

## Saucony Creek Wiener Dog Race Information

### Wiener Dog Qualifications/Requirements

- This is a celebration of German Oktoberfest! We love all dogs, but in the spirit of the event, all dogs must be a Dachshund.
- Dogs do not have to be AKC registered, but **must** exhibit all the characteristics of a Dachshund:
  - floppy eared hound
  - head that is relatively small with longer nose
  - long, low body
  - short legs
  - dachshund coloring
  - Shoulder height 4 inches to 11 inches
  - If it looks like a Dachshund, we will accept the entry.
  - If it looks “sort of” like a Dachshund (i.e. a short body dog with square head, long legs and white fur), we will not accept the entry. Examples: Dachsador (dachshund-lab mix), dachshund-border collie mix, etc. will not be permitted.
  - We reserve the right to make the final decision. If in doubt, email photos to us for determination.
- Dogs must be at least 6 months old.
- All dogs must be current with required vaccinations.

### General Event Requirements

- All dogs must be on a leash when not actively running in the race.
- Owners are required to clean up after their pets. Please provide your own supplies.
- You may dress your dog in a costume for the event, but during the race, the dog must also wear the official race bandana that identifies the dog.
- You must be 18 years old or over to participate. Minors are welcome, but **MUST** be accompanied by the registering adult at check-in time.
- All humans must sign a consent/waiver document the day of the event which releases the company, event staff, sponsors and venue from all liabilities, and allows the use of their name, photos, etc. for social media and promotional purposes.

### General Race Information, Rules and Requirements

**Remember that this is intended to be a FUN and ENJOYABLE Event. The following rules are established to ensure that everyone has a fun, safe, and stress-free experience while enjoying the excitement of competition.**

- The races will be held outdoors, rain or shine, in an enclosed, well defined track area. We are still finalizing the length of the track but it will be 50 to 100 feet long.
- Depending on the number of entries, multiple heats of 4 to 5 dogs will be run with winners of each heat advancing to the semi-finals and/or finals.
- Our Oktoberfest beer will be named after the winning dog at the conclusion of the final race.

- Two humans per dog are required – one to hold and release the dog at the start line and a second to call and receive the dog at the finish line.
- Dogs will be provided with a colored doggy bandana to identify them during the race. The bandana **must** be worn during the race. It can be worn on the back or on the chest.
- Toys, balls, etc. **are** permitted at the finish line to encourage your dog to run.
- To prevent food territorial conflicts between dogs, we **do not allow** food, treats, or edible items inside the race track area.
- No loud noise makers such as bells or whistles are permitted.
- Laser pointers are not permitted.

### **Arrival**

- Please arrive early and check in at the registration tent near the track. You will sign a waiver, receive your race entry package and approximate race time.
- Dog handlers will be given a wrist band to allow entry into the race track area.

### **Before the Race Starts**

- Your dog's name will be announced over the PA system 5 to 10 minutes prior to your first race. Please report to the start line area. **ONLY** two people per dog will be permitted – the start line handler and the finish line handler. Each handler must be wearing the wrist band that was given to them at registration.
- Each dog and its handlers will be introduced to the crowd prior to the start of the heat. Your entry form will ask for some interesting information about you and your dog that will be announced to the crowd.
- After introductions, the finish line handler will report to the finish line, and the start line handler will report to the start line.

### **Running the Race**

- The announcer will call the start of the race.
- Start line handlers must hold/restrain the dog in their starting position, behind the start line.
- The announcer will ensure all dogs are behind the start line prior to the race start. Any "false starts" will be disqualified.
- Humans are **not** permitted to run with the dog. Humans must remain behind the start and finish lines until the first dog crosses the line. In the event that a situation arises where the owner must retrieve their dog during the race, the dog will be listed as finishing last.
- Multiple judges will watch the finish line. Their decision is the final decision and not open to discussion. This is intended to be a fun and enjoyable event. Please do not argue with the judges.
- Finish line handlers **must** remain behind the handler line which is 3 feet beyond the finish line.
- Finish line handlers **must not** touch the dog until it **fully** crosses the finish line with its **rear** feet. Dogs that are touched, pulled across the finish line, etc. will be disqualified.

**After the Race**

- The winner will be invited to take a “Parade Lap” before exiting the race track area.
- The winner of each heat will be called over the PA system to the next race.
- The winner of the final race will be celebrated with the naming of our Oktoberfest beer.