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DOGS + WATER = DOCKDOGS® AT STATE FAIR

Albuquerque—August 31, 2009—It may not be the Doggy Olympics, but "Dockdogs®" is the closest thing to it and it's at this year's New Mexico State Fair!

DockDogs® is a sanctioned dock jumping and dock diving canine performance sport and, according to Brian Sharenow with DockDogs®, "it's the "fastest growing sport for canines in North America."

Competitions are open to anyone who has a dog that likes the water, gets along with other dogs and enjoys retrieving toys. Teams are made up of one dog and one handler. Dogs must be 6 months or older to be eligible and any breed, size or shape can compete. Handlers must be above the age of 7; there is even a Junior Handler class for those who are between the ages of 7-14.

During the 17 days of the Fair, DockDogs® will present the Big Air® Wave competition accompanied by an Extreme Vertical® and Speed Retrieve® competition for the enjoyment of both competitors and spectators. The Big Air® competition features dogs running down a 40' dock and diving into a pool of water after an object, in which they are electronically judged for the length of their jump. The Extreme Vertical® competition is a "high jump" for the dogs as they each lunge to snag a "bumper" suspended in the air. With each grab, the height increases in 2-inch increments until only one dog is crowned king. Rounding out the action is the newest form of competition known as Speed Retrieve® – where the dogs are put on the clock to see how fast they can run down the dock, jump into the water, swim to the end of the pool and retrieve an object which is held by a modified extender arm.

To pre-register, log on to www.dockdogs.com, or you can register on-site at the Fair at the beginning of each day. The online entry fee is \$20 per dog per competition; on-site registration is \$25 per dog per competition. And if there's a Spitz in the competition, its name might even be Mark!

DockDogs® is the independent governing and sanctioning body for regional, national and international dock jumping performance sports. It establishes the rules and standards of the sport as well as tracks results and records, supports and promotes the growth of its athletes, events, spectators and sponsors.

For more information and the daily schedule, please visit the website.

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