



Das Fest WI 2024 Little Leg Races **Rules and Information**

The Das Fest WI Little Leg Races and Bark & Bier Costume Contest for Dachshunds and Corgis are all about 3 F's: Family, Friendship, and FUN! They do not represent gambling or any type of professional racing event. The race distance will be **55 feet**. This race is intended to provide entertainment at Das Fest WI. The health and safety of the dogs is our priority. Our goal is to bring dog owners together to get to know one another and celebrate these special breeds.

Das Fest WI races are open to **full breed** Dachshunds and Corgis only. **All Dachshunds and Corgis must have the specific breed characteristics as stated by the American Kennel Club.** Das Fest WI reserves the right to disqualify any dog if there is a question about breed or size. Please do not bring a dog that is in heat. Owners are required to complete a registration form, submit a signed liability waiver in advance, and **show a record of shots from a veterinarian on race day** (we do not need a copy). Dogs must be current on DHPP, Rabies, and (suggested) Bordetella vaccines. Owners must be prepared to clean up after their dogs. Onsite registration will not be available.

Only pre-registered Dachshunds and Corgis will be allowed on the festival grounds. Credentials for admission onto the festival grounds will be emailed in advance. Dogs must always be on a leash, except while running their race. The park is well-shaded, and water will be available. Do not leave dogs in a vehicle. Event staff reserves the right to involve the proper authorities if an animal is deemed at risk. Refer to www.dasfestwi.com, "fest info", for a list of items allowed and not allowed on the Das Fest WI grounds.

Races are held rain or shine, and on time. Failure to be in position for the race is considered a forfeit, and no refunds will be issued. If the race is canceled due to unforeseen circumstances and/or safety concerns, Das Fest WI will make every effort to refund registration fees by email request only. Unrequested refunds/credits will be donated to nonprofit agencies supported by Das Fest WI.

The Race

The number of races depends on the total number of registered dogs. Up to 8 dogs will race together in as many as 5 races per designated time. The top 3 winners of every race will receive a prize. There will be no heats.

Check-in begins 30 minutes prior to the **start time** registered for. **No early check-ins.** There may be as many as 40 participants checking in for one race time. Plan to be in position and ready to race 5 minutes prior to the designated start time.

- Dogs must have 2 people to race, one handler at the start line (Das Releaser) and one at the finish line (Das Catcher). *TIP: bring 2 leashes*
- Dogs will be issued a color-specific bandana for easy winner identification.
- Course surface is turf over asphalt.
- All divisions will race 55 feet.
- Dogs are assigned spots on a first come, first serve basis.
- Pets must be kept on a leash until race time.
- Dogs will not be required to stay in lanes.
- Dogs must maintain good conduct throughout the race and shall not interfere with other racers via biting. Biting dogs will be disqualified.
- Treats, toys, and funny faces may be used to entice the dog to the finish line.

There will be one finish line for the dogs to cross, and approximately five feet beyond that will be the Catcher. The Catcher must stay behind the line until a winner is announced, and/or an official deems it necessary to cross the line to guide their dog to the finish line. The first dog to the finish line (nose or toe over, whichever is first) is considered the winner. In case of a tie, an extra tie-breaking race may be run. The judge's decisions are final.

Cause for disqualification:

1. Dogs must start the race with all paws on the ground behind the start line. No throwing or tossing of the dog at any time.
2. Catchers must remain 5 feet behind the finish line and may not reach across the line.
3. No one may throw any treat or object, use light, laser pointers, whistles or other loud noisemakers or balloons.
4. Arguing with judges or volunteers will not be permitted.

Above all, remember the 3 F's.

Ready. Set. GO!

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