

# KRYSTAL KENNELS

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## \*\*\*\*\*DOG SLEDDING TERMINOLOGY\*\*\*\*\*

**GANGLINE:** The line stretching out from the front of the sled up to the lead dog(s), to which all of the dogs on the team are connected, usually in pairs.

**NECKLINE:** A short line leading from the dog's collar and attaching to the gangline.

**TUGLINE:** The line leading from the gangline to the back end of the dog's harness, by which the dog pulls (tugs) the load.

## DOG SLED COMMANDS

**KEEP TIGHT:** Keep gangline tight to avoid tangles; very important for lead dog to know this command.

**HUP, HUP:** Start, Go. (Various mushers use different terminology to tell their team this command. For example, some will simply say, "Let's go!" Then their team will be off and running!)

**ON BY:** Ignore distraction (when passing another team, or when seeing an animal off the side of the trail, etc.)

**GEE:** Turn right.

**HAW:** Turn left.

**WHOA:** Stop

**MUSH:** This is NOT a dogsledding command. =) A "musher" is the driver of the sled, and "mushing" is another term for dogsledding, but MUSH is not used as a dogsledding command.

## DOG SLED TEAM POSITIONS

**LEAD:** As the position implies, the lead dogs are the smartest and the brightest, the best of the best. They know "Gee" and "Haw," and, most importantly, "Whoa." =)

**POINT:** This refers to the dog that is directly behind the lead dog. This is where we put leaders-in-training.

**TEAM/LINE:** Dogs in the middle of the team. They will hold their position and are very steady, hard-working pullers.

**WHEEL:** Position directly in front of the dog sled. The most powerful dogs on the team are in this position.