



## 69<sup>th</sup> FORD INDIANAPOLIS BOAT, SPORT & TRAVEL SHOW February 16, 2024 – February 25, 2024

### K-9 DOCK-DIVING EVENT & SHOW DESCRIPTIONS

- K-9 X Games Shows are performances by the **Alpha K-9 U Crew** exhibiting the different Dock-Diving sport disciplines such as Big Air, X-treme Retrieve, X-treme Vertical, and added to the lineup, the newest discipline, X-treme Air.
- Competition Waves is a **Dock-Diving Competition** with all levels of teams, from new to professionals, competing for placements & awards - then the **Top Division Teams** are invited to compete in the Finals grand finale!

### K-9 X GAMES SHOW & COMPETITION VENUE/EVENT INFO

*Alpha K9 U X-Games & K-9 Competition  
At the Indiana State Fair Grounds  
CHAMPIONS PAVILION  
1202 E 38th Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46205*

#### Venue

The 69th Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show - The Largest Sports Show in the Nation. The Alpha K9 U X-Games & Dock-Diving Competition is at the Champions Pavilion at the Indiana State Fairgrounds on East 38th Street and Fall Creek Parkway in Indianapolis.

#### Parking

Parking is available for \$10 per vehicle.

#### Competition Venue Arena

The Alpha K9 U Event & X Games Show is at the **Champions Pavilion**. Handlers and dogs MUST enter through the east door entrance. Admission is free for the HANDLER & K-9 TEAM ONLY - all others must purchase tickets online or at the north gate (main) entrance.

#### Alpha K9 U Handler & Dog Entrance

The Team (Handler/Dog) entrance is on the east side of the Champions Pavilion (There is a side street that runs behind the Champions Pavilion); the entry door will be marked "**Alpha K9 U - Handler/K-9 Entrance**".

## GENERAL INFO

### Veteran Division (2024 Indianapolis Event)

Divisions allow competitors to be competitive at their current level of jumping and advancement. All teams are ranked according to how far the Dog jumps and are rated against teams within their Divisions for Division Placements (e.g., Novice, Jr., Sr., etc.). **Older dogs (eight (8) years or older) have their own Vet's (Veteran) Division\*Please note: You must notify Alpha K9 U staff upon registration if your Team is competing in the Vet's Division OR competing for Division Placements (e.g., Novice, Junior, Senior, etc.).**

### Competition(s) Pre-Registration/Entry Fees

To Pre-register for any or all of the competition waves, the total entry fees are paid in full, provided the wave is not full. The pre-registration entry fee is thirty dollars (\$30) per team/per wave for "Big Air" and thirty dollars (\$30) per Team for X'Air and X'Vertical.

**To pre-register for any/waves disciplines, please don't hesitate to contact the Alpha K9 U office directly at 317-284-1299 during regular business hours. Competition Preregistration Notice! Pre-Reg will be limited to thirty (30) teams per Big Air Wave and fifteen (15) teams competing in X'treme Air & X'treme Vertical.**

### Competition Registration/Entry Fees

Following the preregistration deadline, a team may register onsite one (1) hour before any wave during the Event's day run, *provided the wave is not full* - **The fee to register onsite on the event day is \$35 per team/per wave.** Note: Only Cash or Checks will be accepted onsite.

Refund Policy: All entry fees are non-refundable should the Team decide to withdraw from the competition or should the competition be canceled for reasons beyond the Event's Organizer's control.

### Competition Open Dock (i.e., K-9 Dock-Diving Practice)

The dock is open before most competition wave(s). Please note: you may utilize the available dock time to practice if registered for the subsequent competition wave. *Please refer to the Competition Schedule attached for the designated practice times.*

### Handlers Meeting (Judges Briefing)

An Alpha K9 U staff member or Judge will announce the Handlers' Meeting (Judges Briefing) approximately fifteen (15) minutes at the start of each wave. This meeting is imperative for all Handlers, and attendance is mandatory. All pertinent information will be discussed during this briefing, and the Groups/Running Order will be announced.

### Division Jump Distance

Divisions allow competitors to be competitive at their current level of jumping and advancement. All teams are ranked according to how far the Dog jumps and are rated against teams within their Divisions for Division Placements (e.g., Novice, Jr., Sr., etc.).

**NOVICE: 0'1" - 9'11"**

**JUNIOR: 10'0" - 14'11"**

**SENIOR: 15'0" - 19'11"**

**MASTER: 20'0" - 24'11"**

**ALPHA ELITE: 25'0+**

### Scoring/Official Team/Jump

The competition Team will only consist of one (1) dog and one (1) handler. The official Jump distance is measured from the end of the dock to the point at which the Dog breaks the water closest to the dock (where the tail meets the buttocks), not including the tail. Jump is considered official upon the Handler's Chase Object hitting the water, and the Dog retrieves it. If the Dog jumps before the toss or before a handler "is ready," this is considered a Jump - The Jump IS counted regardless of whether the Dog jumps on its own, without control of the Handler, or if a dog stops and jumps from a stand, jumps off the side of the dock onto the ramp, etc.

### Division Finals Qualification

The Highest Distance Jump of each Team in the Event determines the Divisional Finals Qualification. The Bubble (Rankings) will be posted at the end of every event day. It will list every Team's Highest Distance Jump throughout the Event and whether they are currently qualifying for finals.

Each Event division's Top Five (5) Teams will advance to the Finals.

If two (2) different Handlers compete with the same Dog, and if both Handlers are the top-scoring teams, only the HIGHEST highest-scoring dog/handler team will advance to the finals.

The Highest Distance Jump of each Team of the week and weekend event will be used to determine Division Finals Qualification. **Standings are only temporary and change after every Wave; ONLY the Highest Distance Jump is used to determine the category of the Division/Team. The Bubble will also be posted on the AK9U Website (under the Event's Tab) & the AK9U Facebook Page following the close of the day(s) event.** AK9U will hold two (2) Finals (IE, Week One, Week Two) during this Event.

### Ribbons/Medals & Awards

We recognize the Top Three (3) Teams in each division (Ribbons/Medals/Awards), and participant awards will be given to the remaining Teams who complete a jump. Handlers (or a representative) must be present to receive Ribbons and Medals. Ribbons and Medals (and awards) will NOT be mailed.

## HANDLER/TEAM GENERAL INFO

You are welcome to bring a crate, waste bags, food, treats, water, bowls, towels, blankets, toys, and anything else necessary for your Dog's comfort and care while at the Event.

*For Humans* - You are welcome to bring a change of clothes, socks (you will get wet), chairs, coolers, snack foods, or other items deemed necessary for your comfort and care while at the Event. Please note: all of these things should remain within the staging area.

### Check-In

Immediately upon your arrival, please leave your canine companion(s) in your vehicle. At the same time, you check in at the Alpha K9 U registration desk to confirm show times, workshop timeslot, wave(s), heat(s), etc., and sign the appropriate documents (i.e., Waiver of Liability, etc.).

Following check-in, please remove your Dog (s) from your vehicle as soon as possible. There is a staging area for participants, competitors, and their dogs. ***Spectators are not permitted in the staging area. Only Handlers who have signed the Alpha K9 U Liability Release are allowed in the staging area!***

*Alpha K9 U, LLC reserves the right to use its discretion to make any judgment calls, disqualifications, refusal of service, or corrections necessary to provide accurate and fair event operation and competition results.*

### *The Following Are Some, But Not Limited To, General Rules & Best Practices!*

- DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED outside the designated "competition areas" (without permission from the Alpha K9 U Event Coordinator), in the area of bystanders, audience/spectators, etc. Also, dogs are not allowed inside "THE BOAT/SPORT SHOW" itself or in public places (this includes walking your Dog through the Boat/Travel Show to get to the Champions Pavilion). **ALL K-9s MUST ALWAYS ENTER THROUGH THE EAST ENTRANCE DOOR OF THE CHAMPIONS PAVILION.**
- All dogs must be kept in the competition staging area unless they participate in the X Games Show or Obedience Demo, attend a specific workshop, practice during open dock, and compete.
- All dogs MUST be on a leash no longer than six (6) feet long. **Retractable leashes (i.e., Flexi-Leads) are strictly prohibited.**
- Respect the space of all others at all times! We ask that you maintain a *minimum* of eight (8) feet between your Dog and all other competing dogs (other handlers and bystanders) at all times.
- Dogs cannot "mark," urinate, or defecate anywhere within the venue/facility. If an accident happens, handlers are responsible for cleaning up after their Dog and disposing of all waste OUTSIDE in the bins provided and not cleaning up after your Dog while at the venue (inside or outside), and the hotel sponsors will result in dismissal.
- All choke, prong, and gentle leaders MUST be removed upon reaching the Top of the stairs on the dock during practice and competition.
- Bitches in heat, injured, or ill dogs will not participate. Furthermore, bitches in heat and dogs with an illness are NOT allowed in the event/venue.
- Do NOT drag your Dog up the stairs or onto the dock. If your Dog does not want to jump, DO NOT push, pull, drop, or throw your Dog into the water. DO NOT jump or dive into the pool; any handler doing so will be immediately dismissed and disqualified.
- Handlers verify that their dogs are not known bitters. Handlers are also responsible for alerting Alpha K9 U staff if their Dog is aggressive or has "space issues."
- If a dog bites/snaps at another dog or person, including the Handler, it is the staff's discretion to let the Dog continue participating.
- At no time may a participant or spectator interfere with another participant and touch or interfere with another participant's Dog (or any other person's Dog and a dog in a crate).
- Unsportsmanlike behavior or a harsh correction to a dog (as determined by the staff) will not be tolerated.
- All Handlers should be prepared to perform in front of an audience, be on camera, and dress and act accordingly.

**Complete Competition Information/Guidelines/Regulations can be found at [alphak9u.com/events.html](http://alphak9u.com/events.html)**

# Alpha K9 U Sport Disciplines

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## Big Air

Big Air is a "long jump for dogs." Big Air is the most popular discipline, as this is what most people think of when they hear the term Dock Diving. The Dog, placed anywhere on the forty (40) foot dock, runs and jumps into the water after a retrievable object with ninety (90) seconds to execute each jump.

## X'treme Vertical

X'treme Vertical® is a "high jump" for dogs. A Bumper is suspended from an extender eight (8) feet out from the dock and at heights ranging from four feet six inches (4'6") up to as high as the Dog can jump. The Handler sets the Dog anywhere in front of the twenty-foot (20') mark on the dock and has sixty (60) seconds to complete each Launch/Jump. The Bumper must be snatched cleanly or entirely knocked down into the water by the Dog for the Launch/Jump to be scored as a "make."

## X'treme Retrieve

Xtreme Retrieve is a "timed event." A Bumper is suspended two (2) inches above the water towards the end of the pool (38') from the dock. The Handler sets the Dog at the starting block (at the 10-foot mark) on the dock; when the Christmas Tree (Starting Tree) turns green, the timer starts, and the Handler releases the Dog. The Dog runs down the dock, jumps into the water, and swims to obtain the Bumper. The Dog should have a full mouth grip as they pulls the Bumper cleanly from the extender arm, retrieve the Bumper, and swim back with the Bumper to cross the finish line, at which point the timer stops.

## X'treme Air (Air Retrieve)

X'treme Air is a sport of endurance and skill used for training in other sports disciplines. The Dog, which may be placed anywhere on the forty (40) foot dock, runs and jumps into the water after a bumper that is suspended four (4) feet off the water, starting at a minimum distance of ten (10) feet out. The Dog must grab or knock the Bumper down within two (2) attempts to move to the next level.

## *X'treme Air*

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X'treme Air (also known as Air Retrieve) is the newest dock-diving sport discipline, a sport of endurance and skill used for training in other sports disciplines, but we are happy to announce we have added it to the 2024 competition lineup!

The K-9, which may be placed anywhere on the forty (40) foot dock, runs and jumps into the water after a bumper that is suspended four (4) feet off the water; following a clean "Grab," the Bumper is moved out in one (1) ft increments.

- ✚ The Handler must determine their starting distance before the X'treme Air competition begins (starting at a distance of no less than ten (10) feet).
- ✚ Two (2) Handlers are allowed on the dock in the X'treme Air competition.
- ✚ The K-9 must "Grab" or knock down the Bumper within two (2) attempts at the same distance to move to the next level.
- ✚ Each attempt is scored with a Make or a Miss.
- ✚ A "Make" is scored when the K-9 cleanly grabs or knocks down the Bumper.
- ✚ A "Miss" is when the Bumper is still attached to the apparatus.
- ✚ Each Team will be given ninety (90) seconds to attempt a Grab.
- ✚ A Team with three (3) misses overall is eliminated from the competition.
- ✚ The qualifying score is the distance of the Team's last clean grab or knock-down.
- ✚ The Team with the longest qualifying distance/score places first.



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### K-9 COMPETITION SCHEDULE

#### WEEK ONE (1)

##### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2024

*Open Dock/Big Air Practice: 6:00 p.m.*

**BIG AIR COMPETITION WAVE #1: 6:30 p.m.**

##### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2024

*Open Dock/Big Air Practice: 10:00 a.m.*

**BIG AIR COMPETITION WAVE #2: 11:00 a.m.**

*Open Dock/Big Air Practice: 1:30 p.m.*

**BIG AIR COMPETITION WAVE #3: 2:30 p.m.**

**BIG AIR COMPETITION WAVE #4: 4:30 p.m.**

*X'treme Air Practice: 6:00 p.m.*

**X'TREME AIR COMPETITION (Wk. 1): 6:30 p.m.**

##### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2024

*Open Dock/Big Air Practice: 10:00 a.m.*

**ALPHA K-9 COMPETITION WAVE #5: 10:30 a.m.**

**ALPHA K-9 COMPETITION WAVE #6: 12:30 p.m.**

**ALPHA K-9 U DIVISION FINALS 1 (WK 1): 3:00 P.M.**

#### WEEKEND TWO (2)

##### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2024

*Open Dock/Big Air Practice: 6:00 p.m.*

**BIG AIR COMPETITION WAVE #7: 6:30 p.m.**

##### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024

*Open Dock/Big Air Practice: 10:00 a.m.*

**BIG AIR COMPETITION WAVE #8: 11:00 a.m.**

*Open Dock/ Big Air Practice: 1:30 p.m.*

**BIG AIR COMPETITION WAVE #9: 2:30 p.m.**

*X'treme Sports Practice: 4:30 p.m.*

**X'TREME AIR COMPETITION (Wk. 2): 5:00 p.m.**

**X'TREME VERTCAL COMPETITION: 6:30 p.m.**

##### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024

*Open Dock/Big Air Practice: 10:00 a.m.*

**ALPHA K-9 COMPETITION WAVE #10: 10:30 a.m.**

**ALPHA K-9 COMPETITION WAVE #11: 12:30 p.m.**

**ALPHA K-9 U DIVISION FINALS 2 (WK 2): 3:00 P.M.**