

SEP 18 2002

THE VIZSLA CLUB OF CENTRAL NEW ENGLAND, INC.  
CONSTITUTION  
AND  
BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I  
Name and Objects

SEP 18 2002

SECTION 1. The name of the Club shall be The Vizsla Club of Central New England, Inc.

SECTION 2. The Club shall not be conducted or operated for profit and no part of any profit or remainder or residue from dues or donations to the Club shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.

SECTION 3. The objectives and purposes of the Club shall be:

- (a) To promote cooperation and friendship among the breeders and owners of Vizsla, and to encourage high standards in breeding for hunting ability and conformation; promote interest in training the Vizsla for field trials, obedience trials, bench shows, gun dog and personal companion.
- (b) To encourage and promote the interest for Vizsla breeders and owners to work toward perfection of the natural qualities of the breed for field use, and discourage their use for a singular purpose.
- (c) To educate Vizsla owners and introduce them into the merits of field, obedience and bench work with the breed.
- (d) To urge members and breeders to accept the standards of the breed as developed by the National Club and approved by the American Kennel Club as the only standard of excellence by which the Vizsla shall be judged.
- (e) To work actively to protect and advance the interests of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at field trials, bench shows and obedience trials.
- (f) To conduct sanctioned and licensed field trials, specialty shows and obedience trials under the rules of the American Kennel Club.
- (g) To support research and educational work to reduce and/or eliminate undesirable or detrimental congenital traits in the breed.

ARTICLE II  
Membership

SECTION 1. Eligibility. Membership is open to owners, handlers, trainers and breeders of registered Vizslas and to non-owners with specific interests in the breed. Membership is open to qualified applicants. Eighteen years

of age or older who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and who subscribe to the purposes of this Club will have Individual membership. Family membership (husband and wife), and Life membership will have full rights and voting privileges. Honorary members may be granted by the Board of Directors for a term so designated by the Board and such members may not be nominated for office nor entitled to vote.

SECTION 2. Dues. Member dues for each class of membership shall be established by the Board of Directors. Dues are payable on or before the first day of July of each year. No Member may vote whose dues are not paid for the current year. During the month of May, the Treasurer shall send to each member a statement of his/her dues for the ensuing year. The Treasurer will notify all delinquent members on August 1st of each year. Non-receipt by September 1st will result in automatic cancellation of membership.

SECTION 3. Election to Membership. Application for new membership shall be on a form provided by the Club which states that the applicant agrees to abide by these constitution and by-laws and the rules of The American Kennel Club. Applicant must state full name, address and occupation and be endorsed by one member of the Club. The applicant must submit dues payment for the current year. Partial membership may be obtained for less than a full year for adjustment to calendar year. All applicants must be approved by the Board of Directors. All applications are to be filed with the Secretary and each application is to be read at the first meeting of the Board following its receipt. The application will be voted upon and affirmative votes of 3/4 of the Board members present and voting at that meeting shall be required to elect the applicant.

SECTION 4. Termination of Membership. Membership in this Club may be terminated as follows:

(a) By resignation - Any member in good standing may resign from the Club upon written notice to the Secretary; But no member may resign when in debt to the Club. Dues obligations are considered a debt to the Club and they become incurred on the first day of each fiscal year.

(b) By lapsing - A membership will be considered as lapsed and automatically terminated if such member's dues remain unpaid 60 days after the first day of the fiscal year; however, the Board may grant an additional 60 days of grace to such delinquent members in meritorious cases. In no case may a person be entitled to vote at any Club meeting whose dues are unpaid as of the date of that meeting.

(c) By expulsion - As provided in Article VII, Section 4.

SECTION 5. Reinstatement. A former member wishing reinstatement under conditions of Section 4, must present his name as a former member and be approved by a 2/3 majority vote of membership.

## ARTICLE III

## Meetings and Voting

SECTION 1. Club Meetings. Meetings of the Vizsla Club of Central New England shall be held in the city of Boston or a radius of 100 miles thereof, indicative of the Central New England area this club serves, at such hour and place as may be designated by the President and/or the Board of Directors. There shall be a minimum of one meeting per year with additional meetings being called by the President and/or the Board of Directors as necessary for the welfare of the Club. Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least ten days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such meetings shall be 20% of the members in good standing.

SECTION 2. Special Club Meetings. Special Club meetings may be called by the President or by a majority vote of the members of the Board who are present and voting at any regular or special meeting of the Board, or by the Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by five members of the Club who are in good standing. Such special meetings shall be held in the city of Boston or a radius of 100 miles thereof, indicative of the Central New England area this Club serves, and at such hour and place as may be designated by the person or persons authorized herein to call such meetings. Written notice of such a meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five days and not more than 15 days prior to the date of the meeting; and said notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other Club business shall be transacted thereat. The quorum for such a meeting shall be 20% of the members in good standing.

SECTION 3. Board Meetings. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held in the city of Boston or a radius of 100 miles thereof, indicative of the Central New England area this Club serves. There shall be a minimum of four meetings per year with additional meetings being called by the President and/or the Board of Directors as necessary for the welfare of the Club. Written notice of each such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five days prior to the date of the meeting. The quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

SECTION 4. Special Board Meetings. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President or by the Secretary upon receipt of a written request signed by at least five members of the Board. Such special meetings shall be held in the city of Boston or a radius of 100 miles thereof, indicative of the Central New England area this Club serves, and at such hour and place as may be designated by the person authorized herein to call such a meeting. Written notice of such meeting shall be mailed by the Secretary at least five days and not more than ten days prior to the date of the meeting, or telegraphic notice shall be filed

at least three days and not more than five days prior to the date of the meeting. Any such notice shall state the purpose of the meeting and no other business shall be transacted thereat. A quorum for such a meeting shall be a majority of the Board.

SECTION 5. Voting. Each member in good standing whose dues are paid for the current year shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting of the Club at which he is present. Proxy voting will not be permitted at any Club meeting or election.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### Directors and Officers

SECTION 1. Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be comprised of seven members: President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer and two other persons as provided in Article V. General management of the Club's affairs shall be entrusted to the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2. Officers. The Club's officers, consisting of the President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer shall serve in their respective capacities both with regard to the Club and its meetings and the Board of Directors and its meetings.

- (a) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board, and shall have the duties and powers normally appurtenant to the office of President, in addition to those particularly specified in these Constitution and By-Laws.
- (b) The Vice President shall have the powers and exercise the duties of the President in case of the President's death, absence or incapacity.
- (c) The Recording Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Club and of the Board of Directors and of all matters of which a record shall be ordered by the Club, and carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these Constitution and By-Laws.
- (d) The Corresponding Secretary shall have charge of the correspondence keeping a record for the Club files. Any member of the Club corresponding on official Club business shall forward to the Corresponding Secretary carbon copies of said correspondence for the Club files. All official Club correspondence with the American Kennel Club must be handled by the Corresponding Secretary. The Corresponding Secretary will notify members of meetings, notify officers and directors of their election to office, keep a roll of the members of the Club with their addresses and

carry out such other duties as are prescribed in these Constitution and By-Laws.

- (e) The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due or belonging to the Club and receipt therefore. He shall notify new members of their election to membership by means of a membership card and answer all correspondence related to his duties, keeping a record of such correspondence. He shall deposit all moneys in a bank satisfactory to the Board, in the name of the Vizsla Club of Central New England, Inc. His books shall at all times be open to inspection of the Board and he shall report to them at every meeting the condition of the Club's finances and every item or receipt or payment not before reported; and at the annual meeting he shall render a account of all moneys received and expended during the previous fiscal year. His books shall be subject to audit at the end of each fiscal year.

SECTION 3. Vacancies. Any vacancies occurring on the Board during the year shall be filled for the unexpired term of office by a majority vote of all the members of the Board at its first regular meeting following the creation of such vacancy.

#### ARTICLE V

##### The Club Year, Annual Meeting, Elections

SECTION 1. Club Year. The Club's fiscal year shall begin on the first day of July and end on the thirtieth day of June. The Club's official year shall begin immediately at the conclusion of the election of officers at the annual meeting and shall continue through the election at the next annual meeting.

SECTION 2. Annual Meeting. The annual meeting shall be held in the month of July at which directors and officers for the ensuing year shall be elected by secret, written ballot from among those nominated in accordance with Section 4 of this Article. They shall take office immediately upon the conclusion of the election, and each retiring officer shall turn over to his successor in office all properties and records relating to that office within 30 days after the election.

SECTION 3. Elections. The nominated candidate receiving the greatest number of votes for each office shall be declared elected. The two nominated candidates for other positions on the Board who receive the greatest number of votes for such positions shall be declared elected.

SECTION 4. Nominations. During the month of March the Board shall select a nominating committee consisting of three members and two alternates, not more than one of whom shall be a member of the Board. The Secretary shall immediately notify the committeemen and alternates

of their selection. The Board shall name a Chairman for the Committee and it shall be his duty to call a committee meeting which shall be held on or before April 15th.

- (a) The Committee shall nominate at least one candidate for each office and two candidates for the two other positions on the Board, and, after securing the consent of each person so nominated, shall immediately report their nominations to the Secretary in writing.
- (b) Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report the Secretary shall on or before April 30th notify each member in writing of the Candidates so nominated.
- (c) Additional nominations may be made at the annual meeting by any member in attendance provided that the person so nominated does not decline when his name is proposed, and provided further that if the proposed candidate is not in attendance at this meeting, his proposer shall present to the Secretary a written statement from the proposed candidate signifying his willingness to be a candidate. No person may be a candidate for more than one office, and the additional nominations which are provided for herein may be made only from among those members who were not nominated by the nominating committee.

SECTION 5. Elected Positions. The Club officers and Directors shall be elected by the membership for one year terms and shall serve until their successors are elected.

## ARTICLE VI

### Committees

SECTION 1. The Board may each year appoint standing committees to advance the work of the Club in such matters as dog shows, field trials, obedience trials, trophies, annual prizes, membership and other fields which may be served by committees. Such committees shall always be subject to the final authority of the Board. Special committees may also be appointed by the Board to aid it on particular projects.

SECTION 2. Any committee appointment may be terminated by a majority vote of the full membership of the Board of Directors upon written notice to the appointee; and the Board may appoint successors to those persons whose services has been terminated.

## ARTICLE VII

## Discipline

SECTION 1. Suspension. Any Member who is suspended from the privileges of the American Kennel Club automatically shall be suspended from the privileges of this Club for a like period. Likewise, any member suspended from the Vizsla Club of America shall have action taken by the Club for suspension from the Vizsla Club of Central New England if the conditions so warrant suspension.

## SECTION 2. Charges.

- (a) Although it is not the purpose of the Club to discipline or punish a member in good standing, or deny that member his status, the Board of Directors is charged with protection of the Club's name and character. Any Member who commits an act or series of acts of misconduct reflecting upon the name of the Club or breed may be called before the Board to explain his actions by any Board member of the Club.
- (b) Any member may prefer charges against a member for alleged misconduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Club or the breed. Written charges with specifications must be filed in duplicate with the Secretary together with a deposit of \$10.00 which shall be forfeited if such charges are not sustained. The Secretary shall promptly notify the Board which shall meet and fix a date of a Board hearing not less than three weeks nor more than six weeks thereafter. The Secretary shall promptly send one copy of the charges to the accused member by registered mail together with a notice of the hearing and an assurance that the defendant may personally appear in his own defense and bring witnesses if he wishes.

SECTION 3. Board Hearing. The Board shall have complete authority to decide whether council may attend the hearing, but both complainant and defendant shall be treated uniformly in that regard. Should the charges be sustained, after hearing all the evidence and testimony presented by complainant and defendant, the Board may by a majority vote of those present suspend the defendant from all privileges of the Club for not more than six months from the date of the hearing. And if it deems that punishment insufficient, it may also recommend to the membership that the penalty be expulsion. In such case, the suspension shall not restrict the defendant's right to appear before his fellow-members at the ensuing Club meeting which considers the Board's recommendation. Immediately after the Board has reached a decision, its findings shall be put in written form and filed with the Secretary. The Secretary, in turn, shall notify each of the parties of the Board's decision and



penalty, if any.

SECTION 4. Expulsion. Expulsion of a member from the Club may be accomplished only at a meeting of the Club following the Board hearing and upon the Board's recommendation as provided in Section 3 of this article. Such proceedings may occur at a regular meeting or special meeting of the Club to be held within 60 days but not earlier than 30 days after the date of the Board's recommendation of expulsion. The defendant shall have the privilege of appearing in his own behalf, though no evidence will be taken. The President shall read the charges and the Board's findings and recommendations, and shall invite the defendant, if present, to speak in his own behalf. The Members shall then vote by secret written ballot on the proposed expulsion. A 2/3 vote of those present at the meeting shall be necessary for expulsion. If expulsion is not so voted, the Board's suspension shall stand.

#### ARTICLE VIII

##### Amendments

SECTION 1. Amendments to the constitution and by-laws may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by written petition addressed to the Secretary signed by twenty percent of the membership in good standing. Amendments proposed by such petition shall be promptly considered by the Board of Directors and must be submitted to the members with recommendations of the Board by the Secretary for a vote within three months of the date when the petition was received by the Secretary.

SECTION 2. The Constitution and by-laws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the members present at any regular or special meeting called for the purpose, provided the proposed amendments have been included in the notice of the meeting and mailed to each member at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

#### ARTICLE IX

##### Dissolution

SECTION 1. Dissolution. The Club may be dissolved at any time by the written consent of not less than 2/3 of the members. In the event of the dissolution of the Club whether voluntary or involuntary or by operation of law, none of the property of the Club nor any proceeds thereof, not any assets of the Club shall be distributed to any members of the Club but after payment of the debts of the Club, its property and assets shall be given to a charitable organization for the benefit of dogs selected by the Board of Directors.