

# South Louisiana Vizsla Club

## Breed Rescue

*The following guidelines are printed for your reference as the operational guidelines followed by the South Louisiana Vizsla Club (aka SLVC) rescue program as adopted by the rescue coordinator and board of directors of SLVC. These guidelines are subject to review and modification as needed and apply to dogs that the SLVC takes into their possession.*

Due to an increasing number of dogs being abandoned or being placed into shelters the South Louisiana Vizsla Club formed a committee to set up a rescue program with guidelines as set forth. The proposal was accepted by the board and the rescue coordinator. The breed rescue's guideline will include dogs from all parts of the state of Louisiana, Mississippi and portions of northeast Texas and will not be limited to vizslas found only in pound and shelters.

### Objectives of Breed Rescue:

The objectives of breed rescue shall be to:

- A. Encourage and promote rescue efforts from each member of the SLVC.
- B. Assist other vizsla club coordinators and the Vizsla Club of America by serving as an information clearinghouse in rescue and placement.
- C. Serve as the primary rescue contact for the entire state of Louisiana, Mississippi and portions of northeast Texas.
- D. Set monies aside in a separate account designated for breed rescue which has been obtained through donations, breed placement and fund raising.
- E. Operate within the guidelines that have been set forth by the SLVC

### Basis for Breed Rescue Involvement:

- A. The dog must be eligible by meeting two criteria.
  1. It must be a "rescue" - A vizsla from various types of shelters, owners no longer able to care for their dog(s), strays or abandoned.
  2. It must be a "purebred" vizsla - It is recognized and accepted that most rescue vizslas will be without registration papers. Lacking such, "purebred" will be established through evaluation by a member of the SLVC and
- B. Dogs must have a reasonable chance to be placed into a new home on a permanent basis. Dogs believed not to be placed due to severe health or temperament problems will be refused or euthanized with consultation with the South Louisiana Vizsla Club coordinator and board members; and
- C. Dogs will not be accepted from owners who simply do not want their dogs unless these owners first are encouraged to seek assistance in solving whatever problems exist, make their own responsible placement efforts and have contacted, if known, their breeder.

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Each appointee to the SLVC committee shall be a club member in good standing including the coordinator.

A breed rescue coordinator shall be appointed annually by the SLVC's board of directors. It is suggested this person be chosen from the breed rescue committee so that someone current on issues and activity is selected.

A breed rescue committee consisting of a coordinator and at least five members, including the president of the club, be appointed to the rescue committee annually. The purpose of this committee is to act as a decision making body consistent with these guidelines.

The function of the committee will be to take on activities that lend extended support to the overall rescue process. This committee should be made with every effort to designate members from a broad spectrum of the entire state of Louisiana, Mississippi and a portion of northeast Texas so as to give broad coverage for rescue activities.

A rescue coordinator will be appointed by the club's board of directors within the club's membership. A posted listing of the rescue committee is encouraged to maintain contact with each other as well as making it known to all club's membership who the rescue committee is to aid in rescue efforts.

## Financial

The SLVC rescue committee shall have sole responsibility for financial matters concerning its rescue activities. This applies to funding and expenses.

## Spay/Neuter Policy

Any dog rescued by the SLVC rescue will require spaying or neutering prior to adoption unless returned to any of the designated individuals listed in Appendix B (the breeder, owner of the sire or any of the four grandparent owners.)

## Operations

In Addition to the below generally stated guidelines, the SLVC breed rescue will operate within such other specific guidelines as prepared by the breed rescue committee and approved by the SLVC board of directors Present guidelines are set forth in the following appendices:

- A. Financial guidelines
- B. Operational Guidelines

Revisions to these guidelines require the approval of the SLVC rescue coordinator and committee and subsequent approval by the SLVC board of directors.

# Breed Rescue

## Appendix A

### Financial Guidelines

1. Rescues require proper care and at times circumstances will dictate heavy veterinary expenses. It is recognized this burden exists and is worthwhile. Due to fund limitations prudence is advised. Heroic measures cannot be funded when a dog is labeled "terminal" by the attending veterinarian.
2. With the breed committee approval, the following expenses are generally considered to be proper expenses for the care of a rescue:
  - a. Initial veterinary examination and inoculations;
  - b. Shelter adoption fees;
  - c. Spaying and neutering costs;
  - d. The cost of heartworm treatment provided the attending veterinarian renders a greater than 60% chance of survival opinion.
3. A \$250 adoption fee will be charged. This fee will be payable to the SLVC breed rescue fund. There will be a separate accounting of the rescue fund from the general fund. The separate accounting is needed in the event the club needs to request assistance from the Vizsla club of America
4. Fund raising activities may be undertaken with the approval of the SLVC breed rescue.
5. Reimbursement for gasoline shall be on the following basis: For trips exceeding one hundred miles, the volunteer may submit gasoline receipts for reimbursement if the volunteer wishes to do so.

# Breed Rescue

## Appendix B

### Operational Guidelines

1. If a vizsla is surrendered to rescue and the breeder or owner of the sire or any of the owners of the four grandparents (in that order) can be identified, he or she will be notified and given the opportunity to take back the dog.
  - a. If the dog is returned to the breeder it will be done without spay or neuter or inoculations and with any papers available.
  - b. If the breeder refuses to take responsibility for the dog, it will then enter the rescue program formally and all rescue procedures will apply.
2. All vizslas placed through will be immunized against rabies and given a DHLPP injection. Vizslas from shelters or from owners no longer able to keep their dogs and lacking medical records are to be checked by a veterinarian prior to mixing with any other dogs.
3. If a vizsla enters the rescue program with AKC registration papers, these papers will be returned to the AKC with notification that the dog was spayed or neutered.
4. If a pregnant bitch is obtained by SLVC rescue, with veterinary counsel the breed rescue committee, with local input from involved parties, will determine an appropriate course of action as to placement or abortion.
5. If a bitch with live puppies is surrendered to SLVC rescue, the SLVC rescue committee will make a determination as to disposition. Factors to be considered are: age, health, breed (pure or mixed), litter size, etc. The primary objective will be to avoid euthanasia. In the event of mixed breeding, other placement venues (shelters, etc.) are to be considered
6. A vizsla deemed "unstable" or "vicious" is to be reported to the breed rescue committee. The committee will render a decision as to the disposition. The primary objective will be to ensure any vizsla with a tendency toward viciousness not be placed into an unwary household.
7. All dogs accepted will be fostered in approved foster homes. Preference will be given to homes willing to foster on a non-reimbursed basis. Veterinary expenses may be reimbursed with the breed rescue committee approval.
8. All applicants to adopt a rescue will be screened by a rescue volunteer to verify their suitability. An adoption questionnaire will be completed. The right is reserved to refuse adoption to any applicant deemed unsuitable. In the event of a dispute, the decision of the breed rescue committee will be final.
9. No personal information will be given out about any previous owner(s) to the new owners unless mutually agreed to by both parties.
10. All vizslas placed will be done so only upon completion of the SLVC breed rescue adoption agreement and the release, waiver and disclosure forms.

