

is."

It's not just the humans who get geared up at the prospect of running across an open field. The dogs themselves can barely control their excitement as soon as they see their harnesses.

"Do they ever get excited," said Ms Chadwick. "It's bedlam when they see their harnesses, otherwise they're very calm and subdued animals."

Musher Walter Grohman, whose huskies have called the Mail Run and Mush Rush their second home over the last decade, knows all about the dogs' excitement for running.

The Sprucedale native owns 17 Siberian Huskies that he takes to between six and eight races a season. He finds the Mail Run a fun and non-competitive journey that both he and the dogs enjoy.

"I've been racing the dogs for 20 years," said Mr. Grohman. "I got my first dog from my daughter as a birthday present. I like to do a lot of winter sports so I went out to a dog race. It looked like fun, so I decided to participate in the three-dog class."

While neither dog nor man fared well in the first race, Mr. Grohman said he learned quickly about training his animals in



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