

Is Your Dog the Best in Park?

Find out at the **My Dog Loves Central Park Country Fair** on **September 24, 2011** at the **Naumburg Bandshell** in Central Park, located mid-Park at 72nd Street.

The **Best in Park Competition** begins with three qualifying rounds: Walk with Me, Reliable Recall, and Sit to Greet.

Only 12-15 dogs can compete for each one (and only one) of these competitions. The top two winners in each qualifying round advance to the Final Round.

Each dog will be in the ring for five minutes or less, and specific instructions for the event will be given by the MC on site. In addition to specific tasks in each round, the following criteria will be used to evaluate your dog:

- Leash should be loose and both you and your dog relaxed and having fun!
- Commands should be stated as few times as possible (only once is best).
- Dogs should be focused on the owner and the task at hand.

WALK WITH ME: 11:00 – 11:30

Each contestant begins at the starting point with his or her dog in a sit. The designated walking course is marked with cones. Dogs should maintain a loose leash as you turn through the course and pass distractions.

RELIABLE RECALL: 12:30 – 1:00

Your dog will be separated from you on the opposite side of the ring and then must COME right away when called. You must be able to easily get hold of your dog on arrival. (The ol' COME AND GO won't get you the prize.)

SIT TO GREET: 1:45 – 2:15

Your dog must sit politely by your side as four different people walk by with distractions. The people will gently pet your dog and he/she must not jump up (even if it is out of love)!

FINAL ROUND to qualify for BEST IN PARK: 2:30 – 3:00

If you and your dog advance to the Best in Park competition, you will be asked to complete a set of "petiquette" commands that will prove your dog truly is the best in Central Park!