you could almost make it as far as Madrid.



ROB ROBINSON

Age: 52 **From:** Wasilla
Riding: Polaris XCR
Pro Class status: Rookie
Bio: I'm a longtime Alaskan and love all things Alaska. My wife, Gina, and I have three children. I'm looking

forward to a trip to Nome.

Personal sponsors: Me, Valley Dental Clinic

Other race history: Raced Pro Class 2012, Team 15



BO STANBERRY

Age: 41 **From:** Wasilla
Riding: Polaris XCR
Pro Class status: Rookie
Bio: I was born and raised in Alaska and love anything involving the outdoors. This will be my second

time doing the Expedition Class. I had a blast on the last one, so figured I would give it another go.

Personal sponsors: Miranda Stanberry Signature Real Estate, Mom and Dad

Other race history: Expedition Class, 2018; 2018 Skwentna 200 semi-pro, first place; 2011 Larry Heal-150, third place; 2012 K-150, fifth place; 2012 Mayors Cup, sixth place

Team 63

Sponsors: Woody's Traction Products, Grip N Rip Racing Products, Rugged Radios Oxbow Lights, SII Alpha LEDs, Backwoods BMP Bumpers



TOM SNELL

Age: 54 **From:** Alton, N.H.
Riding: Ski-Doo Renegade XRS Competition
Pro Class status: Rookie
Bio: I've worked professionally in the snowmobile industry since 1991.

After recent weight loss surgery, I wanted to live a dream and participate in the Iron Dog event.

Personal sponsors: Friends, family and Snell Powersports

Other race history: Several seasons as a mechanic on snow cross and grass drag teams.



DAN STEWART

Age: 51 **From:** Gilford, N.H.
Riding: Ski-Doo Renegade
Pro Class status: Rookie
Bio: I was born and raised in Atkinson, N.H. Growing up, I always went out snowmobiling with my

dad, uncles and cousins, taking full advantage of the farm we lived on. I'm currently living in the beautiful Lakes Region of New Hampshire. I enjoy riding side by side with my wife on our snowmobiles. We also enjoy riding on the big lake in our boat and taking day trips on our motorcycle. I'm excited to be doing the Iron Dog Race for the first time.

Personal sponsors: Howard Precision, Inc., and family

Team 64

Sponsors: Buffalo Wool Co.



PATTI GLOTFELTY

Age: 54 **From:** Willow
Riding: Polaris Switchback Assault
Pro Class status: Rookie
Bio: I am from the Appalachian region of Western Maryland. I moved to Alaska in 2007 and have been exploring the wilds since. My goal is to return to Nome by snowmachine in February 2024 as part of the Expedition Class.



JUSTIN SAVIDIS

Age: 49 **From:** Willow
Riding: Polaris Switchback Assault
Pro Class status: Rookie
Bio: I am a six-time finisher of the Iditarod and look forward to reaching Nome again, this time by snowmachine.

Personal sponsors: Snowhook Adventure Guides of Alaska, Heli Alaska, Inc., the Chet and Bernie Mystery Series (authored by Spencer Quinn), The Plunderers.



REBECCA SAVIDIS

Age: 47 **From:** Willow
Riding: Polaris Switchback Assault
Pro Class status: Rookie
Bio: Seeking a life of adventure, my husband, Justin (AJ) and I packed all our worldly belongings into a truck and trailer (complete with a rocking chair strapped to the top in true Clampett style) and made the move to Alaska. That was 2004 and we never looked back. With miles of adventures across the state later, we now own and operate Snowhook Adventure Guides of Alaska and enjoy sharing Alaska with people from all over the world.

Personal sponsors: Snowhook Adventure Guides of Alaska, Heli Alaska, Inc, the Chet and Bernie Mystery Series (authored by Spencer Quinn), The Plunderers.

Team 70



RODNEY HILDEBRAND

Age: 57 **From:** Last Chance
Riding: Arctic Cat ZR 600 RXC
Pro Class status: Rookie
Bio: I live at Last Chance Homestead on the Yukon River, between the Galena and Kaltag checkpoints. I've

always enjoyed watching and following the Iron Dog for most years it's been run. It's fun watching the racers cruise by; when my boys were younger, they'd make signs for their favorite teams and go out to the river and cheer them on. Over the years, many teams have stopped in during the race looking for directions or during training runs to take a little break and enjoy a hot cup of coffee. I've always admired the racers' strength, focus, determination, and skills to complete this most grueling race across Alaska. We're pretty excited to cruise along behind them and experience some of the terrain and challenges they face during the race. Of course, we'll be going at a much slower paces and enjoying the scenery and visiting

with everyone along the way. I'm looking forward to meeting new people and making new friends.

Personal sponsors: Biggest thanks to my wife, Celene, for reminding me to live, laugh, love and focus on living fully in the present. And thanks to my kids and grandkids for all the love, hugs, kisses, and unwavering support and encouragement.

Other race history: The last time I raced a snowmachine was during the 1980 Nulato Spring Carnival oval race on the Yukon River in front of town. I came in second with Coonie's 250 Yamaha Enticer, no cowling, free air. That and more oval races in Horseshoe Lake with a 250 Elan. All the village kids getting together with whatever rigs there was. Best times we ever had. That's about the extent of my racing.



RODNEY HILDEBRAND II

Age: 28 **From:** Last Chance
Riding: Arctic Cat ZR RXC
Pro Class status: Rookie
Bio: I was born and raised Alaskan, growing up on a homestead along the Yukon River. I enjoy being out-

doors, hunting, fishing, trapping and getting out on anything with an engine. Most of all, I enjoy spending time with my beautiful family.

Team 73



DOUG BLUMER

Age: 64 **From:** Anchorage
Riding: Ski-Doo Expedition
Pro Class status: Rookie
Bio: I first came to Alaska in 1972 when I was 13 on vacation with my family from our dairy farm in upstate

New York. I somehow always knew I would be back, and in 1981, and after graduating from college, I returned. I recently retired from NC Machinery/Power Systems after 41 years of sales and service. Starting as a technician and completing my career as the Anchorage-based Power Systems Alaska sales manager. In addition, I have supported the fishing fleet for many years with marine propulsion and power generation, I enjoyed the lifestyle and the friendships, eventually buying into the Southeast gillnet fishery and IFQs in the gulf that continues today. I also support the industry as an active board member for the Commercial Fishing and Agricultural Bank.

Personal sponsors: My wife, Dianne, born in Ketchikan and raised in a commercial fishing family, supports our many businesses as well as her own. I feel very fortunate to be participating in the Iron Dog with my good friend Sam Maxwell and his son, Jake. Sam has participated in the Iron Dog and the Iditarod one way or another for more than 50 years as a snowmachine competitor, dog musher and pilot.



JAKE MAXWELL

Age: 37 **From:** Anchorage
Riding: Ski-Doo Expedition Xtreme
Pro Class status: Rookie

Bio: Jake is a lifelong Alaskan, born and raised in Anchorage. His wife, Alyse, and Jake have 3-year-old twin sons, Lewis and Clark. He has spent nearly 20 years working as a land surveyor traveling across Alaska. Jake completed the Expedition Class last year and looks forward to riding the trail again with his dad, Sam, and their good friend Doug.

Other race history: Expedition Class, 2023



SAM MAXWELL

Age: 67 **From:** Anchorage

Riding: Ski-Doo Expedition

Pro Class status: Veteran

Race history: 2000: Finished

Bio: My wife, Theresa, and I, along with our four children and six

grandchildren, are all lifelong Alaskans. I have been involved with the Iron Dog and Iditarod for many years. I flew fuel and supplies for Iron Dog in the 90s and ran in the race in 2000. I rode in the first ever race to Nome, The Top of the World 1000, with my dad in 1973. Now, 51 years later, I am riding to Nome with my son, Jake and close friend Doug Blumer. We are all very fortunate to live in the great state of Alaska.

Personal sponsors: Pollux Aviation, Outbound Heli Adventures

Other race history: Top of the World 1000, 1973; Expedition Class 2023

Team 74



BUTCH BOLOGNA

Age: 59 **From:** Soldotna

Riding: Polaris Matrix cross country

Pro Class status: Rookie

Bio: Butch came to Alaska more than 30 years ago with a young family in tow and with dreams to

race the Iditarod. He spent years on the runners of a dogsled and made an unsuccessful attempt in 1995. He did, however, compete in more than 75 sled dog races throughout Alaska. This year however, he will once again put himself to the test to finally get to Nome. This time in an Iron Dog. He will be a representative for team Iron Warrior, a program started to reach out to our more isolated military veterans along the trail. Iron Warrior is an all-military veterans team. Butch is president of Solve Alaska, a nonprofit veterans organization based in Soldotna. Butch has been married to his wife, Kelli, for 40 years. He has two adult children, Justin and Monica, and three grandchildren, Matteo, Olivia and Saylor. He enjoys all that Alaska has to offer and is an avid outdoorsman. He is a veteran of the U.S. Navy and is a retired law enforcement officer.

Personal sponsors: Solve Alaska; Battle Buddies Outdoors, Charlie Potter; Alaska Healing Hearts, James Hastings; Alaska Warrior Partnership, Jessy Lakin, Battle Dawgs - Jeremiah Brewington, Country Financial - Jillene Funk/agent, Alaska Leather / Mad Hatter - Bonnie Welsh, Eagle River Gun Cache-Brad Bailey, 907 Surplus - Jeremy Wise, Denali Refuse - Zach Stanley, Brewed Oasis- Melanie Swenson, Big Lake Arctic Cat - Carl Swenson, Palmer Moose Lodge, Palmer Elks Lodge



DAVID NAVARRO

Age: 24 **From:** Eagle River

Riding: Polaris XC

Pro Class status: Rookie

Personal sponsors: Frankie is being sponsored by friends and family, Solve Alaska, Alaska's Healing

Hearts, Alaska Warrior Partnership, Battle Buddies Racing, Teel Enterprises, Teel Family Adventures, Red Roan Productions, Jilene Funk Country Financial, Eagle River Gun Cache, Alaska Leather, Mad Hatter, 907 Surplus, Denali Refuse, NAVOYA

Solutions and Navarro Solutions. He would like to especially thank his parents David Navarro Sr. and Justa Sanabria for all their support. He is grateful for, and humbled by, the support he has received thus far.

Other race history: Finished in the 2022 Iron Dog Expedition class.

Team 77



CHRIS FORBESS

Age: 40 **From:** Wasilla

Riding: Polaris XCR

Pro Class status: Rookie

Bio: I was born and raised in Fostoria, Ohio. I moved to Alaska in 2003 with my beautiful wife, Maggie, and

help run our family-owned business Forbess Floor Covering. We now have two wonderful kids (Millie and Zain) who have been SnoX racing for the last seven years. Seeing my kids grow into this sport and the love they have for it has really inspired me to run the Iron Dog. This is going to be an amazing adventure that my dad/teammate and I will get to share together. **Personal sponsors:** I want to thank my amazing wife, Maggie, for being supportive of everything we do; my daughter, Millie; and my son, Zain, for the inspiration and determination they give me. Also, thanks to my parents who are always there for guidance and support, and all my other family and friends.



DEWEY FORBESS

Age: 58 **From:** Big Lake

Riding: Polaris XCR650

Pro Class status: Rookie

Bio: I have been riding snowmachines with my son Chris since he was 4 years old, so running

the Expedition Class with him is a dream come true! We are teaming up with Jesse Tanner and Brandon Harbour, and I could not be more excited to experience this adventure with them. In addition to snowmachining, I love spending time with my wife, Kirsten, son, Chris, daughter-in-law Maggie, and my amazing grandkids, Mille and Zain. I am the proudest grandpa at the grandkids' snowcross snowmachine races, and I anticipate we will see them in the Iron Dog Pro Class in the next few years.

Personal sponsors: Hatcher Pass Polaris, Forbess Floor Covering, Walker and Sons Electric



BRANDON HARBOUR

Age: 47 **From:** Wasilla

Riding: Polaris

Pro Class status: Rookie

Bio: I am a born-and-raised Alaskan. I've been married for more than 20 years and have four kids. I'm looking

for another Alaskan adventure to add to my list.



JESSE TANNER

Age: 46 **From:** Wasilla

Riding: Polaris XCR

Pro Class status: Rookie

Bio: I am a lifelong Alaskan looking to explore more of this incredible state. I grew up following the

Iditarod and wanted to be able see the racecourse from

beginning to end. I am excited to experience the Iron Dog excitement and meet other Alaskans at each checkpoint and along the trail.

Personal sponsors: Tanner Group Real Estate, Adams Family Painting

Team 82

Sponsors: Rainy Pass Lodge, Compeau's, Town Real Estate, Johnson River Enterprises, LLC, Mainway Solutions, Grip N Rip Racing Products, Klim, Global Credit Union, Darby's Performance Machine, Team Swenson Racing



BRANDON DUVLEA

Age: 41 **From:** Fairbanks

Riding: Ski-Doo MXZ X-RS Competition

Pro Class status: Rookie

Bio: I was born and raised in Fairbanks and reside there with my

ever-supportive and amazing wife, Rachel, and our two awesome kids. I am a network tech at Alaska Communications. We enjoy everything Alaska and get outdoors as often as possible. We also love traveling to faraway places whenever we get the chance. I have been riding snowmachines for as long as I can remember, and my earliest memories are riding along with my dad and squeezing onto the handlebars of the 76 Jag. It has been a long-time dream to ride all the way to Nome. Since 2017, my friends and I have been volunteering at the Puntilla checkpoint and we are super excited to finally see the entire trail. I would like to thank all the Iron Dog volunteers we will encounter along the way.

Personal sponsors: My wife, Rachel, my kids, Osa, and Siggardt Duvlea, parents, Bruce and Patricia Duvlea, in-laws, Becky and Randy Andeer, Ryan Folsom, Kyle Malamute, Town Real Estate, Rainy Pass Lodge.

Other race history: Arctic Man 2002, DNF



ANDY SWENSON

Age: 40 **From:** Fairbanks

Riding: Ski-Doo MXZ X-RS Competition

Pro Class status: Veteran

Race history: 2016: DNF, 2017: finished

Bio: I was born and raised in Interior Alaska, near Fairbanks. My wife, Christina, and our two boys Brendan (9) and Rylan (12) try to enjoy everything our great state of Alaska has to offer, winter or summer – these experiences will last a lifetime. I'm a 20-year Union carpenter and still enjoy every process of construction and the satisfaction it brings to build something. My father ran the trail class Iron Dog in the '90s, and it was always something I wanted to do. In 2016, my partner RT and I raced and scratched for mechanical reasons just outside of Nome. We raced again in 2017 and crossed the finish line in Fairbanks. I still enjoy Iron Dog. As a volunteer every year, I've been a checker for Manley on both north and southbound routes, I've been part of the Rainy Pass checkers and fueling team for the last few years, and now I'm looking forward to spending some time back out on the trail, taking some pictures and just enjoying it with all the other teams. I've spent the last six years as an advocate for youth snowmachine racing in Fairbanks through the Fairbanks Snowmobile Fun Lions Club, and I'm looking forward to many more years promoting

snowmachining in Alaska!

Personal sponsors: I would like to thank my best friend of 23 years, "mother of the year" 12 years in a row and forever beautiful wife, Christina Lynn Swenson, for everything she does to support me, and putting up with all my great ideas all the time. Thanks to my two sons Rylan and Brendan for all their help on and off the track and everything that goes into racing throughout the whole year. Thanks to my friend and mentor RT Lindner and his family; my always-supportive mom, Kathy; my dad, Rick; stepmom, Kelly; James and Kyle at Compeau's in Fairbanks; and to everyone who offers their support along the trail. A special thanks to all the volunteers for the Iron Dog on all levels.



JON WAGNER

Age: 42 **From:** Anchorage
Riding: Ski-Doo 2024 Backcountry XRS
Pro Class status: Rookie
Bio: I was born and raised in Anchorage. I grew up snowmachining

out to our family cabin as a kid and have been ripping up and down the Yentna and Susitna rivers for more than 30 years. Now that I have kids of my own, I get to enjoy helping them make the same kind of memories. When we're not riding sleds, we enjoy getting outside as a family and taking advantage of all the adventure that our great state has to offer. For the last six or seven years, I've been volunteering for Iron Dog at the Puntilla checkpoint at Rainy Pass Lodge, and I am beyond stoked for this opportunity to finally see the rest of the trail to Nome. This trip has been on my bucket list for years, and I couldn't be happier to be embarking on this adventure with a solid group of friends.

Personal sponsors: I'd like to thank my beautiful, loving wife, Lindsay, as well as my son, Tyler, and my daughter, Dylan, for always supporting my dreams. I'd also like to thank Alaska Mining and Diving Supply, CATO Motorsports, and Eliason's Tank as well as the rest of our team sponsors for helping me get properly equipped for the ride.

Other race history: My competition history consists of trying to provoke unsuspecting riders along the river into racing me for undermined lengths of time and distance. I usually win.



LINDSEY WOOD

Age: 41 **From:** Fairbanks
Riding: Ski-Doo MXZ-XRS
Pro Class status: Rookie
Bio: Born and raised in Fairbanks, I am a lifelong Alaskan. I grew up playing hockey, riding snowma-

chines, jet boating, and gaining a passion for all Alaskan outdoor activities. I have volunteered for Iron Dog the past seven years at various checkpoints. I've always wanted to see the rest of the trail, and I'm looking forward to the ride with this epic team. When I'm not working, I love spending time at our family cabin on the river with my incredible girlfriend Kensie and my amazing kids, Anniston and Waylon. I have also enjoyed coaching 10U hockey this season. Let's go, Team Norum!

Personal sponsors: Johnson River Enterprises, RT Lindner, BA, Jesse Wood, Rainy Pass Lodge, Town Real Estate, Auto Trim Design, Kyle Malamute, Team Swenson Racing, Chuck Hegdal, Northern Power Sports, Darby's Performance Machine, and all the race volunteers. Thank you to my mom "Grandma", all my

family, friends, my daughter Anniston, my son Waylon, and a special-thank you to my beyond supportive girlfriend Kensie! I couldn't have made this happen without you.

Team 83



MATT DENN

Age: 41 **From:** Anchorage
Riding: Polaris XCR
Pro Class status: Rookie
Bio: I am a lifelong Alaskan from Anchorage. I enjoy spending time outdoors with friends and family. I enjoy snowmachining in the winters and spend as much time fishing on the water in the summers as possible.

Personal sponsors: I would like to thank my family and friends for their support, as well as the Iron Dog organization and all the volunteers.



TIM JOHNSON

Age: 42 **From:** Eagle River
Riding: Polaris XCR
Pro Class status: Rookie
Bio: I'm a lifelong Alaskan and Alaska-style outdoor enthusiast. I'm thrilled to have this opportunity to

ride to Nome.

Personal sponsors: Thanks to my wife, Kelsey, our family and friends. Huge thanks to everyone involved to help make the Iron Dog happen.



ED SLIKER

Age: 39 **From:** Talkeetna
Riding: Ski-Doo Renegade XRS
Pro Class status: Rookie
Bio: I'm a lifelong Alaskan living in Talkeetna with my wife, Heidi, and two kids, Jayden and Peyton. Both

my kids are involved in snocross and cross-country racing. In the winter I enjoy snowmachining with my wife and my kids and four wheeling, air boating, hunting, and fishing in the summer and fall. It's been a lifelong dream of mine to run this, and I'm excited for this opportunity.

Personal sponsors: Sleepy Moose, Willow Alaska Sled Dog Systems

Team 88



HARVEY FARLEY

Age: 51 **From:** Nome
Riding: Arctic Cat Catalyst Riot
Pro Class status: Veteran
Race history: 2008: Finished, 2010: Finished

Bio: I was born and raised in Nome and have worked for Morgan Sales and Service for 25 years. I like hunting and fishing and am also a commercial fisherman and commercial captain. My hobbies include ATVing, UTS riding, snowmobile riding, and sitting on the couch watching TV
Personal sponsors: Morgan Sales and Service, Farley Marine LLC, Farley Tire and Auto Center, Chugie and Jessica Farley. Also, special thanks to Mom and Dad; I'll always be a momma's boy.

Other race history: Many local races finished, including

Nome-Golovin, Archie Ferguson, Nome Cannon Ball and Kotz-Kiana race. Also finished the 2013 Trail Class Iron Dog



HOWARD FARLEY

Age: 53 **From:** Nome
Riding: Ski-Doo Renegade XRS
Pro Class status: Veteran
Race history: 2008: Finished, 2010: Finished

Bio: Chugie is back to show his oldest son the trail. Chugie and his wife, Jessica, own Farley Tire and Auto and Noxapaga Suites in Nome. Chugie is a licensed maritime captain and operates Farley Marine with his brother, Harvey. In his free time, you can find Chugie outside with his sons, Kevin and Benjamin.

Personal sponsors: Jessica Farley, Benjamin Farley, Farley Tire and Auto, Noxapaga Suites, Shauntel Bruner Alvanna, Wilderness Ski-doo, Farley Marine

Other race history: Iron Dog Trail Class, 2013. Many local race completions in the '90s and early 2000s.



KEVIN MCDANIEL-FARLEY

Age: 16 **From:** Nome
Riding: Ski-Doo Renegade
Pro Class status: Rookie
Bio: Kevin McDaniel-Farley is 16 and is from Nome. He loves riding snow-

machines everywhere, his Bernese mountain dog, Heidi, and his family. He is in tenth grade, dually enrolled at Nome Beltz High School and the University of Alaska-Fairbanks. He spends his summers commercial fishing and works in his family's auto shop. Kevin comes from a family of strong racers and riders and is excited to be following in their footsteps in this year's Expedition Class. Kevin is doing this race in loving memory of his father, Kelly McDaniel, and his grandma, Julie Farley.

Personal sponsors: Kathy Wheelahan; Keith, Dan, Bruce and Bubba McDaniel; Daniel and Stephanie Nielson; Auk Tozier.

Team 89



NICK GUSTAFSON

Age: 42 **From:** Roseau, Minn.
Riding: Polaris VR1
Pro Class status: Rookie
Bio: I grew up on a small farm near Hurley, Wis., and was introduced to snowmobiling at age 11. After I

finished my degree at Michigan Technological University in 2004, I got my dream job at Polaris in Roseau, Minn., learning all about high-performance engines from some of the best people in the industry. I've tackled the tough Copper Peak Snowmobile Hill Climb and even became the King of the Hill in 2009. I've also had the opportunity to compete at the Jackson Hole World Championship Hill Climb a handful of times over the years. Apart from that, I've done some snowmobile drag racing, speed runs, vintage cross country, and competed at the pro level for six years in snowmobile watercross on the IWA circuit. I've also worked on pit crews for legendary pro racers at the Soo I-500 race three times. Nowadays, I'm focused on mentoring my 15-year-old stepson, helping him get better at snowmobile watercross and cross-country racing. Looking forward, I am very excited about the opportunity to partake in

the Expedition portion of the prestigious Iron Dog race!

Personal Sponsors: Polaris Industries

Other race history: 2022, Copper Peak Hill Climb, 40+, first place; 2009, Copper Peak Hill Climb, Modified King of the Hill, first place; 2020, IWA Snowmobile Watercross, Pro Open Ovals, fourth place overall season result; 2020, IWA Snowmobile Watercross, Modified Drags, first place overall season result; 2012, IWA Snowmobile Watercross, Semi Pro Open Ovals, first place overall season result



TAYLOR MCLEAN

Age: 29 **From:** Roseau, Minn.

Riding: Polaris VR1

Pro Class status: Rookie

Bio: I grew up in a small town in northern Minnesota saddled right between two of the big three snowmobile manufacturers, which has had a huge influence on my life and career. Growing up, I cut my teeth

on the various cross-country snowmobile racing circuits throughout the upper Midwest and have since channeled my powersports passion into my career at Polaris Industries where I have worked for just under seven years. I currently work in the snow engineering department leading race and high-performance trail and crossover projects. My wife, Krista, and I have two daughters, Etta (4), and Isla (2), and they truly are my biggest supporters. As a family we enjoy all things outdoors, especially things with tracks or wheels.

Personal sponsors: Polaris Industries, all my family and friends back in Minnesota

TRIVIA: The first Iron Dog was known as the Iditarod Iron Dog Classic, ended in Nome and was won by John Faeo and Rod Frank, riding Polaris with a time of 23:50. Faeo and Scott Davis are tied for the most wins with seven each and they never once rode together.