



## **Yukon Quest Withdraws Donald Smidt**

For Immediate Release:

CENTRAL, ALASKA (February 10, 2008) – The Yukon Quest has withdrawn a musher from the race, Race Marshal Doug Grilliot announced this evening in Central, AK.

“Donald Smidt was withdrawn today at Chena Hot Springs Checkpoint for failing to provide the dog care expected of a Yukon Quest participant,” said Grilliot.

The decision was reached after consultations with the Head Vet, Dr. Vern Starks, and other Trail Veterinarians based in Chena Hot Springs Checkpoint.

Grilliot cited Rule #31.b), which states:

“Withdraw - A team may be involuntarily withdrawn from the race by the Race Marshal. This decision would be made to protect the dogs, the driver, or the event itself, and does not imply deliberate misconduct or rule violation. Food drop bags will be immediately removed from checkpoints and a reasonable attempt will be made to return personal gear to the closest YQI Office for retrieval.”

Smidt, 40, is a rookie from Van Dyne, Wisconsin.

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