

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec 5, 2022

STATEMENT REGARDING DENIED ENTRY FOR HUGH NEFF IN IDITAROD 2023

Recently, the Iditarod's Qualifying Review Board (QRB) met to review Hugh Neff's request to run the 2023 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. The panel has reviewed the history regarding Neff's attention to his team's care during the 2022 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. Hugh was asked to scratch or be disqualified from the race due to the poor health of his dogs on the trail.

While Hugh Neff has competed in 15 Iditarods and completed 13, the Qualifying Review Board made the decision to withdraw him from the 2023 field. Dog health and care are central to the success of the Iditarod. We are committed to ensuring a culture of exemplary dog care and we demand the same commitment of all teams who enter the race.

-Iditarod Trail Committee