



# Alberta Association of Harness Dog Sports - Directors Report 2024

## 2024

- Supported the winning Dryland Nationals bid. The Canadian Dryland National Championship - 2024 will be held in Sundre, AB on Oct 4-6, 2024.
- Further Event Sanctioning in winter and spring
  - Mush for Fun Winter Series
  - Running Paws at Riverbend
  - Dopamine Dash (canceled due to weather)
- Upcoming Event Sanctioning for Fall
  - Nationals Trail Sneak Peak
  - Canadian Dryland National Championship - 2024
  - Run-a-way Dryland Derby 2024 - 8th Annual
  - Central Alberta Dog Runners - Fall Classic 2024
- Affiliated another club
  - Dopamine Dog Sports
- Created a new club support fund - AAHDS members are able to choose which clubs they provide a portion of their membership dues. If they do not have a preference, they can provide their dues to a new club fund. This fund is earmarked to help new clubs with minor start up costs should it be needed.
- Support Alberta Athletes who wish to travel and compete at upcoming Dryland and On Snow National Championships, Continental Championships, and World Championships
  - This year, we have 2 athletes from Alberta traveling to Finland to compete in the IFSS European Championship and Masters Championship Dryland, held Oct 16-20, 2024.
- Carrying on Sponsorship partnerships with local dog based businesses
- Rework of AAHDS Website to include most up to date documents for Rules and Code of Conduct

- Increase in Membership from 10 members in 2022/2023 to 47 members in the 2023/2024 season.

### **Plans for 2025**

- Further Event Sanctioning
  - Mush for Fun
  - Running Paws at Riverbend
  - Dopamine Winter Event
- Affiliate more Clubs
  - Particularly looking for growth in and around Edmonton/ Northern Alberta
- Add AAHDS members to the CAHDS committees
  - Upcoming committees include officials committee and rules committee
- Form an AAHDS Volunteer committee to help manage larger tasks such as fundraising, membership drives, events volunteers and more as needed
- Continue to Support Alberta Athletes who wish to compete at the upcoming IFSS North American Continental Championship, Oct 26-27, 2024 and IFSS World Championship being held in Wisconsin in Oct 2025.
- Bring on additional Sponsorships for members
  - Province wide - call out to members to provide contacts who may be interested
  - Renew past sponsorship partnerships
- Seek not for profit status to allow our organization and host clubs and athletes to seek funding grants
- Continued growth in membership. Hope is National Championship in our Province and World Championship in North America will continue to drive growth of our organization.
- Call out for expression of interest to AAHDS Board of Directors
- Continue the growth of our sport in Alberta