

Rules for Futurity/Maturity Program:

The sire and dam should have DNA and OFA numbers supplied on the Nomination Form. Special dispensation from the DNA requirement is given for frozen semen litters from sires that died before a DNA sample was obtained. *At all times the VCA Code of Ethics and approved AKC breed standard should be used as a guideline in breeding programs.*

[While this event is not intended for entrants to earn points toward acquiring an AKC Championship of Record, we will conduct the entry process and class structure in accordance with the Rules applying to Dog Shows, published by the American Kennel Club, March 2017 & Nov. 2017.

<https://www.akc.org/pdfs/rulebooks/RREGS3.pdf>]

The initial Futurity/Maturity competition was held during the VCA National Show and Companion Events on May 1, 2012. Each subsequent Futurity/Maturity competition is planned to be held during the "VCA National Show and Companion Events" week.

The nominating process will work as follows:

A litter should be nominated before the litter is whelped. The cost to nominate a litter is \$30.00. However, a grace period of two weeks to accept late nominations is offered. A late fee of \$15.00 is assessed for these late nominations making the total \$45.00 to nominate the litter. The litter nomination is confirmed with either email or a postcard acknowledgement if an email address is not provided. A litter's Futurity/Maturity Nomination number will be assigned and clearly noted on the acknowledgement. The litter nomination fee is separated equally into the Futurity and Maturity Divisions.

Futurity - Individual puppies from the nominated litter **must** be nominated for futurity before they turn 4 months of age. The cost to nominate an individual puppy is \$15.00.

Maturity – Individual puppies from the nominated litter **must** be nominated for maturity before they turn 6 months of age. The cost to nominate an individual puppy is \$20.00.

A puppy can be nominated for maturity at the same time it is nominated for futurity. [Note: Most people should do it this way as it saves having to remember to do it and possibly missing the eligibility date. Also, there is only one form to fill out - you just check the box that says "both".] Again, an email or post card notification acknowledging receipt of the nomination listing the futurity/maturity number will be sent.

The PayPal option – During 2015 the VFMP initiated our website for informational purposes. Also included on the site is the option to submit all nomination forms (litter, individual puppy, judge nomination) electronically. Also we have provided to our nominators a feature that they requested. That feature is the PayPal feature for ease of payment of all fees. Utilizing the PayPal feature adds an additional \$2.00 to each submission.

Traditional US Mail - Is still available for use. Simply print the forms from the website and submit thru the US Mail. The US postal service postmark date on the envelope used for mailing

in the nomination will be used as the “official” nomination date. If a private meter is used, the “date received” by the FMC will be the “official” nomination date. As proof of mailing could result in your nomination being received late, thereby making it ineligible, perhaps the use of certified mail with return receipt to the Administrator for **all** nominations.

The litter nomination number is different than the AKC Litter Registration Number. An AKC number is required at the time an individual puppy is nominated. We will incorporate the individual puppy AKC registration number into the identification on all future correspondence, Futurity and Maturity entries. This will facilitate the committee in formulating data bases, catalogues, and the verification process.

The Futurity/Maturity Judge:

When we receive from the Breeder/Nominators the Litter Nomination form AND the Judge Nomination form a list is started to compile the preferences that our breeders wish to put forward for possible inclusion on the final ballot. **Litter Nominators are the only people allowed to vote.**

Shortly after November 1st of each year the compiled list of preferences are ranked from highest to lowest number of preliminary choices. The top FOUR (4) non-winning vote getters from the previous year’s election will automatically be placed on the final ballot. The goal is to have 10 AKC Approved or provisionally approved breed judges on the final ballot for the consideration of our voters. We submit to “The Voting Place” (a non-biased vote and tabulation company) the list of names (6 current and 4 carry-overs). They create the ballot, send to the voters and once the voting period is over, submit to the Program the winner and rankings of the non-winning judges. No results are announced until after the winning judge has been contacted and contracted for our Show.

All fees and expenses incurred are the responsibility of the FMC and will not be paid out of any designated prize money.

Each voter must select a different first, second, and third choice. The ballot will have a weighted aspect: 10 points for the 1st choice, 3 points for the second choice and 1 point for the third choice. Results of the balloting will be announced first to the nominators as soon as possible after the ballot closing date. Once that is done, the results will be posted to the VFMP Website and Face Book page.

Classes and Prizes Offered

1st – 4th places may be awarded in each class. There is no prize money allocated to a class placement.

Futurity Event - offers 8 classes

6 - 9 month dogs compete in their class and 9 -12 month dogs compete in their class. A winner from each class will then compete for Best Puppy Dog.

6 - 9 month bitches compete in their class and 9 -12 month bitches compete in their class. A winner from each class will then compete for Best Puppy Bitch.

12 - 15 month Junior Dogs compete in their class. 15 - 18 month Junior Dogs compete in their class. A winner from each class will then compete for Best Junior Dog.

12 -15 month Junior Bitches compete in their class. 15 - 18 month Junior Bitches compete in their class. A winner from each class will then compete for Best Junior Bitch.

The Best Puppy Dog competes against the Best Puppy Bitch for **Best Puppy**.
The Best Junior Dog competes against the Best Junior Bitch for **Best Junior**.
The Best Puppy and Best Junior compete for **Grand Futurity Winner**.

Maturity Event – offers 4 classes:

18 month to 30 months dogs

Over 30 month dogs

The 1st place winners compete for the **Best Maturity Dog**.

18 month to 30 months bitches

Over 30 month bitches

The 1st place winners compete for the **Best Maturity Bitch**.

The Best Maturity Dog and Best Maturity Bitch then compete for **Grand Maturity Winner**.

NOTE:

1. A Futurity nominated dog/bitch may compete only once in the Futurity Division.
2. To compete in the Maturity Division the exhibit must have been nominated under the rules of the program
3. A maturity eligible dog may compete once in a Maturity event. It need not be the first event after they have obtained the necessary minimum age (18 months). A maturity nominated Vizsla can compete during the ensuing 3 years after obtaining the age of eligibility (18 months and 1 day).
4. Eligibility to compete in a future Maturity event: the dog/bitch must have been eligible to compete in a Futurity Event. It is NOT a requirement that they did compete in the futurity event.
5. A portion of the forfeited maturity nomination fees may be transferred to the reserve fund to avoid future increases in nomination and entry fees.
6. Because the actual event date is not known, the committee will have the discretion to determine in which class a nominee is eligible to compete. This will be based on the dog's actual whelp date and its relationship to the event date. As soon as the event date is known the nominators of each nominated dog/bitch will be notified of the class their dog will be eligible to compete in.

Prize money will be determined as follows:

Of the gross money collected from litter and individual futurity/maturity nominations:

- **15%** is retained for expenses.
- **15%** is paid to the VCA National Show and Companion Events Account to be used to defray the costs of that year's VCA National Show and Companion Events. - **70%** is used as prize money. (35% to Futurity Pool, 35% to Maturity Pool)

The prize money distribution follows:

Futurity:

Best Puppy Dog and **Best Puppy Bitch** each receive 10% of the prize pool for a total of 20% of the Futurity prize pool.

Best Junior Dog and **Best Junior Bitch** each receive 10% of the prize pool for a total of 20% of the Futurity prize pool.

Best Futurity Puppy and **Best Futurity Junior** each receive an additional 15% of the prize pool for a total of 30% of the Futurity prize pool.

Grand Futurity Winner receives the remaining 30% of the Futurity Prize Pool.

Maturity:

Best Maturity Dog and **Best Maturity Bitch** each receive 40% of the Maturity Prize pool for a total of 80% of the Maturity Prize Pool.

Grand Maturity Winner receives the remaining 20% of the Maturity Prize Pool.

Allocation of cash prizes are distributed to the winning (Breeder) (Owner) (Owner of Sire) of the Best Vizsla categories listed above:

Each award winning percentage noted above in the futurity/maturity divisions are disbursed as follows:

- 60% goes to the **breeder** of the dog or bitch,
- 20% goes to the **owner** of the winning dog or bitch
- 20% goes to the **owner of sire** of the dog or bitch.

The names and address of the breeder, owner, and owner of the sire must be provided on the entry form to facilitate the payout disbursements.

In addition to the monetary prizes, the FMC plans trophies and rosettes for class placements and division wins.

Encore Award:

This special award is designed to recognize a breeder that has been awarded Two (2) Grand Futurities AND Two (2) Grand Maturities. It is a breeder award not tied to a specific Vizsla. The winner will be given a certificate for a reproduction of their favorite Vizsla. The commemorative reproduction will be created in copper by Beverly Capstick*, Lutzyn Originals LLC, from materials supplied to the artist. Ms. Capstick is the artist used to create our wonderful trophies.

*Ms. Capstick has now retired from creating the Copper Trophies. As of this date we are identifying an established artist to engage in the creation of some of our trophies in 2019.

Vizsla Futurity Maturity Committee:

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