

**Vereniging de  
IJslandse Hond in Nederland  
VIJHN**



**Annual report for the year  
2016**

**The 22<sup>nd</sup> International seminar for  
the Icelandic Sheepdog  
USA 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> October 2017**



## Statistics overview and comments, health

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### Board members

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### Committees

**Breeding committee:**

Mrs. Wilma Roem (chairman), Mrs. Natasja Hagemeier, Mrs. Helma van Rijswijk, Mrs. Louwke Mandema, Mr. Coen Huisman

**Behavioral committee:**

Mrs. Natasja Hagemeier (chairman), Mrs. Ilona van der Ende, Mrs. Angélique Tulen, Mrs. Linda van Andel

**Pup information / dog replacement information:**

Mrs. Natasja Hagemeier

*The above is true for the year 2017.*

### Club members

	2016	2015	2014	2013 31 <sup>th</sup> December	2012 31 <sup>th</sup> December	2011 31 <sup>th</sup> December
<b>Members</b>	230	214 (+ 33 family members)	200	200 (+ 35 family members)	213 (+ 34 family members)	221 (+ 28 family members)
<b>New members this year</b>			12			

### Others

#### **Breed registration & representation:**

Mrs. Helma van Rijswijk

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#### **Editor club magazine:**

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## Genetic diversity

*Breeders of the Icelandic Sheepdog* have known for a long time that keeping the breed genetically diverse is very important for the continued existence of the breed. A lack of genetic diversity is the cause of a lot of health issues. As you all know in respect with the history of the Icelandic Sheepdog, in 1997 Pieter Oliehoek published his scientific research results regarding the genetic diversity within the Icelandic Sheepdog breed. He discovered genetically important lines through this research, and breeders have tried to breed with these. Breeding was successful for a number of family groups, while for other family groups things didn't turn out so well.

In March 2015 Coen Huisman attended an educational afternoon for breeders. Pieter Oliehoek was there as well, and he spoke about the need to maintain genetic diversity and how this can be achieved. After Coen talked with him about the situation within the Icelandic Sheepdog breed, he decided to pick up his work where he had left behind and to re-chart the situation within the breed in relation to genetic diversity.

When trying to maintain genetic diversity, it's very important to keep the data up to date. As a result of breeding programs, dogs can become more, but also less important throughout the years. Because the research of Pieter in 1997 concerned the population until 1992, this was no longer up to date for our population in 2015.

Requirement 1 for a proper overview of the genetic diversity within a breed, is a complete pedigree overview of all dogs that have ever been born within the breed, right back to the founders. Luckily the international co-operation organ 'ISIC' has always taken good track of all pedigrees as much as possible, and because of this Coen has been able to add around 15.500 dogs to his own database.

Requirement 2 is extremely important in order to get correct results. When you have all dogs, it's important to remove all dogs that are doubled in the database and to find the dogs where the link to a parent seems to be missing. After many weeks of research, luckily Coen (together with his partner Linda van An del) managed to remove these mistakes.

And finally, you need to find the right software for the calculations. This wasn't easy, because a lot of the software that has been written for this purpose, has been written for zoos, for breeding programs for endangered species (this is also Pieter Oliehoek's specialism). After several months of trying loads of software programs, Coen and Linda managed to get new analyses for the Icelandic Sheepdog regarding the genetic diversity within the current population.

Having done this, Coen has been in touch on a very regular basis with Pieter Oliehoek about the results, and managed to get his data from the research he did in 1997. This has helped him to erase a couple of small mistakes in relation to the founders. Besides this, it has given him new insights about how to manage the data and what the pro's and con's are in this respect.

## Statistics overview and comments, health

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At the beginning of 2017 Coen disclosed this process and his work during a closed breeder meeting of Vereniging de IJslandse Hond in Nederland. Breeders responded very well and with enthusiasm, and asked Coen to organize a lecture regarding this subject. Because of his background as a math teacher, he decided to not only provide a lecture, but make it into a workshop.

The goal of the workshop is to not only know what genetic diversity is and how the status quo is at the moment within the breed of the Icelandic Sheepdog, but to most and foremost know how to implement and apply this new information in our breeding plans. In collaboration with the breeding committee of Vereniging de IJslandse Hond in Nederland, the workshop took place on 21 May 2017, and all Icelandic Sheepdog enthusiasts (also non-members of VIJHN) were welcome. (IJHC was invited but did not show).

The workshop was a great success and we have all learned a lot about the subject. Many participants pointed out though that this is very important knowledge for a lot more people than only us in The Netherlands. VIJHN therefore offers to organize more workshops of this nature in the future. In the meantime, the first international workshop took place in Germany at the beginning of October 2017, with also many Danish Icelandic Sheepdog enthusiasts and breeders present.

In order to maintain our beloved Icelandic Sheepdog, it is important that increasingly more people have this knowledge and can and will implement it in their breeding policies, in order to improve the diversity within our breed. There is still room for improvement in this respect within the Icelandic Sheepdog population, which is encouraging.

In the light of all this, we propose to also organize an introduction workshop for all ISIC breeding representatives in between ISIC seminars (so let's say around April-May 2018), so that in October 2018 when the next ISIC seminar takes place, we will all be on the same page and (have been) able to incorporate the knowledge into our respective breeding programs already, and can therefore talk about practical matters then instead of theory only.

### Litters

	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Litters	18	16	14	10	9
Puppies registered	76	83	74	56	46
Average size of litters	4,2	5,2	5,3	5,6	5,1
Average inbreeding %	1,7	1,2			

**Further comments:** we have had 4 singleton litters in 2016, which is the reason of the low average. We expect it to be up on the same level for 2017 again, as this year we haven't had singleton litters, but all normal size litters.

### Imports

	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Germany					1
Denmark		1			

## Statistics overview and comments, health

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Iceland		1	1		
Finland					3
United States					1
Norway				1	
Switzerland				1	
Sweden				1	
Canada		1			
Austria	1				

## Statistics overview and comments, health

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### Exports:

	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Germany			3		
Belgium	6	1	1	3	3
Finland	1			1	
United States					
Norway					1
Switzerland	1			1	1
France	1		2		

### Stud dogs

Who have reached – or are close – to the “ISIC breeding limit”

#### **Breeding rules VIJHN**

The breeding rules in VIJHN allow a bitch to produce 4 litters during her lifetime. For a male dog the number of litters is the same: he is allowed to produce 4 litters in The Netherlands only. These rules are strictly taken into account and governed by our club. This means that there are no dogs that come close to the ISIC breeding limits ever, and we therefore have no data regarding this.

#### **Further comments:**

The eighteen litters in 2016 had 18 different mothers and 15 different fathers. These 18 litters were bred by 12 different breeders. One breeder produced six litters in one year and one breeder two litters, the other breeders all produced one litter. One of the 12 breeders is a member of the IJHC (the other Icelandic Sheepdog club in The Netherlands), the other eleven breeders are members of VIJHN. Two litters are not yet in the ISIC database due to Canadian ancestors.

### Inbreeding

This year we calculated inbreeding in 5 generations for the litters that are bred in 2016. We found that the calculations in ISIC data base are not entirely correct so we did a recalculation. The result is mentioned in this report and the numbers are in the appendix.

### Hip Dysplasia (HD)

Total number of x-rayed dogs	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
A	7	8	15	17	19
B					1
A+B	7	8	15	17	20
C			3		
D				1	1
E					
C+D+E			3	1	1
In total	7	8	18	18	21

## Statistics overview and comments, health

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### Further comments:

The hip dysplasia results for The Netherlands are consistent with former years.

### Elbow dysplasia (ED)

Total number of x-rayed dogs	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Level 0	1				
Level 1					
Level 2					
Level 3					
In total					

**Further comments:** No requirement in The Netherlands (VIJHN). One dog tested in 2016.

### Patella luxation:

Total number of x-rayed dogs	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Level 0					
Level 1					
Level 2					
Level 3					
In total					

**Further comments:** In 2017 we started with patella luxation research for all breeding stock, this is a requirement and as such incorporated in our breeding rules. So far we had 23 dogs tested, with 21 declared free of patella luxation, 1 level 1 and 1 level 2.

### Eye examinations

Total number of x-rayed dogs	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Unaffected signifies (free)	28	15	43	20	28
Hereditary Cataract	2		1		
Cornea Distrophy					
Distichiasis	1	1	1		4
Others (see below)		1	7	6	5
In total	31	17	52	26	37

## Statistics overview and comments, health

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### Other hereditary eye diseases:

In 2016 we stopped with the gonioscopic research (which was a recommendation before, not a requirement). The reason behind this decision is that the results turned out not to be related to glaucoma and they had no extra added value.

### Further comments:

## Health, optional testing

	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
<b>BEAR (Hearing diseases)</b>	1				
<b>Heart diseases</b>					
<b>Kidney diseases</b>					

**Further comments:** Although the BEAR hearing test is not a requirement in The Netherlands, one dog was tested by owner initiative. The dog was tested partially (one-sided) deaf, most likely due to the piebald (a lot of white) gene.

## Mentality descriptions

**Further comments:** No mentality descriptions available from The Netherlands

## Working abilities (herding) descriptions

	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
<b>Described dogs</b>					
<b>In total</b>					

**Further comments:** No official herding descriptions done in The Netherlands in 2016. We have arranged for a herding workshop in 2017 though and have compiled our own description.



### Shows

#### Breed Specialty

The **Dutch breed specialty** show was organized by VIJHN on June 12, 2016 in Hoenderloo.

The judge was Barbara Bruns (Germany) and the entry was 43 Icelandic Sheepdogs.

Best male with CAC and Best of Breed was *Gísli Pálsson frá Olafsfjörður*.

Best bitch with CAC and Best Opposite Sex was *Fagrahvamms Vanadís* (From Germany).

Res. CAC males was for *Surtsey's A-Ásti* (Denmark).

Res. CAC female was for *Dyrgja Dagstjarna fra Dyrgjadottir* (Germany).

### Events

#### Walking tours

Four times a year walking tours with our dogs are organized on different locations in the country (forest or beach). Attendance varies greatly; sometimes there are 20 dogs and owners, but sometimes also a handful.

#### Day of the Icelandic Sheepdog 2016

August 28 2016 we organized the "Day of the Icelandic Sheepdog", which is a combination of activities for the whole family with evaluation of litters born in the year before. This has been very successful again this year (we organized it for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time), with 70 Icelandic Sheepdogs present in Hoenderloo.

*Young dogs*: from the litters born within the VIJHN in 2015 and beginning 2016, 9 litters were present. One of our new judges (educated by Wilma Roem and Erna Upmeijer), Ineke Groen, has evaluated them. Most of the parents and some grandparents were also present. This provides a good insight in the quality and quantity of Icelandic Sheepdog breeding in The Netherlands.

*Activities*: next to the litter evaluations, on this day we also organize things where you can be active with your dog(s) and have fun with them. We set out courses, think of fun games to play and things to do. This worked fine in 2016, although the weather didn't co-operate very well: with 30+ degrees Celsius it was really too hot for our cold loving dogs.

#### 'Male' workshop

Because the male part of our population can sometimes be reactive towards the same sex (at shows, when on the leash), we organized a lecture and a workshop, where owners learned to recognize the signals (staring, fixating) and were taught how to react themselves if a reactive situation was at hand. This workshop was a repeated initiative from 2015 and again a success, although after evaluation we have decided to take a different approach for 2017; we will also include 'fierce' females (because yes, the bitches can also be real bitches sometimes) and we will focus on 3 pillars: reactivity, excessive barking and problems with being home alone. We have changed the name of the workshop to 'Icelandic Sheepdog behavioral workshop'. This one will take place end of November 2017 for the first time.

#### Workshop sheep herding

In 2016 we didn't organize one, but in 2017 we did; including our own evaluation format.

#### SUP with dogs

In 2016 we didn't organize a SUP session with Icelandic sheepdogs ourselves, but there were many private initiatives. We organized one again in 2017, with similar success.

#### Winner's 2016

Our club was present during the 3 days of the Winner's Show of 2016 in Amsterdam to promote our breed.

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## Appendix

### Litters

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Litters</b>	8	12	16	15	12	12	16	8	14	15	14	13	12	10	12	9	10	14	16	18
<b>Puppies</b>	40	66	94	75	57	63	83	31	77	67	71	61	54	55	65	46	56	74	83	76
<b>Average size of litters</b>	5,25	5,5	5,9	5	4,75	5,25	5,2	3,8	5,5	4,5	5	4,7	4,5	5,5	5,5	5,1	5,6	5,3	5,2	4,22
<b>Average inbreeding %</b>																			1,2	1,7

### Hip Dysplasia (HD)

Total number of x-rayed dogs	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>A</b>			1	2	1	11	17	23	15	13	10	16	14	19	14	19	17	15	8	7
<b>B</b>	7	10	20	17	9	4		2		1	1	1			2	1				
<b>A+B</b>	7	10	21	19	10	15	17	25	15	14	11	17	14	19	16	20	17	15	8	7
<b>C</b>	2	1	1			2	2	2	1	1	1	2		3				3		
<b>D</b>		2	1	2			1	1		1	2	2	1	1		1	1			
<b>E</b>													1							
<b>C+D+E</b>	2	3	2	2	0	2	3	3	1	2	3	4	2	4	0	1	1	3		
<b>In total</b>	9	13	23	21	10	17	20	28	16	16	14	21	16	23	16	21	18	18	8	7

## Appendix

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### Eye examinations

Total number of x-rayed dogs	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Unaffected signifies (free)	17	11	33	17	17	17	63	31	37	24	37	30	37	33	6	28	20	43	15	28
Hereditary Cataract																		1		2
Cornea Dystrophy																				
Distichiasis	1	1	4		1	1	7	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	2	4		1	1	1
Others				1									2		5	5	6	7	1	
<b>In total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>31</b>

## Appendix

### Litters in The Netherlands in 2016

Kennel name	Father	reg father	Mother	reg mother	inbreeding %	pups
fra Fridarstöðum	Mika	NHSB2794217	Dagrun fra Fridarstöðum	NHSB2888038	1,78	5
van Rogici	Imur van Rogici	NHSB2954182	Fagrahvamms Skjaldmey	IS16335/11	1	3
no kennelname	Imur van Rogici	NHSB2954182	Mila van Rogici	NHSB2989232	6,54	1
van Rogici	Imir van Rogici	NHSB2954183	Isdalur's Disa	DCNH IH 00629/10	0	3
af Laglendu	Brandi Lundsson frá Fuglatorgi	NHSB2924985	Aitiorannan Brana Mýsla	FI21147/12	0	6
no kennelname	Gísli Pálsson frá Olafsfjörður	NHSB2797521	Elfur frá Fridarstöðum	NHSB2922838	2,51	2
van Rogici	Losnabakken's N-O Bjór	NO44840/13	Nina van Rogici	NHSB2990396	1,17	5
Saeldarlifs	Eldur Eskil fra Dyrgjadottir	DCNH IH 00894/13	Elska Disadóttir frá Fuglatorgi	NHSB2924989	0,95	7
van Rogici	Gyasi van Rogici	NHSB2932502	Isdalurs Chili	DCNH IH 00605/09	0,93	6
Trygg Vinur	Isdalur's Högni	DCNH IH 00901/13	Yndislegur frá Isafold	NHSB2940625	0,49	1
Fra Idunn	Sindra Vetur	IS15618/11	Disa	DK05424/2010	0	1
no kennelname	Mika	NHSB2794217	Snjófells Fold	IS13768/09	0,49	5
no kennelname	Surtur	NHSB2888020	Kaeti frá Isafold	NHSB2818687	8,13	4
van Rogici	Gimstein van Rogici	NHSB2932501	Jóga van Rogici	NHSB2966691	2,54	5
no kennelname	Imir van Rogici	NHSB2954183	Dögunn frá Fridarstöðum	NHSB2888037	1,81	7
no kennelname	Ana Camptis Gaski	NHSB2785645	Askja frá Aegir	NHSB2832832	2,17	4
van Rogici	Flórus frá Isafold	NHSB2781946	Mc Eremons Gou Miska	DN33285303	0	6

## Appendix

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Fra Idunn	Rúnar frá Idun	NHSB2885745	Eagleisle Nora Vordis	AY617624	0	5
						76
			Average		1,7	4,2