

## Editorial



### Dear Readers,

in the second week of November this year, all eyes in the canine world will be cast on the exhibition city of Leipzig. Following on from Dortmund 2003, our umbrella organization the VDH is hosting the World Dog Show once again. This was originally scheduled to take place in Quito (Ecuador), although these plans have unfortunately fallen through for various reasons. Thankfully, at the request of the FCI, the VDH stepped in at short notice and agreed to host this major canine event in Leipzig.

The World Dog Show is the largest canine exhibition within the FCI. Together with Crufts in England and the Westminster Show in the United States, it is one of the most significant canine exhibitions in the world. The best dogs of each breed are awarded the title of World Champion. This event welcomes in the region of 20,000–25,000 dogs of all breeds from every continent and country across the world. Taking place directly before the World Dog Show, the German Winner Show is also held in Leipzig on November 8. Judging within the individual groups takes place from Thursday, November 9, with the German Shepherds featuring in Group One on Saturday, November 11. In addition to the exhibition-style dog show, other features that await us include breed shows, the German Agility Championships within the VDH, innovative new competitions such as DogDiving and DogDancing, and – especially for the youngsters – the Junior Handling event.

For the SV, which is by far the largest pedigree dog breeding society within the VDH, it will be a challenge, commitment, and pleasure for us to show more than just our attendance at the event. The German Shepherd is the most commonly represented breed in the VDH's puppy statistics by a long way (2015). After all, nearly 14 percent of all pedigree dogs recorded in Germany are, in fact, German Shepherds.



The cover page of this edition features Chap the service dog from the Mannheim police dog team.

I hope it does not come across as arrogant if, just like the Swiss St Bernard and English Bulldog, I were to suggest that the German Shepherd is the most famous and most popular dog breed in Germany. The World Dog Show is the only opportunity for us to live up to this claim and showcase our unique four-legged friends on a global scale. In fact, it should go without saying that we take advantage of this occasion to present our animals – not only as part of the traditional show, but also in popular competitions such as breeding, offspring groups, and pair work. There will be a subsidy on the registration fee for those registering by the deadline of October 6.

Following on from the winners' show in Ulm, this year will also feature a second exhibition-style highlight for our breed right on our doorstep in Leipzig. It would be absolutely fantastic if we could reach a record number of German Shepherds in Leipzig, so please take this as an invitation.

I am very much looking forward to seeing you again in Leipzig as either visitors or exhibitors.

Best wishes,

Prof. Heinrich Meßler  
SV President



**WORLD DOG SHOW**

LEIPZIG 2017

*We love dogs!*

Look out for the details and further information at:  
[www.wds2017.de](http://www.wds2017.de)