



2024 YQ450

Musher/Handler Information Package

Updated 9th November 2024

Yukon Quest International Association (Canada)

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Section I

Information for Musers

Hello YQ450 Musers,

On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors, welcome to the 2024 YQ450 Sled Dog Race!

This Packet contains information you and your handler(s) will need to prepare for the 2024 race. It includes a list of all mandatory meetings and events, a list of other meetings and promotional events, copies of all required and optional forms, and info sheets. Over the next few weeks we will be sending you additional information by email.

All documents are available by request in hard copy from the Yukon office.

If you have any questions concerning the contents of this package or about any aspect of the 2024 YQ450, please don't hesitate to call, email or come by the office.

Sincerely,

Abi Horobin, Race Operations Manager

yukonoperations@yukonquest.com

Phone: (867) 335 4711

#2 - 1109 Front Street

Whitehorse, YT

Y1A 5G4



MEETINGS & EVENTS

We have several events planned before and around the race – some are race-related, and some are focused on fundraising and promotion of the Yukon Quest. Our mushers are crucial to the success of our promotional and fundraising abilities. After all, you and your dogs are the stars of the show. While we require your attendance at some race events, we request that you attend as many other events as possible. This is the easiest way you can contribute to the success of the Yukon Quest and show your appreciation of the supporters and volunteers who make the race possible.

Meetings/ Events with Mandatory Musher Attendance

Date/ Time	Event	Location	Notes	What to Bring
Thu, Feb 1 st 2024 13:30 – 15:00	Musher & Handler Meeting	Sternwheeler Hotel, Whitehorse	Handler attendance is strongly encouraged. Closed YQ meeting	A government-issued photo ID, payment of any outstanding fees, notebook
Thu, Feb 1 st 2024 15:00 – 16:00	Paperwork Signing	Sternwheeler Hotel, Whitehorse		
Thu, Feb 1 st 2024 17:00 – 19:00	Meet the Mushers and Bib Draw	Sternwheeler Hotel, Whitehorse	This is where you will draw your bib number	
Fri, Feb 2 nd 2024 08:00 - until completion	Official Vet Check	Northern Windows & Doors		Veterinary Health Certificate and Exam Forms, Proof of Vaccination
Tue, Feb 6 th 2024 16:00 – 17:00	Post- Race Musher Meeting YQ100/ 250	Gold Rush Inn, Whitehorse	Mandatory for all YQ100/ 250 mushers. Closed meeting	
Tue, Feb 6 th 2024 18:00 – 20:00	Finish & Awards Evening YQ100/ 250	Gold Rush Inn, Whitehorse	Mandatory for all Mushers who have crossed the finish line up to 6 hours before the ceremony	Your stories
Fri, Feb 9 th 2024 16:00 – 17:00	Post- Race Musher Meeting YQ450	Sternwheeler Hotel, Whitehorse	Mandatory for all YQ450 mushers. Closed meeting	
Fri, Feb 9 th 2024 18:00 – 21:00	Finish & Awards Banquet YQ450	Sternwheeler Hotel, Whitehorse	Mandatory for all Mushers who have crossed the finish line up to 12 hours before the ceremony	Your stories



FORMS & DUE DATES

Here is a list of forms required by the Yukon Quest, as well as forms available for optional requests and submissions of information. Please submit all required forms to your designated office or to the designated meeting on or before their due dates.

Contact the Yukon office if you have any questions about these forms.

DUE DATE	<i>REQUIRED FORMS</i>	NOTES
November 24, 2023	Additional Straw Request Form	Submit to YQ office
January 6, 2024	Request for Housing	Contact the YQ office
Between March 2, 2023 and January 14, 2024	Combination Vaccine (Parvovirus and Distemper)	See YQ450 Race Rules 2024, Rule 5(b)
Between Sept. 2, 2023 and January 14, 2024	Bordetella (Kennel Cough) Vaccine	See YQ450 Race Rules 2024 , Rule 5(b)
No later than January 14, 2024	Rabies Vaccine	See YQ450 Race Rules 2024, Rule 5(b)
January 14, 2024	Vaccination records submitted	From musher to designated office
January 20, 2024	Local Contact Form	Submit to YQ office
February 1, 2024	Veterinary Health Certificate	To be completed at Vet Check
February 1, 2024	Veterinary Exam Form	Bring forms to Vet Check with top section completed. Fill in one page for every dog.

FORMS

The following forms can be down-loaded from the website or requested from the office;

- Request for Extra Straw
- Veterinary Health Certificate
- Veterinary Exam Form
- Local Contact Form

FOOD BAG INFO SHEET

All food and equipment for the race must be in CLOTH BURLAP BAGS OR WOVEN POLY-BAGS, PERMANENTLY MARKED WITH MUSER NAME. The following information is a guideline only. Each handler is to deliver the food drop to the Checkpoint, before the Musers arrival and drop it off, at the designated food drop area, as directed by Race Officials. One drop bag, maximum 40 pounds, will be delivered to Scroggie Creek by YQ from the Musers' Meeting.

FOOD BAG QUESTIONS

The best way to learn some of the planning tips and techniques is to get in touch with more experienced musers, or visit our Rookie Page and listen to musers discuss their preparation.

ITEMS ALLOWED IN FOOD BAGS

You may include dog food, personal food, clothing, dog blankets, booties, batteries, sled parts, extra clothing and other items you may need along the trail.

ITEMS NOT ALLOWED IN FOOD BAGS

- Straw – The Yukon Quest supplies 1 bale of straw per checkpoint each for Braeburn, Carmacks, and Pelly. ½ a bale will be provided at Scroggie Creek. If you want to bring extra straw you can do so.
- Fuel – **NO fuel is allowed inside food drop bags**, including alcohol, kerosene, or methanol. Methanol is provided at checkpoints. **Musers must supply their own HEET/fuel which is to be stored in a certified, approved container and clearly labelled. It must not be inside Food Drop bags but can be placed beside the drop bags in checkpoints.** Fuel will be provided in Scroggie Creek.
- Firearms, ammunition, or any items prohibited by law.
- Ensure that your food bags are kept frozen.
- If you need any gear that does not fit into the bags, such as sled runners, please contact your YQ office as soon as possible and we will work with you to find a solution.

CUSTOMS

For any musers coming from the Lower 48 or elsewhere in Canada who are shipping dog food independently, and traveling across the international border in your own trucks, you may be subject to all general import restrictions applied to the general public. These restrictions may include some of the animal products you are carrying as dog food. Please be aware that the US Customs and Canada Border Services have current regulations on importing into the country. For accurate information on what you are allowed to ship and take across the border, please see the appropriate websites:

- US Customs and Border Protection: <http://www.cbp.gov>
- Canadian Border Services Agency: <http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>

VET CHECK INFO SHEET

DATE/TIME

Friday, February 1, 2024 at 8:00am

You will be contacted by our Vet Check Coordinator in January to set up your Vet Check appointment time.

LOCATION

In Whitehorse – Northern Windows and Doors, 17 Burns Rd, Whitehorse, YT

ABOUT THE YQ OFFICIAL PRE-RACE VET CHECK

As part of your Entry Fee, you have access to all veterinary services provided at the Official YQ450 Vet Check. The Vet Check is coordinated by the Yukon Quest to ensure that all mushers have access to professional veterinary assessments of their sled dog team, prior to the race start.

PRE-RACE VET CHECK BY YOUR OWN VET

Only entrants who are Iditarod OR YQ1000 veterans may have their dogs examined by a YQ approved licensed vet of their own choice. The vet check should take place within a month of the race start date. Please take your completed pre-race vet check paperwork, in person, to the YQ official vet check. You do not require a scheduled time.

All other entrants must have their dogs examined at the YQ official pre-race Vet Check.

PLANNING FOR THE VET CHECK

Your Vet Check appointment will be made with your designated office in early January. A maximum of 16 dogs will be examined at the YQ450 Vet Check.

Microchips: Microchips are **not** required for the YQ450 and the chips will **not** be available for purchase at the YQ450 Vet Check.

Vaccinations: You will need to provide proof that all dogs in your YQ team have received their vaccinations as outlined in the 2024 YQ450 Race Rules, see YQ450 Race Rules 2024: 5(b). Please ensure that you understand and adhere to the specified dates and vaccinations required.

To Bring: Veterinary Examination Forms with the top portion filled out for all of your YQ450 dogs; proof of vaccinations; and any additional medical history or notes that you have on your dogs can be helpful.

Dog Tags: You will receive your team's dog tags after the bib draw event. Please make sure you have the tags on your dogs before arrival at the vet check.

If you have any questions at all about the YQ450 Vet Checks or any requirements, please contact the Whitehorse office as early as possible.

MUSHER REQUIREMENTS & INFORMATION

Braeburn – YQ450

- Accommodations – None provided
- Straw – 1 bale of straw provided per musher
- Methanol – provided
- Mandatory Stop (or Carmacks) – 6 hours & time differential & Vet Check
- Meal for Mushers
- Official check in & sign out with gear check

Carmacks – YQ450

- Accommodations – floor space is available in the gymnasium in the rec centre
- Straw – 1 bale of straw provided per musher
- Methanol – provided
- Mandatory Stop (or Braeburn) – 6 hours & time differential & Vet Check
- Meal for Mushers
- Official check in & sign out with gear check

McCabe Creek – Dog Drop – YQ450

- Meal for Mushers
- Straw – 1/2 a bale provided per musher
- 18” coated drop cable required for any dropped dogs

Pelly Crossing – YQ450

- Accommodations – Floor space is available in the link building
- Mandatory Stop – 8 hours & Vet Check
- Straw – 1 bale of straw provided per musher
- Methanol – provided
- Meal for Mushers
- Official check in & sign out with gear check
- SPOT/Trackers – get the batteries changed
- Time Penalties – to be served or added to finish time

Stepping Stone – Hospitality Stop – YQ450

- Meal for Mushers

Scroggie Creek - YQ450

- Accommodations – Limited floor space in cabin
- Straw – 1/2 a bale of straw provided per musher
- Meal for Mushers
- Mandatory Stop – 6 hours
- Methanol – provided
- 18” coated drop cable required for any dropped dogs

Dawson City – YQ450 hand in SPOT/Trackers, Bibs, & Vet Book

- Time penalties – any time penalties assessed after Eagle will be added to the overall finish time
- Official check in with gear check
- Mandatory vet check

Race Veterinarians and mushers shall sign the vet book at all checkpoints. At checkpoints not requiring a mandatory vet check, the Race Marshal / Race Judge may sign the vet book if a Race Veterinarian is not present.

The health and condition of all dogs may be assessed at any checkpoint or time station; or in the case of a suspected emergency, at any point along the trail. Race Veterinarians in conjunction with the Race Marshal or a Race Judge may perform a veterinary exam or detain teams at any checkpoint or time station. No dog team will leave a checkpoint until the dogs in that team are fit to continue in the race.

TOPOGRAPHICAL MAPS OF THE YUKON QUEST TRAIL

Canadian Maps (Department of Energy, Mines & Resources Canada)

Whitehorse	105 D	
Lake Laberge	105 E	
Glenlyon	105 L	(N.B. only 6 miles/ 10 kms of Trail are on this map)
Carmacks	115 I	
McQuesten	115 P	(N.B. only 9 miles/ 15 kms of Trail are on this map)
Stewart River	115 O & 115 N	(this is a single map)
Dawson	116 B & 116 C	(this is a single map)

Where to get the Maps

In the Yukon:

Maps are available at Mac's Fireweed Books – downstairs in Map Sales, 203 Main Street Whitehorse YT Y1A 2B2. Telephone 867-668-2434.

Yukon Mapping Online:

The Yukon Government - Energy, Mines and Resources Department has an excellent online mapping tool available for free to the general public (<http://mapservices.gov.yk.ca/Lands/>). It includes a number of tools, data layers, and map views. Feel free to navigate through the interface and if you have any questions contact the Whitehorse Office.

SECTION II

Information for Handlers

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Staff, Race Vets and Officials, welcome to the 2024 YQ450. This package contains helpful information regarding trail procedures, rules, driving, packing tips and reminders to help you prepare for the 2024 race.

About the YQ450 Musher/ Handler Meeting

- Thursday, February 1, 2024 – 2:00 p.m. Location TBC
- This meeting is **mandatory** for all 2024 YQ450 Musers and one Handler per team. (Handler attendance is strongly encouraged.)
- **BE ON TIME** or early for this meeting. **Roll call is done at exactly at the meeting start time** with closed doors.
- You will be given an overview of procedures, highlights, updated info, and a chance to ask all your questions.
- You will meet the Officials and Vet Team.

The Rules

Official YQ450 Rules Relevant to Handlers

Here are a few important rules that are especially important to Handlers. **Please note:** A full copy of the Official 2024 YQ450 Rules can be found on our website or acquired from the Yukon Quest office.

YQ450 Race Rules 2024: 6(f) - Outside Assistance:

No planned help is allowed throughout the race. No musher may receive outside assistance between or at checkpoints unless an emergency has been declared by the Race Marshal, or if an emergency is ruled to have occurred, after the fact. The intended spirit of this race dictates that the musher be self-sufficient and therefore able to help other mushers in case of real need. No assistance which would result in competitive advantage may be accepted or solicited. Handlers are not allowed on the YQ450 Trail between checkpoints.

Outside assistance is allowed for a team that is arriving at or leaving a checkpoint, including the start line. Any person may assist a distracted, tangled or off-course team if it becomes apparent that help is required for that team to enter or exit in a safe and orderly manner.

YQ450 Race Rules 2024: 5(d) - Care and Feeding of Dogs:

All care and feeding of dogs will be done by the mushers only. Dogs will never be fed by any mode other than voluntarily on the part of the dog. Musers may assist one another with care and feeding of dogs between checkpoints. At no time during the race may a musher house dogs in heated shelters.

YQ450 Race Rules 2024: 6(a) - Sportsmanship:

The Code of the North dictates all travelers be courteous, helpful, generous and honourable. Conduct yourself well enough so the next musher will be welcomed with equal hospitality. **Rude behavior or inappropriate actions by a musher or handler may result in a penalty, withdrawal, or disqualification. This includes any publication, sharing, posting or comments deemed false, derogatory or negative towards any musher, race manager, official, volunteer, the Yukon Quest organization, or their sponsors or supporters. This rule is in effect from musher sign-up until 30 days after the finish banquet.** Any competitor or athlete worthy of the name realizes that all people – officials, volunteers, sponsors, media, and fans – are valued and important participants in this event. It is the musher's responsibility to embody the upper limits of human performance. A true Sportsman is an inspiration to all.

Procedures for Handlers

General Procedures

The following general procedures will be adhered to throughout the entire race:

- Park your dog truck **only** in designated parking areas.
- Pay attention to where your exhaust is going when parked (i.e. Keep it away from other dog trucks that might have dogs in it or from blowing into the holding area or into buildings).
- **There will be official Yukon Quest handler armbands; please wear them at all times to identify yourself to Race Personnel.**
- Please be courteous to everyone.
- If ever in doubt, ASK a Race Judge or the Race Marshal. They are the only people on the trail with authority regarding questions on rules, assistance or conduct.
- Checkpoint amenities are in place for use by the mushers; food and sleeping arrangements are not guaranteed for handlers. Do not eat the food or use sleeping quarters without first talking to the checkpoint manager.

Carry this document with you in the truck at all times.

Checkpoint and Vet Check Procedures

The following procedures will be adhered to at all checkpoints and during vet checks:

Handler Arrival

When the handler arrives at a checkpoint, they are to identify themselves to the checkpoint personnel.

- Drop off your Mushers food drop at the designated Food Drop area. Please keep fuel and food drop separate.
- The handler should inquire about and familiarize themselves with the following:
 - Debris/trash/straw collection or disposal points.
 - The location and limits of the holding area.
 - The locations where the teams will be arriving and departing.
 - Location of dog holding area, food drop bags, straw, water, methyl hydrate (methanol), musher's food and musher's sleeping area – info to pass along to your musher.
 - Current standings and the approximate/expected arrival time of teams.
- Try to arrive at a checkpoint before your musher does. They will be happy to see you and may have important information about dropped dogs. If you don't make it in time your musher may worry about you, the truck, dropped dogs....
- Prepare – talk with your musher well in advance of the race
- Clarify their expectations AND yours
- Even if you have a schedule set up with your musher, keep an eye on what's happening in the race; things change and schedules can vary significantly with weather and trail conditions. Remember that bad weather will also influence your travel time.

A handler is not permitted:

- To access any services for mushers (straw, food drop bags etc...)

Musher Arrival

When a dog team has entered a checkpoint and the musher has completed the official check-in procedures, the handler may then take control of the team's leader(s) or the sled and assist the musher in moving the team to the location designated as the parking spot for that team. After the team is secured, the handler must immediately leave the holding area. The handler may return to *observe* the team when the musher leaves the holding area.

- Give your musher information about the location of services (straw, food drop bags, sleeping quarters, food) or the location of a Race Judge or Vet.
- Understand that things will happen – your approach needs to be flexible and supportive of others.
- Your musher will be exhausted and may act with disrespect. Don't take it personally. Let it go and discuss any issues after the race when everybody has had a good rest. Don't bother the musher with your problems along the road and try to only have positive news for them on the trail.

Holding Area

- Only one handler per team will be authorized to be in the holding area at any time to monitor the team and to intervene only in the case of a dog in distress or an emergency.
- If the musher is in the holding area, the handler must leave.
- While in the holding area, the handler may stand either at the front of the team or at the rear of the team behind the sled. The handler may not walk back and forth from the front of the team to the sled or chat with the dogs. "Observe Only."
- Handlers must wear provided reflective armbands.
- Know the rules and understand your responsibilities and limitations.
- If you are not sure about something **ASK** a Race Judge or the Race Marshal **BEFORE** you do it. They are the only people on the trail with authority regarding questions on rules, assistance or conduct. Do not ask checkpoint volunteers.
- A handler may **not** enter the mushers sleeping area – if a message needs to be sent or there is an emergency situation, only a Race Judge or the Race Marshal shall enter the mushers sleeping area to communicate to the musher.

A handler is not permitted to touch any dog, gear, equipment, food or water at any time, except:

- While parking a team or during immediate departure.
- Unless directed to do so by a Race Judge or the Race Marshal.
- Until after the musher and team have officially checked out and left a checkpoint.
- In an emergency where anyone is permitted to assist any team (i.e. dog fight, loose dog, loose team etc. to prevent harm to the dogs).

Vet Checks

- At no time may the handler administer or provide any type of substance, including medications, food or water to any dog in any team within the checkpoint unless directed to by a Race Judge or the Race Marshal.
- When a dog is dropped from a team at a checkpoint, the handler may take physical custody of the dog **ONLY** from a Race Vet, a Race Judge or the Race Marshal **AFTER** the appropriate forms have been completed.

Musher Departure

A handler is never permitted:

- To notify any checkpoint personnel of a musher's intention to depart a checkpoint.
- To sign any musher out of a checkpoint.

A handler is ONLY permitted to assist:

- When the team is being moved from the holding area to the check-out location for immediate departure.
- **If instructed to do so by a Race Judge or the Race Marshal** (i.e. this instruction might be issued if an entry or exit

to an area is particularly tricky).

- Outside assistance is allowed for a team that is arriving at or leaving a checkpoint, including the start line. Any person may assist a distracted, tangled or off course team if it becomes apparent that help is required for that team to enter or exit in a safe and orderly manner. This allowance is made in the interests of dog safety and is in consideration of the distraction of crowds, insufficient snow to hook down a team so the musher can untangle or redirect a team on their own, coupled with the danger of nearby highways. See *YQ450 Race Rules 2024: 6(f) (Outside Assistance)*

Handler Departure Responsibilities

After the musher has officially departed a checkpoint, the handler may enter the holding area and collect the supplies, debris and trash that were bagged by the musher prior to their departure from the checkpoint. The handler is to then rake, bag, and remove all straw and animal waste remaining from their team. All supplies, trash, debris, straw, and animal waste is to be disposed of properly by the handler. If you are unsure of disposal procedures/locations, ask a Race Judge or the Race Marshal. *The musher will incur monetary and/or time penalties if this collection and disposal is not done properly as noted in YQ450 Race Rules 2024: 6(d).*

Ensure you know the procedure for garbage removal for each checkpoint (which may include a designated area on site or may mean taking it to the dump)

- It is strongly recommended that the handler have a hard tine rake and a broom style rake to improve the checkpoint holding area clean up.
- Use good quality garbage bags to make your life easier (cheap ones break easily in the cold)
- Clean your dog team's parking spaces (clean them well).
- Do not remove food drop bags, clean-up your musher's parking area, or leave a checkpoint less than 30 minutes to one hour after your musher's departure. *If your musher has to return to the checkpoint for any reason, they will not be able to access their food drop bags if they have been handled.*

Retrieving Dropped Dogs

When retrieving a dropped dog from a Race Veterinarian, be sure to discuss that dog's condition carefully with the Vet – if you have any questions, **ASK!**

- Be sure that you completely understand any TREATMENT or PRESCRIPTION that the Race Vet recommends for your dropped dog – it is very important to follow the Race Vet's instructions completely.
- It is advised that you have the dog checked again by a Vet six hours after being dropped, and in some cases regularly for 12-15 hours. This is obviously dependent on your travel schedule. Don't hesitate to have a dog checked again by a Race Vet at the next checkpoint.
- Before leaving any checkpoint, determine if your musher dropped any dogs there – don't start driving unless you KNOW that all of your musher's dogs have been accounted for.

Conduct

The Code of the North dictates that “all travelers be courteous, helpful, generous and honourable”.

Please remember that as a handler you are a part of the overall image of the Yukon Quest and your musher. As such, your behavior and demeanor will be judged by all the people who observe us along the trail. It is critical that we all conduct ourselves in a friendly, courteous and professional manner.

The musher may incur a penalty, withdrawal or disqualification for rude behavior or inappropriate actions by a musher or handler. YQ450 Race Rules 2024: 6(a) (Musher Conduct: Sportsmanship)

Packing the Truck

Here is a list of highly recommended items:

- Food Bags
- A hard tine rake AND a broom style/garden-leaf rake
- Hand warmers
- Long leash
- Good quality, strong and durable black garbage bags for clean-up
- Snow shovel and toboggan – good for setting up your campsite
- Water and food for everyone in your rig – dogs and humans
- Minimum 5 gallons of extra fuel
- Extra fluids for the truck - power steering, hydraulic, anti-freeze, oil
- Windshield wiper fluids, spare tire, jack, wrench
- Extra-long extension cord, battery charger
- A warm sleeping bag and extra winter clothing for road emergencies
- Maps, a copy of the YQ450 2024 Rules, **and this document**

Driving the YQ450

Be careful. This isn't a race for you. Stop when you get tired and convoy if possible.

Whitehorse to Braeburn (68 mi/ 110 km) From Whitehorse, you will head north on the Alaska Highway and turn right onto the Klondike Highway (North) following the signs to Dawson City. Braeburn Lodge is located on the Klondike Highway. Gas is usually available. It is recommended that you fuel up in Whitehorse. (Gas is reliably available at Carmacks, Pelly Crossing, and Dawson but check the station hours ahead of time.)

Braeburn to Carmacks (42 mi/ 67 km) From Braeburn continue north on the Klondike Highway. The checkpoint is located at the community center on River Drive. From the Highway turn left on Freegold Road and right onto River Drive. You will see the community center just up ahead.

Carmacks to McCabe Creek (40 mi/ 65 km) McCabe Creek Dog Drop is located at Mile 142 on the Klondike Highway. There is very limited signage so keep a keen eye out for the driveway on the left hand side (west side) of the highway. Handlers are usually permitted and welcome to drive into McCabe Creek Dog Drop, however **access is a one-mile long narrow driveway which is also the YQ trail.** Drive slowly, be careful, and watch out for dog teams. Ask Dog Drop volunteers for advice on parking as some areas are reserved for dog team parking. To avoid any conflicts we recommend parking your dog truck at the pull out area near the highway and walking into McCabe Creek Dog Drop.

McCabe Creek to Pelly Crossing (25 mi/ 41 km) From McCabe Creek continue north on the Klondike Highway to Pelly Crossing. The checkpoint is located within the Community Hall at the Northeast corner of town. Turn left at the gas station and follow the road toward the river.

Pelly Crossing to Dawson (155 mi/ 250 km) Continue north up the Klondike Highway. Turn left at Stewart Crossing. Watch out for traffic, especially large trucks. When you arrive in Dawson City, proceed to the checkpoint located within the Tourist Information Centre (Klondike Visitor Association) on Front Street.

Gas Station List

Between Whitehorse & Dawson

WHITEHORSE- numerous			
TAGS/ Husky	4221 4th Ave.	24hours/day 7days/week	
Petro CANADA	Mile 910 Alaska Hwy	24hours/day 7days/week	
BRAEBURN			
Braeburn Lodge	on Klondike Hwy (at Checkpoint)	0700-0100, full hours at race time	restaurant
CARMACKS			
Tatchun Center	on Klondike Highway	0730-2200	general store
PELLY CROSSING			
Selkirk Grocery	on Klondike Highway	1000-1900	grocery
Stewart Crossing (North 60 Petro)	on Klondike Hwy (btw Pelly & Dawson)	Mon-Thu 0900-1800, Fri-Sun 0900-1900	gas available 24/7 with credit & debit
DAWSON CITY			
Dominion (North 60 Petro)	In Dawson town site	Mon-Fri 0700-2100 Sat-Sun 0800-2100	gas available 24/7 with credit & debit
Bonanza Esso	on Klondike Hwy (before Dawson)	0900-1800	grocery
AFD Petroleum	KM 712 Klondike Hwy	24hours/day 7days/week	Cardlock open 24/7

As weather can be unpredictable during the Yukon winter, it is **strongly advised** that handlers keep dog trucks topped up with fuel whenever possible.

Final Words

Try and have some fun out there. This is an opportunity to meet new people and see some beautiful country. Read the race rules and carry a copy in your truck, you are responsible for the rules that apply to you, and by extension, your team.

The Yukon Quest is unique because you really are part of the team. Your actions can and will have a profound impact on your musher. Be supportive. Be patient. Let your musher “vent” if they need to. Everyone is going to be really tired, so try and stay focused on what your role is during the race.

There have been some impressive blow ups between mushers and handlers on this race in the past, don’t let it happen to you. Some input from Joe May below, used with his permission:

A Note for First Time Yukon Quest Handlers:

“Since the inception of the Yukon Quest, the **handlers’ convoy** has, for some, proven to be as grueling as the dog race. Frozen engines, flat tires, and blown transmissions aren’t unknown. Cooperation with other crews long ago has become the norm. Please help each other if needed. It’s a long cold road.

The upside is that it’s an opportunity to meet some great new people. Over the years, waiting in the checkpoints, and on the long haul between Circle and Dawson City, I suspect there’ve been marriages made, divorces announced, 300-mile silences, tons of potato chips consumed, and maybe germination of a notion to run the race someday. In any event, have fun, stay warm, and drive safe....” *Joe May*

Be safe out there, help each other out, be patient with your musher and if you have questions, don’t be afraid to ask the Race Marshal or a Race Judge. Thanks for participating and have a great race!

