



HOVAWART CLUB OF NORTH AMERICA CONSTITUTION

Preamble

The purpose of this club is to preserve and protect the hovawart breed; to breed only healthy, sound hovawarts according to the FCI standard in conjunction with our guidelines and those set by the International Hovawart Federation; to support club members in all aspects of hovawart ownership; to educate the public about the breed; and to strive for international partnership with all hovawart clubs.

Article One: Organization

- Section One:** The club will be known as the Hovawart Club of North America.
- Section Two:** The official abbreviation of the club is HCNA.
- Section Three:** HCNA operates in the United States and Canada as a non-profit organization. Hovawart owners and enthusiasts from these and all other countries can be admitted as members.
- Section Four:** HCNA will not operate to make a profit. None of the net earnings of HCNA will be distributed to its members, officers, board, or any private persons. However, with approval of club's Board of Directors, HCNA may reimburse anyone who has incurred expenses on behalf of the club.
- Section Five:** The HCNA fiscal year is the calendar year.

Article Two: Objectives

Section One: Breeding

HCNA will support and preserve the natural characteristics, temperament, health, and conformation of the hovawart through fostering quality breeding practices, including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Create and maintain breeding and temperament regulations to govern the selection and approval of breeding stock.
- b. Breed only in accordance with the Federation Cynologique International Hovawart Breed Standard and IHF guidelines to strive to match our dogs with a universal type without specific North American traits in conformation, health, temperament, or color variety and color distribution.
- c. Conduct conformation shows and temperament tests required for breeding approval.
- d. Establish rules for showing and temperament testing and establish guidelines for judges and temperament evaluators.

Section Two: Record Keeping

- a. HCNA will strive to maintain as complete a database as possible of North American hovawarts.
- b. HCNA will establish and maintain the North American Hovawart Registry.
- c. HCNA will maintain the HCNA Breed Book.
- d. HCNA will maintain a list of approved HCNA breeders and kennel names.

Section Three: Member Support

HCNA will guide and assist members in all aspects of hovawart ownership through activities, which include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Publish the HCNA newsletter and information about upcoming events.
- b. Provide members with advice on the buying, selling, importing, breeding, care, and training of their hovawarts.

Section Four: Training

HCNA will promote the training of hovawarts by activities such as the following:

- a. Encourage and support training of members' hovawarts.
- b. Encourage members to compete with their hovawarts at local, regional, national, and international sporting and conformation events.

Section Five: Husbandry

HCNA will protect the hovawart breed and individual hovawarts residing in North America by encouraging activities such as the following:

- a. Observe and respect animal welfare regarding the breeding, keeping, and care of animals.
- b. Support research into breeding, genetics, and other scientific areas relevant to the breed.
- c. Ensure hovawarts in North America are kept according to their breed characteristics.
- d. Provide and support efforts to rescue hovawarts that have been abandoned, are unwanted, or are in situations that endanger their or the public's health and safety.

Section Six: Amendments

This constitution shall be amended in accordance with the procedures set forth in the HCNA Bylaws.