

# **VHDF-Canada Policy and Procedures**

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## **1) Membership**

The period of membership is the calendar year. Each member receives a vote in any election of officers, and at the annual meeting on motions proposed. Members who run a dog in a test in the fall of the year and join then, are considered members for the remainder of that calendar year. All judges and apprentice judges must pay their membership annually to remain active.

## **2) Officers & Elections**

The officers are:

- President
- Past President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Director of Judging
- Directors-at-Large (2)

The Webmaster is appointed by the Officers, and need not be a member (i.e. if someone is hired). Officers should be residents of Canada. Committees may be appointed from the entire membership as deemed appropriate to deal with specific issues and provide reports back to the Officers.

Elections are held at the annual meeting with voting among the members present.

## **3) Meetings**

There shall be a minimum of one membership meeting annually. This is typically held in the first couple of months of the calendar year. It may be in person if zoom virtual attendance is also possible, or only virtually. The meeting is typically called by the President with at least 2 weeks notice circulated to the members electronically.

## **4) Dues**

Dues are payable annually to the Treasurer within one month of the annual meeting. The amount of dues may be evaluated and raised or lowered at this meeting. The

method of payment is discussed at this meeting and ideally should be via more than one method so that all members may pay relatively easily.

## **5) Tests**

Three types of Field Tests are offered (<http://www.vhdf-canada.ca/TestScores.html>):  
Hunting Aptitude Evaluation (HAE)  
Advanced Hunting Aptitude Evaluation (AHAE)  
Performance Evaluation (PE)

### **Blood Tracking Tests**

Currently only one form has been offered (see <http://www.vhdf-canada.ca/BloodTracking.html>)

Detailed information about test protocols, scoring, past scores, etc. is kept by the Director of Judging and posted on the website. (<http://www.vhdf-canada.ca/TestScores.html>) Periodically test protocols may be revised with input from the core of judges.

Tests are typically hosted by local or regional hunting dog clubs. They request approval for the judging team and send the judges' field booklets and test reports back to the Director of Judging, for permanent storage and issuing test certificates. There is a VHDF-Canada test entry fee (\$20 in 2025) which must be paid for each dog entered.

## **6) Judges and Apprentice Judges**

The Director of Judging periodically announces training sessions for Apprentice Judges when one or more apprentices have applied. These are usually conducted electronically.

There is no regularly scheduled judging workshop but one may be set up periodically. These workshops are for updating, reviewing, responding to questions handlers or judges might have. Judges are strongly encouraged to attend to stay active.

<http://www.vhdf-canada.ca/Judges.html> is updated regularly to show the application procedures and those members who are currently approved judges, either Field or Blood Tracking.

26 February 2025