



Downtown Kalamazoo Collective

Dogs in the Zoo

Dachshund Race
Saturday, September 12th, 2026

Who can race? At this point, we're just planning on Dachshunds. If we get a lot of interest for other small breeds we may have to add a "dachshund-ish" heat to the race day. Submit your interest via the form but make note. Only dachshunds will race in the first heat.

Is there a fee? Not this year since we're still figuring stuff out. If you'd like to donate to the Downtown Kalamazoo Collective, we would love your support!!

What happens day of?

- Human and dog check in to the race area (Plan to arrive at least ½ hour before the start of the race)
- The race happens even if it rains. Storms may cause a different response.
- Submit vaccination records via application or bring them the day of the race. Dogs who do not have vaccination records will not be allowed to race.
- Until the start of the race, all dogs must be on a leash.

Race Rules

- As stated above, vaccinations must be submitted before a dog can race.
- All dogs and their humans are expected to be friendly and on their best behavior. Biting or aggression towards other dogs or humans will not be tolerated.
- Any poo should be cleaned up by the dog's owner (poop bags will be available).
- Dogs may have two handlers inside the fence, one at the start & one at the finish.
- Dogs should never be thrown to the floor or at the start of the race.
- All dogs must be held until the judge yells "go!"
- Judge decisions are final.
- Any humans who display unruly behavior will not be allowed to participate and may be asked to leave the event.
- If children are participating in the event as a dog handler, they should be responsible enough to maintain control of the dog even if other dogs are not in control.
- As a participant, every dogs and human should strive to have the most fun possible.

Questions?

- Reach out to Heather at Rocket Fizz with questions rocketfizzkzoo@gmail.com

Downtown Kalamazoo Collective Dachshund Race

Owner Participation Agreement & Liability Waiver

By entering my dog in the Downtown Kalamazoo Collective Dachshund Race, I acknowledge and agree to the following:

Eligibility

- I am the owner or authorized handler of the dog entered in this event.
- My dog is a dachshund or dachshund mix, is in good health, and is physically able to participate.
- My dog is current on all required vaccinations. I have submitted proof of vaccination to the event organizers prior to participating.

Assumption of Risk

I understand that participation in this event involves inherent risks, including but not limited to:

- Dog bites, scratches, or other injuries caused by interactions with other dogs or people.
- Falls, collisions, slips, or other accidents involving dogs, handlers, spectators, or event equipment.
- Illness, injury, stress, or unforeseen incidents that may occur before, during, or after the race.

I voluntarily assume all risks associated with my participation and my dog's participation.

Release of Liability

To the fullest extent permitted by law, I release, waive, and hold harmless Downtown Kalamazoo Collective, its coordinators, officers, employees, volunteers, sponsors, vendors, property owners, event partners, and any race organizers or officials from any and all claims, liabilities, damages, losses, costs, or expenses arising out of or related to participation in the event, including but not limited to injuries to myself, my dog, other animals, or third parties, except where caused by gross negligence or willful misconduct.

Owner Responsibility

I agree that:

- I am solely responsible for my dog's behavior and actions at all times.
- My dog will remain on a leash except when directed by race officials during its designated race.
- I will immediately clean up after my dog and maintain control of my dog throughout the event.
- If my dog displays aggressive or unsafe behavior, event organizers may remove my dog from the event without refund.
- If children will be handling dogs, I understand that participants are responsible for supervising any minors accompanying them.

Veterinary Care

If my dog becomes ill or injured during the event, I understand that although there may be veterinarians at the event, they may not be able to help my dogs should injury occur. I will not leave my dog unattended for any period of time.

Media Release

I grant permission for Downtown Kalamazoo Collective and its partners to photograph, film, or record me and my dog during the event and to use those images or recordings for promotional, marketing, and social media purposes without compensation.

Event Decisions

I understand that event organizers reserve the right to modify race rules, delay or cancel the event due to weather or safety concerns, or refuse participation to any dog or handler if necessary for the safety of participants or spectators.

Agreement

By signing below, I certify that I have read and understand this agreement, that the information I have provided is accurate, and that I voluntarily agree to these terms.

☐ I certify that I have submitted proof that my dog is current on all required vaccinations, including rabies, and I agree to abide by all event rules and instructions provided by race officials.

Owner Name: _____

Dog's Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____