



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

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**Big Air Buckeye DockDogs compete at the Northeast Ohio Sportsman Show**

*Two days of jumping big, high and fast in Amish country*

**GRAFTON, OH** — The dogs will be jumping big, high, and fast at the Northeast Ohio Sportsman Show at the Buckeye Event Center, 624 Henry Street, in Dalton, OH. Held on Friday, September 18 and Saturday, September 19 in the heart of Amish country, this is the first Buckeye DockDogs dock jumping competition in the Akron/Canton/Massillon/Wooster area and will include Big Air, Extreme Vertical and Speed Retrieve competitions.

Big Air is the long jump equivalent for canine athletes. At speeds over 20 mph, Big Air dogs catapult off the end of a 40-foot dock into a 28,000-gallon pool to retrieve a floatable, retrievable object, like their favorite toy. Jump distances are measured from the end of the dock to where the base of the dog's tail breaks the water.

Extreme Vertical (E.V.), is a high jump contest in which the dog launches upward in order to knock down a bumper suspended over the water. Runs are shorter, and speed is reduced in order to achieve maximum height about 8 feet from the dock.

Speed Retrieve™ is a sport for any and all comers. Racing against the clock, each competing dog runs, jumps, swims, and retrieves an object located on an extender at the end of the pool, at a distance of 58 feet from the 20 foot mark on the dock.

When North Canton resident Steve Bacon learned of the Dalton locale of the Sportsman Show, he couldn't contain his enthusiasm: "Woo Hoo! An event in my backyard!" Steve and his family have traveled hundreds of miles in Ohio and the Midwest because of their enjoyment of the sport and the people.

For the Bacons, Buckeye DockDogs is truly a family activity. Steve and Zeus, his two-year old Chocolate Labrador Retriever, compete as Team Zeus, have achieved a Master title, and record their best jump at 23'10". Abbey, his 10-year-old daughter, handles Chocolate Lab Thor under the moniker Team Bacon Bits, has a Junior title, and is proud of their best jump of 17'4" set this summer. Twelve-year-old Taylor and Odin, a rescued Weimaraner, compete as Team Odin, and jumped a personal best this summer of 16'5". Steve's wife Cindy isn't a handler, but caters club cookouts and cheers from the sidelines.

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Add one

Buckeye DockDogs is open to any dog that likes water and fun—regardless of breed, size, shape, or ability. Fun and rewarding for both human and canine, the rules of DockDogs are simple: 1.) only one person may compete at a time; 2.) only one dog may compete at a time; 3.) only one floatable object may be used to throw.

“For anyone who has a dog that loves the water and retrieving, dock jumping is a wonderful way to spend time with your dog, and enjoy great people,” says member Linda Torson of Chippewa Township, just outside of Doylestown. “Buckeye DockDogs is a fabulous organization. The people are always willing to help new folks ‘get their feet wet.’”

Torson has been jumping her three-year-old Chocolate Lab Bosco since they went to a national competition in 2007. “We got interested after seeing a newspaper article on a DockDogs handler and her dog. Bosco was so athletic, we figured it was a no brainer,” explains Torson. She joined Buckeye DockDogs immediately afterwards and now has a National Senior title, a Club Senior title, and two regional legs towards a Master title. Bosco’s best jump is a 20’5” set last summer.

**Northeast Ohio Sportsman Show Wave Times**

Friday, September 18

8:00 AM .....Onsite Registration/Open Dock Practice  
9:00 AM .....Speed Retrieve Competition  
11:30 AM..... Big Air Wave #1  
1:00 PM .....Big Air Wave #2  
3:30 PM .....Big Air Wave #3  
5:30 PM.....Extreme Vertical Competition

Saturday, September 19

8:00 AM .....Onsite Registration Opens/Open Dock Practice  
9:00 AM .....Big Air Wave #4  
11:30 PM ..... Big Air Wave #5  
2:00 PM ..... Big Air Wave #6  
4:30 PM ..... Big Air Amateur Finals  
5:00 PM .....Big Air Semi Pro Finals  
5:30 PM ..... Big Air Pro Finals

Note: Wave times subject to change.

**Buckeye DockDogs Registration and Costs**

Registration in advance at [www.dockdogs.com](http://www.dockdogs.com) for all competitions is encouraged as only 10 admissions per Wave will be held for walkup. Credit cards accepted for on-line registration only. Cash and checks accepted on site for Buckeye DockDogs competition. Online Pre-Registration Fees: \$20.00 per dog per Big Air, Extreme Vertical and Speed Retrieve Wave. Online Pre-Registration Closes: September 15, 2009 at 12:00 pm EST. Onsite Registration Fees: \$25.00 per dog per Big Air, Extreme Vertical and Speed Retrieve Wave. DockDogs membership is not necessary to compete.

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Add two

**About the Show**

Sponsored by the Kidron Sports Center and presented by JW Promotions, the Northeast Ohio Sportsman Show is the fastest growing show of its kind in Ohio and will include entertainment features and educational seminars led by expert speakers on everything from trapping and game calling to ice fishing, and an array of vendors offering outdoor products and services of special interest to Ohio sportsmen. Show Tickets are \$10 for adults; children 12 and under are free. The Buckeye Event Center is located between Wooster and Massillon, near the intersection of US Route 30 and OH Route 94. For more information: [www.ohiosportsmanshow.com](http://www.ohiosportsmanshow.com).

*Formed January 2007, Buckeye DockDogs is the Ohio affiliate chapter of DockDogs® of Medina, Ohio, the independent governing and sanctioning body for regional, national and international dock jumping performance sports.*

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For downloadable media materials to to: [www.buckeyedockdogs.com/resources](http://www.buckeyedockdogs.com/resources)

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