

[Received via email 4 March, 2009 from Guðni Ágústsson, DÍF chairman]

Donna McDermott and members of ISAA

For the record we want it noted that the decision of the board of ISAA regarding dogs registered by *Vereinigung der Züchter, Besitzer und Freunde des Islandhundes in Deutschland* (VdZBF) or „Freunde“ in Germany were made after suggestions from ISIC/C and with the unanimous support of all the boardmembers of *Deild íslenska fjárhundsins* (DÍF) in Iceland.

The population of the Icelandic Sheepdog worldwide is very small and geneticists have emphasized the importance of looking at the population of the breed as a whole. In the future it will be even more important for everyone interested in the breed to exchange breeding animals between countries to limit the loss of genetic variation. In order to make this possible it is of the utmost importance that the same guidelines are kept regarding the registration of Icelandic Sheepdogs everywhere. The aforementioned German club is not recognised by the FCI and therefore the dogs registered there are excluded from the FCI population.

It is our sincere hope that once the Icelandic Sheepdog is accepted by the AKC no other dogs from this club or any other club not approved by the FCI are admitted into the AKC studbook for the Icelandic Sheepdog.

We also want to note how grateful we are for all the work that the board of ISAA has put into the breed standard for the Icelandic Sheepdog within ISAA/AKC so that it will be in harmony with the FCI breed standard, set by the Icelandic Kennel Club (HRFÍ).

We would like to wish you the best of luck with your speciality show later this year.

Yours Sincerely,  
The board of DÍF:

Guðni Ágústsson, chairman

Þorsteinn Thorsteinson, secretary

Elís E. Stefánsson, treasurer

Ágúst Ágústsson

Helga Andrésdóttir

Guðríður Valgeirsdóttir, vice-president of HRFÍ and representative of HRFÍ in the board of DÍF

The following is not part of the above letter from DIF. It is supplemental information from the ISAA News Page that is referenced either directly or implicitly in the above letter and links are provided for your convenience to review that information.

**Regarding our AKC Standard:**

<http://www.icelanddogs.com/Standard-AKC.html>  
<http://www.icelanddogs.com/Conversation-Breed-Standard.html>  
<http://www.icelanddogs.com/Standards-FCI.html>

**Regarding our AKC Studbook/Registry:**

<http://www.icelanddogs.com/About-Non-FCI-CKC-Import.html>  
<http://www.icelanddogs.com/Know-Your-Pedigree.html>  
<http://www.icelanddogs.com/Official-Pedigrees.html>  
<http://www.icelanddogs.com/ISI-Guidelines.html>  
<http://www.icelanddogs.com/Links.html>

Please visit the ISAA News Page <http://www.icelanddogs.com/ISAA-news.html> to read more about club activities, our involvement in the International Community of FCI ISD clubs <http://www.icelanddogs.com/Links.html> and our first and upcoming National Specialty including three days of fun including

The History of the Icelandic Sheep Dog (ISD) with  
Internationally Recognized ISD Expert and FCI Judge  
Guðrún Ragnars Guðjohnsen  
<http://www.icelanddogs.com/Gudrun-On-ISDs.html>



AKC Judge Pat Putman, who whelped some of the first ISD litters in  
the U.S. with the Honorable Mark Watson in the 1950's  
*(ISAA members, see ISAA Newsletter released in February for more about Pat)*



AKC & FCI Judge Diane Anderson,  
who has judged ISDs in Iceland

Don't miss this once in a lifetime opportunity to have your dog evaluated by HRFI recognized expert, Guðrún Ragnars Guðjohnsen, and learn about our breed's history from one of those responsible for saving the breed from extinction.