

NAME

The Club shall be called THE HUNGARIAN VIZSLA CLUB (hereinafter called The Club)

2. OBJECTS

The objects of The Club shall be to further interest in the Breed in all respects at Shows, Field Trials and other events wherever possible and to maintain the highest possible standards in respect of the breeding and future health and wellbeing of the Hungarian Vizsla.

3. ORDINARY MEMBERS AND LIFE MEMBERS

The Club shall consist of an unlimited number of Members and Honorary Life Members. The Club will make a list of members and their addresses available for inspection if so requested by the Members of The Club or The Kennel Club. Candidates for membership of The Club shall be accepted upon payment of the annual subscription, and agreement to abide by the rules of The Club, a copy of which should be provided by The Club at the time of joining. Applications must be approved by a two thirds majority of the Committee.

Annual subscription shall be agreed by members of The Club at an annual general meeting and shall be reviewed annually. No member whose subscription is unpaid shall be entitled to any privileges of membership and, if unpaid by more than 13 months from the date of their last subscription payment, such membership shall be deemed to have lapsed and a new application for membership will be required.

The voting rights of members shall be one vote each and in the case of joint membership both members shall be entitled to one vote. There will be no proxy votes. A member may resign by giving notice in writing to the Secretary of The Club but shall not be entitled to receive back any money which may have been paid to The Club or on account of The Club during his/her membership, or to have any claim against The Club and must reapply for membership in the ordinary way as if he/she had not been a member.

The primary means of communication to members will be e-mail. Members who are unable to use e-mail should notify The Club on their application and alternative arrangements will be made wherever possible.

Any member who shall be disqualified under Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(5) and/or Kennel Club Rule A11.j.(9) shall ipso facto cease to be a member of the society. If the conduct of any member shall, in the opinion of the committee of the society, be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the society, the committee of the society may, at a meeting the notice convening which includes as an object the consideration of the conduct of the member, determine that a Special General Meeting of the society shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him/her.

On the recommendation of the committee and after prior discussion by the committee, members may be considered for the distinction of Honorary Life membership at the annual general meeting.

4. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

The management of The Club shall be in the hands of three officers, the President, the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer, all of whom shall be ex-officio voting members of the committee, and a committee of fifteen from whom they themselves shall elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman (to officiate at meetings), at the first committee meeting after the AGM. The President shall retire quinquennially but be eligible for re-election. The Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Treasurer and the committee members shall retire annually but be eligible for re-election. Nomination forms and request for agenda items shall be circulated eight weeks prior to the annual general meeting, the minutes of the previous annual general meeting to be included with the mailing. Agenda items and nominations, which must be proposed and seconded by fully paid up members in writing, together with the written consent of the person being nominated, to be received by the Secretary six weeks before the annual general meeting. Members nominated for office must have served on the committee or as an officer for at least one year immediately prior to the year of their nomination. Members nominated to serve on the committee must have been fully paid-up members for at least one year immediately prior to their nomination.

The agenda and voting slips shall be circulated to members four weeks prior to the annual general meeting. Elections shall be by postal ballot. Completed voting slips shall be posted to an independent scrutineer two weeks prior to the annual general meeting. The committee may co-opt to fill any vacancy that may arise among the committee. Such co-opted member will serve and act without voting power. Voting powers may be granted at the discretion of the serving committee. No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the committee or hold any other office or appointment within a Kennel Club registered society.

5. MANAGEMENT

For the transaction of business at a committee meeting a quorum shall be 5 members of the committee including any one officer and, except in an emergency, at least fourteen days' notice of a meeting shall be given by the Secretary or another Officer to all officers and committee members stating a time and place. Any officer or member of the committee who, without reasonable cause, fails to attend two consecutive meetings or fails to forward their apologies in writing to the Secretary prior to the meeting may, at the discretion of the Committee, be suspended for the remainder of the year and from nomination in the following year.

The Minutes of all meetings of the committee shall be prepared by the Secretary, agreed by the committee and signed by the Chairman. They shall be circulated as required before the next Meeting. There shall be no proxy votes at a committee meeting. The committee shall have the power to call meetings, to arbitrate in matters of dispute with The Club, to deal at its

absolute discretion with the funds and property of The Club and to settle any question or matter not at present provided for in the rules. Any decision taken under this rule shall remain until the following Annual General Meeting.

The committee may cause sub-committees to be formed to be responsible to it as it may require. Minutes will be taken at all sub-committee meetings and forwarded to the next full committee meeting.

If the conduct of any member shall, in the opinion of the committee, be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the Club, the committee may, at a meeting the notice convening which includes as an object the consideration of the conduct of the member, determine that a Special General Meeting of the Club shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel the member. Notice of a Special General Meeting shall be sent to the accused member, giving particulars of the complaint and advising the place, date and hour of the meeting in order that he/she may attend and offer an explanation. If at the meeting a resolution to expel is passed by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, his/her name shall forthwith be erased from the list of members, and he/she shall thereupon cease for all purposes to be a member of the club, except that he/she may, within two calendar months from the date of such meeting, appeal to The Kennel Club upon and subject to such conditions as The Kennel Club may impose. If the club expels a member for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, dog shows trials or competitions, the club must report the matter in writing to the Kennel Club within seven days and supply any particulars required.

6. GENERAL MEETINGS AND SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

An Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 30th April in each year for the following purposes:

1. To adopt the minutes of the previous year's annual general meeting
2. To receive the reports of the committee and the balance sheet
3. To announce the results of any postal ballot naming officers and members of the committee
4. To discuss any item placed on the agenda. At least twenty-eight days' notice of the date, time and place of an annual general meeting shall be given by e-mail to members, and on the Club's web site and social media pages.
5. A Special General Meeting shall be called by the Honorary Secretary at the request of the committee, or, if twenty members send a signed request stating the subject to be discussed. No business other than the matter on the agenda can be discussed at a special general meeting. Notice of a Special General Meeting must be given not less than twenty-one days before the event.
6. At an annual general meeting only the business appearing on the agenda will be permitted, any other business may be dealt with at the discretion of the chairman of the meeting.

7. CLUB ACCOUNTS

The fiscal year of The Club shall be from 1st January to 31st December. A banking account shall be maintained in the name of The Club into which all revenue of The Club shall be paid and from which withdrawals shall be made on the authority of the Honorary Treasurer, the Honorary Secretary, the Membership Secretary or the Committee Chairman. Any payment over £500 must be authorised by two of these. The accounts shall be maintained by the Honorary Treasurer. Audited accounts shall be submitted to The Kennel Club annually.

The Officers acknowledge that during the month of January each year, the Maintenance of Title fee will be forwarded to The Kennel Club either by the Secretary or by direct debit, for the continuance of registration, and that by the 31st July other returns, as stipulated in Kennel Club Regulations for the Registration and Maintenance of Title of Societies and Breed Councils and the Affiliation of Agricultural Societies and Municipal Authorities, will be forwarded to The Kennel Club.

The Officers also acknowledge their duty to inform The Kennel Club of any change of Secretary which may occur during the course of the year. All expenses incurred by the Secretary, Treasurer or any other member of The Club authorised by the Committee shall be reimbursed from funds of The Club.

8. CUPS, TROPHIES AND SPECIAL AWARDS

A cup steward shall be appointed by the committee from among its members who shall be responsible for keeping records of awards and signatures of recipients. All cups and trophies donated to The Club shall be deemed the sole property of The Club and it is only under this condition that they shall be accepted. Cups, Trophies and Special awards, unless specifically stated otherwise, shall be available only to fully paid-up members of The Club.

9. BREEDERS CODE OF BEST PRACTICE

1. All members of the Hungarian Vizsla Club undertake to abide by the Kennel Club General Code of Ethics (Appendix A), and this Code of Best Practice.
2. Members will consider the welfare of their dogs and the benefit to the Breed above any personal gain or profit.
3. Members are encouraged to report any occurrence of illness or disease which may have significant consequence for breed health. Reports should go to the Breed Health Co-ordinator appointed by the KC (Verity Griffiths; bhc@vizsla.org.uk); all information received will be treated in the strictest confidence unless otherwise advised and will be used to gather data on any possible heritable health issues.
4. Members are encouraged to actively support any bona fide research programme specific to the Hungarian Vizsla and any relevant official scheme devised to test the dog's health and soundness, and to participate in any breed specific DNA collection programmes for dogs owned or co-owned by them that are part of a bona fide veterinary research programme.

5. Members should only breed from Vizslas of sound temperament, which show natural ability (Hunt, Point, Retrieve), and conform to the Hungarian Vizsla Breed Standard as published by the Kennel Club
6. To help reduce the incidence of heritable breed-related health issues a low Coefficient of Inbreeding (COI) should be aimed for; current KC recommendation is 12.5% or below.
7. Members will not breed from dogs or bitches in poor health or with any serious hereditary health issue such as, but not limited to:
 - Epilepsy
 - Autoimmune (immune mediated) illnesses, including:
 - Vizsla Inflammatory Polymyopathy (VIP)
 - Masticatory Muscle Myositis (MMM)
 - Myasthenia Gravis (MG)
 - Immune Mediated Polyarthrititis (IMPA)
 - Sebaceous Adenitis (SA)
 - Pemphigus
 - Lupus – (SLE, DLE, ECLE, SLO)
 - Addison's Disease
 - Immune Mediated Haemolytic Anaemia (IMHA)
 - Immune Mediated Thrombocytopenia (IMT)
 - Hereditary Hypothyroidism
 - Steroid Responsive Meningitis-Arteritis (SRMA)
 - Any other veterinary-diagnosed condition with a significant genetic predisposition such as Canine Atopic Dermatitis, Cerebellar Ataxia, certain Cancers. ([Health Overview – Hungarian Vizsla Club](#))
8. For VIP it is also recommended to avoid breeding from first degree relatives (parent, sibling or offspring) of affected dogs or the affected dogs themselves. The current list of VIP-affected dogs can be found here - [VIP: First Degree Relatives](#).
9. For other complex inheritable diseases (especially epilepsy) - for which there is no test - members should follow Kennel Club advice. Caution is advocated in the matter of breeding from unaffected dogs that have produced disease or have affected siblings or parents - [read more](#)
10. Breeders should make it their priority to actively investigate any health issues that their stock is producing – and mitigate where possible.
11. Members are advised that if breed specific advice is not followed, they should expect recourse, breach of these rules may result in expulsion from the HVC and exclusion from its activities.
12. Members will not allow their dog to be used at stud until it is 18 months of age and the dog must not be used more than three times in its first year of use, until the health and quality of its progeny is proven. Members will not allow their dog to serve bitches of less than 2 years of age, or bitches that will whelp after their 8th birthday.
13. Members will not allow their bitches to be mated before their 2nd birthday or to whelp after their 8th birthday. Members will not allow any individual bitch to whelp more than once in any 12 months or to have more than three litters in her lifetime. The Club

recommends that the optimum age to whelp bitches is between their 3rd and 7th birthdays.

All members are encouraged to contribute to the [Breed Health Conservation Plan](#) by health testing their dogs in accordance with the schemes required by the Kennel Club as detailed below. Members will only breed from Vizslas that have been fully tested, obtaining and assessing the results PRIOR to breeding. Members should consult the current BVA recommendations when assessing health test results: [BVA - Canine Health Schemes](#). Please see Appendix B for additional information.

Hip dysplasia screening scheme (BVA/KC)

Members are encouraged to hip score their dogs/bitches. For breeding stock, scores that are high by breed standards or disproportionate in score from hip to hip should be discounted from breeding.

Elbow dysplasia screening scheme (BVA/KC)

Members are encouraged to elbow score their dog/bitches. For breeding stock, any dog with a score higher than 0 please see the BVA recommendations (see Appendix B).

Eye screening scheme (BVA/KC/ISDS)

Adult dogs should have the general health of their eyes assessed before they are used for breeding, using the BVA/KC/ISDS eye screening scheme or the ECVO scheme. Regular eye examinations are recommended due to the varying age of onset of different conditions and should be carried out within 12 months before mating in dogs and bitches. A final examination to ensure that there is no indication of late onset inherited disease and provide evidence of clear breeding lines should take place in all dogs that have been used for breeding when they have reached 8 years of age.

Eye testing - PLA (Gonioscopy) (BVA/KC/ISDS)

Primary glaucoma is a painful and blinding inherited condition caused by a build-up of pressure in the eye and requires a separate eye test. Members should submit dogs/bitches for a PLA/PCAG (gonioscopy) test to assess the predisposition for glaucoma every three years. (i.e., 1, 4 and 7-8 years of age). This is a requirement for any breeding stock. Dogs scored grade 2 (moderately affected) have a greater risk of developing and passing on the condition to their offspring and scores of 2 and above should be discounted from breeding.

14. Members will register all stock with the Kennel Club. Kennel Club registration documents will be available to the purchaser at point of sale, together with a 5-generation pedigree.
15. Members will not allow puppies to be removed from their mother before 8 weeks of age – it is illegal to sell a puppy under 8 weeks of age.
16. Members will be fair, open and honest with buyers and prospective purchasers, and will NOT misrepresent themselves, or their dogs.

17. Members are encouraged to have puppies examined by their vet close to the point of sale. Buyers will be encouraged to register their puppy/dog with a veterinary surgeon within three working days of purchase. Should a veterinarian advise that the puppy/dog is not in good health, the purchaser should authorise their veterinarian to confirm the diagnosis with the breeder. Members will verify this opinion and, if asked, take back the dog and refund the purchase price, or agree to a mutually acceptable compromise.
18. Members are encouraged to take responsibility for any progeny bred by them, or dog supplied by them, which finds itself in need of re-homing.

If this is not possible for any reason, then assistance with re-homing can be sought from The Hungarian Vizsla Welfare Charity: (<https://hungarianvizslawelfare.org.uk/>) and Vizsla Rescue: (<https://www.vizslaescue.org.uk>).

10. WINDING UP

The property of The Club shall be vested in the committee, and in the event of The Club ceasing to exist, a General Meeting shall be called to decide upon the disposal of any assets.

The donors of the cups and trophies shall be consulted, and each cup or trophy shall be disposed of in accordance with wishes of the donor.

The Kennel Club shall be notified as soon as a decision is made to wind up The Club and within six months of such date they shall be supplied with the final statement of the account and a record showing the disposal of property belonging to The Club.

11. KENNEL CLUB AUTHORITY

The Kennel Club is the final authority for interpreting the rules and regulations of The Club and in all cases relative to Canine and Club matters.

The Club shall not join any federation of Societies or Clubs except as approved by The Kennel Club.

12. DATA PROTECTION

Information from membership records and entry forms may be held on computer media for the preparation of membership records and show catalogues and shall only be disclosed to such bodies to which The Club has a legal obligation to do so. Our full Privacy Policy can be accessed on the HVC website: [HVC-Privacy-Policy.pdf \(hungarianvizslaclub.org.uk\)](#).

APPENDIX A

All members undertake to abide by the following and:

1. Will properly house, feed, water and exercise all dogs under their care and arrange for appropriate veterinary attention if and when required.
2. Will agree without reservation that any veterinary surgeon performing an operation on any of their dogs which alters the natural conformation of the animal, may report such operation to the Kennel Club.
3. Will agree that no healthy puppy will be culled. Puppies which may not conform to the Breed Standard should be placed in suitable homes.
4. Will abide by all aspects of the Animal Welfare Act.
5. Will not create demand for, nor supply, puppies that have been docked illegally.
6. Will agree not to breed from a dog or bitch which could be in any harmful to the dog or to the breed.
7. Will not allow any of their dogs to roam at large or to cause a nuisance to neighbours or those carrying out official duties.
8. Will ensure that their dogs wear properly tagged collars and will be kept leashed or under effective control when away from home.
9. Will clean up after their dogs in public places or anywhere their dogs are being exhibited.
10. Will only sell dogs where there is a reasonable expectation of a happy and healthy life and will help with the re-homing of a dog if the initial circumstances change.
11. Will supply written details of all dietary requirements and give guidance concerning responsible ownership when placing dogs in a new home.
12. Will ensure that all relevant Kennel Club documents are provided to the new owner when selling or transferring a dog, and will agree, in writing, to forward any relevant documents at the earliest opportunity, if not immediately available.
13. Will not sell any dog to commercial dog wholesalers, retail pet dealers or directly or indirectly allow dogs to be given as a prize or donation in a competition of any kind. Will not sell by sale or auction Kennel Club registration certificates as standalone items (not accompanying a dog)
14. Will not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed nor falsely advertise dogs nor mislead any person regarding the health or quality of a dog.
15. Breach of these provisions may result in expulsion from club membership, and/or disciplinary action by the Kennel Club and/or reporting to the relevant authorities for legal action, as appropriate.

APPENDIX B - *Canine Health Schemes*

Sources of useful information:

[BVA - Canine Health Schemes](#)

[Get started with health testing & screening | Kennel Club \(\[thekennelclub.org.uk\]\(http://thekennelclub.org.uk\)\)](#)

Hip Scoring

It must be appreciated that selection of dogs for breeding based on hip scores is not an exact science, since environmental as well as genetic factors are involved in determining the nature of the hip joints. However, the best chance of producing offspring with good hips is to use only parents with low scores. An average (or median) score is calculated for all breeds scored under the scheme and advice for breeders is to choose breeding stock with hip scores around and ideally below the breed median score, depending on the level of hip dysplasia in the breed. To make selection of breeding stock easier 5- and 15-year medians are published on the BVA website, along with the rolling 5-year medians.

Data from the BVA/KC Hip Dysplasia Scheme is also used to estimate genetic 'risk' for each dog and to produce **Estimated Breeding Values** (EBVs). EBVs provide a more accurate measurement of genetic risk than using a dog's hip score alone. It is therefore recommended that EBV breeding advice is used where possible. Ideally breeders should use dogs that have an EBV which is lower than average (i.e., a minus number), and preferably with a confidence rating of at least 60%. Dogs with an EBV with a confidence less than 60% can still be used, but the higher the confidence, the more accurate the EBV will be. The lower the EBV, the better, but breeders do not need to search out the dogs with the lowest risk EBV. Selecting animals with a lower risk EBV than average will still lower the risk of hip dysplasia in the breed as a whole.

Elbow scoring

It is strongly recommended that breeders wishing to reduce the risk of elbow dysplasia should select their breeding stock (both dogs and bitches) only from animals with an overall grade of 0. Dogs with elbow grades of 2 or 3 have marked osteoarthritis likely to be due to Elbow Dysplasia, with or without a visible primary lesion. There is a significant chance of ED being passed on to the offspring.

Dogs with elbow grades of 1 show mild or early osteoarthritis which is also likely to be due to ED. They should only be used for breeding with caution, taking into consideration the ED grades of as many relatives as possible, as well as the results of other health tests and characteristics.

If EBVs (**estimated breeding values**) are available for your breed you should use these to guide your breeding decisions. Ideally breeders should use dogs that have an EBV which is lower than average (i.e., a minus number), and preferably with a confidence rating of at least 60%. Dogs with an EBV with a confidence less than 60% can still be used, but the higher the confidence, the more accurate the EBV will be.

Eye Screening.

If a dog is found to be affected, it is recommended that you seek breed-specific and condition-specific breeding advice from the eye panellist at the time of examination or the Breed Health Co-ordinator, **Verity Griffiths**.

Gonioscopy

It is preferable to only breed with dogs with grade 0 or grade 1 in most breeds.

Dogs scored grade 2 (moderately affected) have a greater risk of developing and passing on the condition to offspring, in comparison to breeding dogs with grades 0 and 1.

Approved March 2024

(RKC Approval Oct 2024)