



Media Advisory

Yukon Quest Day 14 Update & Wrap-Up

February 18, 2011 (Fairbanks, Alaska) – On February 18th after 14 days, the 28th running of the Yukon Quest 1,000 Mile International Sled Dog Race concludes with the Finish & Awards Banquet and the arrival of the last of the 13 finishing teams.

The Finish & Awards Banquet was held Friday evening with hundreds of Yukon Quest supporters, volunteers and fans coming together to see the musher awards and hear stories from the 2011 Yukon Quest trail. Representatives from Coca-Cola and Canada Goose, Official Sponsors of the Finish & Awards Banquet, were on-hand to help recognize the sheer perseverance of the mushers and their teams.

The Awards:

A New Award was given this year to honour the dogs that exhibit strong character and perseverance out on the trail. The new award was named after its first recipient. Silver, from Brent Sass' team, was honoured for his dependability and perseverance on multiple occasions. In 2006, during a storm on Eagle Summit, Silver was instrumental in assisting a musher in trouble and another team to get over the summit. Again, this year, Silver was key for Brent in getting his team and Hans Gatt's over the summit. The Silver Legacy Award will be given to honour future canines for their incredible deeds and feats of bravery and honour.

The Dawson City Award goes to the first musher to arrive in Dawson City and goes on to finish the race. Ken Anderson was the recipient and received 4 ounces of Klondike Placer gold.

The Golden Harness Award is presented to two dogs selected by the Champion in honor of their loyalty, endurance and perseverance. Dallas Seavey's dogs Diesel and Chung came onto the stage to accept the award and a steak dinner, although Dallas gave a hats off to lead dog Guinness, a great lead dog too shy for the crowds. He said also that Diesel was his big surprise on this race, and is "one to watch."

The crowd gave a cheer for Hank DeBruin who was still on the trail but expected to arrive shortly after the banner to earn 13th position and the Red Lantern Award given to the last team to finish the race.

There was certainly no question that the Rookie of the Year went to the 2011 Yukon Quest Champion Dallas Seavey. Dallas told the audience that he has an eye on the Rookie of the Year award when he entered the race. He knew he had tough rookie competition, so there was no way it was a given, but in the end, he got it and more.

A humbled Kelley Griffin took home the Challenge of the North award that is presented to the musher who most exemplified the Spirit of the Yukon Quest as selected by the race officials.

The Veterinarian's Choice Award went to Mike (and wife Sue) Ellis presented to the musher that best demonstrated outstanding dog care while remaining competitive in the race. Mike called this the highest honour in racing and said it's all about respecting the dogs.

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The Sportsmanship Award is presented to the musher who demonstrates sportsmanship along the trail as selected by their fellow mushers. This year, there was a three-way tie in the musher voting which race officials chose not to break. Instead, they issued the Award to all three mushers: Mike Ellis, Allen Moore and Brent Sass. The three mushers each conveyed the same message – that this year, the award could have gone to each and every musher, because everyone was out there helping each other.

That wrapped up the 2011 Finish & Awards Banquet.

Approximately 15 minutes after the conclusion of the Finish & Awards Banquet, at 10:09 p.m. AKST, the Red Lantern team of Hank DeBruin and his 9 Siberian huskies arrived at the finish line under a full moon. It was a real celebration, not only for Hank and his team, but for the wrap-up to the 28th running of the Yukon Quest in 2011.

The final 2011 Race Results

Position	Musher	Total Elapsed Time
1	Dallas Seavey	10d 11h 53m
2	Sebastian Schnuelle	10d 12h 26m
3	Ken Anderson	10d 14h 24m
4	Brent Sass	10d 19h 2m
5	Kelley Griffin	11d 3h 2m
6	Allen Moore	11d 7h 32m
7	Jodi Bailey	12d 6h 51m
8	Mike Ellis	12d 9h 59m
9	David Dalton	12d 10h 7m
10	Tamara Rose	13d 0h 58m
11	Kyla Durham	13d 1h 53m
12	Jerry Joinson	13d 3h 22m
13	Hank DeBruin	13d 10h 54m

Scratched Mushers:

Didier Moggia
Joshua Cadzow
Wade Marrs
Allen Dennis
Denis Trembley
Dan Kaduce
Hans Gatt
Michelle Phillips
Clint Warnke

Withdrawn Mushers:

Johannes Rygh
Hugh Neff
Christine Roalofs

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