



Dear Dog Owners,

Thank you so much for entering the 2017 Derby Dog Dash at the Pleasanton Fall Horse Racing Meet on Saturday, September 23, 2017. **DEADLINE FOR ENTRY IS WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20, 2017 at 5:00 P.M. (PST)**

The Fairgrounds is located at:
Alameda County Fair
4501 Pleasanton Ave.
Pleasanton, CA 94566
(925) 426-7600

The Derby Dog Dash races will be held at the Racing Grandstand on the Fairgrounds. The Derby Dog Dash registration booth will be located on the bottom level, at the "Win, Place, Show" booth across from the racetrack.

Each entry includes admission to the Fairgrounds and parking. Ground floor admission in the Grandstand is free. Please feel free to bring your own chairs. Reserved or box seats are available for reservation by phone at (925) 426-5143. Coolers are permitted on the Fairgrounds. Alcohol and glass containers are not permitted on grounds.

The final entrants, race numbers and starting times will be posted to the official website www.derbydogdash.com (click on "Entries" for Pleasanton) after 9:00 p.m., Thursday, September 21. Please check-in at the registration booth at least 25 minutes prior to your race. Please check in for your individual race at least 15 minutes prior to the running.

Thank you so much for your participation and we look forward to seeing you on at Pleasanton Fall Horse Racing Meet!

Staff will not have time to answer phone calls regarding Derby Dog Dash in the days prior to the race. Please utilize our Facebook page to ask questions and receive up to date information. Search for Derby Dog Dash on Facebook or use the following link:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Derby-Dog-Dash/126565290699121>

2017 DERBY DOG DASH EVENT RULES

An Official Entry consists of:

- 1) Web Signup (<http://www.derbydogdash.com/?page=contestant-registration>)
- 2) Signed Release and Waiver of Liability Agreement. This document can be signed at the fairgrounds upon registration the day of the race.

The winner of the Championship heat will win \$100 and the second place winner will receive \$50. The winner of each individual heat will win \$20 and second place will receive \$10. Each entry will include admission to the Fairgrounds.

The races in the 2017 Derby Dog Dash Series include:

- Pleasanton – Saturday, September 23, 2017
- Fresno – Saturday, October 14, 2017

RULES

- Each dog will run in one preliminary heat. The winner of each heat will compete in the Championship race.
- The distance of the race will be approximately 50 yards. The distance is approximate and may vary at the discretion of the racing officials.
- There will be a MAXIMUM of 9 preliminary heats. If there are fewer than 108 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 108 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. Please note that we try not to run dogs from the same household in the same race, but due to weight, breed and timing, it does happen. In that situation, please be prepared to have two people available per dog or be prepared to scratch one of the dogs.
- **Two handlers are required per dog:** one handler remains with the dog behind the starting line, 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.**
- We will not be using a starting gate. Owners will stand at the starting line and hold their dog. Once the dogs are settled behind the starting line, the track announcer will state “Ready, Set, Go”

and the handlers will release the dog. Please allow your dog to run freely from the starting line of his/her own accord. **ANY HANDLER RELEASING THE DOG BEFORE “GO” WILL BE DISQUALIFIED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE RACING OFFICIALS.**

- Once the announcer has said “GO” and the dog has been released, 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 dogs, 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 Racing 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.**
- Dogs will be issued a colored jacket that will correspond with their starting position. All dogs must wear the jacket. If a dog cannot wear the jacket, the dog will not be allowed to start.
- The Championship Heat will consist of the 1st place winners of all the previous heats and possible “wild-card” spots. The procedures for the final heat will be the same as above.
- Racing Officials will determine the winners and all subsequent placings. Decisions regarding placing by Racing Officials are final.
- The winner of the Derby Dog Dash Championship 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 Alameda County Fair, Big Fresno Fair and the California Authority of Racing Fairs with those decisions being final.
- Dogs **MUST BE** kept on **LEASHES** at all times while on Fairground property (the only exception being when the dog is racing). Violators will be asked to leave the property. No exceptions.
- Please bring a dog potty pick-up method to maintain a clean racing environment.
- Please **DO NOT**, under any circumstances, leave dogs unattended in parked cars in the parking lot.

All dogs must meet the weight and height requirement (less than 28 lbs AND 15” at the shoulder). Dog may be weighed and measured at the discretion of the Racing Officials. The Racing Officials will disqualify any dog that does not meet these requirements. The dogs can be pure-bred or mixed. Every effort will be made to run dogs of similar breeds and weights in the same heats.

**ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR (PLEASANTON) DOG RACES
RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY**

I, _____ (Owner) acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate in the Pleasanton Fall Horse Racing Meet at the Alameda County Fairgrounds on Saturday, September 23, 2017.

I AM AWARE THAT THE ALAMEDA 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 Alameda County Fair to participate in the Pleasanton Fall Horse Racing Meet 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 Alameda 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 Alameda County Fair as a result of my participation in the Derby Dog Dash Dog Races. I forever release the Alameda 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 Derby Dog Dash Dog Races.

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

I ALSO HEREBY AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE COMPLETE RULES SET FORTH BY THE ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR IN REGARDS TO THE DERBY DOG DASH DOG RACES WHICH ARE POSTED ON THE OFFICIAL DERBY DOG DASH WEBSITE (WWW.DERBYDOGDASH.COM). DOGS MUST BE ON LEASHES AT ALL TIMES ON FAIRGROUND PROPERTY.

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: _____