

VIZSLA FUTURITY/MATURITY PROGRAM AN INTRODUCTION

To all Vizsla Enthusiasts:

2012 marked our inaugural competition for this new and exciting program that will be held annually during each subsequent VCA National Show and Companion Events week.

The purpose of the program is two-fold:

1. To highlight and reward the breeders, the backbone of our Breed, as well as the stud dog owners and puppy owners. This will be accomplished through the awarding of cash prizes derived from both nominating fees and entry fees.

2. To provide a fund-raising opportunity for the Vizsla Club of America, The VCA will receive 15% of all nominating fees.

Administration of the program will be accomplished thru the efforts of a committee comprised of Ed Foster, Michelle Rochester and Joyce Tischler. While the program has been approved for inclusion in the VCA national non-field events schedule by the VCA Board, this committee operates independently from the VCA Board.

A short history of the Futurity Program

Many years ago, the VCA had a Conformation Futurity program. The rules for nominations of puppies and litters were very detailed with multiple due dates for nominations of individual puppies. It was felt by many breeders that the nominating process was too complex. The program ultimately diminished in entry. When no one came forward to administer the program, it was discontinued.

A few years ago Ed Foster approached Barbara Snyder, past President of the VCA, regarding the possibility of a Futurity for the VCA. Ed was told that another individual had suggested the same possibility in the form of an agenda item to the Board. The Board asked the proposer to submit a report on how such a program might work. The time set for the proposal came and went without a report. Ed again asked if any progress had been made. There being none, he decided to take a stab at a proposal. The resulting Vizsla Futurity/Maturity Program was presented to the board in late spring of 2010 by Ed and his committee, Michelle Rochester and Joyce Tischler. The program was approved by the Vizsla Club of America board in July, 2010.

Some Questions you might have

Will there still be a National Sweepstakes competition?

Yes. Not all breeders will nominate litters for the Futurity/Maturity Program. Not all puppies in a nominated litter will be individually nominated for the Futurity/Maturity Program. While we hope this will change as the Program becomes more widely known, that will probably not be the case in the early years. If there were no Sweepstakes, puppies not eligible to participate in the Futurity/Maturity competition wouldn't have the opportunity to compete in that type of event during the national event week.

Can Futurity/Maturity eligible puppies compete in both sweepstakes and the Futurity?

Yes. The two events are not dependent on each other in any way and will not be held at the same time. It is doubtful they would even be held on the same day. Puppies will have ample opportunity to rest between the events and not over do.

Will the same person judge both the Sweepstakes and the Futurity/Maturity?

No. Each competition will be judged by different individuals.

Is VCA membership required to participate in the Futurity/Maturity Program?

No. VCA membership is encouraged but not required.

What's Next?

We need your participation in the program to insure its success. All you need to know about the program, the competition and forms to nominate litters and dogs may be found on the VCA website: <http://vcaweb.org/futuritematurity.htm>

Familiarize yourselves with the Vizsla Futurity/Maturity Rules and Regulations.

1. Litters whelped **after** November 1, 2011 and prior to November 2012 will be eligible to compete in the 2013 Futurity Event. Those litters must be nominated prior to their birth. Individual puppies from those litters **must** be nominated within 4 months of their birth for the Futurity and within six months of their birth for the Maturity. Litters whelped after November 1, 2012 will be eligible to be nominated into the 2014 Futurity Maturity Event.
2. Pay attention to the rules and deadlines. The nomination process is not difficult.

A quick step by step road to the 2013 Futurity/Maturity competition:

1. Download the litter and judge nomination forms and nominate your litter within the prescribed timeframe for the Futurity Event.
2. Download the individual Futurity/Maturity and/or Maturity Nomination forms and nominate individual puppies from the nominated litters within the prescribed timeframe.

WE are here to help with any questions you may have and give you the encouragement you need to embark on this exciting program.

Ed, Michelle and Joyce

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