



The official magazine of the
German Shepherd Dog
Council of Australia Inc
www.gsdcouncilaustralia.org

Autumn 2015

THE GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG QUARTERLY NATIONAL REVIEW



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CONTENTS

REPORTS

President's Report	04
Post AGM Report	06
Editorial	07
Secretary's Report	08
Notice to Breeders	19
Club News	34
Youth Reports	39
Breeding Plan To Reduce Size	38

ARTICLES

A Snap Shot of the German Shepherd Dog Feet and Pasterns	14
Tools of the Grooming Trade!	16
The Canine Museum Trust	18
Politically engaged dog!	20
Upbringing and Training: Everyone has the dog, that he deserves!	23
Bite Inhibitions	28
Bringing joy with a dog!	31
Possible Ideas To Cure A Dog's Boredom	32
Intestinal Coccidiosis	36
A Trip Down Memory Lane	38
Emergency First Aid	40

ADVERTISEMENTS

Eukanuba	02
Any PR or media experience?	07
Fremont Kennels	17
43rd National German Shepherd Dog Show and Trial Merchandise	22
Leagues Motel, Queanbeyan	33
Introducing The Young Diggers Dog Squad	37
Eukanuba	50



Possible Ideas To Cure A Dog's Boredom - Page 32

COMPETITIONS

Editor's Special Award	07
Competition Time!	20
Win a Rechargeable Bluetooth Reader	21
That was Then, This is Now!	28
Make Your Dog a Star!	30
Competition Winners - Name That Dog	35
Name That Judge!	50

Front cover: Proud Owner Salvatore Pittelli

*Odin Delle Terre Matildiche(imp Italy) Hd near normal ed normal iPod 1 Kl 1

Sire * Furbo Degli Achei

Dam * Hella Delle Terre Matildiche

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Ladies, Gentleman and visitors I again welcome you and look forward to your participation in the 54th Annual General Meeting of the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia (GSDCA).

I am able to report that the last year has seen much work done by the Officers and Executive in administering the affairs of Council, initiating and or finalising work programs. I am more than happy that the Executive has as a team been able to work together in order to further progress the affairs of this Council. My aim, to see decisions being owned by all of us (Members, Member Clubs, GSDCA Officers & Executive) and dispel the still held belief by some, that the Executive has sole power, has created trust amongst us with the result being we have all become more productive and are able to concentrate on the real work at hand. I would also like to note the way Member Clubs have contributed to the progress made during the year. I see a real change in the way they consider the business of Council with the lines of communication much improved. It is important we note the contribution members of Member Clubs make to the betterment and welfare of the GSD in this country. On behalf of the Breed I would like to thank the many members who work tirelessly for their Clubs: without your dedication the Breed would not be, as well served, as it is today.

I would like to thank all members of the Executive for their most professional approach to carrying out their duties and for their input to all decisions. I believe we have, as a team, demonstrated an ability to work closely together, respect one another and own decisions as made. I must also thank all of the Officers of Council who do much work for the breed and this Council. We have numerous positions that require dedicated persons to ensure the work of Council continues seamlessly. On this point I would like to thank two long serving Officers:

- John Fenner has over the many years, been our webmaster over a number of periods. His work in first establishing and then administering over a number of years this most important communication tool is indeed recognised and appreciated by the Council. Thank you, John.
- Frank Moody as Identification Officer has administered the Tattoo Scheme for the past 12 years. He has decided to give up the role and concentrate on other roles he has. On behalf of the Council I thank Frank for his dedication and sustained effort in this role.

I would like to welcome two new younger and active members to the leadership team:

- Dr Candy Baker, has been appointed Assistant Breed Health & Welfare Officer and will provide valuable support to Dr Karen Hedberg.
- Adam Toretto, Identification Officer.

A number of working parties during the year have been able to bring forward or put in place a number of milestones that demonstrate the willingness of Member Clubs to continue to support a progressive approach that continues to demonstrate that this Council continues to meet the needs of the Breed and its members. I want to highlight these milestones.

GSDCA Database: The establishment of the GSDCA Database has been on Councils agenda for over 15+ years and was seriously taken up as a project in 2007. The Council is indeed lucky that we have had a tireless worker - Frank Moody who took on the project and with the employment of subject matter expert and GSDCV member Daryl Bourke who despite being paid for his time put in far more effort than was allocated in the budget to complete the task. It must be noted that Joylene Neddermeyer and Doug West provided breed related input. The milestone of having the GSDCA Database released online for members to use on 1 January 2015 is solely credited to Frank & Daryl's commitment over many years of working on this project. Thank you!

GSDCA Regulations: The project to produce a document that can easily be accessed and interpreted as opposed to a book of, in many cases, conflicted ill worded motions, has like the GSDCA Database been long overdue. Initially Joylene Neddermeyer undertook the thankless task of converting motions into regulations. This process was slow and hampered by the fact that each section as presented needed to be adopted. It was clear to me that the only way such a document could be produced was to have a concentrated effort and produce 'Version 1' which would be adopted as is and modified as needed post adoption. A working party headed by Sharon Thorp (Rules & Regulations Officer), Frank Moody, Steve Collins (& Ian Urie who worked in early days of the project) was formed at 2012 AGM with Joylene providing ongoing support when needed. I would like to thank Sharon, Frank and Steve for their dedication to the task. Your work has ensured we finally have a set of clear regulations that can be accessed by all members.

GSDCA Website: The GSDCA Website needed a revamp and as such Council decided to go ahead and investigate how best to go forward with a redesign. The working party for this task were Jane Pike, John Fenner, Yvonne Yun, and Jacinta Poole. I am happy to report that the working party as headed by Jane, has in quick time, investigated the options and presented same to the Council, who in turn have given approval for the project to be completed. The redesign is currently underway and we expect the new site to be launched by end March 2015. Again this milestone could not be achieved without Jane, Jacinta, John and Yvonne's commitment to see the project fast tracked and completed. Thank You!

The National GSD Show & Trial continues to be Councils 'main event'! The 42nd National GSD Show & Trial was to have been hosted by the GSD of Qld but due to unforeseen circumstances was hosted by the ACTGSDA in an arrangement that saw an experiment undertaken with Council fully underwriting the event. Further, this show was promoted as a 'joint' effort and therefore we saw members from other Clubs and the Executive work together with the Club to ensure the show was truly a

'Council' show and success. I am happy to report that the show was most successful, not only in terms of finances but more importantly as a showcase for our breed. We were fortunate that our newly appointed Patron Dawn Fraser was able to accept our invitation and joined us. She made a notable contribution to the event. It was also noted that wounds of the past regarding ACTGSDA hosting a National have healed and I see no reason why this Club cannot be rostered to host the event. The idea to sponsor a charity was again supported with 'Beyond Blue' being chosen. Yvonne Yun, Jane Pike and the Club must be thanked for driving this.

The presentation of GSDCA Junior Showmanship Awards, together with the way Junior Handler Classes were conducted whilst it did cause some angst and some exhibitors questioning me "why do we do this?", is an essential part of the National: we cannot bemoan the time given to our younger members, they are our future! I would like to thank Jesse Lynch for her work as Youth Officer. I can only reiterate again a call I made to Member Clubs: please ensure you have a youth program that allows for your younger members to participate and learn about your Club and our breed.

The Council held the National Breed Commission, Judges Committee, Judges & Breed Surveyors & Obedience Meeting's during 2014. The reason I raise this is to highlight what I believe is a gradual change in the way we do business. I attended all of these meetings and what was most evident is that opinion is encouraged and matters are fully discussed without fear of retribution. The other important aspect is that decisions are owned by those in attendance. The process by which matters are brought forward to these meetings rather than by a Club at an AGM sees far better discussion and wider input by the membership and the peer group who by their very participation own any decision that is to go forward for adoption at the AGM. The agenda for this meeting is a prime example of this process: the items in the main as listed are better considered and worded and the supporting rationale together with peer group ownership is a major step in ensuring that items are well understood prior to being adopted.

There has been much side bar discussion regarding the past and what Council was able to achieve and that we the Council have or are losing our way. I offer the following in order that the membership and some of our long-time members and past position holders understand how this Council operates. The Council is the Member Clubs, the Executive as elected is not the Council! The Executive as put in place by the Member Clubs undertakes to give leadership and administer the affairs of the Council. The role of making the final decision that is to be adopted nationally is the sole prerogative of the Member Clubs. The Council has by the very nature of what it has implemented over the years has in the main idealistic members. Many of us believe in what we do, and the controls we have put in place to breed GSDs. Yes, there are self-interested members who sit on the fringe and take what they want from us but in the main it's the idealism that binds the majority of us and what has been the driver that has seen the breed progress to where it is today. The betterment and welfare of the GSD is our prime goal. I am proud to say that those who lately have thrown rocks from the fringe by professing in open media that bias takes place over a show placing, that preferential treatment is given to some, or that there is collusion etc., are a minority and it is quite evident their angst is fuelled by self-interest.

Last year I listed some aspirational goals, some of which have or are being addressed, however my goal for the coming year is to commence work on how best to put forward a well-considered case to the ANKC to have put in place a Litter Registration Limitation (LRL) that will only allow for GSDCA Breed Survey recognised animals to be bred with. I believe we can achieve this within a five year time frame! If achieved, it will truly be the crowning achievement of this Council and give us control of the breeding of GSD. This control would be an invaluable point to make when presenting and promoting responsible dog ownership to all governments and would serve the breed by ensuring only animals that have met our criteria for Breed Survey would be bred with.

In closing I wish to thank the Member Clubs for their consideration and hospitality as extended to my wife Frances and me during our visits.

I would also like to thank the membership and my fellow Executive, for their continued support and confidence in me.

I only trust that I continue to meet your expectations.

Thank You

VINCE TANTARO

President

For the GSDCA, the capture and recording of its history has always been a very important function. The position of Historian is one of those roles in Council that does not attract a great deal of attention, but is nonetheless an essential part of GSDCA function.

Up until recently, the role was held by Di Ballantyne, who had taken over from Council's longstanding Historian, James Rodger. Di is now moving on with the thanks and recognition of her service to the Council and the position has been vacant for a short time.

Recently, Maya Bar-Tor, a Victorian member has come forward and has been appointed to the role. Maya comes with the right formal qualifications to take on this very taxing role and has extensive experience in the field. We welcome her to the position and wish her every enjoyment of the role as she gets started.

POST AGM REPORT

I am happy to report that both the Special General Meeting (SGM) and Annual General Meeting (AGM) as held in February were most successful both in terms of participation that included delegates being well prepared and willing to add to rather than detract on matters as raised. Others and I noticed a real shift in the way the business of the Council was considered and decided upon. This again fulfils my aim to instil a culture of respect, openness and inclusion that ensures Member Clubs are well aware of their responsibility as owners of the Council and enact decisions at a national level.

The SGM had two items to discuss; one was a constitutional change that would have seen the Executive in place of the President able to place items on the AGM, which much to my surprise and without any real logic applied was defeated!

The second item related to concerns related to our structure and is it meeting the present and future need as discussed at the Future direction Workshop in 2012. The discussion centred on 'What Next' and the possible restructure of the Council. A number of models were presented that acted as catalysts for discussion. The day long effort in the end produced another model that is not dissimilar to the current structure with main changes that sees the position of Vice President drawn from the pool of Member Club Presidents introduced and membership of the NBC executive broadened to make it more representative of the membership with position holders who are not necessarily Judges and or Breed Surveyors. This material has been distributed to Member Clubs for review and further input will be asked and discussed at a SGM that will be conducted prior to NBC & Judges Meetings to be held in July. I can only ask members attend their Clubs meetings and participate in the debate about the future structure of the Council. I can only reiterate again that I was most happy with the way the AGM was conducted. The minutes of the SGM, AGM and the GSDCA Annual Report can found on the GSDCA website. I highly recommend you please peruse these documents as they will give you a deeper understanding of the significant commitment that Member Clubs via their membership, Officers and Executive of Council undertake in support of our breed: the German Shepherd Dog.

Well the 43rd GSDAC National GSD Show & Trial will be hosted by the GSDCV and held in Melbourne in May. As has been the practise over the last two National's, the host Club this year, together with the Council asks the membership to fully support to the E.J Witten Foundation. Ted Whitten was an AFL footballer who was full of life, charisma and drive. He was a much loved sporting personality in Victoria who died because of prostate cancer. The E.J. Whitten Foundation is a leading men's health not-for-profit charity organisation, aiming to increase awareness of prostate cancer. Their vision is to decrease the prostate cancer fatality rate through increased education and awareness. You can by giving generously make a difference in the battle against what is a killer of men. Please visit this web site <https://give.everydayhero.com/au/team-43rd-gsd-national/members>

The planning for the National is all but complete and I am certain the GSDCV will again set the bar at a new limit and conduct a most memorable show. Hope to see you all there!

As always members can contact me on 0401 711 038 or president@gsdcouncilaustralia.org

INTENDING NATIONAL EXHIBITORS AND TRIALLERS PLEASE NOTE:

1. For publication purposes, photographs of placegetters 1 to 10 for conformation and all obedience competitors are required.
2. It is the responsibility of exhibitors to view and approve the photograph taken at the event by the Official Photographer. **PLEASE NOTE: A Photography ring will be made available By GSDCV for all placed exhibitors to please present yourself after Class is judged or during the show. If you are happy with the selected image you will be required to sign a consent for publication by the Official Photographer.**
3. Obedience exhibitors must present themselves to the Photography ring directly after vetting.
4. If you wish to substitute another image rather than that taken by the Official photographer, it **MUST** be forwarded to the Editor by **11pm on 24th May, 2015**. The format must be jpeg. and with resolution of 1MB or greater. The email accompanying the image must state in the subject line:
 - Catalogue number#
 - Class:
 - Animal's name#
 - Placing:

One substitution only will be accepted and submissions NOT complying with the description above will not be used.
5. Exhibits failing to use either the photo taken by the Official photographer or provide an image as requested **by the due date, will have their critique published BUT without a photo!**

Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated. **There will be no extension to date for providing photos.**

EDITORIAL

A couple of recent remarks have led to a fair bit of thought for me - the term "a good dog" and the question of our function of the GSDCA. What follows is a little bit of my thinking out loud on these questions and I hope to stimulate a little bit of fruitful debate.

As a collective, we often use the term, "a good dog" and the context in which we use the description is generally when speaking about an animal that performs consistently well in the show or trial ring. Or perhaps we will apply the term to an animal, male or female, being used to produce our next generation.

But if this is the criteria for becoming a "a good dog", then where does this leave all those wonderful dogs that meet the needs of ordinary people in the community. In a sense, these are the unsung heroes of what we do because without them, who would buy our puppies? It would be an absolutely ideal situation all round if when we mated our bitches, we got exactly what we wanted in the offspring - only one perfect specimen, the sex we want, the coat colour and coat type we wanted. Magic- no need to deal with puppy buyers, no sleepless nights fending for the "runt" in the litter. Everything just as we want it.

We all know it doesn't happen like that and we all know that not every dog can make it in the show ring or obedience trial. There are just so many reasons why things don't go the way we had hoped and because of this we are able to offer puppies for sale.

I remember hearing some years ago about at least two other breeds where because there was no demand for puppies, breeders made selections very early on and culled the balance of a litter. In this day and age that practice cannot be condoned and yet, we seem to have problems acknowledging the "chicken and egg" relationship we have with puppy buyers - if there was no demand for our puppies, most of us would walk away from breeding.

And the other aspect is that so many of the dogs that are in the "pet" persons' hands are the ones that do so much for us....they're out there being great ambassadors of the breed - in cafes, working in communities, being police dogs, assistance dogs, just being great family pets and without realising it, doing part of our function - PROMOTING THE GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG.

So, on a personal level, I am resolving to give more credit where credit is due and allow, in future the very proud owners of these dogs greater acknowledgement. They deserve it.

And as one of the functions of the GSDCA is the protection of the breed, I would like to suggest that this may well be one of the best things I could do. In the future, we will need all the support we can get to face down the challenges that will inevitably come our way. If you think back to the ban and the strategies that defeated it, one of the most significant factors to the success of the challenge against it was that the protest was a groundswell of public opinion; whilst the organisation may have been ours, the weight of numbers came in a large part from "pet" people. Chances are that they will be needed again!

Thank You

YVONNE YUN

Editor

Do you have some time to spare?

Have you any PR or media experience?

If you're nodding in the affirmative to both of these questions, why not consider working with the Council as a volunteer. The GSDCA is currently looking for a PR officer who can assist with getting the organisation well connected with the media and getting our story into mainstream media.

We know it's a challenge and that results will not be immediate, but if you have the skills and the time to take on this role, we'd love to hear from you.

Please contact the President or Secretary to register an interest.



EDITOR'S SPECIAL AWARD

The GSDCA is very keen to see candid shots of children and GSDs. To win, the photo must be an unedited candid photo of a child and dog. One voucher will be awarded to the winning entry.

To enter, send your photo to revieweditor@gsdcouncilaustralia.org no later than 31st May, 2015.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

It is with pleasure I present for your information, the results of motions as "Carried", "Lost", "Withdrawn" from the Special General Meeting and the 54th Annual General Meeting of the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia Inc., held on the 7th & 8th February 2015, in New South Wales.

All motions carried will take effect as of the 1st July 2014 (except where the meeting agreed to allow immediate action), and for full details as per the minutes, please contact your Club Secretary.

Val Moody, Honorary Secretary - GSDCA Inc.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Changes to the Constitution

The Constitution change as per the agenda was lost.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

2.3 Ratification of Matters Arising from the 53rd AGM under the 60 day rule:

Motion 1 "That the motion to conduct a GSDCA Sieger Show in 2014 & 2016 be rescinded". **Carried**

Motion 2 "That the GSDCA upgrade its website and that the following apply:
 • A maximum of \$8,000 be allocated for the redesign of the GSDCA Website as per a design brief to be prepared by the GSDCA Website Working Party.
 • A minimum of 3 quotes will be obtained.
 • Each quote will list at least 10 examples of websites produced by prospective supplier.
 • Final quotes will be forwarded to Member Clubs for approval." **Carried**

Motion 3 "That the following Victorian ANKC licensed Obedience Judges who are "friends of the breed" be put forward for inclusion on the GSDCA Supplementary Obedience Judges list.
 Mr. Ross Carlson, Mrs. Dawn Ayton, Mr. David Hutson, Mrs. Lynn Klecka, Mr. Clive Makepeace and Mrs. Sharyn Stephens". **Carried**

13 Determination of Scale of fees for financial year 2014-2015

Rescind current motion:

2002 – Effective from 1st October 2002, affiliation fees be increased by 20%. The current fee of \$100.00 per vote be increased to \$120.00 plus Goods and Services Tax.

Proposed Motion:

Effective from 1st October 2015 the gross affiliation fee (Inclusive of GST) be increased annually by CPI as at 30th June each year as reported by the Australia Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

Amended Motion:

"That effective from 1st October 2015 the affiliation fee will be set at \$125 plus GST".

Carried

Motion then put :

"That effective from 1st October 2015 the affiliation fee will be set at \$125 plus GST".

Carried

16 Matters referred to AGM from National Breed Commission

16.1 Motion: "That the 2014 National Breed Commission decision to award Mr Peter Flynn, GSDCA Breed Surveyor status be ratified."

Carried

16.2 Motion: "That as per the National Breed Commission recommendation the document titled 'GSDCA National Code of Ethics' as amended be adopted".

Carried

16.3 Motion: "That as per the National Breed Commission recommendation the document titled 'GSDCA Guiding Principles' be adopted".

Carried

16.4 Motion: "That the requirements for the presentation of GSDCA Breeders Achievement Awards be amended as follows:-

GSDCA BREEDERS ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS FOR THE GSDCA HD/ED CONTROL SCHEME

a) 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)

b) The GSDCA award 100 plaque, gold, silver and bronze medallions to kennels that have supported the GSDCA ED Control Scheme by

Summary of Motions from the Special General Meeting and 54th Annual General Meeting of the GSDCA Inc.



- breeding the required number of animals to receive the GSDCA "Z" stamp. (Regulation 2007)
- c) 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
- d) A list of kennels that qualify will be compiled as of 31 December in any given year.
- e) 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.
- f) 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 Club Presentation Night and the list will be published in the National edition of the Quarterly National Review.
- g) The list of kennels as qualified will be published in the Quarterly National Review.
- h) The GSDCA Breeders Achievement Awards are available to all kennels in Australia and also to kennels overseas. (i.e. New Zealand and England.) (2002)

Carried

- 16.5 Motion:** "That the result sheets and the x-rays (plates and digital) submitted to the GSDCA HD/ED Control Scheme shall be kept by the GSDCA HD/ED Registrar for a period of at least seven years".

Carried

- 16.6 Motion:** "That the GSDCA oversee a voluntary DNA profiling scheme for GSD DNA specific tests:
- Degenerative Myelopathy
 - Dwarfism
 - Ivermectin Sensitivity
1. No self-testing tests will be accepted by the GSDCA.
 2. As with all GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes – proof of identification must be validated and verified at time of testing by the accredited DNA Collector.
 3. Declaration by the Veterinarian/Accredited DNA Collector needs to be included on the GSDCA DNA Profiling form:
"I certify that I have personally checked the dog's tattoo number and/or Microchip and identified on the DNA testing form and sample".

The motion was not supported by Member Clubs and the matter is to be referred to the GSDCA Breed Health & Welfare Committee Chairperson.

- 16.7 Motion:** "That as of 1 January 2015 the GSDCA Breed Survey Year Book will no longer be published in its current format and the survey of each animal will be recorded and made available on the GSDCA Database, in a format similar to that produced in the GSDCA Breed Survey Book. Note where possible Breed Survey data as published in the past will be entered into the GSDCA database to further enhance this reference tool".

Carried

- 16.8 Motion:** "That the GSDCA submit to the ANKC an amendment to Litter Registration Limitations (LRL's) ANKC Regulations Part 6 – Section 8.9 to read as follows:

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

Both parents of every litter must be screened for Hip Dysplasia through an official Hip Dysplasia Control Scheme.

- a) Where the parents have been born on or after 1st January 2015, they must record a score of no more than 8 on either hip, with no more than three (3) 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.

- b) For clarification, where the parents have been born after 1st January 2010 and prior to 1st January 2015, they must record a score of no more than 12 on either hip, with no more than three (3) 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. (As per existing LRL) Where the parents have been born prior to 1st January 2010 they must provide proof of x-ray for Hip Dysplasia.

Breeders of litters whelped on or after 1 June 2011, 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, or 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.

Both parents of every litter must be screened for Elbow Dysplasia through an official Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme.

- a) Where the parents have been born on or after 1st 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).

b) For clarification, where the parents have been born after 1st January 2010 and PRIOR TO 1st January 2015, they must record a grading of Normal, Near Normal, Grade One, or Grade Two on both elbows, and be free from the condition of UAP (Ununited Anconeal Process). (As per existing LRL) Where the parents have been born prior to 1st January 2010 they must provide proof of x-ray for Elbow Dysplasia

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.

Carried

16.9 Motion: "That the following motion passed in 2008 be rescinded:-
From the 1 December 2015 (start of the 2016 Breed Survey year) in relation to size, only animals measuring 55-60cms (females) and 60-65cms (males) will be eligible for BS Class 1 (i.e. This brings the size back down by 1cm to where it was). All animals that are outside this size range and are considered to be of above average anatomical worth may be considered for Class 2, and the height as measured shall be recorded on the Breed survey certificate with the Warning and Recommendation that extreme care must be taken when considering breeding from this animal".

Carried

16.10 Motion: "That the GSDCA approach the ANKC to rescind the requirement that dogs born prior to the 1st January 2012 cannot be moved from the Stock Coat Register to the Long Stock Coat Register via the current verification process that was limited to a period ending on the 1st January 2014."

Carried

16.11 Motion: "That as from 2015 GSD National Show and Trial, the officiating judges are invited to view the Sires Progeny".

Carried

16.12 Motion: "That if the above motion is carried then the following motion as adopted in 2011 be rescinded:-"That at German Shepherd Dog National Show and Trials the visiting officiating judges not be allowed to view the Sires Progeny commencing from the 1st January 2011".

Carried

16.13 Motion: "That the previous motion relating to the Breed Survey year be rescinded and replaced with:-
As from 2015 the Breed Survey year shall commence on 1st January and end at 31st December each year.

Carried

17 Matters referred to the AGM from the GSDCA Breed Surveyors and GSDCA Specialist Judges Meeting – Nil.

18 Matters referred to the AGM from the Judges Committee

18.1 Changes to GSDCA Specialist Judges Extension Course Current Regulation

3.3.3 The applicant shall complete three (3) practical examinations under three different examiner judges or any substitute judge appointed by the Chair Judges Committee. One examination is to be under the President, Chair NBC or Chair Judges Committee, if the position holders are qualified examiner judges.

Amended Proposed Regulation Change

3.3.3 The applicant shall complete **three (3)** practical examinations, **two under** different assessor judges or any substitute judge appointed by GSDCA Judges Committee. The third examination will be where the aspirant is judging and the assessment is completed by the GSDCA assessor judge. The written critiques, together with all class call out orders, are to be sent to the Chair of the GSDCA Judges Committee and the assessor judge, **plus a short written report on the virtues and faults of animals and the overall show within three (3) weeks of the show.** One examination is to be under the GSDCA President, NBC Chair or Judges Committee Chair, if these position holders are qualified examiner judges.

Current Regulation

3.4 COURSE COMPLETION:

The GSDCA Judges' Extension Course must be completed within three (3) years from application. An extension of this time may be granted by the Judges Committee Chair following an application by the applicant stating the extenuating circumstances.

Amended Proposed Regulation Change

3.4 COURSE COMPLETION:

The GSDCA Judges' Extension Course must be completed within three (3) years, a further 2 year extension may be given with by application to the GSDCA Judges Committee Chair, from the initial application to the Course. Continued active involvement within the Club of domicile is expected, to be an ongoing participant in the Course.

Carried

18.2 Regulations for GSDCA Specialist Judges applying to be accredited as WUSV judges.

Motion: "That the proposed regulations for GSDCA Specialist Judges to apply to the Judges Chair for accreditation to become a WUSV Judge be adopted. These regulations to be effective from 1 July 2015".

Carried



18.3 QNR National Edition Photographs.

Motion: "That as of 1 July 2015:

- Owners will be required to supply a photo of their animal as placed at the GSDCA National GSD Show & Trial.
- The photo must be supplied as a high quality (min 1mb) jpg file and emailed to editor within fifteen (15) days of the end of the event.
- Failure by owners to supply a photograph will see no photograph of their animal included in the QNR.

Carried

19 Matters referred to the AGM from the GSDCA Obedience Committee

19.1 **Motion:** "That as of the 2015 National the following shall apply:

- All obedience entrants are to be photographed at the time of vetting.
- The animal shall be in a sitting position alongside of the Handler.
- The photo must be supplied as a high quality (min 1mb) jpg file and emailed to editor within fifteen (15) days of the end of the event.
- Failure by the owner to supply a photograph will see no photograph of their animal included in the QNR.

Carried

19.2 **Changes to the GSDCA National Obedience Competition**

Motion: "That from the 2016 National Rally-O Novice, Rally-O Advanced, and Rally-O Excellent be added to the awards known as the GSDCA Annual National Obedience Competition".

The owner must submit qualifying scores gained at ANKC Sanctioned trials as below:

- 3 (Three) x Novice scores for the "Best Rally Novice Dog" award
- 6 (Six) Advanced scores for the "Best Rally Advanced Dog" award
- 6 (Six) Excellent scores for the "Best Rally Excellent" award

Carried

19.3 **Changes to the GSDCA Excellent Handler Award**

Motion: "That Rally-O be added to the awards known as the GSDCA "Excellent Handler Award".

Carried

19.4 **Change to the Closing Date for GSDCA Obedience Awards**

Motion: "That the closing date for application for the awards known as the GSDCA Annual National Obedience Competition, and the GSDCA Excellent Handler Award be changed from "no later than three (3) weeks before the GSD National Show and Trial", to "no later than the closing date for entries for the GSD National Show and Trial".

Carried

19.5 **Renaming and modification of the GSDCA Excellent Dog Award**

Motion: That the "GSDCA Excellent Dog Award" be renamed the "GSDCA Performance Dog Award", and the criteria amended".

Current criteria:

The GSDCA Excellent Dog Award plaque is awarded to the ANKC registered pedigree GSD that has achieved 10 Excellents in Obedience and/or Tracking and/or Agility/Jumping, in a single or any combination of the three (3) disciplines.

Proposed criteria:

The GSDCA Performance Dog Award plaque is awarded to the ANKC registered pedigree GSD that has achieved 10 Excellents in at least four (4) disciplines, with a minimum of three (3) Excellents in conformation and least one (1) Excellent in three (3) other disciplines, e.g Obedience and/or Tracking and/or Agility/Jumping and/or Rally-O and/or other GSDCA recognised disciplines.

The owner must apply to the GSDCA Obedience Chairperson by the closing date of entries of the GSD National Show and Trial.

Presentation of this award shall be made at the GSD National Show and Trial.

Carried

19.6 **Change to the rules for the DAVID O'ROURKE MEMORIAL "DUAL PERFORMANCE TROPHY"**

Motion: Amend Appendix "G" in the National Trial Manual to include CCD class.

Current wording:

To be eligible, a Dog or Bitch must achieve, as minimum, a grading of Very Good in a conformation class and a qualifying score in Novice, Open, Utility or Utility Dog Excellent class in the Obedience Trial.

Proposed wording:

To be eligible, an animal must achieve, as a minimum, a grading of very good in a conformation class and a qualifying score in CCD, Novice, Open, Utility or Utility Dog Excellent class in the Obedience Trial.

Carried

19.7 **Change to the rules for the RICK RICHARDSON TROPHY "WINNER OF WINNERS TROPHY"**

Motion: Amend Appendix "E" in the National Trial Manual to allow CCD class competitors with qualifying scores to be eligible to compete for Gold, Silver and Bronze Obedience medals at the GSDCA National Show and Obedience Trial.

Proposed wording:

The qualifying winners of each of the CCD, Novice, Open, Utility, and Utility Dog Excellent Class in the Obedience Trial will be required to compete in the "Winner of Winners". All competitors will compete in the run off by performing the same exercises as eligible competitors from the higher classes, i.e. Novice heel pattern and Novice recall.

Carried

20 **Other Matters referred to the AGM**

20.1 **Changes to the GSDCA Excellent Handler Award**

Motion: "That at all future GSD National Shows, those animals that have passed GSDCA Breed Survey Scheme not be re-measured nor tooth checked however, if they are, then this exercise should be carried out by the officiating judge inside the ring".

20.1 was withdrawn by the League.

20.2 **Changes to the GSDCA Excellent Handler Award**

Motion: Pertaining to the 'Conduct of Junior Handler Classes at the GSD National Show and Trial'

Proposed Change:

- A GSDCA Specialist judge or other person "that meets the local State Kennel Control requirements" as approved by the GSDCA Executive may judge Child and Junior Showmanship Classes at the National.

- The conduct of the Junior Handlers Classes shall be scheduled so judging, on the peg critiquing and presentation of sashes etc. is completed within the Friday luncheon break to ensure that judging of the show classes can commence immediately following the break.

Carried

20.3 Regarding the Breed Survey conducted on the Thursday prior to a National.

Motion: "That Breed Survey prior to a National will only be available to animals entered in an Open Class and old enough to receive an excellent grading at the GSD National Show and Trial and which are resident in remote areas such as FNQ, Northern WA, the Northern Territory."

This was a tied vote and therefore the Chair was given the casting decision

Motion Lost. Status Quo Remains.

20.4 Motion: "That State Breed Exhibitions in all States and Territories must follow the same format and the gun test and off lead gaiting must be included in accordance with the rules for dogs to attain the grading of Excellent Merit (circa 1990)".

20.4 was withdrawn by WA with a request that it is referred to the Judges Committee meeting in July.

20.5 Motion: "That the GSDCA BS1 Application for Breed Survey Form be amended to accommodate and allow inclusion of "Choice of Breed Surveyor" by the applicant."

Carried

20.6 Regarding the Breed Survey conducted on the Thursday prior to a National.

Motion: "That the German Shepherd Dog Club of Queensland recommend to the GSDCA Member Clubs as from 2015 GSD National Show and Trial, the officiating judges are able to view the Sires Progeny".

This was dealt with under 16.11.

20.7 Motion:

- a) That the GSDCA place a sample copy of the GSD Health Form on the GSDCA website, to help promote the form, due to poor compliance with its use.."
- b) That the GSDCA approach the Veterinary Surgeon's Board in each state making them aware of the importance of the form in gathering health data".

20.7 withdrawn by WA.

20.8 Motion: "That as from 1 January 2016 there will be one classification at Breed Survey and that classification will be BS (Aus)".

This was a tied vote and therefore the Chair was given the casting decision

Motion Lost. Status Quo Remains.

20.9 Motion:

"That Tania Schumann, a Victorian ANKC licensed Rally Obedience Judge who is a member of the GSDCV be put forward for inclusion on the GSDCA Obedience Judges Supplementary List."

Carried

20.10 Motion: "That Ms. Pat Hallam, Mr. David Scrimshaw and Mrs. Christina Lowe be put forward for inclusion on the GSDCA Obedience Judges Supplementary List."

Carried

20.11 Motion: "That the Hereditary Disease Committee title be changed to Breed Health & Welfare Committee".

Carried

20.12 Motion:

Current Motion:

"That the show Manual be amended and the following policy with regard to:

GSDCA Policy on "Naming Rights" and use of sponsor's logos on trophies and sashesClubs hosting a National Show and Trial on behalf of the Council, who wish to offer their major sponsor "Naming Rights" to the show, and/or place the sponsor's logo on sashes, plaques, grading certificates or trophies **MUST** apply for approval to do so at the AGM of Council in the year before the show is to be held. If the application is approved, the event could then be named: "The (Sponsor name) XXth. National German Shepherd Dog Show and Trial"

Proposed Motion:

GSDCA Policy on "Naming Rights" and use of sponsor's logos on trophies and sashes Clubs hosting a GSD National Show and Trial on behalf of the GSDCA, who wish to offer their major sponsor "Naming Rights" to the show, and/or place the sponsor's logo on sashes, plaques, grading certificates or trophies **MUST** apply for approval to do so at the AGM of GSDCA in the year before the show is to be held. If the application is approved, the event could then be named: "The (Sponsor name) XXth. GSDCA National German Shepherd Dog Show and Trial"

Carried

20.13 Motion:

Current Motion:

"That no policy decision can become effective until at least the first of the month following publication of the decision in the GSDCA Quarterly Review". (1995)

Proposed Motion:

"That no policy decision can become effective until the 1st July each year."

Amended Motion:

"That no decision can become effective until the 1st July each year **unless decided by the AGM.**"

Carried

20.14 Motion:

"That as of 1st July 2015, the following GSDCA grading may be awarded at the discretion of the officiating judge at all GSDCA Member Club and/or approved Shows".

- Open Class: Excellent, Very Good, Good, Ungraded
- Intermediate and Australian Bred Class: Very Good, Good, Ungraded
- Junior: Very Good, Good (12 months of age and over) Ungraded.
- If under 12 months Very Promising, Promising, Ungraded.
- Baby, Minor Puppy, Puppy Class: Very Promising, Promising, Ungraded

Lost

20.15 Motion: "The GSDCA Executive, in liaison with the host

Member Club, will be responsible for venue selection and all financial, catering and accommodation negotiations for the:

- GSDCA AGM;
- GSDCA SGM;
- NBC Meeting;
- Judges Committee Meeting;
- Obedience Committee meeting; and
- Other Specials meetings when required.



Where the cost of the meeting room is built into the venues "per head cost" the GSDCA Executive will negotiate with the venue to charge a meeting room hire fee, payable by the host member club, which will subsequently reduce the cost per head to delegates and observers."

Carried

20.16 Motion:

Current Motion:

"That the show Manual Item 12 – Trophies, Sashes Mementos - 12.12 be amended and the following policy to apply: Plaques – From the National Marketing Officer or other suitable suppliers.

Proposed Motion:

"That the GSDCA National Show Manual Item 12 – Trophies, Sashes Mementos - 12.12 be amended and the following policy to apply: Plaques - From the National Marketing Officer (Trophy Officer).

Carried

20.17 Motion: "That as of 1st June 2015, the GSDCA will provide the following in support of the Australian Canine Museum building fund:

- Initiate a 6 month campaign for donations to be made to the "German Shepherd Dogs for the Australian Canine Museum Building Campaign".
- GSDCA to make an initial donation of \$5000.
- Member Clubs will be asked to make donations.
- Members will be asked to make donations: Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.
- Establish web page: where information regarding the building project, museum and contact details on how a donation can be made.
- Request Member Club websites have link to GSDCA "Australian Canine Museum Building Campaign" web page.
- Initiate an advertising campaign: at least 1 advertisement in QNR and Member Club magazines.
- At the end of the donation period publish list of ALL donors in Quarterly National Review."

Carried

20.18 Motion:

- a) "That the "Draft GSDCA Regulations – Dec'14" as circulated with this agenda be adopted, and all previous GSDCA AGM motions pertaining to Regulations, and all previous regulations are hereby superseded."
- b) "The document shall be known as "The GSDCA Regulations Manual".
- c) "These Regulations will be updated annually with motions that are carried at the GSDCA AGM or SGM, and circulated to all Member Clubs, as well as placed on the GSDCA website."
- d) "That the GSDCA National Show and Trial Manuals be placed on the GSDCA website, as these are referenced in the Regulations Manual and not currently on the website."

Carried

21 General Business

"Addition to Regulations for GSDCA Specialist Judges Extension Course 3.1.2 Required Criteria to be obtained prior to application to the GSDCA Specialist Judges' Extension Course are:

- a) Has been a member of an ANKC Member Body for a period of eight years (8) during the ten years (10) immediately prior

to the date of application.

- b) Must be a current financial member of a GSDCA Member Club in their State or Territory of domicile.
- c) Must currently hold an ANKC Judges Licence for German Shepherd Dogs.
- d) Must provide evidence of their involvement in their Member Club/s. Areas of involvement include Member of Club/s; Committee/s; Club Instructor. May also include involvement at Kennel Control level. This information should be detailed to include level of involvement i.e. positions held; type of involvement e.g. Breed Affairs; Show Instructor; Registrar and the date, including the length of time served in that position.
- e) A supporting statement from the applicant's Club/s of domicile shall accompany the application.
- f) Must provide evidence of their experience as a breeder as outlined hereunder:
 - (i) Have bred at least five litters under his/her own prefix or has a proven involvement in a shared prefix for no less than eight years.
 - (ii) Have bred at least five animals that have been successfully classified in the GSDCA Breed Survey Scheme.
 - (iii) Have bred at least five animals that have been classified with an 'A' and 'Z' stamp under the GSDCA Hip and Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme.
 - (iv) Have bred at least five animals that have been awarded a GSDCA excellent grading or equivalent, in the conformation ring.
- g) Have acted as a Steward on at least three occasions at GSDCA Specialist Shows and or 'All Breeds' or 'Group' events.

Carried



More than just a pretty face

A SNAP SHOT OF THE DOG FEET AND PASTERNS

The feet and pasterns are the shock absorbers of the dog and enhance the endurance of the trotting dog. This is an area of the animal that is often overlooked, but is a vital area of construction, if we consider what the German Shepherd Dog is bred for as a working dog.

What are we looking for?

The pastern is approximately one third of the length of the forearm, and has an angle of approximately 20 to 22 degrees to the forearm. Both infirm (more than 22 degrees) as well as steep pasterns (less than 20 degrees) restrict the working ability of the dog and in particular its endurance.

The front feet are rounded, well closed and arched. The pads are hard but not inflexible. The nails are strong and dark in colour.

The hind feet are closed slightly arched; the pads are hard, and dark in colour. The nails are strong, arched and also dark in colour.

What are we starting to see more?

Long pasterns, that are infirm
Flat, open feet
Short, steep pasterns

What does it do?

- Long, weak pasterns decrease the flexibility and lateral spring of the overall forequarter. This results in loss of momentum in movement and can produce 'paddling' or 'flicking' of the feet in forehand reach. This movement is inefficient and having a negative impact on the endurance of the dog. Often dogs that have this trait, do not stand correct in front.
- Flat, open feet impact on the endurance of the dog with potential pain after prolonged movement. How many people do you know that buy specific joggers or have orthotics to correct the alignment of the feet for running? Misalignment of the feet can cause pain and create issues with foot, knee and hip issues if not addressed. So it is an important area of the dog to consider for shows and obedience. Also, a correct foot construction sees the toenails wear down naturally with walking. Those of us who have owned a dog that is difficult to

It is important to consider this area in our breeding programs. There is a strong correlation of animals with long and infirm pasterns to have fairly open feet as well.

cut the nails will really understand the importance of a correctly constructed foot.

- Short, steep pasterns do not allow for the flexibility and shock absorption required in this versatile breed. With short, steep pasterns there is a transfer of forces up the forearm to the elbow and forequarters when the animal lands after jumping, causing damage to these joints as they are not designed for that level of stress and impact absorption.

How do we fix it?

It is important to consider this area in our breeding programs. There is a strong correlation of animals with long and infirm pasterns to have fairly open feet as well. So, if you have an animal with restrictions in this area, it is very important that we do not compound the problem, but look for a breeding partner that is sound in pasterns and feet.

I really believe this area has not been considered when choosing breeding partners.

We are trying to promote the German Shepherd Dog as a versatile work dog, then we need to ensure we do not lose the traits that are imperative to decrease the risk of injury to animals as pets, obedience, and show and service dogs.

GERMAN SHEPHERD PASTERN

We are trying to promote the German Shepherd Dog as a versatile work dog, then we need to ensure we do not lose the traits that are imperative to decrease the risk of injury to animals as pets, obedience, and show and service dogs.



Correct feet and pasterns



Long, infirm pastern



Steep pastern

TOOLS OF THE GROOMING TRADE!

Many of us have a grooming box for our show dogs. For both new and seasoned exhibitors here are some tips on the essential tools we should have when going to a dog show.

I personally make it a practice to buy the absolute best quality tools I can because not only do the last, they generally do a much better job. My personal brand preference for brushes is Mason and Pearson, but any brush of a similar quality should give you great service and last for many years.

So, the contents of your case should include:

- A comb
- A Pin brush
- A nylon bristle brush
- A spray bottle
- Small bottles of both shampoo and conditioner (essential to fix the little accidents that can happen in transit) or a waterless shampoo
- A can of Gloss spray
- Mousse or volumizer for when coat is in short supply
- A separate space for leads, check chains and collars, (and make sure they always go back into the box before you pack up)
- A small towel
- A face washer
- Ear cleaner
- A pair of sturdy nail clippers; and
- Some make-up removal pads, great for wiping out ears.

So when you have all these tools assembled, make sure of just a couple of other things - keep them together; If you lend them to someone on the ground, make sure they came back to you and go back in YOUR box and make it a routine to give everything a regular clean and replenishment.



Bella and Simba live next door to one another and were both purchased around the same time. Simba's owner, Laura, reports that they cry and whimper to be allowed to play at night and Simba, the GSD seems to mimic Boxer behaviour in play. They are the best of mates and illustrate how sociable dogs are. Thanks to Laura for the photo.



COMING SOON!



LUTZ

a" ED normal ScH1 KKL1 • Fremont Kennels
For information • Sean 0467 798 973 or Jess 0408 691 313

THE CANINE MUSEUM TRUST

WHAT IS IT? WHERE IS IT? WHY IS IT?

The Canine Museum Trust ("the Trust") was set up as a separate legal entity in July 2002, by several very committed Victorian canine people, for the express purpose of obtaining and displaying all sort of dog memorabilia, including "objects of art", paintings, sculptures, (glass, porcelain, pewter, bronze, other metals, ceramics), as well as collecting historical breed related books of interest.



We are out of space!



Mrs Marilyn Syme, OAM

The Canine Museum Foundation Inc., (the "Foundation"), an incorporated association is an arm of the Trust, that is an affiliate of the Victorian Canine Association Inc ("VCA"), hence enabling it to run shows along with raffles and special efforts in order to raise funds. The Foundation has been enthusiastic and successful in its endeavours and has raised enough to initially fund a building adjoining the administration block of the VCA at The State Dog Centre, Westernport Highway, Skye, Melbourne, Victoria.

The Foundation's volunteers perform a wonderful service for the Museum, without which the Museum could not nearly operate as effectively as it does.

The Trust is very proud of the fact that 99% of all its exhibits (with a current insured value of about one million dollars), have been donated to the Museum by individuals who hold the ideals of the Museum very high indeed and wish to see it succeed as a complete Museum of outstanding and significant dog exhibits. In fact, the Museum is becoming "somewhat embarrassed" as to the regular stream of addition to its collections. This is causing the Trustees great concern, as the current building has become totally inadequate to properly display all the exhibits. Consequently, representations are being made to the VCA to expand the current building, with the Foundation once again providing the funding.

The Museum is very capably run on a day to day basis by its very knowledgeable and affable Honorary Curator, Mr Keith Prior, whose work has been outstanding. Of particular note is

his attention to detail in creating cabinets, expressly designed to best display all the acquired exhibits, so that they are easily viewed from any angle.



Keith at work

These specially designed display cabinets have also been funded by the Foundation. The Trust is currently served by seven (7) Trustees, namely myself as Chairman, Mr Keith Lovell, Mr Paul Simmonds, Mr Graham Treacey, Mr James Rodger, Mr John Hutchinson and Ms Jenny Lyndon, with Mrs Sylvia Power as Honorary Secretary and of course Mr Keith Prior the Honorary Curator.

So, the next time you are in Melbourne attending a dog show or activity at KCC Park, please make time to visit the Museum and view its wonderful array of exhibits. Of course, if you have any memorabilia that you would like to donate to the Museum, it would be very gratefully received and exhibited, despite the current space restrictions. Likewise, if you wish to make a cash donation over \$2, it is fully tax deductible, as approved by the Australian Tax Office.

Our museum mascot 'Pugsley'.
Staffordshire pug circa 1800



BUILDING FUND DONATIONS WELCOMED

(Donations over \$2
fully tax deductible)



The Canine Museum at KCC Park, is one of only two such museums in the world, the other being in St Louis, USA.

It has been operating at KCC Park, Cranbourne, Victoria for the past ten years or so, in premises, including all fittings, lighting and display cabinets, fully paid for by the Museum.

With the terrific response from dog lovers, the Museum has virtually run out of space to display all the donated exhibits. It is proposed that the size of the current building be doubled to allow all exhibits to be displayed.

The Canine Museum trustees have graciously agreed to one corner of the Museum to be dedicated to German Shepherd exhibits. At this time, the GSDCV and the GSDCA (National Council) have each generously decided to make a donation of \$5,000 and has recommended other GSD clubs and individuals could also donate to the building fund.

The Museum and the German Shepherd fraternity would welcome your personal support and donation to the building fund either by :

Direct deposit can be mailed to:

(please advise details via email as below)

ING Direct

BSB: 923 100

Acct No: 60616042

Your cheque can be mailed to:

Mr James Rodger

Trustee/Treasurer CanineMuseum

PO Box 2393,

Mt Waverley Vic 3149.

If you have any queries please contact James on (03) 9808 7453 or jwhrodger@gmail.com

NOTICE TO BREEDERS

MICROCHIPPING ERRORS/MISTAKES



There have been a few cases of recent times where errors with Microchips have been found as the dogs progress through the Breed Improvement Schemes.

These are generally caused by either:

- The ANKC Pedigree had the wrong Microchip number, or
- The Breeder has "mixed up" the Puppy and the Pedigree, when selling the puppy (i.e. the Microchip in the dog does NOT match the Pedigree).

PLEASE TAKE EXTRA CARE – It will save a lot of angst later!

Both issues can be easily avoided by:

- a) Ensuring that the details provided to the ANKC at registration are accurate.
- b) Ensuring that the correct Name and Registered Number is recorded with the puppy with that Microchip Number.
- c) The Breeder checking the Registration papers when they are received from the ANKC, to ensure there has not been a data entry error.

IF AN ERROR IS FOUND

- 1) You will need to contact your State Canine Control to have the Pedigree amended.
- 2) ALSO contact the GSDCA National Identification Registrar (at identification@gsdcouncilaustralia.org) as the GSDCA Database will need to be amended. Please provide the amended Microchip details for the litter, after having done everything possible to verify the Microchips of all puppies in the litter – as the issue will affect more than one puppy.
- 3) Don't forget to check that the details are still correct on the Domestic Animal (Microchip) Registry where your dog's microchip details reside. If necessary this may also need amending.

FRANK MOODY
GSDCA NATIONAL IDENTIFICATION REGISTRAR

POLITICALLY ENGAGED DOG!



Mira is a 10 year old GSD that spends her life between a suburban home in Sydney's northern suburbs and a farm in Gloucester. Being part of the local community, she naturally takes an active interest in the social issues affecting her community. Her owner writes:

"Mira was wearing a little yellow sign on her collar with the words: 'Lock the Gates'. She probably would have preferred 'Leave the Gates open'. I don't think she can read yet...but I'm not too sure."



COMPETITION TIME!

1. What is the minimum size for an Obedience Competition Ring?
2. Name the Obedience judges appointed for the 2014 National Show and Trial ?
3. At what point in your exercises for competition are you instructed to remove the lead"?



2 VOUCHERS TO WIN!

To enter, send your answers to revieweditor@gsdcouncilaustralia.org no later than 31st May, 2015.

Here's one competition that club branches can enter too!

WIN

A MICRO PRODUCTS AUSTRALIA

RT100 V8

RECHARGEABLE

BLUETOOTH READER

Reads all ISO Microchips + HDX TAGS

Reads added information placed on the Microchip by your vet
(i.e. Vaccination type and date / telephone number).

Check the website
www.microproductsaustralia.com

All you need to do to enter the draw is answer the following 5 questions correctly:

1. How many numbers on an FDXA Microchip?
2. What year did the GSDCA first accept microchips as a positive means of identification?
3. What year did the ANKC introduce compulsory microchipping for all registered pedigree dogs?
4. What are the dimensions of a standard companion animal microchip?
5. What are the dimensions of a Micro Products Australia Minichip?

Entries must be lodged with at
revieweditor@gsdcouncilaustralia.org

by 31st May, 2015. All correct entries received by the close of business on closing date will go into the draw from which a winner will be drawn.



VALUED AT
\$250+GST

43rd National German Shepherd Dog Show & Trial



Merchandise



The GSDCV are pleased to offer a full range of customised merchandise which will provide you with a long lasting reminder of the 2015 National in Victoria.
A range of popular items are on offer, great quality & prices, with 'something for everyone'

www.gsdcv.org.au/2015merchandise

Merchandise for the 2015 National is available for ordering & purchase via our online shop, where the full range of sizes and pictures can be viewed. There are links to the supplier sites for further info - know what you're buying. Postal orders welcome too! The full range of merchandise will also be available for viewing and sizing at GSDCV events in the lead up to the National. Try before you buy! Order online by April 15 www.gsdcv.org.au/nationalshop and Pickup 8 May 2015

Jacket

Navy,
Red/White

Warm &
Durable



\$80

Jacket

Red or Navy

Great
Value



\$55

Polo Shirt

Navy/Red or Red/White
Men's & Ladies cut



\$30

Cap

Best
Seller



\$15

Beanie



\$12

Polar Fleece

1/4 zip, Red or Navy

Popular,
Versatile



\$40

Polar Fleece

Full zip, Navy



\$48

Rugby Jumper

Navy/Red stripes



\$45

Vest

Reversible, Navy/Red



\$45



Travel
Mug
\$12

Travel Bag (56L)

\$35



Umbrella
\$35



Coffee
Mug
\$10



Insulated
Bag (12,6L)
\$25

The clothing range is 'Winning Spirit' or 'Johnny Bobbin' brands - well known, with a full range of generous sizing's available. All with the National Logo.

The travel options will have the Logo embroidered or engraved and are a great addition for heading off to your next show!

Order by post using the form in the summer edition of the QNR.

UPBRINGING AND TRAINING: EVERYONE HAS THE DOG, THAT HE DESERVES!

The child and the puppy:
To bring consequence into
The training, is most of the
Time, almost impossible.
Therefore: Dog Training
Is a matter for adults!

The following article was selected from *100 Jahre*, a publication that celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the SV. When I first started with GSDs, training methods such as these were the regimen and the prevailing philosophy of absolute mastery was what we truly accepted and believed. his piece is being re-published by way of comparison. Just as we no longer apply such approaches to raising children, so we have moved on in regard to training dogs. For those who are old enough to remember, a walk down memory lane; for those who are not, an historical perspective and an opportunity to see how this may have impacted dogs!

My thanks to Honey Gross-Richardson for a very big effort to translate this piece for me.

"The character of a person can be judged by the treatment which he metes out to animals. This sentence which has outcomes for good and for bad, stems from Frederick the Great. The consequence to be made: to train your dog properly right away!

The untrained dog is a burden for his owner and brings displeasure to his environment. That's why he is not happy himself. A whole mountain range of specialist literature attempts therefore, to train the novice owner to become a trainer.

The SV does this in a more practical manner, with training courses everywhere on their grounds. The basics of this, you will find in these pages. The secret of all training was already formulated by Max von Stephanitz in 1921: it is based on "the recognition and usage of predispositions present". And of these, the German Shepherd Dog has aplenty!

In his training you need much love, patience, knowledge of his behaviour and insight. Above all however, consequent consistency.

The pack animal dog wants to obey the Alpha animal Human as pack leader. His behaviour is geared to secure his emotional bond. This does not preclude self will and unauthorized action. The

dog is not a machine, but a living being with its own drives – and a substantial portion of stubbornness. Within a breed, even between pups of the same litter, there are individual differences. Their owner must recognize these, and adapt himself to them.

TO MUCH FREEDOM DOES NO GOOD.

A companion dog must be house trained, behave well in the house, garden and on the street, trot along the bicycle and – if necessary – defend the dog handler or an article of his belonging. What task the individual animal has to perform, is the individual decision of the owner.

Every dog can be trained, although the time
taken for this will vary greatly

Every dog can be trained, although the time taken for this will vary greatly. Basically one must remember before the purchase of a German Shepherd Dog, that this an extremely active animal with high spirited temperament, that requires a lot of exercise and above all, attention and care.

Human endurance is sometimes put through a hard trial, if one wishes to train the dog, kept as a companion dog, without strong force methods. But careful: "anti -authoritative upbringing" is not to be confused with growing up of the animal without any rules. The dog owner is well advised, who understand that this is training with a "soft hand" which is the prerequisite for a close contact between man and dog.

Most dog owners really only want a dog that on or off the leash, knows how to behave. For his upbringing and training however, there are different criteria than for the highly specialised Sport Dogs.

It might sound like a paradox, but especially the low ranking dog feels especially content, when he feels the strong leadership of his owner. That especially give the pack animal the feeling of safety and protection.

Dog owners who observe their animal closely, know, that in the case of danger the dog does not seek out the person who plays or smooches with him most, but instead our four footed friend seeks out the one whose strong hand obeys best. It is important to know exactly when and where too much freedom would harm the animal itself, or his environment.

For the dog owner who obtained his animal exclusively for his own pleasure, a few summarizing rules can be set up, that make the training and life with the dog, easier.

this abuse can only be attributed to their ill advised owners. The Schäferhund Verein too, has "gone positive", training even their Schutzhunde and IPO trialling dogs with positive reinforcement, and no longer adhere to the old traditional drive model of training. Honey Gross-Richardson.

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THE HUMAN IS THE MASTER IN THE HOUSE!

- What the dig is allowed or not allowed to do, will be decided on the day on which the four footed one comes into the home.
- All commands and directives will be given in a concise manner. Polite commonplace phrases like "please come over here for a moment" or "sit down please", are senseless. It is better to say "Rex, Come" or "Sit".
- Praise is always better than reprimands. If the little pup has done something well, he is praised, together with patting. He will know from the tone of voice exactly what is meant. Constant reprimands dull the senses especially, of the young dog.
- Sometimes a harsher punishment is necessary. But never with the bare hands or the lead! Both should only bring pleasure to the dog. A folded up newspaper sometimes serves us well. Even better: a quick shake by the scruff of the neck – that's how the bitch too, reprimands her pups.

NOTE: This last paragraph goes AGAINST all modern dog rearing and training methods. It is based on outdated beliefs held in the days before scientific principles of training were taken from the laboratory and the defence forces using dolphins to pigeons, to the dog training public. The traditional alpha roll, staring a dog down and the scruff shake have been the cause of thousands of well adjusted dogs being turned into dangerous dogs as the dogs saw the need to defend themselves against their owners. Contrary to popular belief, bitches do not rattle their pups' brains with a scruff shake, the brain damage caused by

THE "A" AND "O" IS THE REGULAR ROUTINE.

These efforts begin the moment the puppy comes into our life. In the beginning of this getting together the most important part of the upbringing really only consist of keeping unwanted influences away.

Greatest attention is given by us, as newbie dog owner, to the regular flow of all daily events: feeding, going for walks, sleeping.

What is unwanted in the adult dog, the puppy must not even learn – this is the first law of our times!

In the beginning, the new house mate has only very few needs. He must adjust to the change from his life with his mother and the litter mates in generally rather close confined quarters into a new environment with large, and quite different dimensions. That he will manage the easiest the fewer demands will be made of him.

Basically his upbringing now only has one goal: Order! This consists of the regular feeding, the getting use to his own feeding bowl, always at the same place, as well as the strict taboo on begging.

If guests come into the home, it is best for the puppy to stay in a different room. Usually the manner of behaviour of other people is much harder to influence than that of the stubborn puppy dog. Even after clear explanations of the planned training of the dog, there will always be guests who in spite of all, will surreptitiously feed the pup with tidbits under the table, without thinking that the training of the dog is compromised

by this.

In this connection another hint: As long as the dog does not yet know how to behave well, one should not, under any circumstances leave him alone in a room with edibles! He can not know that the piece of sausage or the roast with the enticing aroma are not meant for him. If it does happen, that he has stolen something off the table, and with much pleasure wants to eat it somewhere near us, then we must let him enjoy his meal.

Any punishment at this moment is absolutely wrong. The dog can not connect the bite into the delicious stolen prize with the punishment while he is eating. That would shake his trust in you quite badly. It is better to set a trap for him in order to catch him in the act and thereby nip this in the bud.

Of utmost importance in the course of the day, are regular hours of rest as well as the occasional leaving him alone. For the physical development of the little dog, it is beneficial to have these sleeping periods right after the main meals. It matters not, whether the pup is going to be in a separate room for this, or whether he seeks out his place of rest somewhere near us, is of no importance.

The upbringing of the pup is easiest if we have an indoor kennel with a lattice door, that will restrict the pup's freedom when needed, without entirely breaking the contact between us and the dog.

After a few days of settling in, the dog owner with foresight, will leave the puppy alone for a few minutes during his time of rest, and later that will become several hours alone in the home. This way the dog learns early on, to spend some time home alone. Once he has learned that some one will be with him constantly, he will react to being left alone with yowling and barking. This is soon going to bring you in conflict with your neighbours.

THE HIERARCHY, THE PACK ORDER MUST BE SET.

The owner really only looks after the well being of the pup, lets him eat and sleep and does everything that will lead to a good relationship with him. Only then will things become more serious. The real upbringing begins.

The little one should become toilet trained, listen to his name, come when he is called, stay next to his master, without getting into trouble and much more.

His own food dish – occasionally (especially with dominant males) already a bone of contention at the puppy stage:

The human must be allowed to reach for it at all times.

Basically the training starts when a good relationship has been developed between owner and dog. That is also essential if an adult dog has been purchased. Gradually the dog gets used to the rest of the family members and his position in his new “pack”.

Every member of the pack has a right to a defined social position. The one who is later on going to take on the upbringing/training, always takes on the position of the leading Alpha.

He is followed in varying order of rank, the family members, right at the end, behind the youngest child, comes the dog. That is of decisive importance, in order to avoid for later on, when the now still a little tyke, grows into the uncouth juvenile stage, unpleasant conflict, (especially with male dogs).

Many dog owners believe the right point in time to start the training of the quadruped, begins roughly around the 12th month of age. This opinion is wrong. Training, upbringing, is the formation of conditional reflexes and life experiences. Especially the time of imprinting, in which next to the correct nutrition, the prior learning of different environmental factors is, for the later behaviour, of decisive importance.

Those who see the raising of his four footed darling as only feeding and the necessary physical exercise, lets valuable time slip by. That will also impact negatively on the psychological development of the animal. Those who leave the dog to his own devices, gives him the opportunity to develop unwanted reflexes, that will then, during the training be found to have very disturbing and hindering effect.

The first training goals are simple:

- Walking on the loose leash,
- The Sit on command

- The down with distractions and
- Down in Motion with Recall.

Part of the daily routine that now includes the pre-training, are movement games for which balls, rags and pieces of wood are valuable training aids. Ever pup will chase a rolling ball – the prey drive has been awakened in him. He is now the great hunter and wants to grab anything that moves, and shake it.

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When he has satisfied that desire, we try to entice him to come close to us. When we have succeeded in that, we suggest to our puppy, that we trade: A chunk of food (naturally taken out of his daily rations) for the ball. We reinforce that with great praise and extensive fondling.

It will not take long, and the little type will bring us on call, everything that we throw. The rewarding tid bit must never be forgotten. As an aside the little one, will learn to react to his name.

HOW DO I TELL IT TO MY DOG:

Great problems await those dog owners who can not manage this, generally out of laziness. As a rule they also forget to familiarize their dog with certain environmental distractions, to get them used to cars, trams, trains and other environmental sounds and sights.

In the upbringing and training of the dog basically the following knowledge is a prerequisite:

- It is wrong, to see the dog as a living creature, that has human understanding and therefore
- has human insight and reasoning. The often and seriously expressed viewpoint that the dog
- understand every word, is nonsense. Never will the dog understand the meaning of human speech. However he does understand the situation, and he can understand speech symbols that he is accustomed to.

Through their constant life together, of

man and dog, there will be, in similar situations, never changing behaviours shown by the leader, in regards to his dog. For instance, reaching for the lead, the putting on of the collar, the preparations for going out, experienced many times, will awaken pleasant memories in the dog. He will bounce around lively and express his joy with barking and running ahead.

The new owner thinks the animal combines concepts independently. The dog however only shows, that he has an excellent memory. The communication between him and the Superdog – human, takes place through deliberately placed sensory stimuli, whose regular occurrence and repetition will accustom the dog to memory based wanted actions. This is called “unconditioned stimulus and conditioned stimulus, in technical terms. The unconditioned stimulus is either the utilisation of a natural tendency – search and prey drives – or a physical action applied to the body of the animal. Conditioned stimuli will excite the senses of sound or sight of the dog through acoustic or visual signals.

The auditory commands should all be distinctly different and always be given in the same tone. They are divided according to their intonation into:

- *Praise:* (in a high tone) such as “what a good dog”
- *Warning:* (drawn out) such as “s-t-a-n-d”, “s-t-a-y”,
- *Punishing:* (firmly and quick) such as “Off”
- *Encouraging:* (brightly spoken) such as “speak!”
- *Motivating:* (and exciting) i.e. “Off you go!”
- *Pleading:* (drawn out) i.e. “s-e-e-k”
- *Commanding:* (curt, authoritative) i.e. “hopp”, “fetch”, or “down”

The Obedience exercises (Subordination performance) according to the then in force Performance Regulations of the VDH (German Kennel Council) and the SV, are in accordance with most people's

requirements of their dogs: Walking at heel, sit, down and stand exercises, down stays at a designated place, heel free, sending ahead, coming back, fetching, jumping and climbing are part of that.

Important: Right from the beginning get used to communicating with your dog as softly as you can, don't constantly yell at your dog. That would only blunt the dog's responses. Before beginning any training, he must be given sufficient time for a run, so that he doesn't try to smuggle that into the training session.

During the training you do need perceptiveness: Never become hasty or nervous in your dealing with your dog, but let your actions be calm and well thought out.

The uppermost principle is, that the dog finds everything that he has to do, as enjoyable as possible. And all that, what he should not do, as unpleasant as necessary.

This includes: Fights with other dogs, yapping and yowling are to be stopped right from the beginning. The training locality and place should be changed frequently. The dog must not develop into a robot in well known locations.

COLLAR AND LEAD

Not to be done without, in training, are the collar and lead, needed also for the daily walk and for the security of the dog. Both are necessary and should be seen as the visible link between the two footed and four footed one. The lead is not a tool of force, to be used for submission, or even used as a punishment, which it is unfortunately often utilized for.

Collar and lead must already be combined with something pleasurable for the puppy. As soon as the little one pulls back, he must be distracted – with play or with a reward. During this, he will have the collar slipped on.

Playfully he will also be put in the around 1 meter long lead. With light and encouraging jerks, and the call "heel" the most basic exercise of all commences: the goal: Walking at heel on lead.

The clever strategy in getting the pup used to this primarily consists of convincing the pup that it is not the collar and lead that cause the pressure on him, but that he is doing that himself, by

his resistance. During the puppy stage a plain, but strong leather collar that is placed loosely around the neck is the most suitable.

Get your dog used to, no matter at what age, walking on the left.

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WALKING ON THE LOOSE LEAD

Not only in the SV, but in almost all Clubs, it is a requirement, that the dog on lead, will, on the command "heel" follow his handler at every pace on the left hand side, so that the shoulder region of the dog and the left knee of the dog handler form an imaginary line. During the learning stage, the dog handler will correct with the command "heel" and short, well dosed jerks on the leash. If the dog forges ahead, the lead jerks backwards, if he bounces to the side, it's to the right.

If the dog lags behind, he will be encouraged to take up his right place by tapping with the left hand, on the left thigh.

After the correction of the incorrect behaviour, he is praised generously with patting and the words "what a good dog". It is also important, to change the pace once in a while.

SIT AND BASIC POSITION

Another obedience exercise is for the dog to immediately sit on one command, and can only raise from that position after another command. It matters not, whether the trainer stands next to the animal or walks away. The prerequisite for the begin of the exercise, is that the dog can more or less confidently walk on the lead.

During movement the four legged one gets the verbal command "Sit" or better "sitting" and the trainer presses with the left hand on the croup, and pulls the lead up with the right hand. If the dog sits more or less, he is praised, - but he must

remain seated during this. The exercise is repeated until the dog will sit quickly on the command.

In the further training, every exercise starts with the basic position, in which the dog sits to the left of the handler at knee level, facing in the same direction.

Every time the handler stops, this is now linked with this basic position unless the dog gets told to take up another position. The goal is, for the dog to do show this behaviour independently.

THE LONG DOWN IS A NECESSITY

No other exercise has a higher value for everyday living than the long down. As the puppy has the frequent desire to sleep or at least wants some peace, he will often seek his retreat.

The quite place that has been allocated to him for this, will become his private refuge. Already during this phase he should quite casually become used to the command "Down" by using it every time that the little one lies down. When he becomes older, this of course can no longer be left to coincidence or the will of the dog. He must now learn, that he needs to lie down when he hears the command 'down', where ever he may happen to be. This will not happen without our physical intervention, that is adjusted to the age and the sensitivities of the dog. It is easiest to start this exercise with the basic position. The dog will be, on the command "down" and a jerk on the lead, pressed into the down position. Every young dog will initially desperately defend itself against such oppression.

Therefore it is advisable to go down on ones knees next to the dog, and with calm encouragement to "stay", press him down with gentle force, until his counter pressure lessens. Now you repeat the auditory signal "Down" in a calm but commanding tone and place your left hand on the dog's shoulder to

support the position.

With a real stubborn one, it is helpful, to push his forelegs forward, so that he automatically slides into the down position. Avoid any enthusiastic praise in this position for that would animate your protégée to immediately and joyfully get up, which of course can not be tolerated under any circumstances.

When the dog now calmly stays down, you slowly get up from your crouch and repeat the command "down – stay". You need to hold the leash quite unobtrusively. Under no circumstances should the lead motivate the dog to get up.

The next step is to distance yourself from the dog. You start to walk with the dog in a down stay, a few steps here and there, with the lead remaining loose. Intensify this exercise until you can finally circle the dog completely, with the lead in your hand.

Finally you walk away from your dog in the direction he is facing about one lead length away, backwards, and come back to the dog, time and again. Now he is allowed to get up and he has earned himself some great fat praise that can be coupled with a treat and after that, a brief play phase.

THIS WAY THE DOG LOVES TO COME!

Many dog owners have to work hard, and often in vain, to get their four legged friend back under control, once they have let him off lead. When he is finally back safe on lead, he is energetically told off for his bad behaviour. Therewith a cardinal error of all dog training has been committed!

The dog will not, as expected by the human, connect this punishment with his roaming, but with what he was doing immediately before the punishment, and that, was the returning to his master!

Therefore, the punishment has achieved the opposite of what was desired!

This misunderstanding motivates the dog to come back very hesitantly in future, as he is now expecting punishment for coming when called. Therefore you must conquer your anger!

The Coming when called too, is best practised on lead at the beginning. From

the basic position, (the dog sits on the left, next to you) there is the command "down" and you turn towards the dog, so that you stand immediately opposite your downed dog. The lead is held as unobtrusively as possible in the right hand, so that it does not irritate the dog. During the audible signal of

"Down, stay", supported by your stretched out hand signal facing the dog, you move slightly backwards, away from the downed dog. Every change of position of the dog is immediately corrected and the here described exercises section is started anew.

Only when you can back away a lead's length, away from your dog, without the dog getting restless and getting up, you can, with a joyful, long drawn out command of "hiiiiieerr" practise the recall. After the sitting in front, in which, especially in the beginning you must not be stingy with praise, you lead your dog, without changing your own basic position, around you, into his position on your left side, into the sit position.

Before you train for these exercises with the dog off lead, repeat these lessons on a regular basis from different distances. Leads of different lengths are useful for this – as well as a change of the environment, combined with various levels of distractions, until these basic exercises have been perfected.

The quality of the upbringing and training shows itself soon: At the end, everyone has the dog that he has earned for himself with his training.

If it was good, it had already been praised by the not exactly known as a dog lover, Johann, Wolfgang von Goethe. He, a little against his will, let his Faust say on the walk outside a little township: "Yes indeed the dog quite deserves your favor / as a student and a fellow-scholar."

WHAT PUPPY HAS LEARNED, THE DOG WILL KNOW FOR EVER

These pages can only give an insight into the basic considerations of raising a dog and the later training.

Those who wish to know more, can reach for the extensive expert literature. (Almost every month at this time, a new title appears)

If he is a Shepherd owner, then above all,

the orientation brochures published by the SV as well as

The advice of an experienced SV trainer, will help him. Let yourself be invited for a quick little course at the nearest training

ground or speak with the expert handlers at one of the many SV events that take place.

This Article, from the SV Archives, I presume, and presented in an Anniversary issue, quite charmingly starts with a quote from a much loved This Article, from the SV Archives, I presume, and presented in an Anniversary issue, quite charmingly starts with a quote from a much loved German King, and finishes with a quote from a well known German Poet, encompassing in its pages, the training methods of yesteryear.

The reader may recognize the methods that prevailed some decades back, but what makes this article valuable in my eyes, is the fact, that through it all, runs the love of the puppy, the juvenile, the quadruped, the four footed one, as the author call them, that is going to grow into a magnificent and well trained German Shepherd Dog.

The author is not named, but is without doubt one of SV'S highly respected seniors, undoubtedly with decades of successful competitive work behind him.

It has been my pleasure to translate this article, even though I needed several breaks to make myself a cup of strong, aromatic, German coffee and thank my lucky star that dog training has come such a long way since those days. I wonder how many of our readers know, that these days, many Schutzhunde are clicker trained for top competitions. Dog training is a wonderful hobby, and it saddens me, that so many dedicated stalwarts of, or in our breed, do not have the time to train. My heart still thrills when I see a well structured GSD grace both rings, in a show one day, out in the performance rings on the other.

HONEY

As readers of the previous article will note, things have changed in the way we approach the development of our puppies to become great, well behaved companions. When I asked Honey Gross-Richardson to translate this article from German, she was somewhat aghast at what we used to do and so, I suggested we look at just a single aspect of that changed approach. Honey's Hints on how to manage a biting puppy follow and I am sure you will all agree, it probably makes more sense in this day and age.

For those of you who participate in Obedience training, I would love to start some dialogue that looks at where we have been in our training regimes and how they have changed. It would also be interesting to consider how they affect the dog you train...

To that end, we are offering 3 Eukanuba vouchers for the three most informative entries that describe **"THAT WAS THEN, THIS IS NOW!"** Entries will be judged by Council's Obedience Chair, Mr John De Lucia.

To enter, send your photo to revieweditor@gsdcouncilaustralia.org no later than 31st May, 2015.



BY HONEY GROSS-RICHARDSON 

BITE INHIBITIONS

Dogs have a very functional mouth full of teeth! Sharp, needle like baby teeth, brilliant white, strong, and well set into already powerful crocodile jaws.

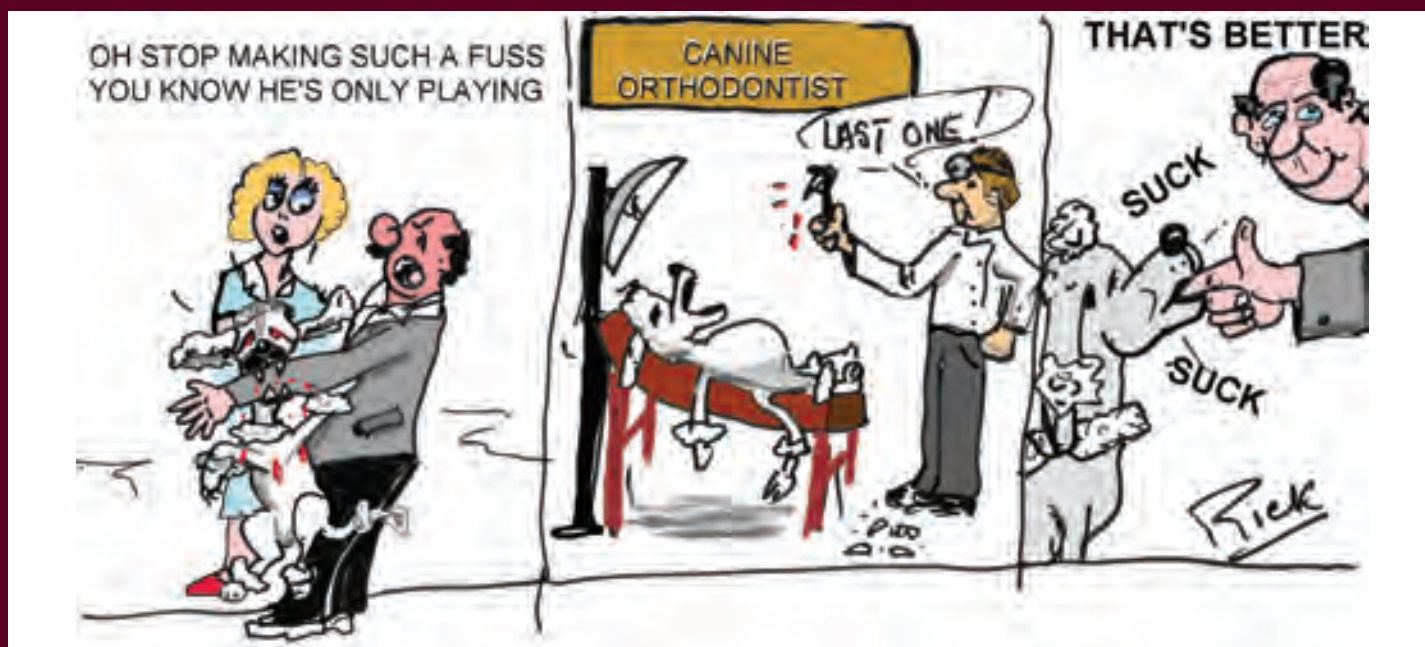
The baby or milk teeth start to erupt when the whelps are only 14 days old! By four to 7 months, the dog usually has a complete set, that is 42 strong, well placed and very functional teeth, which are firmly secured in the jaw with one to three roots to anchor them in place. There should be 20 teeth in the upper and 22 teeth in the lower jaw!

These super dazzling teeth are one of main tools of our dog! In years gone by, when our dogs' ancestors, the wolves had to hunt for their tucker, the teeth were an essential tool, used in the hunt, enabling them to keep their pack supplied with food and in prime condition. Today they have us, with our can openers, and as a consequence, rotten teeth!

The long, sharp canines are, together with the mighty carnassials (P4 & M1), are excellent weapons with which to bring down their prey for the kill. The points of the teeth are angled inwards, so that the prey could not easily escape from their jaws. The small, very pointy pre-molars help to keep a tight grip on the prey, before they start to rip and tear bite size bits off! The mighty, carnassials, and molars, these grinding teeth, are aligned in a scissor like arrangement so that they can shear or cleanly cut bite sized portions out of the flesh, to be wolfed down as soon as they are cut or torn free. The small incisors are used to scrape the last bits off the bone. Then the powerful molars are used again, to crack the bones with the incredible strength of the dog's jaws, in order to get to the delicious and nourishing marrow.

The neat little incisors, are also ideally suited for the dog's coat care - grooming! Little loving nibbles, massage and aid the circulation under the skin, remove the odd, tickling loose hair, and crack the nasty little flea or tick that shouldn't be in the coat at all!

Your own dog will spend many hours blissfully gnawing a bone, cracking the shank to get at the tasty and fatty marrow and carefully peeling the last bit of gristle off the rounded sections. Larger bits of bone are ground down,



into manageable size and swallowed in smallish bits to be part of the delectable and wholesome meal!

Today's dogs no longer require these wonderful tools for the hunt, because WE provide their tucker. We purchase the best food that money can buy, and present an assortment of tasty biscuits, kibble, canned food or semi moist, and all our dogs have to do, is to grab and swallow! Lucky is the dog that gets thrown a bone! So, GIVE your dog a bone! Raw, meaty bones are an excellent food for large dogs and small! Feeding bones also helps to keep our dogs' teeth and gums healthy, and if it were not for hours and

Play is of the utmost importance
for the dog! During play, the dog
can give his instincts free reign!

hours of play, they would hardly ever use their teeth today!

Play is of the utmost importance for the dog! During play, the dog can give his instincts free reign! He can give chase, grip and hold, wrestle and fight. Dogs that have ample opportunity to use all their instincts and drive in play, very rarely become aggressive.

Dogs that have no opportunity for interaction can easily suffer from an accumulation of frustrated drive that desperately needs release. Sometimes this actually causes them to chase and even attack anything that triggers their pent up instinctive need for action!

This is one of the reasons why it is important that children and dogs learn how to play together! When you watch your dog in play with the children, you may find that there is the occasional snap, but the dog is most careful to see that he doesn't actually get anything between his teeth! Even so, the teeth can scrape across the skin, in a painful pinch or

scrape if you are foolish and careless enough to let the dog and child play without supervision and allow then to get too carried away in their roughhouse game!

With adults, maybe that doesn't matter much, but with children it may easily result in a tear in delicate skin, a nasty, painful bruise and even a gash requiring stitches, if the careless snap was aimed at the face! The fright is immense, for both, the child and the dog!

The lack of supervision may mean that a child could be scarred for life, and the dog is branded as vicious! It is important for children to learn that when they are playing exciting games with the dogs, they must keep their distance from those teeth! As soon as you notice a dog is careless in the use of his teeth, STOP the game! Leave the dog. Go away! Desert him!

For the dogs, it is vitally important to learn that our skin is NOT like their skin, loosely fitting and covered by dense fur! When puppies play, even as tiny babies, and one bites too hard, the other one YELPS and stops playing! There is a few seconds of silence, while both consider the information exchanged:

HE can bite hard if I don't watch it, is learnt by the one, and

The GAME is OVER if I bite too hard, is learned by the other!

BITE INHIBITION needs to be TAUGHT! Puppies learn it from each other. Our pups need to be taught by US, that we can romp and play, but they must NOT BITE! The baby teeth are tiny and can tear an elderly person's delicate skin, so it's not only young children that can get hurt playing with a pup!

Baby puppies want to nibble on our hands and shoes and socks and toes all the time! So, if it hurts, we need to yell and let the pup know that he bit too hard, and that we don't like it!

BITE INHIBITIONS

If we STOP the pup from biting too early, he will never learn that he has powerful jaws and sharp teeth that HURT! We can allow the pup to put his teeth on us and bite gently! He's too little to hurt us - yet - but he IS GROWING! So is your responsibility to your puppy, to teach him how to control his mouth! And I don't mean "Shutuppa your face!"

Day by day, little by little, the puppy will get the message that he must be gentle in the use of his teeth if we cry OUCH, THAT HURTS, if he bites too hard, and then we straighten up, cold and aloof, and turn away from the pup!

Day by day, little by little, the puppy
will get the message that he must
be gentle in the use of his teeth

With some very lively pups, it is best to calmly walk out of the room and stay away for 5 seconds! This is a Powerful Training Tool called "NEGATIVE PUNISHMENT"! We are punishing the pup by taking away something good, our presence and our attention! Dogs HATE that! Repeat this every time your puppy bites a little too hard and he will become a little gentler day by day!

In the beginning we can actually get the puppy revved up, until he bites just a little harder and then we yell OUCH and give him the cold shoulder treatment! Our OUCH will become the "conditioned stimulus" to tell the pup that PUNISHMENT follows: Negative Punishment!

5 seconds of cold-blooded desertion! NEVER a slap! We take our precious selves away from him and he gets to feel the consequence of his hard bite in his sensitive little heart! THAT hurts! Little by little, over a period of several weeks, you teach your puppy to bite a little less. If you prohibit biting altogether, he will not learn to use his teeth with all the sensitivity that a dog is capable of! When he is riled, he will snap! Instead, let him learn in easy stages, to control and inhibit his bite. He WANTS to play, he WANTS your company, he WANTS to interact, so gentle nibbles are OK. Medium pressure is punished with OUCH as the warning stimulus. This is not a loving little, "ouch, be gentle, that's not nice!" because THAT slows down the learning process! It is an OUCH! Sharp and explosive, let him know he HURTS!

Soon your dog will give you soft little nibbles and bites that you can hardly feel at all. By this time he will be nearing 4 months, and now it is time to let him know that dogs' teeth have no place on human skin! Even a gentle little nibble gets an outraged OUCH, that hurts! You desert him for 5 seconds by turning your back on him, with hands folded across your chest!

With retrieving games and offered chew toys, there are many great games we can play, where our dog must have bite inhibitions, no matter how excited he gets with

HAPPY TRAINING!

2 VOUCHERS TO WIN!



MAKE YOUR DOG A STAR!



Council is
seeking candid
shots of GSDs out
and about IN THE
COMMUNITY.

You may be able to capture your dog at the local Cafe having a Puppacino on Saturday morning. It may be that they are waiting with you at the local railway station for passengers to arrive; they may be at the beach, the local shopping centre but wherever they are, well behaved GSDs out in public are a credit to the breed and go a very long way towards dispelling the old stereotypes.

All photos must reach the Editor's in box no later than 31st May, 2015 and they will be judged by Fran Farley. Please send your images in the highest possible resolution. Winners will be announced in the National edition and images will also appear in that edition.

To enter, send your photo to
revieweditor@gsdcouncilaustralia.org
no later than 31st May, 2015.

Eukanuba
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Life after dog shows...

Over time, we have all seen dogs come and go from the Show Ring or the stud scene. For whatever reasons, a these careers can be remarkably short and the questions is then, what happens to a healthy, young dog that is someone's beloved pet.

Hunter, the dog featured below, has developed a range of skills that extend his active community based life and use not only his looks, but also his brains and the temperament he was bred to have. Hunter is a past member of the GSDL Inc Demonstration team, currently doing duty with the DOGS NSW Performance Team, a photographic model and most recently, a certified Delta Dog. No shabby achievement for a 3 year old dog.....who knows what he can achieve before he is done. Read on... Ed.



BRINGING JOY WITH A DOG!

Over very many years, we have all come to know the therapeutic benefits of canine companionship. We know for example that a dog can lower heart rates, support those suffering with depression, teach children social skills and most especially, ease loneliness and social isolation.

But as we age, we frequently lose the capacity to own a dog, one of the wonderful companions we all take so very much for granted. The loss of contact with a dog can come as a great blow, particularly when a canine has been your sole companion for a number of years. The absence of a dog in your life can lead to a depressing and disconnected existence for some.

In one of Sydney's Inner Western suburbs, there are a group of Russian Seniors who meet once a week under the Home and Community Care Program. Many of these people were born in China and had to flee the Japanese during the last war, before finally making it to Australia in the post war migration that took place.

For this group, coming together to share their culture, language and the company of others who understand and have lived their experience is a critical social link that helps keep them happy and well.

However, many of them really miss having a living, breathing dog around.

And that is where Hunter and Delta Dogs come in. Hunter and his handler, Tracey Lewis, now pay regular visits to this group and spend enough time with them to allow everyone the opportunity to enjoy Hunter's company. The following account is written by the program coordinator and illustrates just what pleasure a simple visit can bring.

"When Hunter visited, group members reacted in different ways -Anna wanted to keep hugging him and was concerned that Hunter needed water. Naturally that had already been taken care of. Anna doesn't have pets at home so as soon as she saw Hunter walk through the door her eyes lit up and she wanted follow Hunter everywhere.

Galina lives by herself and has no family and no pets. Galina usually sits there and doesn't say much but when Hunter came through

the door,she started hugging and patting him. She asked Hunter's age and what he ate. She petted Hunter like a newborn baby, telling him how beautiful he was.

And for some reason, Hunter was strongly attracted to Nancy, a recently widowed lady who is not recovering well from her loss. Every time she used his name he would seek her out across the room and join her for attention. This did not happen with anyone else and it really seemed to brighten her day, to feel so special.

Then there was George who is now over 90 and not enjoying good health. George and Ariadne, his wife, come every week. Lately, George has not been enjoying the health he used to have and has become a little testy at times. Not with Hunter, though. George spent considerable time playing with Hunter during the visit and was sporting a huge grin throughout.

Even Alexei, who has a small dog of his own, had a great chat to Hunter's handler, Tracey, asking questions and taking care to get the lowdown. Olga just wanted to know when Hunter was coming back!"

Delta Dogs supply teams for a great many situations - the program reaches out to anywhere it is needed. Nationally, in excess of 850 facilities receive visits from Delta teams. The dogs visit hospitals, care facilities and even prisons to brighten the lives of people in need. The visit of a Delta team is truly beneficial and for anyone with some time on their hands and a great stable dog, it may well be worth considering getting involved. There is always the option also to send a donation.

Whilst we recognise its early days for Tracey and Hunter, it is already very clear that they are making a difference in the lives of at least 16 elderly people.

You can find further information about Delta Therapy Dogs from their website www.deltasociety.com.au

POSSIBLE IDEAS TO CURE A DOG'S BOREDOM

People don't need toys and old shoes. Work, school, and other outside activities keep all of us busy. On the other hand, unless you are a stay at home Mum / Dad during the day, your dog spends (bored) nearly all of the time alone.



Sleeping all day just doesn't make the day shorter in time: dogs become bored with nothing to do. Left to fend for themselves, bored dogs often find ways to occupy their time which is in most cases not to your approval, like barking incessantly, digging holes in the garden, or gnawing on chair legs.

Social

Dogs are social beings—they want to be with you. You probably won't catch your companion animal being bored, once you appear, all signs of doggie boredom magically vanish. What you see is a happy, excited dog. Before your arrival, however, quietly looking over the fence or listening by the fence (heaven forbid) might see or hear something else. A bored dog looks bored: his eyes may be blank or glassy, his tail limp, and his ears droopy.

"The good news is that making simple changes to your house or yard, along with providing the proper toys, can help reduce your dog's boredom and make your dog's time alone much more entertaining and enjoyable,"

Many of these changes are simple and inexpensive to make, and some are absolutely free.

1. Leave a radio on

Set clock radios to come on at different times, in different rooms, and on different stations. Avoid rock 'n' roll, which can excite or irritate your dog. Classical music has been proven to have a calming effect on dogs, but you can also try other types of soothing music, like those golden oldies or a smooth jazz station can work well .

2. Change his course

Dogs loose in yards or runs often follow the same path along a fence or wall. To break up your dog's repetitive behavior, try positioning plants or other natural barriers in his well-traveled trail. Or use an unnatural barrier, such as a piece of portable fencing placed in the ground on his path. Whatever you utilize, just make sure it's visible enough that your dog won't run into it. The bottom line is that modifying dogs' traditional routes helps break up boring patterns and encourages them to explore other areas of their yard.

3. Pick the right toys

Choose toys that stimulate active, entertaining play, like weighted rubber balls that roll in random directions, or chew toys in a variety of shapes and textures. A toy you can pack with healthy, low-calorie treats can provide hours of entertainment as your dog works to figure out how to get every ounce of the goody out.

4. Recycle toys

Alternate the toys you leave with your dog. Put some away, and clean up the old ones, so that each day your dog can look forward to interesting "new" toys. It doesn't matter whether your dog smells the original scent on her recycled toys. Varying the toys inspires renewed interest simply because the toy hasn't been available for a while.

5. Install a doggie door

Allowing your pet access to an enclosed outdoor run or yard can reduce boredom and frustration by providing interesting scents (lots of fresh air), sights (moving birds flowers trees), and sounds (a bird singing wind through the trees). Just make sure the outdoor space is a safe and secure area for your dog with shelter and plenty of fresh water.

6. Provide a view

If your dog is confined indoors, make sure they has access to a window or patio door so they can see the outside world. A mirror mounted in a pet's play area can also help keep young dogs entertained. Please make sure it can not smash the mirror.

7. Take a different route

When taking your dog for a walk go in a different direction each day to back its day up, and keep its mind active .If possible take to an area it can run free, and it is fenced for safety.

Some basic but simple ideas that may make it more interesting for your family pet/ friend.

Pet friendly
accommodation!

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CLUB NEWS



GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF QUEENSLAND INC.

Contact:
Club Secretary Diane Ballantyne:
secretary@gsdcqld.org.au

The start of the New Year for the GSDCQ and we start off with a BANG! We are very excited to announce that the 45th GSD National Show & Trial is being held in QUEENSLAND in 2017 at Durack!! You may not know but 2017 is also the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Club so the significance of this National event cannot be overestimated. The dates approved by Dogs Queensland are 19th, 20th and 21st May 2017. Many mothers will be happy to know that in 2017 our National is not being held on Mother's Day. The Committee has been very busy already planning for the organization of the event. STAY TUNED!

The HUGE event on the Queensland calendar this year is the Double Header Championship Show & Trial being held on the 11th & 12th July at Durack. The Judges are Malcolm Griffiths (Columbia) & Jenny Yuen (Vic). Malcolm Griffiths last judged in Victoria in March 2014 and was extremely well received. The Queensland Club is planning on putting on a well-run successful show and we are really looking forward to seeing you and your dogs at this event. The Obedience Trial with Warren Doyle (QLD) judging is expected to attract a good entry. See you in JULY!

Queensland is also holding its first Members Competition this year on the 6th June at Logan All Breeds Obedience Club. Judge will be Barry O'Rourke. We look forward to good support from exhibitors. Full critiques and Gradings will be offered plus the Logan Club is putting on hot and cold food for exhibitors and spectators.

BIG Congratulations to Russell Wenham – LIFE MEMBER 2014. Russell has been

involved in German Shepherds for almost 40 years breeding, handling and showing in Victoria, NSW and Queensland. He is a GSDCA Specialist Judge and Breed Surveyor and has judged all over Australia and overseas and we congratulate him on this well-deserved Honour.

Be sure to check out GSDCQ website and the Facebook page for more important information and updates throughout the year.

Bronwyn Hurley
GSDCQ Editor/Quarterly Review Club News



THE GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

After a busy 2014 I am sure that we have all enjoyed the break from Sunday daytime training.

We have held socialisation and training classes from December through to the end of March. Very pleasing are the numbers who attend both training venues. At our Headquarters (South) we have been filling the entire ground with happy people with happy dogs. Otago Park (North) has had record numbers attending – equally happy.

There are some who do not get a break of course.

Therefore our special mention/club persons for this edition are our fantastic trainers and helpers;

*We may not have told you lately
But we hope you know it's true
That every day we're grateful for
A volunteer like you!!*

March will see us crank it up a notch, our Breed Affairs Chair has organised a talk on First Aid to be given by Katrin Swindells. Gatherings such as this are never complete without our famous free BBQ Breakfasts. Then we have our 1st Members'

competition judged by Natalie Humphries on March 21st. Training for all disciplines has begun in earnest as our show and trial year gets ready for the State Breed Exhibition in April.

Working in Harmony - Some time ago after consultation with the members, a Working Party put forward a recommendation that our Executive & Committee be streamlined and encouraged us to take on specific and defined roles. The Management Committee was formed with its officers responsible for portfolios and those who worked within them. This has worked well and the 2014/2015 year is proving to be exceptionally harmonious. Full reports are made to the Committee and members prior to scheduled meetings. This harmony is flowing into the general membership, you can see it at training. We even had a quorum and an extra "bum on seats" at the last Quarterly General meeting. Due to the circulation of reports to the members the association's business can be dealt with in a timely manner and we were ready to drive out of the gate before 9pm – A RECORD!!!!

To everyone who will be attending the 2015 National Show & Trial the best wishes of Western Australia for a successful event are sent to you all.



THE GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF VICTORIA

Lots to report on from Victoria this edition as the beginning of the year is always hectic for us!. The first week in February saw all branches resume training – on average our branches train 350 GSD's each week across Victoria – so many were glad to be back in the swing of it after a break. At the end of 2014, our collection of training data was amazing – we'd trained 14,200 dog units over the year, using over 2,500 instructor hours. Wow!.

We held our remodelled State Breed

Exhibition in early March, with a terrific entry for Judges Jenny Yuen and Greg Green, supported by lots of interstate exhibitors too. The new format was great and the gun test and off lead gaiting for the Open classes was a treat on the Sunday. A good crowd cheered when the handlers/owners could keep up with their dogs, and cheered even louder if they couldn't! Lots of camaraderie, a great atmosphere and all were appreciative of the efforts. Proves the dogs know what they are doing too! The Sieger was the lovely Toby vd Plassenburg and Siegerin was popular local girl Jayshell Winona. In the Obedience comp on the same day, an extremely high standard was achieved by many exhibitors, all warming up for the national. Winner of Winners was Andrew MacDonald. Caro Anderson and Kira were popular winners of the Dual Performance trophy for the SBE and got a huge cheer at the presentations.

A lovely presentation was made following Open dog, where Mr Alan Day presented a bottle of aged port to the winner Toby and his 'team'. Alan Day was awarded the bottle of port many years ago by the owners of Edensmuir Vigilante, as he had judged the dog the day he became an Australian Champion. Mr Day enjoyed his day out watching the best of our GSD's at the SBE.

The Moomba parade was again our promotion highlight. 13 GSDs took to St Kilda Road Melbourne for the annual parade, where 80,000 people lined the street. Our dogs were the escorts for the King (Shane Warne) and Queen (Pallavi Shada) of Moomba. It was a great day, a promotional dream for our lovely dogs. The crowd loved them ☐. This was following up from our 2 days at the Melbourne Pet Expo

– again, 100's of people visited, patted and took pics. It's amazing how many people come to the stand who grew up with a shepherd – and wanted to admire, pat and talk about their dogs – getting the usual GSD fix!

This year our AGM and presentation drew a huge crowd – recognition for those who earned awards and medallions through their dogs performance in 2014. A fitting night to celebrate achievements. Congratulations to our new Life Member Andrew Saliba – a very worthy recipient of our highest honour. Special Recognition awards were presented to Trish Taylor for her therapy work with her dog and Gordon Cole for his service to the Wodonga dog community.

Our annual Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal again raised heaps of money for such a great cause, and we again had our club name splashed all over a Melbourne tram for 4 weeks promoting our club and in support of the RCH appeal.

So now all that's left is to count down to the National Show & Trial. Everything is in readiness - good luck to all exhibitors in the show and trial ring. See you in Melbourne !!

Why not download our National phone app to keep up to date !

Keep informed with all updates at www.gsdcv.org.au/2015National and for the social media fans www.facebook.com/2015NationalShowandTrial

My Shepherd, My Friend, My Responsibility



COMPETITION WINNERS!

NAME THAT DOG

Council received an unprecedented number of entries for this one and is pleased to advise that following a draw from the correct entries submitted, the following entrants have won the voucher:

Karen Long
James Rodger
Wendy-Jane D'Sylva
Richard and Carol Mindin
Kerrie Pearce

The correct answers were:

- Rintolloch Rogue (Imp UK)
BS CI 1 BVA Hip Score 0-3
Excellent
- Erntemond Gold Lancer
Breed Surveyed BVA Hip Score
1-1
- Ch. Ambala Crillion BS CI 1,
'A' Bronze Medal
- Bradwins Jester (Imp. NZ)
BVA Hip Score 1-1
- Ch Karlstadt Tumblin Dice
BS CL 1 V 'A'
- Rocko vom Huhnegrab 'a' Cl. 1

INTESTINAL COCCIDIOSIS

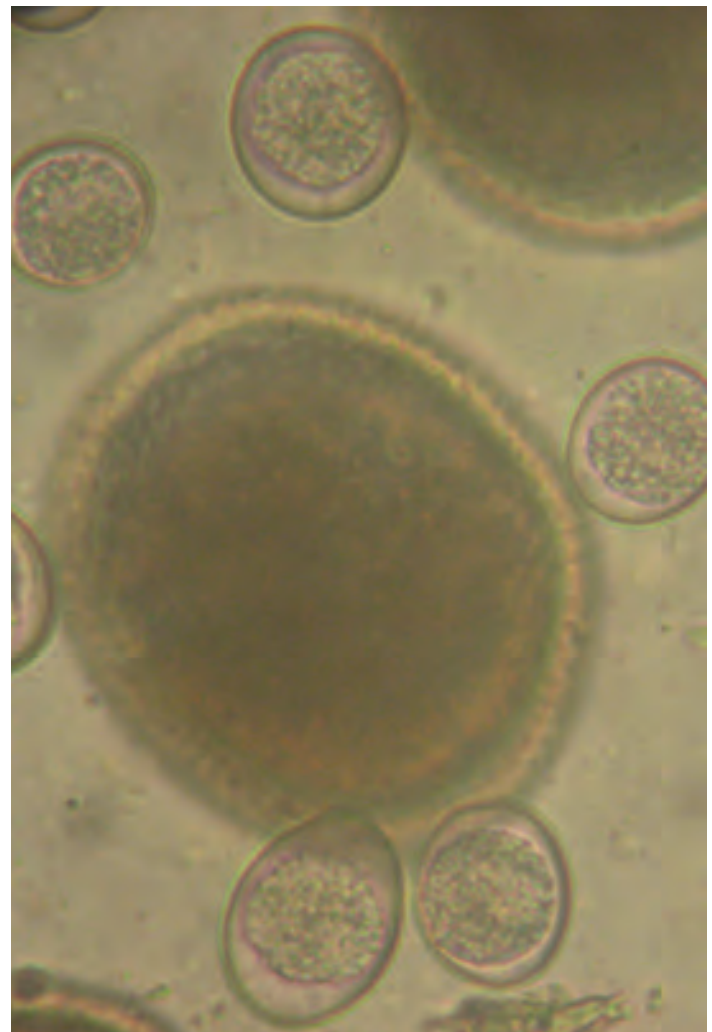
Coccidiosis is the term used to describe the symptomatic disease of the gastrointestinal tract associated with *Cystoisospora canis* and *C. ohioensis* (most commonly in puppies).

The resistant infective stages released in the stools are oocysts. Oocysts are commonly found in the stools of dogs without clinical infection, and when it is found in the stools of an unwell dog, often it is incidental. Infection with *Cystoisospora* is generally self limiting and does not require any specific treatment, but in puppies with severe diarrhoea with a confirmed diagnosis of coccidiosis, treatment should be initiated.

The clinical signs are generally seen in young puppies less than four months of age, and German Shepherd Dogs may have an increased susceptibility to clinical infection. They often need to be exposed to a very large load of oocysts or be immuno-suppressed. In kennel situations, large oocyst loads are often the main trigger. It may only take one dog to cause an outbreak in a kennel environment. Puppies may often acquire the load from their dam, without her showing any clinical signs. The oocysts tend to be very resistant in the environment, and therefore rigorous cleaning measures should be implemented, including; high pressure cleaning of runs (bricks and concrete), steam cleaning (exposure to extremely high temperatures), avoiding faecal contamination of water sources (always providing fresh water source) immersion of cleaning utensils in boiling water, 10% ammonia solutions as disinfectant (but these tend to be very irritant and caustic). In some cases, stressors in the environment, such as; weaning, change of ownership or long distance travel will trigger infection and illness. *Cystoisospora* is rarely found on its own in puppies prior to weaning. *Giardia* is often also present and the two together appear to exacerbate the consequences of infection. As a consequence, control reliant on the use of drugs if very difficult.

Coccidiosis as an illness that will commonly present in puppies who have diarrhoea with weight loss and dehydration. In rare cases they will have blood in their stools, they may have vomiting and go off their food completely, these ones are severely affected and can be life threatening. In all instances, veterinary advice should be sought and treatment should be considered as soon as possible. Most *Cystoisospora* spp. Infected puppies will have a good to excellent prognosis.

The treatment for coccidiosis is, in some cases, just supportive care (on a drip to correct dehydration and prevent further illness) and sulphonamide based antibiotics (such as, tribrissen). There are other anticoccidial drugs for dogs, but these are not registered for use in dogs, they are considered as treatment alternatives to sulphonamide drugs. None of these drugs are curative, they treat to hold it at bay whilst their body recovers and the load decreases.



References:

Dubey, J.P. and Greene, C.E. 2012. Infectious Diseases of the Dog and Cat, Fourth Edition. Chapter 80: Enteric Coccidiosis. P 828-834. Elsevier Saunders, Missouri, USA.

Day, M.J. and Washabau, R.J. 2013. Canine and Feline Gastroenterology. Chapter 57: Small Intestine. P689-690. Elsevier Saunders, Missouri, USA.

Acknowledgement:

Thank you to Professor Andrew Thompson for your comment on the manuscript. Any interested breeders in Western Australia are urged to contact Dr Candy Baker (candy.baker@bigpond.com) about faecal sample collection for Murdoch University. They are currently investigating *Cystoisospora* from birth to weaning due to the 'poly-parasitic' syndrome and failure to thrive in puppies.

At the GSDCA AGM an appeal from Young Diggers was tabled and your club will very soon receive a request from the Council in regard to sponsoring a dog. This is a very worthwhile cause and if supported, we would need to accept that the dog sponsored may not be a GSD. However, sometimes it's necessary to consider bigger picture issues and how a dog can become an absolute lifeline for some people. Please consider this when it is discussed at your club



Introducing The Young Diggers Dog Squad

Assistance Dogs For Combat Stress (PTSD) and Physical/Mental Illness

The Young Diggers Dog Squad is training rescued dogs to become Assistance Dogs to support the rehabilitation of our serving and ex-serving Australian Defence Force members who are dealing with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorders (PTSD). This unique program is helping more than just the individuals. The Dog Squad helps Defence families to better cope with the effects of PTSD and saves the lives of many dogs.

Throughout this program, Young Diggers provide help and practical support to enhance the quality of life for both the dog and their new owner.

We are an organisation that does not stigmatise, pass judgement or devalue those living with and suffering from combat stress and mental illness. We provide a safe environment for our members to network with one another, exchange training tips and support one another through tough times. Family members are welcome and encouraged to get involved with the Dog Squad training.

About Young Diggers

Young Diggers provides support services and programs to serving and ex-serving Australian Defence Force members who are dealing with military caused illness or injury. Young Diggers also provides support to their families. All services are provided free of charge.

Too many serving and ex-serving personnel and their families have difficulties coping with the stresses and fall-out of military service. Young Diggers focus is on providing information, education and practical programs to provide the help they need to secure their future and enhance their quality of life.

All services and programs are run entirely by volunteers and rely on donations and the generous support of sponsors.

For more information visit us at youngdiggers.com.au/dogs



A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

The Secretary of the German Shepherd Dog Club of Victoria, Mrs Norma Meaney, was contacted by a retired ANKC Group 5 Judge, Mr Alan Day, a long time Victorian resident, regarding a special presentation to the winner of the Open Dog Class at the Club's forthcoming State Breed Evaluation on Sunday March 8th, 2015 at KCC Park.

***EDENSMUIR VIGILANTE (Imp UK) "Rosco"**
w. February 15, 1975
(Sire: *Rossfort Premonition Dam: Edensmuir Aurora)
Bronze Medallist 7th National
Ballarat 1979

At Rosco's first show, the judge Mr Alan Day was presented with a special bottle of port, namely the world famous Seppelts Para Liqueur Port, by his owners for awarding him Challenge Dog. He then went on to win a further three shows in succession to obtain his Australian Champion Title in four consecutive shows.

Rosco was imported in 1976 by the late Mr John Cowdroy, (later a GSDCA Specialist Judge and Breed Surveyor), together with his brother "Vibart". He sold Rosco to Mrs Betty McMonagle and the brother Vibart was sold to R & E Beesley, both residents of South Australia.

Rosco had an extensive show career, the highlight of which was a Bronze Medal at the 7th National in Ballarat in 1979, the largest National ever in Australia's history with 941 show entries and 204 obedience entries, with 74 entries in the Open Dog Class and 79 in the Open bitch Class.

For the record, here is his critique by Hermann Martin, who was the then SV President.

"Medium size, strong, very well built compared with the first dog. He is slightly elongated and could be a little higher in the withers, Ligaments of the back are not quite firm. Good croup, good angulation and chest formation. Correct in front, correct coming and going, very good movement."

In 1981 there was a South Australia competition, Champion of Champions which Rosco won.

Rosco was very capably handled throughout his long show career by Sue Bruno, Denis Hamlin and Robbie Evans.

Rosco was surveyed in 1980 and produced 51 progeny with a lovely son "Cinsam Dillon" and an outstanding daughter,



Photo: Mr Alan Day, Rosco and handler Sue Bruno

"Edensmuir Delaware of Bedwin, born in the UK and later imported into Australia where she performed admirably, winning the Silver Medal at Ballarat in 1979 and Bronze Medallist at the 8th National in 1980.

Rosco was certainly one of the better imports into Australia at that time and performed very well in the showing. Unfortunately he was not widely used at stud with only 7 progeny passing through the breed survey scheme. For some reason the breeders at that time preferred his brother, who had 20 animals breed surveyed.

Mr Day attended the 2015 Victorian State Breed Evaluation and duly presented the historical bottle of port to Mr Andrew Jones, handler of the winning dog, Toby von der Plessenburg "a" ED Gmy on behalf of all the owners, himself, Robert Zammit and Jodie Carroll.

It was a very nice gesture by Mr Day, who when presenting the bottle of port made some very interesting comments about the shepherds in his day and those of today, of which he was most complimentary.



Photo: Mr Alan Day, Mrs Jenny Yuen (Judge) & Mr A Jones with Toby

YOUTH REPORTS.



Astasia Boeing



Xaro



Peter Hersant

HELLO, MY NAME IS PETER HERSANT FROM QUEENSLAND.

I have been handling and training German Shepherds since I was about 9 or 10. I was very lucky when I was learning, as my parents, Les and Brenda of Astasia Kennels, always gave me dogs that were trained. I was also mentored by my father, Les and had the opportunity to handle some very well constructed dogs.

I started in the show-ring when I was about 11 and have been handling ever since. As a young handler, my greatest achievement was handling Astasia Zelda to 15th Open Bitch at the 2002 National in Sydney. I was 14.

Other achievements as a handler include handling 5 individual class winners at the Nationals, including 4 that my parents had bred, handling Astasia Ashanti to Reserve Australian Seigerin in 2007 at the last Main Breed Exhibition, and handling and training the imports Troy von der Norisward, Gollo vom Leinder Land, Zony von Haus Gerstenberg, and Xaro von der Plassenburg.

I have also handled dogs for a number of other famous Kennels including Albata, Siegen, Denargun, Vonehrich, Stobar and Fremont.



Zony



Ashanti

EMERGENCY FIRST AID

A basic definition of an emergency is any situation which could cause death or dire consequences if immediate action is not taken. First aid may save the animal's life or prevent further deterioration before professional veterinary attention can be obtained, particularly in cases of trauma or poisoning. In some cases, failure to treat the animal may result in its death, or permanent disability to an organ or its normal function, eg. injuries to the eye.

Handling of Injured Animals

The main aims of assistance to injured animals are to ensure that the animal is handled in a way to minimise further damage, that the people assisting are not bitten or damaged and that effective appropriate treatment is instigated as soon as possible. When people go to the assistance of injured animals, they often fail to take a cautious approach. Injured animals are often in shock, usually in considerable pain and can lash out at any object eg. hands, that approach their line of vision in an attempt to defend themselves from further injury. Even if the injured animal is a beloved family pet, if injured, it can lash out instinctively. In the interests of safety, caution should be used, all the more so with the major injuries such as broken legs, fractured pelvis, severe bruising etc.

Restraining and moving an injured animal.

If you have a thick towel or blanket nearby, use that to cover the animal's head if it is trying to bite, or to form a thick loop with it to place around the animal's neck so it cannot bend its neck sufficiently to be able to bite you. Larger dogs should preferably be muzzled before being moved.

Applying a Muzzle to Dogs - Use a gauze bandage, stocking or length of thin rope, whichever is available at the time. Apply firmly but not excessively tight. Loop the tie over the muzzle, tighten firmly, swing the ends down under the muzzle, crossing over before pulling the ends up behind the back of the head, and firmly tie in a bow or knot that can be easily released. Not all dogs require muzzling, but be very careful when lifting an unmuzzled dog. *Do not* have the dog's mouth near your face while lifting or carrying it.



Move an injured animal gently by lifting by the scruff or around the chest while supporting the hindquarters. If the neck is injured lift the animal under the chest, supporting the head at the same time, by gently holding the head.

Place the animal on a flat surface with the head extended. Keep the injured animal warm by covering it with a blanket, often covering the eyes as well. This keeps the animal calmer as it is not as exposed to external stimuli such as light or sound. Holding and rocking a badly injured animal, particularly one with broken limbs, is *not* a good idea.

Assessing the Damage

Once the animal is safely immobilised so that it can be handled without further damage to either itself or its would be

rescuer, check the animal over quickly to assess it's condition and if needed, apply some basic first aid.

Initial aims (once the animal is safely restrained) are to:-

- Establish a patent airway ie. make sure the animal can breathe easily. This usually involves gently clearing the nose of blood from the nostrils and keeping the head slightly extended so as not to cut off the flow of air into the lungs.
- Check for shock. Shock is the defensive reaction by the body to cope with severe trauma.

Signs of major shock are:-

- (i) Pale mucous membranes of the gums and eyes - very pale to white gums and tongue generally indicates internal bleeding. The paler the gums, the quicker the animal needs to be treated. To check the state of the circulatory system to see how it is coping, press firmly on the gums, release and see how quickly the colour returns. Very slow or minimal return indicates more severe shock.
- (ii) Rapid shallow breathing - this combined with pale/white mucous membranes can indicate internal bleeding, often of the lungs. Sit the animal up on its chest, with the head extended, so as to get maximum lung room. If needed, put a towel or blanket under the head to support it in the extended position.
- (iii) Lower body temperature particularly of the extremities - cold feet, muzzle and ears. Wrap the animal in a blanket and keep warm. Ideally a space blanket as this retains the heat, alternatively a woollen blanket for the same reasons. If doing regular recovery work, keep a supply of either in the car.

***Haemorrhage from the nose, mouth, ears and/or anus is usually indicative of major internal bleeding/damage and the outcome is often poor.**

- (c) Apply pressure bandages to heavily bleeding areas.

Apply a pressure bandage to any heavily bleeding site, if at all possible. Feet and leg injuries can bleed quite profusely. A firm (not too tight) bandage of several layers thickness will usually be quite effective. Use several layers of bandage with a tighter layer of bandage on the outside. ****If there are no bandages to hand at the time, a tee shirt with some electrical tape over the top is quite effective.**

Apply above (closer to the body) and on top of any heavily bleeding area. Very tight bandages are to be avoided unless the bleeding cannot be controlled in any other way. For wounds that persist in bleeding despite a firm bandage, apply a further tighter layer on the area, keep the affected limb elevated in regard to the rest of the body and seek professional attention as soon as possible.

****Minor injuries and scrapes should be left alone, as they are not life threatening**

- (d) Fractured limbs - where there are no exposed bones or significant bleeding present, leave the affected limb alone. Obtain veterinary assistance as soon as possible. This applies particularly to animals, who despite restraint, are aggressive towards any assistance.

If you do need to support and/or cover a limb, a quick and easy support splint can be made out of any available strong cardboard or thick layers of newspaper rolled up. Then apply a bandage gently around the splint, with more bandage wrapped above and below the fracture, rather than over the actual fracture site itself.

**** Fractured bones are better left alone, unless you know what you are doing and the animal is fairly placid. This would apply to very few people and even fewer animals!**

- (e) Cover or seal any deep wounds to the chest. These wounds are not common, but when they occur, they can be life threatening. Again a firm (not too tight!) bandage of several layers, with preferably a thick pad over the largest wounds will assist until one can reach the nearest vet.

- (f) Get the injured animal to a veterinarian as soon as possible.

Ring your veterinarian if you can, and tell him/her the colour of the gums, the rate of respiration (rapid/slow/shallow etc), whether the animal can stand on all legs, and if it is bleeding. If the animal is severely injured, the vet may be able to come out, but it is usually far quicker for you to get there, than for the vet to find you, especially late at night. Remember, all the necessary equipment is generally on hand at the veterinary hospital.

If there is no way of getting to a vet for any appreciable length of time, **apply basic first aid, keep the animal warm and leave it somewhere quiet and dark.** A small amount of brandy on the gums can help to stimulate the heart and reduce the shock. Leave some water with a little glucose added in a bowl next to the animal. This applies equally to all species.

First Aid Kit

This is particularly useful if frequently treating injured animals or if regularly travelling on long distances with animals, especially with travel-induced stress e.g. diarrhoea or dehydration which can occur out in the wilds, a long way from any known veterinarian. The contents are on the whole, available from veterinarians or your local chemist. The value of having a first aid kit has to be experienced by the lack of one, when you are faced with an 'emergency' and you have nothing on hand.

Emergency

Bandage - 1 roll of Elastoplast, 1 roll of conforming gauze (soft, stretchy non-stick bandage)

Dressings - gauze swabs, metho swabs (3-4), iodine swabs (3-4).

Cleansers - cotton wool, wound cleanser - iodine/betadine.

Instruments - scissors and tweezers, 3cc syringe

Electrolyte sachet or liquid mix and a supply of water.

Woollen blanket or space blanket (very light foil type wrap).

Scissors

Thermometer °C. (Normal Range (dogs/cats) 37.5-38.9°C, average 38.0-38.4°C

Above 39.0°C is elevated, Below 37.0 - low).

Useful backup for travelling

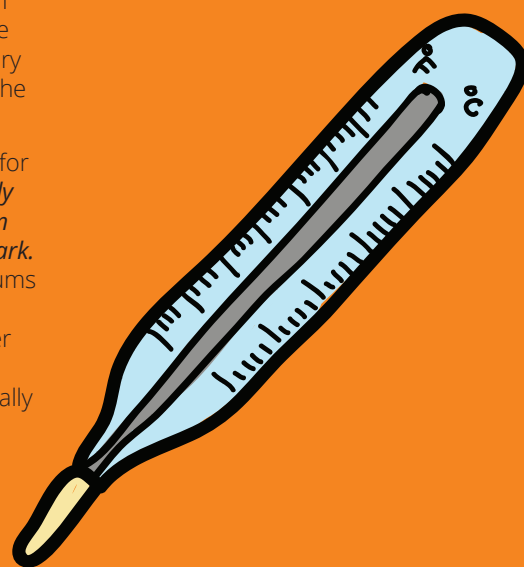
Eyes - liquid tears.

Stomach - diarrhoea mixture, charcoal tabs, Stemetil (vomiting)

Creams - anhydrous wool fat (for sore feet), Stingose™, fly repellent.

Tablets - vitamin K, laxatives, Sulphonamide tabs (vet only), calcium.

Antibiotic spray or powder.



Fights, Wounds and Sores

As a general overview, simple skin wounds take approximately 7-10 days to heal. Deep ulcerative wounds can take up to 3 weeks or more to heal, depending on the extent of the damage. Bones take 10 days to form a slight callus, 3 weeks to create a good hard callus and 6 weeks to fully return to normal.

****Remember - never apply any stretchy bandage too tightly, as it can then contract and the circulation to the area can be restricted or cut off, resulting in swelling of the limb or gangrene in severe cases.****

Fight and accident wounds are all treated in the same basic fashion:-

1. *Clean the wound gently* with damp cotton wool or a gauze swab.
2. *Make sure there is no hair in the wound.* Hair is often dragged under the skin by the opponent's teeth in puncture wounds. If it is not removed, the wound will become infected and break open. All hair around the edges of a wound should be pulled out and then trimmed short. Any hair that is left to trail into an open wound or wrap under the skin edges, this will delay healing and cause infection.
3. *Large holes and deep wounds*, where hair or dirt and other foreign material has been dragged in too deep to retrieve, these wounds must be treated by a veterinarian. Smaller puncture holes and grazes are easily coped with by an experienced person. Any swelling which appears around a wound should be examined by your vet, as there may be a developing abscess.
4. *Apply an antiseptic agent to the surface of the wound* e.g. iodine or gentian violet and preferably try to keep the animal from licking it too much. Excessive licking can, contrary to popular opinion, cause more harm than good. Do not use Mercurichrome as it scalds the surface tissue, or Hibitane™ as many dogs, cats and humans react adversely. Iodine or gentian violet are the safest.
5. *Clean twice daily with slightly damp cotton wool.* Keep wounds as dry as possible at all times. Use a foul tasting spray to keep the animal from licking the wounds excessively. Very useful is the "purple spray" eg. Genetian, and several others which have a fly repellent as well as an alcohol base



with gentian violet added – tastes terrible and keeps the flies away – very necessary in summer.

Cuts – legs/feet

Smaller wounds on legs and feet can be readily dealt with by the experienced person.

Feet – if bleeding, apply a firm pressure bandage of several layers – preferably in a slight figure of 8 to hold the bandage in position. If bleeding heavily, apply the bandage firmly and seek immediate veterinary attention. If the bleeding is rapidly controlled and the cut is small, leave the bandage on for several hours, then remove and clean up the wound. Flush out with an antiseptic eg. iodine, the re-bandage.

Any foot bandage should be kept dry and changed every 2-3 days. If wet, remove immediately, dry the foot and re-apply a dry bandage. Pad tissue is like cardboard, once torn, it will not mend, new pad has to grow and replace it – it can take at least 10-14 days to get good cover. Deep cuts into the flesh under the pad should be stitched to hold the supporting tissue of the pad together while it is healing.

Cuts – once cleaned out, disinfected (preferably not with something too lethal), can be bandaged if needed or left open to dry out. Very small holes I would leave alone. Larger ones, if stitched, apply the purple spray. If the dog persists in chewing the stitches or licking the holes despite applying spray, the wounds may need to be lightly bandaged.

Bandaging Wounds - If the wounds are moist, or there are large heavily grazed areas, these can be lightly wrapped (depending on the area) with Jellonet – a vaseline impregnated gel net that lightly supports the tissue as it is healing. These type of wounds must be changed daily

until fairly dry, then stretch the time out to every 2-3 days depending on how the wound is progressing.

Infected wounds do very well with products like Dermaclense cream. These creams are excellent to pack into deep infected wounds as they promote healing. Once clean and healthy, use the Jellonet.

Once the skin has completely healed, (or very nearly, leave the wounds open to dry out. If the healed skin is very thin and dry, apply a very thin layer of zinc cream or Ungvita (vitamin A, E and zinc) cream – this helps keep the skin supple and promotes hair regrowth, while protecting the new skin from sun damage in summer.

Broken Legs – these are usually cast for a minimum of 3 weeks (occasionally slightly shorter in very young animals) and up to a maximum of 6 weeks, depending on the site of fracture and the severity of the break. During the first 10-14 days the animal should be kept quiet, particularly so if the break was severe or hard to stabilise.

The cast should be checked by the veterinarian *weekly*.

Points needed to be checked daily by owners are:-

1. The cast should not smell,
2. Should not have any discoloured patched developing and
3. The foot should be warm to the touch.
4. There should be no swelling below the cast.

If the animal is constantly chewing the cast, the cast is usually wearing a hole in that area of the limb and it needs to be attended to promptly. If any of these parameters alter – straight back to the vet!! The safest casts are the half casts, down the back of the front leg or in the front of the back leg, where feet can readily be checked and there is a greatly reduced chance of circulation restriction to the affected limb.

MOIST ECZEMA (Hot Spots) - (similar to rain scald in horses).

This is a common skin ailment that occurs with the thicker or double coated dogs and is mostly associated with coat loss, following wet weather or a bath by the owner.

When dogs lose their undercoats, particularly around the head and neck areas and around the hindquarters and then get wet on top of it; it can take a long time for the coat to dry out. The end result is rather like a hot steamy jungle, the top dries but underneath the humidity and

heat make an ideal breeding ground for bacteria. If the dog bites and scratches the area, trauma to the skin occurs and leakage of serum results. This in turn scalds the skin and combined with the moisture in the coat, the whole lot quickly turns into a wet smelly mess. The dog, attempting to ease the irritation, will keep chewing, so that it rapidly extends the original area involved. There is a certain amount of gravitational effect where the serum drips down the skin, scalding it as it goes, and thus 'growing' down the side of the face for example.

Symptoms - the skin surface is swollen, wet and there can be considerable hair loss over the affected area within 12-24 hours, and there is usually a bad smell from the inflamed area. Areas most commonly affected are around where the coat is thickest; the neck, cheeks, buttocks and the area above and to the sides of the tail.

Treatment is aimed at drying out the affected area. In severe cases, it may require the hair to be clipped very short to allow the inflamed skin to dry out. Wash the area with warm water, using moist cotton wool that is not dripping wet, so that you remove the serum and then dry the skin as much as possible. Add nothing to the water, get all the stickiness off, then dry and spray a drying agent. Avoid creams as they keep the skin moist, in turn keeping the whole cycle going.

Clean the affected areas daily until the skin is dry and any scabs are hard. As soon as the area is dry, leave it alone. Keep the affected area and surrounding skin as dry as possible.

If moist eczema is treated early, it can be brought under control within 24-48 hours. Use a spray that tastes terrible in order to deter the dog from chewing the affected area, such as the gentian violet spray (mentioned above).

If the affected areas are large, the dog will need antibiotics, anti-inflammatories to reduce the irritation and it may be necessary to shave off the hair. Smaller patches can be treated at home if you have enough experience, but larger areas will need veterinary supervision.

Dogs that are prone to moist eczema often suffer repeated bouts, usually every spring when they are dropping their coat (particularly undercoat). Breeds that are most susceptible include the Labrador, Collie, German Shepherd, Golden Retriever and Saint Bernard.

Common Sense Points to remember when treating wounds:

Dry out wet surfaces.

Moisten dry surfaces such as calluses with creams.



Eyes

Any injury to the eye needs immediate veterinary attention, particularly in the case of scratches or tears to the surface of the eye. Penetrating wounds need to be stitched wherever possible, or the eye structure may collapse. The cornea has no direct blood supply, apart from diffusion, so when the cornea is damaged, it heals by having an increased water component, hence the bluish appearance. As the eye heals this gradually fades.

Dogs have a 'third eyelid' and it is situated along the medial (central) corner of the eye. When the eye is threatened, the third eyelid will automatically flick over the surface of the eye to protect it. Grass seeds and other foreign objects can become trapped behind this lid, and considerable damage to the surface of the cornea may result. Any obvious protrusion of the third eyelid, or noticeable closing of the eye should be investigated by your vet as soon as possible.

Ulcers or scratches on the surface of the eye often require careful handling after the initial treatment by your veterinarian. Ideally any damage to the cornea needs to have rest from direct sunlight until the sensitivity of the surface of the eye decreases. Sunlight can aggravate the surface of the cornea and dogs will scratch and rub the irritated eye causing further damage. *Keep the dog out of direct sunlight for at least 4-5 days following this type of eye injury.*

Grass seeds which get under the third eyelid can cause a fair amount of damage to the surface of the eye. Cloudiness or a bluish appearance to the eye indicates damage to the surface of the eye. The

sooner this is treated the better, as delay may result in permanent damage or impaired vision. Any object that is scratching the eye and continues to do so, will cause the eye to be held closed as a protective instinct. *If this occurs, immediate treatment by your veterinarian is needed to ensure there is no foreign object under the third eyelid. Once the irritating object is removed, the eye will heal quickly. However some of these eyes can be severely ulcerated by the time they are treated and the after care is the same as for ulcers as above.

Dust inflammation. Many dogs will have a typical reaction to dust and high wind by having a heavy eye discharge. When examined by a veterinarian, the eye will show little by way of specific irritation, apart from a heavy discharge in the morning. If the cause is wind (eg head out of the window when travelling) or dust irritation, then the simple treatment for relief of this condition is to rinse the eyes with a liquid tear preparation, particularly at night, to flush out any dust accumulated during the day. If the eye is inflamed, then an anti-inflammatory eye ointment may be needed after the flushing of the dust particles. In the morning, rinse any remaining ointment out with the liquid tears and do not add more ointment. If this is the only cause of the irritation, do not apply ointments in the morning to the eyes of a dog that will be outside all day, as the dust will attach itself to the sticky surface provided by the ointment.

****Continuing irritation of the eye surface or any signs of ulceration requires immediate attention by your veterinarian.**

Pannus is a chronic eye condition whereby the surface of the cornea is gradually covered by a heavy brown pigmentation. This condition, the cause of which is considered to be auto-immune based, results in the dog gradually going blind over a period of 3-6 years. It is seen most commonly in Pugs, Pekingese, American Cocker Spaniels, and German Shepherds. It is a condition which can be controlled but not cured, by the use of cortisone drops used correctly and under supervision.

Ears

The first sign of an ear infection is apparent when the dog is seen constantly shaking its head, or holding the head to one side. Upon examination the inside of the ear is seen to be red and inflamed and there is usually heavy waxy or slimy discharge. There is often an offensive odour. If there is no discharge but a sudden appearance of symptoms, then there is the likelihood of the presence of a foreign object such as a grass seed, particularly in spring.

Depending on the cause of the irritation and the severity of the condition, the treatments can vary tremendously. Different veterinarians have their own preferred methods of treatment for ear conditions.

Once your dog has had several bouts of ear infections (not including mite infestations), it can become very sensitive to humid weather. This is more apparent after a period of rain or high humidity, generally in spring and autumn when the dog's ear condition will flare up. Be alert for these periods and with a little care, the ears can be quickly treated and returned to normal.

Ear Mites. Ear mites are mildly contagious, particularly in crowded (dog and cat) living conditions.

Symptoms - The picture here is one of irritation of the ears and the presence of a reddish granular wax which, when examined through an otoscope, will reveal lots of little moving objects. They obviously cause intense irritation and misery to the animal (it must be exquisitely itchy to have them trundling around inside one's ear canal). Generally seen in younger dogs, puppies.

Treatment - There are various drops available for treatment of ear mites. It is important to remember that whatever you treat them with, it can take some time to clear. Treat the ears for 7-10 days, leave alone for one week, and then re-treat for 7-10 days. It is always a good idea to have your vet re-check the ears several weeks after you started treatment to make sure that the infestation has been cleared up completely. Newer treatments include adding a very small amount of Ivermectin to a bottle of ear drops to greatly increase their efficiency.

Grass Seeds/foreign objects down ears - sudden onset of a head tilt, frantic shaking and scratching of the affected ear. Usually no wax or discharge from the

affected area unless the problem is of long standing. Veterinary examination with an otoscope will usually reveal the problem. Most animals require a light anaesthetic to remove the offending object. The affected ear usually recovers very quickly.

Canker. This is by definition a bad smell, usually accompanied by excessive waxy or purulent discharge. Chronic ear infections are often accompanied by a very memorable smell, unpleasant to the owner and veterinarian alike. These infections have sometimes been present for several years and the ear canal is often grossly thickened and swollen internally. Once there is permanent damage to the bottom of the ear canal or the ear drum, radical surgery to open up the side of the ear may (eventually) be necessary. It is most important not to neglect ear infections. Once the condition becomes chronic, the ear takes very little irritation to flare up during suitable conditions of humidity.

Treat ear infections vigorously until cleared up completely (if at all possible).

Ear Haematomas. If there is an ear infection, particularly during hot weather, the chance of getting an ear haematoma is greatly increased. The blood vessels in the ears are fairly delicate especially in the heat, and vigorous head shaking can cause a rupture of a blood vessel, leading to a haematoma. The affected ear has the appearance of a stuffed sausage, with the fat ear drooping off to the side. Treatment is generally surgical - the haematoma is lanced and then the "cavity" caused by the haematoma is stitched closed.

When ear haematomas occur in the erect eared dog, it may be the end of the dog's show career as the scar tissue weighs the ear down and normal characteristic ear carriage may be lost.

Fly Bites on Ears. Biting flies can cause considerable damage to the tips of erect eared breeds as well as the upper fold or creases of drop eared breeds. Fly bites are more commonly seen with the short to medium length coat types. A heavy crusting of dried blood is found on the upper 1-3 cm of the ear in the erect eared dog and along the fold near the head of the drop eared dogs. If these are neglected, it can eventually cause severe damage to the circulation to the tips of the ears, where the tips become thickened, curled and actual tissue may be lost. Badly affected erect ears may end up losing more than a third of their original length due to this problem.



This type of ear irritation can generally be easily cleared up and managed.

Preventing flies from attacking the ears is a regular chore. Some individuals are more prone to fly 'strike' than others, and will always be prime candidates for repeat attacks. Best treatment is a few drops of Advantix* on the tips of the ears every month.

Injuries to ears. Where there is torn ear cartilage from fight wounds, these must be cleaned thoroughly and preferably stitched (particularly large tears), as cartilage has a very poor blood supply and consequently takes a very long time to heal. Infections, once they get into the cartilage, are extremely difficult to cure and infected cartilage often has to be cut out. Dermaclense or Otoderm cream is excellent where there are small tears in the cartilage that are either impossible to stitch because they are so deep inside the canal, or smaller infected holes that cannot be feasibly stitched at that time. Ears are quite commonly damaged in dog fights.

Heat Stress in Dogs

Heat stress, due to our hot climate is quite a common problem in the hotter months. It must be remembered that this condition can be a medical emergency and failure to act quickly can result in the death of the dog.

Pre-disposing factors affecting the incidence of Heat Stress

1. **Weather** - Heat stress usually occurs on very hot or moderately hot days following several consecutive hot days. The continual heat gradually lowers the dog's body reserves of sugar and salts, so that the longer a hot period lasts,

the easier the heat stress can occur. In this situation, it only takes a little extra stress to set heat stress off.

2. *Restricted air circulation* – heat stress can readily occur if a dog is in an area with such as a closed car, crate, tent or dog trailer, and there is inadequate through circulation, dark vehicles absorbing more heat, failure of air conditioning in stationary cars left unattended etc. Over heated dogs placed in trailers can fail to cool adequately and can be found dead in trailers.
3. *Dogs that are exercising heavily in hot weather* e.g. Greyhounds, are particularly at risk.
4. *Black dogs absorb more heat than lighter coloured dogs* (as they do not reflect the light, but absorb it), so they are more prone to heat stress.

The dog's main ways of losing heat are:

1. Respiration through panting.
2. Sweating through pads. Dogs do not sweat in the same way as humans.
3. Heat loss through areas of minimal hair i.e. belly and anus.

Symptoms – a dog suffering heat stress is usually very sluggish and reluctant to move. ****** Respiration is extremely rapid and the mucous membranes, i.e. the gums and conjunctiva, are blue-ish. The breathing is extremely laboured and there is usually very little salivation. The dog may vomit, stagger and collapse and if not treated quickly at this stage, it will shortly die. The temperature of the dog is usually well over 40.0°C.

Treatment – The first priority is to cool the dog fairly rapidly. Like humans, the most important area to cool is the head and neck, particularly under the neck. The blood going to the brain must be cooled to prevent brain damage and to settle down the respiration rate. Turn a cold water tap on full bore to wet the dog thoroughly all over starting on the head and neck, and keep the water running over the dog for a minimum of 5-10 minutes. If you have any ice or a cool pack, place some on the bridge of the nose (this is especially important on short nosed breeds) and under the neck.

Keep the water flowing over the dog until the respiration settles down. You can wet the dog's mouth, but don't expect the dog to swallow much water as it may be incapable of swallowing at this stage – too much water in the throat at this stage will choke it.

When the dog starts to breathe in a less laboured manner, turn off the tap and keep sponging the dog down with wet towels. Too rapid a temperature drop can equally cause brain damage – do not use iced water. Bath tubs are great – leave the plug in and keep the water ½ way up the sides of the dog. Take the dog's temperature once the respiration rate is reduced and keep cooling the dog until the temperature is between 39.0°C and 39.5°C

As the respiration rate returns to normal, leave the dog sitting on a wet towel and give it a small amount of water to drink.

*****Remember that heat rises - do not place wet towels over the dog as it prevents the heat escaping!!!. *****

As soon as the dog settles down take it to the nearest vet if it has not returned to normal quickly i.e. the dog is still extremely sluggish. The vet will usually administer a very short acting cortisone which returns the body systems to normal and helps the dog to recover from the stress. It is an idea to administer electrolytes, either intravenously if the dog is severely affected, or orally if it is less severe. The electrolytes replace the salts that the body has lost. Weak glucose solutions with electrolytes are a help. Nothing too concentrated should be given as the idea is to rehydrate the dog by returning fluid to the body.

Prevention of Heat Stress

Prevention of heat stress is of course far better than having affected animals.

1. *Always ensure that your dogs have adequate shade and water.* If the dog for some reason has to be left in a confined area ensure that:-
 - (a) Ventilation is more than adequate.
 - (b) Shade is available.
 - (c) Water is always available.
2. *Puppies and old dogs are especially susceptible to heat stress.* If your dog falls into either category, you should always leave a wet towel or wet newspaper over part of their living area.

If you freeze a large dish of water, it can be left out to gradually melt during the day. Leave a sprinkler going over the shed if it can be managed, or direct a fan over the animals to stir the air. If using a fan with puppies make sure it is directed over them and not on them.
3. *In hotter weather it is a good idea to give your dog electrolyte salts to help prevent heat stress.* There are two additives that are very helpful, especially after

several hot days.

(a) Bicarbonate of soda is the main salt that is lost during heat and is therefore the most important to replace. Give large dogs 1/3 teaspoon daily. If it is very hot, increase to ½ teaspoon. Put the bi-carb in the food as dogs do not like it in water.

(b) Electrolytes. There are various brands available and they usually contain some glucose Give one level teaspoon for average to large breeds. In the food is best. If using a liquid electrolyte eg. Lactade, 10mls for the same size dog.

4. *If travelling in hot weather, in addition to the salts or bi-carb, always travel with plenty of water* (preferably with frozen cool packs as well). If the dogs are at all distressed, wet them down and place them on wet towels. Dogs cool quickest through their feet, belly and anus. Hot air rises, so do not cover the dogs with wet towels.
5. *Cool coats (and cool mats)* – these are great to keep a dog cool, provide they stay wet – once they dry out the dog will start to heat up. Properly used these are very useful at dog shows and for short walks.

****Remember, in hot weather, ensure there is access to shade, through ventilation and water at all times.**

****Remember that heat stress can occur on a relatively mild day, especially if it has been very hot for the previous few days.**



Hypothermia

Hypothermia is a serious problem in cold countries and can be seen even in our relatively mild winters. The effects are again seen predominantly in the very young and old individuals. Cold can be the biggest cause of young puppy deaths, particularly if they get chilled during the first few days of life.

Signs of hypothermia are: reluctance to move, cold to the touch, lack of a shiver reflex, pale gums and a slow capillary refill (when the gums are pressed the colour takes quite some time to return whereas normally this is a very fast reflex), and cold extremities.

Cold puppies will whinge, refuse food and try to huddle together to gain some warmth. Chilled puppies, particularly when they are less than one week of age, will not be able to swallow properly until they are warmed up as they can develop a partial paralysis of the vagus nerve (controls swallowing) as it has not fully developed in the first 10 days of life. Food for these puppies must be limited to very small amounts until they have completely returned to normal body temperature.

Treatment - Any cold or chilled dog should be gradually warmed up and given small amounts of brandy (acts as a heart stimulant) and glucose on the gums. Wrap the dog in wool, not synthetics, as wool retains the heat much better. Severe chilling can take some time to reverse. Gently turn the dog over every 10-15 minutes, massage the legs and stimulate the circulation. After effects usually include pneumonia, so an examination and treatment by your vet once the dog is fit to be moved can be a necessary.

Stings And Bites

Acute Allergic reactions

Symptoms - usually seen as sudden, grossly swollen, soft pitting swellings, often of the face and lips, less commonly as welts all over the body. Unfortunately, you often do not know what has bitten your animal and when it may have occurred. Bee stings and ant bites are not generally life threatening and the reaction is usually limited to swelling around the area which has been bitten. When this occurs around the mouth and throat, it can be very alarming to the owner. Most bites of this nature do not cause respiratory difficulties unless the animal is particularly sensitive to the cause i.e. extremely allergic.

Treatment with antihistamines will quickly relieve symptoms. Human antihistamines are quite safe to use. Occasionally short acting cortisones are needed as well with the more severe cases. Very few dogs develop anaphalactic reactions.

Snake and spider bites are far more difficult to deal with, particularly if you have no knowledge of the initial incident such as the time the incident occurred and/or the causative agent. Very few cases of spider bite are confirmed and very few dogs react adversely to spider bites, so the comments here relate to snake bites. Snakes that commonly cause problems on the Australian east coast include the black, brown and tiger.

The symptoms vary slightly between the various types of snake venom. Signs of snake bite include:- lethargy, trembling, vomiting and profuse salivation, progressing to inability to stand, rapid respiration, elevated heart rates, bluish mucous membranes (of the gums), dilated pupils and collapse. The various actions of the venom include an anti-coagulation effect, a paralysis effect and a neuro-toxin. Black red belly snakes bites may take several hours to take effect, brown and tiger snakes affect the dog much more quickly. Also affecting the time of onset is the amount of venom received and where the dog has been bitten.

There may be a hypersensitivity to noise and light in the form of minor fitting and/or muscle twitching. Additionally, there may be blood in the urine. Signs vary according to the 'perpetrator', the time that has elapsed since the dog was bitten, and the type and amount of poison received. *It is presumed with all snake bite victims, that a full dose of venom was received, which is why all victims receive the same amount of anti-venom, regardless of size.



Treatment - Take the animal to a veterinarian as soon as possible. Treatment can differ according to the presenting signs, and the amount of knowledge as to the cause and time of the incident. Some snake bite effects can take 12 or more hours to manifest with owners often erroneously thinking that because there are no obvious signs within 1-2 hours, that the animal will not be affected at all, and/or that it may not have received any poison. Do not delay as precautionary treatment is preferable to being too late. The longer the delay from the initial incident, the lower the survival rate. Other treatment involves using Vitamin K, short acting cortisones etc.

If there are definite signs on envenomation, the sooner the anti-venom is given the better. Newer anti-venoms have been developed that combine the anti-venom for the black/brown and tiger snake, so some of the challenge to which type of snake actually bite the animal has been removed.

Tick Poisoning is commonly seen in the warm humid periods of the year, mostly in spring and autumn and during wet summers. They are restricted to the coastal belt of Australia, mostly the eastern and northern coasts. There are 3 basic types of ticks - bush ticks (also called brown ticks), cattle ticks (blue ticks) and paralysis ticks (blue grey ticks).

Paralysis ticks can kill dogs within 3-6 days of being attached. Ticks like to crawl to the top of long grass and low shrubs, and will attach to the coats of animals as they brush past. About 80-90% of ticks are found around the head, neck and shoulder regions. Ticks look like small blue-grey coloured warts and can grow as large as your little fingernail, but (unlike warts) they have a thickening around the skin at the base where they are attached, called a 'crater'.

Symptoms are incoordination of the hindquarters, weakness of the hind legs, husky cough and loss of voice, loss of appetite and a rapid respiration rate.

Very early signs are easily missed, but if you are living in a tick area, you should be alert for any change in the dog's habits. Initially the dog may appear reluctant to walk very far, refuse a feed and be slightly off balance when turning. The further it walks, the worse it becomes. This progresses to a total paralysis with laboured breathing and bluish mucous membranes (gums). Death results from

paralysis of the respiratory muscles and lung congestion.

****It takes several days for the effect of the tick to start showing up, and 3-4 days for the effects to wear off.**

Treatment involves removal of all ticks; if no ticks are found, they may already have dropped off. There should still be a crater, which is an allergic reaction in the place where the tick was embedded. Removal of ticks is easily done by placing your thumb and first finger on either side of the tick, pinching down and almost taking a small piece of skin, and then give it a quick half twist. The tick will pop out. Ticks do not have a definite head; killing and removing the tick is the initial primary concern.

The effects of the tick are still wearing on over the next 48-72 hours, so that veterinary advice must be sought on all cases that are showing signs of paralysis and where there are respiratory difficulties, the dog should be seen by the vet as soon as possible.

The vet will administer tick serum from hyper-immune dogs. This is given intravenously, and the dog is hospitalised, and preferably kept very quiet and covered up to reduce external stimuli i.e. light and noise. Treatment for any respiratory and cardiac symptoms is initiated. Sedation is used to keep the dog calm.

Tick dogs are handled as little as possible and kept very quiet to minimise respiratory distress.

Very mild cases with no obvious signs of paralysis should be put somewhere very quiet and dark for 24 hours. However, if it is the first tick they have ever encountered, it is wise to have the dog examined by your vet. Do not give food or water to the animal, as it is paralysed internally as well as externally. After 24 hours, give a small amount of water and if the animal drinks, and there is no vomiting or coughing, allow free access to food and water. If it is reluctant to drink, wait another 12-24 hours and repeat the process. If the dog is not drinking after 48 hours or any signs of paralysis or breathing difficulties develop, consult your vet immediately. Older dogs can develop cardiac symptoms, so keeping these dogs quiet for a few days is essential.

Dogs can (and do) receive a relative immunity to tick poison, but it develops slowly from short and repeated exposure to ticks. The immunity is short lasting (approximately three months) and variable, which means that by the end of winter, there is usually little or no immunity left.



Prevention Flea and tick collars, and newer drugs can be very beneficial. The tick season varies according to the weather. Ticks prefer humidity and warmth, so the ideal times are spring and autumn. If, however you are having a particularly wet summer, they can stay out and about. Be on the lookout for ticks for 7-10 days after rain.

Ticks prefer to live in thick, overgrown areas, and climb to the top of tall grass, small shrubs and bushes. If you live in a known tick area, keep the grass very short in the garden, and for at least 2-3 metres around it. High winds can blow ticks into a mown area, but the risk of picking up ticks can be reduced to almost nil in a well tended area.

Do not take your dog on walks through rough bush, or allow it to roam through known problem areas.

Check your dog daily during the tick periods of the year, paying particular attention to the head, neck and shoulder areas. Beyond this area, the dog will usually bite out any small ticks which are trying to embed themselves into the skin. Despite this, the dog must be fully checked all over. Coated dogs are high risk animals in tick areas, as the ticks are extremely easy to miss in the thick hair.

Remember, it takes several days for the tick poison to take effect, and several days to wear off. Severe cases need hyperimmune tick serum to try to reduce the severity of the effects of the tick, but each case is different and unfortunately there are no guarantees of survival. Every case is treated according to its symptoms, and there should be as little external stimuli as possible at all times.

Poisons - Common Symptoms and Emergency Treatment

Rapid Acting Poisons

The majority of poisonings which occur around the home tend to fall into the organophosphate group of poisons. Poisons of this sort include snail and slug killers, heavy plant poisons such as weed killers, fumigating poisons, strychnine, heavy applications of flea and other insect poisons. Poisoning can result from drinking water contaminated by run off from chemicals, e.g. following fumigation.

Usually the effects are seen within several hours of ingestion. The larger the amount consumed, the quicker the onset of symptoms and this can be in the space of 15-30 minutes. If you see your dog eating snail bait or a poison, take your dog immediately to your vet, or ring for advice which can vary according to the type of poison. Take the container or wrapper with you to the vet, in case there are specific instructions that may need to be followed in the case of ingestion.

***By far the most common acute poisoning seen is as a result of ingestion of snail baits. Snail baits are (despite manufacturers words to the contrary) very attractive to dogs. Use wood shavings as a safe (and "green") alternative - the snails will not crawl over them as they are too rough.**

Symptoms - These present as the typical owners 'idea' of poisoning's. The animal is hypersensitive to noise and light, the respiration rate is very rapid and shallow, the muscles are twitching all over and there is usually profuse salivation. The dog may be fitting or unconscious in the more serious cases. Symptoms can vary from very mild to extremely severe.

Treatment - if the causative agent is known, the antidote or appropriate treatment is initiated. If not, the animal should be treated symptomatically i.e. by the presenting symptoms and the severity of the poisoning. Treatment usually includes Atropine to dry out the excess salivation, and anaesthetics or tranquillisers to allow the animal to sleep through the effects of the poison until it wears off. The animal is usually hospitalised until the effects have entirely gone from the body.

It is most important when going to the veterinarian, that these animals should be handled very gently, and above all quietly. Excess noise, light, handling or stimuli of any sort, will worsen the effect of most of these sorts of poisons.

Slow Acting Poisons

These include those poisons that break down a chain of body functions such as the clotting cascade.

Warfarin Poisoning - this causes a breakdown in the clotting of the blood, creating a 'haemophiliac' i.e. any small injury will start to bleed and will not stop. This poison can take from 3-7 days to take effect, according to the amount ingested. Newer potentiated versions of Warfarin are now available which, if ingested, cause severe bleeding within 24-48 hours.

If ratsack has been ingested within 1-2 hours, immediate veterinary treatment to make them vomit can remove the bulk of the poison. If longer period, but it is known or thought to have been ingested, a course of Vitamin K is given as a precaution. Vitamin K is the specific antidote to these types of anticoagulant poisons.

Symptoms - Severe anaemia, pale mucous membranes on gums and conjunctiva, tiredness, reduced exercise tolerance, rapid respiration and collapse. Occasional visible bleeding – mouth, urine, faeces.

Treatment - Blood transfusions for the very anaemic animals are a necessity, complete rest and confinement for 7-10 days, and large doses of vitamin K (particularly vitamin K1 which is stronger). For animals who have only ingested this type of poison in the last 12-24 hours, treatment consists of giving vitamin K tablets for the next 10-20 days, rest, soft food and a regular check on the colour of the gums. For the potentiated Warfarins, vitamin K1 tablets are needed.

****Slow acting poisons can be very hard to identify until it is too late**, as there is no fitting or other symptoms as with other poisons. If there are rat baits out, make sure they are out of reach of dogs and cats. If you are worried, precautionary dosing with vitamin K is harmless to the animal.

Bloat

Bloat is a dilation and/or torsion (twisting) of the stomach, which is usually accompanied by gas build up. Bloat can be accompanied by, and often caused by, a torsion of the spleen. It is a very rapidly developing and serious condition, which if not treated immediately, can result in a high mortality rate. This is considered a medical emergency and the sooner it is treated the better the chance of survival.

Signs of bloat - The dog is usually found groaning with a swollen rigid abdomen which when tapped sounds hollow, like a drum. The dog is very distressed and the breathing very rapid and shallow. The mucous membranes are very pale to blue in colour, indicating a failing circulation system. Often, within 1-4 hours, it can cause death due to stress. What actually kills the dog is excessive pressure from the bloated stomach, pushing up against the diaphragm. This in turn causes pressure on the heart. The average dog, particularly an older animal, can only endure this kind of stress for a very short time before the circulation collapses and the animal dies.

If noticed in the very early stages, the dog may be seen hunched up, vomiting small amounts of frothy liquid, and often attempting to drink quantities of water which it promptly vomits back.

Factors affecting bloat - Circumstances relating to bloat cases are many and varied, however there are common factors, which are listed below:-

1. Usually seen in older dogs (eight years and up), but it can occur at any age. It is unlikely to occur in a puppy. The older the animal, the poorer the muscle tone of the stomach and the muscles of the abdomen.
2. Bloat is more common in narrow deep chested breeds, especially in the excessively deep chested individuals. Affected breeds include German Shepherds, Irish Setters, Great Danes, Bassets, Borzois and the larger breeds.
3. Seen more frequently during the hotter months of the year, when more water is ingested. Bloat cases tend to increase after sudden temperature changes like a hot spell.
4. Feeding immediately after excessive exercise and excitement or exercise just after feeding can also cause bloat. Dogs that are still very excited from running are more likely to drink large quantities of water immediately after their main meal. With dogs that are allowed to run after a meal, the risk that the stomach or the spleen will swing around and twist, and so cause bloat, is much higher.
5. It may be seen also in dogs that are suddenly having far more exercise than they have been used to. In consequence, these individuals will have a sudden increase in demand for food and salts. The increase in exercise may only occur because they have been put near other dogs and are running up and down the fence, when previously they have been house dogs.
6. Bloat is most common after the feeding of a large meal, especially if the dog is the type to eat its food very quickly. Some dogs may bloat within 5-15 minutes of eating a large meal, particularly if they run and jump about. The problem of bloat occurring immediately after a meal appears to be volume and time related i.e. how much arrives in the stomach and how fast.
7. The type of food can be a contributing factor. Some people find that large amounts of dry food in the diet may be the causative agent, as the dog may drink a large quantity of water after a meal. The dry food swells considerably after ingestion and this can cause bloat. A dog that is fed a



high proportion of dry dog food in a diet will usually have no trouble, especially if locked up before and after feeding, then kennelled with adequate, but limited amounts of water.

8. *High levels of soya bean meal* in the dry dog food seems to predispose dogs to bloat, as the bean meal ferments rather rapidly. It may also occur when large fatty meals of meat are given.

If the salt content of the food is too high, the dog will drink more water than normal. Never exceed 2% salt in the diet (this refers to straight salt or sodium chloride; electrolytes are a slightly different).

9. *Many older bloat cases tend to have a concurrent medical problem* e.g. pancreatitis, where there is poor muscle tone of the stomach, and gastritis, where there is increased motility of the gastrointestinal tract. Because of this, there is increased water consumption. Other factors include generalised poor muscle tone in old age and debilitating diseases such as cancer.

General Treatment for bloat cases

The dog is de-gassed as quickly as possible, shock treatment is given. The majority of cases then anaesthetised immediately. Some dogs can have a tube passed down to the stomach to relieve the gas, but most cases with full torsion are unable to be relieved in this manner. If the tube cannot enter the stomach successfully, the dog has to be opened up and the problem surgically corrected. It is estimated around 80% of cases presenting have fully torse and will require surgery to correct the problem.

The twisted stomach is often heavily bruised and sections of its wall may have to be removed because of infarction (lack of blood supply). As the stomach torsions, the blood supply to the stomach twists also. When the spleen has undergone torsion, the ligament and blood supply from the stomach wall is twisted and damaged as well. Damaged areas can be obvious at the time, but occasionally the heavily bruised areas can develop additional blood clots, and in turn reduce the blood supply to areas of the stomach wall.

Many veterinarians elect to suture part of the stomach wall to the wall of the abdomen to prevent further bloat attacks. If the spleen is removed, the chance of

recurrence is also reduced. The stomach wall is nearly always stitched down in cases where the animal has already previously bloated. Fluid and steroid therapy with high doses of antibiotics are the normal support therapy during and after the operation.

Despite the best of veterinary care, the success rate is not always high due to the severity of the shock that develops, the pressure and strain on the heart and the presence of blood clots in the stomach wall. The earlier treatment is initiated the better. Different veterinarians have varied regimes of treatment for bloat and the circumstances surrounding bloat cases can and do vary greatly.

As a general rule of thumb, the results of intervention within the first 4 hours of bloating are excellent, the survival rate drops to 50/50 when between 4-8 hours after bloating, and the chances of survival after 8 hours are very poor.

After Care of Bloat Cases

This can be nearly as important as all the work the veterinarian has done to save your dog.

For the next few weeks, give small meals often.

Older animals and those with continuing medical problems should go onto a fairly rigid routine for the rest of their lives. This includes giving 2-3 small feeds a day, reduced exercise before and after meals, and not leaving large buckets of water available. Additives to the diet should be given to try and reduce gas build up.

Additives to help prevent gas build up include:



1. Charcoal tablets, 1-3 tablets with every meal
2. Oil, cooking or liquid paraffin, to be added to each meal to help prevent rapid fermentation of food. About 1-2 tablespoons per meal
3. Acidophilus to keep the gut bacteria stable (powder or tablets). A good quality vitamin and mineral source will fill any deficiencies in the diet and hopefully improve the muscle tone.

Other helpful hints may include removing soya-bean meal from the diet, i.e. check on the bags of dry dog food. If you wish, change to rice or spaghetti i.e. a natural food type diet. Those with permanently poor muscle tone could benefit from the addition of anabolics into their system, even if only given periodically.

Prevention of Bloat

1. If the weather is hot, feed the dog late at night after it has cooled down. This can be as late as 10-11pm. If necessary, give a reduced meal and do not leave large amounts of water around. It is most important to lock the dog up in a confined area.
2. If the dog is elderly or in poor physical and muscle condition, feed twice daily and soak the dry dog food. This way smaller amounts are eaten in any one meal.
3. If the dog has muscle wasting and has lost weight lately i.e. following illness, feed small meals often and limit the exercise after feeding. Build up the dog's muscle tone gradually i.e. over several weeks but don't suddenly increase the dog's exercise.
4. Avoid excessively salty food, usually 2% in the diet is a maximum. Corned beef and food preserved in brine should not be fed. Ham and ham bones in particular should not be fed.
5. Any dry food should be changed over a 2-3 week period, sudden changes can precipitate bloat.

Above all:

1. Do not allow the dog to exercise heavily before or after meals, particularly in hot weather.
2. If your dog gulps its food too quickly, feed twice daily and leave limited amounts of water. With the taller breeds, it can be beneficial to raise the food bowl so that the dog has to stretch its neck up, and hopefully the rate of ingestion will be slowed.

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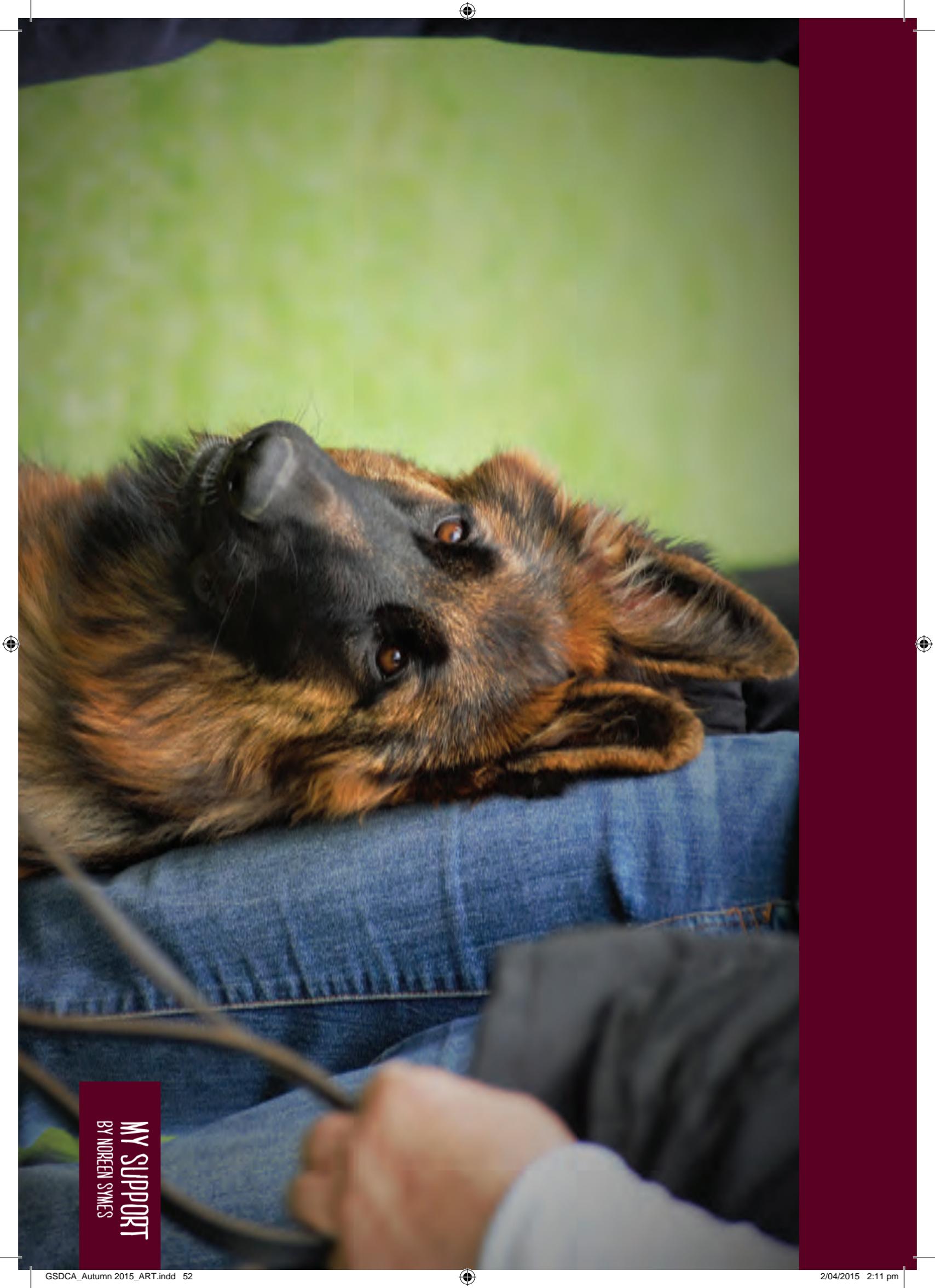
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