**The Big E Information**

**\*Please Enter by AUGUST 15 \***

This trial will be held at The Big E (Eastern States Exposition), a large agricultural fair in Springfield MA.

Entry Fee $25 per dog per run. NEBCA and USBCHA sanctioned.

This is a points and time trial, Open only, with 7-10 obstacles finishing with a pen.

There will be ribbons, prizes and substantial payback.

It is in an indoor (but not climate controlled) rodeo-type dirt floored arena (the Coliseum) located near the back side of the (quite extensive) fairgrounds.

There will be two trials, one starting at 11 AM and one starting at 3 PM. The amount of down time between trials will depend on the number of entries. First handler’s meeting at 10:45 AM

You may enter up to three dogs per handler.

Sheep will be Gulf Coast Native belonging to Heartstone Farm, the same sheep you may have seen at other New England fair trials.

Crating will be around the arena edge in a cordoned off area i.e. away from spectators. All handlers will receive a parking pass and Fair entry ticket. The designated parking area is not TOO far from the Coliseum, although where you can park will depend on how early you arrive. Before 9 am you may drive in to the Coliseum to unload dogs and crates. After the trial you may NOT bring a vehicle in so you will need a dolly or be able to carry your crate back to your car along a busy fair “street”. Handlers with ADA requests for accommodation in getting themselves, their dogs or their gear to and from the Coliseum please contact the trial host.

This is a very public-facing event and good sportsmanship as well as attention to the welfare of dogs and sheep must be practiced at all times.

The entry is on line. Click the link or go to thebige.com and follow the path to competitions entry. There is a link for “online entry” and one for “sheep dog trial entry”. Choose the latter. The entry form will show three trials but there are only two so leave trial 3 blank.

For questions contact Pam Mueller at [pjmueller1@gmail.com](mailto:pjmueller1@gmail.com) or test 607-243-4291