

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WIENER NATIONALS

Sonoma County Fair (Santa Rosa)
Race Day – Saturday, August 8, 2009

OWNER _____

PHONE (_____) _____ E-MAIL _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

Dog's Name _____ Weight _____ lbs.
Dog's Age _____ Previous Race Experience? YES _____ NO _____
If so, where? Details? _____

Dog's interests, hobbies, special info. _____

DATE OF RACE: Saturday, August 8, 2009

Send Applications to:
California Authority of Racing Fairs
c/o Heather Haviland – Wiener Nationals
1776 Tribute Road, Suite 205
Sacramento, CA 95815
(fax) 916/263-3341 or (phone) 916/263-3346 or 916/837-8427 or heather@calfairs.net

MUST SUBMIT ENTRY FORM, RELEASE WAIVER AND PHOTOGRAPH OF DOG (Scroll Down)

OTHER RACES IN THE SERIES:
Golden Gate Fields – Saturday, Oct. 3, 2009
WWW.NORCALWIENERNATIONALS.COM

**SONOMA COUNTY FAIR (SANTA ROSA) DOG RACES
RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY**

I, _____(Owner) acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate in the Sonoma County Fair Dog Races at the Sonoma County Fair on Saturday, August 8, 2009.

I AM AWARE THAT THE SONOMA COUNTY 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. I VERIFY THIS STATEMENT BY PLACING MY INITIALS HERE _____

As consideration for being permitted by the Sonoma County Fair to participate in the Sonoma County 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 Sonoma County 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 Sonoma County Fair as a result of my participation in the Sonoma County Fair Dog Races. I forever release the Sonoma County 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 Sonoma County Fair Dog Races.

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

I ALSO HEREBY AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE COMPLETE RULES SET FORTH BY THE SONOMA COUNTY FAIR IN REGARDS TO THE SONOMA COUNTY FAIR DOG RACES WHICH ARE POSTED ON THE OFFICIAL SONOMA COUNTY 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 SONOMA COUNTY FAIR AND MYSELF AND SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Participant (print) _____

Address: _____

Dog's Name: _____

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WIENER NATIONAL PROCEDURES

Entries consist of: 1) Official Entry Form 2) Release and Waiver of Liability Agreement and 3) Photograph of your dog. The winner of each heat will win \$50. The winner of the Championship heat will win \$300, the second place winner in the Championship Heat will win \$200 and the third place finisher will win \$100.

The races in the Northern California Wiener Nationals Series include:

Golden Gate Fields – Saturday, June 13 - Top 3 finishers
Stockton – Saturday, June 27 - Top 2 finishers
Pleasanton – Saturday, July 18 - Top 2 finishers
Vallejo - Saturday, July 25 – NON-QUALIFYING RACE
Santa Rosa – Saturday, August 8 - Top 2 finishers
Golden Gate Fields – Saturday, October 3 - Top 3 finishers
FINALS – Location and Date to be Determined

Once you become a top finisher at any of the participating Northern California Wiener Nationals locations you are ineligible to enter at any remaining qualifying locations.

STOCKTON, PLEASANTON & SANTA ROSA

Each dog will run in one preliminary heat. The winner of each heat will compete in the final race. The top two finishers in the final race will qualify for the Northern California Wiener Nationals Finals.

There will be a MAXIMUM of 10 preliminary heats. If there are fewer than 120 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 twelve dogs per heat.

If entries exceed 120 dogs, owners will be limited to two dogs per human competitor. Owners are encouraged to enter as many dogs as possible. If we are not able to accommodate more than two dogs per owner, we will contact the owner by phone to determine which two dogs the owner would like to run.

If more than 120 entries are received for the Wiener Nationals, contestants will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis. If you submit an application for a dog and we have already received 120 applications, we will contact you by phone to let you know that your dog will not be able to compete. If fewer than 108 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. Once given a neck ribbon each dog will receive a color coordinated racing jacket that must be worn during their race. Each dog must start out of their assigned post position. A Wiener Nationals 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.

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.**

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

Wiener Nationals Officials will determine the winners. Decisions of the Wiener Nationals Officials are final.

The winner of the Wiener Nationals 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.

Wiener Nationals 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 Wiener Nationals Officials are final.

The winner of the Northern California Wiener National 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 Sonoma County Fair with those decisions to be final.