

Elf Frank Myrrh: Hello once again from the North Pole News Desk, I'm Elf Frank Myrrh of North Pole Radio News. Two chats are scheduled this coming Sunday in North Pole Chat at SantaUpdate.com. Elf Hugo of the North Pole Post Office is coming to talk about sending messages to Santa and Elf Bernard is coming to discuss the Crisis in Santa's workshop. But we've also got the Reindeer Games starting next week and Elf Crash Murphy is at the Reindeer Barn to talk about the schedule with the games. Crash, the games will only take about a week this time, right?

Elf Crash Murphy: Oh, less than that, Frank. They're just five days. We've got opening ceremonies on Sunday, which ought to be interesting given the weather, and the Games begin on Monday and should wrap up on Friday.

Elf Frank: I know the games are games and those of us who are fans of reindeer competition enjoy them but there's a real purpose behind the games we never really talk about. Is there anything Santa or the Reindeer Operations Department are hoping to get from the games this year?

Elf Crash: Yes, and it has everything to do with Santa's flight plan and the Crisis in Santa's Workshop. I've talked to several at Flight Command about this Frank and they tell me they are trying to get a read on two things this time around – speed and stamina. That's pretty different from so many years in the past, where they were worried about strength. It's not about Santa's payload this time around, it's about getting stuff to places quickly.

Elf Frank: Why is that, Crash?

Elf Crash: Because we're late getting things in place, Frank. The slowdown in the workshop is clearly the reason. Before Santa delivers there are warehouses set up in every sector to hold presents until Santa gets close by, and as Santa delivers his sleigh is literally replenished by teams of sleighs, reindeer and elves. Santa has always worked this way. This year, with stuff coming out late, they're going to need reindeer who can fly faster than normal and work longer than usual. We're expecting that long-range need for extended delivery to Santa will go right up to Christmas Eve, so they are watching reindeer to see who can handle that kind of business in the weeks and days ahead.

Elf Frank: A fascinating look into the logistics of Operation Merry Christmas, Crash. Thank you for that update and we look forward to further insight as the Reindeer Games progress. From the North Pole News Desk, where we are big believers in reindeer with speed and stamina, I'm Elf Frank Myrrh reporting for SantaUpdate.com on the Kringle Radio Network.