



Puppy Buyer Questionnaire

(Updated 8-2024)

Please cut & paste this into either an email or a Word doc and return for review and consideration. There is no such thing as too detailed!

PROSPECTIVE BUYER INFORMATION

1. Provide name, address, phone & email please!!!
2. Why do you want a dog? Are you acquiring a dog for yourself or for someone else? If for someone else, are they aware of your intentions, or is the dog to be a surprise?
3. Describe your current household (people). Do you have children living with you or visiting regularly? If yes, please note gender and ages. Are you prepared to teach any resident or visiting children the proper way to conduct themselves around dogs?
4. How did you learn about the Hovawart breed?
5. Why do you want a Hovawart?
6. Have you considered other breeds?
 - ◆ If yes, what breed(s) and why?
7. Who in your family will be primarily responsible for:
 - ◆ Daily care of the dog, Clean up, Training, Exercise, Vet and food bills?
8. How would you describe your household activity level?
 - ◆ E.g. very quiet, easygoing, usually something going on, lots of activity, fast paced, stressful?
9. For each dog you currently own, please list the following:
 - ◆ Name
 - ◆ Breed or mix
 - ◆ Sex
 - ◆ Age
 - ◆ Is pet spayed or neutered?
10. For each dog you have owned in the past 10 years, please list the following:
 - ◆ Name
 - ◆ Breed or mix
 - ◆ Sex
 - ◆ Age
 - ◆ Was the pet spayed or neutered?
 - ◆ Why do you no longer own the animal? (If deceased, please give age at death and cause of death.)
11. Have you ever given a dog away or taken one to a pound or shelter? If so, what were the circumstances?
12. Do you have any pets other than other dogs? If yes, please list.



LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

13. Do you live in: Apartment, House, Mobile home, Condo, Other (describe details; home size / square footage number of stories, age, etc. Property characteristics: size, forest, open grass, with stream, flat land, mountains, rolling hills, climate, etc.)
14. In which type of area is your home located? Urban, Suburban, Rural, busy streets, low traffic streets?
15. Do you own your home or are you renting?
16. Describe your typical day & lifestyle, including your work schedule.
17. Where will the dog spend most of his/her time?
 - ◆ Where will the dog be when you are at home?
 - ◆ How long each day will the dog be alone?
 - ◆ Where will the dog be when you are away?
 - ◆ Where will the dog sleep?
18. How do you envision a dog fitting into your home (schedule, indoor/outdoor activities, exercise, etc.)?
19. Do you have a fenced yard?
 - ◆ If yes, size of yard, type and height of fencing location, fencing type & height, set up, and provisions for the dogs.
 - ◆ If no, please explain what arrangements you will provide for housebreaking and for safe and adequate exercise.
20. If you have to be away from home for a few days and are unable to take the dog, what arrangements will you make to provide for his/her care?
21. What will you do with the dog when you go on a vacation trip?
22. In the event of emergency (e.g., hospitalization, natural disaster, etc.), who would take care of your dog?
23. If you were to move, what would happen to your dog? When you travel with the dog, where will he/she ride?

YOUR INTERESTS/GOALS

24. Are you aware of the SOCIALIZATION AND TRAINING requirements of the Hovawart?
25. Are you prepared to spend time SOCIALIZING AND TRAINING your Hovawart?
26. If you have specific training goals, what are they? Who do you currently train with? At what level? What are your goals for your dog? (Please check all that apply.)

Companion (pet)	Conformation/Showing	Agility	Herding
Obedience	Rally	Tracking	SAR
Therapy Dog	Assistance Dog	Flyball	
Schutzhund	Other (specify)		
27. What do you want in a Hovawart? Be **very specific** about the sex/appearance, energy levels, your goals & expectations, including behaviors that you would consider unacceptable.
28. What would happen if this puppy developed physical or behavioral problems that prevented the pup from meeting these goals?



**GUSTAFSON
HOVAWARTS**

29. Have you ever used a crate in housetraining a puppy or dog? Do you intend to use a crate for this dog?
30. What puppy & training classes are available to you locally? When do you plan to start puppy classes? When do you plan to start other classes after finishing puppy class?
31. What type of puppy are you looking for? (male, female, Black, Black & Gold, Blonde) Will you spay/neuter this dog? If not, do you plan on showing this dog? If required, would you keep a male intact for breeding (we sometimes retain stud rights on promising males)?
32. What is your time frame for acquiring a puppy? We rarely breed more than 1 litter per every other year, so you may have to wait. Are you willing to wait for the right dog? How long?

OTHER

33. **GH SELECTS THE PUPPIES FOR EACH FAMILY**, since we know our pups better than anyone else. If two equally suitable puppies are available, then we allow the puppies and you to let us know what the best match is. How do you feel about this?
34. Are you willing to stay in close contact with us, openly discuss any training or health problems you have, and **AGREE TO GIVE US RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL** should you be unable/unwilling to keep the dog? What do you expect from us as your pup's breeder?
35. We do **REQUIRE** you to have your dog's hips x-rayed between 15 months and 2 years of age so that we can track any problems. The Hovawart Club of North America (HCNA) requires a \$300 hip X-ray deposit for each puppy. The club refunds this to you when the X-rays have been evaluated by the Orthopedic Foundation of America (OFA). Your vet will know how to take and submit these X-rays. If the X-rays are not taken during the specified time, the deposit is forfeited to the HCNA. Are you willing to do this?
36. We will pay the first year's membership dues to the Hovawart Club of North America membership. Are you interested in becoming a member of the club?
37. What questions/concerns do you have? Please feel free to ask any questions about our dogs.
38. Are you prepared for the responsibility of caring for this dog for its entire life (10-16 years)?
39. How did you learn about Gustafson Hovawarts ?
40. May I or my representative visit your home? If no, why not?
41. Please add any additional information or thoughts that you feel would help GH understand you as a potential Hovawart owner and the home you can offer the dog.
42. What questions do you have for Gustafson Hovawarts?

APPLICATION / FEES / DEPOSIT INFORMATION:

A non-refundable \$100 application fee is required when submitting your questionnaire for consideration. This covers our time for review and any follow-up phone calls, interviews, home visits, etc. Please think long and hard before submitting your questionnaire for consideration. Only serious inquiries are accepted. GH is seeking stable, healthy, reliable persons, safe homes and yards for puppy placements. All decisions of Gustafson Hovawarts are final.



**GUSTAFSON
HOVAWARTS**

This non-refundable \$100 is to be applied towards the purchase fee. Please, only serious considerations are to be submitted. We will be screening all applications and screening them down by quality, yard size, home environment, activity level of household, other pets, financial security, activity & exercise, and other events that could/would factor into the long term stability of the home placement. We receive many e-mails each year. We will secure contracts for up to eight (8) positions and then create a waiting list thereafter from applications received.

If your application is accepted on merits, we move to the contract phase, and an additional non-refundable deposit is due in the amount of \$400, bringing your total deposit up to \$500. At that point, you will be considered **under contract** for a puppy to be placed. If you decide to change your mind, please let us know early on so we may move to the next application in the process. You will be eligible to receive up to 50% of your deposit back (\$250) if notification is provided within 30 days of the breeding date. If we have fewer puppies, those applicants not receiving a puppy will receive a 100% refund of any amounts paid. The deposit will be due prior to breeding. Full and final payments of \$3,500 plus a refundable hip evaluation deposit of \$300, (\$3,800 in total) are due at the time of pregnancy confirmation (projected 3-4 weeks after breeding). If GH decides to ultimately not place a puppy with a prescreened applicant that has issued the proper deposits, a FULL REFUND OF ALL DEPSOITS will be issued. This makes the total up to \$4,300 (\$300 refundable hip deposit.) If you are contacted and decide against a puppy, your contract will be cancelled, without refund of deposits.

By signing/submitting this questionnaire, you affirm that all statements made above are true to the best of your knowledge. Any false information, misleading statements, or omissions that could be viewed as damaging, harmful, or less than desired conditions for the puppy, shall disqualify your application, without refund e.g. you have a history of abusing animals, have given animals to the shelter/pound to be relocated or put down, your home is utilized in criminal activity of any kind, or you intend to breed in a unethical manner as outlined, not adhere to the Hovawart Club of North America (HCNA) breeding practices and ethics, or cross breed, etc. GH reserves the right, to repossess the puppy(ies) placed with you should any information be found not truthful, the home environment becomes unsafe, or the puppy(ies) is/are emotionally or physically mistreated or health to be in danger. By signing this application, you agree to all of the terms and conditions, acknowledging and agreeing to GH repossession rights, granting permission for GH to repossess the puppy(ies) without incident. No refunds will be issued should repossession action be required. If you are submitting this form via e-mail, please type your name in the signature line. GH will require an original signed copy before breeding.

These are a special and very rare breed of dog. They are loyal, fierce with their love, and expectations of being treated as if they are family. They require firm and consistent training, but never a heavy hand. They mature in about 2-3 years and when properly socialized, trained, and loved, they will be fantastic additions to your family.

Print Name

Legal Signature and Date