

Southpoint SUN Sports & More



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Dachshunds take centre stage at racetrack

By Paul Forman

Laughter and cheers filled the grandstand at Leamington Raceway on the first afternoon of October as the 2023 Wiener Dog Races thrilled the patrons in attendance. Organized by the Lakeshore Horse Racing Association, the popular dog races are part of an annual series of special themes that accompany the regular season of harness racing.

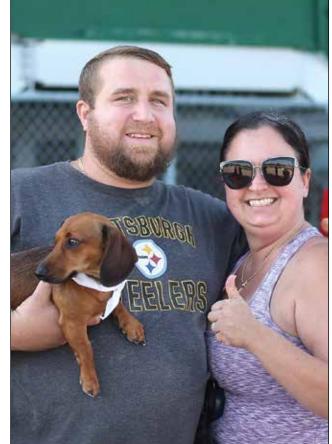
Ellie Mayhew, in charge of Marketing and Promotion for the association, shared that the wiener dog races were first seen by an association member in Grand River years ago and it was thought that this type of racing would be a hit in this area as well

Twenty-three entries were involved in the races this year, with \$300 in prize money and treat bags for all of the canine participants.

Nikki Kulyk entered her dog George for the first time and said, "It's a nice dog event and the races give my dog a rare opportunity to meet other wiener dogs."

Two-year-old Bella took home the championship in this year's final. Bella's owners, Tom and Yvette Forsythe, were asked about the secret formula for Bella's success this year. Tom replied, "A week's practice of running up and down the neighbourhood street and a good, healthy diet."







The looks on the faces of the spectators say it all in the top photo from one of the heats at the annual Wiener Dog Races at Leamington Raceway on Sunday, October 1. In the photo bottom right, Bella — the eventual winner — gets sent off the start line with a little encouragement from her owner, Yvette. In the photo on the left, Tom Forsythe, holding Bella, and his wife Yvette are happy after collecting the top prize.

SUN photos by Paul Forman

