

German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia
Annual General Meeting – 8th & 9th February 2020

60 Day Motions

1. Motion: “That Regulation 2.14.2 be rescinded.”

Regulation 2.14.2

That the GSDCA Character & Working test will be a prerequisite for participation in the GSDCA Breed Survey Scheme, for all animals born after 1st January 2023.

- To qualify for the Working element an animal must attain a qualifying pass in:
 - a prescribed ANKC performance discipline, or
 - a pass in the GSDCA Character & Working Test, and
- To qualify for the Character element an animal must attain a pass:
 - in the GSDCA Character & Working Test: this test will be conducted by the GSDCA and is based on the FCI BH test, or
 - ZAP (Working Test ZAP Part 1 - Puppy).
- An animal will be issued with the GSDCA Character & Working Test Certificate only if it qualifies in both tests and this will be recorded on the GSDCA Breed Survey Certificate.

The prescribed ANKC Performance Disciplines are:

- Endurance Test;
- Obedience (minimum CCD or CD);
- Herding (note: the instinct test will not be considered as a qualifying pass);
- Rally Obedience;
- Tracking;
- Track & Search.

Rationale:

The meeting supported this item to go forward as a 60 day motion. This came about after considering that the regulation as originally put by the WUSV Board, via the Harmonisation Schedules, has already been amended twice and, although passed at the 2019 AGM will not be achievable here in Australia at this time and thus should be rescinded.

Note the Regulation refers to a GSDCA Character and Working Test.

Whilst we have agreed the ZAP Character element be accepted and see as achievable, it is the requirement for a working element that continues to be seen as a threat to our very existence with regard to the number of GSD Breeders and members who in reality would participate.

The main concerns that the membership has in regard to implementing a working test are:

- a) *The Council faced undue pressure by the WUSV Board in order to fully consider the ramifications of the 23 schedules proposed.*
 - *We have not complied with all the 23 Schedules and there is a realisation that we must take small steps to see the ultimate goals of Harmonisation enacted in Australia.*
 - *The threat of the WUSV Board terminating our membership was real and impacted on our decision making at that time.*
- b) *The regulation refers to a GSDCA Working test based on the FCI BH test; it must be noted that this test has yet to be discussed, formalised and approved by the Member Clubs.*
- c) *There is much concern regarding the need to offer an alternative to the GSDCA Working element, namely a pass in a Performance title as listed.*
- d) *The notion that a working test will inform as to the traits required for a working dog is questionable. Evidence shows us it is the trainer who takes much of the credit for training an animal.*

The reality is that this regulation, if implemented, will impact greatly on our ability to serve the breed. The feedback to date indicates that if enacted we would see further decline in membership and that our breeder base would be further weakened.

The focus should be the ZAP Character element that is able to inform as to which traits are needed to supplement missing traits in animals used for breeding. Working ability for the specific utility of the GSD is determined by character traits which the ZAP Character element ably does.

2. Motion: “That the current Regulation 2.1.6 be rescinded”:

a) 2.1.6 The formula to establish the number of votes to which the Member Clubs are entitled to are detailed below:

- Up to 50 membership unit = 1 vote
- 51-100 membership unit = 2 votes
- 101-200 membership unit = 3 votes
- 201-300 membership unit = 4 votes
- 301-400 membership unit = 5 votes
- 401-600 membership unit = 6 votes
- 601-800 membership unit = 7 votes
- 801-1000 membership unit = 8 votes
- 1001-1200 membership unit = 9 votes
- 1201-1500 membership unit = 10 votes
- 1501-1800 membership unit = 11 votes
- 1801-2100 membership unit = 12 votes

To calculate the membership units, use the following criteria:

- a) Single membership = one (1) unit
- b) Double membership = two (2) units
- c) Family membership = two (2) units
- d) Junior membership = nil

Motion: “That a new 2.1.6 Regulation be accepted”:

b) 2.1.6 The formula to establish the number of votes to which the Member Clubs are entitled to are detailed below:

- Up to 50 membership unit = 1 vote
- 51-100 membership unit = 2 votes
- 101-200 membership unit = 3 votes
- 201-300 membership unit = 4 votes
- 301-400 membership unit = 5 votes
- 401-600 membership unit = 6 votes
- 601-800 membership unit = 7 votes
- 801-1000 membership unit = 8 votes
- 1001-1200 membership unit = 9 votes
- 1201-1500 membership unit = 10 votes
- 1501-1800 membership unit = 11 votes
- 1801-2100 membership unit = 12 votes

Calculation of membership units will be based on the following:

- a) Single membership - one (1) unit = **1 adult with or without children under 18 years of age.**
- b) **Dual** membership - two (2) units = **maximum 2 adults no children.**
- c) Family membership - two (2) units = **maximum 2 adults with children under 18 years of age.**
- d) **Life Member – one (1) unit = 1 adult with or without children under 18 years of age.**
- e) Junior membership – nil.

The following will apply:

- **GSDAWA - Life Member is defined as the Life Member and up to 1 ordinary member and with or without children under 18 years of age provided they held a Dual membership at the time of receiving Life Membership.**
- **ACTGSDA - they only have one category of Membership: defined as one up to 2 adult members with or without children under 18 years of age.**
- **Where a Member Club has a Family Membership category: only up to 2 adult members must be declared.**

Rationale:

The membership numbers provided by the Clubs for ascertaining their voting rights are based on an honour system. This number as declared is accepted as such. The past saw membership units defined as number of QNR's ordered by a Club and this was the declared number at the AGM, however this was not conducive to accurate declaration and the process was withdrawn. We now see the calculation of membership units based on numbers as provided by the Clubs. There has been a distinct discrepancy regarding the QNR vs declared membership within some Clubs. Further we now understand that Family memberships in some cases are defined as more than 2 adult members. The proposed amendments now provide clarity for Member Clubs when declaring their membership.

3. Motion: "Current Regulation 3.6.1.10 DNA Parentage be rescinded."

3.6.1.10 That for animals born after 1st January 2020, with application for the GSDCA Breed Survey Scheme, owners must provide proof of Parentage as per any one of the following regulations/schemes that are in place: [2019]

- a) ANKC regulation for DNA Parentage Proven for Registration,
- b) Dogs Queensland DNA Program,
- c) SV-WUSV DNA Parentage Scheme" or
- d) Any other GSDCA recognised scheme.

Rationale:

With the ANKC not progressing their scheme as originally planned reality sees us without a national ANKC scheme. It was felt that the Council should wait until an ANKC National scheme is in place before progressing this initiative.

4. Motion: "That as of the 2020 GSDCA National GSD Show & Trial, the Barry O'Rourke Memorial Plaque is introduced and awarded to the Junior Dog (SC) winner."

Rationale:

Barry was a true gentleman, who was very much an innovator. He had a record of long sustained involvement and work for the GSD both at Council and Member Club level. He was a retired GSDCA Breed Surveyor/Specialist Judge, SV Foreign listed judge (only 1 of three Australians that attained that status), and mentor to many of our judges. It is only fitting that he is remembered and given this recognition.