

SVMA Discipline Case #2024-19 Summary – Dr Shawn Haas

On November 6, 2024, the Professional Conduct Committee of the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association received a formal complaint alleging that Dr. Shawn Haas, a general veterinary member of the SVMA at Lakeland Veterinary Services in North Battleford, Saskatchewan, incorrectly performed a right and left femoral head ostectomy (FHO) on a dog and failed to provide appropriate post-operative care.

Upon completion of their investigation, the Professional Conduct Committee referred the matter to the Discipline Committee of the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association.

During a hearing of the Discipline Committee held on May 13, 2026, Dr. Shawn Haas admitted liability to the following charges as contained in the formal complaint of the Professional Conduct Committee:

THAT Dr. Shawn Haas is guilty of professional incompetence and/or professional misconduct in that he:

1. Failed to provide veterinary care that is appropriate and adequate, following acceptable professional procedures using current professional and scientific knowledge, or uphold the integrity of the veterinary profession and maintain the trust of clients and society through exemplary standards of clinical practice by one or more of the following:
 - a. That he did incompletely perform both a right and left femoral head ostectomy at Lakeland Veterinary Services on a dog in contravention of sections 12.2(a), 12.3(b), 12.3(d), of the Bylaws of the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association.
 - b. After having performed femoral head ostectomy surgery at Lakeland Veterinary Services, he failed to identify and appropriately treat and/or manage an iatrogenic fracture of the proximal left femur, in contravention of sections 12.2(a), 12.3(b), 12.3(d) of the Bylaws of the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association.
 - c. On or about April 18, 2024, he failed to perform a complete physical examination and obtain diagnostic radiographs to determine the cause of post-operative pain, discomfort, and lameness, in contravention of section 12.2(a), 12.3(b), 12.3(d), and 12.4(g) of the Bylaws of the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association.
 - d. He failed to communicate the presence of an iatrogenic fracture of the left proximal femur present immediately after performing a left FHO to the client, in contravention of section 12.4(d), 12.4(e) and 12.4(j) of the Bylaws of the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association.
2. He failed to keep clear, accurate and detailed medical records, including details pertaining to the performance and interpretation of radiographs, post-operative care instructions, and client communications, thereby contravening section 12.4(g) of the Bylaws of the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association and sections 5(f), 5A-b of the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association Practice Standards.

On June 1, 2026, the Discipline Committee of the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association issued the following Order:

1. That Dr. Haas receive a letter of reprimand.

2. That Dr. Haas, at his own expense, and within 120 days of receiving the decision, successfully complete the following courses and training:
 - a. The online SVMA licensure and Animal Welfare courses
 - b. Three hours of RACE approved continuing education with a focus on companion animal orthopedic radiology and diagnostic imaging interpretation.
 - c. Ten hours of RACE approved continuing education in veterinary medical record keeping
 - d. Three hours of a RACE approved course in veterinary client communication, including perioperative communication with companion animal clients
 - e. Five hours of a RACE approved course with a focus on the diagnosis and treatment of companion animal orthopedic conditions, including canine hip dysplasia, long bone fracture repair, and disorders of the hip and pelvis.
3. That Dr. Haas pay a fine of \$500.
4. That within 30 days of receiving this decision pay a portion of the costs of the investigation and hearing which is fixed at \$25,000.
5. If Dr. Haas fails to complete the courses or fails to pay the fine and/or costs within the time periods specified in this decision, his member license shall be suspended immediately and shall remain suspended until he has satisfied his obligations imposed by this Order.
6. A summary of this decision will be posted on the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association public website.