

BIG FRESNO FAIR DOG RACES
Open to the First 96 Contestants in order of Receipt

Big Fresno Fair (Fresno)
Race Day – Saturday, October 17, 2009

OWNER _____

PHONE (_____) _____ E-MAIL _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

Dog's Name _____
Weight and Height (limit 25 lbs & 12" at shoulder) _____ lbs. _____ inches
Dog's Age _____ Previous Race Experience? YES _____ NO _____
Breed (or Mixes) _____
If so, where? Details? _____

Dog's interests, hobbies, special info. _____

DATE OF RACE: Saturday, July 25, 2009

Send Applications to:
California Authority of Racing Fairs
c/o Heather Haviland – Dog Races
1776 Tribute Road, Suite 205
Sacramento, CA 95815

(fax) 916/263-3341 or (phone) 916/837-8427 or heather@calfairs.net and margot@calfairs.net

You can mail, fax or e-mail your entry form to the contacts above.

MUST SUBMIT ENTRY FORM & RELEASE WAIVER (Scroll Down)
PHOTOGRAPH OF DOG RECOMMENDED TO INSURE YOUR DOG'S ELIGIBILITY

WWW.NORCALWIERNATIONALS.COM

**BIG FRESNO FAIR (FRESNO) DOG RACES
RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY**

I, _____(Owner) acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate in the Big Fresno Fair Dog Races at the Big Fresno Fair on Saturday, October 17, 2009.

I AM AWARE THAT THE BIG FRESNO FAIR DOG RACES ARE A POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS ACTIVITY, AND I AM VOLUNTARILY PARTICIPATING IN THIS ACTIVITY WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE DANGER INVOLVED AND AGREE TO ASSUME ANY AND ALL RISKS OF BODILY INJURY OR PROPERTY DAMAGE TO MYSELF OR MY DOG OR THAT MY DOG AND OR PERSON INFLECTS ON OTHERS. I VERIFY THIS STATEMENT BY PLACING MY INITIALS HERE _____ .

As consideration for being permitted by the Big Fresno Fair to participate in the Big Fresno Fair Dog Races and the use of the racetrack facilities, I hereby agree that I, my assignees, heirs, distributees, guardians, next of kin, spouse, and legal representatives will not make a claim against, sue, or attach the property of the Big Fresno Fair, the California Authority of Racing Fairs or any of their affiliated organizations for injury or damage resulting from the negligence or other acts, however caused, by any director, employee, agent, or contractor of the Big Fresno Fair as a result of my participation in the Big Fresno Fair Dog Races. I forever release the Big Fresno Fair, the California Authority of Racing Fairs and any of their affiliated organizations from any and all action, claims, or demands that I, my assignees, heirs, distributees, guardians, next of kin, spouse and legal representatives now have or may hereafter have for injury or damage resulting from my participation in the Big Fresno Fair Dog Races. I assume all responsibility for damage caused by my dog to other dogs, participants, spectators and Big Fresno Fair attendees.

I _____(Owner) authorize the Big Fresno Fair to use my photograph and name, free of charge, for any promotional or commercial means regarding the Big Fresno Fair Dog Races.

I ALSO HEREBY AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE COMPLETE RULES SET FORTH BY THE BIG FRESNO FAIR IN REGARDS TO THE BIG FRESNO FAIR DOG RACES WHICH ARE POSTED ON THE OFFICIAL BIG FRESNO FAIR DOG RACES WEBSITE (WWW.NORCALWIERNATIONALS.COM).

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE BIG FRESNO FAIR AND MYSELF AND SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Participant (print) _____

Address: _____

Dog's Name: _____

BIG FRESNO FAIR DOG RACES PROCEDURE

Entries consist of: 1) Official Entry Form and 2) Release and Waiver of Liability Agreement. Entries will be accepted on a first-come/first-served basis. The winner of each heat will win \$30 and the second place winner will receive \$20. The winner of the Championship heat will win \$100 and the second place finisher in the Championship Heat will win \$50.

DOG REQUIREMENTS

The Big Fresno Fair Dog Races are open to all breeds and mixed breeds of small dogs. The only requirements for a dog to race in the Big Fresno Fair Dog Races is that the dog **WEIGH LESS THAN 25lbs AND BE 12" OR SMALLER AT THE SHOULDER** . If a dog looks like it may weigh more than 25 lbs at the time of entry, the dog may be weighed in the presence of its owner on calibrated scale to determine if it can compete.

Every effort will be made to place dogs of similar breeds and/or weights into the same heat. The Championship heats will be a mixture of the winners from the preliminary heats (see more below).

DOGS MUST BE ON LEASHES AT ALL TIMES. A dog may be disqualified at any time for showing any degree of aggression.

NUMBER OF ENTRIES

Each dog will run in one preliminary heat. The winner of each heat will compete in the final race. Depending on the number of entries, there might be a semi-finals round. Ultimately 8 dogs will qualify for the Big Fresno Fair Dog Races Finals and compete in the final race.

A maximum of 96 dogs will compete in the preliminary heats.

There will be a **MAXIMUM** of 12 preliminary heats. If there are fewer than 96 entries, the number of heats will be adjusted accordingly.

The number of dogs in each heat will depend on the number of entries.

If entries exceed 96 dogs, owners will be limited to two dogs per human competitor.

If more than 96 entries are received for the races, contestants will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis. If fewer than 96 entries are received, every attempt will be made to place an equal number of dogs in each heat.

Two handlers are required per dog: one handler remains with the dog behind the starting gate, the other handler will stand behind the finish line to call the dog and collect him/her after the race. At least one handler must be 18 years of age or older. When on the racetrack, dogs must remain in the arms of one owner until placed in the starting gate.

For the safety of the dogs, **handlers are not permitted to leave their designated places while the dogs are competing.**

Starting gate positions will be determined prior to the start of the racing events and will not exceed 50 yards.

Dogs will be supplied with a color coordinated racing jacket that must be worn during their race. If the jacket does not fit the dog, the dog must wear the neck ribbon tied to its collar. Each dog must start out of their assigned post position. A racing official will call all dogs to line up for their respective heats.

An announcement will be given by a track official for handlers to place their dogs in the starting gate. At this time, the finish line handlers will be asked to go to the area behind the finish line to call their dogs. Finish line handlers should position themselves in starting gate order so that dogs will not be encouraged to cross paths with one another.

Once the dogs are settled in the gate, the track announcer will state “Ready, Set, Go” and the starter will open the gate. Please allow your dog to run freely out of the gate of his/her own accord. Because the back of the starting gate is open, handlers may pet/hold their dogs while they are inside. In order to encourage your dog to leave the gate, handlers may want to step back from the gate just before the start.

Depending on circumstances, a starting gate might not be used. In that event, handlers will hold the dog at the starting line. Any dog released prior to “Go” in “Ready, Set, Go” will be disqualified. The races are video taped live with playback, so if the dog is released early it will be eliminated.

Once the starting gate has been opened, finish-line handlers are to call their dogs across the finish line and into the receiving area. You may use snacks, squeaky toys, etc. to coax your dogs. Loud noisemakers, live animals other than dachshunds, and anything deemed to be disruptive to other dogs will not be permitted. **In order to be declared the winner, all 4 paws must cross the finish line.**

Once the first dog (with all four paws) has crossed the finish line, the handlers of the other dogs are requested to continue to call their dogs until all dogs are with their respective owners. If your dog does not come to you within a reasonable amount of time after the finish of the race (determined by the finish-line Wiener Nationals Official), you will be allowed to enter the course and collect your dog. **Please be careful, and do not interfere with anyone else’s dog.**

Racing Officials will determine the winners (video will be used in close finishes). Decisions of the Racing Officials are final.

The winner of the Championship and his/her owner and handlers will come to the winner’s circle on the racetrack for photos and a short interview following the race. Additionally, there will be an opportunity for your dog to “sign” autographs for the fans after the races.

Racing Officials will determine 1st place winners. In the event of a tie, the dogs involved will have a “run-off” to determine the winner. Every attempt will be made to schedule “run-offs” at least one heat later, to allow the dogs a chance to rest.

Decisions of the Racing Officials are final.

The winner of the Big Fresno Fair Dog Races and his/her owner and handlers will come to the winner’s circle on the racetrack for photos.

Management reserves the right to interpret all questions and conditions in regard to this event, without claim for damages or recourse of any kind. All questions and definitions not covered explicitly in these rules will be decided by the management of the Big Fresno Fair with those decisions to be final.