

# THE German Shepherd Dog

## QUARTERLY NATIONAL REVIEW



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

Autumn 2017

### INSIDE

- GSDCA President's Annual Report to AGM
- How to Prepare a Fit Dog for the Show Ring
- Breaking Through the European Way
- Veterinary Discusison – To Pexy or Not?
- Harald Hohmann (SV) Aussie Show Wrap up
- 'Best In Show' Champions
- WA's Showcase of Events
- Dances with Dogs
- Tasmania in the Spotlight
- Wild Wednesday's Photo Shoot !
- National Breed Commission Chair Report to AGM
- A Thank You to Joylene
- Dog Database Update
- South Australia in the Spotlight
- Motions from the 2017 AGM

Plus much more.....



# EVENT calendar

## GSDCA Events

Date	Event	Location
19th - 21st May 2017	45th National Show & Trial	Brisbane
29th - 30th July 2017	GSDCA National Breed Commission Meeting	Adelaide
10th - 11th February 2018	GSDCA Annual General Meeting	Sydney
27th - 29th April 2018	46th National Show & Trial	Adelaide

## Member Club Shows

Date	Event	Location	Judge
15th - 16th April	GSDL Easter Show and Trial	Sydney	Herr Ralf Wille (Gmy)
7th May	GSDCV State Breed Exhibition	Melbourne	Ian Urie (Vic) & Vince Tantaró (Vic)
19th May	National Show (Bitches)	Brisbane	Joachim Stiegler (Gmy)
19th - 21st May	National Show (Dogs & LSCs)	Brisbane	Frank Goldlust (Gmy)
29th July	NHRGSDC Championship Show	Hillsborough	Alastair Henderson (Vic)
30th July	NHRGSDC Championship Show	Hillsborough	Rodney Vernon (Qld)
11th August	GSD Exhibition	Melbourne	Melissa Lloyd (SA)
12th August	Lillydale Championship Show	Melbourne	Jo Cathie (UK)
23rd September	GSDCTas Championship Show	Tasmania	Sharon Ballantyne (Qld)
24th September	GSDCTas Championship Show	Tasmania	Melanie Groth (NSW)
28th October	West Coast Challenge Champ Show	Perth	John Lijffijt (Ndl)
4th - 5th November	GSDCV Championship Show	Melbourne	Robyn Knuckey (WA) & John Lijffijt (Ndl)
4th - 5th November	Working Dog Club of Vic Champ Show	Melbourne	Robyn Knuckey (WA) & John Lijffijt (Ndl)

## International Shows

Date	Event	Location	Judge
31st August - 3rd September	German Sieger Show	Ulm, Germany	
15th - 17th September	Italian Sieger Show	Reggio Emilia	
23rd - 24th September	New Zealand German Shepherd Dog National Show	Hamilton, NZ	Andy Tong Tak Choy (SV)

## Quarterly National Review Closing dates

Close dates for content submission and advertising in future magazine editions

Edition	Closing date	Delivery to Members
Winter 2017 (National)	5th June 2017	Early July
Spring 2017	5th August 2017	Early September
Summer 2018	5th November 2017	Early December



[www.facebook.com/GSDCA](http://www.facebook.com/GSDCA)



[www.gsdcouncilaustralia.org](http://www.gsdcouncilaustralia.org)



<http://database.gsdcouncilaustralia.org>



[www.wusv.org](http://www.wusv.org)



[www.schaeferhunde.de](http://www.schaeferhunde.de)

# CONTENTS & contacts

## Contents

<b>Editor's Report .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>President's Report .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>A Message from Vince .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Chair Speaks.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>GDSCA Dog Database Update .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Breaking Through the European Way .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>To Pexy or Not to Pexy? .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>A Guide to Nail Trimming .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Preparing a Fit Dog .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Puppy Pictures .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Harald Hohmann Judge's Report.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Dances with Dogs .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Club Spotlight: Tasmania.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Wild Wednesday .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>News from our Member Clubs .....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>WA Activities .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Best in Show .....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>National Breed Commission Chairman Report.....</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Thank You Joylene! .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Youth Notes .....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Other Matters .....</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Club Spotlight: South Australia .....</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>AGM Report.....</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Subscriptions .....</b>	<b>45</b>

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#### GDSCA CONSULTANTS

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# EDITOR'S report

The countdown is on to the biggest event on our calendar – with all roads leading to Brisbane for the GSDCA National in May. Our next magazine will be our National showcase edition, which will include all the results and major trophy winners. The Queensland club have been busy preparing, and recently released their merchandise range for the event. There is some great stuff available if you want a keepsake from the event. Head over to [www.gsdcqld.org.au](http://www.gsdcqld.org.au) and check it out, buy online and you will be dressed to impress 😊 For all those attending the show and trial, safe travels, enjoy the sun and best of luck to all exhibitors competing. Enjoy the challenge and the best of sportsmanship to all.

The recent Annual General Meeting of the GSDCA presents full reports from all Council Office holders, which can be read on the website. Included in this magazine edition is Vince's President's report, all the motions voted on by the member clubs and a summary of the National Breed Commission Chair's report for your interest. The AGM is a busy two day meeting, where all things GSD are discussed, with the main aim being the management and improvement of the breed within Australia. Take the time to read the reports and get a good overview of what is presently important for the GSD fraternity in Australia.

It was also a chance to farewell two of our executive members in Joylene Neddermeyer and John de Lucia. My thanks to them both for their contributions to the magazine and the assistance they have provided. We welcome Mel Groth and Julie Urie to the NBC and Obedience portfolios and I am sure you will hear from them in future editions 😊

Dog legislation is still a key priority for several member states and the narrative around breeding, puppies and dog management continues. It is imperative that we remain vigilant and are aware of any proposed changes that will impact our breed, how we manage our hobby and how we live with our pets.

Below you will see our NEW advertising rates for the Quarterly National Review magazine. We've slashed our rates and added a website package to increase the online exposure for those who pay to advertise their dogs. Without increased advertising in our magazine, the future viability of our printed copy magazine will have to be reviewed. Hopefully our new pricing structure will help achieve greater support. Give me a call to discuss, we want your ad !

Thanks to those who've contributed to this edition, I hope everyone finds something of interest within – be it the article on preparation of a fit show dog, the very interesting views of UK breeder and judge Heather Macdonald, the new sport of 'Dances with Dogs' or the most amusing photos of the very talented Wild Wednesday – a dog with style 😊

Enjoy your reading !

*Jacinta*

## New Advertising Rates !



**From July 1st 2017,  
the advertising rates  
for the Quarterly  
National Review are  
being slashed !  
Yes you read it right.  
We're reducing our  
rates, some by up to  
35%.**

	Old Rate	New Rate
Full page	\$500	\$360
Half page	\$275	\$180
Quarter page	\$115	\$100
Double page spread	\$900	\$700
Front Cover (non-advertising)	\$300	\$225
Back Cover (non-advertising)	\$250	\$200

Annual advertising package: For the same copy in 4 editions for Full, Half or Quarter pages a discount of 10% will apply



### **But wait, there's more ! Magazine and Website Package**

From 1st July, a magazine and website advertising package is available for stud dog advertisers. Each full page stud dog advertisement printed in the QNR will have the option to be replicated on a dedicated Stud Dog page on the GSDCA website for a period of 3 months following the publication of the QNR edition in which it appears.

The "Magazine and Website Package" has been established in an effort to encourage members who own stud dogs to advertise in the Quarterly National Review magazine and to provide an opportunity to receive national exposure on the website and advertise to a more diverse range of people. This is an optional extra available for owners who place full page ads in the QNR, available at no extra charge to the QNR advertisement fee.

We encourage members who might own a stud dog, or want to advertise their animal or business to contact us.

Contact Jacinta E: [revieweditor@gsdcouncilaustralia.org](mailto:revieweditor@gsdcouncilaustralia.org)



# PRESIDENT'S report

## 56th Annual General Meeting of the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia

Ladies, Gentleman and visitors, I again welcome you and look forward to your participation in the 56th Annual General Meeting of the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia (GSDCA).

I am happy to report that communication between Member Clubs, their members and the Executive has again been further improved and both direct dealings and use of technology has ensured all are informed sooner of decisions and or actions undertaken by the Executive. Further, my aim of seeing frank and open discussion has been achieved. The Council, as a whole, has become more professional in the way it conducts its business and fulfils its main mission: not only the caretaker of the GSD in Australia, but importantly a driver that sees continued development and ensuring the welfare of the breed continues.

The Executive is a team, and the past year has seen it work tirelessly in administering the affairs of the Council. It has demonstrated a level of professionalism that has further earned respect from the Member Clubs and their members. I can assure you that its decisions are made with full knowledge and owned as a whole by all of us. In the past I have mentioned that the level of respect between Club Presidents and the Executive had to improve in order for the Council to progress as a united team. I now feel that after 5 years at the helm that there is now a high degree of trust between us. I can only again reiterate the fact that when Council makes a decision it is owned by all Member Clubs. I thank the Club Presidents for their leadership and the many members who voluntarily devote much time and effort to ensure the German Shepherd Dog is well served and promoted throughout Australia. I would like to make special mention of the following Member Club officials who are no longer in the positions they once held:

- **Greg Jones** as immediate past President of the GSDL was a welcomed new face, who in a short time did contribute positively to the Council. It is indeed unfortunate that due to health concerns, he stepped down. We wish him good health for the future.
- **Ken Millhouse** as immediate past President and Carol Millhouse, as past Breed Affairs Administrator of the GSDC Tasmania, as relatively new faces, injected new found enthusiasm to a small club that was grappling with internal power struggles.
- **Leeanne Lynch**, as immediate past Secretary, NHRGSDC had been a long time position holder and very dedicated to the breed, her club and the Council. She was a proud supporter of the Council and I would on behalf of the Council note her work and contribution over the many years she has been involved with our breed.

I have made the following statement in one form or another in all of my reports over the years and again want to emphasise the fact that the GSDCA is the Member Clubs; the Executive is not the Council. The Executive, as elected, is in place to administer the business of the Council and is expected to show leadership by putting forward discussion items and or programs for the Member Clubs to consider, amend, reject and/or accept in order to progress the GSD in Australia. Further, it is important that the membership understands that the Council has no control over the way each Member Club conducts its affairs: that control is held by the Clubs' respective membership. What the Council does expect is that their members are kept informed and have a right to contribute and or initiate debate via their Club on matters related to breed welfare and improvement of national programs that serve the breed. I can only again reiterate how important it is that members ensure they voice their grievances, opinions, and/or put forward ideas at Member Club meetings.

I again thank all the Officers of the Council and my fellow members of Executive for their continued dedication and work for the Council in the past year. We have as a team achieved much. I again point out that many of the Officers have been long serving workers for the breed and in addition to their Council roles are praised for their continuing contribution to their Clubs.

I would personally like to thank my fellow Executive Members and note:



**Joylene Neddermeyer**, NBC Chairperson: Joylene, who has held this position for 16 years, administers what is a very large portfolio. She has, as we are all aware, decided to stand down from this position and later in the day we will celebrate her contribution to the breed, this council and the members it serves. She has, as in past years, administered a portfolio that requires much of her spare time and made freely available to the membership either by the phone or presenting her bloodline lectures to Member Clubs. As a member of the NBC Executive and together with Robyn Knuckey and me, she has seen many matters progressed and or resolved. The fact that Joylene fully supported and accepted my approach which saw the NBC Executive as a collective decide on most NBC matters must be acknowledged. It is my belief in that this single step of having the NBC Executive, and not only the NBC Chairperson, own the decisions has seen NBC Executive as far more effective and its workings more transparent for all to see. As President I have been fortunate to have her hold this position during my 2 terms. Her idealism and approach has complemented not only the rest of the Executive during that time, but my own ideals and vision for the improvement of the breed and Council. I sincerely thank her for her friendship and dedication over the many years she has served this Council and Breed.

**Val Moody**, Secretary: Val as Secretary has held this position for 16 years and holds a wealth of corporate knowledge. She is most sharing and professional in all she does. We continue to work very well together and I, as does the rest of the Executive, value her well-considered advice on all matters. I am indeed pleased that she has decided to serve another term as Secretary.

**Robyn Knuckey**, Judges Committee Chairperson: Robyn has seen her work together with the NBC Executive in identifying and proposing changes to regulations with regard to judges training and conformation shows. Her approach has earned her the respect of her peers and her valued input on all matters is proactive and well considered.

**John De Lucia**, Obedience Committee Chairperson. John not only administers his portfolio but has another major role: that as President GSDCA, and is able to not only contribute on obedience matters, but far wider issues. I would like to again congratulate John and all who played a part in finally seeing the GSDCA Character Working Assessment (CWA) conducted at some of our Member Clubs. It must be noted that the CWA is the only character working test this Council in its 50+ year history has approved and put in place! This is another, albeit very late, milestone for the Council, therefore we now have a test that can be promoted, conducted and if need be further enhanced.

**Jane Pike**, Treasurer: Jane as Treasurer has a wealth of experience in administration and continues to ensure accounts are up to date and Member clubs well informed regarding the financial health of our organisation. She provides valuable support to the rest of the Executive and continues to contribute positively with her proactive and practical approach to the business of Council.

**Jacinta Poole**, Editor: Quarterly National Review (QNR): Jacinta in her first year as Editor has made a notable impact. The QNR has a new look and feel about it. The added bonus is that Jacinta has, with her hard work, found savings that may help the magazine survive. The added bonus of having Jacinta on board is that she is involved at grass roots as an instructor and has IT skills that sees the council website continually updated. Jacinta has demonstrated she is most capable and able to positively contribute on all matters the executive considers.

I would again remind Member Clubs and their members that as volunteers, GSDCA Officers and members of the Executive do face other pressures and at times are unable to meet the instant demands of the membership. It must also be noted that at times circumstances outside the control of the Executive impact on services provided. In these cases I can only urge all to show patience.

The major highlight of the Council every year is the conduct of the National GSD Show & Trial which this year saw GSD League host the event on behalf of the Council. It must be noted that this Club has a proud history of conducting this showcase event. On behalf of the Council I again thank the Club for staging a memorable event.

With regard to this event, we must utilise the opportunity that this event offers the host club: It must be used to showcase the Breed. I urge Member Clubs which are to conduct this event in the future to start planning as soon as a year is allocated to you. We must find ways to further enhance the event as a promotional and marketing tool for the host Member Club and Council. We have in the past chosen a charity to donate to: this has had limited success in achieving attention. The main challenge is to ensure that the entry is maximised, as we have in recent years seen the entry at all Member Club shows dropping. We no longer see many enthusiasts travelling interstate to member club shows hence the 'National' must be promoted as the "must go to" show. The 'Trial' at this event presents even more challenges as the number of GSD's in Member Club Trials has been downward for quite a number of years. It is important that this event is held at or around the same time each year (May) and an earnest discussion is held as to where it is held and be mindful that 'hot' weather and showing / trialling dogs does little to promote the fact we have the welfare of our breed nor our aging handler pool at heart.

The first review of the GSDCA Breed Survey Scheme since put in place was held prior to the 2016 NBC Meeting. The outcomes of the meeting have been well reported and as a result motions proposed that relate to accountability and compliance will, if passed, see GSDCA Service Agreements in place for all GSDCA Breed Surveyors. Noting the fact that the forum was conducted as a direct response to questions about the conduct of Breed Surveyors with regard to consistency and accountability and further driven by a web based survey of some 250+ members who expressed their concerns regarding Breed Survey, which was analysed and presented for all to see, I find it embarrassing and am extremely disappointed in learning from members who attended Club meetings that a small number of our Breed Surveyors and Judges voiced their opposition against and voted against the introduction of this Service Agreement at their Member Clubs meetings. I do not understand how anyone who is seen as a respected peer / leader amongst the fraternity and who promotes breed survey and its ideals would want to breed with unsurveyed animals. It must also be noted that the forum as a collective agreed to support the introduction of a

service agreement to meet concerns regarding GSDCA Breed Surveyor accountability and compliance.

It is my intention to propose a similar service contract for the NBC Executive to consider, which will apply to our GSDCA Specialist Judges, as they too are members of the peer / leadership group and promote by their judging the ideals of the Council.

The forum reaffirmed what I proposed as an aspirational goal several years ago: the introduction of an ANKC Litter Registration Limitation that will only have GSD's that are GSDCA Breed Surveyed or recognised, to be bred with. The NBC Executive will discuss this and we hope to present a 5 year plan at the next NBC meeting.

The GSDCA Future Directions Forum held 4 years ago clearly identified a need across all Member Clubs for change and succession planning. In that time I have observed very little has changed and club committees have not had major changes. This coupled with fact that there is no 'next' generation that is willing and or inclined to take a hand in administering canine affairs, sees we have a real threat to our sport and serving the GSD. I can only urge our younger members to "have a go" and run for positions, and those of us that have been around for the past 30+ years to encourage and or mentor our younger members to take over. Structured change does work and will benefit the organisation.

**Responsible Dog Ownership:** We must not underestimate the threat and realisation of restrictive and discriminatory dog legislation. The recent debacle in Victoria which saw punitive measures taken against ALL breeders as opposed to targeting the 'puppy farms' the legislation was originally intended for, again demonstrates to us the need for each Member Club to be vigilant with regard to what legislation is in the pipeline, to work very closely with their Canine Control and have in place strategies which see the promotion of responsible dog ownership.

In closing, I wish to thank the Member Clubs for their consideration and hospitality as extended to my wife Frances and myself during our visits. I would like to thank Frances for her undying support and understanding. It is important to realise the sacrifice our partners and families make that allow us to follow a passion and do much work at their expense in our positions.

I again 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 Tantara*

President



# A MESSAGE from Vince

***I am pleased to inform the membership that the Annual General Meeting saw direct representation by all Member clubs, except for GSDC of Northern Territory who, for practical reasons, have resigned from the Council. This Club has a proud history of supporting the GSD in what was originally, a very remote part of Australia for some 30+ years and, despite suffering from a moving population, was able for many of those years to promote the ideals of this Council, conduct Breed Surveys, conduct training and promote the GSD in times of much prejudice against our breed.***

I would like to thank the many members of this Club who were dedicated and committed to the GSD but note the commitment of Margaret Adams over the last few years, who has tried to keep the Club alive. It is indeed sad that due to the lack of members and workers that the Club has folded (may apply to be reinstated in the future) however its proud history is not forgotten.

I was indeed heartened by the attitude of Club delegates in the manner in which the business of the meeting was conducted and I again thank all who contributed to the meeting, and note that there is a sense of renewed idealism and a belief we must promote this in order for our organisation to further progress. The smaller Clubs are positively seeking the opinions of their membership and looking at the bigger picture. I did make mention of idealism at the meeting, and can only reiterate that whilst self interest must be served, as it is an inherent behavioural trait of all, of the boundaries set by the ideals we follow: in our case it must be the German Shepherd Dog that must always be the winner! We cannot afford members with inflated ego's who have lost the true reason of why we are involved and so passionate about the GSD and this sport.

As a result of the election process, I am able to report that Val Moody, Secretary and Melanie Groth as NBC Chairperson were appointed unopposed and that Julie Urie was elected Obedience Chairperson.

I have already mentioned the fact that Joylene standing down has given the opportunity for a 'new face', and in this instance is one who has never served the Council at this level before, to lead the National Breed Commission. Melanie brings many skill sets and a dedication to the breed that will further develop the NBC. It must be noted that the transition of the affairs of this position has been seamless and thank Joylene for her unselfish and friendly cooperation in the handover.

We welcome Julie back to the role she held when I first was elected in 2012. I look forward to Julie further developing this role and interacting directly with Member Clubs to progress obedience / training initiatives, which will have positive impact to ensure responsible dog ownership.

Our common goal as owners, breeders, conformation and or obedience enthusiast, must be to have well adjusted, friendly and trained GSD's out in the community. With this in mind the meeting discussed the fact that we continue to have, apart from what is now in place a voluntary CWA, no working test for animals that are presented to GSDCA Breed Survey. I have heard criticism from the conformation fraternity that current training methods are not conducive to these members undertaking training their dogs to a level that will see them qualify for an ANKC Obedience Title. This mindset negates the fact that in all we do the 'missing' brick is in fact that dogs used for breeding do not need to prequalify by having an obedience title. This and other conceived 'character- working' ability type 'test' up until the acceptance of the

GSDCA CWA have been rejected many times over the 50+ years since the Council was formed.

We have a culture that has dictated the fraternity sees no need to introduce such a pre-qualification in order for any animal to qualify to be presented to GSDCA Breed Survey. The time however has come, and earnest discussion and consideration of introducing such a qualification, be it CCD/ Novice/ Endurance/ Agility / Tracking or other title, must be had.

My opinion is that the easiest path to achieve this is to introduce an ANKC Obedience Title; be it CCD/ Novice/ Endurance/ Tracking/ Agility as prequalification for Breed Survey. We cannot continue to blame the system as it is now in place. How I train my dog to get there is my problem, and therefore being critical of training methods, as employed by our Member Clubs is no longer an excuse! If as a Council, we decide method's as employed by our Member Clubs, are antiquated and out of step with what is happening in the world, then we work as a collective and introduce training methods which can be adopted nationally and produce an end product that is a well-adjusted companion animals that will add further credit to the breed.

I would like to acknowledge the work and commitment of John DeLucia who, as outgoing Obedience Chairperson over the past 4 years, has contributed positively to all matters before the Council and has overseen the introduction of the GSDCA CWA. Thank you John!

The major achievement of the meeting was the acceptance of the GSDCA Breed Surveyor Service Agreement by the Council. For many of us this is indeed a long overdue achievement and finally has fulfilled the wish of the membership to hold a very important element of the leadership / peer group to account. Further, having achieved this has fulfilled one of the major concerns as expressed at the 2012 GSDCA Forward Directions workshop and last years GSDCA Breed Survey Forum.

A number of matters were discussed under General Business and have gone forward as 60 day motions. I can report that these motions were discussed in earnest and therefore ask that you please attend your Club meetings where they will be decided on. Further I can only again emphasise the need for members to be an integral part of the decision making process that sees items progressed at a national level.

A comprehensive report was given by the GSDC Qld regarding their planning and preparation for the coming GSDCA National GSD Show & Trial to be conducted 19, 20 & 21 May 2017. I can assure all that this small Club has thought big and no doubt this National will for not want for anything. I urge all to enter and or attend what is our showcase event of the year and look forward to seeing many of you there!

It is indeed with sadness that I inform you all that Jan Strahan, a past long time Secretary of the GSDC of South Australia passed away after a long suffering illness. Jan was a very hardworking and committed member of her Club and proud supporter of the GSDCA and GSD. On behalf of the Member Clubs and Executive I extend our sincere condolences and sympathy to her husband Lyle and his family, Joylene Neddermeyer and her nephew Martin Neddermeyer. Rest in Peace Jan.

As always, I may be contacted on 0402 145 184 to discuss any matter of concern you may have.

*Vince Tantara*

President



## To the GSD fraternity,

Well my tenure as NBC Chair has come to a close. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support to the position of NBC Chair since my election in 2001.

It has been an honour and privilege to serve the GSDCA Member Clubs, the breeders and owners of German Shepherd Dogs in Australia to ensure the further development of the breed.

Currently a number of major states are introducing major legislative changes which will have a dramatic impact on the way we will be able to keep and breed our animals. The anti-dog lobby is very vocal and it is important that we have a united front in promoting our breed as sound in body and mind and a responsible member of the community.

The GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes are paramount to achieve this aim.

Thank you once again for your support and I wish you all the very best in your future breeding program.

Best wishes

*Joylene Heddermeyer*

## GSDCA DOG DATABASE UPDATE

The GSDCA Dog Database has been available to members of the GSD Clubs throughout Australia, since 1st January 2015.

This is controlled by passwords allocated to the GSDCA Member Clubs, which they will distribute to their financial members. The passwords will change every year in line with the Club financial year. If you do not have the password please contact your Club Membership Officer or Secretary.

Since the last update there have been a couple of recent changes to the GSDCA Dog Database:

### Breed Survey Database

Since 1st September 2016 Breed Surveyors have access to the database to enter the results of dogs that they have surveyed. It is anticipated that this will assist in speeding up the turn-around on the Breed Survey Certificates, however all paperwork and especially PHOTO's must be forwarded to the NBC Chair before the certificate can be issued, and the results viewed on the Database.

### Search option by Sire and Dam

At the 2016 AGM a motion was carried to include additional search options for the members of the GSDCA.

Therefore we have now introduced the search options by sire and dam on data from the GSDCA HD/ED Control Scheme and the GSDCA Breed Survey scheme.

You will notice where there are less than 10 results in the HD/ED screen, the following CAUTION will be displayed, because the small sample size may not be representative of the sire/dam.

**CAUTION:** The below information contains less than 10 animals through the GSDCA HD/ED Control Scheme. Because of the statistically small sample, extreme care must be taken when considering this data, as it may not be representative of the Sire/Dam. No firm conclusions should be formed in relation to this Sire/Dam until at least 10 results are available.

### Do you have a question?

The information contained in the database has been collated with a great level of care, however if you believe there has been any error or omission, please email your concerns to [database@gsdcouncilaustralia.org](mailto:database@gsdcouncilaustralia.org) along with the appropriate supporting documentation.

Visit the database <http://database.gsdcouncilaustralia.org>

*Frank Moody*

GSDCA Database Coordinator





*Following is a presentation by Jo Cathie written in communication with Heather Macdonald for delivery in Australia in 2016 to the GSDL of NSW and now in 2017 has been updated for presentation to the GSDC of Victoria. It is based on a previous 'meet the breeder' idea for 'Our Dogs' newspaper in the UK. It is written and was presented as an 'interview' between friends, which encouraged further discussion and interaction from those wishing to learn more about the emergence of a small hobby kennel from the UK, onto the main stage in Europe from a highly regarded breeder and specialist judge.*

## Breaking Through..... The European Way

### Introduction

In the modern history of the development of the German Shepherd Dog in the UK, the achievements of the kennel of husband and wife team Heather Macdonald and David Greer, are nothing short of exceptional by anyone's standards. When one considers that their prefix was only registered in 1999, their record, of 14 UK Champions and one Jamaican champion over just 16 years cannot be argued with. I should perhaps first cover here the much asked question about pronunciation! The kennel name has tripped up the most eloquent of English speakers, to say nothing of what it does to the Germans, the Dutch and the Belgians. That's because the word is as Scottish as Heather herself is. The correct pronunciation is 'Conbhairean' (CON-A-VAR-EN), it is the name of a Scottish 'munro' - or little Scottish mountain, and its meaning in our native celtic language, Gaelic is 'keeper of the hounds'.

Conbhairean are one of only a few UK kennels who have foraged into mainland Europe and they are one of even fewer who have been truly successful in doing so. BSZS V4 Uno, the highest ever placed UK bred GSD in Germany, has a simply outstanding record. He has also presented several progeny groups in Germany making this UK bloodline unique there.

Irish Siegerin Ginger vd Maleiche, UK Siegerin VA1 C.Quella, UK Vise Sieger VA2 C.Quantum, UK Vise Sieger VA2 C.Bazi, and Norwegian Sieger VA1 C.Uno bring the European Sieger show tally to quite a high and in 2015 young C.Karlos took out the UK and Netherlands Young Sieger titles as well as the UK's national challenge and BIS, on his way to BSZS SG13, bettered only for Heathers kennel by Uno's previous SG5.

Add this BSZS success to previous SG18 with Quella, two SG22s Freddie and Xara, an SG24 (Gio)... Well you get the picture.... for me consistency is and has always been this kennels hallmark.

There were essentially only two foundation bitches, the original **Mascani Holly** and the clever addition of a German female in **Ginger vd Maleiche** after a couple of years, and 16 years and 14 champions later they remain the basis for all of the kennels winners. For 2017 however, Vesna Bad Boll a daughter of VA Schuman v Tronje has been introduced as only the third new breeding line.



KENNEL GROUP WIN 2013 UK SIEGER (Ch Erica, Ch Gabriella, Ch Waro, Ch Freddie and Indi)

By combining these proven producing bitch lines with the top German / European sires, their attainments are there for all to see and their true grit and determination mirrors their achievements. They are realistic in their approach to their breeding and very grounded. And despite my having whiled away many an hour chewing the fat with the fabulous Irish character that is her husband David Greer, I am immensely proud to call this lady, my best friend.

These questions have been answered by a top breeder, an excellent judge, and a shrewd manager.....Heather Macdonald.

We prepared several questions for Heather to answer as fully as she could - (these are written in bold), and presented them initially in NSW and later in Victoria. We invited further questions and discussion from the floor and where applicable these are shown below in italics from the NSW presentation.

### Breeding:

**'You've said before many times that you were very lucky with your choice of foundation female... Mascani Holly.**

**How did you decide on her first mating to the UK stud dog Gayvilles Fanto? At that early stage were there people advising you and discussing the mating?'**

Very quickly we learnt the value of a strong foundation bitch line. We studied the few top kennels at that time and looked at their bitch lines and what they produced. It was a fairly logical decision to select the top winning and extremely successful GAYVILLE kennel as one with a true foundation in its top winning female line. Once we decided that, we then needed to find a suitable male from this line and hence our choice - GAYVILLES FANTO, as son of the famous UK Breed Record Holder CH GAYVILLES NILO.

There were a few people trying to advise us and not always for the best on reflection. The people we were associated with were not so keen on our choice of stud as he was a very medium size medium strong male... but he was absolutely correct in all departments and free from any exaggerations. The other issue was that by now a few bad hips had come through from Nilo but we had done our homework with regard to this, researching the female line... and five siblings from Fanto had all been scored and were excellent so we knew he was not a one off.



MASCANI HOLLY AT CONBHAIREAN

**'When the mating produced the excellent siblings ALEXIS and ARIO how did you go about deciding on their management?'**

With using GAYVILLES FANTO, this introduced us to David and Joan Hall who were very supportive of our litter as at the time it was only the second litter on the ground from the dog, and they were delighted that we had had the faith to use him. Initially Davy Hall had offered to handle them, but a few weeks before ALEXIS turned six months a lovely young man came to me and asked if he could handle her. I discussed with Davy Hall and he agreed that for the best dogs you want the best handlers and I will always remember Davy saying "if he's handling yours, he's not handling another good one against you" (because inevitably the best handlers have the pick of the best dogs!)

Wise words indeed from a master in his day. Thereafter ALEXIS and ANDREW CONNOLLY formed a formidable partnership throughout her very successful career and that was the start of a wonderful partnership between us with a number of dogs over the years and he is still one of our regular handlers now.



UK CH  
CONBHAIREAN  
ALEXIS

**'Generally speaking, how do you choose a stud dog for your bitches? Do you have any absolute rules? Type to type? Look at the progeny, or would you use an unproven dog? What are the key factors?'**

Firstly, I believe that in order to be a successful breeder, you MUST know and recognise the faults in your own dogs! We absolutely and always have done what we believe are complimentary matings and we have never really deviated from the same process in choosing and it has worked well for us. The dog must possess a quality which the bitch needs, clearly we look behind the male, so as to ensure that it is not a 'flake' (a one off) or is not typical of its breeding, because in my experience these types, no matter how good they are themselves, do not produce!

That's the simplistic answer, but we of course also strongly consider character, health, workability... these things even more so now as we have progressed. The dog himself must be healthy, and titled. I would not accept a NOCH ZUGELASSEN (German grade meaning 'not recommended') for hips or elbows (perhaps in an exceptional female, but not in a male) and now I am looking at those also x-rayed for LUW and OCD.

We have used numerous unproven dogs over the years and I actually take great satisfaction in using a dog and seeing it go on to become a top dog and producer... but I hope that I don't need the dog to prove this to me before I can see its potential.

Remember... no stud dog is a miracle worker, so be realistic in your expectations.

**Helen Squires asked : What tests do you do with your dogs? And do you test for PD?**

Obviously hips and elbows (among the first to regularly score elbows in the UK), haemophilia for the males, until recently not DM but we have tested for this with LUW and OCD in the more recent dogs. Regards testing for DM... I am not totally convinced about this. I have seen dogs tested clear who later develop DM.

Regarding PD, we have tested, though generally only if I had reason to be concerned after hearing something about similar lines.

**Jackie Fabian asked Heather about LUW/OCD testing, to clarify what this is :**

Screening for OCD involves x-ray examination of the lumbar spine and LUW involves x-ray of the pelvic 'winged area' for bone fusion. These appear to be becoming a huge problem in the breed, seen in the animals themselves most often as 'dead tails'. As of last year OCD and LUW scoring has become mandatory in Germany, for example at the first multiple stud regulation check. The owner is given the result but at the moment results are not published. This will undoubtedly come though and be made public as HD and ED are.

**Jackie asked : Do a lot of German stud dogs disappear after the 30 stud regulation check?**

ah... One or two.

**Andrew Komolos asked : Do you know of any particularly famous dog who has or had LUW?**

I would not like to name names but there are well discussed suspected cases, yes.

**'You have also had several stud dogs, differing in character and weight of use of course, including the imports Quiro Deutcherrenhof, Watz Neudenauer-Holzsteige and Carlos SudheimerLinde, and homebred VA Bazi, Ch Waro , Ch Gio, Ch Freddie and young Karlos. What additional or differing care do you give the active or indeed potential stud dog, and have you put limitations on any of your dogs use?'**

(Jo pointed out here that unlike Europe, in the UK dogs with high hip scores and poor elbow results, white dogs, blue dogs, brown dogs, all can be placed on the Kennel Club register, even among accredited breeders, so any restrictions come from the breeders and owners themselves.)

To be honest, nothing at all. They are treated no differently to the others. Yes, with young males I wouldn't get them into trouble for showing an interest in bitches nearing season etc, I usually gently move them away and never chastise them. So long as a dog is having a balanced, healthy diet of good quality and they are fit there is no need to add or do, anything else in my opinion. With regard to limitations, we do restrict how many studs may come in the first few months so as not to overdo it and of course we will only allow suitably bred females with appropriate health tests and good character. I wouldn't let females with any breed survey disqualifying faults use my dogs, even if the UK Kennel Club doesn't enforce ANY restriction.



VA CONBHAIREAN  
BAZI



**On the subject of Breed Survey, do you feel that a breed survey should be at any time compulsory? - whether for breeding animals, or for competing in the open class (this in countries like Australia of course is the closest equivalent to the 'working class' in Europe, but for the working qualifications) or to achieve a VA or Merit award? How much weight do you give a countries breed survey?**

A breed survey is only as good as the individual doing the survey. People need to be honest about the dogs - not destroy them, but be honest about their failings and their virtues. There is no perfect dog that I have ever seen, but that doesn't mean that many of them don't have much to offer. At the moment, all over the world, and I include Germany, the written survey often does not reflect the dog in front of you. If we can fix this and instil some integrity in the system then I fully support surveys without classification 1 or 2, they are either good enough to gain a pass or they are not. I do think that a breed survey should be compulsory in breeding stock, even if simply to ensure suitable health tests are in place. 'Something is better than nothing.'

**'Progression and drive have been evident since very early on in your careers... You travelled to Germany to use the Sieger Larus von Batu, then ultimately using Ursus von Batu for just your THIRD home bred litter. What made you decide to head to Europe so soon in your career when so many British breeders NEVER do it?'**

Right from our first titled female ALEXIS in 2003, I was absolutely hooked on the German System in terms of breeding requirements, rules and regulations. I just thought 'this is the standard I want to adhere to' and we have done, ever since.

It started in 2001 on my first 'dog related' visit to Germany with friends. We were invited through them to a few kennels and clubs and I was in absolute awe of these clubs and the dogs working there, in fact, the entire set up. When we came back, that was it... I contacted people in Germany to say I was interested in having ALEXIS titled and that also set us on the path to showing at the German Sieger Show. We also purchased the German female Ginger von der Maeliche around the same time. Ginger went on to make V12 at the German Sieger show and was also Irish Siegerin.

**'How did you arrange the stud with Ursus, and what was it like to venture to use a Sieger when you were essentially still very 'green'?**

A friend in Germany who was an SV judge helped us arrange it. It was very exciting to venture to Germany to do a mating for the first time. We actually went to use the Sieger LARUS BATU but he wouldn't mate the female 😊 so, change of plan!



DOUBLE SIEGER URSUS VON BATU

**'How important do you think producing ability is for a top dog? Are you in agreement that an anatomically superior male should provide a group to attain VA, and a true VA must improve on its production potential to return in the VA group, or are the best anatomical dogs worthy of VA regardless of trends in usage, in your opinion?'**

It is a MUST for me. No matter how beautiful a dog is... if they don't produce then for me, it's all a bit pointless. I am very much of the German mentality on this issue.

Yes I agree that VA dogs should produce a group to get the grade... and they SHOULD continue to improve each year in quantity of quality in order to maintain their status. This is something that has not necessarily been happening across the board in recent years. I don't think that any male is worthy of VA without a progeny group and clear acceptance by the breeders. We have seen this happen in recent years with clearly inferior dogs and dogs maintaining VA status without making much if any real impact in production. Lothar Quoll has now changed this by ruling that no male will be promoted to the VA group without presenting a suitable progeny group.

**Jackie Fabian asked : Why do you think some dogs are now not getting their allowance of ninety studs? Is corruption ruining the breed?**

The decline in the breed is worldwide...there are a lot of factors. The ninety studs are split 60 Germany : 30 ausland. They can change the ratio to have more than 30 ausland, but they may not go over 60 studs in Germany. Fewer bitches going to the males means that now the countries outside Germany have greater access to the dogs/bloodlines as owners strive to fill the studs.

(Jo pointed out that on her most recent judging trip to the UK her principal winner was a VA Djambo daughter, two class winners were from VA Willas Grafenbrunn and one from VA Yankee among other lines represented. It is amazing to see this sort of availability as Europe (and the world) grow ever smaller, just a couple of years ago this wouldn't have been imagined)

**Andrew Komolos asked : Isn't there something wrong with the system? Because a good dog who mates 300 bitches will produce, not only if he is VA. Aren't the VAs getting the lions share and stopping others producing who perhaps could?**

Simply... yes, to some degree that's true. Lothar Quoll is trying to open this up to other dogs/other lines by actively seeking alternatives and NOT promoting to the VA group in the first year at stud.

**'In the years since you started attending the Sieger show, who have been the sires to convince you the most. And I guess here, perhaps you can name your pick of dogs and bitches, those most memorable and why?' (You can chose from any country)**

Convincing sires - URSUS BATU for the strong male line and ESKO DANISCHEN HOF for females. VEGAS, ZAMP, QUENN, REMO, all have had a huge influence and are now truly the four main modern sire lines.



VA ESKO DANISCHEN HOF

# BREED notes

What a nightmare question to try to pick a best dog and bitch.... For what...??? Showing? Producing?

Ursus springs to mind as he was a beautiful, strong, sumptuous bear of a dog with a huge head! A phenomenal performer. A real stallion of a male with a character and attitude to match.... and he was so, so dominant.... But of course, on reflection, this super dominance can also be a little negative as his own faults are also passed again and again. Nowadays, I think I would see him as TOO MUCH, as he had excess of so many virtues. Vegas and Zamp without a doubt stand out as TRUE VAs. Vegas more for his unbeatable showmanship, though he was a bit overdone in the hindquarters... he really was the ultimate showman, and ZAMP although a bit more workmanlike in his performance stands out because of his phenomenal anatomical excellence.

ESKO anatomically is perhaps the best of them all, though some would say that he didn't really produce as there were no super sons, but he has produced so many, beautiful, clean, anatomically excellent females who have shown such clear ability to produce on that has more than proven himself.... He remains one of the only dogs I truly regret not using when I had the chance.

For the future Djambo, Willas, Gary Huhngrab (an Omen son) Willy, Cronos, Whillo Klostermoor and Marlo are looking particularly positive as producers, as are Hugo Radhaus and Hugh Eichenplatz.

In females a real stand out for me was CHIPSI VAN DE HERDERSFARM a paling black and gold, stretched female, around at a time when no-one was quite as well pigmented as the dogs are now. She was normal withered and with a huge head, she was totally correct in her angulation and her movement was simply outstanding!



VA CHIPSI VAN DE  
HERDERSFARM

TABATA DU VAL D'ANZIN the Ursus daughter was just an awesome machine! Unfortunately, even with her own strength and incredible pigment she never really produced anything of note either.

KARMA OCHSENTOR has to go down as the greatest brood... she isn't hard to find in the close generations of the top dogs! Her performance was a sort of female equivalent to Vegas!

**Andrew Komolos asked : Most VAs are beautiful, but aren't the best being sold to China, what do you think?**

They were, but things are changing there – Did China really know how to use these dogs? Recently Luciano and Heinz Sheerer are making a difference there. Top dogs, from the top lines, are now beginning to appear out of China. They are competing with Chinese bred dogs at the highest level in Germany now. As they work out how to put what they have to use, there is less rush to buy dogs and more emphasis on breeding. Ahead of several top German VA males, this years Chinese sieger was Chinese bred.

**Heather was asked what she thought of Groovy.**

Groovy is an OUTSTANDING showman! He has been trained to perfection in Italy. When you see him, you think 'WOW' – he is however, rather 50:50 in depth, the upper arm is slightly short and could be better angled and he has a lot of hindquarter angulation. The progeny so far are good, but... I'm yet to be blown away.

## Breeding on and Showing.

**'You used Nando Gollerweiher on Alexis, before he made VA and produced what is arguably one of the most influential litters in the UK to date.**

**(For those who don't know, ... The litter produced Linzi who went on to produce BSZS V4 Uno, Jamaican Ch Ussi and in germany the excellent male Addy Finkenschlag, From Uno comes sibling Chs Freddie and Fanta both of whom have championship show winning progeny from the earliest litters. Linzi's sister Champion Leska has produced VA Bazi and two sets of sibling champions in Gio and Gabriella and Winnie and Waro. Waro has gone on to produce Champions himself and heavily influence the breed in the UK and Ireland and Bazi and Gio also both have winning progeny. Lauser the double UK LSH Sieger is also from this litter and semen imported here to Australia has already produced super progeny – most notably perhaps Eroica Duchess of York, a double national winner) So Heather, at what point did you realise that this mating had truly 'clicked.'**

Fairly early on as puppies to be honest. They were just special pups. We had to hand rear them as ALEXIS was ill. At about 5-6 weeks old we could see that these were pups of amazing quality. We kept two females and a male. At 5 or 6 months it was clear they were very special.



VA NANDO GOLLERWEIHER



UNO



CH LESKA



CH GIO

**'How was the journey toward making up Leska, your second champion, in comparison to making up Alexis... Were you any wiser? 😊 and was the quality of this litter what made you decide to try exhibiting in Europe or were you already looking for something good enough to give it a try?'**

The journey with LESKA was probably a little easier as we knew better what to expect and we had the experience of mistakes made with ALEXIS. The willingness to show, coupled with quite outstanding movement made every show with LESKA a total pleasure. We had already shown ALEXIS and then the URSUS siblings COUGAR and CONNIE, and Karats Yoker daughter ERIN in Germany, not forgetting



GINGER VD MALEICHE, so we already had the bug big style by the time we were showing the K and L litters... though clearly apart from GINGER who made V12 at the BSZS, with limited success in those days.

**Peta Norris asked : Do you train for schutzhund yourself or send your dogs away to trainers in Germany?**

Both, but we will get to that shortly.

**'How do you prefer to socialise young dogs?**

**(Heather and Dave live in a little Scottish cottage on the exposed side of a hill in the middle of nowhere.... I should add, having lived there for a while, they also have their own personal little raincloud which sits above the cottage and gardens!)**

Socialising for me is the single most important thing after good anatomical virtues in terms of what we keep. It is an absolute must to invest the time as youngsters! I start as little whelps with our 'puppy CD' every day in life, louder and louder and the radio is on in the kennels all day every day. I get lots of people in to see and play with them and mix them with the older dogs I can trust. They go to shops, clubs, vets, onto busy streets, to schools where possible. They see other dogs and animals and everything else we can expose them to. I never force puppies. I expose and let them figure it out themselves with encouragement. Over the years we have realised that being involved in IPO requires the best of characters to be successful. (The 'puppy cd' is a lengthy CD of recorded trains, horns, animals, voices, drills, bangs, whistles etc which is designed to desensitise puppies to loud or unusual noises, albeit everyday sounds



A BABY IN A 'PETS AT HOME' SUPERSTORE ENJOYING SOME IPO TRAINING

**'At what age do you prefer to begin actual show training with a young dog? And how? All since of your dogs have, and to show in Europe need, IPO qualifications so at what point do you begin IPO training and what form does this take?'**

I don't worry about show training so much with baby puppies. If its summer they may get a little turn around a ring but in winter then it won't be until they are at least five to six months and then we usually start with forest work, getting the dog to search for you while on the line teaching the dog to work with his backside down and head up looking for you. When we occasionally do ring training it's a little bit the same with the owner hiding and calling and moving around.

IPO training starts from the moment they can walk, playing with the puppies and getting them used to holding and carrying things calmly without chewing, tugging with a calm bite and from six weeks onwards food rewards for sits and backward downs, stays and recalls. By ten to twelve weeks they are going around objects and doing luring with food. This clearly progresses from there onwards and at ten to twelve weeks I introduce baby tracks using sent pads and doing ten to twelve footsteps increasing every week. Food in every footstep and an article at the end of every little track right from the start.

**How does training for IPO progress as the dog gets older and more advanced?**

Everything is much the same as training progresses but we do more of it and for longer periods. In phase A for tracking and obedience I use food in every step until around twelve months so that the dog never gets it wrong. During this phase I introduce corners and snakes and articles on the track as opposed to just at the end and also during this phase other people will lay my track for me, to better test the dog.

In phase B from around six to seven months we start to move the dogs into positions from luring out wide and pushing the dog to work for longer periods before reward. We use mini hides to increase learning and jumps at one bar as well as the A frame in the flat position (as a breeder I am not keen on using these until they are over 12 months old) We introduce working under distraction while other dogs are working on the field to teach focus.

In phase C we do initial puppy ragging until they begin teething and getting the bark then we do nothing until their adult teeth are in. I do however let them watch. Once the teeth are in we will progress with the protection phase onto larger sleeves, coming into the hide, the hold and bark, and then around twelve months we introduce the call out of the hide and escape and thereafter in progressive steps the entire routine. The side transport the back transport etc. We work very hard on the control in this phase as the dog is working in high drive and if you're not careful the control can go out of the window!!



**'How much time do you devote to IPO training, and do you particularly enjoy one or other of the three disciplines? (Tracking, Obedience and Bitework)'**

As much time as I possibly can. Its extremely difficult when showing and working your own dogs and this is the reason why some of our dogs once prepped with the basics go to Germany to complete their titles with trainers. In the summer I train at the club Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings and on weekends if I'm not at a show. In the winter we train all weekend and occasionally if I can wangle an afternoon off. I will also train at home particularly with puppies. I particularly enjoy tracking with my dogs, though I enjoy all phases I am a tracking addict!



HEATHER WITH SITA HAVING JUST PASSED HER BH TEST

**'How does exhibiting in Europe differ from exhibiting at the UKs larger breed shows? Are there differences in your preparation and management of the dogs?'**

It differs greatly. The dogs must be fitter without a doubt for Europe. You get away with nothing in Europe. I'm sure you guys put in extra effort for your National than you do for a local breed show. The dogs must present themselves with a clear desire to work in Germany. They must be untiring and in vital condition, here while I may risk showing in lesser coat condition locally, I would never take any risk in my preparation for a large Landesgruppen show or a Sieger event.

**'If we take a single dog for example, in the height of the show season, what is a normal week like for a busy young Conbhairean? How much fitness, work, training and play is scheduled for a normal week?'**

Ok, at the height of the show season it might be a bit manic....

A rough guide for a dog heading to a big show might be:

Monday - day off - in field playing and chasing balls.

Tuesday - sled work - IPO training- play

Wednesday - biking - IPO training - play

Thursday - sled work - IPO training - play

Friday - swimming - play

Saturday- biking- IPO - play

Sunday - forest work - IPO - Play

(If there is an opportunity on the weekend we will add ring work)

The big theme throughout our training is reward. Every hard session must end with reward, praise and play. This makes the difference between the dog HAVING to do things and WANTING to do things.



*A youngster swimming for fitness.*

**'How big a role do you feel nutrition plays in show ring preparation. You feed one of the excellent super premium dry foods, though I know you feed raw to several too.'**

**What's the difference and why have you made these changes?'**

Nutrition plays a huge part, right from puppyhood. I always say, you get out what you put in. Food is the dogs fuel.... No fuel or poor quality fuel = less or no energy.

I feed a top quality complete food and chose to feed raw to two of the dogs. Each dog is individual and had individual needs and so I feed what is best suited to the dog. I must be honest and say that I was not a big fan of feeding raw before, but a pre-prepared complete raw produce was recommended and having decided to try it on a couple of our dogs, I must say, they loved it and their condition was fabulous with much less hair loss. This type of feeding is a bit more difficult when travelling in the way we often do.

**What supplements if any, have you used over the years and have you found any particularly effective?**

Over the years, like most people, I have tried many.... Do they work?? I'm not convinced. You can't beat good food and a good lifestyle with plenty of exercise. Currently I give salmon oil as an addition to the raw fed dogs and vitamin C to all puppies.



*Ch VA Quella*

**'What's next Heather? What new goal have you perhaps privately set yourself or your dogs, or what are you working on? (You can tell us and we'll keep it secret 😊)'**

I am always setting myself new goals. I would love to breed or even own a German VA. I certainly don't have the money to buy one so I guess I'll just have to keep trying hard to breed one.

I know it's highly unlikely with a male, even though Uno was near enough to see them close up, but I would be happy with a female! This is the main ambition of most breeders in Europe and the chances really are slim, but it doesn't stop me trying! The recent addition of the Ober Bad Boll line through a breeding female to our kennel, a line I have wanted to utilise for some time, will hopefully produce more moderately angled dogs with strong characters when combined with our own stock. Time will tell.

**'Heather what is your least favourite memory or 'worst' experience in dogs... Because let's face it, bad days happen to us all?'**

That's a fairly recent one.... FREDDIE failing his bitework at the 2015 BSZS was devastating. It was hard to take because he had already passed in 2014 and has always been a strong biter. We had done SO much training leading up to the Sieger to be ready for that unique atmosphere and intensity. I trained him at Bad Boll club in Germany with Sieger Show Helper Stefan Straub and Hans Peter Reiker as the 'judge' and then at Bendorf club in Germany in the days before the show, on a past Sieger Show helper with Christoph Ludwig as the 'judge' and he had 'aced it'. They were convinced we had nothing to worry about, but on the day, the very controversial techniques of the helpers weren't to FREDDIES liking and the rest is history. Maybe I have had worse days... but that one truly stung. The dog, like several others, was hit and hurt and that is NOT part of the courage test as we understand it, which essentially come from the dogs play drive and willingness to work. Freddie had had a strong run toward the Sieger in top company and I was looking forward to the end result.



*Ch Freddie*

**'And finally, your best or most memorable experience with dogs in the show ring or outside of showing?'**

I could say Gingers V12 OR Oscar (Conbhairean Uno's) SG5 here, but if I'm honest nothing has ever compared to the feeling of leading Oscar in his first progeny group in the stadium at the BSZS, it was exciting, exhilarating and emotional on a whole other level. An incredibly proud moment for us.





## To pexy or not to pexy? That is the question.

**Dr Candice Baker BSc BVMS**  
**GSDCA Breed Health & Welfare Committee Chair**

The question has been raised on numerous forums. Either, in conversation with an owner of a new GSD pup, at a dog show or on Facebook.

**“Should we have an elective gastropexy performed on our German Shepherd Dogs, or not? “**

This is particularly topical given Dr Claire Sharp's recent article on gastric dilation volvulus (GDV) or Bloat in the Spring 2016 edition of the Review.

For me, as an emergency veterinarian, gastric dilation volvulus (GDV), or bloat, is a very common problem presenting to our emergency treatment room floor. The dog arrives panting, stressed, painful, distended and often retching. Along with it's very distressed owner, either unsure of what is wrong at all, or very stressed at the thought of bloat and wondering if their beloved GSD will make it through emergency surgery to fix the problem.

As GSD owners, we can relate to the thought that we have seen it in multiple dogs of similar lineage. Furthermore, we could almost predict it, on a humid day where energy or possibly stress levels have been a tad higher than usual. But sometimes we can't predict a GDV and it WILL inevitably sneak up and rear its ugly head.

This, then brings us to a point. If we know there is such a high probability that one of our GSDs could succumb to bloat and have the potential to be life threatening, why not have a preventative surgery to, if nothing else, buy time for treatment and avoid the potentially life threatening component of bloat.

For each individual situation or dog, the main recommendation from a general practice veterinarian may be to perform a prophylactic gastropexy. This is when the stomach is stitched (sutured) to the body wall, preventing the stomach, and in turn, spleen and sometimes intestines from twisting. All dogs who succumb to GDV will have this performed as routine at time of emergency surgery. Doing this prophylactically may prevent bloat from becoming a true GDV. If an owner isn't home or awake to notice bloat occurring, it would give them time to get their dog to the vet for further assessment and treatment as required.

A laparotomy assisted (open abdomen) gastropexy could be performed during another elective or routine abdominal surgery, such as a spay or surgical insemination. Laparoscopic assisted gastropexy should only be done by very experienced veterinarians, whilst it is less invasive than a laparotomy, if the surgeon is not experienced the pexy site could fail.

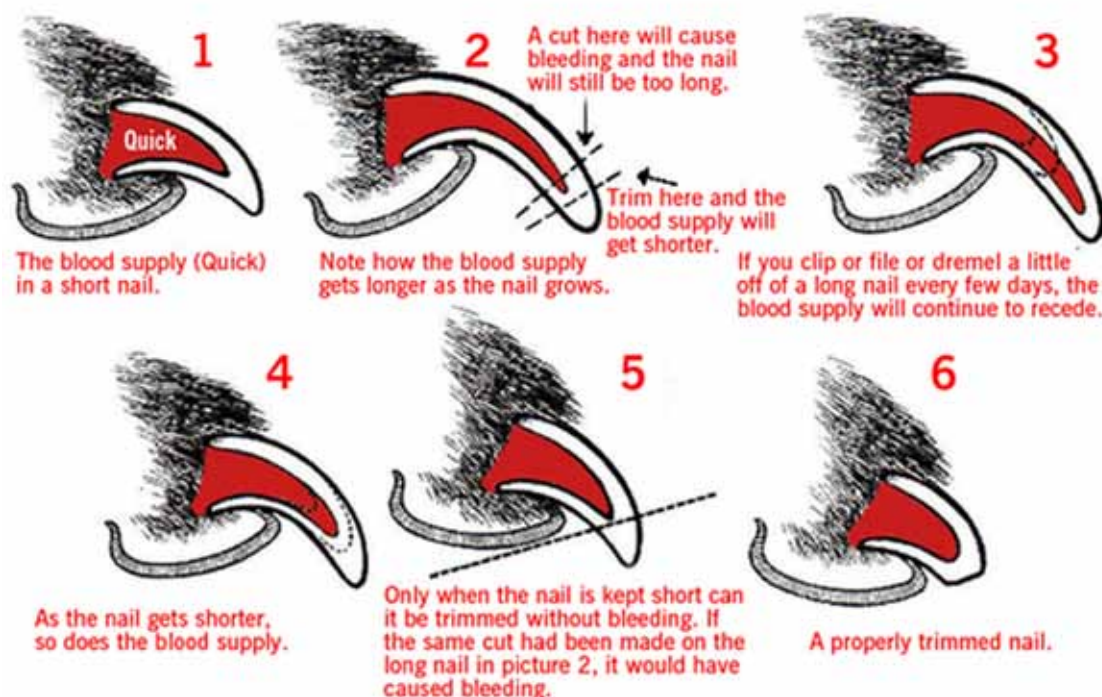
After discussion with many experienced breeder vets and specialist surgeons, there is a general consensus to recommend prophylactic gastropexys to at risk breeds. My personal opinion is also to perform it, but to wait until skeletal maturity if combined with any desexing procedure for many pet owners (ie; older than 12 months).

*Dr Candy Baker*

BSc BVMS

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## A Guide to Nail Trimming



## Preparing a Fit Dog

As we lead into the 2017 National in Queensland, we invited Michelle Mercieca to provide a brief on her preparations and what it takes to be ready when the time comes for your dog to shine in the ring. At the 2016 National, the Open bitch class run off was during the heat of the day, in high humidity. Michelle and her bitch were called out in the top group. As the class was run off, Michelle and her girl Bella kept performing. Called out 13th, there were cheers galore as they kept running and running and running! Up 2 places, next lap up another place, then another 2 more, more laps of the ring, then another after the final gaiting. It was hot just watching them, but they kept on going much to the crowds delight, to finish 7th and a coveted place on the pegs. All other things aside, their fitness preparation and training ensured that when needed, they could keep going and going and going!

### Preparing an Adult for Open Class, for Novice Exhibitors

By

*Michelle Mercieca*

If you are considering entering the National, but don't know where to start with your exercise regime for your open dog/bitch, here are some tips that have been successful for me.

Ideally, general fitness should be maintained throughout the non show period and intensified at least three months prior to the National to ensure that the dog competes at its physical peak.

In the lead up to the 2016 National our fitness program included a range of different activities which I have outlined below. As I both handle and train my own bitch I found this program kept her fit and motivated.

- **Walking** - 7 days a week 45 - 60 min per day, 365 days per year - This is walking and not working - just bonding time with my girl which is something that we both enjoy. By Open class the dog should understand how to work into a lead in the show ring and does not require extensive lap work around witches hats every day. Regular walking with your dog is something I would encourage on a daily basis. It keeps you both reasonably toned and encourages bonding. It will also help you to keep up with the endless double handling laps by giving you a basic level of fitness.

- **Biking** - 8 kilometres twice a week of cycling at around 11 kilometres per hour. I find that bike work is a great way to keep us both fit and keeps the dog at a speed that avoids pacing and hopefully encourages muscle memory for gaiting. Ensure that any biking is done somewhere safe and the bike is slowly introduced to the dog. Always keep an eye on the dog's pads to ensure that they are not being affected by the surface that they are being run on. Take a collapsible bowl and bottle of water in case the dog needs a drink along the way.

- **Swimming** - 30 minute session once or twice a week at an indoor dog lap pool. Introduce the dog to swimming at around 12 months but start the serious work as the dog gets older. Start by doing small number of laps. Take the dog out and walk around the pool for a lap and back in for another few laps. Continue to increase until the dog is capable of stretching it out to two sessions of 15 minutes each with a few minutes break in between. Always rinse the dogs coat afterwards as the chemicals can affect the dogs coat. Swimming is great for overall condition and toning.

- **Treadmill** - Running on a treadmill for 25 min at 8kms per hour twice a week. I keep the treadmill at this pace as I find any slower will drop my dog into a pace. The treadmill is number one on Bella's fun list and was certainly worth the investment.

- **Water Treadmill** - This is one of the best exercises you can do for targeted training and certainly does help with tightening hocks and elbows.

- **Off Lead running** - Utilise a secure enclosed off lead area to call the dog between two people so that it is galloping or throw a toy for the dog to chase which is both fun and great exercise. Running the dog up a hill is also a great work out.

Dietary needs will also need to be re considered due to the increase in energy output. I include a small amount of raw meat during this time to her normally dry food diet. Try to exercise in the cool of the morning or evening if possible particularly in the hotter months. It is also a good idea to have your dog seen by a dog physio or chiropractor to make sure that all the work is not making them sore.

Now the dog's fitness has been organised a game plan for double handling at the show needs to be prepared. Timing is extremely important. Many places have been won or lost dependant on where the owner has placed themselves when the judge is looking. Work out who the dog responds to the most and which corner they will cover before going into the ring. Some dogs respond better to the double handler running laps in front of them. This should be worked out before the day of the class. Have water for both the handler and the dog organised as well.

Showing a dog also means considering what the whole package looks like including coat and weight. Ideally, whatever variety you own, only present your dog in top coat condition. Patchy coat is not showing a dog to its best advantage. Ensure they are washed and groomed before the show and don't forget to clip toe nails. Make sure the dog is neither underweight nor overweight either. A skinny dog is not necessarily a fit dog.

The biking, swimming, and treadmill are excellent cardio work outs and should assist with the endurance necessary for these big shows. Please keep in mind though that the above 'program' is only suitable for adult dogs and definitely not young pups.

Ultimately we need to make any kind of fitness program that we prepare for the dog something that they enjoy which will be reflected in their attitude in the ring. Variety will keep it fun.

The National is our most prestigious show - let's present our dogs looking their best and be proud in the knowledge that we have prepared our dogs as best we can.

Good luck and see you at the National!





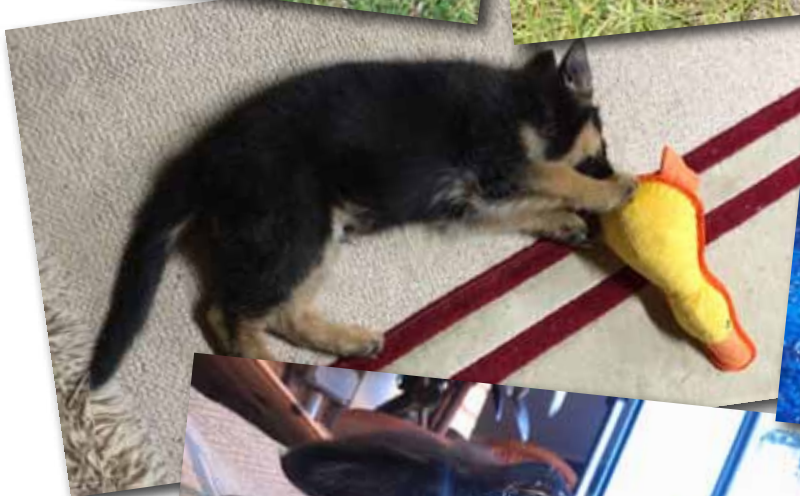
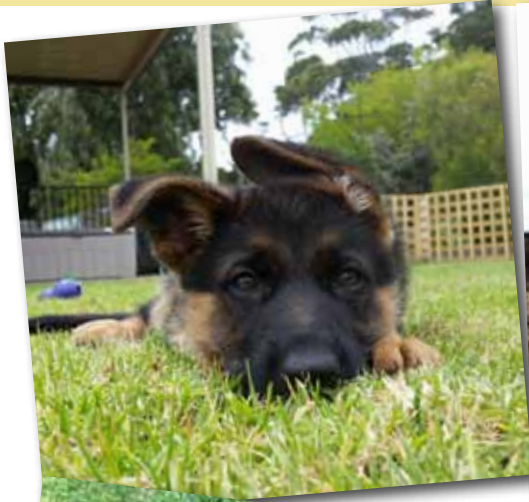
# PUPPY pictures

*Do you have a good story or a tale to tell ? We'd love to hear about it.  
Send it to us at [revieweditor@gsdcouncilaustralia.org](mailto:revieweditor@gsdcouncilaustralia.org)*



*Puppy Pics !*

*Thanks to our readers  
Judith Strachan for her  
pics of Mieke, Jade Evans  
and Raiden, Fran Farley  
with Drum, Fay Moffat  
with Broxi and Henryk  
Zakrzewski*





## Harald Hohmann Judge's Report

*Harald Hohmann was invited to judge the WA West Coast Challenge, the Victorian Championship and Working Dog Club Championship Show, then the New Zealand Championship Show in late October/November 2016. Harald has kindly provided an overall report of his views of the shows and the animals he judged, in order to provide us with breed guidance and a summation of virtues and faults. Thankyou to Harald, we know he and his wife Nicole thoroughly enjoyed their trip down under 😊*



Harald with some of the local wildlife in WA

### **Judges' Report on the conformation shows in Perth and Melbourne; Australia, and in Christchurch, NZ**

Dear ladies and gentlemen,

On Oct. 22nd and 23rd 2016, I judged in Perth, on Oct. 29th in Melbourne and on the 5th November in Christchurch, each time a conformation show for German Shepherd Dogs. My heartiest thanks for the invitation of the Australian and the New Zealand German Shepherd Dog Clubs! My wife and I have enjoyed our stay in these spectacular countries and express our sincere thanks for the outstanding hospitality that was offered to us everywhere.

#### **1. Conformation Show, Perth:**

As is customary in Australia, I have judged without knowledge of the catalogue ie the identity of the dogs entered.

This reveals advantages, but also disadvantages.

Without doubt this means there is much less to influence the judge, it must be taken into consideration however, that the judge is to give guiding advice in reference to positively influencing the breed, based on his experience as a breeder, and this is not possible in this manner. I have however within the framework of the discussions after the Conformation Show in Perth, pointed this out, and discussed it.

Ultimately I was delighted to see what a progressive breeding quality was to be found in Perth.

To a large extent the dogs judged by me were in the standard size and had a pleasing expression with the desired pigmentation. Herein one exception is to be mentioned: I repeatedly had to report on yellow to light eyes! This is definitely to be kept a watch on in this region. The overall harmony of the expression of our dog is dependent to a high degree on the colour of the eyes, which is why this aspect of pigmentation must not ever be neglected.

In respect to the head; a not inconsiderable number of wide set ears were to be noted. This too is to be given consideration under the aspect of expression!

The sexes of the dogs were clearly differentiated, where in the bitches were better placed in quality.

The exhibits had basically good structural proportions, where a tendency to being pronouncedly stretched was to be noted.

Very frequently I could confirm straight lines of support, especially in the front. That is to say that frequently dogs were stepping narrow behind, though the hock joints were with only a very few exceptions firm and not obviously faulted.

In the dogs especially, the chest proportions still need to be worked on. Relatively frequent short underchests, occasionally also shallow forechest were to be found.

In the overall picture I however I came to see harmonious dogs with good, typical GSD expression.

#### **2. Conformation Show, Melbourne:**

In Melbourne too I found a very pleasing entry. In the overall picture this show was similar to the previously described show in Perth, was however overall even more pleasing in quality.

What was striking in Melbourne, was that the clear differentiation between the sexes was to be noted and the anatomical prerequisites came a little closer still to the breed standard.

Specifically the harmony of structure, the body proportions, is found to be of a very pleasing quality in this region!

Predominately there were all colour variations with good pigmentation. Here the quality of the males was clearly more pleasing, which means that the variety of breeding partners in and around Melbourne, is made a little easier.

In connection with the angulations it may be found, that the dogs here, were noticeably a little deeper angled than in Perth, it is true though, that the hock joints also are to be described as firm in a great degree.



### 3. Conformation Show, Christchurch, NZ:

The event held in NZ on the 5.11.16 was also excellently organized and the ladies and gentlemen assistants in the ring have presented first class work.

Here too there was a surprising entry and the number of exhibited dogs was very high. The dog handlers stand out with praiseworthy sportsmanship.

The dogs in Christchurch were overall of a very good type and expression, leaned in part to a pronouncedly stretched structure and needed to be faulted very often in the region of the forequarter. Specifically the lay and length of the upper arm should be watched in the local breeding.

The flow of line in the front is in the main straight, behind, the dogs often step narrow. The hock joints are however in average sound and firm.

The differentiation of the sexes of the exhibited dogs was given, with the dogs in the younger classes, I often wished to see a little more strength of bone and more masculine heads.

#### To be noted / comments:

If you take the circumstances into consideration, of how far Australia and New Zealand are from the motherland of the German Shepherd Dog, the high anatomical quality established in these countries is quite noteworthy. This also with the background, that the import of dogs is very difficult and expensive, and the import of sperm from Germany is prohibited. It also stood out, that the dogs bred in Australia and New Zealand were, to a high degree of very positive character attribute and strength of nerve! And this, even though Performance Tests are as good as unknown or impossible because of the handicaps imposed by law!

Therefore I may express my compliments to the breeders, but also to the resident breed judges and Club officials. On this continent very productive work, serving to promote our dog, is accomplished.

In my ring there were always very competent stewards and helpers! I express great thanks for the always very friendly, but also absolutely expert manner with which I was supported during the judging! That was without exception always very friendly and for me, very helpful.

I wish the Australian and New Zealand breeding all the best and look forward to meeting all my acquaintances and friends in future, somewhere, in the best of health!

Hearty thanks for the out of the ordinary warm reception!!

*Harald Hohmann*

Translated by  
Honey Gross-Richardson  
ANKC/GSDCA Interpreter:

## DOGS IN WORDS

*My dog isn't  
spoilt. I'm just  
well trained.*

*Of course I talk to my dog  
Sometimes I need great advice*

*Home is where someone  
runs to greet you.*

*The windows aren't dirty...  
that's my dog's nose art.*

*The finishing touch to any  
outfit is dog hair.*

*Dogs leave paw  
prints on your heart...  
and on your floors.*











# DANCES WITH dogs

*I'd like you to consider a newer dog sport that has hit our shores! It's one on one with you and your dog. There are no set patterns or courses, there are no limitations on what you can come up with and you get to do it to a funky tune. Sound like fun?.... Why not consider DANCES WITH DOGS (DWD). Developed in the UK in the early 90's, the sport officially commenced in Australia in January 2009. The sport allows the dog and handler to perform a skilful, choreographed routine to a piece of music of their choice whilst demonstrating a high level of teamwork and of course spectator appeal.*

*There are two different categories within the sport Heelwork to Music (HTM) and Freestyle (FS).*

**Heelwork to Music** uses the foundation of traditional Obedience Heelwork with the inclusion of creative moves such as spins and leg weaves, to allow the dog to transition from one of the 8 positions to another. Throughout the routine the team aims to move to their interpretation of the music and maintain the same working distance between them with each heel position. The first level you compete in is STARTERS and requires around 4 different positions. Teaching your dog rear-end awareness (Box Work) definitely helps to master these new heel positions.

These are the eight positions that are recognised within HTM

			
Dog on handler's left, facing forward	Dog on handler's left, facing backward	Dog on handler's right, facing forward	Dog on handler's right, facing backward
			
Dog in front of handler, facing left	Dog in front of handler, facing right	Dog behind handler, facing left	Dog behind handler, facing right

© Paws N Music Association 2006



**Freestyle** requires less of a formal accuracy than HTM but still the unity of teamwork between the dog and handler. In the lower levels some moves that you usually see are spins, leg weaving, rolling and marching just to name a few. The dog does not need to be close to the handler at all times and can perform at a distance. Freestyle is usually a huge crowd pleaser as there are no compulsory moves so the handler can develop their routine to showcase their dog's individual strengths and omit moves that their dog may find difficult.



## Titles

To earn titles in both **HTM** & **FS** you must earn 3 passes. You are scored by a panel of 3 judges and must score a minimum 45 out of a possible 60 from at least 2 of the judges. Teams are scored on Teamwork, Choreography, Accuracy, Flow, Interpretation of music, Costumes and degree of difficulty. Titles to compete in are Starters, Novice, Intermediate, Advance and Champion. At starters level the music must be a minimum 1 minute long.

## Music and Costumes

What makes a good routine a great routine?..... Music and the Theme! The choreography of course is important but having a great song and backing it up with a costume or prop really does enhance the overall performance and spectator appeal. Handlers are encouraged to wear fancy elaborate costumes whilst dogs are allowed to have decorative themed collars or scarfs.





# DANCES WITH dogs



## Requirements to Compete

This sport is suitable for dogs of any breed or size over the age of 12mths. All routines are preformed off lead. It can be quite daunting dancing to music with your dog in a room full of strangers. One thing you see at these trials is lots of nervous handlers but even more happy dogs. Dogs love dancing because you can talk to them during the routine, the tricks are exciting to learn and perform and as a sport, **IT'S SO MUCH FUN!**

## My Personal Experience

I first gave dancing a go in 2014. My German Shepherd Lexy (Awatea Jail Bait CD RE HT HTM.N F.S.S) was 8.5 and we had gone as far as we could in Obedience and Rally. A friend suggested **DWD** as I could design my routine to accommodate her abilities as a senior. Lexy achieved her

### HTM Novice and FS Starters

**Titles.** Along the way most passes she achieved with 1st places and even a Highest in Trial Performance. This is such a great sport to take up with an older dog. I lost Lexy at the end of last year and we were dancing 5 weeks prior to that. I now have my young boy who is in training to put on his dancing shoes later this year!



## Why am I writing about DWD?

We as German Shepherd owners are blessed. We not only have a beautiful looking breed but one of the most intelligent breeds. Our dogs are bred to work and this is such a Team Sport. Remember the judges and the audience don't know your routine and if it all falls apart, like any real performer, you just keep going! In Victoria we have only 4 GSD's competing, Queensland and other state have a few also **BUT we need more!!!!**

## How to get involved?

For more information on rules, future competitions and links to your states training clubs visit [www.danceswithdogsaustralia.com](http://www.danceswithdogsaustralia.com). I hope to see more GSD'S in the dancing ring so we can truly showcase the versatility of our glorious breed.

By

*Tania Schumann*



## German Shepherd Dog Club of Tasmania

### History

***The German Shepherd Dog Club of Tasmania (GSDCT) was officially formed in early 1972 in Launceston following a meeting of German Shepherd devotees who resided in the North of the state. Interestingly, one of the founders of the club at the time, (Mr. E. McCaskill) is still a member, and he and his wife (both now life members) are to be found at either one of our championship shows, or special club events.***

The next year (1973) was a momentous one for the German Shepherd Breed in Australia at large, as that year resulted in the ban being lifted on the importing of the breed into Australia. It was also the year that the first general meeting of the club was held with 33 members in attendance. This being held on the 20th January 1973. The venue being the Orient Hotel on the corner of Frederick and Wellington Streets Launceston. Over the ensuing years, the hotel whilst still operating, has resulted in a number of name changes and is now known as 'The Pizza Pub'.



*First Meeting of the GSDCT Held here on 20th Jan. 1973*

The principal agenda item at the meeting was the discussion of 'Branches' of the GSDCT, with each and every formed branch to be properly constituted, controlled and affiliated with the parent body based in Launceston and utilising the name of the relevant city or town as the primary identification of the branch of the GSDCT. On top of this, invitations had been extended to known experienced show and dog obedience trainers to attend and lead discussions for the members benefit.

The GSDCT was affiliated with the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia (GSDCA) in April 1973.

By June that year the GSDCT had grown to a total financial membership of 59, with the aims of the club to actively promote the breed across the state. A Hobart branch of the GSDCT had also formed by now and members and their dogs met at the Montrose Bay Reserve Glenorchy for show training as well as dog socialisation. Branch committee meetings were held monthly at the Glenorchy Library.

Amalgamation of the Hobart Branch with its parent body in Launceston also occurred in mid 1973 thus forming under one banner, a state wide German Shepherd club. Full affiliation of the GSDCT with the Kennel Control Council of Tasmania occurred in January 1974.

The very first Tasmanian held German Shepherd Championship Show for the GSDCT was held in August 1974 at the Launceston Elphin Showgrounds, with 37 entries - comprising 13 dogs and 24 bitches. The judge was Mrs. C. Gabel and Ring Steward Ms. P. Hargreaves and by all accounts the meet was a total success.

Following the lifting of the ban on the importation of the breed into Australia, the first English imports into Tasmania occurred the following year, when two bitches (a young adult and a 10 month old) were imported by Ms. P. Eaves, who had been very instrumental in promoting the breed on the local TV network. Ms. P. Eaves is a current life member of the GSDCT with her own kennel - 'Karraine'.

By the early 80's the Southern members of the club moved from the Montrose Bay Reserve to Tynwald Park at picturesque New Norfolk. Not only were the facilities moderately better here, but it allowed for more acceptable off street parking for members towing dog trailers on show days. It was not long though before the club elected to move to the Esplanade area at New Norfolk where the club held meetings in the rotunda and BBQ area adjacent to the New Norfolk Bowls Club.

Situated on the Esplanade was a council disused small brick building, which in a past life had been known as 'The Wet Canteen'. It had functioned in that capacity for many years for New Norfolk Regattas and similar events; but by the late 90's had outgrown its usefulness. Committed club members then approached the Derwent Valley Council regarding utilising this facility as a permanent club room and operating canteen on show and trial days.

After significant negotiation with council, a successful resolution was reached and following a comprehensive working bee by ardent club members, the GSDCT were able to take possession of the facility in June 1999.

An intensive survey conducted in 2014 off state wide grounds where GSDCT Championship Shows had been held, clearly identified that the most appropriate ground for the holding of shows and trials was in fact at the Esplanade at New Norfolk. As such, this pristine and picturesque location on the banks of the River Derwent, together with the township of New Norfolk which has its claim to fame combining stunning Tasmanian countryside with iconic industries and a fascinating (and often dark) colonial history. Consequently the club location has earned the GSDCT many accolades from visitors and members alike.

Unprecedented floods in June/July of 2016 devastated the club rooms and the resulting loss of much of the clubs operational equipment and catering facilities impacted significantly on the clubs ability to function. However, the generous support by GSDCA member clubs and internal fundraising activities, has enabled the club to recoup much of that which was lost and which required repair.

*Club Grounds Inundated in June/July 2016 Floods*





In January 2016 the GSDCT became involved with the MOFO Arts Festival in Hobart when it was invited to include four dogs and handlers in an activity event as part of the overall exhibition. Given that the dogs were actively interacting with members of the public during this event, it could only be surmised as an unqualified success for all concerned.



As of January 2017 the GSDCT is 45 years old with 63 members and plans are in the pipeline to celebrate this important milestone later in the year; likewise, tentative celebratory plans are being developed for the club's 50th Anniversary in 2022.

## Club Operations - Events

Communication is an integral part of today's world and the club website and Facebook page allows us to state up to date club news, show results, critiques and other important club related information. (As a matter of interest the GSDCT web page is currently going through a major revamp following a review of its role in promoting the club and the breed in the state).

A quarterly newsletter sent to all members allows the club to report on its activities as well as providing topical items of interest to members.

With the exception of GSDCT General Meeting days which may fall on a Saturday, all other Saturday's are classed as training days and it is not uncommon to find members gathering at the club room on the New Norfolk Esplanade to socialise and work their dogs. In fact, on a number

of occasions members of the public in passing have been able to witness the dogs in action, eliciting comments that have often as not shown the breed in a very healthy light.

The club holds two Championship Shows a year along with associated Breed Surveys and a State Breed Assessment. As such we have been very fortunate in securing the services of mainland Judges and Surveyors to adjudge the shows/surveys. The resulting critiques/gradings have been very valuable in assisting members dogs and promoting the breed in general.



Clearly with any club, internal fundraising is vitally important and the GSDCT is no different. We are extremely fortunate that the club has a dedicated group of personnel so actively involved in this.

The month of December is large in the club's yearly program, as this marks the annual 'Christmas Family Fun Day' - which is best summed up as being one of immense hilarity (members dogs in fancy dress), games for all, dog parade and of course a visit from the man in the Red Suit himself.

This year, the club aims to further promote the breed via promotional articles in the local 'Gazette; and become more involved with the local Derwent Valley Council which will see us participating in the area's 2017 Christmas Parade. That, together with a planned refurbished club room will see us well placed to continue as a viable and important part of the GSDCA.

My Dog....My Friend and Companion.





# WILD wednesday

**Australian Champion \*Blakngold Crowd Goes Wild 'A"Z' ET, Wednesday was born on a special Sunday night in 2013, and quickly made herself at home in my heart. She joined my family at a difficult time, and I think that she found us on purpose to bring happiness into our lives.**

Wednesday was born a show dog. Her mother \*Volscaia Xilla 'A"Z' and her father \*Schaeferhund Rafael 'A"Z' were both shown in the speciality show ring gaining many excellent gradings. But right from the beginning, I wanted Wednesday to have a go at everything. After all, a German Shepherd Dog can do anything. Wednesday was shown from a young age, travelling interstate with my sister and I, placing midfield usually, but always trying her best and making me proud. She successfully attained her Breed Survey Class 1 and following that was graded Excellent in the speciality ring numerous times. She passed her Endurance Test (20km run beside me on my bike) in 2015 and gained her Australian Champion title in the all breeds show ring in 2016.

Wednesday has mastered some pretty great tricks too. She can get a drink bottle from the fridge, say her prayers and give 'snuggles' (cuddles) amongst others. In the future, we are aiming to trial in the obedience ring. We have already done a lot of foundation work for this.

In her down time, she likes to dress up and pose for photos for her Facebook page 'Wild Wednesday'. It started out as a little bit of fun that I would show my family, but decided to share her funny photos with everyone. From early days I taught her to hold things in her mouth, and balance things on her head. She also learnt a 'watch' command so she looks at me/the camera and 'wait' to hold the pose. She just takes it all in her stride, as long as I have treats to compensate for her time. Her page now has fans from all over the world! Wednesday brings me so much joy every day, it's nice to share that with everyone.



## Hayley Stocks & Wednesday



A Wednesday in Sheeps Clothing.



Bubble Bath Wednesday



Day Spa Wednesday



Cabaret Wednesday



Dishwashing Wednesday



Santa Wednesday



# WILD wednesday



Happy Clown Wednesday



Lone Ranger Wednesday



Mechanic Wednesday



Underwater Wednesday



Wednesday Van Gogh



Wednesday Addams



**Follow Wednesday!**  
[www.facebook.com/WednesdayDog](http://www.facebook.com/WednesdayDog)



# NEWS FROM OUR member clubs



## **GSDC of QUEENSLAND**

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Hello all from us up here in beautiful one day, perfect (but yucky humid) the next...

Thank you to all who supported the Thermomix raffle - a huge Thank You to Gail Donald for taking care of this from start to finish. The lucky winner was Louise Gordon (Qld) who I understand LOVES to dabble in the kitchen and can't wait to get started with her new toy - Congratulations Louise, hope you come up with some wonderful culinary creations.

Now the "silly season" is behind us, we are straight into the "serious season" as the 45th GSDCA National Dog Show & Trial fast approaches. Our small but dedicated team are heads down, behinds up, working hard to make this not only a wonderful show but a friendly social gathering - all surrounded by the beautiful German Shepherd Dog.

Entries are now open both through Show Manager or of course by mail, so why not get your entries in now! Don't risk being late as the CLOSE DATE WILL BE FIRM - NO ENTRIES ACCEPTED AFTER THE CLOSE DATE OF APRIL 21st 2017 - due to the enormity of the task at hand, that means NONE will be accepted, NO EXCEPTIONS!! Get your entries in nice & early please.

If you feel you may have something to contribute to the team while you are here for the National, please don't be shy, let us know, we would love your help even if only for a couple of hours here or there and there are many places to fill over the three days.

Well, not a great deal to report this time round, I am sure each of the States members appreciates how quickly time flies when you are hosting the National so best we get back to it.

Hope to see a ridiculous amount of you up here in May, safe travels to you all & your four legged families and as always, remember it is what brought us all together in the first place. Our one common love - the German Shepherd Dog



## **GSD LEAGUE NSW Inc**

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2016 was a most busy year and, as a result, it was nice for everyone and their dogs to have a bit of a break and recharge the batteries before returning for 2017. Our AGM, last year, was very well attended. We welcomed back some familiar faces to the committee as well as welcoming some new faces.

Training commenced a bit late this year in both disciplines of show and obedience, as the weather has been extremely unkind. Temperatures, on some training days were well into the 40's therefore it was an easy decision to postpone. Summer seems to be getting worse each year!! We also had Australia Day fall on a Thursday, so that meant another week off for our dedicated members and instructors. Memberships have increased this year which is always very pleasing, so this has meant lots of new babies coming along to training and to enjoy the socialisation, which is so important.

On the 28th January the club welcomed Joylene Neddermyer who gave an informative seminar on stud dogs and VA animals from the 2016 Sieger show. Members had the opportunity to ask questions, and at the conclusion, the club provided an afternoon tea. The attendance was very pleasing and we have received some extremely positive feedback.

The German Shepherd Dog League has quite a few things planned this year to try and showcase the breed. Our first show of the year is our Easter show and trial on the 15th and 16th of April. Our judges are: Obedience, Mrs Judith Walder from NSW and Conformation judge, Herr Ralf Wille SV from Germany. This

will be Herr Wille's first show here in Australia, so we are really looking forward to having him here. On line entries are available through Show Manager.

We also have quite a few promotional events organised for 2017. The first one being a stand at the Royal Easter show. It has been quite a number of years since we last participated at this event and we are really excited to be able to take some of our dogs to showcase, and promote the diversity of our breed. We also look forward to sharing our knowledge with the public because so often there is a misconception that German Shepherds are vicious, aggressive and untrustworthy dogs. It is our hope to educate the public that this is not the case and that they are one of the most reliable, loving, intelligent and protective breeds you could have.

Don't forget to visit our Facebook page and also the website to keep up to date with more important information throughout the year.

[www.facebook.com/gsdlofnsw](http://www.facebook.com/gsdlofnsw)



## **GSDA of WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

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## **GSDC of SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

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# NEWS FROM OUR member clubs



## GSDC of VICTORIA

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Where did the holidays go? It seems so long ago that we were celebrating Christmas and having a 'break' from dog club. We are now well and truly back into the swing of things. The first week in February saw all branches resume obedience and show training, which on average sees over 400 GSD's active at our branches each week across Victoria. Once again our collection of training data for 2017 amazed us – we'd trained 17,200 dog units over the year, using nearly 2,900 instructor hours. An increase of 5% over 2015. And we hope our figures keep going up as GSD owners value our Club services!

In December to round out the year following our break up celebrations we joined with Dogs Victoria at their 'Big Day Out For Dogs' spectacular. The GSDCV had our breed stand for information and puppy pats, but most popular was our tunnel ring. For the full 6 hours of the day we had members of the public able to run their dogs through the tunnels (sometimes with a little help from us). The joy on the dogs faces as they raced around, and the delight from the owners at a new skill for their dogs was great. Our activity was a hit! Always a great day out with fellow dog lovers.

The show scene is busy early in the year, with the Ballarat Champ Show just gone, where Greg Green judged. Was great to see a few of our SA 'cousins' once again make the trip, extra success as well when two GSD's went through win Best In Group! SC Best of Breed was Jayshell Winona, runner up was Leberhine Babe. LSC Best of Breed was Eroica Erotic Erik and runner up was Stobar Yalina. This was soon followed up by our twilight shows with the Canine Country Club where Sue Bruno (Qld) and Ian Cooke (SA) judged. A nice little turnout for both judges.

Our Champ show in March had Heather Macdonald (UK) judge. Heather also presented a seminar on the Monday titled 'Breaking through the European way'.

All these shows are part of the build-up for exhibitors (both show and trial alike) with an eye on the National in Brisbane in May, and preparations are well under way. Accommodation, flights or road trips are nearly all sorted. We hope the weather is good 😊 Best of luck to everyone attending, and 'Go the Vics' - bring home some ribbons !!

Good Friday and the annual Royal Children's Hospital Appeal are also not far away. We'll be aiming to add to our 37 year total of \$575,830.65.

We congratulate Stobar Quentin and his team of Stuart and Megan Macdonald who on January 2nd together achieved Quentin's Grand Champion title. A mighty effort. A big shout out to you all.

The end of March will showcase one of our biggest events for the year, our club AGM and presentation awards. Always a great night where we not only get to recognise our members, but some lovely dogs who've achieved in the show and obedience ring or performance activities. We'll report next issue, but its sure to be fun.

While it seems so long ago now, here are some of our best dressed dogs (and handlers) at Christmas time 😊

'My Shepherd, My Friend, My Responsibility'



## ACT GSDA

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# NEWS FROM OUR member clubs



## **GSDC of TASMANIA**

### **PRESIDENT**

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### **SECRETARY**

**Mrs. Gabrielle Peacock**

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As the GSDCT begins the 2017 year it is with a pronounced feeling of optimism following the well publicised events of the year past. Certainly the year ended on a real 'high' with the annual Christmas Fun Day, where a record number of dogs entered the fancy dress parade with the judges not being able to determine a winner, such was the extremely high standard of costumes. As a consequence all the entries became a winner.

Of course, with the usual gathering of members and offspring it was eagerly anticipated that the 'fat man in the red suit' would pay a visit, even given his preparations for his huge workload on Christmas Eve. Needless to say he did not disappoint, much to the delight of the children present.

On a club house front, the club has formalised plans for the repairs and additional renovations, with these currently sitting with the local council awaiting approval. It is anticipated that by the end of March all such works will have been completed and we can truly get back to normal.

The club has purchased two large new gazebos and electronic scales with funds raised through internal fundraising and the contributions submitted by fellow clubs of the GSDCA. Likewise, active involvement on the part of members has enabled the club to secure a grant from local council to replace competition vests, as well as secure a sausage sizzle fundraising day, organised via a local Bunnings store.

If that was not enough, even though some ten months away, the club has been invited to participate in the 2017 New Norfolk Christmas Parade, which gives us a real opportunity to showcase the dogs and breed.

Training days are about to undergo a significant change, as the intent is to increase membership via various club offerings, including basic puppy training/obedience, plus a variegated training/socialisation regime for the more adult dogs, which obviously includes specific show ring training.

In late January this year, the club lost one of its 'life members' - I refer to Kevin Tennant, who passed away following a period of ill health. Many would remember Kevin as the loving husband of Patricia, who together, operated 'Karraine' kennels. The clubs thoughts and prayers are with Patricia at this time. Karraine kennels will still continue to operate.

As the club prepares for its first championship show of the year, with well known judge Christine Collins officiating, we look forward to another splendid day on the banks of the River Derwent in picturesque New Norfolk.

Dave Griffin  
03/02/17



## **NEWCASTLE & HUNTER REGION GSDC**

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**au**

### **SECRETARY**

**Ms. Peta Belic**

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Happy New Year to everyone, 2017 is going to be a rebuild exercise for the Newcastle and Hunter Region GSDC with a new enthusiastic committee keen to learn all what a club is and has to offer. Some of the items that are getting changed this year include \_

1. New dates for our shows – exciting opportunity ahead for the club and its members
2. Double headed show – with lower numbers attending we are applying for a double Championship show, this will give all entries a bigger opportunity to enjoy a full weekend of showing.
3. Breed Surveys better timing and more convenient for members and judges so to improve numbers attending.

4. A change in a few positions within the club to spread some of the work load.
5. Bigger and better educational days with guest speakers covering all fields of GSD ownership.
6. Improving our dog obedience training days – with an aim at getting more people trailing.
7. Improving our Obedience show and incorporating Rally O.
8. Slight changes and incentives centring around our GSD back pack walks
9. Improvements in our dog club and rings
10. A better on line show entry system
11. A complete and instant membership list

The above are just a small taste of what the Newcastle Club has in plan for 2017, I expect a few bumps in the road but with our new enthusiastic committee I believe we will start to see these changes very shortly and by 2018 all will be in place.

Now that you all know the plans for the future, I can also let you know we had an awesome Christmas party and awards night held at Cardiff – the main awards being the Life Members– we had three new inductees, Graham Robinson, Julie O'Sullivan and Anne Bertram – congratulations to these three wonderful people and thank you for the years of hard work.

Training started back on the 7th February, hope everyone enjoyed the break, we were all busting to get back and enjoying our club.



## DEMONSTRATION TEAM

EAST KENWICK PRIMARY SCHOOL DEMONSTRATION  
18/11/16

We were invited to perform a demonstration with our dogs at the school on Friday morning in front of 370 students and teachers. It was a fantastic morning to showcase our dogs.

A tracking demonstration was performed by Kerrie & Luga on a 15minute delayed track resulting in Luga finding one of the students at the end of track. The students were able to view the whole exercise and cheered when Luga found the young boy.

Rally O was performed by Di & Maggie. They performed various moves which depicted the versatility of the dog.

An obedience demonstration was performed by Kerrie & Anya, Di & Maggie and Kym & Hondo. They performed signals in motion and signals on the move. This created a lasting impression on the students.

Our agility demonstration was performed by Kerrie & Anya and Kym & Hondo. The agility was a thrill for the students, particularly when Hondo jumped over the tunnel as Anya was going through it!

We also had 4 pups ranging in age from 4-6mths for the children to interact with. At the end of the demonstration we allowed the students to interact with all the dogs and pups. The behaviour of the dogs and pups was impeccable, as this scenario is not a regular occurrence for them. They really enjoyed the attention. At times you couldn't see the pups because they were surrounded by the students. The children were also very well behaved and were extremely happy to be able to interact with the dogs.

The school made a donation to the club with the funds going towards Engraved note books for every club member commemorating the 40th anniversary of the lifting of the ban.

When the students returned to class they wrote essays and drew pictures of their experiences from the morning, which they donated to the club along with a Gift Basket filled with Stationery Products in appreciation of our visit.

Thank you to Deputy Principal Nicole Kereopa and the school for inviting us.

Thank you to all our demonstration team members and dogs and helpers.

Kerrie Pierce, Di Webb, Kym Glenny, John Glenny, Ian & Dorothy Marr, Iain McIntosh, Karen Westmacott, Rob and Marian Arnison, Chris Smith, Rachael Laubsch and Vicki Beaton (photographer).



## GSDA of WA Childrens Christmas Party 2016

We held our annual Christmas Party on Sunday 4th December with 27 children and their families.

It was a fun filled afternoon with a Batman bouncy castle, Bar Yard Babes Animal Farm, Face Painting by Carla Adams, lolly bags and ice cream.

All the children enjoyed the castle and being able to pat and feed the animals. There were Alpacas, goats, guinea pigs, rabbits, chickens, a pig and a little pony.

Face painting was also a favourite with the children choosing different patterns like being painted as a German Shepherd, batman, skeleton and flowers.

The party culminated with a visit to from Santa and presents for all the children.

Many thanks to my helpers Kerrie Pearce for helping me set up and helping Santa with presents, Nicole Kent for helping Santa with presents and Tamara Touzel for opening the canteen, making her famous cupcakes shaped as Santa's belly and putting on a sausage sizzle.

Thanks also to Lachlan Jones and Rob Van Helvoort for transporting Santa.

## GSDA of WA Family Fun Day 2016

Our club held it's annual end of year fun day on Sunday 28th November.

It was a great turn out with approximately 40 dogs and their families who enjoyed the games and fun on what was a warm morning where the paddle pools were very popular with the dogs.

We had games with a junior agility course where some obstacles had to be completed by the handler, limbo with your dog which had a hilarious finish (thanks to Sandy Hosking and her pup), sausage on a string, best trick and longest, shortest and fluffiest tail. Prizes were given out for the winners and place getters of each game.

It was great to see so many new members and long term members come along and enjoy the fun.

Many thanks to all those who helped me on the day.

John Crace & Triangle Agencies for providing prizes, John Glenny & Ian Marr for running and calling games, Tamara Touzel for running canteen, Margaret Adams for cooking sausage sizzle, Honey Gross-Richardson for judging several games.

*Kym Glenny*

GSDA of WA Public Relations Officer





# BEST IN show

## Titles Galore !

*In recent months, three GSD's have achieved big titles within weeks of each other, primarily through their all-breed show performances. Achieving Supreme and Grand Champions titles is no mean feat, and we take this opportunity to recognise their achievements !*

## Supreme Champion

**\*Indio Di Casa Nobili A ED HIT (Ity)**

Owned by Nicole Hammond

\*Indio di Casa Nobili (imp Italy) has created history in the breed by becoming the first imported GSD to gain the Australian Supreme Championship Title.

Since arriving in Australia 3 years ago, he has shown his versatility in both the Specialty and All Breeds Conformation rings and in his ability to herd sheep.

Indio is an absolute joy to live with as his character and temperament are exemplary.

He is also producing progeny with low hip and elbow scores, so overall, Indio is proving to be the whole package.



Indio with Nicole Hammond



Indio in action Herding

## Grand Champion

**\*Stobar Quentin AZ ET**

Owned by Stuart & Megan Macdonald

A team effort. Originally purchased with the intent of competing in obedience, Quentin came to us as a 10 month old with 56 all-breeds points thanks to his previous owner. The initial goal was to obtain the 100 points required for an Australian Champion title but we were having so much fun that we decided to continue for another year.

At the end of the following year I added up Quentin's points and to my surprise the tally was just over 500 points. To achieve the 1,000 points (hence "Grand" Champion) the next 500 points was going to require a lot of dog shows and road trips so we travelled far and wide all over Victoria, NSW and ACT going to many places I would never have visited otherwise.

Not every outing was a success and our resilience was tested on several occasions but with dogged determination I was never going to give up the goal of making Quentin a Grand Champion.

I learnt that it can be frustrating but overall satisfying however this journey was made even more special with many new life-long friendships made and the support shown by many of my fellow competitors, which I am forever grateful. Go team Quentin!



Stobar Quentin with Megan Macdonald  
KCCC Park





## Grand Champion

### **\*Vonpeta Ugottabekidding AZ**

Owned by Peter Damarell, Jane Pike & Andrew O'Loughlin

"Kid" was the only child of \*Toby v Plassenburg a ED and \*Ch Vonpeta Champagne AZ. Quickly he wormed his way into Jane's heart and got to stay. Peter has tried to sell the "Horrible Dog" or "The Log" as he calls him, but deep down he really enjoys having him around.

Andrew, from Arkahla Kennels has handled him from the start and in 2016 we gave him one third ownership (the back end)! Vonpeta show successfully in both the Specialist and All Breeds rings and we are extremely proud of our second home bred Grand Champion, the first being his aunty, Gold Medal winner Grand Ch Vonpeta Taykall by Storm AZ.

Kid has enjoyed collecting Best in Shows, Best in Group All Breeds, many dog challenges in both rings along with 2nd Place Baby 2013, 2nd Place Junior 2014, 6th Place Open 2015 (2nd highest placed Australian Bred dog) and 13th Place Open 2016 at GSD National Shows and Trials being highlights. Soon we are hoping to celebrate his Supreme title. The picture was taken at 2016 Royal Adelaide Show winning Best in Group 2nd from over 400 dogs in Group 5.



Vonpeta Ugottabekidding with handler and co-owner Andrew O'Loughlin, 2016 Adelaide Royal Show

## Showing

**Dog shows are held all around Australia, where dogs are judged by specialist judges on their conformation to the Breed Standard. Dog showing is fun!**

In Australia, the GSDCA and Member clubs hold 'Specialist Shows' specifically for German Shepherds. These involve large rings judged by breed specialist judges. All dog clubs hold 'All-breed' shows, where at the same event all breeds of dogs are judged with one eventual winner.

To participate in showing your dog, you must be a member of your state canine control and own a pedigreed dog on the main register. At all-breed shows, German Shepherd Dogs are exhibited in Group 5 (Working Dogs).

A dog show is divided into classes which are based on the age of the dog. The best way to ensure your dog has the best opportunity in competition is to present them in the best possible show condition - by regular grooming and training every day. Diet and exercise also play a large part in presentation of your dog.

Dogs are judged on how they look and move compared to the others in their class. Each dog is physically examined by the judge for their conformation (physical formation, the overall quality of a dog's structure, form and arrangement of parts) and coat and condition is assessed. Dogs are gaited to assess movement, in a circle and out and back in a straight line. Exhibitors need to parade their dogs on the left hand side, bring the dog to the judge and stand it to the best advantage and move the dog from and back to the judge as requested, and then around the ring.

When all the dogs in the class have been examined, the placings are given. At all breeds shows, the judging procedure follows a system where the winners at each level ascend to the next level of competition within the breed, then the group and then all 7 groups at the show. By the end of the show there is one winner from the total show entry and that exhibit is the 'Best In Show'. This is the ultimate prize. The other key awards at a show are Best in Group, Runner Up in Group, Best of Breed, Runner-up of Breed and Best in Class.

How does a dog become a Champion?

Challenge points are only awarded at Championship Shows and are given to the Best Dog (called Challenge Dog) and Best Bitch (Challenge Bitch) for each breed.

Points are awarded at the judges discretion to be best of each sex of each breed (over six months of age) at a championship show. Best of Breed and Challenge Certificates are awarded by the Judge to a maximum of 25 points per show. To obtain an Australian Champion title a dog must accumulate 100 points. This title means the initials Ch. become part of the dog's registered name. The title of Grand Champion is awarded to dogs which accumulate 1,000 points. A Supreme Champion is awarded to dogs which have 1,000 points and awarded 3 All Breeds Best in Show awards or 10 Best in Group awards.

Dog showing is a great way to meet other people in your breed with a common interest, and is a great opportunity to socialise your dog with many other breeds of all shapes and sizes. Its quite the social occasion – for humans and dogs alike 😊

The dogs we've showcased here for their achievements have reached the pinnacle, proving they are great ambassadors for the breed. Well done and congratulations !

## NATIONAL BREED COMMISSION CHAIRMAN REPORT (Extract)

Respectfully submitted by Mrs J M Neddermeyer

*I have much pleasure in presenting my last report as National Breed Commission (NBC) Chairman to the 2017 Annual General Meeting of the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia (GSDCA). Well, my tenure is coming to a close. A decision that I did not make lightly, and I strongly believe that it was the right decision for me at this stage in my life.*

### **Breed Health & Welfare Committee Chair (BHC) / Haemophilia Registrar's Report. Dr C Baker**

Dr Candy Baker was appointed to this position after the 2015 NBC meeting. Dr Baker attended the 2016 NBC meeting and gave a very interesting and informative presentation to the meeting which highlighted what was considered to be the expectations within the role of Breed Health and Welfare Committee Chair. Again, Dr Baker stressed the importance that members communicate any breed health issues to the BHC Chair and for members to complete the health profile form available on the GSDCA Website. This was important for record keeping purposes and also for her to offer guidance to the GSDCA, but most importantly breeders in their future breeding programs. An update was provided to the NBC meeting on Dr Claire Sharp's of Gastric Dilation Volvulus (GDV) research (or more commonly known as bloat). The NBC Executive will be suggesting that Dr Sharp be invited to the 2017 NBC meeting to be held in Adelaide in July to present and discuss the condition, the data collected to date and the proposed outcome of research.

### **GSDCA Haemophilia Scheme**

During the past twelve months there has been some confusion regarding the correct procedure for the taking of blood and the issuing of the GSDCA Hneg certificate. The GSDCA Haemophilia Scheme Testing Form has been available on the GSDCA Website. Animals to be tested for haemophilia through the GSDCA Hneg Scheme are as follows:-

- All imported males and all male progeny from imported bitches must have a GSDCA Hneg certificate prior to being submitted to Breed Survey and prior to any of their progeny being registered with the ANKC.
- Any male sired by imported semen must possess a GSDCA Hneg certificate prior to being submitted to Breed Survey and prior to any of their progeny being registered with the ANKC.

**Owners should note that the following procedure must be followed for the test results to be accepted by the GSDCA.**

- A GSDCA Haemophilia Scheme Testing Sheet is available by downloading from the GSDCA Website. ([www.gsdcouncilaustralia.org](http://www.gsdcouncilaustralia.org)), or can be obtained from the GSDCA Haemophilia Registrar.

- Once the testing sheet is received the additional information is to be completed by the owner and the veterinarian taking the blood sample.
  - a) Plus the declaration stating that being the owners of the dog agree that the results of the blood test are available to the GSDCA for its use and publication;
  - b) Signature of owner;
  - c) Signature of Veterinary Surgeon;
  - d) Microchip and/or GSDCA tattoo number.
- The test result together with the testing sheet is forwarded to the GSDCA Haemophilia Scheme Registrar, who will forward a numbered GSDCA Hneg certificate to the owner and retain a copy for GSDCA records.
- The GSDCA Haemophilia Scheme is the only scheme recognised by the GSDCA.

*(In fact I believe the GSDCA is the only GSD body to conduct and control an official Haemophilia Scheme).*

During the year the GSDCA Hneg certificate was updated (to include microchip information) and have been reprinted and forwarded to the GSDCA Haemophilia Registrar, Dr Candy Baker to issue in the future. With the increase of imported semen being brought into the country by individual breeders and also for sale to breeders this will see an increase in the number of animals that will be required to be tested for Haemophilia.

**Please Note: That only a GSDCA Hneg certificate signed by the GSDCA Haemophilia Registrar will be accepted by the GSDCA.**

I would like to thank Dr Candy Baker for taking on the position over the past eighteen months and I would like to wish her all the very best for the future. I have no doubt that she will make a significant contribution to this position in the future. It would be remiss of me if I did not acknowledge the work of Dr Karen Hedberg in this position during my term as NBC Chair. Dr Hedberg's professionalism and expertise was a great help to me in dealing with a number of significant health issues and was also a very important contact at ANKC level. Thank you to both of you for your assistance during my term.

### **National Identification Scheme Registrar submitted by Mr. Adam Toretto**

Mr Adam Toretto, National identification Registrar has presented his report under separate cover. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some dot points in regards to this portfolio which may require further discussion at the meeting and the future in regards to microchipping and tattooing of our animals.

- It should be noted that Member Clubs that are still tattooing that the Registrars are very slow with data entry and recording the tattoo number into the GSDCA Database. It is indeed disappointing that once again the GSDC of Victoria and the ACT GSDA have not provided any data to the National identification Scheme Registrar at the time of writing his report. Hopefully this will be rectified prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- Some breeders have continued to tattoo their puppies through the GSDCA Tattoo Scheme. Interestingly one animal presented to Breed Survey during the year actually requested an AUS number.
- State Government department responsible for dog and cat management in their state are now setting up their own database of microchips.

- There is increased pressure from a number of agencies and even within our fraternity that tattooing is to be disbanded.

During my term as NBC Chair I have had the pleasure originally working with Mr Terry Jarvis as National Tattoo Registrar followed by Mr Frank Moody and finally Mr Adam Toretto. It has been a pleasure to work with all of these gentlemen and their competency has ensured that this scheme has run smoothly and within the Regulations as laid down by the GSDCA. Thank you, your support is very much appreciated.

## **GSDCA Breed Surveyor Applications, Reinstatement and Retirement.**

An application for reinstatement as a GSDCA Breed Surveyor was received from Ms Melanie Groth, which was discussed at the 2016 NBC meeting. The application for reinstatement was carried unanimously. It is indeed a pleasure to welcome back Melanie as a GSDCA Breed Surveyor.

Mr Russell Wenham has also advised the NBC Executive that he has decided not to renew his Judges License for 2017. This unfortunately means that Russell will also be handing in his GSDCA Breed Surveyor status as from the beginning of 2017. Russell has played an important part of the Breed Survey panel in Queensland for a number of years and his opinion and breed direction has been very well respected by the fraternity in Queensland. His opinion and knowledge will be sorely missed not only by the German Shepherd Dog Club of Queensland but by his fellow GSDCA Breed Surveyors and the breeders throughout Australia. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Russell for his time and dedication to the breed and wish him all the very best for his future endeavours.

No applications to become a GSDCA Aspirant Breed Surveyor was received during 2016.

## **Checking of Identification when animals are presented to Breed Survey.**

As a reminder it is imperative that the positive means of identification is verified when animals are being presented to the GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes. Incorrect Identification found at Breed Survey or identified on the x-ray for submission to the GSDCA HD/ED Control Scheme is still an issue.

**I ask that everyone is more diligent in checking paperwork.** Every endeavour is given to the benefit of the animal however if the incorrect identification is on the x-ray plate, the animal will be required to be re-xrayed. In the first instance the breeder has the responsibility to ensure that the correct identification is displayed on the paperwork and as mentioned in the report above it is the responsibility of the Registrars and Breed Surveyors that the identification of the animal is correct. This does mean at Breed Survey the animal is required to be checked to see if there is a GSDCA Tattoo Number or no tattoo and the full microchip number (15 digits is verified against the paperwork). This issue is time consuming and can be avoided if paperwork is checked and any error amended prior to the animal being presented to the GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes.

## **Animals suspended by the ANKC for "Aggressive" behavior.**

I am disappointed to report to the meeting that a number of German Shepherd Dogs have been suspended by the ANKC for aggressive behavior. On the ANKC website there is a list of animals currently under suspension by the ANKC. The list currently consists of 43 animals of which 8 are German Shepherd Dogs of which four have been presented and classified at Breed Survey.

The GSDCA has in place the following regulation:-

- Any dog deemed aggressive and suspended by a Canine Control shall have its breed survey status removed. At the end of the period of suspension, when the dog has been re-instated by the Canine Control, the said dog must be represented to their State Breed Survey Panel for character and temperament testing in order to get the animals breed survey status re-instated.

All owners of suspended animals have been contacted and advised of the above regulation. I must admit the reporting system does not appear to be consistent across the board however it currently does not reflect well on our breed. It is imperative that we as a group take responsibility to ensure that our animals are under effective control at all times.

It was discussed at the NBC meeting over the past couple of years that GSDCA Specialist Judges and GSDCA Breed Surveyors need to be more diligent when assessing the character and temperament of animals. It should be noted that for an animal to successfully pass breed survey the animal must be firm and **self-assured** in character and temperament. Any deviation shown in regards to shyness or sufficiently firm in nerves or aggressive behavior to dogs and/or people should be deemed to fail breed survey and are not recommended for breeding.

## **GSDCA Hip Dysplasia/Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme**

Mr Doug West, National GSDCA HD/ED Control Registrar has presented his report under separate cover. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some dot points in regards to this portfolio which may require further discussion at the meeting in regards to the GSDCA HD/ED Control Scheme.

- Currently statistics are presented as an average score. It was suggested at the NBC meeting that the progeny statistics should be shown in future that the statistics should be shown in the mean instead of average or indeed both. The NBC Chair will present a report at the AGM. It should be said that breeders are very familiar with the way we have presented our statistics for a number of years as per the statistics prepared by the late Dr Malcolm Willis.
- "Mean" is the average (arithmetic mean) of the range of numbers.
- "Median" is the number in the middle of a set of given numbers (i.e. the scores of progeny from a Sire).

As previously holding the position of the GSDCA HD/ED Control Scheme Registrar from 1987 to 1996 I have some insight into the work and commitment required by the GSDCA HD/ED Control Scheme Registrar. Mr Doug West has held this position during all of the time that I have been NBC Chair. One thing that is paramount in this position is confidentiality and there has never been any question that Doug has not adhered to this requirement. I believe that Doug was appointed to the position in 1998 and has always undertaken this position with a high level of professionalism. Thank you Doug!

## **Comment from the NBC regarding Participation of New Zealand animals in the GSDCA HD/ED Control Scheme - NBC Chair.**

- At the 2015 NBC meeting and the GSDCA AGM the meeting was advised that the regulation for New Zealand dogs to participate in the GSDCA HD/ED Control Scheme has not been amended.
- **At the 2016 NBC meeting it was agreed that until microchipping at point of registration with the NZKC is mandatory, then New Zealand bred dogs must be tattooed through the NZ German Shepherd Dog Advisory Council (NZGSDAC) system and that the tattoo is verified by the NZGSDAC.**



- The NZGSDAC are not necessarily pleased with this advice.

The NBC Chair will update further at the AGM.

## GSDCA Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme Progeny Statistics

When I was appointed in 2001, the progeny statistics had not been printed for a significant time. With the assistance of Dr Eva Francis all elbow data from the introduction of the scheme was provided to me and progeny results have been printed on a regular basis. This of course now involves a large number of sires with 10 or more progeny since 1993. The incidence of elbow dysplasia has dramatically improved since 1993 and it again should be noted that the GSDCA introduced an Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme at least ten years prior to the SV. Some countries still do not have an official scheme for the control of Elbow Dysplasia and indeed have it as a prerequisite for Breed Survey. I have always been proactive in ensuring that the information relative to this condition is conveyed to the fraternity. The importance of producing progeny results via sires cannot be underestimated and is a very significant tool to advise breeders of the result of sires and bloodlines to show them as excellent, very good, good or poor elbow producers. I do feel it is necessary to draw to the attention of all members that when considering the progeny results breeders must consider the whole breakdown of elbow results by any sire.

**I need to reiterate that breeders should view the number of normal, grade one, grade two, grade three and UAP results overall and then compare to the number of animals submitted and from the number of dams to have a clear understanding of the results of any sire.**

I am very pleased to report for at least two years animals assessed with a Grade Two elbow grading are deemed to have failed to achieve a 'Z' stamp and therefore are not suitable for breeding. We cannot however rest on our laurels and as a fraternity we must be very pro-active in ensuring that the GSDCA leads the way in adhering to responsible breeding practices.

## GSDCA Tooth Certificates issued during 2016.

GSDCA Tooth Certificate No:	Name of Animal	Dentition
164	Freevale Crazy Beautiful	Missing P1 lower right due to injury.

## Series of Lectures delivered to members at various Club Breed Forums.

Since 2006 I have been invited by a number of Member Clubs to provide a presentation to their breeders forum. While I originally concentrated on the German VA animals, this presentation has grown over the past to include the issues affecting the breed, the top 20 males at the previous National Show and Trial, Sires Progeny at the National Show and Trial and VA males at the German Sieger Show.

**I have always believed that it is paramount that information from our breeding schemes is available to all breeders both old and new for consideration in their breeding programs. I believe these talks play an integral part in achieving this goal.**

During the last twelve months I have presented to the GSDCV members and in January 2017 will again be presenting to the GSDL members. I believe that the members appreciate this information and certainly the feedback by the members has been very positive.

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

Due to circumstances, I requested a legal opinion prior to be presenting my talk in May in Victoria. For this reason a disclaimer is now included with any of my presentations. It is disappointing that this disclaimer was necessary but this does seem the way that society has been headed over recent times. I do stress during my presentation I do not accept any responsibility should anyone act on the opinions I express and you should make your own enquiries and investigations if you intend to act on any of the information I present. I do urge breeders and owners to take on board both positive and negative of sires for the betterment and continued development of the breed here in Australia. The same should be said when animals presented to breed survey are denied classification.

Presenting an animal for assessment does not necessarily mean automatic classification. The major reason for animals being denied classification is gun shyness. I do believe however in the future the number of animals with incorrect bites both overshot and level bites may be presenting to Breed Survey and as per the Breed Survey Manual will be deemed to be unsuitable for breeding.

## GSDCA Database

As originally advised the database is continually being developed and I refer to the database report for discussion at the GSDCA AGM to highlight the current status of the GSDCA Database. I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge the time and effort that Mr Frank Moody has contributed to the development and maintenance of the GSDCA Database. His willingness to deal with my many questions in a professional and timely manner has been incredible to say the least. Thank you Frank your assistance and your support has been very much appreciated.

## 2016 Sires Progeny at the National Show and Trial

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

In total eighteen groups were eligible but only thirteen groups were presented and assessed by the NBC Executive. Amazingly of the sires only two were locally bred with eleven being from imported sires. Five sires presented a group for the first time.

It should be noted that nine of the thirteen sires presented carry the Quanto Wienerau bloodline, and four sires carry the Mutz Pelztierfarm bloodline.

As stated last year, the NBC Executive felt that the overall quality of the groups was not as good as previous years and uniformity within the groups in some cases is not evident. However, the groups of Toby Plassenburg, Xaro Plassenburg and Yester Feuermelder were very impressive with a number of high quality animals presented of the desired type and overall harmonious construction.

It is disappointing that the number of Australian bred animals being able to present a group has decreased with this year with only two locally bred sires. Orrinshir Elton John and Schaeferhund Xesko being able to present a group. Once again this confirms the NBC Executive's opinion that a number of Australian bred sires have not been seriously considered by the breeders and have been overlooked as having the ability to positively further add to the development of the breed in Australia.

**Again the NBC Executive would stress it is essential that we look at what we have in our own “backyard” before heading off on the unknown path of using the latest ‘import’. Uniformity of Conduct of Breed Survey and Classification at Breed Survey**

While these issues have been discussed at length at past NBC meetings and at the Breed Forum held in Sydney in July, this is one area of my portfolio which is a disappointment to me. I do not believe that any major improvement has been achieved as GSDCA Breed Surveyors have not taken on board the comments of the NBC Chair or more importantly the membership in this regard.

- **Any improvement in this area is the sole responsibility of the GSDCA Breed Surveyors and it is imperative for the integrity of the Breed Survey scheme to achieve uniformity and consistency, everyone is required to work as a team.**
- **The other area that was highlighted at the Breed Forum in July was the vast difference in the bloodline knowledge and advice given by the GSDCA Breed Surveyors.**
- I urge all GSDCA Breed Surveyors to make themselves more aware of the “positives” and “warnings” needed for the animals being utilized in the breeding program here in Australia.
- I have also stressed that the most important section on the GSDCA Breed Survey Certificate is Section VI Advice for Selection of a Breeding Partner (recommendation and warnings). I am contacted on numerous occasions by owners expressing their disappointment in the quality of the advice recorded.

This is an area without question that the GSDCA Breed Surveyors need to work to improve and broaden their knowledge.

## **GSDCA Breed Surveyor's support of the ideals and aims of the GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes.**

Several years ago the GSDCA wanted to introduce a contract for GSDCA Breed Surveyors to sign to acknowledge their support for the aims and ideals of the GSDCA. I stress, I supported these contracts at the time and I could see no reason why a GSDCA Breed Surveyor would not sign the contracts as approved by the Member Clubs. I will stress again that any GSDCA Breed Surveyor or in fact any person wanting to be a GSDCA Breed Surveyor should adhere to these ideals. It should be without question that any GSDCA Breed Surveyor should only breed with successfully classified breed survey animals, and in fact I strongly believe an owner of a stud dog should only be available to successfully classified breed surveyed females.

If we wish to promote our schemes our breed direction and further development of the breed this requirement is without question or maybe one should ask why you would want to be a GSDCA Breed Surveyor. I will go so far as to say that really I do not require a signed piece of paper to adhere to this requirement and actions speak louder than words.

## **Size**

It would appear there has been some improvement in this area. However, there is no doubt that the majority of animals, especially our females, stand at the upper level of the desired standard of size. The change to the size requirement in 2008 in my opinion has been beneficial and also there is a degree of responsibility from the breeders as well to take some hard decisions on animals that are clearly well outside the standard and not include these animals in their breeding program. **In regards to breed survey it is imperative that the measurements are carried out in a uniform manner and it would appear that**

**this could still be an area of inconsistency.** Again, I remind all Breed Surveyors of the only acceptable description of size at Breed Survey. This of course should be used by judges in their critiques when officiating at shows so that there is uniformity of terminology for all animals.

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

\* Under Particular Virtues and Faults  
(Standing on the upper limit of size)

\*\* Under Particular Virtues and Faults (Overize and breed warnings)

As per the GSDCA Breed Survey Manual the criteria **relative to size is not open-ended**. The GSDCA Breed Survey Manual clearly states animals standing outside the limitations of size and are considered to be of above average anatomical worth **may be considered for Class 11. Animals that do not meet this criteria should be denied classification.**

**While this chart has been circulated to all GSDCA Breed Surveyors on numerous occasions it does appear that not all GSDCA Breed Surveyors seem to be aware of this requirement.**

## **The Major Concerns affecting the Breed**

### **Over-angulation of the hindquarter - very loose hock joints;**

It is apparent that this is a major issue affecting the breed. While we have had loose hock joints in the breed since the lifting of the importation ban, the number of animals that display an unstable hindquarter and actually impedes the working capability of the animal is increasing and in some cases not being penalised. **It is also a trait that the general public find offensive.** There are now a number of bloodlines throughout the world which produce slightly deep to over-angulated animals and linebreeding of these animals will see this problem ingrained in the breed for years to come. The over-angulation of the hindquarter **impedes the working capability and affects the endurance and versatility of the dog.** It was highlighted at the meeting that this is not only a major problem for us as Breed Surveyors, Judges or breeders **but more importantly for the public that wish to buy a German Shepherd Dog as their family pet, which of course is the majority of the animals that we breed.**

These animals are from current sires in our breeding program. One can see why the public talk about sloping backs and veterinarians express the opinion that the GSD has major problems with looseness and instability of the hindquarter. I urge breeders to consider very carefully selection of a suitable breeding partner for the wellbeing of the breed.

Breeders certainly need to address the following issues in their breeding program but currently I am not sure that this is the case and in some cases they are receiving mixed messages from GSDCA Breed Surveyors and GSDCA Specialist Judges. Just take some time at shows to watch experienced handlers having trouble standing exhibits in the ring.

**One of my concerns however is that GSDCA Specialist Judges, GSDCA Breed Surveyors are not listening to my concerns regarding this matter. Whilst I have been expressing my concern since 2008,**



**to be blunt my concerns have been falling on deaf ears. Of course the problem is really not being addressed in Germany either. GSDCA Breed Surveyors need to take more care when finalising the GSDCA BS7 worksheet and more consistency is required in describing animals being breed surveyed, especially in the identified areas affecting the breed.**

The identified areas include:-

- Over-angulation of the hindquarter;
- Instability of the hindquarter – extreme looseness of hock joints and overall ligamentation;
- Peaking over the back;
- Steep Croup;
- Strength of dentition – incorrect scissor bite (slightly overshot and very close scissor bite);
- Strength of upper and lower jaws;
- Depth of chest proportions – slightly short to short lowerchest – extreme tuckup;
- Set and carriage of ears.

The bending of the back displays, in some cases, like the animal is bent in two. Hopefully this area will be addressed by breeders in their future breeding program.

Correct paperwork at Breed Survey.

I must say once again that only the correct paperwork is accepted and no breed survey certificate can be issued until all of the required paperwork is received. It is disappointing that in the past six months there has been a decline in the required paperwork being received. As a reminder the officiating GSDCA Breed Surveyor needs to sight the official paperwork and to sign off on the GSDCA BS7 Worksheet. It is important that this information is checked accurately and not given just a quick glance as done by some GSDCA Breed Surveyors.

## ***GSDCA Executive decision regarding two Breed Surveyors at all future Breed Surveys.***

The GSDCA Executive unanimously agreed to ensure that in future at least two Breed Surveyors will be in attendance at all Breed Surveys. This decision was not taken lightly but it was felt that it was time to make this decision for all future Breed Surveys. This will mean that a minimum of two GSDCA Breed Surveyors will officiate at all Breed Surveys throughout Australia. The additional cost of the second Breed Surveyor will be borne by the Council as the GSDCA Executive is aware of the extra cost imposed on the smaller clubs. It should also be noted that the second Breed Surveyor is appointed by the NBC Executive. Of course it goes without saying that the additional Breed Surveyor will be appointed based on ensuring that costs are kept to a minimum. Please note that the State Breed Surveyor Co-ordinator for non-surveying state is the National Breed Commission Chair. All clubs are to notify the NBC Chair of the dates of the Breed Surveys at the commencement of the Breed Survey year. While some clubs expressed their concern at this action the GSDCA Executive believes that this is a positive and proactive step to restore uniformity of conduct and consistency of classification at Breed Survey and should assist in removing the innuendo associated with only one surveyor signing off on character, gun test, dentition, measuring and importantly for the membership, choice of surveyor when there was none.

As previously stated all GSDCA Breed Surveyors present on the day participate in the preliminaries whether they have been selected to complete a worksheet on a particular animal or not.

## ***Conclusion***

I was very privileged to be elected to the position of National Breed Commission Chairman in February 2001 and with the support of the fraternity have been elected in that position until February 2017. During that period there have been a number of changes implemented for the further development and improvement of the breed. Of course these changes would not have been possible without the approval of the membership and I appreciate their support for these changes and the implementation.

My position as National Breed Commission Chairman is greatly assisted by the time and effort that each of the Registrars contribute and donate to their portfolio, to ensure that this area of Council runs efficiently. In addition to the GSDCA Registrars I would like to take the opportunity to thank the position holders of the member clubs whether it is the Breed Survey Registrars, HD/ED Registrars, Tattoo Registrars and last but not least the GSDCA Breed Surveyors.

I would however like to acknowledge the work of Mrs Barbara Blythe who has acted as the Minute Secretary for the National Breed Commission Meetings over recent times. Barbara is a very experienced minute taker and certainly has ensured that decisions made at the NBC meetings are recorded accurately. Thank you Barbara for your assistance and expertise which is very much appreciated.

The competency of the registrars has ensured that all areas under the direction of the NBC Chairman have run smoothly and within the regulations as laid down by the GSDCA. Adherence to the regulations of the GSDCA is paramount to ensure the integrity of the schemes is maintained and to ensure uniformity and equity for all members. I am very proud and have a great belief in the GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes and the influence that these schemes have had in shaping the breed here in Australia.

As advised previously my decision not to stand for re-election was not taken lightly but after taking everything into account considered that most likely the time has come to step aside. I will ensure that the handover to the newly elected NBC Chair Ms Melanie Groth will be as smooth as possible. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Melanie on her appointment and wish her all the very best for the future in this position.

I have a number of people to thank for their support during my tenure and I have decided that I will write to them all individually. I am not sure if the fraternity is aware of the time and commitment that the GSDCA Executive gives not only to their individual portfolios but their contribution to the GSDCA Executive as a whole. I believe that the current GSDCA Executive have only the best in mind for the breed and work tirelessly to that aim. I do have some concerns for the future of the breed not only in Australia but world-wide. The anti-dog lobby cannot be underestimated and I am sure that the changes to the dog and cat management in numerous states without question will effect in the future how we keep and breed our animals. More importantly of course is that the general public want to have a German Shepherd Dog as their family pet. The GSDCA need to be united in dealing with these changes to legislation and certainly need to be very proactive in this area. Breeding and showing German Shepherd Dogs is not only a hobby I enjoy but we must remember that individuals, clubs and this Council are secondary to the reason why we are here, the "German Shepherd Dog".

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the breeders and owners of German Shepherds throughout Australia for their support not only to me personally but to the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia, its breed improvement schemes and most importantly to the breed.

Once again, thank you for the support from my fellow Executive, GSDCA Member Clubs GSDCA Breed Surveyors and the fraternity.

Well that is all folks .....

## THANK YOU JOYLENE!

*At the GSDCA 2017 Annual General Meeting, Joylene Neddermeyer stood down from her position as National Breed Commission Chairman.*

*The German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia (GSDCA) and its Executive would like to express our sincere appreciation to Joylene Neddermeyer for her 16 years as the National Breed Commission Chairman.*

Joylene's service and commitment to the German Shepherd Dog and this organisation over a period that spans 40 years is indeed notable and recognised. Below we reflect on Joylene's contribution.

Joylene was elected to the position of NBC Secretary in 1979 and this was the beginning of a long association with the National Breed Commission. Following is her record of service.

- 1979- 1980 NBC Secretary
- 1980-1987 NBC Registrar
- 1981 Appointed ANKC Judges Licence
- 1988-1989 GSDCA Breed Survey Book Editor
- 1987-1997 GSDCA HD/ED Control Scheme Registrar
- 1981 Appointed ANKC Judges Licence
- 1985 Appointed GSDCA Breed Surveyor
- 1988 Presented with a GSDCA Service Award
- 1989 Appointed GSDCA Specialist Judge
- 1999- 2012 GSDCA Rules & Regulations Officer
- 2000-2001 Hereditary Diseases Chairman
- 2001-2016 NBC Chairman

Joylene has always upheld the ideals of the GSDCA and carried out her duties to the best of her ability. She has been very professional, courteous and conscientious.

Throughout her long period of service we recognise that Joylene has made a sustained and significant contribution in the administration and development of the GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes.

Joylene's appointment as NBC Chair saw her main objective realised: to provide accurate and up-to-date bloodline information i.e. Sires Progeny and HD/ED Statistics, to the membership via Member Clubs and the Quarterly National Review. It is her firm belief that this information must be available to all breeders, experienced and novice alike for their consideration when embarking on their breeding programs.

One aspect of the NBC portfolio that Joylene is extremely proud of is her commitment to working closely with the GSDCA Registrars. Her leadership and working relationships, in particular with Doug West, the HD/ED Registrar and Frank Moody, the GSDCA Database Coordinator, enabled an assurance that the data input to the database is accurate.



Joylene's administration of the NBC Chair portfolio has been based on the premise that all members who are supporting the GSDCA Schemes are treated equally, fairly and within the regulatory framework of the organisation. Her unwavering decisions have ensured the schemes are administered as regulated!

It is indeed a legacy that Joylene's contribution over the past 16 years has added to the overall improvement in depth of quality of our breed. She has been a valuable member of the GSDCA Executive over that time and who has like them, aspired to and improved the awareness of the requirements for the various schemes by the membership and ensured more transparent processes. Her willingness to assist and clarify regulations has long been appreciated as she has always been available to answer questions and queries as posed by members.

Joylene's parting wish is that everyone remembers to enjoy our hobby and work together for the improvement and continued acceptance of "The German Shepherd Dog" as a true companion dog!

We again congratulate and thank Joylene for her dedication and sustained commitment and wish her all the very best for the future. We have no doubt that she will continue to contribute to the Council as she is indeed a respected member of the peer and leadership group as a GSDCA Specialist Judge and GSDCA Breed Surveyor.

Joylene – Well Done, Good Luck and Thank You !

GSDCA Executive



## The Youth in the German SV

Many of us see pictures and videos of youngsters competing in handling and schutzhund with dogs that make top places at the most important show. This is due to a very good system that encourages the youth to be involved in all aspects of the sport and that encourages owners to involve them in their kennels.

### WHAT DO THEY DO?

Like here, Germany has Landesgruppen for each area and also branches within each Landesgruppen. Most of these branches have a committee member who is involved in working with the youth in there club.

Each Landesgruppen hold their own regional events specifically targeted at the youth participants. At these events whether it is a show, agility or a trial, all of the handlers are youth. All of these shows allow the participants to gain points. This leads into the SV's German Youth and Junior Championship which is held over a weekend in the middle of the year. At this event each participant represents their Landsgruppen and gains points, with a winner named at the end. Many of these shows are judged by the Sieger show judges which attracts many top dogs to attend and participate in the show.

They also have a top ten point score in 4 divisions: breeding shows, agility, trial and universal to find the most active youth handlers in the SV. Each participant gains points at events during the year with the winners getting free entry to an SV event of their choice, free parking pass and a VIP look into the event.

I hope this has given you a little insight into how the SV incorporate and encourage their youth to become involved in the GSD!!



## Notice to National Show & Trial Exhibitors



### ORDER OF JUDGING

Exhibitors and spectators are advised that following discussions with GSDCA Executive and State Member Clubs at the GSDCA AGM on the weekend of the 11th & 12th of February 2017 it was agreed that there will be a change to the order of judging at the 45th National GSD Show & Trial, Durack on 19th, 20th & 21st May 2017.

### FRIDAY 19th MAY 2017:

**CONFORMATION:** Vest collection from 7.00 am.

**Ring 1** Judging commencing at 8.00am with LSC Coat Baby Puppy Bitch & Dog, LSC Minor Puppy Bitch & Dog, and LSC Junior Bitch & Dog, to be followed by SC Baby Puppy Dog, SC Minor Puppy Dog & SC Junior Dog.

**Ring 2** Judging commencing at 8.15 am with SC Baby Puppy Bitch, SC Minor Puppy Bitch & SC Junior Bitch

**Junior Showmanship during Lunch Break**

### SATURDAY 20th MAY 2017

**CONFORMATION:** Sire's Progeny assembly commencing at 7.15 am judging commences at 8.00 am SHARP to be followed by Breeders Groups. After which, class judging will commence as follows:

**Ring 1** LSC Puppy Bitch & Dog, LSC Intermediate Bitch & Dog, to be followed by SC Puppy Dog & SC Intermediate Dog.

**Ring 2** SC Puppy Bitch & Intermediate Bitch

**Judging in all rings to cease at 12.00 noon for the Official Opening and GSDCA Awards.**

### SATURDAY 20th MAY 2017

**OBEDIENCE:** CCD, Novice, Open, UD and UDX Vetting Check in from 7.30 am -8.15 am Judging commences 8.30 am. Winner of Winners will be judged on Sunday during the lunch break (from CCD, Novice, Open, Utility & UDX class winners with qualifying scores). \*All class winners must attend the trophy presentations at completion of conformation judging on Sunday 21st May.

GSDCA Rules apply to all awards and gradings. Place sashes and mementos will be presented at the completion of the Trial.

### SUNDAY 21st MAY 2017:

**CONFORMATION:** **Ring 2** Judging commencing at 8.30am with SC Open Bitch warm up laps, followed by Ring 1 LSC Open Bitch, LSC Open Dogs, SC Open Dogs, followed by all Challenges \*No Inter-sex or inter-variety judging.

**Obedience Winner of Winners will be judged during the Lunch Break**

**Exhibitors and handlers are asked to note changes and that it is your responsibility to ensure your dog is in assembly ring and ready to enter the ring when called. Judging will not be held up due to lack of handlers and or exhibits not being present.**

## Stewart & Ryker's Journey

After growing up with German Shepherd Dogs all my life, I couldn't wait to pick up the new addition to our family. I knew it would be challenging but I felt I was now ready to train my first German Shepherd.

His name is Tonaker Direwolf, but known best as Ryker.

As far as dogs go this one was especially stubborn and head strong and I knew by the time I had reached the second class that this was going to take all my effort and lots of time.

Finally with hard work and persistence, we graduated class 5 and entered our first CCD trial at the "Balmead Shield Trial" held at the German Shepherd Dog Club of SA.

We had prepared ourselves well for this but I was still very nervous and perhaps Ryker picked up on this, as he didn't drop when given the command. Luckily he had an opportunity to repeat the exercise and did it perfectly.

He was amazing for his first trial and passed with a score of 93 points out of 100.

The first trial was the hardest and Ryker seemed to love being in the trial ring and worked beautifully in his next two trials taking first place in both with scores of 95 and 96 completing his title for Community Companion Dog and also getting 3rd place for CCD in South Australia across all breeds.

The thrill of being out there trialling was so amazing that I wanted to encourage others to go for it like we did and this motivated me to become an Obedience Instructor and help others the same way my club had helped me.

Now I have passed my instructor theory exam and after completing the practical assessments I will be out there watching others in my club enjoy the success that I did.

There is no better feeling than when you are working with your best friend in the trial ring and they look up at you as they are heeling perfectly by your side. That's when you know you are bonding with your dog. Then to have a big play as soon as they have passed at the end of the stays - I'm sure they know they have just nailed it.

I look forward to getting out there with all of you and wish you the greatest of success.

*Stewart MacPherson & Ryker*





# CLUB spotlight

## German Shepherd Dog Club of South Australia

The German Shepherd Dog Club of South Australia was formed in 1945 with the first President of the club being, Mr. Vern Thomas. In 1959 the GSDCSA became an incorporated body, the first dog club in South Australia to do so.

In 1956, a former president, the late Mr. Roy A Brabham had a vision of producing a monthly publication for members called The Shepherd News. A magazine which is still being published today, some 61 years on, with the only change being that it is now available online.



*The Demonstration Team of the late 1980's.*

and were always warmly and well received. The club also was invited to be represented at several Glenelg Christmas Pageants with members and dogs walking the streets of Glenelg as part of the Christmas procession.



*Glenelg Christmas Pageant*

this is also enjoyed by our own instructors who still enjoy training and trialing their own dogs. We offer training for puppies who are taught basic obedience with a focus on socialisation. Our obedience members and instructors can often be seen on a walk at the beach with their dogs and this is always a fun time for all involved, not to mention a great publicity drive for our breed!

We also offer conformation training for our members and our instructors come from a pool of judges and breeders which are on a roster system, which has been very well received by those participating. Our club instructors pride themselves on offering quality tuition and give freely of their time each and every week that training is on.

The club hosts several events each year involving obedience trials, agility trials, endurance tests, open shows, members competitions and

The club had a team of members and dogs called the Demonstration Team which from the 1950's to the late 1990's performed demonstrations of obedience and visual feats, performed in front of members of the public at special events held in South Australia. This team of dedicated members travelled to many parts of the State with their dogs and were an invaluable promotional and publicity tool for the club and breed

The club only has one training branch which is our head office at West Beach. We offer training on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings. We have a dedicated team of instructors who are qualified to teach obedience to our members. We have a dedicated member who specialises in putting our obedience members through a 'mock' trial ring most Sundays and



*Animal First Aid Course held at the club rooms, compliments of one of our sponsors, Noahs Crossing Vets*

Championship shows. These events come together due mainly to the efforts of our members and committee who work together to lend a hand. We try to contract international judges for our major shows and take pride in offering SA hospitality to all of our invited guests. Through hosting these events, we also enjoy the company of our interstate visitors who attend. The club also holds one to two puppy days each year. These puppy days are open to members and non members alike who own a German Shepherd Dog up to the age of nine months. These days are extremely popular as we offer one of the puppy days before official training resumes at the club, giving new owners the opportunity to come to our club, meet other owners and most importantly, socialise their young puppies with other dogs. We offer a free BBQ and have always received very positive feedback from all who attend.

The German Shepherd Dog Club of SA was relocated several years ago from its former location on Tapleys Hill Road to the current location on West Beach Road. Our club rooms and facilities are arguably one of the best in the country with modern club rooms, our own fenced training area and beautifully maintained ground, car park, canteen and shepherd shop. Our canteen has its own reputation around the country, serving the best freshly made hamburgers, fish and chips, chips and gravy, kransky rolls, fresh cakes and the list goes on! Our club rooms are able to be hired out for private functions and this has been utilised on many occasions due to our central location and top class facilities. Our club is host to many other breed clubs who hold their events on our grounds and for which we provide the canteen facilities and at times, catering also.

The club prides itself on our catering team both past and present. The quality of the food and variety, are second to none and can only be offered due to the dedication shown by a fantastic team of workers.

As a club, we are proud of the progress made over the years as a specialist breed club in South Australia and are proud of the many members, helpers, volunteers, sponsors etcetera that have all

contributed in some way or another. The club has had a web site now for many years offering a myriad of information for both members and non members alike. We also have a facebook page which is maintained by a few members with the idea of keeping people up to date on any upcoming events, photos, brags and calendar dates.

Visit us at [www.gsdcscs.org.au](http://www.gsdcscs.org.au) or on facebook [www.facebook.com/gsdcsa](http://www.facebook.com/gsdcsa)



*Puppy Day*



*John De Lucia and the late Earl Butterfield at Pet Expo, Wayville*

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

### Summary of Motions from the 56th Annual General Meeting of the GSDCA Inc

It is with pleasure I present for your information, the results of motions as "Carried", "Lost", "Withdrawn" from the 56th Annual General Meeting of the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia Inc., held on the 11th & 12th February 2017, in Melbourne, Victoria.

All motions carried will take effect as of the 1st July 2017 (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.**

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

#### 2.3 Ratification of Matters Arising from the 55th AGM under the 60 day rule:

Motion 1. The NBC Chair may visit up to two GSDCA Member Clubs per year when a Breed Survey is being conducted and:-

- Will officiate as a guest GSDCA Breed Surveyor together with the State Breed Surveyor Panel and/or nominated Breed Surveyor officiating on the day.
- Will be available to give the 'Sires Progeny' or other bloodline presentations to their members. LOST

Motion 2. That the GSDCA Breed Surveyors, GSDCA GSD Specialist Judges and GSDCA Specialist Trainee Judges, except for resident attendees, attending the 2016 GSDCA Judges, National Breed Commission Meetings, Breed Survey Forum will be reimbursed \$100.00.

The GSDCA Treasurer will arrange payment of the subsidy to the GSDCA Breed Surveyors/GSDCA Specialist and Trainee judges that attend all three meetings. **CARRIED**

#### 16 Matters referred to AGM from National Breed Commission

##### 16.1 Motion:

**"That application is made to amend ANKC Regulations Part 6 Clause 8.9: German Shepherd Dog to read as follows:**

Clarification on the LRLs for the requirement for Haemophilia testing for GSDs.

##### 8.9 German Shepherd Dog

For all German Shepherd litters born after 1.1.99 and where the parents have been born after 1.1.97, these parents must show re-sults of x-rays for hips and elbows, and a Haemophilia A result for the males, as defined below: Effective September 1, 2004, the fol-lowing requirements will apply: -

- All imported GSD males must have an Australian Hneg certificate prior to ANY progeny being registered in Australia.
- All sons of imported GSD bitches must be in possession of an **Australian** Hneg certificate prior to ANY of their progeny being registered in Australia.
- All GSD males born from litters imported in whelp must be in possession of an **Australian** Hneg certificate prior to ANY of their progeny being registered in Australia.
- Where a GSD bitch is sired by imported semen, any of her male offspring must have an **Australian** Hneg Certificate prior to any of his progeny being registered in Australia. (05/04)
- Any GSD male sired by imported semen must have an Australian Hneg Certificate prior to any of his progeny being registered in Australia.** **CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

##### 16.2 Motion:

**"That the NBC Meeting decision to reinstate Ms. Melanie Groth as a GSDCA Breed Surveyor be ratified".** **CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

##### 16.3 Motion:

**"That the GSDCA makes application to the ANKC to only register litters in either the main or limited register where both parents have met the current ANKC LRL for GSDs in regard to control of hip dysplasia and elbow dysplasia".** **CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

##### 16.4 Motion:

**"That as from 1st July 2017 the GSDCA Breed Survey Manual Section 5.1 Definition of Classification be amended to read:**

**5.1 German Shepherd Dogs shall be classified "Breed Survey Classified" provided those dogs and bitches are anatomically and temperamentally above the breed average in this country.**

5.2 Imported animals shall retain the classification awarded by their country of domicile. **CARRIED**

##### 16.5 Motion:

**"That the GSDCA Breed Survey Manual Section 7.1 Size be amended to read:-**

##### 7.1 Size

**Successfully "Breed Survey Classified" animals must be with-in the limits of 60cms – 67cms for dogs and 55cms and 62cms for bitches.**

**Animals that measure outside of the parameters will be deemed to have failed the breed survey.** **LOST**

##### 16.6 Motion:

**Current Regulation reads:**

##### 4.3 Breed Commission Awards

The GSDCA award Gold, Silver and Bronze medallions, and/or plaque to kennels that have supported the GSDCA HD Control Scheme, and the GSDCA ED Control Scheme, by breeding the required number of animals to receive the GSDCA "A" stamp and "Z" stamp.

The Breeder does not have to apply for these awards. The HD/ED Registrar will compile a list of kennels that qualify as of 31 December in any given year, and this list will be tabled by the NBC Chairperson at the GSDCA AGM, and the kennels will be advised in writing.

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. [2015]

The list of qualifying kennels will be published in the National edition of the Quarterly National Review.

**That the below additional paragraph be added:-**

**That as from 1st July 2017 only animals that receive a pass in both the GSDCA Hip Dysplasia Control Scheme and the GSDCA Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme will qualify to be recorded in the tally for the GSDCA Breeders Achievement Award.** **CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

##### 16.7 GSDCA Breeders Achievement Award Medallion

**"That Section 4.3.1 and 4.3.2 GSDCA Regulations which currently reads:**

##### 4.3.1 GSDCA 'A' Stamp award:

4.3.1.1 The GSDCA 'A' Stamp certificate is awarded to the Owner of the dog that has successfully passed the requirements of the GSDCA Hip Dysplasia Control Scheme.

4.3.1.2 The GSDCA award medallions to kennels that have supported the GSDCA Hip Dysplasia Control Scheme.



- a) Bronze Medallion – to Kennels that have bred ten (10) 'A' Stamp animals,
- b) Silver Medallion – to Kennels that have bred twenty-five (25) 'A' Stamp animals,
- c) Gold Medallion – to Kennels that have bred fifty (50) 'A' Stamp animals,
- d) Plaque – to Kennels that have bred one hundred (100) 'A' Stamp animals,

#### 4.3.2 GSDCA 'Z' Stamp award

4.3.2.1 The GSDCA 'Z' Stamp certificate is awarded to the Owner of the dog that has successfully passed the requirements of the GSDCA Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme.

4.3.2.2 The GSDCA award medallions to kennels that have supported the GSDCA Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme.

- a) Bronze Medallion – to Kennels that have bred ten (10) 'Z' Stamp animals,
- b) Silver Medallion – to Kennels that have bred twenty-five (25) 'Z' Stamp animals,
- c) Gold Medallion – to Kennels that have bred fifty (50) 'Z' Stamp animals,
- d) Plaque – to Kennels that have bred one hundred (100) 'Z' Stamp animals,

be amended and replaced with the following:-

#### 4.3.1 GSDCA Breeders Achievement Award:

4.3.1.1 As from 1st January 2018 the GSDCA Breeders Achievement Award will be a combined medallion. For a kennel to qualify for these awards animals must have successfully passed the requirements of both the GSDCA HD and ED Control Scheme.

4.3.1.2 The GSDCA 'A' Stamp and the GSDCA 'Z' Stamp is awarded to the owner of the dog that has successfully passed the requirements of the GSDCA Hip Dysplasia Control Scheme and GSDCA Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme.

- a) Bronze Medallion – to kennels that have bred ten (10) animals that have received both the GSDCA "A" and "Z" stamp
- b) Silver Medallion – to kennels that have bred twenty five (25) animals that have received both the GSDCA "A" and "Z" stamp
- c) Gold Medallion – to kennels that have bred fifty (50) animals that have received both the GSDCA "A" and "Z" stamp
- d) Plaque – to kennels that have bred one hundred (100) animals that have received both the GSDCA "A" and "Z" stamp

*The above motion is to be referred back to the NBC for re-wording.*

#### 16.8 Motion:

That the GSDCA Breed Survey Manual regarding Appeals: Section 12.4 Appeals be amended and reads:

#### 12.4 Appeals

The owner/s of a dog has the right to appeal, if they believe their dog was unfairly assessed.

The following steps detail the appeal process.

12.4.1 Owner of the dog must lodge an appeal in writing within 7 days to the State Breed Survey Coordinator (SBSC) at the Club at which the survey was conducted.

The State Breed Survey Coordinator will inform the NBC Executive of the appeal.

12.4.2 The SBSC in consultation with the original GSDCA Breed Surveyor and owner, will document the appeal and forward same to the National Breed Commission Executive.

The National Breed Commission Executive may further consult with all parties in the matter to provide more detail.

12.4.3 The National Breed Commission Executive will after investigating the case provide the owner/s with a ruling in respect of the appeal:

12.4.4 In the case of where the animal is to be re-assessed:

- The assessment panel shall be made up of at least one member of the National Breed Commission Executive and two GSDCA Breed Surveyors.
- The re-assessment shall be arranged at the cost of the owner.
- However, to reduce this cost, the re-assessment may be held at a future breed survey held by the Member Club or interstate.
- The SBSC and original GSDCA Breed Surveyor shall not be a part of the assessment panel.
- The decision of the assessment panel shall be final.

**CARRIED**

#### 16.9 Breed Survey Forum - Service Agreement

Motion No.1:

**"That as of 1st July 2017, all GSDCA Breed Surveyors must sign the following GSDCA Service Agreement (Ver 07/2017) to maintain their GSDCA Breed Surveyor Status".**

**SERVICE AGREEMENT (Ver:07 – 2017) DATED: 1 July 2017**

BETWEEN: THE GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA Inc. ("GSDCA")

AND: (add name and address)

Position: GSDCA Breed Surveyor

I, \_\_\_\_\_ of the above address do hereby agree to abide by and acknowledge the list of obligations and requirements to retain my GSDCA Breed Surveyor status.

1. I will promote the GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes and ideals of the GSDCA and will abide by the "GSDCA Regulations", "GSDCA Codes of Ethics" and "GSDCA Guiding Principles", "GSDCA Social Media Code of Conduct" and/or Codes of Ethics/Conduct/Behaviour as adopted by my State Canine Control and/or my Member Club.
2. I agree solely, or in cases where I am a partner and share a kennel prefix, to only breed with animal's and/or the semen of animals that have been successfully classified in the GSDCA Breed Survey Scheme, or a GSDCA recognised breed survey scheme.
3. I will only allow stud dogs owned by myself or in held in partnership to be bred with bitches that have successfully been classified in the GSDCA Breed Survey Scheme or a GSDCA recognised Breed Survey Scheme.
4. I am a financial member of the Canine Control and the Member Club of the GSDCA in my State or Territory of domicile.
- a. I understand that as a GSDCA Breed Surveyor, I will automatically cease to hold that position if I no longer hold an ANKC GSD Championship Judges license.
5. I understand that as a GSDCA Breed Surveyor I will upon suspension and/or banning by the Canine Control and/or Member Club of the GSDCA in my State or Territory of domicile immediately advise the NBC Executive.

- a. I understand that as of the date of suspension and/or banning cease to hold the position of GSDCA Breed Surveyor for the period of time as applied with no right of review under the Breed Surveyors appeal process.
- b. I understand I must reapply through my Member Club of the GSDCA in my State or Territory of domicile to be reinstated to the position of GSDCA Breed Surveyor.
6. I will:
  - attend the GSDCA National Breed Commission Meeting at least once in every three years.
  - attend the GSDCA National GSD Show & Trial once in every two years.
  - be active at my Member Club of the GSDCA in my State or Territory of domicile as demonstrated by my attending Breed Surveys, Club Shows, and Club meetings.
7. I understand that failure to comply with any of the above obligations and/or requirements will result in an investigation which may result in penalties or the withdrawal of my GSDCA Breed Surveyor status. Any decision regarding penalties or withdrawal of my status as a GSDCA Breed Surveyor will be made by a Special General Meeting of the GSDCA.

I further acknowledge and understand that:

- At the time of signing this document, I have been provided with a copy of "GSDCA Code of Ethics", "GSDCA Guiding Principles", "GSDCA Social Media Code of Conduct" and "GSDCA Breed Surveyor Review, Disciplinary & Appeal Procedures".
- I am responsible for my self-education and will participate in GSDCA education programs.
- My position as a GSDCA Breed Surveyor will be reviewed every 3 years from the signing of this agreement.
- I must as part of the Review Process provide the NBC Executive and my Member Club of the GSDCA in my State or Territory of domicile a summary of my activity over the last 3 years, 90 days prior to the expiry of this agreement.
- This service agreement once signed is valid up until 30th June 2020.
- The terms of this agreement may be reviewed from time to time at the discretion of the GSDCA and the most recent version of this agreement will be binding for the period of my instatement.

**CARRIED**

## 16.9 Breed Survey Forum - Regulations 6.3

### Motion No. 2.

**"That as of 1st July 2017 the current GSDCA Regulation 6.3: GSDCA Breed Surveyors as proposed be adopted and replaced with the following:**

#### 6.3 GSDCA Breed Surveyors

##### 6.3.1 GSDCA Breed Surveyor Review, Disciplinary & Appeal Procedures

##### 6.3.1.1 Review Procedure

- a) The Breed Surveyor shall 90 days before the expiry of the agreement, forward to the NBC Executive and their Member Club of the GSDCA in their State or Territory of domicile a summary of their involvement over the past three years.
- b) The summary should include a history of:
  - i. Breed surveys attended;
  - ii. Shows attended;
  - iii. Shows judged;
  - iv. Club meetings and or involvement;

- v. Positions held at GSDCA and/or Club level;
  - vi. Participation held in other canine clubs and/or at canine control level;
  - vii. Any other evidence of demonstrated participation and/or work for the breed.
- c) The NBC Executive and the Member Club of domicile shall advise the GSDCA Secretary within 30 days, of their decision to endorse or not, the renewal of the service agreement.
  - d) The NBC Executive and/or the Breed Surveyor's Member Club of domicile may rule that the Breed Surveyor has not shown the required level of commitment and ask the applicant to provide further evidence of demonstrated participation.
  - e) If the NBC Executive and the Breed Surveyor's Member Club of domicile both endorse the renewal the Breed Surveyor shall be asked to sign a new Service Agreement that **may be reviewed from time to time** and will apply for the next 3 years.
  - f) Where a Member Club and/or the NBC Executive do not endorse the renewal of the service agreement, an investigation will be undertaken as per Regulations 6.3.1.2 and 6.3.1.3 below.

### 6.3.1.2 Investigation, and Disciplinary Procedures

In cases where the renewal of the Breed Surveyors status has not been endorsed, or the GSDCA Secretary is made aware in writing by a member, Member Club and/or officer of the GSDCA that a Breed Surveyor does not comply with or meet the requirements as stipulated in the GSDCA Breed Surveyor Service Agreement, the Breed Surveyor will be notified by the NBC Executive in writing and advised that an investigation will be undertaken as per Regulations 6.3.1.2 and 6.3.1.3. A copy of the complaint will be attached to this communication.

- a) The GSDCA Executive will form an Investigation Committee comprising of three (3) Member Club Presidents one of which will be the President of the Breed Surveyor's State/Territory of domicile.
  - i. The committee will after 30 days of being formed present their findings and recommendation to the GSDCA Executive.
  - ii. Based on the findings, the matters raised may be listed as agenda items for a GSDCA SGM.
- b) The Breed Surveyor may defend his/her case in person or by written submission at the SGM.
- c) Member Clubs will receive a copy of all documents regarding the "complaint". These will include recommendations of the Investigation committee, documents as presented by the accused Breed Surveyor in defense of his/her case and any other documents as identified relevant to the case.
- d) The case as considered by the SGM will be decided by a majority decision where each Member Club will have the same voting strength as declared at the previous AGM.
- e) The findings of the GSDCA SGM will stand.

### 6.3.1.3. Appeal Procedure

- a) Any appeal against the decision of the GSDCA SGM must be lodged with the GSDCA Secretary within 7 days of the decision being handed down.
- b) An appeal may only be made citing:
  - i. incorrect procedure during the Investigation/Disciplinary process, and/or
  - ii. new evidence, and/or
  - iii. **an excessively harsh or unfair penalty has been imposed.**



- c) The appeal will be considered by an Appeals Committee as appointed by the GSDCA Executive comprising of two (2) Member Club Presidents (not the Breed Surveyor's State/Territory of domicile and/or those that conducted the original investigation) and three (3) ordinary members (not peer group) of the Breed Surveyor's State/Territory of domicile.

#### 6.3.1.4 Re-instatement Application

That a Breed Surveyor who surrenders his/her Breed Survey status and wishes to be re-instated as a Breed Surveyor must produce evidence of renewed activity.

**This will be evidenced by attendance at specialty shows including the GSDCA National show and breed surveys 12 months prior to application for reinstatement.** The applicant must have their application endorsed by a Member Club of the GSDCA in their State or Territory of domicile. This documentation is to be forwarded to the NBC Chairperson and to be placed on the Agenda for approval at the NBC Meeting and ratified at the following **GSDCA AGM**.

[Previously 6.3.5]

#### 6.3.1.5 State Breed Survey Coordinator

A State Breed Survey Coordinator is to be appointed by the NBC Chairperson to be responsible for breed surveys in the State and responsible directly to the NBC Chairperson. [Previously 6.3.1]

**CARRIED**

#### 16.9 Breed Survey Forum – Rescinding previous Regulation 6.3

##### Motion No. 3:

Moved: TAS

**“That as of 1st July 2017 the current GSDCA Regulation 6.3: GSDCA Breed Surveyors will be rescinded”.**

#### 6.3 GSDCA Breed Surveyors

6.3.1 A State Breed Survey Coordinator is to be appointed by the NBC Chairperson to be responsible for breed surveys in the State and responsible directly to the NBC Chairperson.

6.3.2 That to maintain Surveyor status a Surveyor must retain an ANKC judges' licence.

6.3.3 GSDCA Breed Surveyors must attend the NBC Meeting at least once in every three years to remain an active GSDCA Breed Surveyor.

6.3.4 Cessation of surveyor – If a Member Club removes or reinstates a surveyor from that Member Club's panel the NBC will recognise that action.

6.3.5 That a Breed Surveyor who surrenders his/her Breed Survey status and wishes to be re-instated as a Breed Surveyor must produce evidence of renewed activity by attending shows and surveys 12 months prior to application for reinstatement, including the National. The applicant must have their application endorsed by a Member Club of the GSDCA in their State or Territory of domicile. This documentation is to be forwarded to the NBC Chairperson and to be placed on the Agenda for approval at the NBC Meeting and ratified at the following **AGM**.

**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 GSDCA National Show Manual update and proposed amendment to Child Handlers entries.

###### Proposed Amendment:

##### 33 Conduct of GSDCA Junior Handler Classes

The following must be included in National Show schedule:

ALL Junior Handler Classes: Judge: (name)

- 7 to under 10 years of age.
- 10 to under 13 Years of age.
- 13 to under 18 Years.

1. Entry is free but must be **handed to the Show Secretary by 11:00 on the day of the class being judged.**
2. Parents must sign a release form on the day of competition, failure to do so will see entry denied.
3. Parents are reminded that your child must be able to control their dog
  - All children must have control of the animal they are exhibiting.
  - If any child cannot solely control (hold) the animal they are exhibiting they may be asked to leave the ring.
4. No adults will be permitted in the ring.
  - The GSDCA Youth Officer will **liaise with the Show Secretary.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

##### 18.2 Change to Regulations Manual

###### Proposed Amendment:

##### 4 AWARDS and CRITERIA

###### 4.1.1

Show Awards and GSDCA Gradings

###### 4.1.1.3 Very Good & Good

**May be awarded at the judge's discretion, to animals in the Junior, Intermediate, and Open Classes that are over 12 months of age.**

**CARRIED**

##### 18.3 Change to GSDCA National Show Manual - Breeders Group

###### Proposed Amendment:

- A Breeders Group Team must consist of five (5) animals from the one Kennel, and are at least 9 months of age
- A minimum of two (2) sires and two (2) dams, are required to make up the group.
- A separate entry form indicating entry to the class is required by the close of entry.
- **Animals listed for competing in a Breeders Group must be entered in the Show.**
- A list naming animals and the exhibit number competing in each group must be handed to the Show Secretary by completion of Judging on Day One of the show.
- Breeders Groups must consist of only one coat type, (however Breeders may enter more than one group).
- The Winning Group will be awarded a Plaque and a Tricolour Sash.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUS.**

## 18.4 Addition to the requirements for a Breeders Group at a State Breed Exhibition (SBE).

### Proposed Amendment:

#### 5.2.6 Breeders Group

- a) will be judged by the Open Class Judge;
- b) animals in this group must carry the Breeders Prefix;
- c) each Breeders Group must consist of five (5) animals from more than one sire or dam and be 9 months or older.
- d) all animals in the Breeders Group must be entered in the SBE.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

## 18.5 Acceptance into GSDCA Specialist Judges Training program.

**Motion:** That this amendment to motion go back to Judges Committee for further investigation.

Moved: SA

**CARRIED**

**Motion:** A Specialist German Shepherd Dog conformation judge, who is accredited with a WUSV member country and has been granted a license to Judge GSDs, may make application to the GSDCA Judges Committee Chair for acceptance into the GSDCA Judges Extension Course and/or be accepted as a GSDCA Judge.

- The applicant must apply to the Chair of the Judges Committee and provide evidence of qualification as a judge and a resume outlining their history of involvement and judging experience.
- The NBC Executive shall upon consideration of the application deem which rules pertaining to the GSDCA Judges Extension Course, if any, shall be completed by the applicant.
- The NBC Executive shall forward its recommendations to the GSDCA Executive for consideration and approval. **CARRIED**

**Motion:** That the SA Motion to refer to Judges Meeting be rescinded.

**CARRIED**

## 18.6 Motion:

**"That as from the 2018 GSDCA National German Shepherd Dog Show & Trial the GSDCA Gold, Silver and Bronze medallions are changed to a unique design to befit the importance of the award".**

**CARRIED**

## 18.7 Motion:

**"As from 1 January 2018 the "new" GSDCA Gold, Silver and Bronze medallions will not be awarded retrospectively to past recipients".**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

## 18.8 Motion:

**"That additional GSDCA Gold, Silver and Bronze medallions be available for purchasing through the GSDCA on application to the Treasurer by co-owners and/or breeders of the animal after the award has been made".**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

**Motions:** That the below motions 18.9 – 18.13, be considered and approved as a block.

**For:** ACT, TAS, VIC, QLD, SA, WA, N&HR

**Against:** GSDL.

## 18.9 Motion:

**"As from 1st July 2017 a new round GSDCA National Excellent medallion for conformation be struck removing the Club names from the circumference on the back of the medal and that the "head" used on the front be modernised".**

## 18.10 Motion:

**"As from 1st July 2017 a new triangular GSDCA National Excellent medallion for obedience be struck removing the Club names from the circumference on the back of the medal and that the "head" used on the front be modernised".**

## 18.11 Motion:

**"As from 1st July 2017 a new GSDCA National Memento be struck by modernising the "head" used on the memento".**

## 18.12 Motion:

**"As from 1st July 2017 a new round standard medallion for GSDCA "Excellent" awarded in conformation be struck removing the Club names from the circumference on the back of the medal and that the "head" used on the front be modernised".**

## 18.13 Motion:

**"As from 1st July 2017 a new round standard medallion for GSDCA "Excellent in Trial" be struck removing the Club names from the circumference on the back of the medal and that the "head" used on the front be modernised".**

**In favour of Motions 18.9 to 18.13 inclusive.**

**CARRIED.**

## 19 Matters referred to the AGM from the GSDCA Obedience Committee – Nil.

## 20 Matters referred by Member Clubs to the AGM

### 20.1 Motion:

**"That effective from 1st July 2017 there will be only one (1) Breed Survey Classification".**

As this Motion was discussed at Item 16.4, Qld withdrew this motion.

**WITHDRAWN**

### 20.2 Motion:

**"That effective from 1st July 2017 the ruling 3.6.2 (Choice of Breed Surveyor) be rescinded".**

**LOST**

### 20.3 Motion:

**"That Mr Barry Cotton be included on the GSDCA Obedience Judges Supplementary List.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

## 21 Other Matters referred to the AGM

### 21.1 Motion:

**"That in cases where a member club, due to the enforcement of their canine control's adverse weather policy, must cancel their show but has an option to reschedule their show and run their show in the evening, animals as exhibited will be eligible for GSDCA Grading despite the fact that no written critiques need be taken. The judge will only critique animals as placed on the pegs and be encouraged to give a short summation of the Class as judged."**

**CARRIED**



## 21.2 Motion:

"That all GSDCA National GSD Show & Trial judges contract terms of appointment include the following:

- You will provide a written summation of each class that will preface your critiques when published.

This summation will be provided within 15 days of the conclusion of the event.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

## 21.3 Quarterly National Review - Advertising Rates

### Motion:

"That as of the 1st July 2017, the advertising rates for the Quarterly National Review magazine will be reduced to:

	Current Rate	New Rate
Full page	\$500	\$360
Half page	\$275	\$180
Quarter page	\$115	\$100
Double page spread	\$900	\$700
Front Cover (non-advertising)	\$300	\$225
Back Cover (non-advertising)	\$250	\$200
Annual advertising package: For the same copy in 4 editions for Full, Half or Quarter pages a discount of 10% will apply.		

## 21.4 Motion:

"That as of the 1st July 2017, a magazine and website advertising package is established for stud dog advertisers". **CARRIED**

### Magazine and Website Package

Each full page stud dog advertisement printed in the QNR will have the option to be replicated on a dedicated Stud Dog page on the GSDCA website for a period of 3 months following the publication of the QNR edition in which it appears.

## 21.5 Current Regulation:

### Motion:

"That regulation 2.2.6 be rescinded".

2.2.6 That Member Clubs hosting the National receive advertising rates in the QNR at a 50% reduction. **CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

## 22 General Business

### 22.4 Nomination of Police Dog "Quinn" for GSDCA Outstanding Canine Service Award.

The German Shepherd Dog Club of Queensland would like to present Police Dog "Quinn" and recommends he be approved for the GSDCA Outstanding Canine Service Award. **CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

### 22.5 Nomination of SES Dog "Cade" for GSDCA Outstanding Canine Service Award.

The German Shepherd Dog Association of Western Australia would like to present SES Dog Seigen Quintessential "Cade" and recommends he be approved for the GSDCA Outstanding Canine Service Award.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUS**

## PHOTOGRAPHS: Exhibitors at the NATIONAL SHOW AND TRIAL

### Requirements for Printing of Photographs of Place-getters at the National Show and Trial

For Publication purposes:

1. All conformation exhibits placed 1st to 10th, and all Excellent graded exhibit owners will be required to supply a photo of their animal as placed at the Show.
2. All obedience entrants are to be photographed at the time of vetting. The animal shall be in a sitting position alongside of the Handler.
3. The photo must be supplied as a high quality (min 1Mb) 'jpg' file
4. Failure by the owner to supply a photograph will see no photograph of their animal included in the QNR.

What do YOU need to do ?

- There will be an Official Photographer at the National Show and Trial. Conformation placegetters will be photographed at the conclusion of each class. Obedience exhibitors will be photographed at the time of check-in and vetting.
- It is the responsibility of exhibitors to view and approve the photograph taken at the event by the Official Photographer. All conformation placegetters and every obedience competitor should ask to view the photo taken by the Official Photographer, and if desired, authorise its provision to the QNR Editor on your behalf.
- If you wish to substitute your own image of your animal for that taken by the official photographer, it MUST be forwarded to the Editor by 10pm on 5th June, 2017.
- The format must be jpeg and with file size of 1MB or greater.
- The email accompanying the image must state in the subject line: Catalogue number# • Class: • Animal's name# • Placing:
- Submissions must contain the animal's information described above
- Exhibitors failing to use either the photo taken by the official photographer or provide their own image by the due date, will have their animals critique published BUT WITHOUT a photo.

The deadline for photo submissions is 11pm, 5th June 2017.

Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions regarding the supply of your animal's photo for the Review, please email the Editor (Jacinta) for help at revieweditor@gsdcouncilaustralia.org

## Advertising Info for Members of Affiliated Clubs

*We welcome the opportunity to work with members to advertise and promote their animals or business. Ad design is included in the costing. Multiple edition packages are available by negotiation. For information or to discuss, please contact the editor.*

### Front Cover

\$300.00 (Non - Advertising)

### Back Cover

\$250.00 (Non - Advertising)

### Full Page

\$500.00

### Double Spread

\$900.00

### Half Page

\$275.00

Other advertising spaces available on request

Non-Members and/or Commercial Rates available upon request.

Please make Cheque/Bank draft or Money Order payable to: German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia Inc. and forward to:  
The Treasurer, GSDCA QNR, 20 Conrad Road, Longwood SA 5153



### Notes:

All advertisers must forward FULL PAYMENT at the time of placing their advertisement. Advertisers are advised that where an animal is over 18 months of age it must have been successfully Breed Surveyed. Any imported animals with an overseas breed survey Classification will be permitted to be advertised for 6 months following their date of release from Australian Quarantine, after this time they must have obtained an Australian Breed Survey Classification.

If you require return of photos and a receipt, please provide a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

The Trade practices Act 1974 came into force on 1st October 1974 and certain provisions of the Act relating to consumer protection place a heavy burden on advertisers, advertising agents and publishers of advertisements. In view of the difficulty of ensuring that advertisements submitted for publication comply with the Act, advertisers and advertising agents must ensure that the provisions of the Act are strictly complied with. In case of doubts advertisers are advised to seek legal advice.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

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Australia \$55.00 New Zealand \$63.00 AUD SE Asia: \$65.00 AUD UK/Europe/ USA/Canada \$70.00 AUD

Please make Cheque/Bank draft or Money Order payable to:  
German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia Inc. and forward together with the completed form to:  
The Treasurer, GSDCA QNR, 20 Conrad Road, Longwood SA 5153





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