

# Fast and Furious!

Wiener Dog Races bigger and better than ever at Oktoberfest

Don't let those compact, little legs fool you — dachshunds (fondly known as wiener dogs or doxies) move with an uncompromising swiftness that makes them the envy of all the other canines in neighborhood dog parks.

If you think we're embellishing their speed, stop by the Wiener Dog Races at Oktoberfest and see for yourself. The mighty pups will face off in races on Friday, Saturday and Sunday in front of cheering crowds and proud owners. Last year's races were a tremendous success, and this year's competition proves to be even greater. More than 100 dogs are registered to compete.

Whether you're new to the sport and fun of wiener dog racing, or a race veteran, here are a few fun facts and a glimpse into the history of these amazing little dogs:

## Meet the Dachshund

According to the American Kennel Club, the dachshund (which means "badger dog" in German), is known for being a lively breed with a friendly personality and keen sense of smell. They have a distinct look with long and low bodies, and they're eager hunters that excel in both above- and below-ground work. One of the most popular breeds according to AKC Registration Statistics, they come in three different coat varieties (smooth, wirehaired or longhaired) and can be miniature or standard size.

"Dachshunds were first bred in the early 1600s in Germany. The goal was to create a fearless, elongated dog that could dig the earth from a badger burrow and fight to the death with the vicious badgers," according to [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org).

## A few fun facts

- From 1930 to 1940, Dachshunds advanced from 28th to sixth rank among American registrations.
- Dachshunds are bred with three coat varieties: smooth, long and wirehaired
- Daschunds are shown in two sizes: standard and miniature.
- Dachshunds are accomplished hunting dogs despite their lapdog reputations.

— julie imel 🐾



### Wiener Dog Race Schedule:

Friday at 6 and 9 p.m.

Saturday at 12, 3, 6 and 9 p.m.

Sunday, 12 and 3 p.m.

PHOTOS BY TOM BONOMO AND CHRIS CORNELL

