

Regulations for Breed Standard Qualification (QOL)

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. 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 that the process operates in addition to and in conjunction with all pertinent AKC Rules and Regulations.

Selection of Evaluation Judge

The judge must be an AKC Conformation judge approved for Vizslas.

2. The judge is selected by the host club or the Field Trial Committee with VCA Board approval. The judge performing the evaluation must be listed in the premium. The judge shall not be a current VCA Director or Officer.

Time and Location of the Evaluation

Time

The dog must be presented one hour before the 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. The dog must be presented one hour before the starting time of the National Amateur Field 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).

The owner/handler must present his or her dog for evaluation during the published time.

If the owner/handler of a dog cannot present his or her dog for evaluation during the published time, special arrangements for evaluation must be made in advance through the Field Trial Secretary.

The time schedule must be posted at the field trial grounds and VCA headquarters (if applicable).

All the information listed (Items 1–5) must be stated in the event premium packet.

Location

The location is to be on the field trial grounds.

2. The location is to be selected by the Field Trial Committee.
3. The judge may perform the evaluation at the participant's campsite, at the judge's discretion.

The location is to be out of view of the public so that the evaluation can be performed in a discreet manner.

Who Attends the Evaluation

The judge must attend.

The owner or handler of the dog being evaluated must attend.

A VCA Board member must attend. 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 ensure that these guidelines are followed and make sure that a list of all dogs who qualify is delivered to the Event Secretary and the VCA QOL Recorder. The VCA Board member may be a competitor at the event. Should no VCA Board member attend the event, the Board may appoint a member of the Field Advisory Committee (FAC) to be present for

evaluations. If the appointed VCA Board member needs a dog evaluated, any FAC member may preside over the evaluation.

Evaluation

Each dog will be evaluated independently but done in the same manner.

The evaluation will be an examination similar to that for AKC Conformation wherein 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 dog examinations 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 at the sole discretion of the judge to excuse any dog who will not stand or cooperate for an examination; and therefore, that dog will not be permitted to compete at the event.

3. According to the AKC written standard approved in 2009, the disqualifying faults in Vizslas are as follows:
 - a. Partially or completely black nose
 - b. Solid white extending above the toes or white anywhere else on the dog except the forechest
 - c. White extending on the shoulders or neck
 - d. A distinctly long coat
 - e. Any male over 25½ inches or under 20½ inches and any female over 24½ inches or under 19½ inches at the highest point over the shoulder blades
 - f. 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 allow the judge to further examine an area other than the forechest for disqualifying white. Under no circumstances is the judge permitted to personally lift the dog off the ground.
 - g. It is only necessary to measure dogs who, 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, the judge shall calibrate it using the procedure described by AKC guidelines.
 - h. All evaluation decisions by the QOL judge are final. No refund of entry fees will be made for dogs who fail to pass the breed standard qualification. No appeal for disqualification is allowed.

Types of Qualifications

Permanent Qualification

Dogs must be 2 years of age or older.

Dogs over the age of 2 years who have earned an AKC Conformation Championship title may be given a permanent QOL number at the owner's request. If a dog was under 2 years of age when earning a CH title, the dog must be measured only at a National Field Event to confirm that height is still within the standard. No other examination is required. Burden of proof shall lie with the owner. It is recommended that the owner contact the VCA QOL Recorder in advance with supporting documentation in order to receive a permanent number. If that is not possible, the owner must bring said documentation to the event for review by the VCA QOL Recorder at that time.

Dogs with permanent qualification are qualified for all future VCA Field Events even if the breed-specific disqualifications in the standard for Vizslas change.

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

Temporary Qualification

Dogs who qualify when under 24 months of age qualify for the current event only. For future events, the dog must be re-evaluated for QOL eligibility until the dog is eligible for a permanent qualification.

Certificates for Dogs Who Qualify on a Permanent Basis

Permanent Qualifying Certificates will be provided by VCA QOL Recorder.

Certificates must contain the following information:

Name of dog and AKC number

Name of owner

Name and signature of evaluating judge

Date the certificate was issued and the issue number of the certificate

Two copies of each certificate will be made. One copy will be given to the owner of the dog, and one copy will be retained for the VCA QOL Recorder.

Breed Standard Qualification (QOL) at VCA National Specialty and Companion Events (NSCE)

This is applicable for dogs over 2 years of age.

If the NSCE host committee desires to provide a breed standard qualification service, it is to be included along with the name of the judge who will be doing the evaluation in the premium/notice for 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, the host committee may charge a nominal fee to cover the judge's expenses. Qualification may occur as long as the VCA Field Events Guidelines, Section II., Eligibility for Entry, Items C through G, are followed.