

GENERAL CODE OF ETHICS (24th February 2019)

(Incorporating the joint HVS/HVC Breeders Code of Ethics)

All members of the Hungarian Vizsla Society undertake to abide by its General Code of Ethics.

Club members:

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, or who carries out a caesarean section on a bitch, 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 way 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 stand alone 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.

Note: Dog refers to dog or bitch.

15. Members will consider the welfare of their dogs and the benefit to the Breed above any personal gain or profit.
16. Members will only Breed from Vizslas that are of sound temperament, physically sound and free of known hereditary diseases, which show natural ability and conform to the Breed Standard as published by the Kennel Club.
17. Members using their dog at stud:
 1. Will not allow their dog to serve bitches of less than 2 years old or bitches that will whelp after their 8th birthday.
 2. Will not allow their dog to be used at stud until it is 18 months of age.
 3. **PRIOR TO BREEDING:**
 1. Will hip score their stud dog, obtaining and assessing the results. (Scores that are high by breed standards or disproportionate in score from hip to hip should be discounted from breeding.)
DOGS BORN FROM 1ST JANUARY 2018 (Strongly recommended for all dogs born before this date)
 2. Will ensure their stud dogs are tested for Glaucoma and those with scores of 3 and above are discounted from breeding*. Also to undertake a goniodysgenesis test (predisposition for glaucoma) every 3 years. (ie 12 months, 4years and 7 years).
 3. Will elbow score their stud dog, any dog with a score higher than 0 please see the BVA recommendations** at the end of this document.
 4. Will ensure that bitches to be covered meet the Breed Standard and this Code of Best Practice.
 5. Will not allow their stud dog to be used more than three times in its first year of use, until the health and quality of its progeny is proven.
19. Members will not allow their bitches:
 1. To be mated before their 2nd birthday or to whelp after their 8th birthday.
 2. To whelp more than once in any 12 months.
 3. To have more than 3 litters in her lifetime.

Members breeding from their bitches:

PRIOR TO MATING

1. Will hip score their bitches obtaining and assessing the results. (Scores that are high by breed standards or disproportionate in score from hip to hip should be discounted from breeding.)
DOGS BORN FROM 1ST JANUARY 2018 (Strongly recommended for all dogs born before this date)
 2. Will ensure their bitches are tested for Glaucoma and those with scores of 2 and above are discounted from breeding*. Also to undertake a goniodysgenesis test (predisposition for glaucoma) every 3 years. (ie 12 months, 4years and 7 years).
 3. Will elbow score their bitches, any bitch with a score higher than 0 please see the BVA recommendations** at the end of this document.
 5. Will ensure that their chosen stud dog meets the Breed Standard and this Code of Best Practice.
18. 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.

18. Members will be fair, open and honest with buyers and prospective purchasers, and will NOT misrepresent themselves or their stock, or the stud dog. Buyers will be encouraged to present their puppy/dog to their veterinary surgeon within 3 working days of purchase. Should a veterinarian at such an examination advise that the 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. Beyond the 3-day warranty, Members will be encouraged to take responsibility for any progeny bred by them, or supplied by them, which finds itself in need of re-homing. Members will be expected to assist in finding a solution before recourse to any breed rescue or welfare organisation.

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.

**There will be a small number of dogs that are grade 1 at first test that progress to grade 2, these cases will be assessed individually.*

*****Breeding advice of BVA***

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.

Hips 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, considering the median as the ideal cut-off rather than the mean. The BVA's advice is now revised to make selection of breeding stock easier and 5 and 15 year medians are published along with the rolling 5 year medians.

KC Approved November 2018