



VINDELÄLVSDRAGET 2026 37th Anniversary 13–15/3 2026 (Always week 11)

Instructions for Competitors – Digital Timing System

During Vindelälvsdraget 2026, ALL teams will use the digital timing system that was tested last year by a selection of teams. This means that the standard manual timing will run alongside the digital timing for all teams. The digital times are downloaded from the stick and reviewed by the secretariat after all stages are completed each day. The manual timing system serves as a backup in case any times fail to register.

The digital system uses equipment from Sportident, which means that each team is assigned a timing stick that functions both as a relay baton and for registering exchange times. A picture of the timing stick/relay baton can be found in this document. Teams are responsible for their own timing sticks and for ensuring they are read at every exchange area.

The timing stick is collected together with the team bag at registration on Thursday evening at Hotel River in Sorsele. Each stick has a unique ID number and is named after the team. It is the team's responsibility to pick up and return the stick each day before and after the competitions. At the finish line, the stick can be handed to Waffe (in the speaker's booth), the secretariat, or another Vindelälvsdraget official. The stick is returned either at the prize ceremony, at the end of the day—if data transfer is completed—or before the next morning's start from the secretariat in the starting area between 09:00–10:00.

Using the timing stick:

No reading is done at the morning start in Ammarnäs, Sorsele, or Björksele.

Registration of exchange time is done by inserting the timing stick into the reader unit located on a stand directly after the exchange chute. All teams **MUST** stamp and have their time registered. The stick must be pressed down into the unit for about 2 seconds until a beep is heard, after which it is handed over to the next competitor. If the stick is not held down long enough, the exchange time will not be registered. The daily time will still be registered, but not the stage time—therefore it is important not to be too quick during the reading. Other team members may assist with both reading and handing over the stick. Note that the timing stick may not be handed to the next competitor until the previous team member has passed through the exchange chute.

If a competitor runs two stages in a row, the stick must still be stamped at the exchange area to register the stage time.

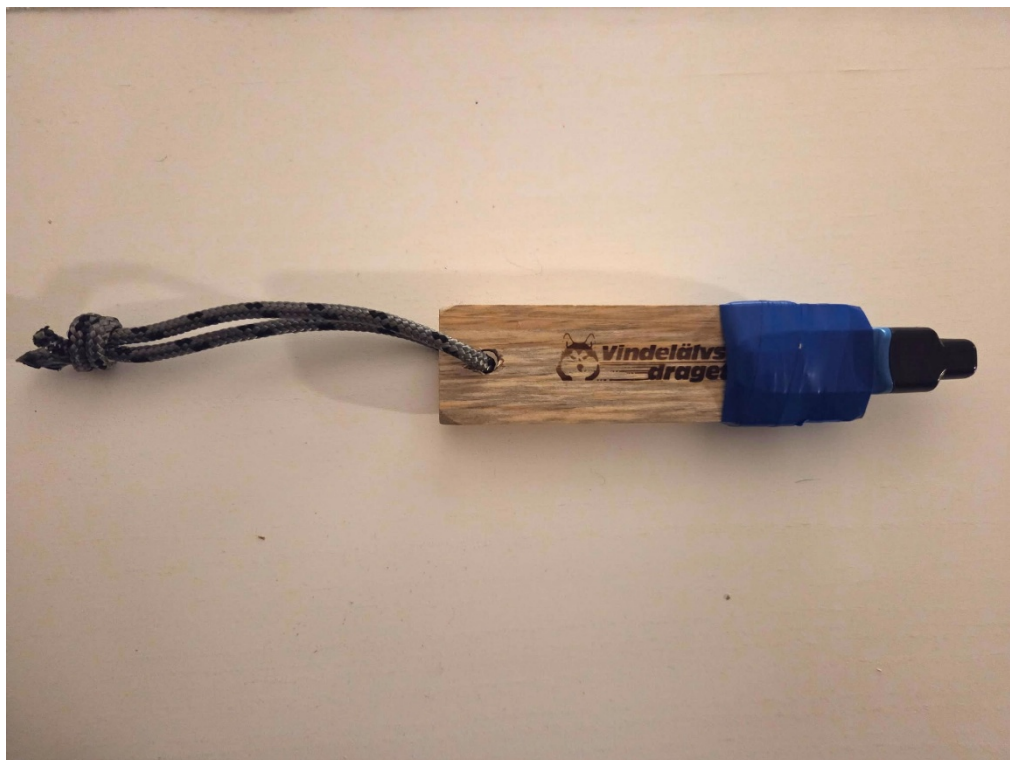
In the event of a new-start or if a competitor has withdrawn from a stage, the next competitor must collect a new timing stick from the restart officials (Björn Byström, Sara Byström, Mattias Eriksson, or Pether Eriksson) or from the exchange staff. It is the team's responsibility to retrieve a new stick and **state which team they represent.**

At a new-start, the timing stick must be stamped in the reader unit before the competitor can start, so that a start time can be recorded. The start is coordinated with the exchange staff, since they also record the time manually. The new timing stick is used until the finish line.

At the finish line, the stick is read in the same way as at exchanges (stamp!) and is then handed to the speaker (Waffe), the secretariat, or another Vindelälvsdraget official.

The team is responsible for the timing stick, and a lost stick will incur a fee of 600 SEK. The timing stick can conveniently be attached to a carabiner. You may replace or change the cord it hangs from, but the stick itself may not be modified in any way.

Timing stick/Relay baton



Reader unit

