

2022 Alaskan Malamute National Specialty Estes Park, CO



Fellow Alaskan Malamute Enthusiasts:

I would like to take a moment and thank everyone for their patience and understanding. To say the past six-weeks have been a “frustrating adventure” would be a huge understatement. As I am sure you are all aware, our proposed show site in Colorado Springs was taken over by a developer who is turning it into apartments. Without any warning, they cancelled our contract. Upon notice of this, our show team jumped into action. We reached out to almost a dozen different sites around Colorado and received estimates from three. We developed a matrix comparing the three finalists, which was provided to the Board of Directors. *With unanimous consent from the board and a lot of excitement from your show staff, I am proud to introduce the Events Center in Estes Park, Colorado as our new location for the 2022 AMCA National.*

Estes Park is a small mountain town about 1 hour northwest of downtown Denver. It is the gateway to one of our country's national treasures – Rocky Mountain National Park. The town sits at 7,500-ft, just slightly higher in elevation than Colorado Springs. It is in a valley surrounded by mountains, including Longs Peak at 14,259-ft. The town is a tourist mecca and as such is full of activities, sights, shopping and restaurants. The good thing for us, is that our show falls right in the middle of Elk Fest and Christmas, so we'll pretty much have run of the town. The chamber of commerce and Town Council are very excited at the prospect of having their town overrun with Malamutes.

Our site is huge. We have a 25,000 square foot building for all our show activities and a 20,000 square foot building for grooming and the hospitality room. There are on site RV spots, and very easy access for unloading equipment. We can also use the arenas and other areas for agility, weight pulls and other activities.

The host hotel will be the Ridgeline, which is about 2,000-ft from the show site. It is a nice hotel – clean, rooms renovated in 2021 and is just a 5–7-minute walk or 2-minute drive to the show site. The Ridgeline is basically giving us the entire hotel for the week. It has a nice restaurant with great food and a well-stocked bar. They have fire pits with lounge chairs out front and kits available to get your smores fix every night.

I know there will be a lot of questions about the new site, so included in this packet, we have done our best to provide answers. There is no perfect show site, and each location has pro's and con's. It is my opinion that Estes Park offers us a better show site, with many more amenities than what we had in Colorado Springs.

On behalf of our show committee, we would like to re-welcome you to Colorado in November of 2022.

Thanks, and see you soon:

Rob Pratt
Show Chair
719.237.9850
valhallamals@falconbroadband.net

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Host Hotel:

Our host for 2022 is the Ridgeline Hotel Estes Park at the intersection of State Highway 7 and US 36 just south of Lake Estes. The hotel has been wonderful to work with and are very excited about hosting our National.

The hotel is approximately 1-hour from downtown Denver and 75 miles from Denver International Airport. There are over 10 restaurants within a 10-minute walk and 70 restaurants within a 5-minute drive.



The hotel has 140 guest rooms throughout the complex and on several nights, we will use them all. **When registering, let the hotel know if you will have dogs in your room, so they can put you on the first or second floor.**

Room Amenities:

- Newly Remodeled Rooms
- Complementary High-Speed Internet
- Large Flat Screen TV
- Coffee Maker

Hotel Amenities:

- Heated Indoor Pool
- Bigger Fitness Center
- Dog Walking Area
- Free Parking
- Bike Rental
- Lounge & Game Room
- Outdoor Fire Pits

On Site Dining:

- Latitude 105 Restaurant and Bar



Room Rates:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Single - \$126* | Double - \$126* |
| Triple - \$126* | Quad - \$126* |
| Suite - \$159* | |
| *plus taxes | |

No more than two (2) dogs per room – onetime fee of \$100.



Hotel Information Reservations

For Reservations, Contact the Hotel directly at 970.480.0110 or 970.527.1500

101 South Saint Vrain Avenue
Estes Park, CO 80517

Web based reservation site to be provided shortly

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Key Staff:

Show Chair – Rob Pratt – valhallamals@falconbroadband.net – 719.237.9850

Assistant Show Chair – Justin Scoffield – stormrunnerm19@gmail.com – 435.515.7238

Hospitality – Shelly & Sarah Pratt – valhallamals@falconbroadband.net – 719.216.4811

Trophies– Leneia Rogowski & Pat Jenkins – leneia.rogowski@comcast.net 435.770-9377

Trophy Donations:

Trophy Raffle – win up to 5 room nights at the host hotel.

For every \$25 donation – the doner will receive one (1) raffle ticket (eg. \$100 donation = 4 tickets). We will draw one ticket each day, Monday through Friday during National week - the owner of each winning ticket will have one night (single/double equivalent) deducted from their hotel bill. Donations received by April 1, 2022 will receive one additional ticket (one per family).

Please fill out and return the form below to Pat Jenkins or Leneia Rogowski

2022 National Trophy Donation

Name: _____

Email: _____

Donation Amount: _____ Phone: _____

Leneia Rogowski

Trophy Chair

640 E 90 N

Hyrum UT, 84319

435.770.9377

leneia.rogowski@comcast.net

Pat Jenkins

Trophy Chair

PO Box 417

Richmond, UT 84333

435.770.0334

pmj16@msn.com



Host a Hospitality Room:

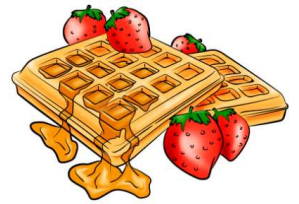
Our goal is to have a hospitality room available each morning and afternoon during the show week. With the new location, the hospitality room will be located adjacent to the grooming area to make it easier to enjoy a coffee and quick bite while grooming. We are looking for individuals, groups, or clubs to donate or take on sponsorship.

If you are interested in helping us with this, please fill out the form below or contact Shelly/Sarah. Large donors will be allowed to set up a display or hang a poster on the day of their sponsorship. We will be setting up a link on the web site for donations.

Our goal is to provide a hospitality room for everyone to enjoy. As always - every dollar that we receive for hospitality is spent giving back to the attendees of the show. As funds permit, we will offer the same comprehensive breakfast, similar to 2016. During the mid-day break, we hope to bring back the ice cream social, death by chocolate, and afternoon to remember as well as a few new surprises.

Thank you:

Shelly & Sarah Pratt
Hospitality Chairs
719.495.0632
valhallamals@falconbroadband.net



Name/Group/Club_____

Address_____

Phone Number_____

Email _____

Donation Amount_____



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Travel to the Site

By Auto: Getting to Estes Park is pretty easy. It's located 65 miles northwest of Denver. Whether you are coming from the east or west – just head to I-25 and then proceed west on US 34 or US 36.

By Plane: Use Denver International Airport (DEN).



The Denver International Airport is 75 miles (1.5 hours) southwest of the

hotel. Although Denver is the largest and third busiest airport in the county, it is fairly simple to navigate. We are currently working to tie down a group rate with a local shuttle company. If you choose to rent a car, there are several routes to the hotel. Each of the routes is interstate/Highway and easy to navigate. Do not hesitate to give Rob a call with any questions.



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Grooming:

With our new show site, we have an entire 20,000-square foot indoor heated pavilion. We will adjust the stall size depending on how many are needed. At this time, we do not anticipate any grooming stalls smaller than 9' x 9'. The grooming pavilion has large overhead doors for easy loading and unloading. Each grooming stall will be \$75 for the week, and we are limiting the number to two per family. If you want to set up next to someone else, please let Justin know.

The Pavilion building is located 20' from the events center where the show will be held. In case of poor weather, we will connect the buildings with awnings to keep everyone dry. We hope to live stream the show to the grooming area on a large screen.

Since the hotel is not on site and they only allow 2 dogs per room, we worked with the Town Council to provide a variance, allowing for dogs to be crated overnight in the grooming area. This agreement comes with the understanding that the site will be locked down by midnight and we provide full time security until the hospitality crew shows up at 5:00 AM. The preference is for us to self-monitor with club member who know Malamutes versus bringing in outside forces.

Per AKC rules, free grooming will be provided on the show grounds. This location is yet to be determined but will likely be outside on the north side of the pavilion.

All grooming rates are for the week. Grooming will be available first thing on Sunday. Coordinate Grooming questions with Justin.

Reserving Equipment:

We will have equipment such as crates and tables available for rent. Information will be posted on the web site later this winter. Contact Justin for more information.

Dog Wash:

We will provide at least one portable tub for use by all. The exact location of the bathing area is yet to be determined, but it should be near the grooming area.

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RV Parking:

We have plenty of room for RV's. There are designated RV sites east of the grooming building. All sites will have electricity. The Town does not permit the use of generators. There is a water spigot on the side of the grooming building that can be utilized for filling tanks. We are working to locate a dump station or a company that can come in with a honey wagon.

If you stay in your RV overnight, the fee is \$50/night. Please coordinate reservations with Justin Scoffield. There is no charge for parking equipment trailers.

The Town is fine with setting up x-pens, e-z ups and other equipment necessary for the health, welfare and needs of our furry friends. They just ask that we clean up. The show committee will have pine shavings available for sale if needed – coordinate with Justin.

Vendors:

There are several vendors who have already committed to the show, but we are always looking for more. Our goal is to not double up on vendor types if possible. All vendors will be inside the show hall adjacent to the ring.

We will be offering a 10'x10' space for \$50/week. It is up to the vendor to work out tables and electricity with the Town.

Contact Rob for more information.

Catalog Advertising:

Advertising in the 2022 National catalog will all include one picture and one logo. Additional pictures or logos will cost an additional \$30 each. Ad prices will include necessary design work by advertising staff or submit your camera-ready artwork. Deadline for ad's is July 15, 2022.

For Ad information contact Rob Pratt:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| • Back Cover (color) | \$200 |
| • Inside Back Cover (color) | \$160 |
| • Inside Front Cover (color) | \$160 |
| • Full Page (color) | \$125 |
| • Full Page (black & white) | \$75 |
| • Ad (three lines of type) | \$30 |

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Weather:

The weather is what encourages many people to visit and relocate to this area. Estes Park receives an average of 260 days of sunshine every year, but can also produce strong winds, rain, fog and snow. It is uncommon for this area to receive much snow in early November, but it can happen. The snowiest months in Colorado are traditionally March and April. We cannot promise the perfect weather we had in 2016, but it should be similar, just a bit cooler.

Throughout Colorado, our storms typically come in and leave very quickly, especially in the fall. Be safe, watch the weather, call us, and plan accordingly. If a storm does roll through, it is unlikely to mess the roads up for more than a day. Between our plows and intense sunshine, most roads are clear and dry within hours of the snow event. On the flip side, several of the ski resorts open by early November.

What to bring: The joke around here is to plan for 3 seasons every day, but we won't tell you which 3... Bring sunglasses, sunscreen, lip balm... even in winter. There is 30% less protection from the sun's rays at Estes Park's 7,500-ft elevation. For early November, always prepare for the worst and bring a winter coat, boots and gloves (if you have them, you won't need them – right?) A good wind breaker and sweatshirt are also a must.

Typically, we would expect High's around 40-50 and lows in the 30s for early November.

It is always best to layer your clothing. If you forget, we'll have lots of sweatshirts, jackets, and hats available with our logowear.

Auction:

Again in 2022 we are happy to have Ann Mayberry chair our Auction. As in the past, this auction will be two auctions in one. We will be auctioning off items that raise funds for AMCA and AMAL.

Ann will be asking friends, family and complete strangers to donate items or make commitments to donate an item. Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated.

If you have questions – please contact Ann at:

Ann Mayberry - catdocdvm@aol.com - 770.393.8936

Please send items, money or whatever else to Rob at:

15355 Buckland Ct. - Elbert, CO 80106 - valhallamals@falconbroadband.net - 719.495.0632

Traveling at High Altitude:

Situated at the foot of Rocky Mountain National Park, Estes Park is about half a mile higher than Denver and 1,000-ft higher than Colorado Springs. In Colorado's rarified air, golf balls go ten percent farther... and so do cocktails. Alcoholic drinks pack more of a wallop than at sea level. The sun feels warmer, because you're closer to it, but your coffee is cooler, because water boils at 198 degrees. Estes is also extremely dry, and with less water vapor in the air at this altitude, the sky really is bluer in Colorado - but there's 30 percent less protection from the sun, so sunscreen is a must.

Drink Water - Both before your trip to Colorado, and while you are here, drinking plenty of water is the number one way to help your body adjust easily to our higher altitude. The low humidity in Colorado keeps the air dry, like the desert, so you need about twice as much water here as you would drink at home.



Cassandra Rogowski RN, EMTII, will be on duty throughout the show as our on-call nurse. Since she lives at altitude, she can assist in any warning signs and making things all better.

Eat foods high in potassium, such as broccoli, bananas, avocado, cantaloupe, celery, greens, bran, **chocolate**, granola, dates, dried fruit, potatoes, tomatoes.

Altitude: Don't let things you hear about the mile-high altitude scare you. The air is just thinner and dryer. In fact, many people with respiratory problems, move to Colorado for the benefits of the climate. Just follow these simple tips and you will very likely not even notice the difference.



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Things to See and Do:



As mentioned throughout this info packet, Estes Park is a resort community at the entrance to Rocky Mountain National Park. The Town caters to tourists, and there is likely a little something for everyone.

The primary attraction in this area is Rocky Mountain National Park. RMNP is one of the 5 most visited parks in the US every year. It is famous for its inspiring scenery, mountain lakes, waterfalls, wildlife and trails (sorry not dog

friendly).

As beautiful as Rocky Mountain National Park is, the second most famous attraction in Estes is the Stanley Hotel which is the setting that inspired Steven King to write the Shining. I have heard enough firsthand accounts to lump me in with the believers that it is truly haunted. Tours are available and very interesting.



Other ideas:

- Drive up to Many Parks Curve
- Hike the Bear Lake loop
- Ariel Tram
- Take an ATV Tour
- Take a 4x4 Tour
- Go sightseeing
- Marvel at the Elk
- Chapel on the Rock



Shopping:

- Mainstreet is 4 Blocks of Little Shops
- Glass Studio
- Christmas Shops
- Taffy Shops
-



Frequently Asked Questions:

Will the Weather be Bad?

Background – Short answer – maybe. The altitude of Estes Park and the proximity to the mountains makes it just slightly more susceptible to in-climate weather than Colorado Springs. Similar to anywhere in Colorado, the first week of November is much more likely to provide sunny 50/60-degree days than snow. But also, like anywhere in Colorado, a couple good snowy days should always be expected and enjoyed.

Mitigation - If possible, give yourself an extra day on both ends. Even when Colorado receives a major storm, it is unusual for roads to be closed more than part of a day. If the weather does turn on us, we can offer our show staff to assist with leading caravans up the hill or drive your vehicle for you. Once we have everyone in Estes, our thought is - "let it snow" - and just take in all the ambiance the location provides.

Will I need to Drive Mountainous Roads to Get to the Site?

Background – Short answer – not really. After Labor Day, Estes Park can only be reached from the East via US 34 or US 36. Both roads were severely damaged in the floods of 2013 and rebuilt with wider shoulders and increased clear zones. For most Coloradans, both of these roads would be classified as a "scenic Sunday afternoon" drive. Neither road is a mountain pass. Most of the trip is in canyons with a river on one side. If possible, I would recommend driving them during the day to avoid potential conflicts with Elk. US 36 is much more heavily traveled and the easier route to navigate, but US 34 is more beautiful and more fun to drive. Just take it easy and enjoy the ride.

Mitigation - Similar to above we will assist where necessary to get everyone safely to the site. Please utilize www.cotrip.org or call one of the show staff to get updates.

Will the Elevation Affect me?

Background – Short Answer – maybe. Estes Park is situated in a mountainous bowl. It is surrounded by peaks reaching over 14,000, but the town itself is only at 7,500-ft above sea level. This is just slightly higher than where we were in Colorado Springs in 2016. In fact, for anyone who drove into Colorado Springs, from Denver on I-25, you traversed elevations equivalent to Estes Park.

Mitigation - Cassie Rogowski RN will be on staff as our on-call nurse. Cassie lives in the mountains and can spot altitude sickness from a mile off. If you begin to feel lightheaded, get a headache or shortness of breath, contact Cassie or one of the show staff. As we did in 2016, we are going to VERY STRONGLY encourage everyone to drink lots of water. We will also have canned O2 available as needed.

How Far is the Hotel from the Show Site?

Background – Unfortunately, we were not able to find a hotel/convention center combo at the last minute. Our host hotel is about 1,800-ft from the show site. It's about a 5–7-minute walk or 1–2-minute drive.

Mitigation - We are looking into a shuttle so it's not always necessary to move the car.

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Will the Elevation Affect my Dogs?

Background – Short Answer – Not Likely. There have been many medical studies completed on how animals react to the increase in altitude - several focused-on canines. It is possible for dogs to have some of the same side affects to the lack of oxygen as humans, but most studies concluded that this did not kick in below 8,000-ft.

Mitigation - That said, we will keep an eye on all our furry friends. Make sure they always have plenty of water. It is much more likely that our drier climate will affect them than the altitude.

How far is Estes Park from Civilization?

Background – Estes Park is about a 45 min to 1 hour drive from "civilization". It has all the basic stores of a small town, but no Walmart, Target or Pets Mart. Please plan ahead with everything, so you do not need to waste time running down the mountain.

Mitigation - We will need to make trips into Loveland to pick up fresh food several times during the week for hospitality. While at the store, if you place an order on-line, our staff will be happy to pick it up and deliver it back to you. We will also take orders for bottled water for the dogs and have extra on hand.

Can I Feed the Elk?

Background – Seriously... NO... Colorado is home to the largest Elk population in the world. Typically, in early October, they come out of the mountains and many of them spend the winter in the Estes Valley. By the end of October, the rut is over, and they are all settling in for the winter. A bull elk can weigh up to 800 pounds, stand over 5' at the shoulder.

Mitigation - By November, the elk are typically content to just roam around town minding their own business. They are not impressed by 90 pound dogs, but just to make sure we keep peace and harmony, if there are elk in the proximity of the hotel or show site, just give them lots of space.

Are Things More Expensive in Estes?

Background – Short Answer – Yes, but not drastically. It is a remote community, so in general most items cost more to deliver up the hill. Plan on everything from fuel to food costing about 10% more than the Denver metro area. The bigger issue we are dealing with is the cost of everything going up due to inflation.

Mitigation - We are doing everything in our power to help mitigate costs and make this week affordable. Fuel up in Loveland or Denver, pack in groceries and other necessities.