



MEDIA RELEASE

Fourteen Musher Signup to Compete in the 2010 Yukon Quest

August 8, 2009 (Whitehorse, Yukon) - There were 14 mushers signed up for the 2010 Yukon Quest at the close of Opening Day on Saturday, August 8th.

The day started early and in what has become a tradition, Brent Sass kick-started Opening Day of signups for the 2010 Yukon Quest. For the 4th year in a row, Sass arrived in Fairbanks in the early hours to be the first musher to sign-up on Opening Day.

“It’s worth it to be the first one to sign-up to support the Yukon Quest and to share the excitement surrounding another season of training and racing,” said Sass.

2010 is shaping up to be another exciting year for the Yukon Quest with a strong mix of experienced veterans and newcomers to the Yukon Quest. Some highlights from Opening Day include:

- Four-time Yukon Quest Champion Lance Mackey is returning to the Yukon Quest after a year off in 2009;
- Ken Anderson dropped off his application for sign-up in Fairbanks this week. Anderson gave Mackey a real race-to-the-finish in 2008 when the mushers finished 15 minutes apart;
- Veteran Mike Ellis is returning to the North for another season of training and racing and will bring his Siberian team to the start line in Fairbanks again in 2010;
- Rookie Abbie West will get her opportunity to tackle the trail in 2010. West entered the Yukon Quest in 2009, but was forced to withdraw weeks before the race for personal reasons.

“We are thrilled with the line up to date for the 2010 race. There were a good number of mushers who signed up today, and this shows we are sure to have an exciting race this year,” says Wendy Morrison, Yukon Executive Director.

The final number of mushers that will be entered into the Opening Day Incentive Draw will be known early next week. Mushers who submitted their application by mail postmarked on or

before August 8th will join the Opening Day mushers in the Opening Day incentive draw to be held on August 14th. The musher who wins the draw will receive a prize of \$1,000 USD.

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