



DUCK Rogers (right) took 3 of 4 races this past weekend to tie up the season series at 7-7 with DUCKtor Dre (left) heading into this final weekend of racing at Maris Farms.

A delightful duck dual

DUCK Rogers' takes 3 of 4 races, heads into final weekend tied with DUCKtor Dre (7 wins each) for season series title

It's been like a pair of prize boxing fighters, neither able to quite put the other away, even after dominant rounds by each fighter. Such has been the case between DUCKtor Dre and DUCK Rogers during the first four weekends of live duck racing in the Iron 'DUCK' Championship series at Maris Farms.

Both speedsters – viewed as the top two contenders for a season series title – immediately found themselves behind Michael QUACKson after weekend one. QUACKson won two out of the first four races, while Dre and Rogers split at one win apiece. Weekend two saw Dre and Rogers each win two of the four and finish tied at 3 wins apiece; then, last weekend, Dre looked to create a little separation by winning 3 of 4 races and jumping to a commanding 6 wins to 4 lead over Rogers; well, this past weekend, it was Rogers' turn as the sleek brown fowl snapped back momentum with 3 wins out of 4 races himself to tie things up at 7-7 heading into this final weekend's four races.

"It's come 'down' to who has the hot wings, I believe," said longtime race announcer Dennis Riley. "Hopefully, these two can compete this final weekend without any 'fowl' play as I know there's been quite a bit of quack-smack talking between them this week."

The extra weekend this season has turned out to be a blessing in disguise with the unexpected tie between both ducks after the normal 4 weekends of racing.

"I'm happy for the momentum I built this past weekend," DUCK Rogers told a contingent of media following Sunday's final race. "And with the extra week, I believe I've got the advantage as far as fitness and confidence."

"Don't count your ducklings before they're hatched," snapped an offended DUCKtor Dre when told of DUCK Rogers' bold analysis. "I had the momentum heading into this past weekend, and look what happened. I just let up a bit, and it cost me. Not gonna happen this weekend. I've been watching film and working on a lot of tweaks. I'll be ready!"

Maris Farms raises funds for the Fisher House of Seattle with its live duck races – it's the third annual "Iron Duck" Championship series.

These top tier "DUCK-athletes" – each named after a singing star or actor – start at one end of an old cow feeder by swimming 100 feet one way, then climbing a ramp and "running/fluttering" back to where they started. First one back is the winner. In all, there will be 16 races during the season (Saturdays/Sundays only, two per day) at 1 pm and 3 pm. The duck with the most victories over that period will be crowned "Iron-Duck" World Champion.

This special event race is patterned after the famed Iron Man Triathlon, where competitors (human, that is) challenge one another over a 2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike ride and 26.2 mile marathon along the Kona (Hawaii) coast each October. However, instead of 1800 human racing machines, Maris Farms will serve up six of the finest QUACK-aletes in Pierce County and they'll cover a grand total of 200 feet!

PRIOR to ALL racing sessions, patrons can donate at our mock “wagering” window on the west end of the duck race track - you the fan can make donations of \$1 (1 ticket) and \$3 (5 tickets) and pick a duck they feel will win. All donators are given a special duck bill for their contribution. ALL DONATIONS will go to the Fisher House of Seattle.

After someone donates, they will receive a numbered raffle ticket – they will keep half and put the other half in the slot of their “predicted” winner. At the end of the race, the announcer will draw a name from the “winning” duck’s slot, and that individual will win a prize, provided by one of our many race sponsors.

A total of \$244 was raised this past weekend and 124 tickets purchased to place bets. So far, the totals are \$511 raised and 439 tickets purchased.

Maris Farms has become one of Pierce County’s favorite family fall destinations for its pumpkins, corn maze and haunted attractions...and, of course, its duck races. All races are at 1 and 3 pm on both Saturdays and Sundays.

Here are the current wins for the competitors:

<u>Maris Farms 'Iron Duck' series competitors</u>	<u>WINS</u>
• #2 DUCKtor Dre	7
• #3 Michael QUACKson	2
• #5 DUCK Rogers	7
• #6 Sir QUACKS-A-Lot	0
• #7 Disco DUCK	0