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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 15, 2024

**Josi Thyr Wins 2024 Rookie of the Year**

**Nome, Alaska** – Iditarod rookie Josi Thyr (bib #22) of Fairbanks, Alaska, won Rookie of the Year when she and her team crossed under the Burred Arch in 15th place on March 13, at 9:43 p.m.

She became the rookie with the best time in 2024, finishing in 10 days, 6 hours, 43 minutes and 37 seconds with 10 dogs in harness.

“I started racing sled dogs in Idaho as a kid but always dreamed of doing the Iditarod,” Says Thyr. “As a teenager I came up (to Alaska) and handled for Aaron Burmeister, then began working on qualifiers. Eventually I handled for Jessie Royer in Montana and completed my qualifiers. In the spring of 2023 I moved to Fairbanks and I’m very excited to be on my way to completing a twenty-year dream!”

The Rookie of the Year distinction comes with a beautiful trophy that will be presented at the Finisher’s Banquet, as well as an additional cash prize of \$2,000.

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