

# The Vizsla Club of America, Inc.

## Regulations for Breed Qualification for National Field Events

The Vizsla Club of America requires that all Vizslas, including puppies, competing in the National Field Events be free of any breed disqualifications as defined in the breed standard. In order to be eligible to compete in these events, each dog must be examined by a licensed AKC conformation judge approved to judge Vizslas. Further, it guarantees the process operates in addition to and in conjunction with all pertinent AKC Rules and Regulations.

### **1. Judge Selection**

- a. The judge must be an AKC conformation judge approved for Vizslas
- b. The judge is selected by the host club or field trial committee with VCA Board approval
- c. The judge performing the evaluation must be listed in the premium list
- d. The judge shall not be a current VCA Director or Officer

### **2. Time and location of the evaluation**

- a. Time
  - 1) One hour before starting time of the first stake until 10 a.m. or noon of that day at the discretion of the club (with priority given to dogs entered in the first stake).
  - 2) One hour before starting time of the National Amateur Championship until 10 a. m. or noon of that day, at the discretion of the club (with priority given to dogs entered in the first stake).
  - 3) It is the responsibility of the owner/handler to present his/her dog for evaluation during the published time.
  - 4) If the owner/handler of a dog cannot present his/her dog for evaluation during the published time, special arrangements for evaluation must be made in advance through the Field Trial Secretary.
  - 5) The time schedule must be posted at the field trial grounds and VCA headquarters (if applicable).
  - 6) All the information listed (items 1-5) must be stated in the event premium packet.
- b. Location
  - 1) On the field trial grounds
  - 2) In a location selected by the field trial committee
  - 3) The judge may perform the evaluation at the participant's camp site, at the judge's discretion.
  - 4) Out of view of the public so that the evaluation can be performed in a discreet manner

### **3. Who attends the evaluation**

- a. Judge
- b. Owner or Handler of the dog being evaluated
- c. VCA Board member. It is the responsibility of this member to review these guidelines with the judge prior to evaluations. This member shall serve as an observer to insure that these guidelines are followed and make sure that a list of all dogs that qualify is delivered to the Event Secretary and the VCA QOL Recorder. The VCA Board member shall not be a competitor at the event.

#### **4. Evaluation**

- a. Each dog will be evaluated independently but done in the same manner.
- b. The evaluation will be an examination similar to that for AKC Conformation whereas the dog will be examined in a standing position. Evaluation will follow the most current procedure permitted by AKC Rules and Regulations. It should be noted that the dogs being examined here are not to determine which dog conforms best to the written standard, but rather to ensure that there are no disqualifying faults. It is the sole discretion of the judge to excuse any dog that will not stand or cooperate for an examination and therefore that dog will not be permitted to compete at the event.
- c. According to the AKC written standard approved in 2009 the disqualifying faults in Vizslas are as follows:
  - 1) Partially or completely black nose
  - 2) Solid white extending above the toes or white anywhere else on the dog except the fore chest.
  - 3) White extending on the shoulders or neck.
  - 4) A distinctly long coat.
  - 5) Any male over 25 ½ inches, or under 20 ½ inches and any female over 24 ½ inches or under 19 ½ inches at the highest point over the shoulder blades.
- d. During the QOL process, the judge, may at his or her discretion, request that the owner/handler lift the front of the dog off the ground to further examine an area other than the fore chest for disqualifying white. Under no circumstances is the judge permitted to personally lift the dog off the ground (Item d. must be stated in the premium package).
- e. It is only necessary to measure dogs that, in the opinion of the judge, are of questionable height. This applies to puppies as well as adult dogs. If, in the opinion of the judge, a dog's height is to be measured, an AKC approved wicket provided by the VCA must be used. Before using the wicket, it shall be calibrated by the judge using the procedure described by AKC guidelines.
- f. All evaluation decisions by the QOL judge are final. No refund of entry fees will be made for dogs which fail to pass breed standard qualification. No appeal for disqualification is allowed. (Item f. must be published in the event premium package).

#### **5. Types of Qualifications**

- a. Permanent
  - 1) Dogs must be 24 months of age or older
  - 2) Dogs over the age of 2 years old that have earned an AKC Conformation Championship title may be given a permanent QOL number at the owner's request. If a dog is under 2 years of age when earning a CH title then they must be measured only at a National Field Event to confirm that height is still within the standard. Burden of proof shall lie with the owner.
  - 3) Dogs with permanent qualification are qualified for all future VCA Field Events even if the breed-specific disqualifications in the standard for Vizslas change.
- b. Temporary
  - 1) Dogs which qualify under 24 months of age qualify only for the current event. If the dog should compete in any future events, it must participate in QOL until it is eligible for a permanent qualification.

**6. Certificates for dogs who qualify on a permanent basis**

- a. Permanent Qualifying Certificates will be provided by VCA QOL Recorder.
- b. Certificates will contain the following information:
  - 1) Name of dog with AKC number
  - 2) Name of owner
  - 3) Name and signature of evaluating judge
  - 4) Date the certificate is issued and the issue number of certificate
- c. Two copies of each certificate will be made. One will be given to the owner of the dog and one copy will be retained for the VCA QOL Recorder.

**7. Procedures for dogs with permanent qualifications**

When entering a permanently qualified dog in a VCA field event, the qualifying certificate number should be included on the entry form.

**8. Breed Standard Qualification at other than VCA Field Events**

- a. This is applicable for dogs over 2 years of age.
- b. If an AKC recognized Vizsla Club desires to provide breed standard qualification service, it is to be included along with the name of the judge that will be doing the examination in the premium/notice from that event. The judge must be approved by the VCA Board of Directors, be an AKC conformation judge approved for Vizslas and shall not be a current VCA Officer or Director.

With VCA Board approval they may charge a nominal fee to cover the judge's expenses.

Qualification may occur at but is not limited to field trials, hunt tests, fun days, versatility tests, regional shows, club meetings, etc. as long as guidelines 3 through 6 are followed.