



MEDIA RELEASE

Race Team in Place for 2010 Yukon Quest

November 27, 2009 (Fairbanks, Alaska) – Former Yukon Quest champion John Schandelmeier has accepted the position of Alaska Trail Coordinator for the 2010 Yukon Quest International Sled Dog Race which starts February 6th, 2010 in Fairbanks. This will be his second year as Trail Coordinator and his expertise has greatly improved the trail.

The priority of the Yukon Quest for 2010 was to maintain consistency and bring back experienced personnel.

“I just can’t pass up the chance to have an easy time on the Quest trail,” said Schandelmeier. “All of the personnel and infrastructure are already in place from last season; the Yukon is freezing smooth and we have some early base snow. 2010 will be a good test of the things I learned while dealing with last year’s trail.”

Schandelmeier has been around the Yukon Quest for more than 20 years running his first Yukon Quest in 1986. He was the Yukon Quest Champion in 1992 and 1996, was awarded the coveted Veterinarians’ Choice Award in 1994 and 1996 and was voted by his fellow mushers to win the Sportsmanship Award in both 1997 and 2003. He has run the race 16 times and is the only musher who has started more than 10 times and never scratched.

The Race Manager for this year’s race will be Josea Busby, who has been involved for many years, most recently as the 2008 Race Director and 2009 Alaska Logistics Manager. Busby was born and raised in the 40 mile area (Chicken) in the heart of the old dog sled mail trails.

“I am excited to continue my involvement in this great event with all of its dedicated volunteers and hearty participants and look forward to providing the mushers with solid checkpoint support in between the long legs of open trail,” said Busby.

Greg Shaffer, this year’s Assistant Race Manager, has been involved with the Yukon Quest since 1995 as a fan, sponsor, 1,000-mile club member and volunteer. Shaffer also has 20 years of logistics work in the U.S. Air Force that makes him a natural to assist the Race Manager with the logistics support.

“These key personnel complete the core group who are responsible for insuring all aspects of the Race are implemented,” said Marti Steury, Executive Director for Yukon Quest International, Ltd. in Alaska. “The assembled team brings so many different talents to this unique event that it is a privilege to be a part of the team.”

Please visit www.yukonquest.com for up-to-date information and news on the Yukon Quest. Media interested in covering the 2010 Yukon Quest are invited to register for accreditation by visiting <http://www.yukonquest.com/site/media-accreditation/>

-30-

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