

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN, CALLING ALL BREEDERS

Dogs are one of the main reasons fairgoers come to the Pet Center at the Minnesota State Fair and we as a club will be presenting our dogs to the public again this year.

This year the fair has built an all new building for us. This should prove to be very fun, it's always good to have a new exhibit at the fair and that's what it will feel like. We should expect a large number of new visitors along with the regulars. The fair is remodeling the whole north end of the fairgrounds and it should attract a lot of people.

MPBDA is under contract with the State Fair to bench dogs every day of the fair from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. As a MPBDA member club the German Shepherd Dog Club of Mpls & St Paul will be supplying dogs to sit a bench each day for the run of the fair, August 23rd thru September 3rd. We are asking members to volunteer a day with their dogs.

This is a great opportunity to show off your dogs, meet tons of people, and have loads of fun. If you are a breeder you will never have a better opportunity to meet so many perspective puppy buyers all in one place.

We will have a large double bench that resembles a front porch. There will be a club banner and GSDCMSP information handouts on the bench, the rest of the décor is up to you (see bench décor section below).

Dogs

Dogs that are benching must be six months or older and have proof of current rabies vaccination. This must be emailed prior to your benching day the fair (mail to: robertamoore2@mac.com). Since we have a double bench it is preferred that we have at least 2 dogs on the bench. Friends can bench together. The bench can comfortably fit 3 dogs and 2 people.

Bring a clean, groomed and well socialized dog(s). Dogs that bench must be representative of their breed, have no obvious or visible disqualifying faults, never think of biting and free of fleas or other bugs.

There will be a new potty area (not sure where just yet) and x-pens behind the pet building. Please pick up after your dog; bags will be available on the pens behind the building. If you are benching alone – there will be help and someone to give you a break. Phone numbers posted on each bench if you are alone and need to contact someone.

Dogs are prohibited from walking throughout the fairgrounds – they must stay on the grounds of the pet center building or service road and be on leash when outside of the bench.

TICKETS AND PASSES

The State Fair gives MPBDA car passes and admission tickets. You will be provided 2 admission tickets and a car pass for your day of benching.

When entering the fair your vehicle will be checked and you will need to present your driver's license. Parking passes MUST be attached to the inside lower left windshield and not lying on the dashboard. Your parking pass is good only for the dates specified on your parking pass.



A map of the fairgrounds with directions on where to enter the fairgrounds and how to get to the Pet Center will be provided.

PARKING

There will be a designated unloading area at the pet center. Hopefully each bench will have two designated parking spots next to pet center.

BENCH DÉCOR

Please arrive in plenty of time to set up your bench. This gives your dog's time to get settled and you have time to decorate and get your belongings together. The building opens to the public at 8:00 a.m.

Club flyers will be available in your bench.

There is an electric cord at each bench along with an air conditioning unit and overhead fans.

Please do not take down your booth prior to 8:00 p.m. and leave your bench clean upon leaving. (Empty garbage and sweep the floor – there is a broom and dustpan in each bench)

SUGGESTED ITEMS TO BRING

- Dog leash for each dog
- Dog treats, water dish and food
- Fan
- Decorations like pictures and ribbons
- Chairs provided (you can bring your own)
- Dog bed, dog kennel
- Bug spray
- Candies or gum if your voice gets hoarse from talking
- Cooler with pop/water/snacks
- Information on your breed – posters, signs
- Business cards or flyers about our club and breed will be provided but you will want to have your own business cards on hand



CASH DONATIONS/SALE OF ITEMS OR DOGS

No cash donations can be solicited nor can any product/dogs or puppies be sold at the fair.

So Let's Have Fun and Show Off!

Contact:

Bobby Moore

763-614-7607

robertamoore2@mac.com

Available benching dates:

August 23rd, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 31st

And September 1st

State Fair Information & Dates

Please read before you make a commitment!

- All participants need to be at the fair by 7:30 am, doors open at 8:00. Benching runs from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm.
- Days may be split with another club member, however, you are responsible for the whole day if the second member doesn't show up (pick your other half wisely).
- All dog must be current on their **RABIES VACCINATION** and have proof to Bobby by your benching date.
- All entries and parking are free. Bobby will be distributing the tickets and parking passes before the fair begins. There is unloading and parking right at the building.
- The benching area is NEW this year. The benches are large, airy, and have a cooling system but bringing fans is still suggested.
- All dogs must be bathed and groomed, only pure breed German Shepherds will be allowed on the bench and only the dogs being bench or demoed are allowed on the fair grounds.
- The booth will have GSDCMSP club decorations and you are also encouraged to bring stuff to display i.e.. ribbons, photos, along with treats, toys, beds, and creates if you would like. *(I have found a soft-sided crate works best in the bench and I let the dogs choose when they want to rest and get away from people.)* The reason for this is that you are representing the German Shepherd Club of Mpls & St. Paul. If you would like to bench on your own you will need to become a member of MPBDA.

Please contact: Bobby Moore - (763) 614-7607 robertamoore2@mac.com

Peggy Simerson - (715) 781-1687 simcargsd@frontiernet.net

(contact Peggy only for GSD demo day info)

Available Dates:

August 23th, Thursday

August 30th, Thursday - NO GSD BENCH

August 24th, Friday - NO GSD BENCH

August 31st, Friday

August 25th, Saturday

September 1st, Saturday

August 26th, Sunday

September 2nd, Sunday - GSD Day

August 27th, Monday

September 3rd, Monday - Taken

August 28th, Tuesday

August 29th, Wednesday - Taken

New Pet Center



