



Jessica's Race History

1998	<i>Jr. North American</i>	<i>2nd 8-dog class</i>
1999	<i>Jr. Iditarod</i>	<i>15th</i>
2000	<i>Jr. Arctic Winter Games</i>	<i>1 silver, 2 gold medals</i>
2000	<i>Jr. Iditarod</i>	<i>3rd</i>
2000	<i>Jr. Yukon Quest</i>	<i>1st</i>
2000	<i>Henry Hahn 200</i>	<i>1st</i>
2002	<i>Copper Basin 300</i>	<i>6th - Rookie of the Year</i>
2002	<i>New Minto 120</i>	<i>3rd</i>
2003	<i>Iditarod 1049</i>	<i>19th - Rookie of the Year</i>
2003	<i>Solstice 100</i>	<i>1st</i>
2004	<i>Solstice 100</i>	<i>1st</i>
2005	<i>Tustumena 200</i>	<i>1st</i>
2005	<i>Iditarod 1049</i>	<i>15th</i>
2005	<i>GinGin 120</i>	<i>5th</i>
2006	<i>Tustumena 200</i>	<i>1st</i>
2006	<i>Iditarod 1049</i>	<i>24th</i>
2006	<i>Sheep Mt. 150</i>	<i>2nd</i>
2007	<i>Tustumena 200</i>	<i>4th</i>
2007	<i>Solstice 100</i>	<i>1st</i>
2008	<i>Iditarod 1049</i>	<i>Scratched</i>
2008	<i>Solstice 100</i>	<i>3rd</i>
2009	<i>Tustumena 200</i>	<i>7th</i>

Jessica Hendricks



Jessica Hendricks, 28, is a native Alaskan that has stayed close to her roots, attending high school in North Pole, Alaska while training for mid-distance races. Jessica has been racing dogs for 18 years. She began mushing at the age of nine, competing in many junior sprint races, the Junior North American Championships, the Junior Yukon Quest and the Junior Iditarod.

Following her junior year in high school, Jessica began preparing to run the Iditarod. She was one of the youngest mushers to race in 2003 and at the end; she captured the 'Rookie of the Year' award. Jessica finished in 19th place with a time of 11 days, 2 hours, 40 minutes, 17 seconds.

In 2004, Jessica and Tom became partners to form Iron Pearl Kennels, which is located just outside of Fairbanks in Two Rivers, AK. Their kennel of 60+ dogs has strong lines drawn from Erhart, Buser and MacEachen kennels. Jessica and Tom have raised and trained all of their dogs from pups, making them competitors that they trust, understand and count on.

When Jessica's not off training, racing or taking care of the dogs, she can be found riding her horses, fishing or hunting.

Thomas Lesatz



Thomas Lesatz, 29 years old, was born in Chicago, Illinois. Surrounded by the city lights, he dreamed of owning his own kennel, building a log cabin and racing in the Iditarod – The Last Great Race. He moved to Alaska in 2000 to handle for Rick Swenson, a 5-Time Iditarod Champion. After a year in Alaska, he went back home to work but constantly thought about returning. When he did finally return, he handled for mushers, Ray Redington and Russel Lain and decided that he would make Alaska his permanent home.

In 2004, he became partners with Jessica Hendricks, 2003 Iditarod's - Rookie of the Year. Together they have spent the last 5 years building Iron Pearl Kennels. Tom built their home from logs he cleared on their 100-acre farm just outside Fairbanks in Two Rivers, AK. They currently have 60+ dogs with strong lines drawn from Mackey, Erhart, Buser and MacEachen Kennels.

During the off-season, Tom works as a Wildland Firefighter for Alaska's Division of Forestry. When he's not taking care of his dogs, you can find him fishing in the local stream, hunting up the road or weeding in his vegetable garden.

Tom ran the Iditarod in 2007 and finished 38th. With help from his family and friends, he returned to the Iditarod in 2010, placing 29th.

Tom's Race History

2003	<i>Two Rivers 200</i>	<i>4th</i>
2004	<i>Solstice 100</i>	<i>14th</i>
2005	<i>Knik 200</i>	<i>1st</i>
2005	<i>Two Rivers 100</i>	<i>2nd</i>
2006	<i>Copper Basin 300</i>	<i>5th - Rookie of the Year</i>
2007	<i>Iditarod 1049</i>	<i>38th</i>
2008	<i>Tustumena 200</i>	<i>9th</i>
2008	<i>Sheep Mt.150</i>	<i>24th</i>
2008	<i>Solstice 100</i>	<i>7th</i>
2008	<i>GinGin 200</i>	<i>9th</i>
2009	<i>Copper Basin 300</i>	<i>Scratched</i>
2009	<i>Two Rivers 200</i>	<i>1st</i>
2010	<i>Iditarod 1049</i>	<i>29th</i>

