

**JUDGING PROGRAM**  
**84<sup>th</sup> National Specialty**  
**Golden Retriever Club Of America**  
Member Of The American Kennel Club



*The Golden Retrievers are Coming!*  
**2024 GRCA National**

**OCTOBER 1-13, 2024**

(INDOORS/OUTDOORS - UNBENCHED)  
Show Hours 8:00 AM - 11 PM

**Eastern States Exposition (The Big E)**  
**1305 Memorial Ave**  
**West Springfield, MA 01089**

SPONSORED BY



Services and Equipment Furnished by  
**Rau Dog Shows, Ltd.**

P.O. Box 6898 Reading, PA 19610 (610) 376-1880  
email: [info@raudogshows.com](mailto:info@raudogshows.com)

[www.raudogshows.com](http://www.raudogshows.com)

*Overnight and Express Deliveries*  
235 South Second Avenue, West Reading, PA 19611  
American Kennel Club Annually Licensed Superintendents

Kathy Berkheimer	Kristie Zimmerman	Kathy Hague
Ed Smizer	Kitty Burke	Al Staudt, Jr.
Dustin Bates	Daemon Heckman	Dennis Lehman
	Wayne Hallard	

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<b>Thursday, October 1 - 3</b>	
OCT 1 - All Day	<b>GRCA FIELD TRIAL—(Amateur and Qualifying)</b> —Three Maples Retriever & Hunting Dog Training Area, 660 Darrow Rd, Sprakers, NY
OCT 1-6-8 PM	<b>FIELD TRIAL WELCOME TAILGATE</b> – Location TBD <b>FIELD TRIAL—(Open &amp; Derby)</b> Three Maples Retriever & Hunting Dog Training Area, 660 Darrow Rd, Sprakers, NY
OCT 2-All Day	<b>TRACKING TESTS—TD &amp; TDX</b> —University Of Connecticut, Gordon W. Tasker Admissions Bldg, 2131 Hillside Rd., Storrs, CT <b>FIELD TRIAL—(Conclude All Stakes)</b> — Three Maples Retriever & Hunting Dog Training Area, 660 Darrow Rd, Sprakers, NY
OCT 3-All Day	<b>TRACKING TESTS—TDU &amp; VST</b> — University Of Connecticut, Gordon W. Tasker Admissions Bldg, 2131 Hillside Rd., Storrs, CT
OCT 3-5:30 PM	<b>FIELD TRIAL AWARDS BANQUET</b> — GreenView Restaurant, Canajoharie Golf and Country Club, 154 Golf Club Rd, Canajoharie, NY 13317
<b>Friday-Saturday, October 4 - 5</b>	
OCT 4 - All Day	<b>HUNT TEST—2 Master; 2 Junior Stakes</b> , Three Maples Retriever & Hunting Dog Training Area, 660 Darrow Rd, Sprakers, NY
OCT4— All Day	<b>CCA #1</b> (21 entries, plus 3 alternates), Three Maples Retriever & Hunting Dog Training Area, 660 Darrow Rd, Sprakers, NY
OCT 4 - 6-8 pm	<b>HUNT TEST TAILGATE WELCOME DINNER</b> , Three Maples
OCT 5 - All Day	<b>HUNT TEST—1 Senior Stake, Master Stakes Conclude</b> — Three Maples Retriever & Hunting Dog Training Area, 660 Darrow Rd, Sprakers, NY
<b>Sunday, October 6</b>	
All Day	<b>WC/WCX</b> , Nod Brook Wildlife Management Area (aka "Holloway Farm"), Simsbury/Avon, Connecticut
10:00 am	<b>RV MOVE-IN DAY</b>
<b>Monday, October 7</b>	
8:00 am	<b>ACCESS TO "THE BIG E" For Set up Conformation Rings Only – No Exhibitor Set Up</b>
All Day	<b>GRCA AGILITY TRIAL</b> —Star Hill Family Athletic Center, 100 Gerber Dr., Tolland, CT
3:00pm	<b>OLD BOARD MEETING</b> – The Young Building Conference Room
<b>Tuesday, October 8</b>	
8:00 am	<b>VENDOR &amp; GROOMING MOVE-IN DAY</b> , Better Living Center
9:00am-4:00pm	<b>HEALTH CLINICS—DNA Blood Draw</b> —Better Living Center
All Day	<b>CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMATION ASSESSMENT (CCA) 2 &amp; 3</b> – Young Building
5:00 pm	<b>WELCOME DINNER</b> – Young Building (Cocktails at 5:00pm; Dinner at 6:00pm)
7:00 pm	<b>PARADE OF TITLEHOLDERS</b> , Young Bldg. (during dessert at Welcome Dinner)
<b>Wednesday, October 9</b>	
All Day	<b>GRCA SCENT WORK TRIAL</b> , Coliseum
All Day	<b>GRCA OBEDIENCE TRIAL</b> , Mallary Arena
All Day	<b>SWEEPSTAKES – Puppy, Veteran, Gundog</b> , Better Living Center
10-11:30 am	<b>JUDGES EDUCATION SEMINAR</b> , Young Bldg Conference Room. Ringside mentoring in the afternoon in the Better Living Center.
8:00am-4:00pm	<b>HEALTH CLINICS—OFA Eye &amp; PU Clinics</b> – Better Living Center
9:00am-4:00pm	<b>HEALTH CLINICS—DNA Blood Draw</b> —Better Living Center
5:00 pm	<b>ANNUAL MEETING</b> , Young Building (5:00 pm or 1 hour after judging)
<b>Thursday, October 10</b>	
All Day	<b>GRCA OBEDIENCE TRIAL</b> , Mallary Arena
All Day	<b>GRCA SPECIALTY SHOW—Regular &amp; Non-Regular classes</b> - Better Living Center
All Day	<b>JUDGES EDUCATION</b> , ringside mentoring
8:00am-4:00pm	<b>HEALTH CLINICS— DNA Blood Draw</b> —Better Living Center
8:30am-4:00pm	<b>HEALTH CLINICS— PU Clinic</b> —Better Living Center
8:30am-4:00pm	<b>HEALTH CLINICS—OFA Eye Clinic</b> – Mallary Bldg.
6:00pm	<b>TOP 20 INVITATIONAL</b> , Young Building
<b>Friday, October 11</b>	
8:00am-4:00pm	<b>HEALTH CLINICS—OFA Cardiac Clinic, DNA Blood Draw</b> —Better Living Center
All Day	<b>GRCA RALLY TRIAL</b> , Mallary Arena
All Day	<b>GRCA SPECIALTY SHOW—Regular &amp; Non-Regular classes</b> , Better Living Center
All Day	<b>JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP</b> , Better Living Center
All Day	<b>JUDGES EDUCATION</b> , ringside mentoring, Better Living Center
AFTER JUDGING	<b>BREEDERS EDUCATION SEMINAR</b> , Young Building; ½ hour after judging
<b>Saturday, October 12</b>	
All Day	<b>GRCA SPECIALTY SHOW—Regular &amp; Non-Regular classes</b> , Better Living Center
Lunchtime	<b>PARADE OF MAF HEROS</b> , Breed Ring
Afternoon	<b>BEST OF BREED LINE UP, GRAND ENTRY AND PARTIAL JUDGING (IF NEEDED)</b>
<b>Sunday, October 13</b>	
All Day	<b>GRCA SPECIALTY SHOW—BEST OF BREED JUDGING</b> , Better Living Center
<b>Monday, October 14</b>	
8:00 am	<b>New Board Meeting</b> , Young Building Conference Room

## PROGRAM OF JUDGING

**OFFICIAL NOTICE: Substitution of Judges.** Reference Chapter 7, Sections 8 & 13 of AKC Rules: Owner has the right to withdraw his entry and have his entry fee refunded provided notification of his withdrawal is received no later than one half-hour prior to the start of any regular conformation judging.

**Assignment**  
Obedience Brace  
Rally Pairs

**Original Judge**  
Stephanie Podejko  
Elizabeth "Tibby" Chase

**New Judge**  
David Brobst  
Stephanie Podejko

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2024

#### RING ONE - SWEEPSTAKES DOGS

**JUDGE: Ellen Schultz**

Stewards: Jennifer Masterson & Sandy Selander

#### 8:00 AM

- 88 - Sweepstakes, Dogs
- 17 - Veteran Dogs, 8 yrs & under 10 yrs
- 4 - Veteran Dogs, 10 yrs & under 12 yrs
- 3 - Veteran Dogs, 12 years & over
- 14 - Puppy Dogs, 9 mos & under 12 mos
- 5 - Dogs 12 mos & under 15 mos
- 18 - Dogs 15 & under 18 mos
- 27 - Puppy Dogs 6 mos & under 9 mos

Total 88

There will be a 10 minute break at judge's discretion

#### RING ONE - GUNDOG SWEEPSTAKES

**JUDGE: Claire Caro**

Stewards: Dianne Barnes & Margie Sarkin

#### 12:15 PM

- 92 - Gundog Sweepstakes
- 1 - \*\*\* Dog
- 1 - \*\* Dog
- 7 - Master Hunter, Dogs
- 11 - Senior Hunter, Dogs
- 28 - Junior Hunter, Dogs
- 1 - \*\*\* Bitch
- 3 - \*\* Bitch
- 7 - Master Hunter, Bitches
- 11 - Senior Hunter, Bitches
- 22 - Junior Hunter Bitches
- Best in Gundog Sweepstakes

Total 92

There will be a break during Best in Sweepstakes & Best in Veteran Sweepstakes

#### RING TWO - SWEEPSTAKES BITCHES

**JUDGE: Judy Slayton Bachofner**

Stewards: Diane Cooper & Nancy Talbott

#### 8:00 AM

- 134 - Sweepstakes, Bitches
- 24 - Bitches 15 mos & under 18 mos
- 19 - Bitches 12 mos & under 15 mos
- 30 - Puppy Bitches 9 mos & under 12mos
- Lunch (45 minutes)
- 35 - Puppy Bitches 6 mos & under 9 mos
- 4 - Veteran Bitches 12 years & over
- 7 - Veteran Bitches 10 yrs & under 12 yrs
- 15 - Veteran Bitches 8 yrs & under 10 yrs

#### 3:30

- Best in Sweepstakes
- Best in Veteran Sweepstakes

Total 134

### RING THREE - OBEDIENCE

**JUDGE: David Brobst**

#### 8:00 AM

- 10 - Utility "A" 257-258, 260-267

#### 9:40 AM

- 36 - Utility "B" & Preferred Utility P769, P771-P775, 204-206, 208-209, 212, P776, 214-224, 226-228, 233-235, 237-241, 245

Total 46

There will be a lunch break at the judge's discretion

### RING FOUR - OBEDIENCE

**JUDGE: Stephanie Podejko**

#### 8:00 AM

- 48 - Novice "B" 70-87, 89-108, 110-114, 118-121, 124
- 3 - Preferred Novice 701-703

#### After Noon

- 6 - Graduate Novice 499-504, 507

Total 57

There will be a lunch break at the judge's discretion

### RING FIVE - OBEDIENCE

**JUDGE: Elizabeth "Tibby" Chase**

#### 8:00 AM

- 49 - Open "B" & Preferred Open P735-P740, 199, 201, 203-207, P742-P744, P747, 210-235, 238-242, 245

Total 49

There will be a lunch break at the judge's discretion

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### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024

#### RING ONE - REGULAR CLASS DOGS

**JUDGE: Mrs. Barbara Pepper**

Stewards: Ellen Hardin & Mark Rusley

#### 11:00 AM

- 77 - Regular Class Dogs
- 20 - Bred By Exhibitor Adult Dogs
- 6 - Novice Dogs
- 15 - Amateur Owner Handler Dogs
- Lunch (45 minutes)
- 20 - American Bred Dogs
- 16 - Bred By Exhibitor Puppy Dogs

Total 77

(THU CONT)

**RING TWO - REGULAR CLASS BITCHES**

**JUDGE: Ms. Pluis Davern**

Stewards: Nancy Kelly, Eileen Oshiro, Jeffrey Pepper

**8:00 AM**

- 138 - Regular Class Bitches
- 39 - Open Bitches
- 27 - 15 mos & under 18 mos Bitches
- 20 - 12 mos & under 15 mos Bitches  
Lunch (45 minutes)
- 21 - 9 mos & under 12 mos Bitches
- 31 - 6 mos & under 9 mos Bitches

Total 138

**RING THREE - OBEDIENCE**

**JUDGE: David Brobst**

**8:00 AM**

- 4 - Veteran Utility 601-602, 651, 658

**8:40 AM**

- 7 - Graduate Open 551-553, 555

**9:30 AM**

- 22 - Veteran Novice 400-401, 403-412, 425, 427-434, 437

**After Noon**

- 10 - Brace (units) 801-802, 803-804, 805-806, 807-808, 809-810, 811-812, 813-814, 815-816, 817-818, 819-820
- 7 - Teams 851-854, 857-860, 862-866, 868-872, 874-877, 880-884, 885-889

Total 50

There will be a lunch break at the judge's discretion

**RING FOUR - OBEDIENCE**

**JUDGE: Stephanie Podejko**

**8:00 AM**

- 21 - Open "A" 133-148, 152-155, 159

**10:55 AM**

- 3 - Veteran Open 500, 551-552

**After Noon**

- 16 - Versatility 601-613, 615, 617-618
- 7 - Teams (units) 851-854, 857-860, 862-866, 868-872, 874-877, 880-884, 885-889

Total 47

There will be a lunch break at the judge's discretion

**RING FIVE - OBEDIENCE**

**JUDGE: Elizabeth "Tibby" Chase**

**8:00 AM**

- 7 - Novice "A" 5-6, 8-12

**9:00 AM**

- 40 - Beginner Novice "B" 951-972, 974-979, 981-982, 984, 986-993

**After Noon**

- 8 - Beginner Novice "A" 901-903, 905-908, 910

Total 55

There will be a lunch break at the judge's discretion

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2024**

**RING ONE - REGULAR CLASS DOGS**

**JUDGE: Mrs. Barbara Pepper**

Stewards: Jennifer Masterson & Cathy Story

**10:00 AM**

- 101 - Regular Class Dogs
- 33 - Open Dogs
- 19 - 15 mos & under 18 mos Dogs  
Lunch (45 minutes)
- 11 - 12-15 mos. Dogs
- 14 - 9 mos & under 12 mos Dogs
- 24 - 6 mos & under 9 mos Dogs

Total 101

**RING ONE- JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP**

**JUDGE: Ms. Lauren Texter**

Stewards: Judy Knobbe & Eileen Oshiro

**12:00 NOON**

- 17 - Junior Showmanship
- 2 - JS Master
- 6 - JS Open Sr 15-18
- 4 - JS Open Int 12-15
- 1 - JS Open Jr 9-12
- 2 - JS Novice Sr 15-18
- 1 - JS Novice Int 12-15
- 1 - JS Novice Jr 9-12

17 Total

**RING TWO - REGULAR CLASS BITCHES**

**JUDGE: Ms. Pluis Davern**

Stewards: Judy Knobbe & Eileen Oshiro

**8:30 AM**

- 134 - Regular Class Bitches
- 43 - Bred By Exhibitor Adult Bitches
- 42 - American Bred Bitches  
Lunch (45 minutes)
- 25 - Bred By Exhibitor Puppy Bitches
- 11 - Novice Bitches
- 13 - Amateur Owner Handler Bitches

Total 134

**RING TWO - WINNERS DOG**

**JUDGE: Mrs. Barbara Pepper**

**3:30 PM**

- Winners Dog

**RING TWO - WINNERS BITCH**

**JUDGE: Ms. Pluis Davern**

**Following Winners Dog**

- Winners Bitch

(FRI CONT)  
**RING THREE - RALLY**  
**JUDGE: Stephanie Podejko**

**8:00 AM**

3 - Choice 844, 855, 868

**8:25 AM**

40 - Master 600, 705, 815, 819, 822-833, 835-841, 844, 851-853, 867-869, 871-876, 883, 886, 888, 895

**10:45 AM**

9 - Excellent "A" 700-705, 707-708, 710

**11:30 AM**

57 - Excellent "B" 600, 620, 806-812, 814-833, 835-838, 851-853, 862-866, 869, 871-876, 884-886, 888, 892-895, 897

**After Noon**

7 - Pairs 660-661, 663-664, 667-668, 673-674, 676-677, 679-680, 685-686

Total 116

There will be a lunch break at the judge's discretion

**RING FOUR - RALLY**  
**JUDGE: Elizabeth "Tibby" Chase**

**8:00 AM**

23 - Novice "A" 5-6, 8-11, 14-17, 24-29, 32-33, 35, 38, 40-41, 43

**9:20 AM**

90 - Novice "B" 200-216, 218-264, 266-273, 275-276, 278-281, 283-289, 291-295

**After Noon**

9 - Teams 740-744, 746-750, 760-763, 765-768, 770-773, 775-779, 781-785, 787-791, 794-798

Total 122

There will be a lunch break at the judge's discretion

**RING FIVE - RALLY**  
**JUDGE: David Brobst**

**8:00 AM**

40 - Intermediate 300-328, 330, 332-338, 340-341

**10:10 AM**

64 - Rally Advanced "B" 600, 320, 710, 800-804, 814-833, 835-838, 846, 848, 851-853, 858-861, 865-866, 869, 871-882, 886, 888-891, 894-895, 897

**After Noon**

11 - Advanced "A" 400-401, 403-407, 410-412, 414

115 Total

There will be a lunch break at the judge's discretion

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**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2024**  
**RING ONE - NON-REGULAR CLASS DOGS**  
**JUDGE: Mrs. Barbara Pepper**

Stewards: Patricia Flanagan & Nancy Kelly

**8:00 AM**

2 - Field Trial Dogs  
14 - Hunting Retriever Dogs  
17 - Veteran 8 yrs and under 10 yrs Dogs  
5 - Veteran 10 yrs & under 12 yrs Dogs  
3 - Veteran 12 years and over Dogs  
24 - Stud Dogs

Total 65

**RING TWO - NON-REGULAR CLASS BITCHES**  
**JUDGE: Ms. Pluis Davern**

Stewards: Judy Knobbe, Eileen Oshiro, Jeffrey Pepper

**8:00 AM**

20 - Brood Bitches  
7 - Hunting Retriever Bitches  
5 - Veteran 12 years and over Bitches  
9 - Veteran 10 yrs & under 12 yr Bitches  
16 - Veteran 8 yrs, under 10 yrs Bitches

Total 57

**RING TWO - PARADE**

**11:30 AM**

- Golden Retriever Lifetime Study Hero Parade

**RINGS ONE & TWO - BEST OF BREED**  
**JUDGE: Ken Matthews**

Stewards: Ellen Hardin, Eileen Oshiro, Nancy Kelly, Jennifer Masterson, Nancy Talbott

**12:00 PM**

- Best of Breed Lineup for Check-in

**12:30 PM**

200 - Best of Breed Competition (121-79)  
- Check in (all entrants in Catalog Order)  
- Groups H - L (Bitches)  
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Cut Bitches

See Ring 1, Sunday @ 8:00 AM

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2024**  
**RINGS ONE & TWO - BEST OF BREED**  
**JUDGE: Ken Matthews**

Stewards: Ellen Hardin, Eileen Oshiro, Nancy Kelly, Jennifer Masterson, Nancy Talbott

**8:00 AM**

200 - Best of Breed Competition (121-79, cont)  
- Groups A - G (Dogs)  
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Cut Dogs  
- Group M (Non-Regular Class Winners)  
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Cut Bitches  
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Cut Dogs  
- Conclusion

Total 200

There will be a lunch break at the judge's discretion

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**EVENT CHAIRS**

Conformation..... Nancy Talbott  
[Belgoldnt@gmail.com](mailto:Belgoldnt@gmail.com)  
Obedience & Rally..... Karen Scotti  
[karen.scotti@charter.net](mailto:karen.scotti@charter.net)

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## Points Available for Reserve

### JUDGES

David Brobst	Glen Allen, VA
Elizabeth "Tibby" Chase	Belchertown, MA
Ms. Claire Caro	Elizabeth, CO
Ms. Pluis Davern	Royal Oak, CA
Ken Matthews	Bellingham, WA
Mrs. Barbara Pepper	Swannanoa, NC
Stephanie Podejko	Central Square, NY
Mrs Ellen Schultz	Bellaire, TX
Mrs. Judy Slayton Bachofner	Washougal, WA
Ms. Lauren Texter	Irvine, CA

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### OFFICIAL SHOW PHOTOGRAPHER

Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Scent work  
Carrie DeJan  
Act Two Photography  
corgiland@gmail.com  
<https://www.Carriedejan.smugmug.com>

ALL RIGHTS to televise, videotape, advertise, photograph, promote and otherwise exploit this event are vested in the GRCA or in persons to whom assignments of such rights have been made in writing by the club. All persons and animals on the Show Grounds at any time while the show is in progress do, by attending this show or participating therein, grant the club the right to photograph, televise, videotape, audiotape, or otherwise use their likeness and voice in any manner without further release or consent.

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### EMERGENCY INFORMATION FOR ALL EVENTS AT THE BIG E

**An automated external defibrillator (AED)** is on the grounds of these events. The Better Living Center has 2: One near door 7 and another near door 9. The Young Building has one next to door 6. The Mallary Arena has 2: One near Pole 32 in the center of the building and one near the restrooms.

### ALL OTHER TIMES CALL 911

#### Mercy Medical Center

271 Carew St., Springfield, MA 01104  
(413) 748-9000 (3.8 miles)

(Directions: Depart & head toward West St.; Bear right onto West St.; Turn right onto M-147/Memorial Ave.; At the roundabout, take the 2nd exit for Memorial Bridge toward Springfield; Turn right onto Hall of Fame Ave.; Take the ramp on the left for I-91 North and head toward Holyoke; Merge onto I-91N; At exit 6, head right on the ramp for I-90/I-291 East/US-20 East toward Boston; Keep right to get onto Dwight St.; Turn left onto Dwight St.; Turn right onto MA-20A/Carew St; Turn right onto Cass St.; Bear left onto Carew St.; Turn Right- arrive at destination)

#### Veterinarians On Call with 24 Hour Service

#### Veterinary Emergency & Specialty Hospital

134 Capital Dr., Suite A, West Springfield, MA 01089  
(413) 665-4911 (6 miles)

(Directions: Depart and head toward West St.; Bear right onto West St.; At roundabout, take the 3rd exit for US-5N toward Holyoke/US-5 North; Turn right onto Ashley Ave.; Turn right onto Capital Dr.; Turn left to stay on Capital Dr.; Turn right – arrive at destination)

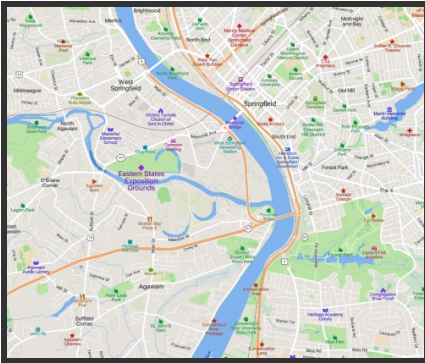
#### New England Veterinary Center & Cancer Care

955 Kennedy Rd., Windsor, CT 06095  
(860) 735-3498 (18 miles)

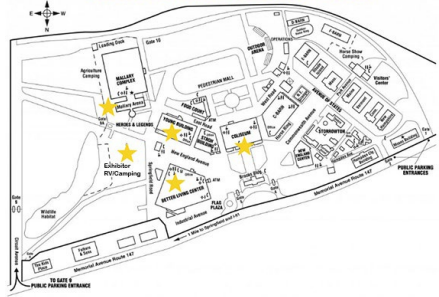
(Directions: Head west on Industrial Ave toward East Rd.; Turn right onto East Rd.; Turn right onto MA-147/Memorial Ave.; At the roundabout take the 1st exit for US-5 South and head toward Hartford, CT/Longmeadow; Keep left, heading toward CT/Hartford/Longmeadow; Keep straight to stay on I-91S; At Exit 41 & 39, head on the ramp right ad follow signs for Center Street; Turn left onto S. Center St toward Bradley Airport/Kennedy Rd., Windsor; Turn right onto Center St.; Keep straight to get onto Archer Rd.; Turn left onto Kennedy Rd.; Turn right – arrive at destination on the right.)

## DIRECTIONS TO EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION GROUNDS

From the North - Take I-91 to West Springfield - Exit 13S (Sign reads "Route 5, Riverdale St., West Springfield"). South on Route 5 to Route 147 West. Follow Route 147 West for 1 mile to Show Grounds and "DOG SHOW" sign on left.  
**From the South** - Take I-91 North to Springfield - Exit 3, Mile 4 (Sign reads "Route 5, Columbus Ave., Agawam, West Springfield"). Follow Route 5 North to Route 147 West, then proceed as above.  
**From the East or West** - Take Mass. Pike (I-90) to Exit 4, Follow signs marked "Route 5, Riverdale St., West Springfield". Take Route 5 South to Route 147 West, and then proceed as above.



Eastern States Exposition Center



## LODGING

### Local Hotels

**La Quinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham**  
100 Congress St., Springfield, MA 01104  
2.1 miles from Big E

### Residence Inn by Marriott

64 Border Way, West Springfield, MA 01089  
4.1 miles from Big E

### Hampton Inn & Suites

851 E. Columbus Avenue, Springfield, MA 01105  
2.5 miles from Big E

### Sheraton Springfield Monarch Place Hotel

1 Monarch Pl., Springfield, MA 01144  
1.8 miles from Big E

### Marriott Springfield Downtown (no pets allowed)

2 Bolder Way, Springfield, MA 01103  
2.1 miles from Big E

### Other Hotels

**Fairfield Inn & Suites Springfield Enfield**  
1 Bright Meadow Blvd., Enfield, CT  
(860) 741-2211 (7.9 mi from Big E)

### Red Carpet Inn

560 Riverdale St., West Springfield, MA  
(413) 733-6678 (1.2 mi from Big E)

### Red Roof Inn Plus

1254 Riverdale St., West Springfield, MA  
(413) 733-6678 (5.8 mi from Big E)

### Red Roof Inn

5 Hazard Ave., Enfield, CT  
855-516-1090 (10.4 mi from Big E)

## NOTICES AND GUIDELINES

**Overnight Crating in Better Living Center:** If you are leaving dogs overnight, each crate must have Name, Address and Contact Number. Conformation rings and vendors will be located in the Better Living Center. All buildings will be closed and locked at 9:30 pm each night or one (1) hour after the conclusion of judging all events each day (whichever is latest).

**PLEASE REFRAIN FROM EXHIBITING SICK DOGS. Dogs that are seen by the show committee or reported to the show committee as coughing or exhibiting other symptoms of illness will be excused without refund of any fees.**

**For All Events:** Exhibitors will be permitted entrance to the Better Living Center on Tuesday, October 8 at 8:00 AM. **Volunteers are needed to assist in setting up BLC on Monday, October 7 at 8am. Contact the volunteer coordinator if you wish to volunteer to help set up. Judy Knobbe – wsh2bheard@gmail.com**

**Private Exercise Pens** will not be permitted in the event building. **Outdoor Public Exercise Pens** will be provided near most major entrances to the buildings.

**BATHING OF DOGS** will be located outside the Better Living Building. Five Booster Baths will be set up with access to cold water only. Please bring your own shampoo, conditioner, towels, etc. Dogs are not permitted in the building restrooms at any time. The Booster Baths will be available for purchase after the conclusion of the National Specialty. Please inquire at the GRCA store. No crates or unattended dogs at ringside. No Grooming ringside.

All Trophies and Prizes must be claimed on the day of the events. None will be mailed. The Club reserves the right to substitute unavailable prizes with ones of equal or greater value.

**Notice: Exhibitors Must Carry Copy of Rabies Certificate.**

**Exhibitors are responsible** for the care & supervision of their children on the show grounds. Strollers are not permitted. Please refrain from allowing your children to approach or pet any dog without permission.

**All dogs entered** in or brought onto the ground of these events must be appropriately vaccinated against such diseases as parvovirus, distemper and hepatitis. State law requires that all dogs over 6 months of age be vaccinated against rabies. **Proof of such vaccinations may be requested. All exhibitors should carry valid proof of vaccinations.** You may also wish to consider vaccination against kennel cough, Lyme disease and leptospirosis.

**PRODUCTS containing CBD** of any kind may not be sold or consumed on the Fairgrounds. This includes dietary supplements, foods, beverages, topicals or any other items that include CBD regardless of the source. Promoters, exhibitors or vendors who attempt to sell or sample CBD products of any type will be asked to vacate the property.

**Participants and Visitors** must respect the authority of both the Eastern States Staff and the Show Officials. Failure to do so will result in ejection from the show grounds and/or Event Committee Hearings. Participants and visitors must abide by posted signs on the grounds. Certain areas will be marked by Please Do Not Allow Animals on Grass and must be respected.

**Show Buildings** are designated as **NO SMOKING** areas. The West Springfield Fire Department will enforce this regulation. Please cooperate.

**Eastern States Exposition** retains all food concession, beverage and catering rights on the show grounds. Catering of beverage and/or food services for groups is not permitted unless such beverage and food is arranged for and provided by Eastern States Catering services. This does not preclude individuals from providing their own beverages and food.

**Dogs must be removed** from the show site immediately following Best of Breed judging on Sunday, October 13.

**Enforcement of the State Laws** regarding **Handicapped Parking** areas will also be strict. Please do not park in these areas unless your vehicle is so designated, or it will be towed.

**START CLEAN - STAY CLEAN.** Handlers and exhibitors are required to clean up their grooming and parking areas after the shows & to keep them clean during the shows. Anyone in violation of this "Clean Policy Code" will be warned to clean his/her area. Should the violation continue, the set-up may be removed from the grooming area.

**Should the Show Bench Committee** determine that any dog enclosed in a vehicle is in danger, we reserve the right to break into that vehicle. Anyone parking on the show site parking lots must accept full responsibility for damages should this occur and waive any claim for damages against the Golden Retriever Club of America® or its members.

**Exhibitor and visitor parking** will be in designated areas only. No cones are to be used in these parking areas. No parking on roadways or next to buildings except where designated. Violators will be towed at the owner's expense.

**All persons attending** this dog show hereby waive any claim for damages against the AKC, the GRCA, Rau Dog Shows, all other contracted staff, Eastern States Exposition and its employees, and any workers and volunteers.

**The buildings at The Big E** will open each morning of the shows at 6:00 AM and will close at 9:30 PM every night except on Thursday and Sunday. On Thursday, the Better Living Building will close one hour after the conclusion of the Top 20 and on Sunday, the Better Living Building will close two hours after the conclusion of BOB.

**There will be no ringside crating.**

**Cooperation with all club members, Event Committee members, RV parking personnel and Eastern State Exposition Security** is mandatory. Following instructions and directions is required at all times. Using rude, abusive, or foul language or arguing or behaving objectionably against club officials, RV parking personnel or Eastern States Exposition Security will result in the attendee being immediately subject to an Event Committee Hearing and/or being removed from the grounds. **THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**No extended Flexi Leads** allowed in any building.

**When possible,** please leave strollers outside. Do not bring them into the building.

**No practicing** in the rings at any time

**Anyone in violation** of a restriction pursuant to AKC rules or policies, or the law can be asked to leave the grounds. If the person fails to leave, the local authorities will be contacted. In addition, if the club believes laws, restrictions, or conditions of release are being violated by an individual's attendance or participation in AKC events, the local authorities will be contacted immediately as they have the authority of enforcement."

**DOGS MAY ARRIVE** any time prior to their scheduled time of judging. **DOGS NOT REQUIRED** for further judging will be excused.

**JUDGES WILL NOT WAIT FOR ANY DOG HOLDING UP A CLASS.** Owners or agents alone are responsible for the presence of their dogs in the judging ring when their classes are called to be judged. The show-giving club and the superintendent have no obligation or responsibility for providing service through a public address system or stewards or runners for the purpose of calling or locating dogs that are not brought into the ring when required.

**ALL DOGS PRESENT** must be held on leash or confined to their crates except when being judged or when in the exercising ring. **THE SHOW COMMITTEE/SUPERINTENDENT** will use due care and diligence for the welfare of dogs and exhibitors, but will not be responsible for, nor assume any liability in the event of an accident or misfortune to either dogs or exhibitors participating in this show.

AKC Weekend Club Hotline: (919) 816-3955 or visit the AKC Event Cancellations page at:

<https://www.akc.org/sports/event-cancellations/> for event cancellation information

**Exhibitors Should Follow Their Veterinarians' Recommendation** to assure their dogs are free of internal and external parasites, any communicable diseases and have appropriate vaccinations. Effective January 1, 2009 Refund and Cash award checks are void after 180 days and will NOT be re-issued.