

**Media Contact:**

Mary Brennan/ Roberta Garzaroli  
The Atrebor Group  
212-764-0340  
[Chukka@AtreborGroup.com](mailto:Chukka@AtreborGroup.com)



**Jamaica Dogsled Teams to Compete in 2009 IFSS World Championships and the  
Copper Basin 300 Sled Dog Race on Road to the  
Yukon Quest 1,000-Mile International Sled Dog Race**

Ocho Rios, Jamaica; July 3, 2008 – The Jamaica Dogsled Team is the first team to have entered the 2009 *International Federation of Sleddog Sports World Championships* in Daaquam, Quebec, January 16-25. More than 400 teams and 2500 dogs from 5 continents are expected to participate this year. Jamaica Dogsled Team musher Damion Robb will be racing in the 6-Dog Class for the first time as well as the Adult 4-Dog Speed Class in which he is currently ranked 13th in North America on snow by the International Sled Dog Racing Association (ISDRA).

In the race to the *Yukon Quest*, the Jamaica Dogsled Team's Newton Marshall is headed to the twentieth running of the *Copper Basin 300 Sled Dog Race* on January 10; this premiere mid-distance race is known as "the toughest 300 miles in Alaska." On completion, Marshall will be the first Jamaican to qualify for the *Yukon Quest*, the historic 1,000-mile race that in 2009 will start in Whitehorse, Yukon on February 14 and end in Fairbanks, Alaska. Marshall's first qualifying race was the 2008 Percy DeWolfe Memorial Mail Race, finishing 7th and receiving the Sportsmanship Award.

"From the very start my goal for the team was to have a Jamaican compete in the *Yukon Quest*, and it's amazing to think that Marshall is one race away from taking us there," says Danny Melville, founder of the team and CEO of Chukka Caribbean Adventures. "And to have Robb competing at the World Championships in his sophomore season is more than even I ever dreamed possible. Every Jamaican should be proud of these young men for their hard work and success in a sport they didn't know anything about a couple of years ago -- and it's thrilling for everyone involved to be playing a part."

The Jamaica Dogsled Team is sponsored by Jimmy Buffett and Margaritaville, Sorel, the Jamaica Tourist Board, Annamaet Petfoods and Alpine Aviation, and is part of the Chukka Caribbean Adventures family. In addition to the mushers training and racing in Jamaica and North America, the team's dogs in Jamaica – a motley crew of mixed breed dogs found on the street or through the Jamaican Society for Prevention of Cruelty of Animals (JSPCA) – are part of the unique Jamaica Dogsled Team "Experience" and "Encounter," offered at Chukka Caribbean Adventures. Team membership for these dogs means a new and better life of care and meaning.

For more information about the Jamaica Dogsled Teams visit [www.jamaicadogsled.com](http://www.jamaicadogsled.com) and cheer them on at [www.jamaicadogsled.blogspot.com](http://www.jamaicadogsled.blogspot.com). To learn more about Chukka Caribbean

Adventures visit [www.chukkacaribbean.com](http://www.chukkacaribbean.com), the *Copper Basin 300 Sled Dog Race* at [www.cb300.com](http://www.cb300.com), the *IFSS World Championships* at [www.daaquam2009.com](http://www.daaquam2009.com) and the *Yukon Quest* at [www.yukonquest.com](http://www.yukonquest.com).

**About Chukka Caribbean Adventures**

Celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Green Globe Certified Chukka Caribbean Adventures is the number one land-based nature adventure tour provider in the region, offering thirty-eight tours in Jamaica, Belize, The Bahamas, and Turks & Caicos Islands. Their operations delivered over 300,000 adventure tours to cruise and hotel guests in 2007. With a commitment to offer only the highest quality tours Chukka takes pride in showcasing the natural beauty of the Caribbean through unique and sensational experiences. Chukka is home to the Jamaica Dogsled Team and awards include the “Caribbean's Leading Nature Adventure Excursion Operator” 2007 World Travel Award. Chukka Caribbean Adventures – Explore More. Live More!

###