

SHH VIZSLAS IN FINLAND

Associations and organisations

In Finland, short-haired Hungarian vizslas fall under the breed club Saksanseisojakerho ry (Finnish Continental Pointing Dog Club/ www.saksanseisojakerho.fi) which is a member of the Finnish Kennel Club.

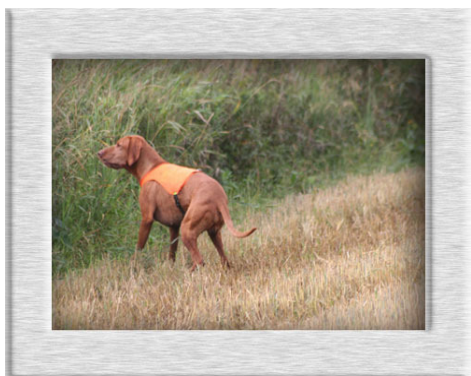
The objectives of the Finnish Continental Pointing Dog Club are to maintain and develop continental pointing dogs as versatile hunting dogs and promote hunting with pointing dogs in Finland. At the moment, a total of 21 different continental pointing dog breeds belong to the Club. The Club organises working trials for pointing dogs (KAER), shows and competitions for its breeds. It also sets the guidelines for breeding and aims to prevent genetic conditions weakening the health of the breeds.



Breeding

The first extensive Objective Programme for Breeding was compiled for the short-haired Hungarian vizsla in Finland in 2006. In addition to general recommendations on dog breeding, the Programme (available in Finnish) contains vizsla-specific information and analysis. A new regulation will be implemented as of 1 January 2008. According to the regulation, puppies of a dam or sire with hip score than C (FCI grading from A=excellent to E=severe dysplasia) will not be registered, and the dogs must be x-rayed before mating. One dog/bitch may only have a maximum of 21 registered puppies, the last litter exceeding the limit will, however, be fully registered.

At the moment, there are slightly less than ten active vizsla breeders in Finland. Approximately 5 litters/year have been registered in the 21st century, the total number of all short-haired vizslas ever registered in Finland being about 300.



The Finnish Continental Pointing Dog Club maintains a register for dogs that meet the breeding requirements of the Club. In order to be listed in the register, the dog needs a minimum of one open class second prize (bitches)/one open class first prize (dogs) in working trial for continental pointing dogs and a minimum of one open/working class “very good” or two open/working class “good” prices from two different judges from the show, however in such a way that the prize is not lowered to “good” because of the dog’s temperament. In addition, the dog’s hip score must be A or B and the dog must meet the breed specific criteria set by the Finnish Kennel Club. A total of 7 bitches and 2 dogs are listed as meeting the breeding requirements of the Club.

It must be noted that the majority of dogs used for breeding are not listed in the register because they do not meet the Club’s special requirements. The register is thus not obligatory but sort of a bonus.



Hunting

Hungarian vizslas participate in the same working trials as all other continental pointing dogs. There are three classes:

- Junior class for dogs under 22 months of age who has not participated in the working trial in any other class
- Open class for dogs who are not entitled to participate in the champion class.
- Champion class for dogs awarded with open class 1st prize. In order to be awarded with open class 1st prize, a dog must obtain points from every sub-section (water work, hunt, point-flush-shoot, retrieve). In order to be awarded with any prize in the champion class, a dog must obtain points from every sub-section (water work, tracking, hunt, point-flush-shoot, retrieve, returning from point to inform the master about game found). In addition, to be awarded with the 1st prize, the dog must have at least 2 points from pointing, flushing and shooting.

In order to become Finnish Working Champion, the dog must have a minimum of one “good” from a show and three champion class first prizes in such a way that the dog have been awarded in both field and forest trials.

The average ratings of the hunting abilities of short-haired Hungarian vizslas in working trials in the recent years are stated below (maximum 5 in each ability): speed 2.7 / exploration of the terrain 2.6 / co-operation 3.7 / passion for hunting 3.4 / pointing threshold 3.5 / avance 3.7

Working trials are held in fields, forests and fells.

The requirements for the title of Finnish show champion are a minimum of two open class second prizes in working trials and three CACs from three different judges.

Kennel Ruskakedon