

VIZSLA CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.
VERSATILITY CERTIFICATE PROGRAM
(Revised May 2012)

These tests are to help in the overall improvement of the Vizsla Breed, showing the versatility of the Vizsla as a good-looking, well-mannered hunting dog.

CLUB PROCEDURE

1. Any AKC recognized Vizsla Club shall be eligible to conduct any or all of the Versatility Certificate Tests, provided it complies fully with all portions of the Procedures, Rules and Requirements as laid out by the Vizsla Club of America, Inc.
2. A member of the VCA who is approved by the VCA Versatility Committee must witness all Tests. This VCA Member must be thoroughly familiar with the rules and regulations for all tests being conducted by the Local Club. This VCA member, in conjunction with the Testing Committee, must be willing to vouch for the accuracy, honesty and compliance with regulations and conduct of the tests.
3. The Local Club shall appoint a Test Committee consisting of a Chairman, Secretary, Field Representative, Obedience Representative and Conformation Representative who shall be knowledgeable in their area. The VCA Member may be anyone of the Test Committee or another individual. The Test Committee shall be responsible for the entire running of the tests and the selection of the judges.
4. The Versatility Test Chairman or Test Secretary of the Local Club desiring to conduct any or all of the Versatility Tests shall make written request to the VCA Versatility Chairman. The request to hold a Versatility Test must be received by the Versatility Chairman at least four (4) weeks prior to the first day of the proposed Test(s). Each request shall include:
 - A. Name of Club administering the Versatility Tests.
 - A. Date or dates of the event.
 - B. Location where the tests will be held.
 - C. Names and addresses of the Judges. Only one judge is required for each test. (For more information on judges see the section entitled "Selection of Judges.")
 - D. The type of birds to be used in the field test.
 - E. Names and addresses of the Test Chairman and The Test Secretary.
 - F. The names of the VCA member and the Conformation, Obedience, and Field Representatives.

ELIGIBILITY OF DOGS

1. Any AKC or ILP (Indefinite Listing Privilege) registered Vizsla who has reached the age of six (6) months on the first advertised day of the Tests may be entered in the Conformation, Field and Obedience tests. Litter numbers may be used for participation in the test(s) however, no certificates will be issued until the Vizsla is AKC registered and the AKC or ILP number is sent to the VCA Versatility Chairman.
2. Neutered dogs and spayed bitches are eligible to enter all Versatility Test segments – Conformation, Obedience, and Field.
3. If the Test-Giving Club so desires, bitches in season may participate in the tests. Bitches in season must be tested after all other dogs have been tested.

TEST RULES

1. The Versatility Program is a VCA event. Results of all tests shall be sent to the Versatility Chairman who shall be appointed by the Board of Directors of the VCA.
2. All ratings are to be either PASS or FAIL and no rating is to be considered official until confirmed by the VCA Versatility Chairman. Aside from pass or fail, Judges may make comments and recommendations that may be helpful to the handler.
3. Applications to hold Versatility Tests, Entry Forms and Judges Score Sheets **are available to all Clubs from the VCA website: www.vcaweb.org**
If needed, the VCA Versatility Chairman can mail the forms.
4. Entries must list the registered name of the Vizsla, sex, AKC or ILP registration number, birth date, breeder, name, address, and email of owner. No test results will be officially recorded until all this information is supplied to the Versatility Chairman. In order to avoid a late fee, Test Secretaries may forward all forms to the VCA Versatility Chairman even if all the information has not been provided. In this case the owner should be required to forward missing information to the Versatility Chairman, however, the Test Secretary may do so. In either case the owner should be informed that results will not be recorded until the information has been provided. Recording fees will still apply.
5. Entry in the Field and Obedience Tests may be made as many times as necessary to fulfill certificate requirements. Entry of a dog in the Conformation Test shall be limited to three (3) failures, after the third failure in the Conformation Test a dog shall no longer be eligible to enter this test.

6. Local Clubs may either take advance entries or take entries at the test site.
7. Any or all of the tests may be held in conjunction with any other local club activity or a special date may be set aside for conducting the tests.
8. Any or all of the tests may be held in conjunction with AKC events but must in no way interfere with the running of the AKC event and AKC permission must be obtained by the test giving club.
9. Clubs can hold multiple tests in Conformation, Field, and Obedience in the same day. There is no limit in the number of days a year that a Club can hold Versatility Tests. A Judge cannot judge the same dog more than once in a test segment.
10. A test-giving club may offer Measurement Only a test site for Field and/or Obedience. Only dogs that are Champions of record or dogs which would otherwise qualify for a Conformation Certificate, except for a measurement, may participate. The application for measurement only must be made along with the application for the other test(s). The name of the individual who will do the measurements must be entered as the Conformation Test judge.
11. There shall be a recording fee of \$3.00 per dog per test to be sent to the VCA Versatility Chairman along with all test results. This fee applies to passes and failures. No test results shall be recorded until the VCA Versatility Chairman receives all fees. There shall be no fee required for measurement only. The Test-Giving Club may charge an entry fee to cover the recording fee and any other expenses incurred. The amount of the entry fee is the prerogative of the local club.
12. The required information on each Vizsla participating in a test and the Judge's Score Sheets should be recorded in duplicate. The VCA Versatility Chairman must receive the original copies and the recording fees within fourteen (14) days after the completion of the test(s). A fine of 50 cents per day shall be paid on all late reports. The VCA Versatility Chairman shall review and record the test results.

FIELD SAFETY

FIELD ATTIRE – All persons participating in, volunteering in, or judging a Field Versatility Test must wear a blaze orange upper body garment.

GUNS AND GUNNER SAFETY

- 1) Official Gunners must have watched the “Guns, Gunning, & Gunners - The AKC Gun Safety Discipline” video.
- 2) Official Gunners are to carry only double barrel break apart shotguns of at least 20 gauge. Semi-automatic and pump guns are prohibited.
- 3) Blank pistols, up to and including .38 caliber, and incapable of shooting live ammunition, can be carried by the Handlers.

SELECTION OF JUDGES

The Test-Giving Club shall provide each Judge with a copy of the Test Requirements and Score Sheet of the test to be judged.

CONFORMATION TEST - Any person in good standing with AKC and approved by the VCA Versatility Chairman. This Judge shall be chosen by the Test-Giving Club for his/her knowledge of the Vizsla Breed Standard and experience in the showing and/or judging of the Vizsla.

FIELD TEST - Any person in good standing with AKC and approved by the VCA Versatility Chairman. This Judge shall be chosen by the Test -Giving Club for his/her knowledge of AKC Field Trial and Hunting Test Rules and Procedures as well as for personal experience in field trials and hunting tests.

OBEDIENCE TEST - Any person in good standing with AKC and approved by the VCA Versatility Chairman. This Judge shall be chosen by the Test-Giving Club for his/her knowledge of AKC Obedience Rules as well as personal experience in the obedience ring.

Judges may not judge any dog that he/she owns or co-owns or any dog that is owned or co-owned by a spouse. Should a Judge desire to enter his/her dog in a test he/she agreed to judge, the Judge should inform the Test Chairman prior to the application being submitted to the VCA Versatility Chairman. The Test Chairman may include an alternate Judge on the application for this purpose.

HOW TO OBTAIN VERSATILITY CERTIFICATES

A Vizsla shall be eligible to receive any or all certificates upon providing proof of proper performance in the various test segments. Here are the various ways a Vizsla can qualify for their certificates:

Versatility Conformation Certificate:

- A. Versatility Events – Three passes in the Versatility Conformation test segment under three different judges. The documentation is to be submitted by the Test-Giving Club.
- B. AKC Conformation Wins –AKC Points/Summary of Title Progression report showing three Conformation wins **where points were awarded to your Vizsla**, in AKC Licensed or Member Shows, from **three different** judges **and** a completed Application for Versatility Certificate **and** \$5.00.
The Points/Summary of Title Progression report is available free from the AKC website.
- C. Combination of A & B – You can combine passes from A and wins from B to reach the required three for the Conformation Certificate. **Also** need to complete the Application for Versatility Certificate **and** send in \$5.00.
- D. AKC Conformation Championship – Photocopy of the AKC Championship Conformation Certificate, **and** completed Application for Versatility Certificate **and** \$5.00.

Height Measurement Requirement Options:

In order to receive a Conformation Certificate, your **Vizsla must be measured when they are 24 months or older** to confirm that they are within the Vizsla Breed Standard. Here are the two ways to fulfill the height measurement requirement:

- 1) Wicket measurement – This is done by the Test-Giving Club at a Versatility Event. The documentation is to be submitted by the Test-Giving Club.
- 2) Agility Jump Height - This height measurement is done at an AKC Licensed or Member Agility Test. A copy of the AKC Permanent Agility Jump Height Card needs to be submitted with the documentation to support the Conformation Certificate.

Versatility Field Certificate:

- A. Versatility Events – Three passes in Versatility Field test segment under three different judges. The documentation is to be submitted by the Test-Giving Club.
- B. AKC Hunting Test Passes - AKC Points/Summary of Title Progression report showing three passes **in Senior or Master Levels**, in AKC Licensed or Member Hunting Tests, from **three different** judges **and** a completed Application for Versatility Certificate **and** \$5.00.
The Points/Summary of Title Progression report is available free from the AKC website.
- C. AKC Field Trial Placements – AKC Points/Summary of Title Progression report showing any placements in **Regular Retrieving Stakes**, in AKC Licensed or Member Field Trials, from **three different** judges **and** a completed Application for Versatility Certificate **and** \$5.00.
The Points/Summary of Title Progression report is available free from the AKC website.
- D. Combination of A, B, or C - You can combine passes from A and B and placements from C to reach the required three for the Field Versatility Certificate. **Also** need to complete the Application for Versatility Certificate **and** send in \$5.00.
- E. AKC Hunting Test Title or AKC Field Trial Title - Photocopy of the AKC Senior Hunting Test Certificate or of the Master Hunting Test Certificate or of the AKC Field Championship Certificate or of the AKC Amateur Field Championship Certificate, **and** completed Application for Versatility Certificate **and** \$5.00.

Versatility Obedience Certificate:

- A. Versatility Events – Three passes in Versatility Obedience test segment under three different judges. The documentation is to be submitted by the Test-Giving Club.
- B. Obedience Qualifying Scores - AKC Points/Summary of Title Progression report showing qualifying scores in **any level Regular Obedience Classes**, in AKC Licensed or Member Obedience Trials, from **three different** judges **and** a completed Application for Versatility Certificate **and** \$5.00.
The Points/Summary of Title Progression report is available free from the AKC website.

- C. Combination of A & B – You can combine passes from A and qualifiers from B to reach the required three for the Obedience Certificate. **Also** need to complete the Application for Versatility Certificate **and** send in \$5.00.

- D. AKC Obedience Title or Obedience Title Championship – Photocopy of the AKC Obedience Title Certificate (CD, CDX, UD, or UDX) or of the Obedience Title Championship Certificate (OTCH), **and** completed Application for Versatility Certificate **and** \$5.00.

Versatility Certificate:

In order to receive a Versatility Certificate, a Vizsla must fulfill the certificate requirements in all three test segments (Conformation, Field, and Obedience) and submit the necessary documentation to the VCA Versatility Chairman. Once the Versatility Certificate has been issued, the letters VC can be used after Vizsla's name.