



The official magazine of the
German Shepherd Dog
Council of Australia, Inc
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Spring 2014

THE GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG QUARTERLY NATIONAL REVIEW



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CONTENTS

REPORTS

President's Report	04
Editorial	05
From Obedience Chair	06
Youth Reports	16
Club News	24
National Breed Commission Meeting	26
Breeding Plan To Reduce Size	38

ARTICLES

Yet another innovation from the West...	07
GSD as guide dogs	08
A Snap Shot of the Hindquarter Angulation	12
Rotary's epic mower ride around Australia	13
GSDA of WA Demonstration at Bletchley Park Primary School	18
Can I have a go, please?	19
Maintaining Pregnancy in the Bitch	20
Perth Royal Show 2014	25
Saxon	31
Siegershow 2014	34

ADVERTISEMENTS

Eukanuba	02
Foto Urma	03
Christmas is Coming!	06
Sundaneka German Shepherds	09
Hillmagic	14
Fremont	22
Calling All Obedience Readers!	41
Eukanuba	42



Siegershow 2014 - Page 34

COMPETITIONS

Competition 1 Win with Eukanuba!	04
Competition 2 Eukanuba Quiz	40

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All previous editions of the Foto Urma Books are still available.



Front cover: SUNDANEKA TRUE BLUE A Z BSCI.1 (Aussie) owned by K EATON, G & K STEVENSON
Back cover: AUST CH HILLMAGIC PURPLE HAZE owned by EDWINA BEVK

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Well spring is here at last and with it those of us that live in the 'south' have left a very cold winter behind!

The only consolation was letting the dogs run free on frost covered paddocks...they always look so much more excited in tearing around when it's cold!

The GSDCA Executive has been rather busy since the National and its members have either chaired and or attended the National Breed Commission, Judges Committee and or Obedience Committee meetings. It was pleasing to see very good participation by Member Club Delegates, Judges and Breed Surveyors at the respective meetings with the focus being the German Shepherd Dog, how better to make our sport more accessible to all, and further improvement of the breed. I do ask members to please read the minutes and action reports from each meeting as posted on our website. The important theme of all the meetings was the need for the peer group to take ownership of what are general agreements and progress them through their clubs in order that we can progress what are in the main enhancement of what currently is in place.

Leadership by the whole peer group is essential if the Council is to move on into the future.

The website working party has been working hard and will soon put forward a plan that sees our website totally redesigned to meet our current and future needs. Another exciting development is the GSDCA DataBase which also after many years of development are soon to be available to the membership and no doubt its features will be highlighted in an article in this magazine in the near future. The GSDCA Executive is committed to ensure we continue to develop our 'communication tools' in order the membership is better informed.

Just a reminder, as the weather does get warmer remember not to leave your dog in the car and to take care when exercising them (and yourself) in the heat of the day.

If members wish to contact me then please ring: 0401711038.

Kind Regards

VINCE TANTARO

Vince Tantaro
President



COMPETITION !!

WIN WITH EUKANUBA

We are looking for the two best Summer Holiday snaps for dogs.

To win, your snap will make it obvious that it is summer and that your dog is enjoying a summer break with you and your family.

Entries close 15th December, 2015 and will be published in the Summer Edition.

They should be jpg or similar files in the highest possible resolution and must be accompanied by your name and address and the name of your club.

Please send to: revieweditor@gsdcouncilaustralia.org.

EDITORIAL



Firstly, let me apologise to those readers who have been waiting for their Spring edition.

Unfortunately, some deadlines for material that were critical to my holiday in South Africa slipped by and it meant that we had to hold the publication for some time. However, what it did mean was that we were able to include some breaking news from Germany and the Sieger Schau results. I must thank Jess Lynch particularly for all her efforts. She has been a significant contributor to this edition and I can only say a very large 'Thanks' for her timely submissions.

The trip to South Africa was one I can only recommend to everyone, although possibly wait until the Ebola outbreak is under control. Aside from the wildlife (and I include my favourite photo from the trip), it is an absolutely fascinating destination with plenty see and do. Six and a half thousand kilometres in 3 weeks was certainly testing and I think I came home for the rest.

Of course, I did keep an eye out in our travels for GSDs, but to my disappointment, did not encounter too many and those that I did see were being used as guard animals in walled homes or estates.

And of course, returning in October meant that in NSW at least, there were quite a few shows to be attended, with dogs that were unfit and a double handler that was in an even sorer state! Did the best we could, but will try and plan future holidays a little better! Canberra saw judges Renaud and Petinaroli officiate and the GSDL had Carol Black from NZ. Carol Black's summation of the show was quite interesting - she remarked on how far our standards had risen in what she stated was a very short time and she was most complimentary and encouraging of our breeders.

Also included in this edition is a report from the Working Group established by Lothar Quoll to discuss the issue of size and a plan for the breed to move forward accommodating animals of worth. Firstly, I would like to thank both Honey Gross Richardson and Joylene Neddermeyer for making this available so soon after it was released. I can only imagine how stressful it would have been to get a precise translation for such an important piece.

One other observation would be the make up of the working party and some fresh "blood" being consulted.

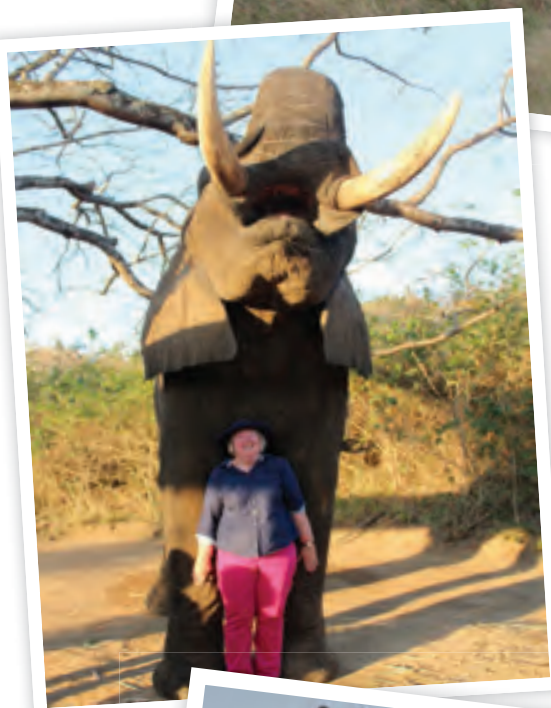
Recently, I have been hearing a great many reports about bitches that are confirmed pregnant one week and later on, there's nothing there. This can become an incredibly frustrating and expensive business and I asked Karen Hedberg to look into the problem for us. Perhaps the article on the role progesterone in canine pregnancies may offer some ideas for some and I'd like to thank Karen for taking the time to assist when she was in the midst of exams and preparing other materials for ANKC.

The German Shepherd world recently lost a friend and supporter in Christine Davis, the former CEO of DOGS NSW. We sometimes forget that we do not operate in a vacuum and that we need friends in other organisations to achieve our objectives. Christine Davis helped whenever possible, in both Western Australia and NSW. Christine passed away after a long illness and will be greatly missed.

Whilst on the subject, I am personally aware of a number of our friends and members of the GSD community who are either ill or recovering from illness. In our busy lives, we frequently forget that many of the treatments and therapies currently in use can have horrendous side effects and be more debilitating than the illness they are intended to fix. Spare a thought for those amongst us not doing so well and perhaps make the odd phone call or send a quick email - it doesn't take long and can often make a long, unpleasant day so much better than it was.

YVONNE YUN

Editor





FROM OBEDIENCE CHAIR

On Saturday 2 August 2014 the German Shepherd Dog Council held the bi-annual Obedience meeting with Delegates from ACT GSDA (Rhonda Daly), GSDC of Tasmania (Sandra Parker), GSDA of WA (Honey Gross- Richardson), GSDC of SA (Stephen Collins) and GSDC of Victoria (Marilyn Wrigley) along with GSDCA Executive members and observers.

Thank you to the GSDC of Victoria, Western Branch for their hospitality, the use of their club rooms and keeping us well fed!

A number of regulation changes and discussion points were put forward, of which were identified in the minutes of which all Clubs have received a copy. These items will be put forward to the AGM for any changes to be voted on by Club members. Like all motions and regulations previously put forward, the original intent does not always reflect the final draft motion that was agreed and we need to re word and correct where possible.

Clubs, as a whole, need to share information as much as possible and these meetings are a valuable information exchange of ideas and methods. If any Club requires assistance please contact me and I will assist where possible, or, find out how to help your Club.

I would ask that Clubs send in "feel good" stories and pictures about their Club Instructors and dogs as these tireless workers are often overlooked and we need to keep them in the spotlight - this is a small way we can recognise and thank them. This will give much needed exposure in our Quarterly National Review to more obedience related stories. Please encourage your Obedience members to forward articles to the Editor for printing.

The GSD National Show & Trial in Melbourne is still some time away but I urge the Obedience fraternity to consider a donation towards the trophy for table for the many classes on offer, including Rally O for the first time, so if you can - let's get the ball rolling! Please go to http://www.gsdvc.org.au/2015class_donations for further information.

Enjoy your life and Dogs
John De. Lucia

CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

When so many of your friends are going to be "doggy" folks, especially those overseas, why not consider some of the following gift ideas for their Christmas Stocking!

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YET ANOTHER INNOVATION FROM THE WEST...

At our A.G.M. in August the members carried a motion to recognise our friends when they turn of 100 - becoming Centurions.

When our friends reach the equivalent in human years: 14 years and 3 months and 1 day they will receive a letter from our association signed by the President.

To date we have 3 of these superstars - we hope they enjoy their "old age" for many years to come.

- Alderhaus Nixi AZ**
d.o.b. 26th March 2000
- Iccara Olympic Onyx BS Class 1 AZ Exc**
18th May 2000
- Karlsburg Jack Flash BS Class 1 AZ**
2nd June 2000



Dear Flash

I am so pleased to hear that you are celebrating your one hundredth birthday (in dog years) on June 2nd

I send congratulations and best wishes on behalf of the members of the G.S.D.A. of W.A.

Signed:

President

GSD AS GUIDE DOGS

On the 22nd April 1899 the SV was formed with the first registered German Shepherd Dog being Horand v Grafrath. For 115 years this breed, whilst its conformation has certainly changed, has still retained its inherent quality which is its high trainability.

Only 15 years later and the German shepherd dog was being used by the German and French military for various tasks which included ammunition, messages, cables and first aid supplies. So impressed were many of the soldiers that they took some German shepherds back home with them after the conclusion of the war.

Historically the first guide dogs in modern times were German shepherd dogs. Many of the soldiers who served in the first world war who were blinded used trained German shepherd dogs as their 'eyes'.

Unfortunately, in more modern times, there have not been a great number of German shepherd dogs being trained as guide dogs in Australia. However more recently, there have been four German shepherd puppies supplied to the RSB Guide Dogs by Adelaide breeder, Joe Seidl of Vomkogelberg Kennels. Whilst only a small number of puppies make it as guide dogs (regardless of breed) it is pleasing to note that two of the German shepherd puppies are still in the programme and doing well. Puppies are socialised from 8 weeks of age and if a litter is specifically bred with an intent to supply puppies for the RSB Guide Dogs then the training starts whilst they are still with their mother. Dogs enter a five month training period at 12 - 14 months of age and this will lead them on to qualify as RSB Guide Dogs.

A wonderful and innovative venture undertaken jointly by the Returned Services League (RSL-SA) and the Royal Society for the blind (RSB) is the Dogs for Diggers programme (D4D). D4D dogs are provided to Veterans of the Australian Defence Forces (ADF) who have a diagnosed Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). It is indeed very exciting to advise that one of the Vomkogelberg puppies supplied is already in training for this scheme and hopefully, will be successful.

The RSB Guide Dogs would love to make contact with any breeders who would be prepared to offer puppies to them. The RSB are looking for puppies in particular who have a genetic history of good health, a malleable temperament, consistent willingness and initiative but not too high in any drives such as prey or dog distraction. The RSB can be contacted in Adelaide on 0884175619.

The RSB are to be congratulated in sourcing and utilising the German shepherd dog acknowledging its origins and history working with blind and vision impaired people. The RSB is very keen for this to not only continue but to grow here in Australia.

Acknowledgements to Jenny De Lucia - PR Officer GSDCSA and Chris Muldoon - Manager RSB Guide Dog Service for their contribution and assistance with the preparation of this article





VA3 *CH. USTINOV VOM ROMERLAND

SchH3 : HD - normal ED - normal

VA - 5 Times V1 - 45 times

Exc. Merit 1 times



Breeders of high quality German Shepherd Dogs.

SUNDANEKA GERMAN SHEPHERDS

Graeme & Karen Stevenson

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A FEW OF USTINOV'S UP AND COMING AUSTRALIAN PROGENY

Sundaneka Young Gun



1st.MPD Fran Farley (VIC)
 2nd.MPD Peter Tjerkstra (QLD)
 3rd MPD Torsten Kopp (SV Gmy)
 6th.MPD Joachim Stiegler (SV Gmy)
 1st PD Melissa Lloyd (SA)
 1st JD J Neddermeyer (SA)

Leishjaelyn Reign Dancer



1ST BPD Mrs Robyn Knucky (WA)
 1ST BPD John Lijffit (SV Netherlands)
 1ST BPD Heather McDonald (WUSV Scotland)
 1ST BPD Jo Cathie (WUSV Belgium)

Chrisnat Fast and Furious



1st BPD Andrew Thor (NSW)
 9th BPD Joachem Stiegler (SV Gmy)
 1st MPD Heather McDonald (WUSV Scotland)
 1st MPD Jo Cathie (SV Belgium)

Chrisnat Fiercely Serious



2nd BPB Andrew Thor (NSW)
 3rd MPB Heather McDonald (SV Scotland)
 4th MPB Jane Pike (SA)
 4th MPB Jo Cathie (SV Belgium)
 1st MPB G Pettinaroli (Italy)

Sundaneka Bella Donte



8th BPB Frank Goldlust (SV Gmy)
 3rd MPB Jane Pike (SA)

Sundaneka Valiant Ustinov



1st PD Andrew Thor (NSW)
 2nd PD Juergen Maibuchen (SV Gmy)
 5th PD Fran Farley (Vic)
 2nd JD G Pettarinoli (Italy)

Sundaneka Xynas Xcstacy (LSC)



2nd BPB Fran Farley (Vic)
 1st MPB S Collins (SA)
 2nd MPB Joachem Stiegler (SV Gmy)
 4th MPB Juergen Maibuchen (SV Gmy)
 1st PB Andrew Thor (NSW)
 1st PB J Pike (SA) R/U B.B.
 1st JB C Black (NZ),R/U B.B

Sundaneka Calypso Coco Colada



4th BPB Dr. Karen Hedberg (NSW)
 2nd MPB G Pettinaroli (Italy)

Sundaneka Electric Blue



4th BPD Dr. Karen Hedberg(NSW)

Sundaneka breeds primarily to improve the breed of the German Shepherd Dog and emphasis is heavily placed on type, beauty, quality, temperament, character, soundness and conformation.

CH. Jayshell Glasgow (LSC)



1st BPD Hans-Peter Schweimer (SV Gmy)
 1st BPD Melanie Groth (NSW)
 4th MPD Juergen Maibuchen (SV Gmy)
 4th MPD Joachem Stiegler (SV Gmy)
 1st PD Fran Farley (Vic)
 2nd JD M Renaud (France)
 1st JD CC G Pettinaroli (Italy)

Conkasha Cosmic Angel



2nd BPB Dr. Karen Hedberg (NSW)
 2nd BPB Jo Cathie (WUSV Belgium)
 3rd BPB Heather McDonald (WUSV Scotland)
 4th BPB Andrew Thor (NSW)

Conkasha Lethal Storm



1st BPD Dr. K. Hedberg (NSW)
 2nd BPD Jo Cathie (WUSV Belgium)
 3rd BPD Heather McDonald (WUSV Scotland)
 3rd BPD Andrew Thor (NSW)
 2nd MPD M Renaud (France)
 2nd MPD G Pettinaroli (Italy)
 2nd MPD C Black (NZ)

Tristiana Hafwen



Up and Coming

SOME INTERNATIONAL PROGENY

Count Ustinov van der Ybajo Hoeve VA1(Neth) 2013,
 VA2(Bel) 2013, VA5 (Neth) 2014
 Zam von Ben Harkin VA1(Peru) 2013
 Xissi von der Schanlache VA1(Pak) 2014
 Pizzaro von Badboll VA9(I) 2012
 Only vom Luttersbruch VA5 (USA) 2013
 Kimbo von Dezurko SG1 Sieger (Brazil)
 Giselle Degli Archei Siegerine JHKL (Brazil) 12013



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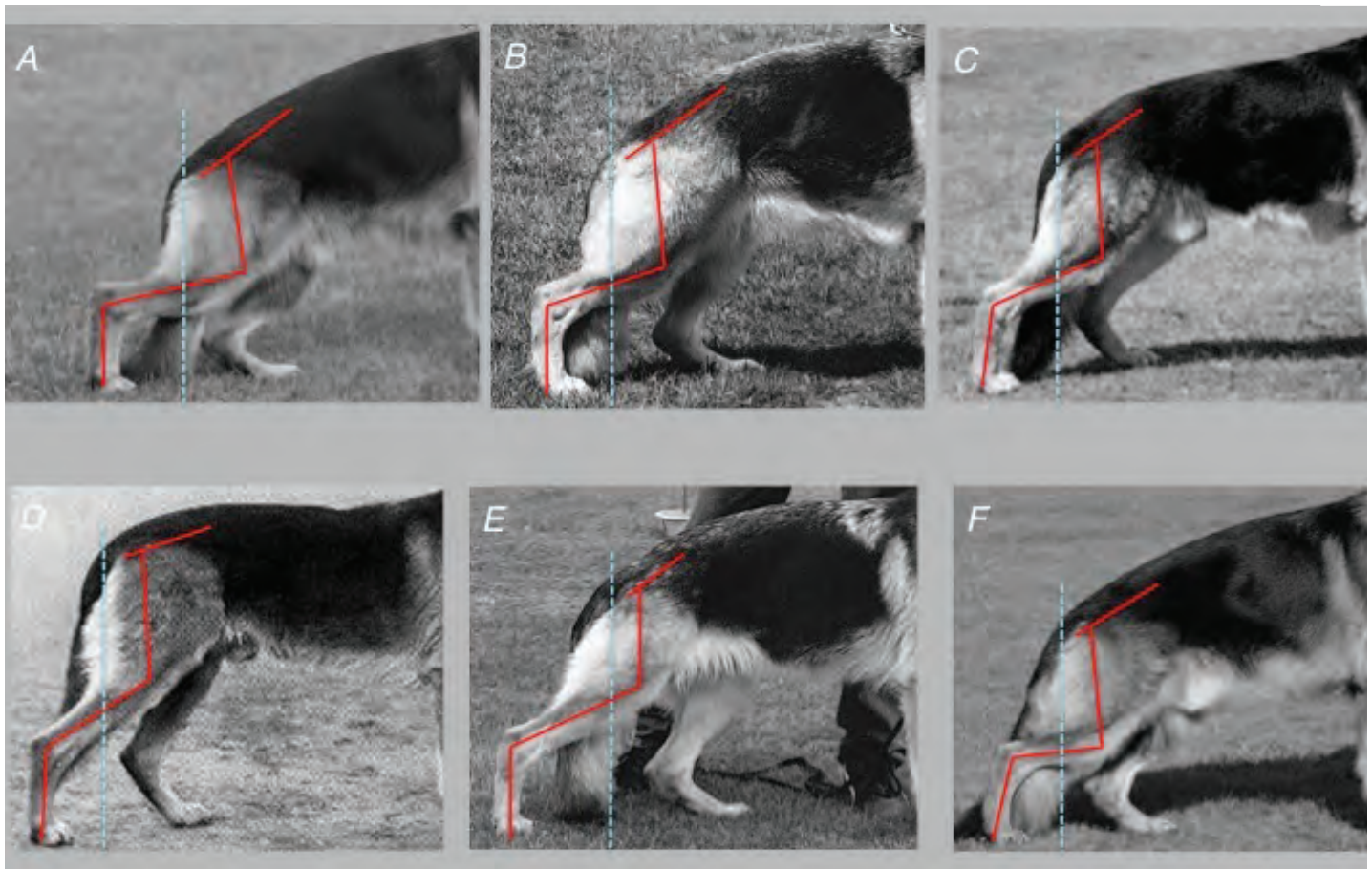
A SNAP SHOT OF THE HINDQUARTER

The over-angulation of the hindquarter of the German Shepherd Dog has been highlighted throughout the world as an issue for our breed. So what does this mean and what are the ramifications of having animals with excessive or extreme hindquarter angulation?

The GSD is described as a moderate breed without exaggeration, with a deep hindquarter angulation, it cannot be described as 'without exaggeration'.

What is it?

- A Overangulated hindquarter – long lower thigh
- B Correct hindquarter angulation
- C Correct hindquarter angulation
- D Underangulated hindquarter – slightly short lower thigh
- E Unbalanced or overangulated hindquarter – very long lower thigh with short upper thigh
- F Unbalanced hindquarter - short lower thigh and long upper thigh



QUARTER ANGULATION



What does it do?

- It makes the hock joints on the animal loose and therefore requires more energy to cover the ground, whether at work or play. The animal will tire more easily, due to an unbalanced movement (walking, trotting or running).
- It brings the knee joint closer to the ground, with a higher degree of angulation. This can place higher than desired stressors on the knee joint increasing the chances of arthritis of the knee joint, and therefore pain as the arthritis develops. The change in angulation of the knee or stifle joint predisposes the animal to - Cruciate disease, ruptured cruciate ligaments and patella instability and pathology.
- In young puppies, they can be very loose in the hocks and therefore appear unstable in the whole hindquarter assembly. The risk is a puppy buyer can take their puppy to an inexperienced vet, in this area, and being misdiagnosed with hip dysplasia on physical examination. This can cause a lot of stress for the owners and breeders. Deep hindquarter angulation does not necessarily cause hip dysplasia.

How do we fix it?

We consider this trait in our breeding programs. At the recent GSDCA Judges Meeting, it was agreed that animals with extreme over-angulation of the hindquarter will not be promoted in the show ring by judges, wherever possible.

We will continue to provide information on the German Shepherd Dog to vets throughout Australia on the difference between hip dysplasia and over-angulation of the hindquarter. That hip dysplasia cannot be accurately diagnosed without x-raying the animal. Also that owners need to be encouraged to do this by their breeders (as well as their vets), particularly if they have any concerns that their dog has a lameness.

This is a very complex area and if any members of affiliate clubs of the GSDCA wish to access further information on the hindquarter angulation, please contact me on judgescommittee@gsdcaustralia.org.au for additional references.

I would like to thank Mr Louis Donald for his photos above from his article on the website louisdonald.com, and Dr Candy Baker for her support with critiquing this short paper.

ROTARY'S EPIC MOWER RIDE AROUND AUSTRALIA

The Rotary Club of Armadale in Western Australia is driving a Hustler Super Z ride-on lawn mower around Australia to benefit charity.

In 2012, we drove from Perth to Kalgoorlie.

In February 2013 we drove from Kalgoorlie to Adelaide arriving at the Clipsal 500 motor race!

In May 2014 the Ride will leave Adelaide for Sydney and the Rotary International Convention, via Melbourne, Hobart and Canberra! Come on board for the ride!

In 2014, the Ride benefits Australian Rotary Health's Mental Illness Research Program, Rotary Foundation's End Polio Now Program and the EJ Whitten Foundation for prostate cancer awareness and research.

When we say we're riding to get to 'the other side', we're not just talking about geography. We're riding this lawn mower to help people in need get to where the grass is greener.

The G.S.D.A. of W.A. continues to support this Ride and raised \$100 in an hour in our Breakfast and raffle on the morning of July 17th 2014.

As always the kids have a great time sitting on the famous mower.

All food was donated for this event by a handful of members and Brumby's in Canning Vale.



The German Shepherd Dog Quarterly - Spring 2014 - 13

KUMA

Ch Hillmagic Purple Haze



CH USTINOV VOM ROMERLAND / HILLMAGIC SAGE

Whilst Kuma has been making his mark in All Breeds

Owned, loved and campaigned by Edwina Bevk & Raelene Koerber - for further information contact us at borderpixmart@bigpond.com

Photo by Border Pix N Art

CINNAMON

Hillmagic Purple Rain



CH USTINOV VOM ROMERLAND / HILLMAGIC SAGE

Cinnamon has been achieving at Specialties

Owned, loved and campaigned by Hillmagic Kennels - for further information contact us at hana1@tpg.com.au

Photo by Pawshots Photography

YOUTH REPORTS.



In this edition of Youth Reports we interview Lyn McIntosh. We hope you all enjoy reading about some of her most memorable moments...

When did you started handling?

I handled a little bit in Sydney when I lived there but have mainly handled in Queensland since moving up here in 1993.

What is your most memorable moment as a handler?

I have 3 memorable moments..

The first: Handling my first import and an open male of all things! The wonderful Alk v Domenica (owned by Les Hersant). I had not handled very many open males at that time and was in awe of such a dog, my first time being up close to an import and was totally delighted that Les had the faith in me that I could do the job. I was fortunate enough to handle him throughout his show career and with great success. Alk was a joy to handle and a lovely, lovely dog with a lot of attitude and who left me with such wonderful first time memories.

The second: Handling a bitch I bred Winola Mia (Cayos/ Winola Rio – owned by Rod & Laurelle Buckley) to win Puppy Bitch at the 2010 National. This was certainly a sentimental win, with Mia surviving through the early dark days of her new life when half her siblings was lost from fading puppy, then as an older puppy Mia spent days in the vet on a drip to finally recover from paralysis tick. Mia is certainly a fighter which she proved a third time when she had to fight to be placed 1,2 or 3 at this 2010 National under Herr Hans-Ludger Goeke SV and she WON!

The third and without a doubt my biggest thrill and highlight was handling Jimmy v Barutherland (owned by Angela Brinkworth & Sharon Thorp) to take out Gold at the 2011 National. This is probably when I first felt the immense pressure that a handler can experience in an open dog class. I actually beat world class handler Stephen Cox and what a thrill!! I had been right behind Coxie all weekend with him beating me in other classes, using his 'little handling tricks' on me but not this time. Jimmy and I came through to shine and prove the

sceptics wrong in particular the ones who said it was a very 'political show' and that I was 'not a face and should be replaced'. I was pleased that Angela and Sharon did not bow to such peer pressure and keep me on Jimmy to handle him to such a glorious win.

Who are some of your favourite dogs you have handled?

Ahhh, there are many. I have been fortunate enough to handle some lovely dogs through their career but the ones at the forefront of my mind are Astasia Piah, Alk v Domenica, Astasia Carson, Stunadel Olympia, Pallendon Klaudi, Mike vd Esterlagerland, Pallendon Quinci, Chayessa Gemica, Jimmy v Barutherland, Vladimir Envy This, Fremont Hells Bells, Vladimir Flaunt It, – interestingly they are all lovely running dogs who have and still do love the ring, they have all had a wonderful outlook on life and great work ethic.

Who are some of your favourite dogs you have trained?

I've trained lots of dogs! When you put in the time and the nights and the leg work you hope that you've done enough. I try to mix up training to keep the dogs interested and keen. I would have to say my favourites would be Winola Mia... breeding her, training her and then winning Puppy bitch at the 2010 National was a super overwhelming feeling.... But training highlight would be Voitlander Pina Colada (owned by Russell Wenham and Jan Quinn) when she won Gold at the Queensland National to say I was overjoyed at that achievement was an understatement this is when you know the effort you have put in has certainly paid off.

Were there any handlers you looked up to when you first started and why?

I admire collectively handlers young and old, then and current who consistently do a top job and also who handle the well placed dogs. In the early years I would watch and learn from these people and decided a long time ago that is where I wanted to be. There were a

few people who helped me along the way but the most significant people who helped me and taught me a lot were Les Hersant and Russell Wenham. Without them I would not be where I am today.

What are the main areas you would encourage a young handler to focus on?

Young handlers should focus on the dog at all times, focus on their length of lead, focus on the judge and focus on the double handler. Multi-tasking and being focused on all those things and more, is a pre-requisite for handling. In a couple of words... remain focused – on everything that is happening around you.

What advice would you give to young handlers hoping to handle in the ring?

I would advise young handlers to be patient and to handle as many different dogs as you can. You will not always get the top dogs but if you watch and learn and are prepared to accept help and guidance from those who know, you will. Watch the top handlers, see the tricks and the techniques they have and when they use them, maybe model yourself on one in particular and most important whether you are coming first or last, give it your all, never give up and remain alert and positive – people have asked you to do something for them and are relying on you to do your best so don't let them down. Also it must be remembered that not all dogs are the same and therefore cannot all be handled the same way.

Having been in Germany recently what dogs really impressed you and why?

At my very first sieger show I saw Larus v Batu and I was in awe of this dog. He amazed me with just his presence as well as his conformation a beautiful, beautiful dog. My next sieger show I 'found' Furbo degli Achei and fell in love with him in every way. I still turn to mush when I see him today. Correct size, correct proportions, well coloured, perhaps being a little too 'sharp' was to his down fall, but still a lovely dog and "retired" from Germany way too soon .

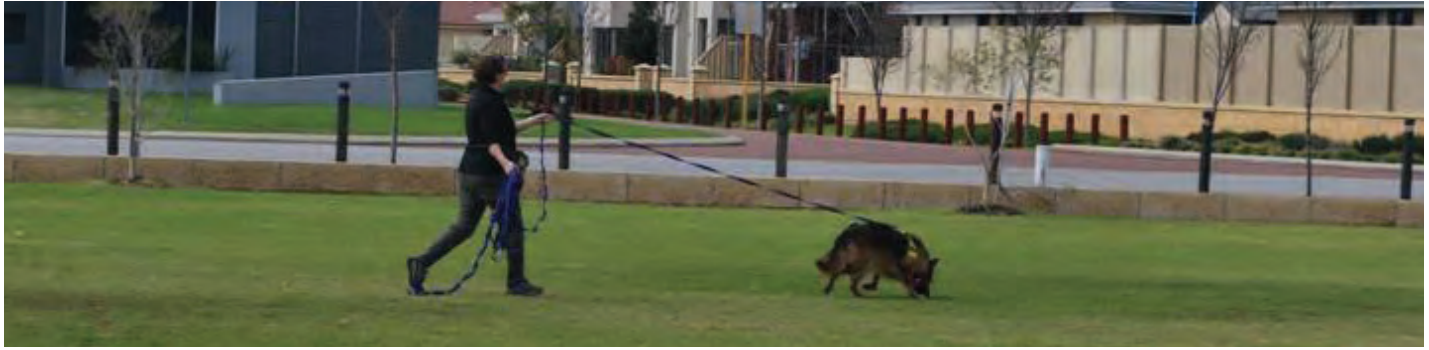
Arex von der Wilhelmswarte was a young dog we 'discovered' at a Landsgruppen Show in 2008 and wow he was amazing then and amazing now. To know his gene pool lives on in Australia is just wonderful. If you have seen Arex in the flesh, you would certainly use the son.

Last year – Remo, Omen, Ballack, Paer. I know I have mentioned only dogs... but the 2013 VA bitch Faya vom Adelschlag took my breath away. She was the most amazing GSD I have ever seen – she was totally mesmerising and nothing compares with her, her fluent movement, her correct size, her beautiful conformation – to me and I am not an expert... to me she is the closest to the perfect GSD I have ever seen.

What differences do you see watching handlers in Germany compared to here?

Actually most handlers in Germany are not very good ! People expect them to be fantastic but most are very ordinary, but having said that, there are exceptional handlers too... probably a bit like here (insert wink smile) At the 2013 sieger show I was lucky enough to have a press pass and could witness up close how aggressive the handlers can be, it would seem at times there are no manners. They run over the top of each other, jump over the person in front should they fall and even argue with the judge as to where they were placed prior to the fast gait! It is not a place for the fainthearted... but you must remember you have so many people from all over the world at one event with different attitudes and cultures that we don't display in Australia.. When overseas judges compliment us on our sportsmanship behaviour in the ring they are being honest... we are a very polite GSD society compared to the best in the GSD world and really we should be proud of that, we can also be aggressive, do a great job and still be nice to each other during and at the end of the class, something I feel is very important because at the end of the day, it is just another dog show.





GSDA OF WA DEMONSTRATION AT BLETCHLEY PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

On Friday 4th July our club put on an impromptu mixed Demonstration at Bletchley Park Primary School in Harrisdale.

We were watched by approximately 500 excited, screaming, squealing children.

We had 15 German Shepherds from 10wk old pups up to adults (the oldest being 13.5yrs) and all the dogs behaved impeccably considering they wouldn't have been around anything like that before.

We walked all the dogs amongst the lines of children much to the children's delight.

Kerrie Pearce and Peggy Waller put on an obedience demonstration. Kerrie Pearce and myself put on a tracking demonstration.

Peggy Waller did a healing to music demonstration. Sophie Mailata, Mark Wellock, John Glenny provided the dogs for a mini show demonstration.

Thanks also to Vicki Knight for taking many lovely photo's.

Many thanks to Trish Humphries for arranging the demonstration with the school. Also thanks to everyone who brought their dogs down to show them off: Kerrie Pierce, Peggy Waller, John and Sandra Glenny, Mark Wellock, Sophie Mailata and myself (Kym Glenny)

Thanks to John Glenny for providing the commentary.

Special thanks to Trish's 2 boys, Brock and Jake for helping out on the day.

On behalf of the GSDCA , Brock Jauncey was presented with a Junior Showmanship Award which he achieved at the GSDA National in Canberra 2014.

This was an absolutely fantastic public relations demonstration of the German Shepherd Dog Club of WA.

It's a tribute to the breeding and the training that goes into the dogs and the club should be justifiably proud.

CAN I HAVE A GO, PLEASE?

The GSDA of WA have for some time been looking at ways to encourage our new members to continue with the club beyond the first year of training with us and we have put more emphasis on fun, socialising and of course basic obedience with our new enthusiastic puppy buyers. We have also introduced a great socialising session every Sunday between the end of the pre-kindly early training session and the older dogs being trained from Advance pre-kindly through to Class 1.

What do we do that is different? We split the pre-kindly into two groups, the first group consists of the really young puppies down at the ground for the first time and the second group is made up of still young dogs but slightly older than the babies. The training for both groups is the same and the groups are taught by an experienced instructor who is assisted by an instructor under training. We do lots of work dog to dog, dog to people and group puppy recalls in an enclosed area with the babies, plus a dropped lead recall with the older dogs in the same enclosed area. The results of this type of fun training is that we now have these new handlers moving on to the next class level and renewing their membership and all of our training classes are now increasing in size. (Attached are 4 photos of the two classes)

The new socialising session that we are using for a half hour period between the baby classes and the older dog classes utilises the setting up of some agility equipment. We use a small A frame, a four step platform then on to a sloping plank, a seesaw, a low table, a solid tunnel, a soft plastic tunnel, a set of weavers, a tyre set low and a low dog walk with a sloping entry and exit. The members love this activity and are quite happy to queue up to use the equipment. They all do at least two times around the agility gear and more if time allows. The joy on the faces of the members when their dog successfully goes over a piece of equipment is tremendous and of course because they have to queue to use the equipment the socialisation of the dogs is tremendous. (Attached are a number of photos showing the crowds using the equipment and the different types of equipment being used)

We are definitely seeing the positive results of what we are doing by the number of members that have renewed beyond the first year, and hopefully as they progress through the classes they will get the urge to go on and compete in trials. Our head trainer takes trials based classes every Sunday and the numbers are starting to increase in this class also.

I hope you enjoy the photos that were sent with this story and maybe there is something that your club can use.



MAINTAINING PREGNANCY IN THE BITCH

While most bitches get pregnant easily and have normal cycles and litters, others have trouble getting pregnant and holding on to the pregnancy for the 9 weeks required.

A very common scenario is the bitch has a normal litter at around 18 months to 2 years, is given a year or 2 off and then never conceives again. It should be remembered that a bitch's best breeding years are very short, 18 months to 6 years, with the peak time from 18 months to 4 years. Also every bitch (breed), season and pregnancy can vary considerably, and more so over time.

The main problems here, *once* the major issues of timing of ovulation, mating, quality of semen and infection are removed from the list, what is left is:-

1. **Did the sperm get to the ova and fertilize them**
2. **Did the fertilized ova implant into the uterus**
3. **Did the placenta around the fertilized ova implant sufficiently to hold the pregnancy.**



Failure of sperm to get to the ova/uterus - this can be as a result of poor slip matings and/or AI's where the semen does not get past the cervix. Occasionally the conditions in the vulva before the cervix can be toxic to some sperm or there can be cysts present in the uterus which prevent the sperm going past them to get to the fallopian tubes. These (usually older) bitches may do much better with surgical insemination of fresh semen directly into the uterine horns.

Failure of implantation - I feel this is a very big problem area for the older bitch (any bitch over 4 years). In the canine, after the eggs are fertilized in the fallopian tubes, they then gradually move down into the uterus and finally implant at around day 16-18 after ovulation (day 14-16 post mating). As the placenta around the developing embryo grows, it embeds into the lining of the uterine horns, so if there is any degree of inflammation, irritation or infection of the uterine lining or insufficient levels of progesterone present, the fertilised ova may fail to implant.

Failure to hold the pregnancy results in reabsorption of the developing embryos which can occur up to around day 40. One often does not see any discharge from the vulva, rather a failure of the abdomen to develop in size or even deflate. If there is discharge from the vulva, this indicates an open cervix and any loose material will come through. In

a normal pregnancy there is a very small amount of clear mucous, in a bitch that is failing to hold pregnancy, has an infection or is aborting, this discharge can be bloody or discoloured. The problem here is that by the time you see an abnormal discharge, the pregnancy actually started to be in trouble some 7-10 days earlier.

Failure to establish pregnancy and then hold the pregnancy are the big issues. My main area of concern is that many bitches as they age, fail to hold sufficient levels of progesterone. The reasons for this can be many and varied but I feel that it could be that our bitches as they age are exposed to more oestrogen mimics (hormones in many pesticide sprays, products etc) and other compounds over time and this may act directly against adequate progesterone production.

Ultrasounds (from day 21-25 after mating) can give you a better idea of what is occurring in some of these bitches. Paired ultrasounds 5-7 days apart are valuable. The first scan confirms pregnancy and normal development, or that some have failed to develop or become pregnant. Measurements can be recorded on size and number of foetus present. The second scan can confirm normal progression of all or some of these foetus', or if they have failed to develop. If the developing foetus are too small (underdeveloped) or there are decreasing numbers of foetus present, progesterone levels should be checked and the bitch supplemented if needed.



Progesterone levels required to hold pregnancy – the level required varies considerably between experts as to the minimum level required to maintain a pregnancy. This level can range from as low as 5ng (15-18nmol) to as high as 30ng (90nmol). Ovulation occurs at around 5ng, and at whelping, progesterone levels drop to around 2ng within 36-48 hours and down to 1ng around the time of whelping (within 12 hours).

After ovulation, progesterone levels are supposed to increase over the next 2-3 weeks reaching levels of 10-80ng and should remain at this level for 60 days where or not the bitch is bred, or whether or not she is pregnant.

Others state that state that 10 days post LH surge (8 days post ovulation), progesterone levels should reach 20-30ng in pregnant and non pregnant dogs. After this time, the non pregnant bitch progesterone levels gradually decrease over the next 80 days, where as pregnant bitches levels generally increase dramatically to reach maximum levels of 47 +/- 3.1ng by day 20-25 post LH peak (18-23 days post ovulation). Progesterone levels then gradually decrease to non detectable levels (less than 1ng) within a day of whelping. These results suggest the following:-

- The formation of functional corpora lutea is not dependant on mating and they can remain functional for up to 80 days.
- The patterns of LH and progesterone do not differ in bitches after a season whether they develop a false pregnancy or not and
- Some factor, perhaps from the placenta, may stimulate the corpora lutea of pregnant bitches in the 15-25 days after the LH peak (day 11-21 post mating if this occurred, ie. counting from 2 days after ovulation). (Endocrinology 94:404, 1974)

While this is a very old reference, there is a definite area where many bitches could fail to implant properly and a second area where the pregnancy (via the corpora lutea) fails to increase the progesterone levels high enough to maintain a good pregnancy in the critical 11-21 days after mating (13-24 days after ovulation).

This is why many bitches look very promising up until week 3 then it all disappears (usually without developing a false pregnancy). Other older bitches (not all, but a good percentage) where their progesterone levels are timed to perfection for correct time of mating but are not getting pregnant, can on progesterone supplementation, develop a pregnancy and deliver full litters.

Progesterone Supplementation

I use progesterone in oil 25mg/ml and I supplement bitches (*that have a history suggesting that this is their problem*), starting from day 10 post mating and give twice weekly injections, with the last injection at the beginning of week 8. This is sufficient to cover most bitches, rarely is it needed more frequently (only had 1 bitch that required it every 2.5 days).

The dose rate for a GSD is around 1.2 to 1.5mls twice weekly given subcutaneously. Technically one can give up to 2mg/kg, however as we are *supplementing* the bitch, not totally replacing all hormone production, the dose actually needed is closer to 1mg/kg. Progesterone levels (if being monitored) should in my opinion stay above 10ng/ml (30-35nmol) as minimum for the bulk of the pregnancy.

Progesterone supplementation should stop a minimum of 4-5 days out from whelping. Remember whelping is 63 days post ovulation (61 days post mating if correctly timed).



Note – the opinions given here are my own and are a result of many years experience in the field. Running paired tests of progesterone levels on bitches, mated or not, supplemented or not, during the post luteal phase is extremely difficult to do considering the huge variation between bitches and each season and as they age. The results we have achieved are good where this issue is suspected. Bitches should be ultrasounded at 3-4 weeks post mating to determine pregnancy. If the bitch is not pregnant, obviously supplementation should cease at that time.



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CLUB NEWS



THE GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF VICTORIA

It will soon be 'Oscar time' in Victoria with several dogs making their film debuts recently. Merran Hamilton's dog Kaiser (Seigen Go Go Gadget) co-starred in an art house movie called 'Match', due for release later this year. Due to his great looks and calm temperament on set, he was called back for an encore in another film by the same producer. Go Kaiser! And then there are our Bollywood stars, who'd have thought? Gayle Johnston & Dearne Jacksons dogs Polly, Al & KCee (Glenraco Golly Gosh, Mellow Fellow & Remember Me) will be the GSD stars in a Bollywood music video. Can't wait to see that one!

The Royal Melbourne Show this year was another GSD extravaganza, though this time with a little twist. Unfortunately SV judge Joachim Dux was unable to make it due to illness, so local hero Fran Farley was appointed. Fran was originally to be our commentator for the crowds on the day, but was promoted to the big time in the ring instead!! A great entry of 80+ dogs again created a massive sea of GSD's in the dog pavilion for the day, and the action in the ring didn't let the big crowd down. Lovely dogs with well dressed and spruced up handlers left the public in no doubt about the terrific breed we have. Our promotions stand did a roaring trade for the day. All in all, great marketing for the GSD breed that money can't buy. Thanks to all involved! Our demo team covered off our efforts over 3 more days with obedience, fast tunnel action and tricks being a hit with the crowds. Our dogs were great breed ambassadors for an appreciative crowd at the biggest show of the year.

With spring comes the end of the Endurance and Tracking seasons, with many GSDCV members and dogs gaining

titles. 8 of the fittest GSDs got their ET title at our trial in June, and there have been tracking successes aplenty. This began with the Track & Search Dog Test 10 (tracking at night in the streets) trial we held way back in April, where Victorian GSD's were the first in Australia to gain their TSD titles, continuing with bush tracking through winter before another TSD trial in October. Our dogs noses are very skilled!

One dogs tracking title this year was cause for special mention - when Leanne Jones and her 10 year old boy Quincy got their final Track 8 pass in June they achieved something special. Quincy became known as Triple Champion Rantino Adevl N Disguise 'AZ' BSCL11 RE!! Leanne achieved the same with Quincy's dad, perhaps the first time a father & son have become TRIPLE CHAMPION German Shepherd Dogs trained by the one person. Wow!

Did you know it's only about 200 days until the 2015 National Show & Trial in Melbourne? We've got big plans and we want you to join us. May 8th -10th 2015. Our charity for the event is the EJ Whitten Foundation - supporting Prostate Cancer Awareness for Mens Health. We've released a fantastic range of merchandise for the event, 'must have' mementos with something for everyone. Entries will open soon, along with bookings for some great social events. All the information you need can be found on our website www.gsdcv.org.au/2015national or facebook www.facebook.com/2015NationalShowandTrial so check it out!

Around our 11 training branches it's all been go too. Skye are hosting Steve Austin for a Scent Detection seminar in October, Skye and Western have held fantastic trivia nights and Eastern are having their annual shopping trip in time for xmas gifts. But most are now excitedly preparing and training for the annual GSDCV Funday in November. Always one of our best days of the year, when everyone comes together for some

fun competition. If you see 250 GSD's out on the ground one Sunday - you'll know it's the Funday. Good luck all.

Reports from those who made the trip to Germany to the Sieger Show have made all jealous as they've let us know how great it is. If you're ever in Germany in about September, the Sieger show should be on your itinerary or your wish list ☐!!

Remember to promote.....'My Shepherd, My Friend, My Responsibility'



THE GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF TASMANIA

Hi everyone. Here in Tassie we are just starting our busiest time of the year.

First up on September 14 is our clubs AGM. I am very pleased to say with nominations now in, we will have a largely unchanged committee, with most re nominating for their respective positions.

The following weekend we are holding our back to back championship shows at our club grounds at New Norfolk. This year we have Steve Collins, and for the first time judging in Tasmania, Melissa Lloyd, both from South Australia judging for us.

Coming up in October we have both the Launceston and Hobart Royal shows. These 2 shows being only 2 weeks apart, give Tasmanian exhibitors the ability to show under international judges and are generally well supported by GSD enthusiasts from all over our state.

To top off a huge month, the GSDCT have teamed up with the Combined Breeds Dog club to hold an all breeds show on October 26. This show will be held on our club grounds at the picturesque New Norfolk with our club running the canteen.

Most importantly though, the CBDC have contracted Mr Mario Magasaysay SV

from the Philippines to judge GSD,s under specialty conditions and then

also judge group 5 and Best Exhibit in Show. This is a very special

opportunity for our club to show showcase our wonderful breed at Tasmania's largest single day dog show.

Ken Millhouse
President
GSDC Tasmania inc



ACT GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG ASSOCIATION INC.

Well, the National has been and gone and we all survived...just. A big Thank You to all of our wonderful members who helped, and also, to all of those from interstate clubs and the Executive who worked so hard to make the National the success that it was. Thank you to our sponsors, Advance, Grand Manor Motel and Willoughby Park wines.

Now our October long weekend show is only a few weeks away and we are all busy once again. We hope you all get your entries in early and look forward to seeing you there.

We have had lots of new members lately and a lot have been recommended to the club via interstate breeders. Thank You to those breeders who recommend us to their ACT puppy buyers. We really appreciate it.

Our AGM was held last week and the new committee is:

<i>President</i>	Wolf Meffert
<i>Vice President</i>	Sasha Beljanski
<i>Secretary</i>	Veronica Fairbairn
<i>Treasurer</i>	Jennifer Kenworthy
<i>Asst Secretary/ Treasurer</i>	Lenore Harris
<i>Committee</i>	
Margaret Barnes	Rhonda Daley
Ian Davies	Peta Jones
Jan Kenny	Kim Kleeman
Ben Lowes	Adam Toretto
Glenda Whitfield	

We welcome the new committee members on board and look forward to a great 12 months for the club.

PERTH ROYAL SHOW 2014

Miss Dakota English (8 years old) visited our German Shepherd section at Perth Royal.

Without any prompting she asked our P.R.O. Kym Glenny if she could help when children came by to pat the dogs as Dakota is extremely well-behaved and trustworthy around dogs Kym welcomed the enthusiasm.

To everyone's surprise she took the initiative to instruct the children on exactly how they should approach dogs, where they should place their hand and where they should pat them. Dakota also explained to the children why they should not put their hand straight over the top of a dog's heads.

Every child she spoke to listened and did what Dakota told them. She did an excellent job, everyone was impressed and we can all see a potential P.R.O. in this young lady - Thank you Dakota for promoting our breed in a positive way. Thank you to Leigh & Jackie English for raising such a wonderful young lady.



Speaking of promotion we had exceptional help from Renae Hosking (LaShadas) who offered to bring all the printouts, banners and publications to the show for Kym. Renae displayed her excellent public relations skills and had fantastic interaction with the public. Renae also brought along 2 dogs, Poppy 14wks and an adult female named Vixen. Thanks Renae (former youth handler extraordinaire) and everyone who helped a long, long day a successful and positive promotion of our breed.

GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA INC

NATIONAL BREED COMMISSION MEETING

EXTRACT AND RESULT OF DISCUSSIONS
NBC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – SUNDAY JULY 27, 2014

Well another twelve months has passed and it was again time to present my report to the National Breed Commission Meeting of the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia.

I have been very fortunate and very privileged to be elected to the position of National Breed Commission Chairman in February 2001 and with the support of the fraternity have been elected until February 2015.

As I have stated previously I believe that holding a position for the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia is an honour and a privilege. I have been able to gain a huge amount of information which has improved my knowledge of the German Shepherd Dog. I enjoy the work immensely and while it is time consuming it is also very rewarding.

I have always believed that it is paramount that information from our breeding schemes is available to all breeders both old and new for consideration in their breeding programs.

It should be noted that not everyone likes the information distributed especially if it is about their stud dog, but no one can say that factual data is not readily available to all.

I take a large amount of time to ensure that the information is correct on the actual GSDCA Breed Survey Certificate and most of the GSDCA Breed Surveyors in this room over the past twelve months have received a phone call from me to discuss issues with the GSDCA Breed Survey Worksheet.

As I have stated on a number of occasions the GSDCA Breed Survey Scheme and the GSDCA Hip Dysplasia and Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme has meant that the dogs that we are showing and breeding are far superior to those animals of twenty to twenty five years ago. I do not apologise for being passionate and idealistic about the GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes and ensure to the best of my ability that the information on each Breed Survey is accurate and correct.

I am more than happy to talk to anyone at anytime about any concerns that they may have perceived or otherwise. I would much prefer to talk to people direct than via an email.

To the members that have contacted me over the last twelve months asking for information or direction I hope that I have been of some assistance in your decision making process.

I have always maintained that the fraternity need to have confidence that everything is dealt with on an even playing field and meets the requirements laid down by the GSDCA.

The opportunity to talk and communicate with a large number of members at grass root level has been fantastic and has enabled me to be aware of their concerns relative to the future of the breed in Australia.

There has been huge in roads that have been achieved over the past fifty years and the fact that I have been involved in the journey has given me a great deal of fulfilment. For the next fifty years is a different road with new enthusiasts and always we must promote our breed the "*German Shepherd Dog*".

Yes you are correct I have used the above words before but the importance of these words still remains. It is imperative that we do not lose sight of the aims and objectives of our hobby and the further development of the breed.

GSDCA Hip Dysplasia and Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme

A report was presented by the GSDCA HD/ED Control Scheme Registrar. In addition to his report the Following matters were brought to the attention of the meeting.

Incorrect Identification found at Breed Survey.

Once again as a reminder if an incorrect tattoo number or incorrect micro-chip is found at Breed Survey the animal should take no further part in the breed survey until the issue of identification at the GSDCA HD/ED Elbow result can be confirmed. Every endeavour is given to the benefit of the animal however if the incorrect identification is on the x-ray plate, the animal will be required to be re-xrayed.

Changes to the GSDCA Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme

At the 2014 GSDCA Annual General Meeting held in Adelaide on the 8th and 9th of February, the following motions were placed on the GSDCA Agenda by the German Shepherd Dog Club of South Australia and subsequently carried:

1. *That as from 1st July 2014 the GSDCA introduces the near Normal grading for the GSDCA Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme for those animals displaying slight irregularities or immeasurable changes.* (These animals previously were awarded a Grade One grading showing 0mm of change)
2. *That as from 1st July 2014 an animal must receive an overall grading of Normal, Near Normal or Grade One to be awarded a GSDCA 'Z' stamp through the GSDCA Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme.*

These motions came into effect on the 1st of July 2014 which means that any animal assessed with a Grade Two grading on any elbow *will be deemed to have failed* the GSDCA Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme and therefore will not be able to be presented to the GSDCA National Breed Survey Scheme.

GSDCA		Result
Normal	No changes	'Z' Normal(0/0)
Near Normal	Slight irregularities	'Z' Near Normal
Grade One	Osteophytes less than 2mm	'Z' Grade One
Grade Two	Osteophytes of more than 2mm to 5mm	Not recommended for breeding – Recorded as a Fail
Grade Three/UAP	Severe changes greater than 5mm	Not recommended for breeding – Recorded as a Fail

(**Gradings in bold** are deemed a pass and gradings in normal font are not recommended for breeding)

Audit of GSDCA HD/ED Applications forms and x-rays not submitted

The meeting was advised that the NBC Chairman had completed an audit of GSDCA HD/ED Application forms over the past three years. An audit had been completed on the following clubs, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Newcastle and I am pleased to advise that contrary to rumour, the number of GSDCA HD/ED Application Forms not being submitted for assessment is not significant. Audits are currently being undertaken for forms sold by the GSDL and GSDCV however it is not expected to show any trends contrary to the findings of the other member clubs.

The progeny statistics are invaluable for breeders when selecting a future breeding partner and also enable the GSDCA to be aware of the current hip and elbow status of the German Shepherd Dog in Australia.

Again I would like to reiterate that to give clear direction and breed guidance all x-rays must be submitted for assessment and yes I realise that it is disappointing and the stud dog owner may not be happy but we all have a responsibility to the breed and need to ensure that the status of our hips and elbows are accurate and that the information is available to all.

It was agreed that the NBC Chairman will continue to monitor the situation and will report to the NBC meeting if the position changes.

Presentation of GSDCA Breeders Achievement Awards

Due to the time constraint at the National Show and Trial unfortunately the GSDCA Breeders Achievement Awards cannot be continued to be presented during the Official Opening. It was unanimously agreed at the NBC meeting that the following motion will be placed on the 2015 GSDCA AGM Agenda for approval by the members.

GSDCA breeders achievement awards for the GSDCA HD/ED control scheme

1. The GSDCA award 100 plaque gold, silver and bronze medallions to kennels that have supported the GSDCA HD Control Scheme by breeding the required number of animals to receive the GSDCA "A" stamp (Regulation 2002) (2004)
2. The GSDCA award 100 plaque, gold, silver and bronze medallions to kennels that have supported the GSDCA ED Control Scheme by breeding the required number of animals to receive the GSDCA "Z" stamp (Regulation 2007)
 - The number of passes that qualify for GSDCA Breeders Achievement Award or 100 Plaque in either scheme are:
 - 100 Plaque: 100
 - Gold Medallion: 50
 - Silver Medallion: 25
 - Bronze Medallion: 10

-
3. A list of kennels that qualify will be compiled as of 31st December in any given year.
 4. The list of kennels as qualified will be tabled by the NBC Chairperson at the GSDCA AGM and the kennels to be advised in writing.
 5. The medallions will be presented to member clubs at the GSDCA AGM and they will be requested to present the awards at an appropriate Club event such as Championship Show, Annual General Meeting and or Presentation Night.
 6. The list of kennels as qualified will be published in the QNR.
 7. The GSDCA Breeders Achievement Awards are available to all kennels in Australia and also to Kennels overseas. (i.e. New Zealand and England.) (2002)

Hereditary Diseases Chairman

Dr. K. Hedberg presented once again a very detailed report.

The issue of DNA profiling was discussed at some length and a number of questions were answered by Dr Karen Hedberg relative to DNA testing in general and in particular testing for degenerative myelopathy.

A number of attendees expressed concern regarding other genetic problems within the breed especially animals being affected with bloat.

As with all GSDCA schemes we must have positive identification with either tattoo or preferably into the future, microchip. There must be a trail of information from the collector (be they veterinarian or accredited collector) to the laboratory result. No home testing samples will be recognised.

The meeting agreed that the NBC Executive will prepare a proposal to be placed on the 2015 GSDCA AGM Agenda relative to commencing a voluntary GSDCA DNA Monitoring Scheme for three DNA tests GSD specific

- Degenerative Myelopathy
- Dwarfism
- Ivermectin sensitivity

Litter Registration Limitations (LRL's)

In February 2013 the GSDCA Secretary wrote to the ANKC to amend the LRL's for GSDs in relation to hip and elbow screening of parents of every GSD litter born to bring the LRL's in line with the requirement of a pass in the GSDCA HD/ED Control Scheme.

These changes were endorsed by the Members Clubs however, the ANKC Animal Health Welfare Committee decided that the change was too soon after the last alteration to these requirement which applied to GSD litters born from 1 June 2011.

The ANKC Animal Welfare Committee advised the GSDCA that they would support any change for a period of five years.

At the 2014 GSDCA AGM changes were implemented in regards to the criteria for animals to be awarded a GSDCA 'Z' stamp, with this in mind the GSDCA should make the following application to the ANKC to amend the LRL's.

Proposed Regulation:

That the Litter Registrations Limitations for German Shepherd Dogs under Section 8.9 be amended to read as follows:-

For all German Shepherd litters (both varieties) born from 1 June 2016:-

1. *Both parents of every litter must be screened for Hip Dysplasia through an official Hip Dysplasia Control Scheme. Where the parents have been born after 1 January 2015, they must record a score of no more than 8 on either hip, and no more than three in any one area or in the case of imported animals, a grading that is deemed to be acceptable for breeding in their country of origin.*
2. *Both parents of every litter must be screened for Elbow Dysplasia through an official Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme. Where the parents have been born after 1 January 2015, they must record a grading of Normal, Near Normal or Grade One on both elbows, and be free from the condition of UAP (Ununited Anconeal Process)*

Breeders of litters whelped on or after 1 June 2016, will be required to comply as a prerequisite to registration of any litter on the ANKC Main Register. Dogs must be positively identified by microchip/ tattoo prior to being x-rayed. Litters which do not meet the above requirements will be placed on the Limited Register and will be flagged not to be upgraded.

The NBC Executive feels that it is important that this motion is forwarded to the ANKC for a decision in the coming year. Another survey will be conducted by all State Canine Controls to all registered owners of GSDs so the membership will be canvassed to ensure that the majority of our breeders vote for the implementation of this change.

Litter Registrations Limitations for Imported Semen

At the 2014 GSDCA AGM it was decided that the GSDCA should place on the GSDCA Website the ANKC regulations for the importation of semen. I have attached the link for your information. (<http://www.gsdcouncilaustralia.org/ANKC%20Frozen%20Semen%20Regulations%20280214.pdf>)

The NBC Executive has sought clarification from the ANKC whether the LRL's for GSDs also applies to imported semen. Breeders need to be advised that LRL's are exactly the same for natural matings or artificial insemination matings with imported semen or semen from locally bred animals.

I do believe that it is important if breeders are importing

semen from overseas that the pedigree of an animal is fully investigated as there are a number of countries that do not have the same breeding requirements as here in Australia and the hip and elbow status could be unknown in the body of the pedigree.

The NBC Executive wish to work together with Long Stock Coat breeders to advise and to prepare accurate information for their consideration in their breeding program. I have had meetings with some long stock coat breeders on how this information can be prepared and relayed to the appropriate breeders.

The NBC Executive will be research both local and oversea animals for the information of breeders to assist breeders in making informed decisions in their breeding program for long stock coats.

GSDCA Database Subcommittee Report

Mr. Frank Moody presented a report to the meeting and gave a demonstration in regards to the current status of the GSDCA Website.

The GSDCA Database is now a fully integrated system, with each step in the GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes validating the data from the preceding schemes (i.e. Tattoo/ Microchip, HD/ED, Haemophilia – ultimately linking into Breed Survey).

Over the past twelve months there has been a lot of communication between the NBC Chair and the GSDCA Database Administrator. As stated in the above report the GSDCA Breed Survey Certificates are being produced from the GSDCA Database.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank both Frank Moody and Darryl Bourke for their time and effort especially over the past twelve months and for the professional manner in which they have dealt with my numerous requests (even pedantic at times.) in a prompt and professional manner.

GSDCA Breed Surveyor Application

At the 2013 NBC meeting Peter Flynn was approved as a GSDCA Aspirant Breed Surveyor where during the next twelve months he would undertake mock Breed Surveys. Peter has undertaken the mock surveys during this time on at least two animals at each Breed Survey.

Peter Flynn has displayed a very clear thinking process about the animal he is breed surveying and thinks about the comments required in Section V and Section VI for each individual animal and does not make generic comments.

Peter has shown a long term commitment to both the GSDC SA and GSDC Vic, even despite being overseas. He is currently Treasurer of the GSDC SA but in addition to his portfolio is actively involved at ground level within the Club.

The NBC Commission Meeting endorsed his application and congratulates Peter Flynn being awarded GSDCA Breed Surveyor status.

Sires Progeny at 2104 GSD National Show and Trial

The Sires Progeny is an important part of the National Show and Trial and the way that it has been developed over recent years I believe is seen as a positive achievement and very well accepted by the fraternity. The value of the Sires Progeny at the National and the subsequent report as published for the fraternity cannot be understated.

In total twenty groups were eligible but only fourteen groups were assessed by the NBC Executive. Amazingly of the sires only two were locally bred with twelve being imported sires. Four sires presented a group for the first time. It should be noted that eleven of the fourteen sires presented carry the Quanto Wienerau bloodline, two Canto Wienerau bloodline and one Mutz Pelztierfarm.

The National Breed Commission Executive would like to thank all exhibitors for making their animals available for assessment in the Sires Progeny at this year's National.

Whilst the NBC Executive overall was very pleased with the quality of the groups, it must be noted that the groups of Kwint Juerikstall, Jimmy Baruther Land, Orrinshir Elton John and Toby Plassenburg were very impressive with a number of high quality animals presented of the desired type and overall harmonious construction.

2013 Breed Survey Book

I am please to report that the 2013 Breed Survey Book was released at the 2014 National Show and Trial in Canberra.

I would like to thank the breeders that have purchased the Breed Survey Book over the years and have acknowledged the time and effort that a number of people have contributed to make such a high quality book available to the fraternity.

However as an organisation we have to move with the times and after the presentation by Mr Frank Moody it was agreed unanimously at the meeting that in the future, pages (exactly the same as the breed survey book) will be prepared and available on the GSDCA Database. A motion will be placed on the 2015 GSDCA AGM Agenda.

Visit to the 2013 Sieger Show

I attended the 2013 Sieger Show in Kassel along with a number of Australians. Yes and as Aussies we enjoyed the atmosphere, the beer and food that the show had to offer. I was indeed fortunate to have a press pass which meant that I was able to see the animals in the main arena at close quarters.

I have been fortunate to attend a number of Sieger Shows over recent years but my last Sieger Show was in 2008. For the first time I have to admit that I was disappointed in the overall quality especially of the males compared to my previous visits.

Herr Lothar Quoll the newly appointed Vereinszucht (Breed Commission Chairman) judged the Open Dog Class and Herr Rudiger Mai the Open Bitch Class. Both of these gentlemen have judged numerous times in Australia and in fact Herr Lothar Quoll will be judging the males of the 2015 GSD National Show in Melbourne. His experience and knowledge will be invaluable to making the show a great success.

Over recent years several changes have been introduced to the running of the show and not all of these changes in my opinion have been successful.

I am not sure why, but I did not feel the excitement or the anticipation of seeing the animals in the Sires Progeny this year. Previously it was a very early start to get a prime position in the grandstand to watch the numerous groups. For me having the sires progeny in the afternoon did not have the same impact I am not sure why.

Just prior to the show it was announced that no Sieger or Siegerin title would be awarded. The VA animals were presented to the crowd in catalogue order.

It is my opinion that I felt that the end of the show was an anti-climax with no absolute winner being announced. While the competition was more even in the males for the award of the Sieger title, in the females I believe there was a very clear winner and a cut above the rest of the class.

This is not the first time that the SV have decided not to award a Sieger or Siegerin title the last time was in the 1970's. It will be interesting to see what happens in the future to see if this requirement remains.

So why was I disappointed in the overall quality of animals? There is no doubt that the males display very good masculinity, pigmentation and bone strength but for me the overall quality fell away quite sharply. For the first time I believed that the depth of quality was far better in the females.

The four major issues for me are as follows:-

- Over-angulation of the hindquarter - very loose hock joints;
- Short and deep in the lower chest – extreme tuck up;
- Set and carriage of ears;
- Long tails which should be carried in a more natural manner.

At the GSDCA Breed Surveyors and GSDCA Specialist Judges meeting there was discussion regarding over-angulation of the hindquarter, dentition, slightly arched back and short and deep lower chest formation. The issues were viewed from a judging and breed survey perspective. The GSDCA Breed Surveyors and Specialist Judges need to agree on the issues and the relevant penalisation (if any) so that a consistent message to be relayed to the fraternity.

I will watch the Sieger Show this year from the comfort of my lounge room and will consider making another trip in 2015.

It is a great experience to attend a Sieger Show but we should not under estimate the quality of animals that we have here in Australia. It is a quality that everyone one of us should be very proud of but without the dedication of past members of the GSDCA, Member Clubs and of course the breeders accepting our Breed Improvement Schemes this quality could not have been achieved.

Update of the GSDCA Breed Survey Manual

The updated GSDCA Breed Survey Manual is now available on the GSDCA Website. (<http://www.gsdcouncilaustralia.org/GSDCA%20BREED%20SURVEY%20MANUAL%20WEBSITE%20AUGUST%202014.pdf>)

Size

This has been a nemesis for the German Shepherd Dog since the lifting of the importation ban and in my opinion will continue so for a number of years.

I am sure that everyone agrees that there is no question that the majority of our highly placed and successful animals both males and females stand at the upper limit of size.

Again, I remind Breed Surveyors of the description of size as per the GSDCA Breed Survey Manual which is to be used for all Breed Surveys so that there is a uniformity of terminology used for all animals.

Dogs (cms)	Bitches (cms)	Description
60 -61	55 -56	Small
61-62	56-57	Under medium size
62-63	57-58	Medium size
63-64	58-59	Above medium size
64-65	59-60	Large
65-66	60-61	Very large
Above 66	Above 61	Oversize

For animals that are described as very large an additional comment is made under particular virtues and faults – *"standing on the upper limit of size"*.

Visit to member clubs throughout the year

I have been fortunate to visit a number of shows throughout the year as an exhibitor or in an official capacity. I would like to extend my appreciation for the hospitality extended to me on my visits. It is a great opportunity to catch up with old and new friends and a great opportunity to view the current status of the breed on a state by state basis.

I would also like to extend my thanks to a number of Member Clubs for inviting me to present to the members an information session on current stud dogs of both varieties within Australia.

The talk is ever changing as new dogs are added and statistics are updated and the information reviewed.

So, thank you again to the German Shepherd Dog League, German Shepherd Dog of South Australia, German Shepherd Dog Club of Tasmania and the German Shepherd Dog Club of Queensland for their invitations to speak to their member on current bloodlines within Australia.

I enjoy being able to talk about dogs and hopefully enhancing the decision that breeders can make in their future breeding program, I think for quite a while we have forgotten to talk about the most important thing in our hobby the 'German Shepherd Dog'.

Uniformity of GSDCA Breed Surveys

The uniformity at Breed Survey was a major discussion over the past twelve months. This does not only cover the way Breed Surveys are conducted and varied from club to club but of course the perception or otherwise of animals receiving classification. The following information has been forwarded to all member clubs and GSDCA Breed Surveyors.

Clubs Responsibilities prior to Breed Survey

- It is the responsibility of the State Breed Survey Co-ordinator and/or Club Survey Registrar to ensure that all necessary equipment is available on the day of survey.
- The State Breed Survey Coordinator shall confirm the event twenty four (24) hours prior to the survey date with the other GSDCA Breed Surveyors involved. This may be delegated to the Club Survey Registrar.
- The GSDCA Form BS7 is to be completed by the Club Breed Survey Registrar prior to the Breed Survey with the animal's details, hip and elbow status, Club Breed Survey Number, sire and dam, grandsire and grand dam and linebreeding, name and address of the breeder and owner.
- The Club State Breed Survey Registrar should confirm that all of the required paperwork should be submitted and remind owners to bring the original paperwork to Breed Survey and the requirement to provide a photograph. *State Breed Survey Registrars please check that the ANKC pedigree shows the correct owner of the animal and that the animal is registered as the correct coat variety.*
- Presentation of imported breed survey animals (from a GSDCA recognised breed survey scheme) require verification of their registration details, hip and elbow results, titles and breed survey classification from the NBC Chairman. Also a copy of the translation of the breed survey certificate by an official GSDCA interpreter.
- Presentation to breed survey of imported animals (not previously breed surveyed) require verification from the NBC Chairman of their registration details, and if achieved any hip and elbow results and titles

- The Club Breed Survey Register is to be kept by the Club Breed Survey Registrar detailing the relevant particular and results at the end of the Breed Survey.
- *As per the current motion State Breed Survey Registrars please note that an owner may request a particular Breed Surveyor officiating on the day however, it should be noted it is not mandatory. State Breed Survey Registrars should not ask owners when entering their animals to nominate a GSDCA Breed Surveyor, nor is there an area to request a particular GSDCA Breed Surveyor on the official GSDCA BS1 Application Form for Breed Survey, again a request is not mandatory.*

Conduct of a GSDCA Breed Survey

1. All animals in the breed survey shall be asked to undertake a warm up lap. Males in front of females.
 2. If the Breed Surveyor Panel believes that an animal would be obviously be better served by re-presentation, they may make a decision to defer the presentation of the animal to breed survey. This decision can only be made during the warm up lap. *Once the animal participates in the next part of the survey there is no further opportunity for the animal to be deferred or withdrawn and must complete the full breed survey.*
 3. The preliminaries in this order:-
 - Tattoo / microchip verification;
 - Teeth;
 - Testicles;
 - Measurements: height, depth of chest, chest circumference and weight.
- 3.1 Representation of imported animals to the GSDCA Breed Survey Scheme.
 - a) Animals previously breed surveyed through a recognised GSDCA Breed Survey Scheme are given a six month grace period after release from quarantine to represent their animals to the GSDCA Breed Survey Scheme. During that six month period the animal shall be accepted without reservation for breeding, advertising or show purposes.
 - b) Failure to present the animal within the required time frame means that the animal will be deemed not to be breed surveyed and will be unable to receive a GSDCA Excellent grading at any GSDCA member Club show or GSDCA approved show throughout Australia. In addition the animal is not able to advertise in any GSDCA publication and is not be permitted to present a Sires Progeny Group at any show conducted by a member club of the GSDCA (1996)
 - c) All imported male dogs must have been awarded a GSDCA H neg certificate prior to be submitted/ represented to the GSDCA Breed Survey Scheme (Criteria accepted in 2006)

d) All imported animals with a survey status from a GSDCA recognized Breed Survey scheme must have the following checked and differences from original survey noted on their breed survey (1996)

- Height
- Dentition
- Tattoo/Microchip (2011)
- Testicles (if applicable)
- Gun Test
- Temperament and crowd test.

The original survey classification will not be altered but any differences noted. (2001)

4. It should be noted that all officiating Breed Surveyors present at the breed survey should participate in the preliminaries whether later in the breed survey they will be completing a GSDCA BS7 worksheet.
5. *Point 4 is very important as it shows the fraternity that the group are working as a team. As per the GSDCA Breed Survey Manual three measurements are required to be taken with the dog standing on a flat level surface and standing square. Height of withers shall be taken by measuring vertically and plumb from the ground to the top of the withers directly behind the ulna joint without any undue pressure on the point of withers or pulling down on the collar by the handler.*
6. The animals then return to the ring with males (both varieties) and then females and sorted into order of overall construction of Class 1 males Class 11 males, Failure males; Class 1 females, Class 11 females, Failures females.(due to anatomical construction).
7. Temperament Test one on one and crowd test.
8. The gun test is carried out at the conclusion of the temperament and character tests. The pistol shall be held pointing downward at the side and up to seven dogs may be tested at once.
9. All of the Breed Surveyors should discuss and review the findings in above points 1 to 6 and agree by overall consensus of the classification of the animals presented. This meeting should be held inside the clubrooms or a close off area if possible not in the open area of the ring.
10. Owners of any animals that are deemed to have failed breed survey should be called into the GSDCA Breed Surveyor Panel and advised of the reasons for the animal failing, any advice to assist the owner and the animal in the future and to complete the GSDCA BS2 form. No general description is to be completed on the GSDCA BS7 Worksheet. The original paperwork is to be sighted by the officiating GSDCA Breed Surveyor.

11. The GSDCA BS Worksheets are given to the requested or appointed Breed Surveyor. It should be noted that an owner may request a particular Breed Surveyor officiating on the day however it is not mandatory.

12. At the completion of the breed survey a designated GSDCA Breed Surveyor can give an overview of the breed survey and then the individual Breed Surveyor gives an overview of each animal.

Responsibility of GSDCA Breed Surveyors

I have advised on numerous occasions that the preliminaries are to be conducted by all Breed Surveyors so even if you have not been nominated to complete the GSDCA BS7 Worksheet on the day I expect Breed Surveyors to be present and actively participate in the Breed Survey .e.g. measuring teeth check and discussion process.

I do ask that GSDCA Breed Surveyors take extra care in ensuring that the paperwork is correct and that the general description relates to the underlining and that the description clearly describes the overall construction of the animal. It is the responsibility of the GSDCA Breed Surveyor to include on any agreed warnings and the Section VI Advice for Selection of a Breeding Partner *must be completed for all animals.*

As many are aware I am not a fan of facebook and while it does have its purpose I do believe that over recent times some of the comments made by the fraternity, regarding dogs, individuals and the GSDCA Executive and Club Committees are not in the best interest of the fraternity or our hobby or more importantly the breed.

The primary aim for any breed survey scheme is to recommend or not recommend animals for breeding. Once being appointed GSDCA Breed Surveyors we have a huge responsibility to maintain the standard and the integrity of the GSDCA Breed Survey Scheme.

As leaders of the GSDCA we need to lead by example and I believe that my suggested three core values are very pertinent to us as GSDCA Breed Surveyors and Specialist Judges and convey our commitment to the breed survey scheme but more importantly the German Shepherd Dog.

I believe these values form the basis of any reputable professional organisation and this of course is the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia. Unfortunately there is perception within the fraternity that we are not working as a team.

I am sure that no-one can argue that these values are of utmost importance to us all.

Respect, teamwork & accountability.

Yes, you are correct we have no mechanism to those Breed Surveyors and Specialist Judges that do not adhere to these values but I believe it is important that we start to lead by example and after all "mighty oaks from acorns grow".

Conclusion

To all of my Registrars thank you once again for your hard work and time and effort to ensure the smooth running of the GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes. It is a pleasure to be able to work with you as a team.

To all Member Clubs, Breed Surveyors, Judges and individual members thank you for your support not only over the past twelve months but since my appointment to this position and to my fellow Executive both for your support and for combining to work together for the betterment of the German Shepherd Dog.

I enjoy the work, the information and I am only too happy to be of assistance or answer any queries that you may have in regards to any area under the umbrella of the National Breed Commission.

I have gained a great deal of pleasure from my involvement in the GSDCA and the breed and believe that as an organisation we are second to none.

We have come a long way with a lot of hard work, a lot of heart break but one thing for sure the German Shepherd Dog is now a far better specimen and the puppy we offer for sale is sounder in both body and mind.

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone all the very best with their future breeding program.

Respectfully submitted,
Joylene Neddermeyer
NBC Chairman.



SAXON

Saxon is a two year old dog who works hard and plays hard. Work entails obedience training at the German Shepherd Dog Club of South Australia and entering trials. Play occurs at home, running around his acreage property and on caravanning holidays with his owners, Rob and Colette MacPherson. His favourite activity of all is kayaking with his dad.



SIEGERSHOW 2014

I headed off from Sydney for a quick trip to Germany only heading over for the show. We first had a lovely but cold day sightseeing around Munich before heading to the much warmer Nurnberg on Thursday.

We had planned to hit the shops and get that out of the way but socialising with fellow Aussies and our overseas friends took over with some having to head home earlier than others. Friday morning was an early start we got there early to see Jo's Juwika Destroyer and Heather, Craig and Hazy's Conbhairean Juri do their individuals.

Having seen many pictures and videos of Destro we were looking forward to seeing him in the flesh. I don't think the pictures do him justice a very impressive male correct size, beautiful colour and moved very well both during the gait and on a loose lead maintain his topline at all times, he also has a wonderful character.



Sg5 Bad Boll Super Agent



VA Ballack von der Bruckneralle



Sg5 judoka destroyer



SG1 Uschi vom Valtenberg



SG4 Maus von Santamar



SG4 Maus von Santamar



V12 Desperados von Pendler



SG1 Uschi vom Valtenberg, SG4 Maus von Santamar, SG5 Juwika Destroyer

Next was off to the junior ring to watch Juri a young Ballack son who also did a good individual, will be interesting to see how he develops in the future. We headed into the stadium to see some bite work and were lucky to see VA Illiano, last years SG1 Djambo and the best one that I saw VA Ballack who once again scored 5-5 and was awarded as one of the best in TSB. From the individuals some dogs that we liked along with Destro were Rya v. Ljulin, Maus von Santamar, Ballack von der Bruckneralle, Omen vom Radhaus, Groovy di casa Massarelli and Team Leiksaid Kapitan.

Saturday was a nice relaxing morning before the progeny groups in the afternoon and I was interested to see some of the dogs first groups. For me the stand outs were Remo, Pacco and the young group from Ballack. Some of the dogs that stood out in other groups included from Saabat's Zorro vom La'Mirage, from Kronos Bad Boll and Bond Super Agent, from Mentos Beauty vom Drei Birkenzwinger, from Landos Queen Della Valcuvia, from Fred Vaiko vom Suentelstein, from Enosch Kronos, Ester and Ellen di casa Nobili, from Illiano Djambo, From Fulz Pepe vom Kuckucksland and Haiti du Val d'Anzin, from Leo Maus von Santamar and from Omen Lara Clark. Remo once again lead in his group followed by Omen, Cronos, Illiano and Pacco.

Once again he produced a group of high quality that was very uniform, the two VA females Georgia du Val d'Anzin and Gracia von der Janhohne stood out. Pacco's group has developed very well from last year with many animals in the top rings there was a very nice litter vom Hulsbach from him and Texa d'Ulmental was one I liked aswell. The Ballack group was all from the junior class all very sire typical with many super females, with three in the top 10 and many more in the top rings, I will very much look forward to seeing how this group develops in the next few years. For me the standout from all the progeny groups was from this group Page di casa Massarelli.

Sunday morning came and was an early morning for me. I headed down in elevator and the legend Vegas was in the same one I was hoping it was going to be a great day. After all preparing for the show we each headed to our separate rings myself, Wim and Maus over to the 18-24 month ring. I was very excited to be in the ring and Maus was full of energy and after the gun test was done we were all called out, with Maus starting in 4th and after a few laps headed out and while the second half was sorted out. Maus was an amazing bitch to handle, always alert and looking for Wim, she was very light on the lead.

I had always dreamed to handle one of these top animals at the siegershow but never imagined to be able to fulfil this. Heading in the stadium it was great to see my good friend Marii handling



VA Kronos



VA Omen vom Radhaus



SG1 Cronos del Seprio



In the stadium with SG4 Maus



V4 Groovy di Casa Massarelli



VA Saabat and son SG3 Zorro



SG1 Beauty vom Drei Birkenzwinger



Craig and SG22 Conbhairean Juri



With Wim and Maus after the class

the SG1 male Willy vom Kuckucksland, unfortunately I couldn't see the dogs up close. It was amazing walking around the stadium especially after the first 3 headed to the podium and Maus leading the rest of the top 30 around the stadium. It was great to see Craig, Hazy and Heather who made SG22 with Juri, before heading up close to have a look at the 18-24 males.

The first 5 were all amazing, a step above the rest of the class and could of been in any order, I really look forward to seeing them all and hopefully some progeny in the next few years. It was great to see Marc, Marita, Jo and the rest of the Santamar team to congratulate each other and take some photos following an amazing morning with SG1 Uschi vom Valtenberg, SG4 Maus von Santamar and SG5 Juwika Destroyer. Then it was off to celebrate which unfortunately meant we missed most of the open bitch class getting back in the stadium as they were about to finish.

Some bitches that stood out in the small amount I saw were Zara von Pendler, Rauba von Ropal, Haiti du Val d'Anzin and Ester di Casa Nobili who I couldn't believe wasn't VA, I preferred her of the 2 sisters. Then it was time for the main event and we were all abit shocked to see Mentos called out first. Having seen most of the VA's before some of the stand outs for me came from the young males in the top V's. Last years SG1 Djambo vom Fichtenschlag, V3 Quoran d'Ulmental and V12 Desperados von Pendler were 3 that I liked very much, at times Desperados didn't perform at his best which was a shame. In the VA's Omen and Ballack were my favourites, with my other 2 favourites being the V4 Vegas son Groovy di casa Massarelli who reminded me so much of his amazing father and the star of the show V1 Arre vom Huhnegrab. Arre caught my eye everytime he walked past and performed very well, I personally would of put him in the VA group instead of some of the males whose progeny groups I didn't like as much. Another highlight of the class was the offlead gaiting of both V3 Quoran and V25 Team Leiksaid Kapitan with Nathalie who had complete focus on her the whole way round, it was amazing to watch.



V25 Team Leiksaid Kapitan



Marii Pikkoja with SG1 Willy vom Kuckucksland



V1 Arre vom Huhnegrab

After another amazing time at the siegershow I have to say a massive thanks to Jo, Marc, Marita, Wim and the Santamar team for allowing me to handle the super Maus to SG4, it was an amazing experience and weekend with great people. A big congrats for their super results VA Ballack von der Bruckneralle, SG1 Uschi vom Valtenberg, SG4 Maus von Santamar and SG5 Juwika Destroyer I look forward to heading back to Nurnberg next year.



BREEDING PLAN TO

At the Judges' and Breed Surveyor Meeting on the 30.11. and 1.12.2013 the Verein's Breed Commissioner Lothar Quoll has instituted a Working Party with the assignment to investigate the size problem in the German Shepherd Dog, with the goal of implement an action plan for the reduction of size in our breed.

The following members are part of the group:
Helmut Buss, Frank Goldlust, Christoph Ludwig, Wilfried Scheld, Leonhard Schweikert, and Margit van Dorssen.

The following action plan was presented to the SV board of Directors, also with the request for legal advice, in order to see to the necessary steps for presentation of the action plan as an application by the SV Board to be presented to the Executive Committees and the Federal AGM, for their resolution.

The following action plan was met with great approval by all committees, and was passed as law at the Federal AGM 2014 with only 4 votes against. The concept was passed as law in the following form and released for immediate implementation.

SV Action Plan for the reduction of size.

Addendum to the "German Shepherd Dog" Breed Standard, to the Breeding Regulations, the Show Regulations and the Breed Surveys of the SV.

1. For the improvement of the information for the breeders in reference to the characteristic "size" after detailed consultation with the Population Geneticist, Dr. Reiner Beuing, on the dealing with the characteristic, the method of Breed Value Assessment is recommended, in order to achieve the breeding goal of stabilizing the size of the dogs within the standard. The Breed Values are descriptive numerical values.
2. The Breed Values are worked out from the data material received, and offered as decision-making assistance in respect to planned matings.
3. The respective guidelines of the Breed Standard and the Regulations will be set aside in the interim, for the scientific safeguarding of a correct data basis, up to the year 2020.
4. At Shows, every deviation of size from the guidelines of the standard is to be seen as a fault, the value of which shall be in the exact proportion of its degree.

5. Through the application of this methodology, a self regulating procedure will be established with the aim that the dogs which meet the requirements of the standard in reference to size, will, to a great extent, be more successful at shows, than others, with otherwise equal qualities. That will motivate the breeders, to breed for a little below the upper limits as desired in the Standard, in order that if possible, all progeny will be kept within the guidelines of the standard.
6. The size of a dog will be calculated from the average of all measurements, by the Breed Commission. The more measurements are present, the more meaningful the mean-information for the Breed Value Assessment will be. The data collection ensues through the use of a form utilized at every Breed event. Any person who is the owner of a dog may lodge an objection at the Breed Commission, in writing, to an individual measurement taken on the day, within a time frame of eight days. The dog can then, on prior application in writing, be presented for control, to the Verein-Breed Commissioner. The measurement taken by him, is then taken into the average measurement.

1. What is the reason for the involvement with the problem of size?

The Characteristic "Size" has been a strongly debated topic in the Verein für Deutsche Schäferhund (SV) e.V. right from the beginning. As a first step, already in the earliest years the size was increased by 5 cm., because bitches with a wither height of a maximum of 55cm and dogs with a wither height of 60cm, were too small and therefore too weak to assert themselves against strong sheep. Since then the desired height of 55 to 60 cm for bitches and 60 to 65 cm for dogs, has been set in the Standard. A further gain of size and weight is undesirable, because health problems might arise through this, and the working dog attributes be diminished; over and above that, the handling of these animals will become more difficult for private individuals.

As the breeders predominately prefer breeding animals on the upper limit of size, this will result, in accordance with the laws of natural science, a normal size distribution in the mean, ranging from small to medium large, large and over sized dogs in around

REDUCE SIZE

From SV Website –
Loaded 3rd
September 2014

(Translated Mrs
Honey Gross-Richardson)

equal part. If one were to set the upper limit for bitches at 60 and for dogs at 65 cm for acceptance for breeding, and already sanctions deviations of up to 1 cm, (previously B.S.Cl. 2, and up to the AGM no “Excellent” possible at Breed Shows.) then one excludes around a third of the population from breeding, because of a definite over size.

To make it quite clear: In the past the oversized animals – apart from special cases – were nearly all kept within the official measuring frame.

There were, however up to around 1/3 incorrect size declarations, and that has been quite rightly, criticised by the members for years. Now everybody can find out the actual measurement – it is reported to the Breed Registration Department after every show.

In natural science the hitherto system in dealing with the characteristic “size” is designated as *Breeding to independent Selection Limits*. “The shortcoming of this method of selection is the loss of top producing genes. In this type of selection, the mean performance is favoured.” (Quote Prof. Dr. W. Schleger, Hundezüchtung in Theorie und Praxis, S. 127, Verlag Jugend und Volk – Wien, 1986)

Breeding to independent selection limits means, that the Verein sets limits, here 60 cm for bitches and 65 cm for dogs – and animals that surpass these selection limits are excluded from breeding and/or from the highest gradings, irrespective of any other virtues that these animals possess. The selection limit is called independent, because there is no relationship to the overall quality of the animal.

By the way, through this breeding method in view of various independent selection limits such as health, size, dentition status, working dog attributes etc., many dogs made it abroad. Because these dogs however were in part outstanding in other characteristic features from those characteristics in which they had failed here, a breed basis has been founded; partly with the help of these animals, whose results currently can increasingly be seen at our events.

What remains for us, (see above) is frequently only the “medium achievement” which can often mean as much as mediocrity. This development is to be prevented in future – also in order to prevent disadvantaging the breeders within the SV.

Only unsound dogs, and dogs of weak character do not belong in the breeding pool.

Because the numbers of our breeding population are showing a pronounced downward trend, we can, on the one hand no longer afford a loss of valuable genes in reference to character and anatomy, by strictly adhering to the independent selection limits of the standard.

On the other hand, those dogs must be favoured in judging that also fulfill the requirements of the standard in the aspects of size.

2. What is the goal of the Action Plan?

The goal of the action plan is to reduce the size of the breed in the middle field through suitable measures and to maintain top producing genes for all aspects (character and anatomy). For their work, however, the breeders require better information in reference to size. That is why over-size too, must be exposed by the Breed Judges and Breed Surveyors without, through this decision, excluding the dog from the breed, correspondingly, from the highest gradings.

From these figures in future, a Breed Value for the characteristic size will be worked out, and provided to the breeders as assistance in the decision-making, and not to create new “independent selection limits”. That has the advantage that in the evaluation of the inheritance of size of the breeding partner, that is the planned mating, the family back ground, the individual performance of the respective dogs, and later on also the heritability in reference to the progeny flow into the Breed Value.

The laying open of size without the up to now harsh consequences means, that during judging, over-size will flow into the gradings and placing, similar to other deviations from the standard in the ideal typical dog in all relevant aspects also according to the standard.

3. How will these new potentialities be put into practice during the judging?

As an example, let’s take the procedure at a Conformation Show. During the individuals, in stance, the dog will be judged with all his virtues and faults. He will also be measured on a firm base, that must be sufficiently large, (100cm x 200cm) and must have a non-slip surface, (carpet or artificial lawn) by the judge personally. On conclusion of the individuals the dog will be allocated to a quality group within the intended grading. During this the deviation from the standard in size (66cm, 67 cm, 68, etc) is of course a fault, that must also gain in its degree, just as it does in all other deviations from the standard too.

Lets take an Intermediate Dog class (Junghundklasse) with 20 exhibited animals as an example. The grouping for the pre-allocation is VG++, VG+, VG, VG-, that is four different quality groups.

On the table below this, in respect to a fictional class of 20 entered dogs, (catalogue numbers 1 – 20) it looks as follows.(In Example)

Cat. .Nr. VG++	Cat. .Nr. VG+	Cat. .Nr. VG	Cat. .Nr. VG
	14 (63.5cm)	2 (65 cm)	3 (64 cm)
6 (64 cm)	1 (64 cm)	5 (64 cm)	16 (64.5 cm)
	7 (65 cm)		8 (65 cm)
4 (65 cm)		15 (64 cm)	
	20 (64 cm)		
		17 (65 cm)	
9 (66 cm)	11 (66 cm)		
10 (66 cm)		12 (67 cm)	13 (68 cm)
19 (66 cm)	16 (67 cm)		

The call out order resulting from this (Catalogue Numbers) is as follows:

6, 4, 9 (66 cm), 10 (66 cm), 19 (66 cm), 14, 1, 7, 20, 11(66 cm)
16 (67 cm) 2, 5, 15, 17, 12 (67 cm) 3, 16, 8, 13 (68 cm)

During the gaing performance, some are put up, other back a few places. It will be tested whether the dog has been placed in the right quality group.

Should it turn our, that the dog with the catalogue number 10 clearly is the best dog within his quality group VG++, then he can win that class.

If, during the assessment of the overall quality including the divergence of size, it should be found that the dogs with the numbers 6 and 4 are of equal value, **then they must remain on the two front places.**

In the other quality-ranges (V++, V+, V, V- / G+ - G-) it is the same procedure.

4. Will it be possible to utilize this new Breeding Plan to the Advantage of the breed?

Our Federal Chancellor would say:" This course of action is without alternatives"


How ever it can only succeed, if the Breed Judges and Breed Surveyors record the data correctly during their adjudications. It is their obligation to deal with this advance of trust shown by the Federal Annual General Meeting, in a responsible manner. If that does not succeed, other measures for the correct determination of size must come into effect.

The cooperation of the breeders and owners is however, at least equally important. Some behave at this time, as though they had not yet understood the chances offered by this new breeding method.

It does not serve our aims if one must observe at this time, how dogs are animated through the tricks of their handlers to duck during the measuring, in order to make a correct measuring difficult for the Judges and Breed Surveyors.

Only in unity can the present situation be improved and a procedure remain firmly established, which from the viewpoint of the genetics of the population is indispensable. Through the far sighted resolution of the Annual General Meeting 2014, we have the chance of participation for six years – for the good of the breed.

The immediate introduction of a Breed Value in reference to size – when sufficient measuring data is available – will then signify the deciding step towards responsible and goal oriented dealings of the breeders with the characteristic size - for the good of the breed!



COMPETITION 2!

EUKANUBA QUIZ

TO ENTER THE DRAW FOR ONE OF TWO 12KG BAGS OF EUKANUBA GSD FORMULA, YOU MUST GET THE CORRECT ANSWER FOR EACH OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. Name the two conformation Judges for the GSDCA National in 2015?
2. How many bones are found in a complete canine skeleton?
3. In a complete set of scent discrimination articles, how many are leather?

Entries close 15th December, 2015 and will be published in the Summer Edition.

Your entry must be accompanied by your name and address and the name of your club.

Please send to: revieweditor@gsdcouncilaustralia.org.



CALLING ALL OBEDIENCE READERS!

ARTICLE SPOTTERS NEEDED

John De Lucia, our Obedience Chairperson is seeking to expand on our offerings for the Obedience fraternity and needs the help of every reader. As we all know, there is a wealth of written advice out there from experienced trainers and competitors.

There is also an abundance of media snippets and other published material that records the achievements of our breed. Some of this appears in this edition with our dogs now gaining acceptance for guide animals.

We all know that our dogs are something special and capable of so much more than the average. This is a working breed that has been widely used throughout the world in tasks and pursuits that seem to know no limits.

If you have such material or come across such an article, JOHN DE LUCIA is your man and would welcome your support.

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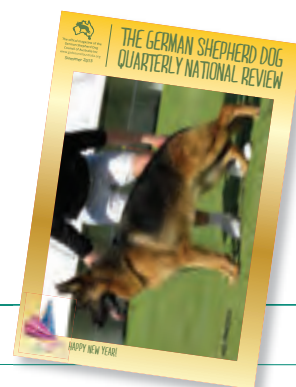


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