

2026 Oktoberfest Weiner Dog Race Rules

- All dogs must be checked in by **12:45 PM on Saturday, September 19, 2026**. Races start promptly at 1:00PM. Lineup will be on 7th Street
- You must be the registered owner of your dog to race. Proof of ownership may be required.
- You must be 18 or over to participate, or have a legal guardian present. A valid driver's license may be required to show proof of age.
- You will need to provide a copy of all shot records for the participating dog. The State of Nebraska law requires a rabies vaccination and is required for participation. The Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce highly recommends distemper and kennel cough vaccinations as well.
- Costumes are highly encouraged
- Races are run in heats, with no more than six dogs racing a 50-80-foot-long course.
- Okay, so we admire Greyhounds as much as the next guy, but fair is fair. So only genuine, low-to-the-ground Dachshunds or Mixed Breed Doxies will be allowed to race. And we reserve the right to determine which dogs are wieners, and which dogs are not.
- Dogs must be on a leash at all times (except during race).
- Owners must clean up after their dogs! Please bring along your own "clean-up" gear.
- Dog's names will be called twice before the race. Simply put: if your dog is not at the gate at the time of the race, you forfeit the race.
- Two people must be available during the heat: one at the race gate, and one at the finish line.
- You may use a toy, ball or treat to entice the dog, but you must stay at each end until your dog comes to you! The toy or treat may not be thrown or tossed. You may bounce the ball, but bouncing is not throwing. No loud devices, drones, laser pointers or anything that may be distracting to other dogs/owners.
- You may NOT run alongside the dog, but you MAY wear a costume, if you think that will help.
- Your dog may step out of bounds but must re-enter and completely cross the finish line, within the boundaries, without being grabbed. If the dog is touched by the handler before completely crossing the finish line, the dog will be disqualified.
- We reserve the right to disqualify any pet owners for behavior deemed inappropriate. Any dog that bites another dog, person or handler will not be permitted at the races and will be asked to leave the event grounds.

ALL JUDGE'S DECISIONS ARE FINAL.

I, _____ (Owner) acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate in the Oktoberfest Weiner Races on Saturday, September 19, 2026.

I am aware that Dachshund Racing is 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 damaged to myself or my dog.

As consideration for being permitted by the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce, the City of Norfolk, and any affiliated organizations, to participate in Dachshund Racing 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 attack the property of the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce, 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 volunteer of the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce as a result of my participation in the 2026 Oktoberfest Weiner Dog Races.

I forever release the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce, 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 Dachshund Racing. I accept full responsibility for the actions of my dog while participating in the Dachshund Racing.

I _____ (Owner) authorize the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce to use my photograph and name, free of charge, for any promotional or commercial means regarding the Dachshund Racing at the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce. I also hereby agree to abide by the complete rules set forth by the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce Oktoberfest Committee in regard to dachshund racing which are posted for review.

I have read and agree with all of the above statements.

Printed Name - owner

Printed Dog's Name

Signature – owner

Date

To register, please return completed form and payment of \$10 per dog to the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce, 609 West Norfolk Ave. Norfolk, NE 68701.