

Dachshund Derby Procedures

All entries must be postmarked by Tuesday June 1, 2010, to be eligible for the Dachshund Derby. Entries consist of: 1) Official Entry Form; 2) \$10 entry fee; 3) Release and Waiver of Liability Agreement. Entries will be accepted on a first-come/first-serve basis. Of the \$10 per dog entry fee, \$5 will be added to a jackpot and \$5 will be donated to Blue Buffalo Foundation for Cancer Research for dogs and cats. Three hundred dollars in purse money and jackpot money collected to be paid out to the top three runners in the Dachshund Derby Championship in the following percentages: Winning dog – 50%; second place dog - 30%; third place dog – 20%. The winner of each heat will receive \$25.

A dog may only be allowed to win the Championship heat two times. After that, the dog must retire.

No more than two dogs per human competitor.

The first heat of the Dachshund Derby will begin at approximately 1:00 p.m., Saturday, July 17, 2010. There will eight preliminary heats and one Championship. There will be two preliminary heats run prior to the first race and then one heat between each race. The Championship heat will be run between the 7th and 8th thoroughbred race.

Each dog will run in one preliminary heat. The winner of each heat will compete in the final race—the “Dachshund Derby Championship”.

A maximum of 64 dogs will compete in the Dachshund Derby preliminary heats.

There will be a MAXIMUM of 8 preliminary heats. If there are fewer than 64 entries, the number of heats will be adjusted accordingly.

The number of dogs in each heat will depend on the number of entries, with a MAXIMUM of eight dogs per heat.

If more than 64 entries are received for the Derby, contestants will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis. If fewer than 64 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.

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.

Dogs will be issued a neck ribbon that corresponds to the gate position they will be starting from. Each dog must start his/her heat with the correct neck ribbon. A Derby 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 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.

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, and anything deemed to be disruptive to other dogs will not be permitted.

Once the first dog 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 Derby 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.**

After each heat, dogs and their handlers are encouraged to return to the "Participant's Tent" to allow the dogs to rest in the shade and have water and complimentary snacks.

The Championship will consist of the 1st place winners of all the previous heats. The procedures for the final heat will be the same as above.

Derby 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 Derby Officials are final.

The winner of the Dachshund Derby 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. The winner may also be asked to accompany a Derby Official to several live television broadcasts on Cal Expo grounds. Additionally, there will be an opportunity for your dog to "sign" autographs for the fans after the races.