



## North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association

### Chapter Motion Form - *Submit before November 1<sup>st</sup>*

- Motions to be considered by the delegates at the Annual Meeting, must be submitted by a sanctioned NAVHDA Chapter. In order to be considered at the business session at the Annual Meeting, the motion must be made and seconded by delegates.
- Because amendments often are proposed at the Annual Meeting, a chapter must have a representative at the Annual Meeting empowered to accept or reject amendments. If a chapter representative is not in attendance to present the motion, the motion will fail.
- Please complete the form online and print it and have it signed by the chapter officer listed on the form. Email, fax or mail to the NAVHDA Office so that it arrives by midnight, November 1<sup>st</sup> of the year preceding the Annual Meeting at which the motion is to be considered.

#### MOTION:

St. Croix NAVHDA appreciates the work of the Judging and Testing Committee and Executive Council in the efforts to establish realistic and consistent criteria for judges to become and maintain their judgeship. We respectfully suggest the Judging and Testing Committee and Executive Committee require all Invitational Judges to have run in and pass the Invitational in its current format at least once in their lifetime and that they run in the Invitational at least once every twelve years; subsequent passing would not be required. The implementation of this standard should be fully effective in five years after its passage to allow for judges who are out of compliance enough time to come into compliance.

#### LIST OF THE REASONS OR RATIONALE SUPPORTING THE ABOVE MOTION:

Over the years the criteria to maintain judging status has been strengthened to ensure all judges stay active as a handler to keep their instincts sharp; which likely attributes to an often stated comment that NAVHDA has some of the best judges in the versatile dog arena. Currently, "all Judges are required to handle and pass a dog they have trained in a sanctioned NAVHDA Natural Ability, Utility Preparatory, Utility or Invitational Test within a four-year period beginning in the year of your appointment as a NAVHDA Judge. Additionally, every NAVHDA Judge must handle and pass a dog he or she has trained in a sanctioned NAVHDA Utility Preparatory, Utility or Invitational Test within an eight-year period beginning in the year of your original appointment as a NAVHDA Judge," which is taken directly from the NAVHDA website.

Firstly, NAVHDA judges are required to pass a dog in Natural Ability and Utility before they can become a judge. It would be in keeping with that standard, that passing the Invitational would be required to be considered to judge the event as the venues are substantially different than other NAVHDA tests.

Second, unlike other NAVHDA tests, the Invitational test is held only once a year and henceforth, it's more difficult for judges to keep this test front of mind. Furthermore, some judges only judge the Invitational every other year, making it even more difficult to stay on the top of their game. Handling a dog every twelve years keeps those instincts sharp, reminds judges of how critical setup and changing conditions are to hold a quality test and helps them anticipate issues, just as when they run NA or UT. Adding this provision to Invitational judges would be consistent with the current requirement to run at least NA every four years and UPT, UT or the INV every eight years.

I certify that this motion was adopted by the St. Croix Chapter, in accordance with its bylaws and/or operating procedure.

Ralph Sobkowicz  
Chapter Office Name (printed)

Vice President  
Title

R. Sobkowicz  
Chapter Officer Signature

10/25/22  
Date Submitted

AFTER THIS FORM HAS BEEN COMPLETED, PLEASE SUBMIT IT (AND ANY ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS) TO THE NAVHDA INTERNATIONAL OFFICE BY EITHER:

**MAIL:** NAVHDA, P.O. Box 520, Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0520

**EMAIL:** [navoffice@navhda.org](mailto:navoffice@navhda.org)

**FAX:** (847) 255-5987