

Pug Heaven

Annual Pug Party raises money for San Diego rescue group.

Maureen Kochan

Call it Pug paradise.

More than 500 Pugs got the chance to feast on meatballs at the Pug Caf, enjoy special doggie manicures and even show off their competitive sides at the 15th Annual Pug Party, held this weekend at the Del Mar Fairgrounds in San Diego.

The popular event, which outgrew a backyard several years ago, draws thousands of dog lovers and raises money for Pug Rescue of San Diego County. The days most popular competitions included the Cupcake Chomp, Wet T-Shirt Contest and the Best Baby Pug Costume contest for dogs under 1 year old.

The Pugs have a lot of fun, says Lynn Underwood, who entered her parents 15-year-old Pug, Tina, in the Most Distinguished Senior Pug contest. And its fun to see so many people come from all over.

Barbara McNair, president of the Pug rescue, agrees. I hope they get more joy out of owning a Pug than they did before.

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