

# HOVAWART CLUB of NORTH AMERICA, Inc (HCNA)

## BREEDING REGULATIONS

May 1, 2008

### 1. General

#### Prerequisites

The word “dog” is used in this document to refer to both males (dogs) and females (bitches).

The dog must be in excellent health and condition.

The HCNA Breeding Committee must have approved the dog for breeding.

#### Authenticity

- 1.2.1 Valid HCNA or FCI registration is required before a dog will be considered for breeding.
- 1.2.2 If the dog resides in the United States or Canada, the dog’s owner must be a member of HCNA.
- 1.2.3 Breeding status awarded by foreign Hovawart clubs to IHF recognized or FCI registered dogs will be recognized.

### 2. Requirements

#### 2.1 Hereditary Health Problems

Genetically transmitted health problems will preclude a dog from breeding. It is recommended that owners test for any conditions thought to be detrimental to the hovawart breed. The tests listed below are required or strongly recommended. Results of the required tests must be recorded by OFA and on file with the breeding committee prior to consideration of the dog for breeding status. For any of the tests where the application includes an “Authorization to Release Abnormal Results” box, the registered owner of the dog must initial the box to indicate permission is granted.

##### 2.1.1 Hips (required)

- Dogs must be certified OFA excellent or good. X-rays submitted to OFA must be taken on or after the dog's 15-month birthday. OFA preliminary evaluation (15 months – 2 years) is acceptable.
- A copy of the OFA certificate must be forwarded to the breeding committee.

- HCNA will provide the “X-ray Supplement Form” to be completed and signed by the veterinarian taking the x-rays. A copy of the signed form must be forwarded directly to the Breeding Committee.
- Substitutions for the OFA rating will be accepted from other official hip dysplasia registries rating the dog the equivalent of OFA excellent or good. These results must be forwarded to the breeding committee.

#### 2.1.2 Elbows (recommended)

- The dog must be evaluated NORMAL by OFA.
- OFA preliminary evaluation is acceptable when elbow X-Rays are submitted concurrently with hip X-rays after the 15-month birthday.
- A copy of the certificate must be forwarded to the breeding committee.

#### 2.1.3 Eyes (recommended)

- The dog must be free of hereditary eye diseases.
- The dog must be tested by a CERF-listed canine ophthalmologist at the minimum age of 20 months.
- The results must be recorded on the CERF database and a copy of the CERF certificate forwarded to the breeding committee.

#### 2.1.4 Thyroid (required)

- The dog must have a NORMAL thyroid exam performed by one of the OFA recommended laboratories.
- Results must be obtained within 12 months prior to each breeding.
- Results of each test must be recorded with OFA and a copy of the certificate forwarded to the breeding committee.

#### 2.1.5 Heart (recommended)

- The dog must be free of heart problems.
- Results will be obtained at the minimum age of 12 months and recorded on the OFA cardiac database.
- A copy of the certificate will be forwarded to the breeding committee.

## 2.2 Temperament

### 2.2.1 The dog must pass one of the following temperament evaluations.

- BST - Breeding Suitability Test.
- JE – Junior Evaluation of breeding suitability.
- HCNA temperament tests are conducted by HCNA as defined in the document “HCNA Breeding Suitability Regulations” which includes BST (adult test) JE (junior test) and BE (baby test).
- TT - American Temperament Test administered by ATTS

2.2.2 In addition to passing one of the temperament tests listed above, each dog must successfully complete one of the following trainability evaluations.

- BH – Schutzhund Companion Dog (Begleithund)
- CGC - Canine Good Citizen (U.S.)
- CGN - Canine Good Neighbor (Canada)
- CD or equivalent obedience title from a North American kennel club

## **2.3 Conformation**

2.3.1 The dog must have passed the BST-measuring. If the dog was not measured as a component of the BST, it must be measured and passed by a qualified club member.

2.3.2 The dog must have earned a "very good" or "excellent" certificate in two shows under two different judges. An FCI-certified hovawart specialty judge must have judged at least one of these two shows.

2.3.3 The dog must be a minimum of 9 months old at the time of the first showing and 18 months old at the time of the second showing. The dog must be judged by an FCI-certified hovawart specialty judge on or after the dog's 15-month birthday.

## **2.4 Age**

2.4.1 Minimum age for a dog to be bred is 24 months.

2.4.2 Maximum age after which a dog may not be bred:

- For males, the last day of the month when they reach their 10th birthday
- For females, the last day of the month when they reach their 8th birthday.

2.4.3 Maximum age females may be bred for the first time is the last day of the year when they reach their 5th birthday.

2.4.4 Frozen semen must be collected from the male prior to the last day of the month he reaches his 10<sup>th</sup> birthday and only used after he has met the breeding requirements and been approved for breeding by the HCNA Breeding Committee.

## **2.5 Breeding History**

2.5.1 Approval for breedings beyond the first three will only be considered if the information defined below is provided. Approval of the third litter will require that this information is provided for previous litters that have reached the age of 15 months.

2.5.2 Breedings will be considered for approval only when the following information is provided for the offspring of both parents. These results must be sent to the Breeding Committee. Although 100% compliance is ideal, the following are the minimum requirements.

- Starting January 1, 2009, hip evaluations must be provided for 60% of the living puppies 15 months or older from each litter.

- For litters born in the calendar years 2007 and 2008, hip evaluations must be provided for 50% of the living puppies from each litter.
- For litters born prior to January 1, 2007, hip evaluations must be provided for 40% of the living puppies from each litter.
- Temperament test results must be provided for 50% of the living puppies already produced. Acceptable tests are BE, JE, BST, ATTS, BH, CD, CGC and CGN.

2.5.3 The Breeding Committee will also consider other available information in determining a dog's suitability for breeding, such as additional information about the offspring and the health and temperament of the dog's siblings and ancestors.

## **2.6 Frequency of Breeding**

- 2.6.1 Females may be bred no more often than once every 12 months.
- 2.6.2 Females producing a litter of more than 8 puppies may not be bred again for a minimum of 18 months after the breeding date of that litter.
- 2.6.3 Potential breeders will notify the Breeding Committee of intention to breed 3 – 6 months prior to the probable breeding date and work with the committee to follow the steps outlined in "HCNA Breeding Process Description".
- 2.6.4 If two or more females reside with the breeder they may not be bred any closer than nine weeks apart.
- 2.6.5 Repeat breedings with the same sire and dam will only be considered on a case-by-case basis.

## **3. Exceptions**

### **3.1 Conflict of Interest**

When a dog is under consideration by the Breeding Committee, a member will abstain from voting on the dog's approval when the dog is owned by that member, any relative of that member or any person residing at the same address as that member.

### **3.2 Decisions**

At the discretion of the Breeding Committee, a dog may be approved or disapproved for breeding based on considerations additional to the ones listed herein. When a dog is not approved for breeding, the Breeding Committee will provide a written explanation to the dog's owner. If the owner does not agree with the decision, the owner may send an appeal for reconsideration to the HCNA Board of Directors within three months of the date on the explanation. This appeal must include the explanation received from the Breeding Committee along with a written explanation from the owner detailing why the decision may have been in error. The decision of the Board of Directors is final.