

GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA Inc.

## MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

held on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2017  
at "Best Western Airport Motel & Convention Centre",  
33 Ardlie Street, Attwood, Victoria



Chair – Mr. Vince Tantaro, President GSDCA.

The meeting was declared open at 8.56am

**Note: These Minutes are to be read in conjunction with and will refer to items detailed in the attached document headed "WUSV – GSDCA Meeting Melbourne 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2017."**

Attendees:

President	Vince Tantaro
National Breed Commission (NBC) Chair	Melanie Groth
Judges Committee Chair	Robyn Knuckey
Secretary	Val Moody
Treasurer	Jane Pike
Editor, Quarterly National Review	Jacinta Poole
Obedience Committee Chair	Julie Urie
Minute Secretary	Barbara Blythe
WUSV Continental director – Oceania (CDO)	Louis Donald
Mr. Louis Donald's Assistant/Secretary	Gail Donald
German Shepherd Dog Club of Victoria – President	Vince Ebejer
German Shepherd Dog Club of Victoria – Vice President	Tony Mercieca
German Shepherd Dog Club of Queensland – President	Sharon Ballantyne
German Shepherd Dog Club of Queensland – Secretary	Diane Ballantyne
German Shepherd Dog League – President	Terry Jarvis
German Shepherd Dog League – Vice President	Graeme Stevenson
ACT German Shepherd Dog Association – President	Wolf Meffert
ACT German Shepherd Dog Association – Committee Member	Sam McGregor
German Shepherd Dog Club of South Australia President	John DeLucia
German Shepherd Dog Club of South Australia 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Jenny DeLucia
German Shepherd Dog Club of Tasmania – Breed Affairs	Janet Haase
German Shepherd Dog Club of Tasmania – Secretary	Gabrielle Peacock
German Shepherd Dog Association of Western Australia - President	Ian Marr
Newcastle & Hunter Region German Shepherd Dog Club - President	Sean Lynch

Apologies:

GSDC of Tasmania – President – Dave Griffin

ACTGSDA – Delegate – Jenny Kenworthy

## 1 **Opening & Welcome – Mr. Vince Tantaro, President GSDCA**

Ladies and Gentleman, welcome to what is a most important meeting of the GSDCA: namely the first GSDCA- WUSV meeting.

I welcome Mr. Louis Donald, WUSV Continental Director Oceania, who is well known to all of you and who is representing the WUSV. I also welcome Gail Donald who has accompanied him and is his Secretary.

There will be quite a number of matters presented to us today and I cannot understate the importance of this meeting. I ask that you please pay attention to all presentations as given. The matters to be raised may, or will have direct impact on the operation of the Council.

I will at the end of each presentation encourage questions and or comment that seek further clarification, however I do ask you please note: today is about being informed. It is not about: support for, opposition to, or finding a final solution of any matter as raised.

The process for due consideration and agreeing to a path forward will initially be taken tomorrow. It must be noted that today's meeting is the start of a process that will include ALL of you and see much consultation and consideration.

The final recommendations as agreed to will then be put to the membership at designated meetings of your Clubs.

I now welcome Mr Louis Donald to commence the day's presentations.

### **Mr Donald's opening statement:**

Mr Donald (CDO) thanked the GSDCA for the invitation to present this presentation to the GSDCA today and commented that it was gratifying to see Presidents from each club in attendance.

He said the issues to be discussed are quite complex and that comments made by people on Facebook indicate that many of the fraternity do not really understand what the World Harmonization Program ("WHP") is all about. He said that in order for him to be able to sit before the meeting and articulate what the WUSV are wishing to convey, required him to first understand the harmonization program himself. Mr Donald said he felt the best way to do his presentation was to go through each item one by one and give the meeting his recommendations and comments for the GSDCA to consider and then take back to the members for them to consider and vote on as motions.

Mr Donald said there have been exchanges between enthusiasts in regard to just who the WUSV Board of Directors thinks they are telling clubs what they can or cannot do. He said he empathized with these concerns however a simple analogy might be to see the WUSV as a golf club that the GSDCA has paid a subscription to join and that subscription is paid of its own volition annually in order to remain a member of the Golf Club. In joining the golf club it agreed to comply with the golf clubs extensive list of rules and codes. If you don't wish to comply with the clubs rules you simply stop paying the annual subscription, but in doing so you can no longer enjoy the amenity the golf club offers. Likewise if you don't comply with the golf clubs rules the golf club can refuse to accept your membership subscription. The point being in regard to membership it is a matter of choice and the prerogative of both parties to enact their wishes.

Mr Donald also said it was very important that the meeting did not shoot the messenger. He said he had invested a great deal of effort and time in putting the presentation and recommendations together in order to facilitate the meeting, to provide the meeting with clear and concise information pertaining to the Harmonization Program.

He went on to say we are here this weekend at considerable cost in time and money to do the best thing for the German Shepherd Dog. That he did not want to influence the meeting unduly by what he might say in support of his recommendations. That the recommendations he was putting forward represent the best result that he could come up with when considering the wishes of both the WUSV and the GSDCA. He also said he saw this as an opportunity to expand the GSDCA affiliate club membership in what is a declining membership and that everything in the Breed Evaluation Matrix is in the best interest of the German Shepherd Dog but in that process it places extra demands on owners and this is because a significant section of the Harmonization Matrix relates to the training of the GSD in fact the most significant element in respect to commitment by owners of German Shepherd Dogs is the training of the dogs.

In this respect he said the GSDCA in its total history had not been progressive at all in the area of mandatory training of the dogs even at the most basic obedience level and he had observed this when he did the teeth examination at the National where he observed a very large number of young animals were totally out of control when it came to inspecting their teeth. Many dogs would not even respond to a command to sit never mind allow him to open their mouth.

The Chair Mr Tantaro asked the CDO what the consequences would be if the recommendations made on behalf of the WUSV are not adopted. Mr Donald said he would provide a consequence assessment relative to each proposed recommendation as he worked through each point.

The Chair Mr Tantaro said that he wished it to be noted that the GSDCA have had communication with Mr Imran Husain (WUSV Chairman) and Professor Dr Heinrich Messler (WUSV/SV President) over a number of years asking for clarification in relation to the consequences of the GSDCA policy on the conduct of Dogsport and IPO. He said the GSDCA has the best interest of the breed at heart, but we know the importance of walking before running. We acknowledge that the challenge facing all of us will be the implementation of change.

The CDO acknowledged that based on what he has been told by the GSDCA executive the WUSV's responses to some matters has been slow and in some cases correspondence apparently unanswered and that he has conveyed that concern on to the WUSV Secretary. Mr Donald suggested that part of the problem is probably related to Clubs asking questions of the WUSV Secretariat and the Secretariat does not have the answers at that time. It appears that they do not respond until they have an answer.

I believe the GSDCA has the capacity and ironically when added to the geographic isolation that exists, it provides a great opportunity for the GSDCA to promote our breed at a broader level than currently exists.

In broad terms the WUSV objective is to ensure a uniform breed standard applies across its member organizations and more specifically:

- Provide harmonization of attitudes and assessment of GSD in breed and performance.
- Provide clarity of direction regarding breeding, training, upbringing, temperament, character and control of hereditary diseases.

A final remark; In regard to recent exchanges between the GSDCA executive and the WUSV Chairman that there is a lack of appreciation as to how advanced the GSDCA are in the scale of breed improvement schemes and regardless of intent or best endeavors the limitations that exist in regard to implementing some aspects of the breeding matrix are not appreciated by the WUSV Board. This has merit and I have a concern that if the WUSV Board is not cognizant of club/country limitations, by setting too high a benchmark in the breeding matrix it could be in danger of becoming more a EUSV than a WUSV and in that process significantly diminish the WUSV global objective in many mandate areas.

*Note: shaded areas represent the power point screen display and the balance of comments are CDO the supplementary remarks.*

## **2 WUSV Objectives – Mr. Louis Donald, Continental Director Oceania (“CDO”)**

### **WUSV OBJECTIVES**

In early 1968 the SV introduced an initiative to promote international co-operation between all countries and the various activities that pertained to the German Shepherd Dog and to conserve uniformity of the breed worldwide. The objective was to form a European union of the various GSD clubs and was to be called the EUSV.

Later in that same year representatives of German Shepherd Dog clubs from ten countries met in Augsburg to deliberate on the founding of a European Union of German Shepherd Dog Associations, the EUSV. The clubs of Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, the Netherlands, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, the then Czechoslovakia and the Federal Republic of Germany founded the new union.

In 1974 this paved the way for an even larger and more important federation, a World Union of German Shepherd Dog Associations, the WUSV. Since then, the WUSV has grown to 87 member associations.

In broad terms the WUSV objective is to ensure there is a uniform breed standard across its member organizations. This entails harmonization of attitudes and assessment of German Shepherd Dogs in breed and performance, clarification of open questions regarding breeding, training, upbringing, temperament and character and control of hereditary diseases.

The WUSV headquarters are housed within the SV headquarters in Augsburg. There are 87 member clubs in the WUSV. The objective is to bring about uniform breed standards, harmonization of attitudes, assessment of breed and performance, breeding, training, upbringing, control and health issues. If you are no longer a member of the WUSV, then you are effectively cut off from the SV.

## **3. WUSV Continental Directors Responsibilities**

### **STATEMENT OF DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Continental Directors are appointed and dismissed by the WUSV Board of Directors  
The Continental Directors are:

- Dinky Santos - balance of Asia
- Jinfei Chen - Asian [China/Hong Kong and Korea]
- Luciano Musolino and Rene Rudin - Europe
- Louis Donald - Australia and New Zealand
- Dr Morton Goldfarb - USA, Canada and America
- Carlos Enrique Rivera Gallardo - Mexico and Central America
- Roberto Caputi - South America
- Frikkie van Kraayenberg - South Africa and Central Africa
- Jecky Beck - North Africa and the Middle East

The responsibilities of a WUSV Continental Director are as follows:

- Obtain from member clubs the minutes of their AGM and pass them on to the WUSV Secretariat
- Inform the WUSV Board of any irregularities or possibilities for improvement within their region
- Ensures the implementation stipulations and decisions taken by the WUSV Board at the annual WUSV meeting of member clubs is enacted
- Serve as a mediator in the case of any disputes that may arise between WUSV member clubs and the WUSV Board of Directors
- Assist the member clubs when requested by them in regard to WUSV matters

The first point of contact for all WUSV member clubs is the WUSV Secretariat General who will pass all correspondence on to the WUSV Board of Directors who will decide on the appropriate response and course of action if any. When deemed necessary the WUSV Continental Director will be requested by the WUSV Board of Directors and or WUSV Secretariat to become involved.

Costs incurred by the WUSV Continental Director in terms of travel and accommodation are to be covered by the WUSV member Club/s with the exception of the annual WUSV Continental Directors meeting where all costs for travel and accommodation are to be paid for by the Continental Director personally.

The initial appointment for Continental Directors was for a two year period.

#### 4 **WUSV/GSDCA Affiliation**

The WUSV Board of Directors have conveyed to the GSDCA executive that the GSDCA is in violation of the WUSV constitution in regard to its lack of the support for the fundamental Working Dog requirement **IPO** '*Internationale Prüfungs-Ordnung*' (International Working Test)

It has stated to the GSDCA executive that the GSDCA membership of the WUSV will be reviewed if it continues not to support IPO and does not bring German Shepherd Dog IPO Clubs under its umbrella and in doing so facilitate and control these activities for the German Shepherd Dog in Australia.

At the 2017 WUSV meeting held in Nuremberg the President of the WUSV/SV Professor Dr Heinrich Messler outlined a proposed WUSV member club 'Minimum Breeding Program' called '**WUSV Breed Harmonization**'. All member clubs present agreed to the 'work in progress' harmonization program and that included the GSDCA.

In the context of the above I have placed IPO first in regard to the Breed Harmonization Program because it is by far the most emotive and politically divisive aspect of the WUSV Harmonization Matrix, especially for anyone whose primary interest is showing not training dogs. The relevance of this statement is that in Australia the show dog demographic represents the vast majority in regard to decisions that are made by German Shepherd Dog Clubs and therefore the GSDCA

The WUSV President has said that unless Australia embraces IPO the WUSV will consider disaffiliating Australia. I believe common sense will prevail, that there has to be a compromise at both ends - GSDCA/WUSV. I have worked through the Harmonization Specification and tried to find a way that I believe is achievable. The most difficult item is IPO and particularly the bite work component of IPO. The CDO advised the meeting that everything he would be presenting in the power point presentation had been provided to Professor Dr Messler and Mr Imran Husain.

## 5 **Brief History Re: LCD Visit to IPO Championships Sydney**

I was contacted by Professor Dr Messler last June. He asked that I go to the Australian IPO Championships in Sydney. An event hosted by the WGSDCA to be judged by two senior SV working dog judges Herr Tautz and Herr Stolpe.

The basis of this request was for me to meet with Herr Tautz the most senior working dog judge of the SV to explain exactly what the situation is in Australia in regard to IPO. There was an inference that GSDCA/WUSV disaffiliation was in the air. This was confirmed at the meeting in so far as it was stated at the meeting that the WGSDCA may replace the GSDCA as the WUSV affiliate if the GSDCA did not embrace IPO. I expressed my opposition to such a move and that is what launched me into my actions to raise the profile of IPO via FB and my general discussions with various enthusiasts. To find a way forward that would not see such an event transpire and the final stage of that can be taken as being my presentation and summary recommendations to you all today.

In my initial brief to Her Tautz and Professor Dr Messler I provided a lengthy, factual, historic document accurately reflecting the history and environment relating to this subject matter. Professor Dr Messler's response was that he was unaware of many of the historical and unique matters provided in that document and as a consequence viewed the Australian situation with greater understanding.

In regard to the most significant aspect of IPO, that being Government State and Territory legislation. I will not list every piece of legislation that is pertinent to IPO legislation in Australia I will instead offer my personal core summary and personal understanding of them:

The amalgam of State and Territory Government legislation surrounding companion dogs and dangerous dogs can be said to provide definitions pertaining to circumstances that may be considered to be of a criminal nature. Pertaining to circumstances where a person or animal is in fear of being attacked, being attacked and grievously harmed or even killed. The legislation in its various terms of reference can be seen to be directed toward dogs that are urged by their owner and or handler to harass, menace or attack other animals or persons with the intent to cause fear or bodily harm. I doubt there is any civilized country in the world including Germany that does not have Government legislation with this objective and intent at its core.

Contrary to what many people say or believe the sport of IPO is legal in every State in Australia except in the State of Victoria.

One phase of IPO includes protection and this phase of IPO is underscored by a 'highly advanced internationally recognized training regime'. In the protection phase the dog bites the protective sleeve worn by a 'highly trained and consenting helper'. At no time is the helper in fear of being attacked, menaced or harassed. The point of this statement being *'at no time is there any criminal intent or chance of bodily injury to the person being assailed'*.

My final point and one that relates to the previous paragraph is that the Police want dogs bred from working lines but they have no interest in IPO trained dogs. This is because IPO trained dogs are unsuitable for Police work where unlike IPO dogs Police and indeed all Protection Trained Service Dogs are trained to react to multiple situations not simply bite a padded sleeve as part of an interactive game.

The CDO commented that Professor Dr Messler's requested that he attend the Australian IPO Championships in Sydney, an event hosted by the WGSDCA and judged by two senior SV working dog judges Herr Tautz and Herr Stolpe. The basis of his attendance was to explain to Herr Tautz what the situation was in Australia regarding the GSDCA's position to IPO in a factual manner. The CDO said that he asked that he not be involved, that it should be the President of the GSDCA who should attend. He attended because he was advised that such an invitation to the GSDCA President would not be forthcoming.

At the conclusion of the meeting in Sydney, the CDO followed up with a detailed report for Professor Dr Messler. The CDO forwarded copies of Parliamentary historical records etc, and advised of the relevant State and Territory laws.

The response he received to his report was that Professor Dr Messler was unaware of much of the historical events in Australia and that this gave him a more empathetic understanding and appreciation of the Australian environment.

The Chair Mr Tantaro said that the GSDCA was unaware that Professor Dr Messler had started negotiating with the CDO as an emissary to act on his behalf. The Chair asked if the CDO was made aware of all the correspondence provided 12 months prior to the Championships and that a detailed letter was sent to the WUSV outlining the various legislations in Australia, that he WUSV were well aware of the situation in Australia.

Mr Donald said that he was not aware of any of the correspondence other than he had been told of it by the GSDCA President some months ago. Mr Donald said Professor Dr Messler had said he heard all sorts of stories as to why we cannot do IPO in Australia, i.e. that you can in some States but not others and that he was aware of the GSDCA and ANKC policy in this regard. Professor Dr Messler had told Mr Donald he was totally confused about the true position of IPO in Australia and that confusion along with many contradictory reports caused him to wonder about the truthfulness or accuracy of what he was being told. The CDO said Professor Messler considered that he would be provided with an honest appraisal and recommendation from the Mr Donald. The CDO said that meeting in Sydney was at times very tense with a heated exchange at one point. At the meeting Mr Donald asked Herr Tautz if any consideration was being given to the GSDCA being disaffiliated and the reply was yes.

The Chair Mr Tantaro said that the GSDCA was asked for permission for both Herr Tautz and Herr Stolpe to judge and permission was denied and regardless of that refusal the SV decided to go ahead with appointing those judges. The same thing will go ahead next week in Queensland where the Council has not been asked for permission – we have been sidelined.

Comments from the attendees included surprise that the WUSV say they were not aware of the position in Australia regarding IPO. It was said that the SV must also be made aware that it is not the GSDCA who make the decisions in Australia but the Clubs. Herr Stolpe has been coming to Australia for about ten years we believe, so obviously the WUSV have been ignoring our position for those ten years. It was noted that the WUSV had received full documentation regarding the various laws and statutes with regard to IPO since the matter was first raised 2 years ago and over the last 30 years they were aware of the situation in Australia.

The CDO said he had wondered at the time of his Sydney visit how two SV Judges came to be attending this IPO Championship as he knew Council would not have given permission and that on his question of this it was explained at the meeting by the club President.

## **6 WUSV Breed Harmonisation Program – 3 Routes**

This was first raised by the WUSV President Professor Dr Messler with WUSV member clubs at the September 2016 WUSV meeting in Nuremburg. The initiative was borne from concern about the continuing global decline in the anatomical standard, temperament, character and broad based popularity of the German Shepherd Dog. It is a global initiative not a parochial one.

The objective of the WUSV Board and its President is to have a standard specification based on minimum breeding requirements for German Shepherd Dogs across all WUSV member clubs and in that process the standard of the German Shepherd Dog globally will not only rise but be uniformly standardised and consolidated. Dogs that fulfill the breeding requirements will have their names and

details entered into a WUSV stud book and only dogs that are entered into the Stud Book may be used for breeding in WUSV member club countries.

There are quite a number of items contained within the WUSV Breed Harmonization specification but by far the most critical and most difficult ones to address and implement relate to temperament, character, obedience and protection and whilst out of numeric matrix order as such I will commence with those issues.

Professor Dr Messler would like Australia to follow the current SV German process in the long term. There are two options for WUSV Member Clubs – Breed Harmonization OPTION 1 and OPTION 2. What is expected is that we to do bite work. To cover this item appropriately, it is important that everyone clearly understands what the various components entail. Refer to the following graphs.

### **WUSV Breed Harmonization Program'**

<b>THREE ALTERNATIVE ROUTES TO BREEDING</b>						
Current Process SV Germany						
1. Prerequisites HD-ED-DNA	Grade at a Breed Show minimum of "Good" from 12 months old	BH Test Pass	Endurance Test AD	APO-1	Breed Survey Classified	
WUSV Member Clubs – Breed Harmonisation OPTION 1						
2. Prerequisites HD-ED-DNA	ZAP Part One (Temperament Assessment) 9-13 months old	Grade at a Breed Show minimum of "Good" from 12 months old	Endurance Test	ZAP Part Two (Working Part) from 18 months	Breed Survey Classified	
or WUSV Member Clubs – Breed Harmonisation OPTION 2						
3. Prerequisites HD-ED-DNA	ZAP Part One (Temperament Assessment) 9-13 months old	Grade at a Breed Show minimum of "Good" from 12 months old	BH/VT Test Pass	Endurance Test	IPO-1 Test Pass	Breed Survey Classified
<p>It is envisaged that routes Option 2 and Option 3 will replace the existing route. This will require that ALL dogs intended for breeding will have to do the Temperament Test (ZAP Part One) and proceed to the Breed Survey by either doing ZAP (Part Two) or the established BH/IPO1 tests.</p> <p>The Breed Survey is the ultimate selection procedure to identify dogs passed for breeding. ZAP is a "test of breeding characteristics". ZAP Part Two includes training in nose work, obedience and defensive reactions. Unlike IPO it is not a competitive activity (sport).</p>						

## 7 **'ZAP' - Part 1 Purpose & Procedure**

### **ZAP – 'Zucht Wesensbeurteilung' – 'Mental and Physical Breeding Character Test'**

**ZAP** is designed to ensure only dogs of sound mind and body are used for breeding.

Zap can be seen as being a test in two distinct parts. Part 1 is a Puppy Test and Part 2 is an Adult Test. The documentation and processes for the Puppy test are complete but the adult test is still a work in progress.

Only dogs that pass the ZAP Puppy Temperament, Character and Behavior test and later pass the adult ZAP Temperament, Character, Obedience and Protection test, currently denoted as the IPO/ZTP, will be allowed to apply for Breed Survey assessment.

ZAP came about as a need for a response by the SV and WUSV to the public's increasing critical pressure being applied to dog breeders, handlers and pedigree dog breeding societies. As a response to bans being placed on dangerous dogs and unscrupulous dog breeders and dog trainers. It's a response underscored in no small way to the number of devastating dog bite incidents one hears too often being reported in the press and unfortunately too often attributed to a German Shepherd Dog.

The general public today wants dogs that are stable in temperament and firm in nerves. They do not want aggressive dogs, either as a companion or within their social environment. They want a companion dog they can trust and rely upon in any situation and in any social environment.

ZAP is a breeding temperament and character test that responds to the above issues in a positive and meaningful way. It is designed to identify dogs with temperament and character deficiencies commencing at pre-breeding age.

By confronting dogs with different stimuli including touching, which does not occur in obedience, that triggers a particular behavior a conclusion can be drawn on in regard to the dogs nature.

The categories that are tested are:

- Impartiality
- Social behaviour
- Noise sensitivity
- Play and predatory instinct/behaviour under stress
- Basic nature

This is the infield start of the Breed Harmonization Matrix . The age range is fixed at 9 – 13 months. Whilst this test is not an obedience test one would imagine owners would be conditioning their dogs prior to presenting for the test.

The Judge's Assessment Form in English was displayed on the screen. When a dog passes the test, a certificate is awarded which is presented at the breed survey.

***The CDO Power Point presentation is attached - please refer to pages 8 to 25 outlining a detailed procedure for the ZAP – Puppy, Temperament, Character and Behaviour Test including the Judge's Assessment Form and the scoring sheet.***

The test can be viewed at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Z8mEQ\\_qqjs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Z8mEQ_qqjs).

## 8 'IPO' - Purpose & Procedure

What is its purpose?



IPO [which replaced the SV Schutzhund] is an FCI initiated and controlled title that is supported by the SVWUSV.

### **Its purpose is as follows:**

- Determine a dog's suitability for a particular use by obtaining a title
- Help maintain or increase the health and working ability, as far as working dog characteristics are concerned, from generation to generation within a breeding program.
- Help to maintain and increase health and fitness in the dog
- Provide demonstrated proof of a dog's breed worthiness

### **IPO tests the following inherent traits of the dog:**

- Courage
- Temperament and nerves
- Perseverance
- Mental stability
- Intelligence
- Sociability
- Handler loyalty
- Trainability
- Perseverance
- Desire to work
- Strength
- Agility
- Scouting ability.

We will go through IPO and IPO1 in detail as it entails much more than "bite work". The content for the IPO1 procedures Option 2 is still a work in progress. Temperament and character of the dog is tested throughout the whole trial.

There are 3 levels – IPO1 = Beginners, IPO2 = Intermediate and IPO3 = advanced.

***Refer to pages 26 – 36 of the attached presentation.***

## 9 'BH' – Purpose & Procedure

### **BH – 'Begleithunde' or 'Companion Dog'.**

As can be seen in the harmonization matrix, in Germany there is an entry level test to IPO that was introduced by the SV in 1991 that must be passed in order to participate in IPO 1. To compete in this entry-level test dogs must be a minimum of 15 months of age.

The entry level test is called **BH**. It is a relatively basic level obedience and traffic/pedestrian environment test that ensures the suitability of dogs entering IPO 1.

A **BH** test requires a minimum of 4 dogs participating and for obvious reason the tests are conducted in different locations.

The **BH** test is comprised of two main parts:

The first part is a basic obedience test consisting of two heeling exercises, a sit, a down and a long down. The second part evaluates the dog's response to everyday situations such as traffic, crowds, other dogs, people and the absence of the owner. Together with the temperament assessment undertaken during ID checking the BH test provides an excellent evaluation of the dog's temperament, character and behavior.

General remark: Evaluation of the dog's temperament and behaviour is a continuous process based throughout the entire test commencing with observation whilst the identity of the dog is being confirmed through checking of the tattoo number and/or chip number. Dogs that fail the temperament behaviour test are prohibited from further continued participation in the trial. If, during the course of the trial, a dog shows defects of temperament or behaviour the judge may disqualify the dog from the trial and in doing so enter into the scorebook the note: *'Temperament Test/Behaviour Test failed'*

BH is a pre qualification to IPO and ZAP Part 2. Dogs who fail any part of the test during the test do not continue on to the next stage. The exercises described are conducted on lead and then off lead.

The question was asked, is a written test taken before doing the BH test or is there a choice of either a written or verbal test? The CDO said it could be assumed the answer is yes.

## 10 'AD' – Purpose & Procedure

### **AD- 'Ausdauerprüfung' - Endurance Test**

The test is not a training degree. **AD** provides documentation that the dog is physically able to endure a certain amount of physical stress without showing significant fatigue. Given the physical structure of the dog, this condition can best be shown through trotting. Continued trotting challenges the heart and lungs as well as the rest of the dog's body. Other characteristics such as spirit and hardness must be present. Successful demonstration of the test will provide proof that the desired characteristics are present in a healthy body. Both sets of characteristics are prerequisites for a useful breeding program.

The test is conducted over a distance of 20 km at a pace of 12 to 15 km/hour

The minimum age for admission is 16 months; the maximum age for admission is 6 years.

- The dog must have an HD/ED stamp and be ID by micro chip/tattoo
- A single judge is authorized to test a maximum of 20 dogs.
- Dogs must be completely healthy. Sick dogs, dogs without sufficient strength, bitches in heat, and pregnant or nursing bitches may not be admitted.

No points or ratings are given for the AD examination, only the rating "Passed" or "Not Passed."

The meeting was told that this test is mandatory under the German standards.

The CDO was advised that in Australia, the test is referred to as ED (Endurance Dog title). The dog must be a minimum of 2 years of age and the endurance test is conducted following the obedience test.

**Refer to pages 41-42 of the attached presentation.**

## 11 'ZAP' - Part 2 Purpose & procedure

**IPO/ZTP** – Part 2 of ZAP is still a work in progress. It is a 3 part temperament, character and behavior Test. Dogs must have passed ZAP part 1 [Puppy test] and be a minimum of 15 months of age to participate.

Seen in the following video it is in effect a watered down IPO1/ZTP test, particularly in the protection phase. The test is less demanding than IPO and was developed in response to enthusiasts who do not have the same level of interest or commitment to IPO level. It offers a less demanding level of training to countries that must comply with the WUSV harmonization program and are not active in the IPO sport.

See SV video at

<http://www.schaeferhunde.de/en/the-german-shepherd/character-judgment/zuchtanlagepruefung-zap-rating-of-mental-and-physical-breeding-disposition/>

Rather than providing the full procedural step-by-step details for **IPO/ZTP** a comparison to the previously detailed **IPO 1** is as follows:

- It has the same obedience heeling pattern including the 2 gun shots being fired while the dog is walking
- The sit and down exercises are the same
- The 'A frame' jump exercise is the same
- The 'long down' done under a distraction is the same
- The tracking component is the same
- During the protection phase there is only one [1] hide whereas there are 2 hides in IPO 1
- During the protection phase, after the hold and bark, ZAP allows the handler to go to the dog, pull the dog away from the helper, and put the dog back on the leash. In IPO it's more difficult because instead of simply placing the dog on the leash you must command the dog to the heel position, walk back to a spot 3 paces in front of the hide and then the dog must do a protection escape exercise.
- In IPO where the helper turns and runs at/attacks the dog, in IPO this exercise is much harder than IPO/ZTP, it is more demanding of the dog and involves off leash work.

The CDO said that essentially, ZAP part 2 is a watered down version of the IPO test more particularly in the protection phase.

The CDO was asked to clarify "hold and bark" and the explanation was that the reference relates to the phase where the dog is bailing up the helper and barking at the hide – not the phase during off lead work where the command is given for the dog to come into the heel position. The CD explained that in broad terms ZAP Part 2 is IPO 1 watered down, more particularly in the areas of protection work.

The options given were:

- ZAP Part 1 - Endurance - ZAP part 2 = go to breed survey.
- or;
- ZAP Part 1 - BH - Endurance - IPO 1 = go to breed survey.

Clearly Option 1 being the easier route and the one the show dog enthusiasts will take.

The CDO said the position of the WUSV Board is that a priority is for all WUSV member clubs to incorporate bite work as part of IPO or Zap Part 2 in order for dogs to gain breed survey classification and for clubs to comply with the WUSV mandate.

## 12 **Recommendation**

The CDO said that he would like the meeting tomorrow to discuss and then put his recommendations as motions to the clubs.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS 45 Day Motions to Member Clubs**

I recommend the GSDCA give serious consideration to putting the following schedules to the WUSV board for their consideration and based on timeline fulfillment, acceptance as GSDCA Breed Harmonization compliance:

#### **Schedule 1**

- All dogs born after the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 shall be required to pass the **ZAP** Part 1 Puppy test in order to be eligible to participate in Breed Survey.
- The minimum age to participate shall be 9 months and the maximum is 12 months
- The GSDCA shall develop a WUSV compliant procedure manual, certificate and judges training and licensing program for ZAP that shall be effective 30<sup>th</sup> December 2019
- Dogs that pass the test will be issued with a GSDCA certificate. This will constitute part of the mandatory paperwork required in the Breed Survey application procedure and shall be recorded on the breed Survey certificate and dogs pedigree.

#### **Schedule 2**

- All dogs born after 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019 shall be required to pass the **ZAP** [Part 1 Puppy Test] and **BH** test in order to be eligible to participate in Breed Survey.
- The GSDCA shall develop a WUSV compliant procedure manual, certificates, judges training and licensing program for BH that shall be in place by the 30<sup>th</sup> December 2021
- The minimum age to participate shall be 15 months
- Dogs that pass will be issued with a GSDCA certificate. This will constitute part of the mandatory paperwork in the Breed Survey application procedure and recorded on the breed Survey certificate and dogs pedigree

#### **Schedule 3**

- All dogs born after 30<sup>th</sup> July 2020 shall be required to pass the **ZAP** [Part 1 Puppy test], **BH and AD** tests in order to be eligible to participate in Breed Survey.
- The GSDCA shall develop a WUSV compliant procedure manual, certificates, judges training and licensing program for AD that shall be in place by the 30<sup>th</sup> December 2021
- Dogs that pass will be issued with a GSDCA certificate. This will constitute part of the mandatory paperwork in the Breed Survey application procedure and recorded on the breed Survey certificate and dogs pedigree

#### **Note:**

It can be deduced from my recommendations that the GSDCA shall be stating to the WUSV Board that due to the unique history induced environment that applies to the German Shepherd Dog in Australia it shall not be imposing IPO on any member of any member club who does not wish to participate in the sport but it shall support those who have the interest in lawfully doing so.

The Chair asked for discussion from the floor.

In relation to the *45 day motions to member clubs* it was said that the GSDCA has a policy of 60 day motions. The CDO suggested that if we work on his recommendations, a 45 day motion would fit in with the WUSV meetings. He asked that this be put forward for consideration.

The Chair asked the Clubs to consider this request now and overnight, and if we all agree, there is no reason why 45 day motions cannot go forward.

The CDO said that Mr Husain's preference was that whatever can be done now should be initiated now rather than delayed. The comment was duly noted by the meeting.

The following comments were made regarding the three Schedules.

#### 1. Schedule 1.

- *All dogs born after the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 shall be required to pass the **ZAP** Part 1 Puppy test in order to be eligible to participate in Breed Survey.*
- *The GSDCA shall develop a WUSV compliant procedure manual, certificate and judges training and licensing program for ZAP that shall be effective 30<sup>th</sup> December 2019*

Some of the elements in these two dot points relate to the WUSV mandate, i.e. recording on the breed survey certificate and the dog's pedigree.

Chair noted whilst we do not have control of what is recorded on ANKC pedigrees, we can negotiate with the ANKC to have the ZAP inserted on the Pedigree as is done with the 'A' and 'Z' for HD & ED qualification respectively.

The Chair said that we will need to work on getting systems set up, getting judges trained and manuals prepared etc.

#### 2. Schedule 2

- *All dogs born after 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019 shall be required to pass the **ZAP** [Part 1 Puppy Test] and **BH** test in order to be eligible to participate in Breed Survey.*
- *The GSDCA shall develop a WUSV compliant procedure manual, certificates, judges training and licensing program for BH that shall be in place by the 30<sup>th</sup> December 2021*
- *The minimum age to participate shall be 15 months*
- *Dogs that pass will be issued with a GSDCA certificate. This will constitute part of the mandatory paperwork in the Breed Survey application procedure and recorded on the breed Survey certificate and dogs pedigree*

There were no comments regarding Schedule 2.

#### 3. Schedule 3 –

- *All dogs born after 30<sup>th</sup> July 2020 shall be required to pass the **ZAP** [Part 1 Puppy test], **BH and AD** tests in order to be eligible to participate in Breed Survey.*
- *The GSDCA shall develop a WUSV compliant procedure manual, certificates, judges training and licensing program for AD that shall be in place by the 30<sup>th</sup> December 2021*
- *Dogs that pass will be issued with a GSDCA certificate. This will constitute part of the mandatory paperwork in the Breed Survey application procedure and recorded on the breed Survey certificate and dogs pedigree*

The CDO said that it can be deduced from his recommendations that the GSDCA shall be stating to the WUSV Board that due to the unique historic environment that applies to the GSD in Australia, it shall not be imposing IPO inclusive of the protection phase on any member of any member club who does not wish to participate in the sport but it shall support and encourage those who have the interest in lawfully doing so.

His opinion is that this is the way we should go, albeit there will be expressions of unhappiness by some because of the work commitment; He said the BH test satisfies a lot of criteria for dogs being trained and notwithstanding it does not include protection work the WUSV Board might consider this an acceptable IPO substitute.

The CDO said that his concern is that if the GSDCA come in too far below what is recommended by him, it will not be accepted by the WUSV Board.

The Chair stated that the GSDCA in the 30 years that our policy has existed has not sanctioned or reported any member who participates in IPO to the ANKC. Our approach has always been that this is a fringe activity and members are free to partake in IPO. We have never demonized people for participating.

The CDO said that from the WUSV point of view people who do IPO sport must do so within the GSDCA umbrella.

The CDO said it has been a huge job for him to try to understand and then weave through everything related to the Harmonization program and come up with recommendations for the meeting to work on tomorrow that would satisfy the GSDCA and the WUSV Board.

The Chair responded saying that we have always said, if and when introduced, it would have to be a graduated process, not immediate.

The CDO informed the meeting that Professor Dr Messler and Mr Husain has been provided with and has read all the documentation presented by him at this meeting.

### **13 WUSV Breed Harmonisation Schedule – Balance of 14 Items**

The fully itemized specification has been placed into a matrix and divided into three categories:

- Basic
- Advanced
- Premium

The reason the minimum breeding requirements have been divided into three categories reflects the fact that not all member clubs are able or indeed capable of complying with all the requirements. For a club to comply with the WUSV Harmonization program and dogs within its jurisdiction who comply being entered into the WUSV Stud Book subject to WUSV board agreement it need only fulfill the specifications contained under the heading Basic by 2020

	Qualification	Definition	Basic	Advanced	Premium
<b>Formal Requirements</b>	Micro Chip / Tattoo	Fundamental requirement	+	+	+
	DNA	Certified according to SV requirements	+	+	+
	Minimum age for breeding / Males	Breeding age males	18 months	20 months	24 months
	Minimum age for breeding / Females	Breeding age females	18 months	20 months	20 months
	Breeding Males – maximum number of studs	60 in country of domicile 30 external of domicile. Total 90 pa	+	+	+
	Breeding Females – maximum number of litters	3 Litters then a break	+	+	+
	Quality X-Raying	After 30 studs males must be re-Xrayed	+	+	+
	Artificial Insemination	Not permitted	+	+	+
	Inbreeding levels banned	1/1, 1-2, 2-1, 2/3, 3/2	+	+	+
<b>Health</b>	HD	Certified according to SV requirements;	+	+	+
	ED	Certified according to SV requirements	+	+	+
<b>Qualifications</b>	Breeding Valuation	Minimum grading achieved at a show after 12 months of age ‘Good’	+	+	+
	Breed Survey	Breed Survey Classified	N/R	+	+
	IPO I / ZTP (ZAP phase 2)	IPO I or ZTP title	N/R	IPO/ZTP	IPO/ZTP
	Temperament Test (ZAP phase I)	ZAP 9 – 12 mth old Puppy Test	+	+	+
	ANKC Pedigree		+	+	+

## GSDCA Breed Harmonisation Schedule.

SCHEDULE	Breed Harmonisation Item	Implementation Date
1	<b>Working Test - ZAP</b>	in place December 2019
2	<b>Working Test - ZAP plus BH</b>	in place December 2020
3	<b>Working Test - ZAP plus BH plus AD</b>	in place December 2021
4	<b>Microchip / Tattooing</b>	in place now
5	<p><b>DNA - National DNA identification scheme and procedures.</b> Mandatory from July 01, 2018 on. Dogs who do not comply with this stipulation do not qualify for a stamp in their pedigrees. Taking the blood samples for DNA analysis requires a certain expert knowledge, and the possibility of corresponding training courses is being considered. Also, the involvement of the continental directors in this procedure is a conceivable option. The "Four-Eyes-Principle" is a mandatory criterion in order to avoid fraud attempts. To begin with, the blood samples obtained shall only be stored.</p> <p>The foreign member clubs will be provided with GoCards, and are required to have their dogs chipped, and the blood samples taken by means of the GoCards. An evaluation of the DNA obtained shall only materialize in case the respective dog is supposed to be admitted to breeding, respectively in case a HD/ED examination shall be carried out. The price per GoCard with be 7.00 Euro. The processing shall be carried out by the SV headquarters' offices. The price for storage of GoCards will amount to 19.00 Euro. The total pricing for processing, storage plus evaluation will amount to 65.00 Euro. The respective entries into the pedigrees will be by the SV certification stamp.</p>	
6	<b>Minimum breeding age males</b> – Males 18 months	in place July 2018
7	<b>Minimum breeding age females</b> – Females 18 months	in place July 2018
8	<b>Maximum number of studs per year</b> – 90 studs max.	in place July 2018
9	<b>Maximum number of litters females</b> - 3 litters max. during 24 months	in place July 2018
10	<b>Re X Ray – HD</b> - After 30 studs dogs to be re X Rayed	in place December 2020
11	<b>AI – Allowed</b>	in place now
12	<b>Inbreeding limits</b> – Minimum inbreeding 1/1, 2-1, 2/3, 3/2	in place now
13	<b>HD scheme and 'X Rays</b>	in place July 2018
14	<b>ED scheme and 'X Rays</b>	in place July 2018
15	<p><b>HD / ED Procedure.</b> It is intended that there be a central evaluation analysis of all radiographs. The images shall be taken in the individual member countries. This requires a basic seminar for appropriate training of the radiologist. These courses shall be held in Germany or in the respective member countries. The total expenses for the attendance are estimated to amount to approximately 3,000.00 Euro. The number of participants shall be limited to six to eight persons, and the fee for the training course itself will be 600.00 Euro. The initiation of the HD/ED procedure shall be mandatory from July 01, 2018 on. Radiographs may only be taken by certified radiologists, and the evaluation shall be carried out at the Gesellschaft für Röntgendiagnostik genetisch beeinflusster Skeletterkrankungen bei Kleintieren e.V (GRSK) in the town of Gießen Germany. In case of irregularities and fraudulent behavior the license conceded can be withdrawn again. The radiographs shall be taken using state of the art digital technology. Every four years a recertification of the radiologist is required.</p>	in place July 2018
16	<b>Minimum show grading - 'Good'</b>	in place July 2018
17	<b>Breed Survey</b> - other than amendments to reflect breeding matrix	in place now
18	<b>Pedigrees as per ANKC</b>	in place now
19	<b>ANKC Submission</b>	
20	<b>SV Working Dog Judges</b>	
21	<b>WUSV World IPO Championships - Australian representative</b>	
22	<b>Grading of Excellent / Vorzuglich</b>	
23	<b>Grading of Excellent Select / Vorzuglich Auslese</b>	

The above schedules outline the requirements starting from Micro Chip/Tattoo through to ANKC Pedigree.

The following Schedules were discussed.

Schedule 4. - Micro Chip – compulsory. In Germany you can no longer tattoo, only microchip.

Schedule 5. - DNA. Mandatory from 01 July 2018. The directive from the WUSV is that dogs are only micro chipped, DNA swabs are then sent to Germany, they are kept in storage but the only time the DNA test is actually worked up and a certificate issued is when a dog is applying for breed survey. In effect this means about 90% of all dogs who are DNA tested will never go through the process to completion. Given the number of dogs we survey each year, around 250, they are the only dogs who will be processed to completion. Currently the WUSV want the swabs sent to head office, kept in storage, when requested by owner the DNA is then determine. This is still a work in progress matter.

Schedule 6. - Minimum breeding age for males recommended by the ANKC is 18 months.

Schedule 7 - Minimum breeding age for females recommended by the ANKC is 18 months.

Schedule 8. - Maximum number of studs per year, 90 studs maximum.

Schedule 9. - Maximum number of litters no more than 3 in 24 months.  
As our formulae is not dissimilar, the Chair asked all clubs to check the breeding requirements for each of the State breeding controls and bring back to the meeting tomorrow.

Schedule 10. - Re-Xray – HD. After 30 studs, dogs are to be re-Xrayed.

- Asked why this was necessary the CDO said he was guessing the reason is that there is deterioration in the hips over a period of time but he struggles to see the logic of it.

Schedule 11. - Artificial Insemination – allowed in Australia

- The SV are looking at allowing AI with some limitations.

Schedule 12. - Inbreeding limits. This is not currently in place. For dogs born after July 2011, it is forbidden to line breed up to 3/3.

- Has been proposed for change animals 2/3, 3/2 do not get breed surveyed.

Schedules 13. – 15. HD/ED Procedure.

This is also a work in progress with the WUSV. The preference by the WUSV is for HD/ED X Ray reading to be done in Germany. In the long term this means that the X Rays are done in the WUSV member country by a domicile radiologist who has been certified by the WUSV but the X Rays would be sent to Germany and read in Germany. They would be sent through a portal, assessed and then we receive the result and HD certificate. For the moment everything remains as is, but to reiterate; the WUSV Board would like to see at some time down the track all X Rays sent to Germany to a central reader.

***Action: CDO to seek clarification with respect of GSDCA continuing with its own scheme but having its readers accredited by WUSV and possibility of sharing our data to value add to WUSV scheme.***

Schedule 16. - Minimum show grading: A pre requisite for breed survey is a dog must have gained a minimum of a "Good" grading at a specialist show prior to application for breed survey. The grading certificate provided with other documentation at Breed Survey

Schedule 17. - Breed Survey for life: this applies to males only.

Schedule 18. - Pedigrees as per ANKC. – this is in place now.

**That concludes the Breed Harmonization Matrix presentation.**

The Chair said that by way of refreshing, he will recap what we have been hearing today.

1. The WUSV plan for standardization is in parts a work in progress.
2. The recommendations by the CDO may result in repercussions against us if not followed.
3. Options re ZAP :
  - ZAP – Does an appeal process re dogs that fail and dogs over 13 months of age can they participate? CDO to confirm details.
  - IPO/ZAP2 – is a work in progress.
  - BH – obedience character test – like CDX in our terms.
  - ZAP 2 – Is in effect IPO with slight changes and to still to be formalized.
  - Recommendation 1 – consider within 45 days to meet WUSV board meetings.
  - Recommendation 2
    - Schedule 1
      - ZAP 1 – essentially starts at a date to be determined by us tomorrow, this has more to do with implementation of manuals, judges training etc.
    - Schedule 2 - Have the ZAP Part 1 – AD in place.
    - Schedule 3 - Add the BH – no IPO. (bite work). BH is similar to IPO1.
    - Schedule 4 - Microchip – tattoo optional in place.
    - Schedule 5 - DNA – to be confirmed tomorrow as to where we go
    - Schedule 6 - Males can be bred with from 18 months in place now, we can possibly change to 24 months with discussion with ANKC.
    - Schedule 7 - Minimum breeding age females – 18<sup>th</sup> months ANKC.
    - Schedule 8 - Number of Studs. 90 max.
    - Schedule 9 - Maximum litters – not more than 3 in 24 months
      - All clubs to get back to us tomorrow with state requirements.
    - Schedule 10 - X-rays. Suggest this would need process/clarification and discussed with ANKC.
    - Schedule 11 - AI not allowed at present but being considered by the SV – doesn't affect us.
    - Schedule 12. - Line breeding – to be formalized at next NBC meeting.
    - Schedule 13 to 15 - Central schemes run by WUSV- acknowledged our scheme may be acceptable in full or with slight changes.
    - Schedule 16 - Minimum show grading for Breed Survey – good.
    - Schedule 17 - Breed Survey for life a new policy
    - Schedule 18 - Pedigrees. ANKC pedigree acceptable.

**The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.45pm and resumed at 1.29pm.**

## 14 **ANKC and Dogsport**

The CD stated the WUSV Board want the GSDCA to embrace IPO under their umbrella and support any individual who wants to actively be engaged in the sport of IPO. We are at a position if we do not embrace the protection elements of IPO we face the possibility of being disenfranchised from the WUSV.

The WUSV Board of Directors considers it to be obligatory on the GSDCA that it embrace and manage all matters relating to the participation of pedigree German Shepherd Dogs in the sport of IPO in Australia. This is considered by the WUSV Board to be a matter of the highest level of importance.

An emphasis is placed on '*German Shepherd Dogs only*'.

### **Schedule 19**

#### ANKC Submission

- a) The GSDCA shall put a recommendation with rationale to the ANKC that any of its club affiliated members who wish to participate in the sport of IPO may do so providing it is done with compliance of State or Territory law
- b) Subject to the above 19a being approved by the ANKC, the GSDCA shall, subject to normal processes, affiliate ANKC affiliate German Shepherd Dog only Dogsport clubs, Such clubs and their members shall be subject to compliance with the GSDCA - ANKC processes, constitution and rules.
- c) Subject to the above 19b being approved, the GSDCA shall formulate rules, policies, regulations and procedures including training regimes, judges training and licensing that complies with WUSV IPO rules and regulations. These rules, policies, regulations and procedures shall apply to all GSDCA affiliates and their members.

To reiterate; for the WUSV Board this is the most important point in regard to all matters. It is considered to be a matter of "the highest level of importance". An emphasis is placed on German Shepherd Dogs only. No other breeds are allowed.

The CDO put forward the following recommendation in relation to Schedule 19:

The WUSV Board, particularly Professor Dr Messler, understands the unique situation in Australia re bite work.

The CDO stated that he has advised the WUSV Board that the GSDCA cannot actively bring under its umbrella any IPO/Dog sport organisation unless the ANKC changes its policy in regard to the training of dogs for bite work/protection work. That until this happens the GSDCA have their hands tied behind their backs. Whilst the ANKC policy is in place, any proposal put to the GSDCA as a motion to its members to support IPO in its full context would fail.

Mr Donald recommended to the meeting that the GSDCA put a proposal to the ANKC that the GSDCA be permitted to support/encourage members who wish to take part in IPO, and if there is a dog club actively involved in the IPO sport the GSDCA change its policies to enable that dog club to apply for affiliation with the GSDCA.

The CDO stated that in his opinion if this occurred the WUSV Board would be satisfied that the GSDCA had done all it could to comply with the mandate of the WUSV.

To re-cap:

- 1. The GSDCA agrees it is prepared, with regard to Schedule #19, to put a submission to the ANKC to ask the ANKC to amend their policy to allow the activity of IPO to take place under the umbrella of the GSDCA and for the GSD only.**
- 2. If the ANKC rejects that application, then WUSV Board will have to accept there is nothing further the GSDCA can do in this matter.**

The CDO stated that if we do not do this, we will be disaffiliated from the WUSV therefore he can't see why the GSDCA and member clubs would not support such a proposition in the context that if you have a show dog and have no interest in IPO, you do not have to do it, but anyone who wants to do IPO providing they do so under the GSDCA umbrella can and the GSDCA will control IPO in respect to the GSD in Australia. If we do not support this proposal we are not fulfilling the WUSV mandate.

He said a letter would have to be compiled with appropriate material that was convincing to the ANKC and this was best supported via a face to face meeting with the ANKC Board He said he had a conversation last year with Mr Hugh Gent, President ANKC as the CDO talking on behalf of Prof. Messler and asked would the ANKC give consideration to a submission by the GSDCA to allow the GSDCA to be engaged in IPO activities. Mr Gent said the ANKC would be interested in receiving a submission on the IPO matter. Mr Donald assumes the offer still stands.

I believe that a submission has a reasonable chance of success, and I imagine that if the GSDCA wanted support from the WUSV/SV, the FCI, Professor Messler to support the submission that support would be there.

A lengthy discussion of the attendees took place with the following points being made:

- If we offer IPO by affiliation with a dog sport club, that would satisfy the WUSV.
- Does the dog sport club ask for affiliation with the ANKC or does the dog sport club affiliate with the GSDCA not the ANKC. It was clarified it would be the canine Controls in the clubs State/Territory.
- The Chair advised the meeting that two years ago we had a discussion where the matter of IPO was brought up by the GSDCA at an ANKC Annual National Breed Council Meeting, where he directly asked the question if and when the ANKC did approve IPO/Dogsport, that it should be the Breed Councils of the working breeds that should oversee and conduct the activity. Constitutionally the GSDCA cannot affiliate a club that is not an affiliate of their State Canine Control. It is important to argue the case for the activity to be approved and not clubs that currently sit outside of the ANKC umbrella. If it all goes ahead, the GSDCA has very little if any expertise in this area. Hence, as an example, members of those fringe clubs who own GSD would be encouraged to join a GSDCA Member Club and start up a training group within that Clubs structure.
- The CDO said that he imagined initially that the Dogsport Club based in Sydney would become an affiliate of the GSDCA and in doing so provide expertise to the GSDCA. The directive from WUSV is any affiliate IPO club that becomes an affiliate of the GSDCA cannot have any other breed of dog participating in its activities other than German Shepherd Dogs. Schutzhund Australia has a number of breeds. None of those breeds could remain members of that organisation and remain with us. If this proceeds, and they affiliate, they need to terminate the membership of all breeds other than German Shepherd Dogs. My thinking here is bringing in expertise rather than us trying to re-invent the wheel with our very limited expertise in the area of IPO.

The Chair commented that if the Council decided to pursue the acceptance of IPO/Dogsport by the ANKC that dependent on what expertise exists at each of its Member Clubs each member will have the opportunity to participate. The aim is to have the activity legitimized in order it is recognized as an ANKC sanctioned canine activity. If this is achieved then as with all we have achieved the Council will be in charge and working dog enthusiasts who own GSD will need to be members of our Member clubs in order to now participate in an accepted and sanctioned ANKC activity.

Professor Dr Messler conveyed to Mr Donald that only German Shepherd Dogs are to be involved under the GSDCA umbrella.

- CDO commented Dogsport clubs who join the GSDCA, we will in effect be removing their clubs current autonomy and this may be something they are not happy to do.
- Chair replied there will be a need to convince the ANKC that due governance, control and expertise, will be needed to be put in place in order to meet both GSDCA and ANKC requirements. The Breed Council should be in charge of IPO and through its current Member Clubs that are already structured could add this activity to all the others they now offer e.g.: breed advice, show training, obedience, tracking, agility etc. It is recognized that the activity will not be in place immediately as there limited expertise in the short term. It was noted that the State of Victoria will pose special challenges with regard to IPO and housing IPO dogs and may impact adversely on that Clubs operation with regard to conduct of activity for its members and conduct of national events in that State.

The CDO said that the Victorian legislation is a significant problem but one that we need to work on.

- There is the issue where Local Government in some States are telling clubs that they cannot train for IPO and they have been ejected from their sport grounds.

The Chair said the question was: do we work with the WUSV to bring in Dogsport/IPO to Australia? If the answer is yes, then we need to find to the best way to proceed. Historically we have had a culture that has rejected the need for IPO. However we marvel at what we see at the Sieger show every year. If members have no interest in IPO they do not have to participate and it will have no adverse repercussions. If we are able to convince the ANKC then we would have control and our members would be allowed to pursue the activity in a controlled environment.

## 15 **SV Working Dog Judges**

Currently any application that is made by GSD Dogsport clubs such as the WGSDCA for permission to invite an SV Working Dog judge to judge an IPO trial in Australia is refused by the GSDCA. The basis of the refusal is that IPO is contrary to ANKC policy.

The response to this refusal is that the SV have by - passed the GSDCA and given the WGSDCA permission to contract SV judges.

This is unprofessional and does no one or any organization credit. It undermines the authority of the GSDCA and creates an environment that is not conducive to the integrity of the sport. It also creates an air of hostility between the GSDCA, the SV and WUSV.

It was suggested that the first paragraph above be amended to read:

Currently any application that is made by GSD Dogsport clubs such as the WGSDCA for permission to invite an SV Working Dog judge to judge an IPO trial in Australia is refused by the GSDCA. The basis of the refusal is that IPO is contrary to **GSDCA and** ANKC policy.

The CDO recommended that until Schedule 19 is determined, as an interim measure, the GSDCA approve the WGSDCA to invite SV working Dog judges to judge IPO events in Australia. In the interest of everyone we do not want a situation where a Dogsport club invites an SV judge, the GSDCA say no and the club then goes to the SV, the SV approve the judge and the GSDCA is bypassed. This is an interim measure only until the ANKC position is established. It saves face for all concerned.

The CDO said he was looking for a compromise, a way to work with each other in a very difficult situation.

The Chair commented that he cannot understand why the WUSV need the GSDCA to endorse SV Working Dog Judges to judge IPO events in Australia when they ignore GSDCA advice? He said the GSDCA believe the WGSDCA should not approach SV judges to judge their shows whilst an approach to the ANKC is being made by the GSDCA for the GSDCA to incorporate Dog sport under its umbrella.

The CDO said he felt this was a one sided view, that the WUSV/SV position is the GSDCA is not fulfilling its WUSV mandate and therefore it will approve SV judges to judge shows here.

The Chair said we need to offer something to the ANKC. We need to be able to say the SV will not send out SV judges until we receive an outcome with the ANKC. The question again is will the ANKC approve the activity?

If we do not get ANKC approval for the conduct of the activity, then it is understood that the WUSV will accept that and we remain the WUSV member in Australia.

The CDO clarified this point and stated that the WUSV Board would decide on this matter.

## **16 WUSV IPO World Championships**

Currently any application that is made by GSD Dogsport clubs such as the WGSDCA to endorse a person to enter their dog in the WUSV World IPO Championships is refused by the GSDCA.

The basis of the refusal is that IPO is contrary to ANKC policy.

The response to this refusal is that the SV have by - passed the GSDCA and given the applicant permission to enter and attend the Championships. This undermines the authority of the GSDCA and creates an air of hostility between the GSDCA, the SV and WUSV.

### **Schedule 21**

#### **WUSV World IPO Championships - Australian representative**

Until the outcome of Schedule 19 is determined, as an interim measure commencing with applications to attend the 2017 WUSV World Championships, the GSDCA shall endorse any application received from individuals being members of a GSDCA Member Club to represent Australia at WUSV IPO World Championships. Such application shall be based on WGSDCA endorsement and entry requirement qualifications attained by the nominated dog at a WGSDCA (Working German Shepherd and Dogsport Club of Australia) IPO National Championship officiated by an SV judge in the year of the WUSV World Championship.

To be able to qualify to go to the World IPO Championships, last year the Australian WGSDCA President applied to the GSDCA for approval. The GSDCA did not give its approval. The SV ignored the GSDCA and by passed the GSDCA authority.

The CDO reiterated any application received by that organisation should be approved by the GSDCA until we receive the ANKC decision.

The Chair explained that Sanne Pederson made an application through the GSD League (NSW) to the GSDCA which was refused due to the ANKC and GSDCA policy. Further as we still have rules in place including the dog must be breed surveyed. In this case the dog was not. We are bound by the ANKC and our policy. It is hard to give credence to an organization that is not accredited to FCI or ANKC.

An attendee said he believed the WGSDCA is a member of the FCI. The CD stated he did not know if this was a statement of fact but doubted it was.

Based on all the discussion had on the matters of approving SV Working Dog judges and attendance at WUSV Working Dog Championships the Chair stated the status quo shall remain in place.

## 17 **Show Gradings**

V – Excellent and VA – Excellent Select.

The SV is tightening up the awarding of the grading of excellent. The criteria that apply in Germany will apply to all WUSV member clubs.

‘V - Excellent’ and ‘VA - Excellent Select’

Not included in the matrix because it is not a breeding matter, the decision of the WUSV Board of Directors is that rules pertaining to grading criteria in Germany shall apply to all WUSV member clubs as at some foreseeable point in time. The gradings affected by this statement are ‘Excellent’ and ‘Excellent Select’.

‘V - Excellent’ and ‘VA - Excellent Select’ - Mandatory Criteria:

- Minimum 2 years of age
- DNA
- Breed Survey classified
- HD/ED certified
- Minimum of IPO 1 title
- Passed a protection test during the show
- Passed a gun test during the show

The issues that have an effect on the above in Australia are the last three items: have an IPO title, pass a protection test at the show and pass a gun test at the show.

I recommend the following Schedules 22 and 23 be put to the WUSV Board for their consideration and approval

### **Schedule 22 – Excellent.**

The CDO made the following recommendation: *As from 1 January 2019 when exhibited under an SV judge only dogs that are a minimum of two (2) years of age, DNA, Breed Surveyed, HD/ED certificate and pass a gun test during the show shall qualify for the grading ‘V’ - ‘excellent’.*

There is a move by the SV where all the SV criteria that apply in Germany in regard to gradings will apply to any SV judge all over the world.

CDO noted mandatory criteria are to be applied by SV judges regarding gun testing.

- At some time in the near future an SV judge will not award an excellent unless the gun test is conducted.
  - Recommended by the CD to apply the gun test at the 2018 National.

## **Schedule 23 – Excellent Select**

*Subject to Schedule 19 being ratified by the ANKC, dogs who are a minimum of 2 years of age, DNA, Breed Surveyed, HD/ED, have an IPO title and pass a protection test and gun test 'at a GSDCA National Show and Trial' shall qualify for the grading 'VA' - 'excellent select'*

The Chair said that the first question to ask is, noting reluctance to hold Main Breed Exhibitions, would we introduce VA/Excellent Select grading at our National in the first place, if so it would be entirely dependent on ANKC approving IPO.

### **18 Total Summary of Recommendations**

Graph of the GSDCA Breed Harmonization Program Proposed Schedule.

***Refer to page 50 of the WUSV – GSDCA Meeting Melbourne 3 June 2017 attached.***

### **19 WUSV GSDCA Agreement**

WUSV – GSDCA Agreement in Principle.

To be conveyed to the WUSV Board of Directors at the conclusion of the meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2017 – not subject to Member Club endorsement.

Agreement in Principle.

At a meeting of the GSDCA Executive and Presidents of all Member Clubs held in Melbourne 4 June 2019, it was unanimously agreed that the GSDCA will support the principle and specification objectives of the WUSV Breed Harmonisation Programme and that it will to its best endeavours work toward the compliance of those stated objectives.

The Chair asked the CDO if he would consider re-wording the clause. The CDO replied yes providing it did not change the intent.

### **20 Any Other Business**

PRESENTATION OF SHOW DOGS.

- *Presented on a loose lead in a natural pose, not forced by hand and overstretched.*
- *Dogs exhibited at a moderate speed.*
- *Care to be taken by judges in regard to curvature of the spine.*
- *Care to be taken by judges in regard to over angulation of the hindquarter.*

**The CDO said this concluded his presentation.**

***Conclusion:***

The Chair thanked Louis for the work he has done for this presentation. You have made Professor Dr Messler's and the WUSV Board task a lot easier. We do appreciate the clarity given in a concise manner. No doubt you will receive accolades from the English speaking WUSV members who will now be able to make sense of the impending changes. To Gail Donald as Secretary/IT/Advisor role, like Louis I am certain you too have spent many hours assisting him and thank you.

I thank all delegates. Having 2 delegates attend the meeting worked extremely well and should be a model we follow at our GSDCA Annual General Meeting.

From the Executives' point of view the last two years have been very trying with regard to a number of matters as raised today. We welcome now knowing exactly where we stand with regard to IPO/Dogsport. The question tomorrow is how do we progress this? Clearly careful consideration of Schedules 1- 23 is needed and a path forward agreed to.

***NOTE:*** supporting documentation, WUSV minutes, all working title procedures and processes and WUSV Breed Harmonization press releases are available to whoever wishes to peruse them at the following website addresses

SV: <http://www.schaeferhunde.de/en/the-german-shepherd/character-judgment/zuchtanlagepruefung-zap-rating-of-mental-and-physical-breeding-disposition/>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Z8mEQ\\_qqjs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Z8mEQ_qqjs)

FCI: <http://www.fci.be/en/>

*Meeting Closed: 3.07pm.*