

Kennel Union of Southern Africa

HUNGARIAN VIZSLA

A breed standard is the guideline which describes the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance including the correct colour of a breed and ensures that the breed is fit for function. Absolute soundness is essential. Breeders and judges should at all times be careful to avoid obvious conditions or exaggerations which would be detrimental in any way to the health, welfare or soundness of this breed. If a feature or quality is desirable it should only be present in the right measure. However, if a dog possesses a feature, characteristic or colour described as unacceptable, it must not be rewarded in the show ring.

Most recent changes to this Standard has an effective date of 01/01/2026

ORIGIN

Hungary

UTILISATION

[ed. from FCI Breed Standard No. 57]:

A versatile Gundog that must be able to work in the field, forest and water, having the following typical qualities: an excellent nose, firmness on the point, excellent retrieves, and determination to remain on the scent even when swimming, which he manifestly enjoys. He copes with difficult terrain as well as extreme weather conditions. Since he is intended to be an efficient hunting dog, gun and game shyness, unwillingness to point and retrieve, as well as a dislike of water are undesirable.

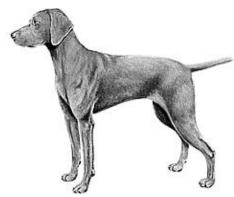


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BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY

[ed. from FCI Breed Standard No. 57]:

The ancestors of the Hungarian Vizsla came into the Carpathian Basin with the nomadic Hungarian tribes. Written descriptions and graphic illustrations are found in documents of the 14th century already. From the 18th century, his importance as a hunting dog has been increasing steadily. As early as the end of the 19th century, competitions for pointing dogs were organised in Hungary, in which Hungarian Vizslas (among others) participated with great success. In those days, other Gundog breeds most likely played an important part in the development of the breed.

GENERAL APPEARANCE

Medium-sized, of distinguished appearance, robust, and medium-boned.

CHARACTERISTICS

Lively, intelligent, obedient, sensitive, very affectionate, and easily trained. Bred for hunting fur and feather, pointing and retrieving from land and water.

TEMPERAMENT

Lively, gentle-mannered, and demonstratively affectionate, fearless, and with well-developed protective instinct.

HEAD & SKULL

Head lean and noble. Skull moderately wide between ears with median line down forehead and a moderate stop. Skull a little longer than muzzle. Muzzle, although tapering, well-squared at the end. Nostrils well-developed, broad, and wide. Jaws strong and powerful. Lips covering jaws completely and neither loose nor pendulous. Nose brown.

Eyes:

Neither deep nor prominent, of medium size, a shade darker in colour than coat. Slightly oval in shape, eyelids fitting tightly. Yellow or black eye undesirable.

Ears:

Moderately low-set, proportionately long with thin skin, and hanging down close to cheeks. Rounded 'V' shape; not fleshy.

Mouth:

Sound and strong white teeth. Jaws strong with perfect, regular, and complete scissor bite, i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws. Full dentition desirable.

NECK

Strong, smooth, and muscular; moderately long, arched, and devoid of dewlap.

FOREQUARTERS

Shoulders well-laid and muscular; elbows close to body and straight; forearm long, pasterns upright.

BODY

Back level, short, well-muscled, withers high. Chest moderately broad and deep with prominent breast bone. Distance from withers to lowest part of chest equal to distance from chest to ground. Ribs well-sprung and belly with a slight tuck-up beneath loin. Croup well-muscled.

HINDQUARTERS

Straight when viewed from rear, thighs well-developed with moderate angulation, hocks well let down.

FEET

Rounded with toes short, arched, and tight. Cat-like foot is required, hare-foot undesirable. Nails short, strong and a shade darker in colour than coat.

TAIL

Previously customarily docked.

Docked: Customarily docked by one-third of length. Moderately thick, rather low set, when moving carried horizontally.

Undocked: Rather low set. Moderately thick. Slightly curved. Tapering towards the end, reaching to hocks. When moving carried horizontally.

[*refer note below]

GAIT / MOVEMENT

Graceful, elegant with a lively trot and ground-covering gallop.

COAT

Short, straight, dense, smooth, and shiny, feeling greasy to the touch.

COLOUR

- Russet gold
- * Small white marks on chest and feet permissible.
- * Any other colour or combination of colours unacceptable.

SIZE

Height at withers:

Males: 57cm - 64cm (approx. 22½" - 25") **Females:** 53cm - 60cm (approx. 21" - 23½")

Weight:

20kg - 30kg.

N.B. Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum. Only functionally and clinically healthy dogs, with breed typical conformation should be used for breeding.

*Regardless of the provisions of the current KUSA-adopted standard, docked or formerly docked breeds may be shown at all FCI- and KUSA-licensed shows in South Africa, whether their tails are docked or natural. Under no circumstances are Judges permitted to discriminate against exhibits on the grounds of docked or natural tails, and equal consideration for awards must be given to either.

FAULTS

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog, and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

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When judging this breed at FCI International Shows, use:

FCI Standard No. 57: RÖVIDSZÖRÜ MAGYAR VIZSLA (HUNGARIAN VIZSLA)

FCI Classification: Group 7 - Pointing Dogs. Section 1.1 – Continental Pointing Dogs – Braque type With working trial. (Field and Water Trial)