

Vizsla Canada Guidelines for Member Conduct

General:

As members, our conduct should be exemplary, keeping in mind that we are always representing our breed, our club and our sport with our every action. We should try to put the well-being of the breed and the club before our differences of opinion with others.

As members, we should promote but at the same time protect the Vizsla breeds by being honest with inquirers as to the positives and negatives of owning a Vizsla.

Breeding:

As members, we should only breed with the intention of improving the quality of our breeding stock and should keep foremost in our consideration the Vizsla standards as recognized by the Canadian Kennel Club. Good health, proper temperament, natural hunting ability and good conformation should form the basis of our breeding program, with sufficient emphasis on each area to produce a 'balanced' dog.

Breeders should make a conscientious effort to eliminate hereditary defects and disorders from their breeding stock and deal openly with puppy buyers and other breeders with respect to their breeding stock's genetic health status.

Breeders should not breed dogs who exhibit shyness or aggressive behaviour.

Breeders should avoid breeding dogs which are under 24 months of age.

No dog should be used for breeding unless it is certified in writing by a qualified health professional as being free of hip dysplasia. In order to improve the quality of their breeding stock and reduce the incidence of hip dysplasia, breeders should use hip screening schemes that include a grading system beyond pass/fail, such as the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals, PennHip or the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

A stud dog owner should only offer stud services to a dam whose owner follows these guidelines for members (whether they are a club member or not).

Sales:

As members, we should:

- not sell or consign puppies/adults to brokers or pet shops, or donate or sell puppies/adults to lotteries or raffles.

- honestly evaluate the quality of each individual sold, and be honest with buyers about that quality.
- urge purchasers to spay or neuter any animals that will not be used for breeding.
- sell puppies on CKC Non-Breeding Agreements wherever possible.
- not release puppies under 7 weeks of age to buyers.
- provide CKC registration papers to the new owners at no extra cost within 6 months of a sale.
- provide written details on feeding, care, vaccinations and training, as well as a copy of the dog's pedigree, to the new owners.
- provide and explain the contents of a written sales contract signed by both the breeder and the buyer.
- supply assistance and support to the buyer for the lifetime of the dog (including letting buyers know how to contact us if we move).
- accept back any dog of our breeding (whether through the sire or the dam).
- encourage puppy buyers to become involved in purebred dog activities and to join Vizsla Canada.