



## MEDIA ADVISORY

**April 24, 2018 (Whitehorse, YT & Fairbanks, AK)** – On February 9, 2018, Boppy, a dog on Hugh Neff’s team died at Clinton Creek.

Head Veterinarian Cristina (Nina) Hansen, DVM, PhD states that the final necropsy report indicates Boppy died of aspiration pneumonia caused by inhaling vomited stomach contents. Other findings include mild stomach ulcers, moderate intestinal inflammation, mild whipworm infestation, skeletal muscle necrosis, and severe weight loss and muscle wasting.

Mushers of the 2018 Yukon Quest have been notified of the whipworms and have been urged to consult with their veterinarians regarding deworming protocols.

Due to the organization’s commitment to sled dog care during the race, and based on the Code of the Trail and Yukon Quest rules 35, 43 and 44 pertaining to sled dog care, the decision has been made by Yukon Quest International to apply the following censure based on the additional findings:

1. Neff will be ineligible to apply to race in the YQ300 and the Yukon Quest 1,000 Mile International Sled Dog Race in 2019.
2. Neff will be required to run the YQ300 prior to entering the Yukon Quest 1,000 Mile International Sled Dog Race.

As per Rule #15, Hugh Neff will have 30 days from the date of censure to request in writing an informal hearing with the Yukon Quest.

For more information regarding the Yukon Quest rules, visit the [official website](#).

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**For more information or to arrange an interview, contact:**

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