



## Candidate Application Checklist

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Dog Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Dog Age (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

### Minimal expected requirements for candidates include:

*All boxes must be checked off to be considered for SARDA membership.*

- be a minimum of 21 years of age
- be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant
- complete and pass a police information check
- commit to a six (6)-month probationary term
- be in good physical condition
- be willing and able to commit efforts to SARDA
- be self-motivated and a go-getter
- have own, reliable transportation (vehicle)
- commit to volunteer their time in aid of the Lost Person
- have an appreciation of the outdoors
- have necessary all-season clothing and gear for the outdoors
- commit to weekly team training
- commit to an interview process with a SARDA Preceptor
- commit to donating time towards fundraising, public relations and/ or team administrative tasks – SARDA is a volunteer based and run organization and everyone is expected to help
- commit to undergoing probationary reviews and progressional checks, assessments, demonstrations and evaluations/ testing
- commit to being an active participant and team player
- commit to following instructions, taking direction and accepting constructive feedback from the SARDA Training Director or other training designate(s)
- commit to meeting and maintaining all training requirements inclusive of becoming proficient with search strategies and use of equipment

### In addition to the above, if a member would like to join with a dog, candidates must:

- provide their own dog
- commit to allowing their dog to be evaluated for aptitude by the SARDA Training Director
- commit to the daily schedule of training their dog to SARDA's standards



**Potential dog candidate:**

The dog that is selected for SAR work must have an excellent temperament and have a strong desire to perform this type of training. The stresses of SAR work demand dogs have a stable temperament and strong drives.

**The dog must:**

- be less than one (1) year of age
- can be male or female
- have all required health vaccinations or titer certificates
- be healthy and have sound physical structure
- be between 45 cm to 69 cm in height and between 22 and 41 kg in weight
- show no aggression or fear towards people or other dogs
- be socially acceptable of other dogs
- be engaged in toy play or tug
- be able to hunt for their toy reward
- come from the working, herding, and sporting groups (certain mixed breeds may also work)
- not be a female currently being used for breeding or where there are plans for breeding
- be spayed or neutered by 30 months of age
- not have done Schutzhund/ IGP/ French Ring Sport-style bite work, or general protection work or training

If the candidate appears suitable (handler and dog), a pre-evaluation of the dog can be arranged. The pre-evaluation assesses the dog's level of sociability and its drives. The objective is to screen dog applicants with the view of accepting only those dogs that exhibit the aptitudes expected and are well suited to the work. Prior training for the evaluation is not necessary. The SARDAA Training Director will make the final determination as to the dog's potential.