

**Dog Days of Summer XXX Handicapping Tournament  
at Canterbury Park  
Saturday and Sunday—August 22-23, 2026**

**The tournament:**

The 2026 Dog Days of Summer Handicapping Tournament is a two-day handicapping tournament held at Canterbury Park, Shakopee, Minn. Play begins on Saturday, August 22 at 10:00 a.m. and continues through Sunday, August 23 (contest ends at approx. 5:30 p.m. central, Aug. 23). A list of tournament races will be made available and no wagers which involve a post time later than the final contest race will be accepted. Total cost per entry is \$500\* of which \$100 is entry fee and \$400 is live bankroll which will be the beginning wagering bankroll for the two-day tournament. Players may wager on all contest-eligible tracks and pools offered at Canterbury Park through the tote system including all straight wagers and all exotics. Any money won through tournament wagers can then be wagered in subsequent bets.

Order of contest finish will be determined by final bankroll and prizes will be awarded as follows:

**1<sup>st</sup>)** National Horseplayers Championship entry (NHC\*) plus \$1,000

NHC entry includes \$500 for travel plus accommodations in Las Vegas to compete in the NHC March 5 – 7, 2027.

**2<sup>nd</sup>)** National Horseplayers Championship entry (NHC\*) plus \$750

NHC entry includes \$500 for travel plus accommodations in Las Vegas to compete in the NHC.

\*To be eligible to win an NHC entry, **contest participants must be registered NHC Tour members prior to the start of tournament play.** NHC Tour membership has a \$50 annual fee and players can register on Aug. 22 but advance registration at [www.ntra.com](http://www.ntra.com) is recommended.

**3<sup>rd</sup>)** \$500

If the number of entries exceeds 180, one additional National Horseplayers Championship entry will be awarded to third place finisher.

**Final bankrolls will be returned to each player at the conclusion of the tournament.** Participants that are not registered NHC Tour members will play for cash prizes only.

**To enter:**

**Cash only.** Entries may be submitted on Aug. 22, 2026. Advance entry is not necessary as there is no limit to the total number of entries. **Each individual player may have a maximum of three entries.**

**Registrations and deadlines:**

All players must register at the Dog Days of Summer registration entry area **no later than 3:00 p.m.** on Saturday, Aug. 22. Participants cannot make tournament wagers until registration is complete and account card is assigned.

Contest participants must present the \$500 fee to register along with picture ID and social security number or Tax ID Number. Each participant will be assigned an account card and a \$400 account from which they will make their wagers. **No additional money may be added to the original \$400 bankroll other than through winning wagers.**

Should there be a two-way tie for first, prize money will be divided equally, each will receive an NHC entry. If more than two players tie for first and there are fewer than 180 entries, order of finish would be determined by Day 1 (Aug. 22) bankrolls with preference to highest bankroll.

**Players with more than one entry are only eligible to win one entry to the NHC.** Should a player qualify by money won for multiple NHC berths, the berth will be awarded to the player with the next largest bankroll. Players with multiple entries are eligible for all prize money.

**NHC TOUR POINTS:** This is an official NHC Tour event. Per the NTRA, NHC Tour points will be awarded in accordance with the official 2026 NHC Tour rules which can be found at [www.nhctour.com](http://www.nhctour.com).

#### **Tournament rules:**

No player may have more than three entries.

**Players must make their own wagers through designated self-service wagering machines.** Players must place all wagers personally. No person shall directly or indirectly act as an intermediary, transmitter or agent in placing wagers for the player, unless authorized by Canterbury Park and for good reason shown.

Play begins on Saturday, Aug. 22 at 10:00 a.m. and continues through Sunday, Aug. 23. The contest ends at approximately 5:30 p.m CDT. A list of tournament races will be made available and no wagers which involve a post time later than the final contest race will be accepted. This includes serial wagers at tracks that may begin before that time but conclude following the final race.

#### **All wagering will be conducted through Canterbury Park's Account Wagering System.**

Each entrant will be issued a two-day personal account with a starting bankroll of \$400. The account of each entrant will be kept through the tote system on a running balance basis. **No other monies can be deposited into the contest account. Any entrant found to have added non-contest monies/winnings to their account will be immediately disqualified from the tournament.** A wager-by-wager history of each entrant's account will be run on a regular basis. Canterbury Park contest officials will then verify that no additional deposits have been made to any contest accounts before declaring any winners.

Entrants will be responsible for providing their social security number or Tax ID Number to start the two-day account and participate in the Dog Days Tournament. **Canterbury Park's Account Wagering System will accept wagers through designated self-service wagering machines.** All tournament wagers must be made through these designated machines using the assigned account number.

All wagers will be monitored by the Canterbury Park Mutuels Department.

Liability for any taxes incurred from winning wagers are the sole responsibility of player. **Should a winning contest wager result in I.R.S. tax withholdings, the amount withheld will NOT count toward the player's total bankroll nor will that amount be available for wagering.**

#### **Wagering structure:**

- Players must wager a minimum of \$200 per day.
- **All types of wagers accepted by AmTote are valid.**
- The beginning bankroll is \$400. Any money won via contest wagers can be used for additional wagers.

All prizes are distributed according to bankroll--not number of winners.  
Bankroll of all entrants will be posted on a regular basis after entries close.

Final standings will be posted as soon as possible following the final contest race.

**Balances cannot be withdraw from account until standings are final.**

All wagers will be audited at conclusion of tournament to verify winners.

All playing and betting disputes will be resolved by Dog Days staff.

**Canceling an incorrect or mistaken wager is not always possible due to tote system constraints.** Canterbury staff will make every attempt to assist in the event that an incorrect wager is placed, however it may not always be possible to cancel a wager prior to a race.

Scratches will be handled according to host track rules.

### **Electronic failure.**

In the event of electronic failure, including transmitting of pools, failure of phone lines, and wagering machine malfunction, or other unforeseen technical problems, wagers will be treated according to the Minnesota Racing Commission rules.

### **Requirements of Players:**

Entrants must be 21 or older by January 1, 2027.

Affidavits will be required of all winners. **Liability for any taxes incurred from winning wagers or through prize winnings are the sole responsibility of player.**

No prize money paid without social security number or Tax ID Number.

\*Trip to Las Vegas is valid during the NHC tournament only March 5 - 7. A player's inability to attend the NHC will result in forfeiture of the airfare, accommodations, and NHC tournament entry (no cash value). The National Horseplayers Championship qualifiers must be in attendance at the NHC on each day of the event.

### **Ineligibility:**

The following people are ineligible to play: AmTote employees. Any person forbidden to play the horses at Canterbury Park. Employees of NTRA are ineligible to participate in the National Horseplayers Championship. Eligibility of finalists for the National Horseplayers Championship shall be established by NTRA and shall apply to the National Championship event.

### **Cancellation of tournament:**

Canterbury Park management reserves the right to cancel the tournament for any reason at any time.

Canterbury Park assumes no liability for any unforeseen occurrence during the tournament.

Canterbury Park reserves the right to interpret all questions and conditions regarding the tournament, without claim for damages or recourse of any kind. All questions regarding the tournament, which are not specifically listed under these rules will be decided by Canterbury Management. Those decisions will be final.

**Canterbury Handicapper of the Year Points:** winner: 5 points; 2<sup>nd</sup>: 3 points; 3<sup>rd</sup>: 2 points