

# THE German Shepherd Dog

QUARTERLY NATIONAL REVIEW



**Barry O'Rourke**  
1941 - 2019

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

Summer 2020

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

# EVENT calendar

## GSDCA Events

### Date

8th – 9th February 2020

15th, 16th & 17th May 2020

1st – 2nd August 2020

### Event

GSDCA Annual General Meeting

48th GSDCA National Show & Trial

GSDCA National Breed Commission Meeting

### Location

Melbourne

Sydney

Adelaide

## Member Club Shows

### Date

14/12/2019

2/02/2020

8/02/2020

28/02/2020

7/03/2020

7/03/2020

11/04/2020

12/04/2020

18/04/2020

9/05/2020

10/05/2020

15/05/2020

15/05/2020

6/06/2020

16/06/2020

28/06/2020

### Judge

O'Loughlin Andrew

McDermott Nicky

McDermott Nicky

Ballantyne-Gordon Sharon

Humphries Natalie

Serrano Edward Carlos

Pike Jane

Bruno Sue

Flynn Peter

Green Greg

Tantaro Vince

Buss Helmut

Stiegler Joachim

Tantaro Vince

Donald Louis

Fenner John

### Location

GSDL

Other Vic

GSDL

Other WA

GSDAWA

GSDCV

GSDL

GSDL

GSDAWA

GSDCV

GSDCV

GSDL

Other NSW

GSDL

GSDL

GSDAWA

### Event

Sanction Show

Ballarat Championship Show

Members Competition

Canine Classic

Members Competition

Championship Show

Members Competition

Members Competition

SBE

SBE Vic

SBE Vic

National - LSCs and SC Dogs

National SC Females

Sanction Show

SBE

Members Competition

## Quarterly National Review Closing dates

Close dates for content submission and advertising in future magazine editions

Edition	Closing date	Delivery to Members
Autumn 2020	5th February 2020	Early March
National 2020	1st June 2020	Late June



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



<http://database.gsdcouncilaustralia.org>



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



*Aus Respekt zum Hund.*  
[www.schaeferhunde.de](http://www.schaeferhunde.de)

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## A Tribute to Barry O'Rourke

28 August 1941 – 9 November 2019

Where to begin on the life and times of Barry Daniel O'Rourke. There were many facets to Barry, but first and foremost he was a family man. Married to Carol for many years, proud father to his two beautiful daughters, Suzanne and Cerise, father in law to Gordon and beloved Poppy to Summer and Bianca. He was also the proud 'adopted' father of Sherrie James, making a speech at Sherrie and Mark's wedding. He was active in the boom years in WA as a Property Developer and enjoyed rubbing shoulders with the likes of Alan Bond. Barry liked to provide a wonderful lifestyle for his family and friends and loved to socialise with his friends and was always a gracious host. He was known to enjoy a good red wine and good food. Barry was also passionate about the German Shepherd Dog (GSD), as we all know. Barry was a part of a large family being the second eldest of five children. Barry was always a larger than life figure, with never ending self confidence and a fierce determination to achieve a desired goal. He was passionate about all avenues of his life.

Barry was born in South Australia, where he met Carol and originally was in the Air Force and had worked as a Photographer. Here Barry and Carol purchased their first German Shepherd Dog Kaiser. Barry and Carol moved to WA in 1971 (Carol's home town) along with Kaiser. On arriving in WA became members of the GSDAWA. In 1971, Barry became a licenced importer of GSDs to WA, at that time they all had to be sterilised to cross the WA border. Barry became active in the GSDA of WA immediately and organised the first GSD Parade on 16 April 1972, and the best exhibit was Kaiser. Barry became the inaugural Show Committee Chair for the GSDAWA in August 1972.

Barry worked tirelessly with the current Patron of GSDAWA, Jim Clarko to have the ban lifted on 24 December 1976, so unsterilized GSDs could be accepted into WA. This was a real achievement for WA and one that the GSDAWA membership have always been grateful to Barry and Jim for their commitment and energy to see this piece of legislation through.

In 1973, Barry started breeding under the Parourke prefix, along with then GSDAWA Secretary Dot Parry. This was the UK import Eng Ch Kingsmen Witchcraft. This female won the National in 1974 and was Best in Show the same year at the Sydney Royal. She was the dam of Parourke Mystical. In 1976, the Duval prefix was born, where the line of Witchcraft was carried on via her daughter Mystical to Duval Royal Velvet who was a super producing female and was in the lines of foundation females for a number of high-profile kennels throughout Australia. Duval kennels have had a great deal of success in WA at the West Coast Challenge with Best in Show or Runner up Best in Show ten times, nine of these were Duval animals. At one West Coast Challenge, running off for Best in Show was John Cowdroy with Eng Ch Vorlich Amigus and Barry with Ch

Duval Quo Vadis. They were both past their prime as handlers, but no less fierce competitiveness or passion. At the end of it, both were full of smiles and friendship, as it should be for long time friends.

Barry formed lasting friendships with many German judges that came to WA, but his greatest friend was Walter Martin (von der Wienerau kennels). Their friendship was based on respect, they both were passionate about GSDs, and both had an entrepreneurial flare. I suppose you could say they were kindred spirits.

In 1978, Barry became a GSDCA Breed Surveyor and a Group 5 ANKC judge in 1980. From 1981 until 2005, Barry served as the Breed Affairs Committee Chair for the GSDAWA. During these years, Barry was actively involved in the GSDCA as the GSDAWA representative at all NBC Meetings. During these years, Barry was active at a state Canine Control level, as Governing Councillor (Management Committee) of the

Canine Association of WA. Barry was also the President of the WDC of WA for a time, ensuring a good working relationship and standing of the GSD within the wider canine fraternity of WA.

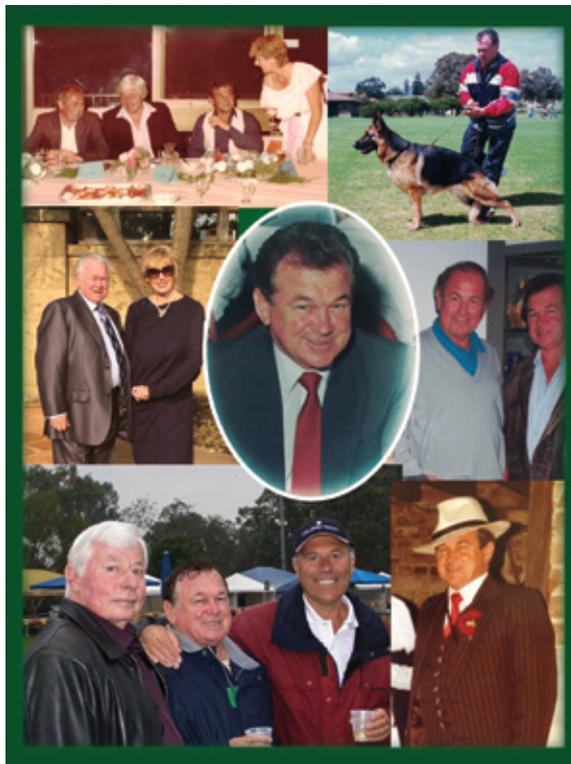
Barry was presented with Life Membership of the GSDAWA in 1984 and in 1988 Barry travelled to Germany and completed his SV Foreign List examination. Barry worked hard in WA to promote the ideals of the Main Breed Exhibition via the State Breed Exhibition, that was first introduced in WA 1989, with Barry Chair of the SBE Committee from 1989 to 2007.

Barry held positions on the GSDCA Executive with Judges Chair in 1994, and from 2010 to 2014 and as NBC Chair in 1996. Barry was awarded the GSDCA Service Medallion for services to the breed in 1990. Barry worked with Marie Merchant (ANKC) to set the requirements for GSD only judges to enter as trainee judges into the ANKC scheme to become Championship Show judges for GSDs.

Barry and Carol moved to Queensland in 2008 to remain close to Cerise and their beloved granddaughters, Summer and Bianca. Here Barry continued as a Breed Surveyor and GSD Specialist Judge and maintained active involvement until recently, where Barry had retired as Breed Surveyor and Judge but was always happy to support and mentor younger participants in the breed, such as Sharon Ballantyne. Barry was honoured with Life Membership with the GSDCQ. In July of this year, he sat with Nicky McDermott ring side on the Sunday to discuss dogs and judging, Nicky found this a most helpful experience.

Personally, Barry and I had many robust discussions, locked horns from time to time, but there was always respect, and as a young judge he gave me mentorship and support. He rang me on my birthday in July this year to say happy birthday and just have a chat, which we did, asking how Kevin was and give my best to the boys. That was Barry, family was always important.

*Robyn Knuckey*



## President's Report

Hard to believe a year has yet again nearly passed!

I again remind all to be most mindful about when you exercise your dog over the summer months and please only do it in the cool of early morning or evening to avoid extreme temperatures.

2020 will see the election of in essence new Executive with 4 of the 7 positions up for election- noting the position of Secretary will be for 12 month duration as it will need to be filled as per our requirement of split 2 year terms next year.

I am pleased to see a number of candidates for majority of the vacant position! It is important that the membership participates in the election process and reviews all agenda items as listed! It is only with your interest and input can we ensure that decisions as made are owned by ALL of us.

We have all been saddened by the passing of Barry O'Rourke, a long time member of the fraternity and friend to many of us. He made a notable contribution to GSDAWA, the Council and betterment of the GSD in our country. He will be missed but not forgotten. On behalf of the council I extend our sincere condolences to Carol and the family.

We also lost Josephine Edwards who was a member of a number of our Member Clubs. She had a long history of contribution to the GSD. She will be missed by us. Sincere condolences to Michael and his family.

On a personal note I would on behalf of Rachel Jones family and my family thank all who supported us during the recent passing (after a long fight with pancreatic cancer) of Andrew Jones. Your words of support and sympathy were most comforting and appreciated by all of us.

The Executive and I wish you all a most joy filled festive season and may the New Year bring all you wish for your loved ones and you! I am certain that the army of volunteers that serve our Member Clubs will appreciate the festive break.

*Vince Tantarò*

President.



## VALE

## Andrew George Jones

8 June 1971 – 8 September 2019



On Friday 13th September the Victorian and Australian German Shepherd Dog fraternity said farewell to Andrew Jones. Andrew had finally succumbed to pancreatic cancer following a long and brave battle and treatment over several years. He leaves behind his loving wife Rachel, daughters Trinity and Stephanie, and his son Ayden. Andrew will be missed by the GSD fraternity Australia wide, where he left quite a mark over the last 25 or so years.

Andrew together with Rachel and family were exhibitors, breeders and owners of a number of high quality German Shepherd Dogs. He was an ANKC Single Breed Championship Judge, a GSDCA Specialist Judge, and an aspiring Breed Surveyor. He was GSDCV Show Manager for several years. Andrew bred GSD's with Rachel under the Zandrac Kennels prefix, and was well known for creditable results in shows, including several class and Medal wins at Nationals. Their Kennel either solely or in partnership imported a number of dogs and bitches from Germany over the years, including three National Gold medal winners; Kwint vom Juerikstall, Toby von der Plassenberg and Charlotte von Tronje, as well as Bronze medal winners Hatto vom Huhnegrab and Xaro von der Plassenberg, and also Conbhairean Karlos and Vecia van Noort. Andrew's influence on the GSD breed in Australia has been immense, through his very good stud dogs and their quality progeny bred by Zandrac Kennels, and also by many other kennels. He was a regular visitor to the Sieger Show in Germany, and maintained contact with many successful breeders in Europe.

Andrew was born and grew up in Rushworth, where his parents Edyta & George, his sister and brother's families still live. His family values were very strong and he was always driving for success at whatever he did. Both of his daughters have become accomplished handlers in the GSD specialist ring, and young Ayden is showing an interest in Junior handler classes. He was also very successful in business, owning and managing a growing metal fabrication business in Silverstone Engineering, and was a business partner with Rachel's parents Vince and Fran Tantarò in the Ponderosa Boarding Kennels.

Andrew's passing is a huge loss to the German Shepherd Dog breed in Australia, as it is to his family and many friends. May he rest in peace.

## Editorial

This Edition sadly begins with Vales for Barry O'Rourke and Andrew Jones. The passing of both men is a significant loss to the GSD fraternity in Australia. Barry has been involved in our fraternity for many many years, being involved almost from the inception of Council, he was a Judge and Breed Surveyor, Judges Chair on National Council and has shared his knowledge and helped so many members over the time. Andrew has also been in German Shepherds for a long time, he has imported several stud dogs that many members would know and have had puppies from and who contributed strongly to the development of the breed here in Australia. Andrew was a judge and an aspiring breed surveyor, so at the beginning of his 'career' with much still to offer and achieve. Our thoughts are with all of Barry and Andrew's family and friends.

There have been several big world breed events recently and this edition provides a summary of both – the German Sieger show which many members attend each year, and the Chinese Sieger show, now becoming a massive event numbers wise of dogs. Gail Donald provides a great overview of the visit she and Louis enjoyed to China. Check out some of the dogs the scale of the event and how they do things in China.

Alastair Henderson has also shared his judging experiences in Finland of all places! Its great to see the dogs that are presenting to shows in Europe and many Russian dogs attended to be judged under Alastair. On that note, Alastair has also provided an article on some young up and coming handlers in Germany, how they got involved and what they do. Makes very interesting reading, so enjoy and learn.

For our younger members (and maybe some old but new too!), Lyn Phillis has shared her thoughts as a specialist show ring handler, what's needed and how to get the best out of the dog you are showing. Its great to hear from those with experience and who've had success.

And lets not forget training – a couple of useful articles are included that cover off competing with your dog and establishing reliability in off leash work. What we should all aspire too 😊

The article included on bloat and provided by Dr Candy Baker is recommended reading. We all recognise the dangers of bloat and how quickly a dog's life is threatened. Any research and progress on factors to assist in treatment or outcomes is important and worthwhile.

All eyes now turn to Sydney in May 2020 and the lead up to 48th National. The German Shepherd Dog League will no doubt put on a great show and trial and those with serious intentions will be making plans for their dog preparations already. Stay tuned and keep checking the GSDL website for info about the event, merchandise and social activities. The schedule is included in this edition with all the details you need to know.

The 48th National Show and Trial in May 2020 will coincide with the 60th anniversary of the GSDCA, so stay tuned !

On behalf of all members of the GSDCA Executive, I wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and festive period. It's a great time of year throughout our great country, and should be a time we celebrate with and thank all those involved with us and our dogs. Take the opportunity over the holidays to spend extra time with your dogs, no matter if they are young or old. Every day counts to them, they are part of your family and to them you are their world. So an extra pat, walk, game or treat is gold to those who count on us the most. Stay safe all. Cheers,

Jacinta

## Members Be Advised

### *Hip Dysplasia and Elbow Dysplasia Breed Improvement Schemes*

**MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE:** If you have any queries regarding the HD/ED scheme or the results you have received please contact the GSDCA HD/ED Registrar Doug West via email [hded@gsdcouncilaustralia.org](mailto:hded@gsdcouncilaustralia.org).

Members are **NOT** to contact the readers directly.

## 2020 National Show & Trial



May 15, 16 & 17<sup>th</sup> 2020

For details visit  
[www.gsdl.info](http://www.gsdl.info)



## NEW DECOMPRESSION TECHNIQUE MAY SAVE LIVES OF GERMAN SHEPHERD DOGS WITH BLOAT



When her 9-year-old black and red female German Shepherd Dog, “Winnie” (Winnie vom Spezialblut SchH3 FH CD TT JH), came back from a routine bathroom break before bedtime with a life-or-death case of gastric dilatation-volvulus (GDV), MelloDee Middleton went into survival mode.

“I called my friend and Winnie’s breeder, Carla Griffith, and said, ‘I think Winnie is bloating,’” says Middleton, of Princeton, Texas. “Winnie was screaming. It was a sound I had never heard before. I could see her stomach swelling.”

A veterinary technician, Griffith, of Statesville, North Carolina, formerly of Princeton, Texas, drove to Middleton’s home, about 20 minutes from where she lived. When she arrived, Winnie’s gums were blue, and her eyes were dilated.

Middleton, who breeds under the Gernelhaus prefix, bought Winnie to segue to German-bred working dogs after 17 years in the breed. She and Winnie had earned several titles. Griffith had imported Winnie’s dam, Isar vom Steinaeker SchH3 CDX JH, from West Germany, and the sire, Garner vom Kirschtal, was an imported West German herding champion.

The owner and breeder drove 45 minutes to transport Winnie to the closest emergency clinic in Dallas. “They took a radiograph and saw that her stomach was twisted,” says Griffith, of vom Spezialblut German Shepherd Dogs. “Fortunately, they had an experienced surgeon who performed the bloat surgery and a gastropexy to prevent the stomach from twisting in the future.”

Winnie is an example of how quickly GDV, more commonly known as bloat, happens with little forewarning in large- and giant-sized, deep-chested dogs. German Shepherd Dogs are the most commonly reported breed to get GDV. Thus, a minimally invasive gastropexy procedure is recommended to be done prophylactically at a young age, particularly in dogs in which a direct relative such as a parent, littermate or half-littermate, has bloat, to prevent it from occurring, says William A. Fox-Alvarez, DVM, MS, DACVS, assistant professor of small animal surgery at the University of Florida.

At many clinics today, a veterinarian performs gastropexy laparoscopically using two to three incisions and cameras to help guide the procedure. Minimally invasive surgeries have been shown to decrease pain, shorten recovery time and minimize scarring of the skin, says Dr. Fox-Alvarez.

“Usually there is no rhyme or reason for why a dog bloats,” Griffith says. “I consider myself lucky to have only had four dogs bloat over the past 30-plus years in German Shepherd Dogs. The outcome depends on how quickly you can decompress the gas in the stomach before it cuts off the blood supply to vital organs and tissues.”

## GDV PROGRESSES FAST

Gastric dilatation occurs when the stomach fills like a balloon with gas. As bloat progresses, the gas-filled stomach twists 180 degrees clockwise on its side, cutting off an escape for the gas through the esophagus or duodenum. This is known as gastric dilatation with volvulus. GDV results in a profound distension of the stomach that compresses vital blood vessels and organs in the abdomen and reduces oxygen to those organs. Eventually tissue death occurs, and toxins are released into the bloodstream.

Bloat happens so fast that dogs can die within two hours of the first signs. As the gas builds up in the stomach, a dog becomes increasingly uncomfortable. Owners may notice their dog pacing, panting, retching unsuccessfully, and standing with a hunched back. Clinical signs include a distended abdomen, pale gums, and a weak, rapid pulse. Shock may occur when the vena cava, the large vein carrying deoxygenated blood back into the heart, becomes blocked from the stomach’s twisting and distention.

Among the theories about what causes bloat, owners historically have suspected their dogs gulp atmospheric air when eating. A study published in 2013 in the *Journal of Veterinary Internal Medicine* found otherwise. The researchers examined the stomach gas of 10 dogs admitted to an emergency clinic for GDV surgery and concluded that the gas is due to bacterial fermentation similar to the fermentative bloat that occurs in cattle. In an earlier study, these researchers showed that the stomach contents of a dog with GDV continue to expand and bubble in a plastic container until the top pops off.

“Bloat is a complex inherited disorder in which multiple environmental factors also come into play in predisposing a dog to GDV,” says Jerold Bell, DVM, adjunct professor of genetics at the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University and a genetics advisor to national parent breed clubs. “Unfortunately, there is no complete picture of the pathogenic mechanisms involved in causing bloat.”

Reviewing published articles and breed health surveys, Dr. Bell compiled a report on bloat that was published in 2014 in *Topics in Companion Animal Medicine*. “About 46 breeds of dog are susceptible to bloat,” he says. “These articles show that the German Shepherd Dog is presented most frequently for GDV, followed by the Great Dane, mixed breeds, Standard Poodle, Labrador Retriever, Akita, Golden Retriever, Saint Bernard, Doberman Pinscher, and Chow Chow. There are many other breeds susceptible to GDV, but their smaller populations do not register in these incidence studies.”

The risk of developing GDV increases with age, Dr. Bell says. “Dogs having a large body size and deep chest structure essentially provide a large abdominal body cavity in which a stomach heavily laden with food can stretch the hepatogastric ligament, a ligament that holds the stomach in place, and allow for increased motion and volvulus, or twisting, of the stomach. The fact that the risk increases with age may relate to the progressive stretching of the hepatogastric ligament.”

Emergency surgery to untwist the stomach and check for dead tissue provides the best outcome for dogs with GDV. Prior to surgery a dog must be stabilized. This involves relieving pressure from the gas in the stomach and treating a dog for shock. As with Winnie, a gastropexy is performed during emergency surgery. This procedure, which is recommended prophylactically in at-risk breeds to prevent GDV from recurring, involves tacking the stomach to the right side of the abdominal wall to prevent future shifting or twisting of the stomach.

Time is of the essence when a dog bloats, yet sometimes a surgical delay is unavoidable. For example, a dog may need to be transported to an emergency facility equipped for performing bloat surgery, or owners may

need time to consider the emotional and financial costs involved.

"Mortality from bloat ranges from 10 to 50 percent, depending on the severity and duration of gastric dilatation," says Dr. Fox-Alvarez. "For this reason, rapid and effective decompression of the stomach is critical for successful treatment of dogs with GDV."

"As decompression releases built-up toxins into the bloodstream, concurrent treatment for shock is important for survival," adds Dr. Bell.

A new decompressive gastrostomy catheter (G-cath) technique adapted from human medicine may help stabilize dogs and keep their stomachs decompressed while awaiting surgery. As the lead investigator of a study to evaluate the technique, Dr. Fox-Alvarez worked with his surgical residency mentor, Brad Case, MS, DVM, DACVS, associate professor of small animal surgery at the University of Florida, whose idea it was to explore a sustained decompression method for dogs with GDV.

The two-year study, completed in October 2017, was funded by the AKC Canine Health Foundation and sponsored by the American German Shepherd Dog Charitable Foundation (AGSDCF). An article of the research detailing the first time this device was used to treat dogs with GDV will be published later in 2019 in the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association*.

"We wanted to examine the minimally invasive G-cath for its ability to immediately and continuously alleviate gas distention in the stomach of bloat patients," Dr. Fox-Alvarez says. "Going into the study, we knew it was quick to perform — under 4 minutes. We also knew from a pilot study that it proved successful at effectively providing continuous gastric decompression. For dogs in which surgical delays are unavoidable, this potentially would be ideal to sustain their decompression."

The two most common methods currently used by veterinarians to decompress the stomach of a dog with GDV are: 1) to pass an orogastric tube, essentially a feeding tube, from the mouth to the stomach, or 2) to percutaneously trocar, or penetrate the stomach through the skin, using a large needle. A negative aspect of both procedures is that they only temporarily decompress the stomach.

"In time, the stomach fills back up with gas and begins to compress critical abdominal blood vessels," explains Dr. Fox-Alvarez. "We observed in a hospital how doctors gain access to the stomach of humans in a minimally invasive manner. We borrowed from them and applied their techniques."

The G-cath method involves creating a temporary gastropexy by attaching the stomach wall to the body wall so it doesn't move or fall away as the stomach decompresses and shrinks. A veterinarian uses T-fasteners to secure the gastropexy and then inserts a decompressive G-cath, essentially a pigtail decompressive catheter, in which the tip stays in the stomach to continue decompressing the gas until it is removed at the time of surgery.

Sixteen dogs, including seven German Shepherd Dogs, more than any other breed, were part of the study, as well as three Great Danes and one dog of these breeds: Doberman Pinscher, Giant Schnauzer, Golden Retriever, Greyhound, Standard Poodle, and Weimaraner. The overall median age was 8 years old. The purpose was to compare the newly adapted G-cath technique and the standard trocarization procedure by measuring gas pressure in the dogs' stomachs.

The dogs, which were treated at the emergency and critical care service at the University of Florida, were diagnosed with GDV based on their clinical signs and abdominal radiography. Eight dogs were randomly assigned to the "trocar group" in which the standard trocarization procedure was used to decompress the gas in their stomachs and eight dogs were randomly assigned to the "G-cath group."

The good news is that all dogs in the study survived, says Dr. Fox-Alvarez. "There were not a large number of dogs in this study, which makes it challenging to determine if survival would be affected. The next step is a larger study with more dogs with GDV."

"The ability to keep the stomach decompressed means we are able to eliminate the most damaging component of GDV and truly stabilize a dog before surgery," he says. "We believe that this procedure will prevent the gas buildup from returning and has the potential to improve how stable a dog is before being put under anesthesia. We expect it will help improve outcomes for GDV patients."

## GENETICS & GUT BACTERIA

Meanwhile, a genetics study to identify the role of immune system genes and the gut microbiome in German Shepherd Dogs with GDV is soon to be completed at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. This two-and-a-half-year study, also supported through a grant by the AKC Canine Health Foundation and sponsored by AGSDCF, aims to identify mutations in genes containing risk alleles associated with bloat.

Lead investigator Michael A. Harkey, PhD, says, "We are investigating whether bloat in German Shepherd Dogs is associated with the same risk alleles and the same microbiome profiles as we saw previously in Great Danes, where we identified a single major risk allele in each of three genes. The study in Danes provided insights indicating that an altered bacterial population, an imbalance or dysbiosis, in the gut microbiome of dogs that have bloated is associated with specific genes in the major histocompatibility complex, a group of genes that code for proteins found on the surface of cells and that help the immune system recognize foreign substances."

"In this study, we are analyzing two groups of German Shepherd Dogs — those that had at least one episode of GDV requiring emergency surgery and a control group that had never experienced severe gastric dilatation or torsion or any other major gut-related problem."

The research team collected stool samples from which they extracted bacterial DNA and used rapid sequencing to identify and quantify the thousands of bacteria in the gut. The goal is to identify bacterial species that may be unusually high or low in dogs that bloated compared to those that did not.

"Unfortunately, we have not found the same variations in the same genes of the immune system as we saw in Great Danes," Dr. Harkey says. "While the DLA-88 gene and its risk allele 05101 occurred three times more frequently in Danes that bloated than in those that did not, we never found this risk allele in German Shepherd Dogs. The DRB-1 gene and its 01201 variant, which showed up in Danes with bloat two times more than in control dogs, was not significant in German Shepherd Dogs. The third gene we found in Great Danes, TLR-5 and its D risk allele, also did not occur in German Shepherd Dogs."

Although the genetic work in German Shepherd Dogs has not identified gene mutations that would help identify dogs at risk for bloat as occurred in the Great Dane study, the work continues. "I am hopeful that insights about what occurs in the genetics and gut microbiome of German Shepherd Dogs with bloat will be coming," Dr. Harkey says.

Reflecting on the complexity of breed genetics and bloat, Dr. Bell says, "More research is needed to evaluate factors related to body size, conformation, temperament, gastric mobility and contraction, and the microscopic anatomy of the stomach and the hepatogastric ligament. Studies should be performed on the gut microbiome of GDV-affected dogs that embrace all facets of a dog's genetic makeup."

Meanwhile, Winnie went on to live a healthy life. "She was my foundation bitch for German working dogs," Middleton says. "Winnie

lived to be 14 years old. Catching her bloat in time was the biggest thing that saved her. It's always the hardest part."

Purina appreciates the support of the American German Shepherd Dog Charitable Foundation (AGSDCF), particularly Ginny Altman, current vice president of the Foundation and past president of the German Shepherd Dog Club of America, in helping to identify topics for the German Shepherd Dog Update. The AGSDCF board of directors also helps to identify topics.

## **SIGNS OF GASTRIC DILATATION-VOLVULUS**

- Dry heaving
- White foam and yellow stringy mucus
- Tight, hard abdomen
- Pale gums
- Weak, rapid pulse
- Pacing
- Panting
- Standing with a hunched back

If your dog exhibits signs of bloat, it is important to go immediately to an emergency veterinary clinic, as a dog's condition can become critical within two hours of showing signs.

'Used with permission from the German Shepherd Dog Update, Nestlé Purina PetCare'



## **Your dog's HEALTH feedback?**



**Has your GSD been recently diagnosed with illness, or perhaps unfortunately passed away?**

**Your dog's information and health details could help future GSD's. The GSDCA collects information to collate and assess diseases and illnesses affecting our dogs. Even if your data is several years old, submission will help.**



**All data remains confidential and is submitted directly to our Breed Health Veterinarian Dr Candy Baker. Please consider helping our data collection by submitting a form, no matter how old your information – it will all help.**

**Please fill out our online GSDCA Health Profile Form when something happens with one of your adults or puppies. It will help create a good data collection base to go on with into the future of improving the health of our breed.**

Visit [www.gsdcouncilaustralia.org](http://www.gsdcouncilaustralia.org) and click this button on the home page to go direct to the form, which can be downloaded or submitted online direct to Candy.

Or here is the link:

<http://www.gsdcouncilaustralia.org/gsdcacontent/uploads/2015/03/GSDCA-Health-Profile-Form-August-2016.pdf>

# GERMAN sieger show

## 2019 German Sieger Show

*Paul York was the recipient of the GSDCA's Sieger show press pass for 2019. Following is Paul's report on the show and his travels.*

We all know it's such a long flight to visit the Seiger Show from here, so you have to make the most of it and sometimes take some extra time to relax and enjoy other parts of Europe.

This year we decided to visit Switzerland including some new destinations and revisiting places we visited 14 years ago. The whole country is just amazing. Everything from Service style, hospitality to the beauty that surrounds you with the scenery everything from lush green fields and forests to large stunning lakes, waterfalls and rivers to the stark difference that is the Matterhorn, Glaciers and shale rocks and outcrops. The History and architecture breathtaking. A forward looking country that doesn't disregard the past. Such a contrast to our own. Even though we love our sunburnt country. I wished we could have bundled up some of that water to ship it home. So much for excess baggage.

Our first stop was Zurich and a leisurely couple of days visiting a lovely city and cruising around the stunning lake.



The European train system is definitely the way to travel through this area of Europe so we hopped on a train and headed south to a village we had visited 14 years ago. This is the Village of Zermatt situated at the base of the famous Matterhorn. As everything, Zermatt has grown. 14 years ago there were no vehicles permitted in Zermatt except the occasional one or two small electric delivery vehicles. You see the only way in to Zermatt is by train. These days there are a few more electric vehicles in the way of small taxis and we did even see one electric bus. The major attraction of course is the train from Zermatt to Gornergrat

which is 3,089m above sea level which looks directly across to the Matterhorn (4,478m) the scenery is so different to the valley rugged bare mountains with parts of glaciers in view. Summer in Zermatt is all about Hiking and mountain bike riding summer sports ski lifts for winter go as far up to a place called Matterhorn glacier paradise or Klein Matterhorn (3,883m) this is situated between both Gornergrat and Matterhorn.



Oh and I forgot the other very popular summer attraction is of course the parasailing. The thermals are amazing and the locals know them oh so well. I decided it was time to have another adrenaline rush. 14 years ago I jumped with a guy who was originally from Melbourne and jumped with him again this time. It's only the first step that take courage or stupidity and I will leave it to you to work out which one I have heaps of. Once in the air just sit back and enjoy the view.



# GERMAN sieger show

Sadly time to leave Zermatt and another train trip this time to Nurnberg. Roughly an 8 hour train ride with a couple of changes shouldn't be too



adventurous unless on one of those changes you leave your briefcase in the first class carriage... Yep in a rush to change trains in Bern I left my briefcase which did include phone chargers other items and of course some Euros and pounds for the next part of our trip. Fortunately the Swiss rail is so efficient it was found and it arrived home before us and the funds were deposited into our account. 5 star service.



Not having been to Nuremberg before we were excited to visit yet another great city of Europe with a huge history sometimes eerie. The beautiful old town, churches and markets the castle and did I say history it just oozes it. We met up with Sean and Angie Lynch at our Hotel in Nuremberg for the start of our fun filled days of the Seiger show. Looking forward to seeing dogs old acquaintances, meeting new ones and watching Jess Lynch handle some lovely dogs. The dogs

were stunning and beautifully presented in top condition. I'm not going to include all the results as I am sure that you can locate a link of the GSDCA website to look at them. Instead here are my highlights.

The open VA dogs were as you would expect absolutely stunning. The top three for me were in a class of their own. For me the dog of the day was VA2 Kaspar von Tronje he owned the ring and I was in love. Of course everyone will have their own opinion on this.

The open VA Bitches were as you would expect breathtaking for again it was the VA2 Bitch that I desperately wanted to bring home Baisha di Casa Caputi owned by my friend Julia Krinicz. I may need to have a long talk to Julia re this Bitch if I win Lotto.



SG8 Tramella Uback

## Junior Class Males

Grading	Place	Catalogue Number	Name	OWNER
SG 1	1	5028	Warrior von Media	Katja Rettich
SG 1	2	5144	Wei vom Hutberg	Gerhard Schneider
SG 1	3	5063	Boss v.d. Salehof	Nikolaus Meßler
SG	4	5006	Quando von der Zenteiche	Christoph Ludwig
SG	5	5031	Arlett Team Tierras Charras	Maria Amparo Gaité de la Torre
SG	6	5064	Obama du Montgison	Christophe Trentenaere
SG 1	7	5210	Ibor vom Hühnegrab	Heinz Scheerer
SG 1	8	5009	Tramella Ubak	Ryan Rambridge
SG 1	9	5032	Charly vom Ronkarzgarten	Christian Röhner
SG 1	10	5126	Neron Zedesen Dog	Zeljko Radukic

# GERMAN sieger show



Apart from the obvious open dogs and Bitches I spent a lot of time with the junior dogs. The dog that impressed me the most was SG8 Tramella Uback. He is a dog from the UK and is a stunning strong male. Keep an eye out for him.

The Breeders groups were very impressive. The two groups that impressed me most were the groups of ASAP and KASPER, Both of these groups took my breath away. Our very own Jess Lynch handled Harrys d'Ulmental in the breeders group \*Lucka v Buchenland

The crowds this year was quite disappointing and the atmosphere of bygone years didn't seem to be in the stadium. But again the shopping was almost on par with other years. The sights you see of Aussies gathering at ringside contemplating the classes and... you tell me what they are thinking.

The younger classes in the outer part of the grounds we saw a large number of dogs and again some impressive young stock. Jess was again on the end of the lead and worked well with any charge she was given. Petzi von Arlett a 14 month old \*Kasper von Tronje -\*Uxxi von Arlett. Owner Margit van Dorssen. It's nice to see a young handler from the Newcastle Club being so well respected by International Breeders to be given the opportunity to handle some lovely dogs. Also nice to see friends relaxing after a big class with their dog. Presentation were never too far away and the ceremony always there.

# GERMAN sieger show



Saturday morning Angie and Kay took the opportunity to go back into the city for some more retail therapy and site seeing and did I say retail therapy... they had a ball finding the street markets that must have stretched from one end of the town centre to the other. Lunch shopping, shopping and then back to the grounds in time to see some more lovely dogs. Did I mention the food well it was fabulous no matter where we ate.

Exhausted after these long days we then hoped on a flight back to the UK to visit our dear friend Jacquie in Doncaster. Water and greenery this time meadows and Canals.

Relaxing catching up and some day trips. We visited Darlington All Breeds Show which is fairly big in comparison exhibiting over 7,000 dogs and three days. Again meeting up with old friends in the Lhasa Apso World. A highlight was our visit to York an ancient walled city in northeast England that was founded by the ancient Romans. Its huge 13th-century Gothic cathedral, York Minster, has medieval stained glass and 2 functioning bell towers. The City Walls form a walkway on both sides of the River Ouse. The Monk Bar gate houses an exhibition tracing the life of 15th-century Plantagenet King Richard III..... The Shambles is a must when visiting York and one of the best places is the Harry Potter Wand Shop. After what was a wonderful time it was back to London for the long trip home but before we did that we had another lovely day walking around London visiting Harrods, St James Park, Buckingham Palace of course. Oh and the local.

Oh and by the way Kay & I did buy a dog. Let me introduce you to Chethang Tanique (Imp UK) (Peaches) shortly to arrive in Quarantine.

**DO YOUR SELF A FAVOUR AND MAKE THE SIEGER SHOW NO 1 ON YOUR BUCKET LIST.** Then spoil yourself and do something non dog and experience Europe.

You only live once and in reality not for that long so make the most of it.



# GERMAN sieger show



Paul and Chethang Tanique (Imp UK)

## Sieger Show Results

*Below are the VA animals from the Open classes at the 2019 Sieger Show*

### Stock Coat Dogs

VA	1	Willy vom Kuckucksland
VA	2	Kaspar von Tronje
VA	3	Asap v. Aldamar
VA	4	Cyrus vom Osterberger-Land
VA	5	Henko vom Holtkämper Hof
VA	6	Quenn von der Piste Trophe
VA	7	Nero v. Ghattas
VA	8	Spencer di Casa Massarelli
VA	9	Team Marlboro Hilton
VA	10	Lucka v. Buchenland
VA	11	Mars von Aurelius
VA	12	Veneze Toro
VA	13	Sastor vom Hühnegrab
VA	14	Finn von der Piste Trophe

### Stock Coat Bitches

VA	1	Oana vom Holtkämper Hof
VA	2	Baisha di Casa Caputi
VA	3	Goldie von der Karl-May Höhle
VA	4	Leona von der Zenteiche
VA	5	Mam'zelle du Val D'Anzin
VA	6	Clea dell' Ecclesia Prisca
VA	7	Princess dei Murolo
VA	8	Ulme del Rione Antico
VA	9	Annie Team Colonna
VA(1)	10	Java vom Kuckucksland
VA(1)	11	Netty v. Bad-Box
VA(1)	12	Finja von Walenius

### Long Stock Coat Dogs

VA	1	Ian vom kleinen Zauberberg
VA	2	Krisu vom Patzenberg
VA(1)	3	Prius Framato Rolau
VA	4	Bruce von Cohinor
VA(1)	5	Silas vom Wierlings Hook
VA(1)	6	Idux von Dacon

### Long Stock Coat Bitches

VA(1)	1	Mel C vom Messina
VA	2	Esra von der Burg Aliso
VA(1)	3	v. Chickhoff Unique
VA	4	Ciwi von Cohinor
VA(1)	5	Griz von der wilden Dreizehn

## Off Leash Training: Building Reliability

*The off leash training goal: Enjoying a walk with your dog running free by your side.*

By **Mardi Richmond, CPDT-KA**

Dogs romping, playing, running free. I don't think there is anything quite as beautiful and exhilarating as watching my dogs take off through an open field – their powerful, long strides, muscles glistening as they race each other through the tall grass. Wild dogs uninhibited by leash or fence.

Equally exhilarating is that moment when I call and they turn in tandem, racing each other back to me. After eight years, I am still in awe when my dogs respond with such instant enthusiasm. I am in awe not because it hasn't happened with amazing regularity – it has. But rather because these two dogs are not the easy going, stick-with-you type of dogs that make off-leash reliability a given. (They are more like the kind of dog you might see running away down the beach with a person in hot pursuit. You know the type. Perhaps you even share your life with one.)

If you do have a dog whose off-leash skills leave something to be desired, the tips in this article may help you gain the reliability you want, so both you and your dog can enjoy more freedom.

### Off Leash Risks

I need to start with a word of caution: There is no way to guarantee the safety of your dog off leash. I would like to think that if we trained hard enough, or long enough, or with the right methods, that we could overcome all of the risks, that our dogs really could be completely reliable and safe. But the fact is that when dogs are off leash in an unsecured area, there will always be a chance that their instincts or desires will lead them into the path of danger. In addition, our environment is often unpredictable. When dogs are off leash, there is the chance of a sudden bang, an unexpected animal, or something else that may frighten or harm our dogs.

So why train for off-leash skills? Why not keep our animals on leash or in a safely secured area at all times? As hard as we may try to contain our dogs, the day may come when a gate is left open and our dogs are off leash unexpectedly. And, besides, dogs love to run, romp, and explore. Time spent off leash gives our dogs physical and mental exercise, keeping them healthy and happy. While 100 percent reliability may not be possible, the risks associated with a dog being off leash will be greatly minimized through a combination of training and management.

### Train Without a Leash

For your dog to learn to respond when off leash, start by training without the aid of a leash whenever possible. This may seem obvious. But many of us spend weeks in dog classes working on sit, stay, down, and come with our dogs on a six-foot leash. When we head to the beach or woods and snap off the leash, our dogs act as if they've never been to training class. Unfortunately, on-leash training – while valuable for on-leash behaviours – can't prepare either of you for the challenges of the off-leash experience.

This is partly due to the fact that people often and inadvertently use physical cues such as a slight pressure on the leash to help the dog know what they want. When the dog and handler lose that added signal, their

communication falls apart.

Of course, you can't simply head out to the stimulating environment of the park and expect your dog to behave as he would on leash in a quiet, controlled atmosphere. Start at home, in your kitchen or living room. When your dog can easily and happily move through a repertoire of off-leash skills in your home, move your training to the backyard. When he is an expert in the backyard, move to the (fenced) front yard, then to a fenced park. As your dog becomes more and more reliable working off leash, he will find it easier to respond to you even in new environments.

### Include Training in Daily Play

I have a friend who claims she doesn't like "training." She has, however, taught her dogs to ride in the car, sit before dinner, stay when asked, race each other across the park on cue, come when called, retrieve a ball, hop into the bathtub, and a whole lot more – all without the aid of a dog class or training drills. How has she done this? She simply incorporates big rewards for good behaviour into everyday life.

Incorporating off-leash training into daily activities can help you and your dog prepare for off-leash adventures. Your dog will learn to respond to you everywhere, all of the time. Simply offer big rewards for good behaviour when you and your dog play, walk, feed, or just hang out.

In addition, incorporate off-leash exercises into your dog's favourite experiences. Think about the types of play and activity your dog finds most engaging. Does your dog enjoy playing with other dogs? Chasing Frisbees? Tug games? Sniffing the ground in search of gophers? Dinner time? Incorporate off-leash training into each of these activities. For a dog that loves playing with other dogs, you can use dog play as a reward for a fabulous recall or a great down. If your dog loves sniffing the ground and exploring, you can teach him searching games (described below). If your dog loves to eat more than anything, have him work for his dinner.

### Recall Games to Train With

Turning your recall practice into fun and games helps both you and your dog enjoy the training. Mix your "regular" training sessions with sessions of the following recall games:

**Back and forth recall game.** For this game, you will need another person. Call your dog between the two of you. Each time your dog comes, give a great big happy reward (silly play, jumping up and down, great food treat, play ball, etc.)

**Hide and seek.** Have your dog stay in one spot. Go into another room and hide. Ask your dog to "COME find me" (emphasize the word "Come!"). When your dog finds you, give a great big happy reward. Repeat 3 to 10 times, and stop while your dog is really engaged. Once your dog knows this game, you can initiate a game of it unexpectedly. Example: At the beach, dart behind a rock and call, "Come find me!" When your dog finds you, get crazy happy.

**Dinner time recalls.** Have your dog sit or down and stay while you prepare his dinner. Continue to have your dog stay while you take the dinner into another room. Call your dog to you; dinner is his reward.

**"You're the most wonderful dog" recall.** Call your dog to you. When your dog comes, get down on the ground and play, play, play for at least three solid minutes.

**Ball between the legs.** Call your dog to you. As she comes running, throw a ball (or a favorite treat) between your legs and call "get it." (Or, if your dog is too big to walk between your legs, you can simply turn around and toss the ball.) Remember to say "get it" when your dog goes by so she doesn't start to think the recall means to run past you.

## Avoid Food “Lures”

Positive reinforcement training and the use of a reward marker, like a clicker or the word “Yes!” are essential tools for training off leash. Reward markers let your dog know that he got it right and the reward is coming, even when he’s 20, 30, or more feet away. A dog who is appropriately rewarded for his efforts will quickly learn to listen and respond off leash. Make his rewards match the difficulty of the exercise. In other words, make his response worthwhile!

However, it is very important that you don’t rely on a lure, such as a visible food supply or toys – when working on off-leash skills. It’s fine at first to hold out a treat for your dog to see while encouraging him to come to you, but repeated and ongoing use of a lure will fail more often than not in novel off-leash environments.

If your dog sees in advance what reward you are offering in exchange for a given behaviour, he can weigh its value against whatever it is that he’d rather be doing, say, chasing a squirrel. You might even witness his thought process, “Hmm. Dog biscuit? Or squirrel chase? Dog biscuit? Squirrel chase?” In this case, the squirrel chasing will generally win the dog’s attention.

Instead, always make the rewards for off-leash behaviours interesting, exciting, and most importantly, unpredictable. I find it helpful to list all of the things my dog likes – from favourite food and toys, to freedom and doggy play – and rank them in order with his favourites at the top of the list. For one of my dogs, a tennis ball easily tops all other rewards. For the other, chicken chunks and chasing small animals (not a reward I choose to use) compete for the number one spot. Freedom, or the chance to run and romp like wild dogs, is probably next on both of their lists.

Pick your dog’s top five or six rewards and, if possible, reserve those for off-leash training. Mix up his favourites, varying which one you give him for which behaviour. When you keep your dog guessing, he will stay engaged, giving you an edge in a stimulating environment like a dog park or beach. For example, when I call my dog to me, she may get a romping game of ball, a chunk of fresh chicken, or a dog treat followed by a release to go off and play again. She’s never sure which will be coming. For an especially difficult recall, she may even get them all.

## Recall Rules for Off-Leash Success

These simple rules will help you and your dog maintain a reliable recall.

- 1. Don’t end play by calling your dog to you.** Instead, go get your dog or wait until he is ready to come to you on his own.
- 2. Always follow a recall with one of your dog’s favourite things,** be it food, a Frisbee, or playing with another dog.
- 3. Do a few “high-value” recalls right away during off-leash play;** let your dog know that coming to you will be worth his while. Then release your dog to play again.
- 4. Work on your timing.** It may be very difficult for dogs to “hear and obey” when they are in the middle of greeting another dog, the moment they find a great smell, or in the midst of a prey drive chase (after a squirrel, for example). At these times, you can increase your chances of success by calling him at the moment he can most easily disengage from his other activity. For example, if your dog is greeting another dog, wait for the moment when you can see they are about to turn away from each other, then call your dog.
- 5. Avoid repeatedly calling your dog** when you know he won’t or can’t come. Go get him instead.
- 6. Always (and this is a golden rule) act or behave as if your dog is**

**the most wonderful being in the world when he comes to you** – no matter what he was doing before he came.

## Build a Reliable Recall

Some people might think coming when called should top the list for building off-leash reliability. Coming when called, or the recall, is indeed the backbone of off-leash skills. A dog that will come immediately in almost any situation is safest off leash. But I’ve found that without the first three tips (training off leash, making training part of daily play, and training positively without the use of lure), it’s almost impossible to train a reliable recall. Once you’re incorporating the first three tips, training a recall becomes much easier.

For a dog or puppy that doesn’t yet know “come,” you can start by encouraging him to move toward you. When your dog gets to you, Click! (or use another reward marker, such as the word “Yes!”) and give him a treat. Instead of feeding the treat from your hand, toss it a short distance away. Tossing the treat moves your dog away from you, so he will have to move toward you again for the next Click! and treat. Wait for your dog to come back to you (after eating the treat). When he gets to you, Click! and toss the treat. When he is consistently coming to you for the Click! and treat toss, you can start adding the word “come.” (For more details on teaching your dog to come, see [“Why a Reliable Recall is So Important,”](#) WDJ December 2000.)

The secret to building a reliable recall is to teach your dog to come when called in a low distraction environment (like your living room) and then very gradually train him to respond in the face of increasing distractions. Increase the distractions slowly enough so that your dog can handle it. Consistently and repeatedly reward successful recalls while avoiding situations where your dog may not come when called. The biggest mistake most of us make when training a recall is expecting our dogs to automatically be able to come in difficult situations from the get-go.

When teaching the recall, plan frequent practice times. They don’t have to be long or formal – a couple of fun repetitions in the middle of playtime is great – but do try to train a little on most days. Practice your recalls with the following in mind:

- **Pay attention to what distracts your dog.** This is another time when it may be helpful to make a list. Write down what your dog finds distracting and rank those distractions from easiest to overcome to those that are the most difficult. For example, a young puppy may find everything in his environment distracting – from a leaf on the ground, to a new person coming into the room, to a dog across the street. An older dog may be able to ignore the leaf, but a new person or dog may still pose a challenge. To really build a successful recall, plan on practicing with at least 30 different distractions.
- **Practice your recall with one distraction at a time,** starting with the easiest distraction on the list and progressing to the most challenging. Practice at the easiest level until your dog will come happily each time he is called in spite of the distraction. This could take one or two practice sessions for some distractions, but may take up to a week or more for others.
- **Practice each level of distraction in a variety of places** – the more places the better. For example, for a puppy who is distracted by a leaf on the ground, practice with a leaf as a distraction in your living room. Then practice with a leaf as a distraction in a bedroom, the kitchen, and the garage. Next, take the leaf outside in the backyard and front yard. Then graduate to a local park during a quiet time of day (like 7 am), where you can practice around lots of leaves.
- **Make the value of your dog’s reinforcement match the difficulty**

**of the recall.** The more difficult the distraction or training situation, the better the reward. Continue to reinforce your dog's recall with high-value treats or games until he comes when called consistently and reliably even in the face of all different kinds of distractions. Be careful not to make the mistake of thinking that because your dog "knows" to come when called, that you can stop giving great rewards every time.

• **If you have a dog with a lot of experience in not coming when called, you may have greater success starting over with recall training.** Pretend that you've never trained a recall before. Pick a new word (for example, instead of "come" you can say "here") and start training from the beginning. You'll find that your dog will progress faster than if you try to re-teach using the same word.

By systematically teaching your dog to come when called, you can gradually "proof" the behaviour so that he can respond successfully in increasingly difficult situations. This sounds like a lot of work, and it is. But the work will pay off big time when your dog responds to your recall with great enthusiasm under even the most difficult circumstances.

## Moving Away

The ability for dogs to herd or run agility requires communication at a distance. A dog who works as team member in these or other off-leash activities learns that he is "working" even when the leash is off and he is some distance from his handler.

One of the best ways to ensure that your dog will stay "connected" to you at a distance is to teach him that it's rewarding to come when called and to move away when asked. The idea is to shift his concept of off-leash time from one of a vacation away from you to one of a vacation with you. You want your dog to understand that staying connected with you while running, romping, and playing will ultimately make play time even more rewarding.

Even if you're not into dog sports and you don't live on a sheep ranch, you can incorporate some distance behaviours in your everyday play. Some that I find fun include:

• **Go out:** With this exercise, you teach your dog to move away from you across a yard or field. Teach your dog to "target," that is, touch an object such as a highway cone or a small plastic lid with his nose. Begin by shaping your dog to touch the target while it is near you. When your dog is happily touching the target next to you, gradually move it farther away. Build up to sending your dog 20 or 30 feet to the target. (See "Right on Target," March 2001 for more details on teaching targeting.)

Alternatively, teach your dog to "go out" with ball play. Just before you toss the ball, say "Go!" Soon your dog will race away when he hears the word, before you throw the ball. At that point, you can send your dog out and then ask for another behaviour, like a distance down, before tossing the ball.

• **Around:** The easiest way to teach your dog to go around something is to use a chair as the "around" object. Stand on one side and motion your dog around the chair with your hand or a treat. Once he gets the idea, you can use just a hand motion, giving your dog a Click! and treat as he rounds the chair and turns back toward you. Use your reward marker the moment your dog turns back to you; if you Click! too early, he may turn back toward you the way he came.

After he will happily circle the chair, you can gradually move away until you can send him around the chair from a distance. Later, you can have him circle trees or other natural features. It's a great way for him to get exercise while working on off-leash skills!

• **Right and left:** Teaching your dog to turn to his right or left on cue is

a fun (and impressive) off-leash behaviour. As with the "go out" exercise, you can teach this with either a target (good for food-motivated dogs!) or with a ball (better for toy-motivated dogs). Start with either the right or left – don't try to teach them both at the same time.

Let's say you choose the left. Begin with your dog sitting on your left side – facing the same direction as you – and a ball in your left hand. Say the word "Left" and a half-second later toss the ball to the left. Soon your dog will begin anticipating the toss and turning to the left when he hears the word. After your dog has this down, try it with your dog sitting on your right side, but still asking him to turn to the left. This will make him think a bit more as he will have to move around you to perform the behaviour.

Next, try it with the dog facing you. The tricky part here is remembering to toss the ball to the dog's left – not yours! (One of my students came up with the great idea of putting a chalk mark on her dog's left ear to help her remember which way to toss the ball. Since she never made mistakes in her cues, her dog never got confused.)

Don't start working on "right" until your dog has his "left" down pat. Train the rights and lefts at separate times until he can do them both easily. Then you can start mixing them up and impressing your friends!

• **Find it:** This is a particularly fun behaviour for a dog whose nose always seems to be on the ground. Start with a favourite toy or a treat. Show him the toy or treat, then place it in plain sight nearby. Lead your dog to the item. When he starts to sniff it or pick it up, say "Find it!" After a few times, he will start to go to the item on his own. When he happily moves away from you to the treat or toy, hide it behind a tree or rock. At first, let your dog see where you put it, but once he understands the game, make it harder to find. Before you know it, your dog will be a "find it" fanatic.

## Train for Safety, Too

When your dog is off leash, two simple behaviours can add to his safety:

• **Leave it or Off.** Teaching your dog the "Leave it" or "Off" behaviour can be of great value in off-leash situations. (See "[Teaching Your Dog 'Off'](#)," January 2002, for detailed instruction in teaching "off.") I practice "Leave it" with my dogs around food, other animals, and people. You can use it if your dog finds a tasty piece of garbage or if he wants to visit another dog. It's also a helpful behaviour when you have a friendly dog who wants to meet every person she passes. For those happy canines that love to roll in smelly things, a well-timed "Off!" can prevent a bath later on!

• **Distance down or down on recall:** Imagine your dog is across the street from you; perhaps the gate was left open and he wandered over to visit the neighbour's dog. He sees you and is ready to race toward you. Out of the corner of your eye, you see a car coming. You raise your hand, giving the signal for your dog to down. Your dog drops. The car speeds by. The coast is then clear and you can now safely call your dog to you. Teaching your dog to down at a distance can save his life in an emergency.

Your dog should know how to do a "down" on cue when she's near you. "Shape" faster and faster responses, by marking and rewarding your dog's increasingly quick responses. Then, gradually increase the distance between you and your dog as you ask for the down. When you are far apart, it may be inconvenient to keep up a liberal reinforcement (treat) schedule for her successes, but make sure you do. You want her to be highly motivated to perform the down as quickly as possible.

## Respect Your Dog's Limits

Every dog has limits. Some dogs have special fears that may compromise

their off-leash safety – for example, some dogs will run blindly at the sound of anything that sounds like a gun, including a distant backfiring car. Others may have strong drives that can lead them astray, such as the fresh scent of a pheasant for a hunting dog, or the sight of a rabbit running for a sight hound. Get to know your dog's limits, understand what motivates him, and anticipate when and where you may have problems. You may be able to set up special training situations to work through some challenges; for example, for the noise-phobic dog, you can slowly increase the amount of "background noise" in your training area with a portable stereo.

With other dogs, it may not be worth the effort it would take to make them reliable in certain situations; you may need to disallow off-leash play with some dogs in certain situations. For a dog who is fearful of loud thunder, for example, it's best to keep the leash on when a storm is coming.

Dogs with high prey drive and car chasers are two other examples. While the dog's behaviour can be improved through training in each case, he may never be completely safe off-leash when near prey animals or moving cars, respectively. The more aware you are of your dog's limits, the better you will be able to determine when and where to let your dog romp free.

## The Freedom Balance

You've probably seen one – a dog who is off leash all the time and responds to his handler's cues almost instantly. For a dog who has freedom all of the time, attention from his handler becomes more rewarding than the freedom.

Conversely, a dog who gets very little freedom will find it hard to do anything but revel in joy when he does finally get the opportunity to run, romp, and explore. The best of treats (or the worst of punishments) may not be enough to dissuade a dog who gets only fleeting experiences with freedom. In fact, for many of our dogs, being off leash is such a novel experience that they will lose their brains (and all of their good training) whenever the leash is snapped off. The only way to combat this syndrome is to provide your dog with as many off-leash romps as possible.

For those of us who live in areas with strict leash laws, off-leash romps can be difficult to arrange – difficult, but not impossible. Here are a few ideas:

- ▶ Find parks, trails, or beaches in your area where dogs are allowed off-leash. Plan weekend romps to nearby parks or forests.
- ▶ Visit fenced playgrounds early in the morning or after dusk, when they are empty. (This is a safe option for dogs that are still learning to come when called.) Visit fenced sporting areas such as tennis courts or baseball fields when games aren't in progress.
- ▶ Sign up for training classes that offer off-leash play time. Or enroll your dog in doggy daycare, even for just a day or two a week.
- ▶ Make play dates with your dog's friends. Take turns going to different homes. Someone else's backyard is a novel off-leash environment for your dog. (Of course, this is recommended only for dogs who do well with other dogs in their homes.) Or visit dog-less friends who are amiable to your dog exploring their backyards. Remember to allow your dog to romp off-leash only where it is allowed and where it is safe.

*Mardi Richmond lives in Santa Cruz, California, where she teaches agility for fun classes and writes about dogs. She is the co-author of Ruffing It: The Complete Guide to Camping with Dogs.*

## Rollin', Rollin', Rollin'



## Competing in Sports with a “Challenging Dog”

By *Sassafras Lowrey*

*In an ideal world, all dogs would be Canine Good Citizens, who are comfortable around other dogs and people in a variety of settings and can pursue any canine sport from Agility to Tracking.*

While this is a fantastic goal, it can sometimes feel out-of-reach — especially for many rescue dogs who might not have been socialized when they were puppies or who have traumatic histories. If you have a “challenging” dog, it can be easy to feel discouraged, especially if you dream of training and competing in dog sports. But don’t give up hope. Here’s how you can make dog sports fun for any pup.

### **At Their Own Speed**

Many dogs aren’t destined to win a national — or even be on show grounds. But, in their own time and at their own speed, most dogs can find a sport that they enjoy playing with their owner teammate. For many dogs who have behavioural challenges like reactivity, a traditional sport class setting might not be a good fit because it can be too stressful. That’s why private lessons are a fantastic way to get challenging dogs involved in sports.

Working privately with a trainer gives your dog (and you) individualized training plans and helps you both have fun and work toward any other goals you might have. Some training facilities even have reactive dog classes for general behaviour as well as sports. In these cases, all dogs are kept separately in the training facility during class time when they are not active and only one dog is brought out at a time.

When you have a challenging dog, you often need to recalculate your definition of success is and how that applies to a daily walk or participating in sports. Some challenging dogs are able to rehabilitate and might go on to become competitors, while others will always need careful management.

### **Respect Limits**

It’s important for owners to think about dogs who have significant behavioral issues not as just having quirks, but rather ongoing issues that need monitoring. Just as you wouldn’t encourage a dog with hip dysplasia to compete in agility, a dog who is reactive to other dogs or fearful around people deserves the same health-based consideration. Keep this in mind when you are deciding what sports to explore together and determining which are safe and appropriate for your dog to pursue.

The stress of a competitive environment isn’t right for every dog, but that doesn’t mean you can’t have a lot of fun training in sports together.

Agility, Obedience, Rally, and Scent Work can all be a lot of fun for you and your dog, regardless of whether you ever compete. In fact, many dog owners say Scent Work has helped improve their dog’s behavior.

Want titles? The AKC Trick Dog Program has been groundbreaking for creating an opportunity for all dogs, including challenging dogs, to succeed. Because the sport is set up so that dogs can be evaluated privately an evaluator to earn their trick dog titles, tricks are a perfect way to build confidence for challenging dogs and their owners. This year, there is even a virtual competition.

### **Cherish the Dog You Have**

If you have a reactive dog, an anxious dog, or a dog who is otherwise challenging in sports, you might feel isolated — especially if you log onto social media and your friends are all posting ribbons or stories about success at trials and training classes.

It can feel frustrating to want to train in sports when you have a dog with behavioural needs, but there’s no shame in finding a way to make your sport(s) of choice work for you both. Dog sports don’t have to culminate in competition — for some challenging dogs that isn’t a realistic goal. But mastering a sport and having fun with your dog is within reach.

Often, it’s the most challenging dogs who have the most to teach us. Never give up on your dog, and consider finding a sport that you and your dog love playing together. Strive to be the best you can be at it, whether that means private classes and training in the backyard or competing at the National

# WANTED

**Do you have a good story  
or a tale to tell?  
Or a great photo of your dog???**

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[revieweditor@gsdouncilaustralia.org](mailto:revieweditor@gsdouncilaustralia.org)**



# CHINESE seiger show



## Chinese Sieger Show 2019

*The Chinese Sieger Show was held in late October and attracted a lot of interest worldwide. Gail and Louis Donald attended and Gail has kindly shared the experience of attending the event with some great pics. It's a show on a whole different scale! Thanks Gail!*

For several years now curiosity has grown in relation to what was happening with the breed in China; the staggering number of German VA dogs and bitches purchased by the breeders, and the fact that their Sieger Show is now the second largest German Shepherd Dog show in the world! So, Louis and I took the opportunity this year to attend their Sieger Show, which was to be held in Hefei (pronounced 'herfay') in the Anhui province.

As much as I tried to gather all information about the show, even up to the time of leaving, it was not clear what would be the exact scheduling other than it ran from Thursday to Monday. We were told to arrive on the Thursday afternoon and President, Mr Chen, kindly extended an invitation to the gala dinner on the Thursday night.



So Tuesday of that week it was bon voyage and off to Shanghai for two nights and one day to look around the city! On Wednesday, we took the opportunity of walking to the must-see area of the Bund with its buildings of Gothic, Romanesque and Baroque styles which at night transform into a spectacular night show as they light up like crystal palaces - quite a sight to behold if on a night river cruise. Opposite the bund, across the waters of the Huangpu River is Pudong - only 20 years old and honoured as the "World Expo of Architecture", showcasing over fifty new and distinctive buildings, with one of the major attractions being "The Pearl". (left)

Thursday morning taxi to the enormous Shanghai train station 440,000 sqm (directly next to the airport) to catch the bullet train for the 2.5 hour journey to Shanghai to Hefei. We settled into our hotel then off to the Official Dinner - what an extravaganza! Lots of pizzazz and theatre, award presentations, welcoming judges, music and cinematic display depicting the history of the CSV and, of course, a mouth watering dinner banquet and catch up with all the international handlers, outside the German, French and Italian handlers and their partners, two gentlemen from Mongolia, two from Taiwan, Louis and I were the only overseas visitors.



The decision of who was to judge each of the conformation classes was determined after the gala dinner - so even the exhibitors did not know who would judge their dogs until the next morning! The class allocation was:

Margit Van Dorsen: Baby Puppy Bitches (6-9mth) Jugend Males (12-18mth)

Helmut Koenig: Jugend Bitches (12-18mth)

Luciano Musolino: Baby Puppy Males (6-9mth) Junghund Males (18-24mth)

Lin Yang-Hsien: Puppy Bitches (9-12mth) Long Stock Coats - All classes

Heinz Scheerer: Puppy Males (9-12mth) Junghund Bitches (18-24mth)

Buss: Adult Bitch (24mth+)

The only class not in question and clearly set prior was Adult Dog with Lin Yang-Hsien who is the CSV breeding director and editor of the journal, China Wolf Dog.

In discussions that evening it became apparent that by arriving Thursday afternoon we had missed Leistungshunde and LSH classes, which was very disappointing.

Friday morning, a short walk to the Olympic Stadium, and as we entered the arena the visual displays, rings, banners, flags, hoardings, etc were a sight to behold. We were presented with our ring passes and a very impressive catalogue with over 1400 entries and information in Chinese or German language only. The arena was divided into four rings, baby puppy bitch and baby puppy dog, puppy bitch and dog individuals commencing as in Germany ... come when you like, no order.



The major Chinese kennels fly in the German, French, and Italian handlers - the understanding is that they will present all and any of their dogs for the individuals, but they only handle the best animals in the top groups during the run-offs. Therefore some of the larger kennels would have them present 10 or 15 dogs in one class! Very easy to do when a puppy bitch class like Margit's had 247 entries!

# CHINESE seiger show



International Handlers French Italian German



Segway Photographer

not as easy as he made it look. I believe Jacinta may be contemplating taking Segway lessons 😊?

The professional photography crew in each of the four rings included a videographer recording each individual presentation next to the judge, and to the side of the tent a photographer taking the official standing shot immediately after the individual was completed plus "roving" photographers as well. The highlight I must say was the photographer using the Segway with the video camera displaying impressive control and manoeuvrability! I saw a few of his crew try it out during breaks and concluded that it certainly it was



The baby puppy and puppy classes individuals were completed and the run-offs done. This was our introduction to the Chinese double handlers in action – the level of the cacophony was at times almost

unbearable. Besides the usual crazy running around the outside and standing on each other's shoulders ringside, if there was a break in the proceedings all the double handlers would rush into the ring to excite the dogs with balls and tug toys, the blowing of hooters and horns at ever increasing volume levels, louder than I have ever experienced anywhere else in the world, then as the class recommenced they would rush back out, some jumping over the 1.5 metre ring barricades. At the conclusion of the baby puppy run-offs, the individuals commenced for the Jugend classes. With the size of the younger classes the day turned into a very long one indeed. Margit having to finalise her class of 247 bitches to then commence the individuals for the Jugend males. We saw her wearily coming back to the hotel well after 8.30pm! Fortunately, the stadium lights were extremely powerful giving almost daylight visibility into the evening hours.

Saturday – the Jugend bitch and Junghund bitch and dog individuals, and the run offs for lower groups of Jugend and Junghund classes.



Groovy Progeny Group

Sunday arrives with the Breeders Groups on first and DeDe Kennels took out the top placing. The progeny class featuring 18 stud dogs commenced with all entrants receiving a magnificent large trophy that is designed and produced exclusively for the CSV. Many of the dogs unknown in breeding terms looking at the catalogue but regardless the standouts were certainly the Pacco v Langenbungert and Ulkan v Maikhus groups. Another highlight was seeing Groovy di Casa Massarelli who looked very happy, healthy with vigour and vitality – and of course I took the opportunity to give him a cuddle!

At the conclusion of the Progeny presentations, the Adult Bitches and Males started their individuals. Again, the classes ran over well into the twilight hours with some of the bottom group runoffs transferred to the following day.

Monday – the big day has arrived. Final run-offs and placements for the top groups of Jugend, Junghung, and all groups of the Gebrauchshunde classes – the arena containing the four rings has now opened up into one huge ring – you could feel the excitement building, the crescendo of the double handlers hooting, hollering, screaming. Interesting though, it was "just" noise, there were no dog names being called.



Jugend winner bitch

# CHINESE seiger show



Jugend winner dog



Junghund winner bitch



Gebrauchshunde bitch winner

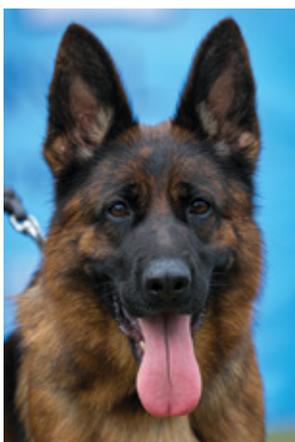


Junghund winner dog

In between the two adult classes there was a special presentation to the spectators introducing *Asap vom Aldamar* announcing his arrival into the country for a short period of time before returning to Germany next year. However, he did not participate in the adult male class.



*Asap*



Gebrauchshunde Bitch – a total highlight for me was the very vital and spectacular moving bitch VA1 *Mam'zelle du Val D'Anzin* handled by Steve Robin, and complete with a full French support team in action on the side lines headed up with du Val D'Anzin breeding legend, Eric Trentenaere. A Yes, I grabbed another cuddle opportunity with the superstar girl.

12 VA 's awarded with seven being Chinese bred.

*Mam'zelle du Val D'Anzin*

Gebrauchshunde Male – 14 VA's with the first seven all being Chinese bred, VA7 was last years Chinese Youth Sieger, and VA8 was Mars von Aurelius. There is a very strong desire for the breed to follow a certain preferred type therefore the domination at the top of the class starting with VA1 *Xinba von Dossel* and brother VA3 *Xim von Dossel*, bred by the President, Mr Chen.



*Asap vom Aldamar*

# CHINESE seiger show



*Gebrauchshunde male winner*

Louis and I were extended very kind hospitality by the CSV, and in particular by Mr Chen and Qing Li. The show gave us an interesting overview of the breed in China and I will enjoy going again sometime in the future. It was very well run, the grounds for this show were excellent and kept very clean at all times. Transport within Hefei, Shanghai and later Beijing was relatively easy to navigate, people are polite and tend to be fascinated with westerners. They are possessed with their mobile phones (more than here!) and totally obsessed with taking selfies ... from young toddlers, teenagers, millennials, to grandmothers and grandfathers! If you decide to travel to China always have your Chinese Hotel or destination written in Chinese as English comprehension is a rarity at the taxi rank and take the opportunity to travel further and explore the intriguing history and people of China.



*CSV President Mr Chen and Interpreter*



*Gail and Groovy*



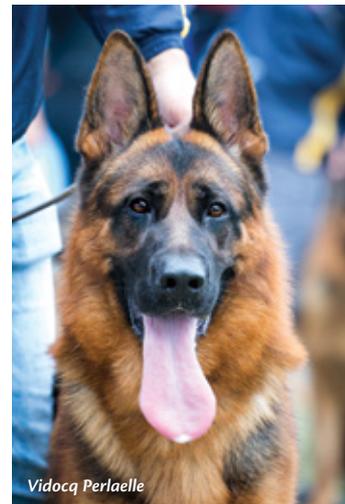
*Buss and Musolino*



*Heinz Scheerer - Judge and Qing Li Interpreter*



*Critiques - Progeny Groups*



*Vidocq Perlaelle*

# CHINESE seiger show



Helmut Koenig - Judge



Lin Yang-Hsien - Judge



Margit van Dorsen - Judge



Pacco's progeny group led by his son



Xula von Hao Yun and proud owner



Sire Progeny Trophy Presentation



呼名：乌尔坎  
Ulkan von Maikhus  
N-15



Ulkan v Maikhus Leading Progeny group



Xinba von Dossel Chinese Sieger



Wilko von BeijingjianDe - leading Pacco



Mars von Aurelius with Lara Benitz



Baptist Bags von DongDeMingMu



Shaka Shakka von JinJiaHe



Lexana Von Dossel



Aiku Ikko von Zhong

## Judging in Finland

*Alastair Henderson, a well known and respected Aussie judge was invited to judge a GSD show in Finland in September this year. Alastair has kindly written about his experiences judging internationally.*

After buying Sensen Mann Yokon in 2014, a chain of events led to me judging in Finland in September. We were introduced to Simone Haack who trained Yokon whilst he was in Germany and then she flew to Australia on the same flight as Yokon to Australia and stayed till he was released from quarantine. So in this time we were able to get to know both Simone and Yokon.

Then later in 2015 we went to the German Siegerschau where Simone introduced us to Kim and Tuula Baggstrom and Sinikka Raty who bred and raised Yokon from there we have been lucky to keep in contact and become friends. So then we were invited by them to visit them in Finland, so finally a group of us decided 2019 we could visit. Then Tuula thought maybe I could judge a show. From there plans were put in place.

After 5 days in Hong Kong and the Japanese Island of Okinawa we arrived in Germany for the Siegerschau 2019. We spent another 5 days catching up with friends, shopping and seeing many top dogs before heading off on a 10 day tour of Russia. From Russia we traveled on to beautiful Helsinki, to judge for the Finnish GSDC on 21 September 2019.

The club was not certain how many would enter as this was an extra show on the calendar, 2 weeks after the German Siegerschau, and the same weekend as Italy. There were 102 entries which was very pleasing. The show was scheduled to start at 9.30am.

We were picked up in a maxicab around 8.00am for the 60 kilometre trip to Siuntio where the show was being held. Unfortunately our driver took a wrong turn which meant we arrived after 10 to judge 26 classes plus 2 breeders groups..... A big day!

It was a pleasure to arrive at Sensen Mann training place in Siuntio as it was so green and an invigorating 5 degrees, with dogs and owners waiting to start. It was great meeting Tom Kankkonen an FCI GSD specialist judge who had come to do teeth and measure the dogs for me and to clarify anything I needed to know. I also met my super critique writer Satu Tupeli-Kokkonen who did a top job and my steward Pirjo Ojala-Laine who was an excellent help.

I thoroughly enjoyed judging dogs from all over Finland, Russia and other countries many of very high quality, being well angulated, with strong bones and very good proportions. Unfortunately a few dogs measured over the height limit and some were not gunsure so they could not be graded.

For me the LSC animals were not of the quality and type of the SCs, showing restrictions in the angulation of the forehand and not standing correct in front.

Finally I must thank Kim, Tuula, Sinikka and their many helpers for making the show happen and for the wonderful hospitality shown to me, my wife Fiona and my travelling companions.

It was a joy for me to meet the mother of our dog Sensen Mann Yokon who at 10 and still exudes vitality, character and the joy to run.

*Alastair Henderson*



De Orse Mak Flaj Bellatriks ,owned in Russia



Fiona with Sensen Mann Yaxham who is Yokon's brother



Sensen Mann Feik born 4.4.2011



Veteran Male,Flair von der Martinskapelle born 3.9.2009 mother of our Sensen Mann Yokon

# A judge's travel



9-12 month male VP 1 Ingermanlandia Rolls  
Royce Sire - Kranichzug Wallace



VG2 12-18 month female Sensen Mann Brasil Sire  
Pacco Vom Bordetal



12 to 18 month male VG1 Kranichzug Hypnos From Kranichzug Wallace



VG 1 12-18 month female Oberlauf Olesya (Russia) Sire - Negus  
Karil's Cito



1 Sensen Mann XPlain sired by Dilan de casa Masarelli Photo 1 SG  
18 to 24 month female Bizmarks  
Hof Christin Goran daughter



2 Sensen Mann XPlain sired by Dilan de casa Masarelli Photo 2 SG3  
12 to 18month male Kranichzug Gandhi sided by Team Malboro  
Hilton



3 Sensen Mann XPlain VG 2 18 -24 month female



The Aussie support crew braving the freezing weather



Photo 1 12 to 18 month male VG2 Team Leiksaïd Wobo Gary  
Huhnengrab son



View of the ground



Working class male Kranichzug Wallace Ulkan son V1

# NATIONAL show & trial schedule



The German Shepherd Dog League of NSW Inc.  
is proud to host, on behalf of the GSDCA Inc.



## The 48TH GSDCA NATIONAL GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG SHOW & TRIAL



15th, 16th and 17th May 2020  
Bill Spilstead Canine Complex,  
44 Luddenham Road, Orchard Hills. NSW



**ALL ENTRIES CLOSE ON FRIDAY 17th April, 2020**

### CONFORMATION JUDGES

All SC Bitches  
All LSC Dogs & Bitches & all SC Dogs

Herr. Joachim Stiegler (SV) Germany  
Herr. Helmut Buss (SV) Germany

### OBEDIENCE JUDGES

Novice and CCD  
Open  
UD & UDX

Mrs. Vivianne Mannion QLD  
Mrs. Lynn Klecka VIC  
Mr. Kevin Speed NSW

### RALLY OBEDIENCE JUDGES

Novice  
Master  
Excellent A&B, Advanced A&B

Mr. Kevin Speed NSW  
Mrs Vivianne Mannion QLD  
Mrs Lynn Klecka Vic

### JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP JUDGE

Mr. Peter Hersant QLD

*(The GSDL reserves the right to substitute judges, if necessary, or to alter scheduled judging times, if required, due to excessively hot weather conditions. No entry fees will be refunded)*

ENTRY FEES	Class	First Entry	Subsequent
<b>CONFORMATION:</b>	Baby Puppy	\$28.00	\$20.00
	Minor & Puppy	\$38.00	\$30.00
	Junior, Intermediate & Open	\$48.00	\$40.00
<b>OBEDIENCE &amp; RALLY</b>	All classes	\$38.00	\$30.00

Initial entry includes catalogue. Please use separate entry form for each class/exhibit. Please include the following information on entry forms – Breed Survey status denoted by \*, Hip and Elbow status.

**ONLINE ENTRIES** available at [www.showmanager.com.au](http://www.showmanager.com.au)

**POSTAL ENTRIES:** Show Secretary, Ms Robyne Ayres, 83a Willow Glen Rd Kurragong NSW 2758.

Please include stamped addressed envelope for receipt.

No entries accepted without fees.



**ONLINE SALES:** Merchandise will be available on GSDL website – [www.gsdl.info](http://www.gsdl.info)

**BREED SURVEY:** Thursday, 14th May, 2020 at 3.00 pm (if required). Venue: GSDL Grounds 44 Luddenham Road, Orchard Hills (Note: BS4 Form is required for animals not resident in NSW). Enquiries: Fay Stokes, State Breed Survey Coordinator Ph: 0401 019 213

# NATIONAL show & trial schedule

## JUDGING TIMES

### FRIDAY 15TH MAY 2020

**CONFORMATION:** Vest collection from 7.00am. Judging commences at 8.00 am. **Bitch Ring:** SC Baby, Minor and Junior Bitches. **Dog Ring:** LSC Baby, Minor and Junior Bitches, then LSC Baby, Minor and Junior Dogs followed by SC Baby, Minor and Junior Dogs.

**RALLY OBEDIENCE:** Vetting 9.00-9.30 am. All judging commences at 10.00 am with Novice, Excellent A&B followed by Advanced A&B, Master. All place sashes, Excellent medals and mementos will be presented at the conclusion of the Trial. *\*All class winners must attend the trophy presentations at completion of conformation judging on Sunday, 17th May 2020.*

**JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP** – classes will be judged by Mr. Peter Hersant (QLD) during the lunch break. Ages 7 to under 10 years of age, 10 to under 13 Years of age, 13 to under 18 Years.

Entry and Photo Release forms available from Show Secretary [anasazi1@bigpond.net.au](mailto:anasazi1@bigpond.net.au) or from the Show Secretary's office on the day.

### SATURDAY 16TH MAY 2020

**CONFORMATION: Sire's Progeny** assembly in the **Bitch Ring** at 7.15 am. Parade commences at 8.00 am SHARP in the **Dog Ring**, followed by Breeders Groups. At the conclusion of the Breeder's Groups, judging of conformation classes will commence.

**Bitch Ring:** SC Puppy and Intermediate Bitches **Dog Ring:** LSC Puppy and Intermediate Bitches followed by LSC Puppy and Intermediate Dogs, then SC Puppy and Intermediate Dogs.

**OBEDIENCE:** Vetting/check in from 8.00 to 8.30 am. All judging commences at 9.00 am with UD, UDX followed by CCD, Novice and Open. All place sashes, Excellent medals and mementos will be presented at the conclusion of the Trial. 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, 17th May 2020. GSDCA Rules apply to all awards and gradings.*

**Judging in all rings to cease at 12.00 noon, for the Official Opening ceremony and presentation of GSDCA awards.**

### SUNDAY 17TH MAY 2020

**CONFORMATION:** Commencing at 8.30am **Bitch Ring:** SC Open Bitches. **Dog Ring:** LSC Open Bitches, LSC Open Dogs, SC Open Dogs, followed by all Challenges. *\*No Inter-sex or inter-variety judging. Gun testing may be conducted in all Open classes.*

The 48th National Show & Trial trophy presentations will be held following the completion of judging.

Judging in both rings to cease at lunch time for the Winner of Winners Obedience competition, to be held in the Dog Ring.

## EXHIBITORS PLEASE NOTE

It is your responsibility to ensure you are ready when called to enter the ring.

The exhibitor will be held responsible for the return of their allocated vests. Any vests not returned within 7 days of the event will incur a \$50.00 fee per unreturned vest.

Only persons with authorised passes will be permitted to enter the rings.

## RETIRING ANIMALS

Animals eligible to retire at the National GSD Show and Trial will be: Gold, Silver & Bronze medal winners, National Challenge and Reserve Challenge winners and National GSD Show and Trial Class winners. (\*For further details refer to Section 35, National Show Manual on GSDCA website.)

## SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Conformation: Stock Coat and Long Stock Coat (ANKC classes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 11 dogs/1a, 2a, 3a, 4a, 5a, 11a bitches) Baby Puppy - 3 months

and under 6 months, Minor Puppy – 6 months and under 9 months, Puppy – 6 months and under 12 months, Junior – 9 months and under 18 months, Intermediate – 18 months and under 36 months, Open – 6 months and over. (Ages apply from the first day of the show, 15.5.20).

## SPECIAL CLASS REQUIREMENTS

**Sire's Progeny Parade:** Entry is automatic. A minimum of five progeny aged nine months or over and entered in the Conformation Classes, both SC and LSC, will be automatically catalogued with the Sire's name and exhibit number. The Sire need not be present or entered in the show. *\*The classes are non-competitive but will receive commentary. Only sires that are Breed Surveyed are eligible.*

**Breeders Groups:** Breeders may enter as many teams as desired. All animals must carry the breeder's prefix and be of one coat variety. Each team must consist of 5 animals over 9 months of age from at least 2 sires and 2 dams. A separate entry form for each team must be received by the closing date of entries - no entry fee. Details of animals competing must be handed to the Show Secretary by close of judging on Friday 5th April, 2019. All animals listed in a Breeder's Group must be entered in the show.

**GSDCA Member Clubs Obedience Challenge** Teams of four exhibits compete, with the scores gained in their respective classes within the National Trial. Exhibits can be mixed from different classes of obedience. Names of teams, handlers and dogs' names must be provided to the Trial Manager prior to the commencement of the Trial. At least three of the exhibits must qualify. Exhibits entered in more than one class must nominate which class is to be scored. The winning team is that team which has the highest aggregate qualifying scores.

## SPECIAL PRIZES

**CONFORMATION** – A Memorial plaque and trophy will be awarded to the winners of the following classes. The **"Walter Reimann"** memorial plaque to the Open Dog SC winner. The **"Roy Brabham"** memorial plaque to the Open Bitch SC winner. The **"Juergen Neddermeyer"** memorial plaque to the Open Dog LSC winner. The **"Thomas Luxton"** memorial plaque to the Open Bitch LSC winner. Gold, Silver & Bronze medallions to 1st, 2nd & 3rd place exhibits in the Open classes (LSC & SC) that are graded Excellent. Plaque & sash for all class winners and Breeders Group winner. Sash & memento for 2nd to 10th place in each class where numbers permit. Trophy & sash for all Challenge Winners. The **"Max Stokes"** memorial plaque will be awarded to the Junior Bitch SC winner, the **"James Rodger"** memorial plaque will be awarded to the Intermediate Bitch SC winner. The **"Joylene Neddermeyer"** memorial plaque is awarded to the Intermediate Bitch LSC winner. The **"Sam Bonifacio"** memorial plaque and trophy is awarded to the most successful SC kennel and the **GSDCA LSC Breeders Trophy** awarded to the most successful LSC kennel over the 3 days.

**OBEDIENCE** – The **"Rick Richardson"** memorial plaque and a trophy will be awarded to the Winner of Winners. Plaque & sash for all class winners. Sash & memento for 2nd to 5th places in each class. Gold, Silver & Bronze medallions awarded to 1st, 2nd & 3rd in Winner of Winners run off.

**DUAL PERFORMANCE** – The **"David O'Rourke"** memorial plaque and a trophy and sash will be awarded to the best Dual Performance exhibit in the Show and Trial. (Rules may be viewed at the Show Secretary's office over the weekend).

## GRADINGS

**CONFORMATION:** Gradings will be awarded at the Judge's discretion. "Promising" and "Very Promising" in Baby, Minor & Puppy Classes. "Good" and "Very Good" to animals over 12 months in Junior, Intermediate and Open Classes. \*The grading of "Excellent" and National Excellent medallion will be awarded as per GSDCA rules only to exhibits 2 years of age or over, entered in the Open Classes and classified under the GSDCA Breed Survey Scheme (or other GSDCA approved scheme).

**OBEDIENCE AND RALLY:** Gradings will be awarded to those exhibits achieving the following scores in Novice, Open, Utility and UDX classes: "Good" 170-179 points, "Very Good" 180-189 points, "Excellent" and

# NATIONAL show & trial schedule

medal 190-200 points, and in CCD class and Rally Classes "Good" 85-89 points, "Very Good" 90-94 points, "Excellent" and medal 95-100 points

## PHOTOGRAPHS AND CRITIQUES

Results and critiques will be published in the Quarterly National Review. An official photographer will be present at the venue and will photograph all conformation place getters. Photography area will be provided outside the ring to capture memories.

**All Obedience competitors are requested to present themselves and dogs for photos at time of check-in.** Exhibitors may supply their own photograph to the National Review Editor within 15 days of the event. Please refer to the Editor's requirements which will be printed in the catalogue.

## CORPORATE TENTS

Pre-erected corporate tents will be ringside for those who have booked. No cooking is permitted in corporate tents. Cost: \$275 per 3m x 3m tent. Corporate tent bookings will be available on line through the GSDL Shop via [www.gsdl.info](http://www.gsdl.info) on Saturday 25 January at 9:00am. Links to the online shop will be provided on the GSDL Facebook page. Exhibitor owned tents/gazebos may only be erected after 3.00 pm on Thursday 14th May, 2020.

## CATALOGUE ADVERTISING

Advertising in the catalogue will be available at \$150.00 (colour). Email all advertising to Jo Cathie [ljcathie@outlook.com](mailto:ljcathie@outlook.com) in Microsoft Word format (A4 size) together with any photographs in jpeg format by Friday 17TH April 2020. There will be no loose leaf advertising. Animals advertised must comply with GSDCA rules. Payment to be sent with entries to the Show Secretary Ms Robyne Ayres, 83a Willow Glen Rd Kurragong NSW 2758 or by direct debit to GSDL Inc, BSB 112-879 Account Number 147777308 Reference your name and word advertisement – email a copy of receipt payment to Jo Cathie [ljcathie@outlook.com](mailto:ljcathie@outlook.com)

## SOCIAL EVENTS

**THURSDAY: MEET & GREET Commences** 3.00 pm. Free sausage sizzle at grounds. \*Please advise numbers attending on Show Manager or your booking slip, for catering purposes.

**SATURDAY: SPIT ROAST & LIVE BAND** in the Rotunda on the grounds at 6.00 p.m. Bookings are

Essential. BYO

**SUNDAY: TROPHY PRESENTATION** At the completion of judging on Sunday – Chicken &

Champagne provided. BYO. Soft drink available

## 48TH NATIONAL MERCHANDISE

Items pre-ordered and with payment received before 18th April, 2020, will be available for collection at the National. Products can be viewed at [www.gsdl.info](http://www.gsdl.info) A limited number of selected items will be available for sale at the event and orders will also be taken on the weekend, for delivery at a later date.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Refer to GSDL website [www.gsdl.info](http://www.gsdl.info) Camping in self-contained vans available at Dogs NSW <https://www.dogsnsw.org.au/about/camping/>

## CONTACTS (No calls after 9pm please)

**Show Secretary:** Robyne Ayres Ph 0418 622087

Email: [anasazi1@bigpond.net.au](mailto:anasazi1@bigpond.net.au)

**Trial Manager:** Annette Whiley Ph 0402 893 569 Email: [annette.whiley@hotmail.com](mailto:annette.whiley@hotmail.com)

## BOOKING SLIP 48TH NATIONAL GSD SHOW & TRIAL



**Show Manager**  
Online Entries Available  
[www.showmanager.com.au](http://www.showmanager.com.au)

### ENTRIES CLOSE FRIDAY 17th APRIL, 2020

Name .....

.....

Phone ..... Email .....

Mobile No. for contact at show .....

.....

### CONFORMATION (Initial entry includes Catalogue)..... NO.

Baby Puppy	Initial	\$28.00	X .....	\$ .....
	Subsequent	\$20.00	X .....	\$ .....
Minor Puppy and Puppy	Initial	\$38.00	X .....	\$ .....
	Subsequent	\$30.00	X .....	\$ .....
Junior, Intermediate and Open	Initial	\$48.00	X .....	\$ .....
	Subsequent	\$40.00	X .....	\$ .....

### OBEDIENCE AND RALLY

All Classes	Initial	\$38.00	X .....	\$ .....
	Subsequent	\$30.00	X .....	\$ .....

Online entries to: Show manager [www.showmanager.com.au](http://www.showmanager.com.au)

**Paper entries to:** Ms Robyne Ayres, GSDL Show Secretary, 83a Willow Glen Rd Kurragong NSW 2758  
Phone: 0418 622087  
E: [anasazi1@bigpond.net.au](mailto:anasazi1@bigpond.net.au)  
Cheques made payable to GSDL Inc

**CATALOGUE** @ \$15.00 each ..... \$ .....

### SOCIAL EVENTS

Thursday Meet & Greet (no charge, advise number attending) .....

Saturday Spit Roast & Live Band @ \$30 per head \$ .....

### DONATIONS

Class Trophy @ \$150 .....

Sashes @ \$100 .....

.....

Total \$ .....

Please go to the website for further details [www.gsdl.info](http://www.gsdl.info)

## National photos

PHOTOGRAPHS: Exhibitors at the NATIONAL SHOW AND TRIAL

PLEASE NOTE:

**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 1st June, 2020.
- 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 10pm, 1st June 2020.**

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](mailto:revieweditor@gsdcouncilaustralia.org)

## National Obedience Competition

*The GSDCA Annual National Obedience Plaque shall be awarded to the best obedience dog and handler gaining the highest aggregate of qualifying scores for each of the CCD, Novice, Open, UD and UDX classes, and Rally-O Novice, Rally-O Advanced, Rally-O Excellent and Rally Master.*

The competition is open to all owners of ANKC registered pedigree GSD who are financial members of a Member Club of the GSDCA at the time of the competition, and shall be a member of an ANKC Affiliate (State Canine Control) at the time of the competition.

The awards will be known as:

- CCD – “Best Community Companion Dog”
- CD – “Best Novice Dog”
- Open – “Best Open Dog”
- UD – “Best Utility Dog”
- UDX – “Best Utility Dog Excellent”
- “Best Rally Novice Dog”
- “Best Rally Advanced Dog”
- “Best Rally Excellent Dog”
- “Best Rally Master Dog”



**Entries for the GSDCA National Obedience Competition are now open.**

**Closing date for all entries is Friday 28th February 2020.**

If you and your dog have trialled successfully in the past year, please check the GSDCA website for all relevant details <http://www.gsdcouncilaustralia.org/working-gsd/obedience/>

Categories cover all Obedience and Rally Obedience Classes, so don't be shy and get those entries in.

Wishing everyone the best of luck for the upcoming year.

Julie Urie – GSDCA Obedience Chairperson  
E: [obedience@gsdcouncilaustralia.org](mailto:obedience@gsdcouncilaustralia.org)



## How Much Training Does Your Dog Really Need?

By **Nancy Tucker, CPDT-KA**

*Life is too short to stress your dog out over achieving perfect obedience. Prioritize the cues you want to teach your dog and start one at a time, but remember teaching your dog should always be fun!*

Raise your hand if you have a perfectly trained dog. Anyone? Anyone? If you raised your hand, good for you! – both of you! For the rest of us whose hands didn't budge, the reality is a little different. Many of us have a long laundry list of dog behaviours we'd like to work on, eventually.

The list of dog training goals may be quirky little things, ranging from stealing tissues out of the bathroom garbage bin to barking at the sound of a doorbell on TV, digging up the vegetable garden, and snacking from the cat's litter box.

Your list of dog training goals might also include more serious issues, like your dog behaving aggressively toward strangers, slipping through any door left open and making a run for it, or displaying fearful behaviours when left at home alone. These types of canine behaviour problems absolutely deserve our attention and should be addressed sooner rather than later for the safety of others, as well as for the safety and well being of the dog.

But what about those other issues? Is it okay to ignore them? I mean, if it's not a problem for you, then is it a problem at all?

### Establish Training Goals for Your Dog

Recently I celebrated the fifth anniversary of my dog Chili's adoption. I originally brought her into my home as a foster, because she had been a resident of the local shelter for a while; I planned to work on some of her behaviour issues in order to increase her chances of adoption. Chili exhibited a host of behaviours that would be problematic for most families: she knew how to perform zero behaviours on cue, had never learned to walk on a leash, she guarded her food and bones, barked and lunged against the windows when riding in the car, and barked and lunged at the TV when a dog barked on screen – to name just a few.

After a couple of weeks, and once I realized the scope of her behaviour problems, I went ahead and signed the adoption papers just to avoid sending Chili back to the shelter when my previously agreed-upon two weeks of fostering were up. I was still going to try to find her a suitable home while we worked on her behaviour, however; she wasn't actually going to stay with us forever.

Weeks turned into months, and by then, my family had grown so attached to Chili that we had no intention of letting her go live elsewhere. She had become a member of our family, as imperfect as she was. And despite nearly nonstop training for more than a year, she really was imperfect. Every day had been, in my eyes, an opportunity to work on at least one of her issues, a chance to improve her behaviour, an obligation to turn her into a "good family dog." Even though I aim to make training as much fun as possible for any dog I'm working with, the fact remains that for Chili, school was always in session. There had been

no holidays, no summer break.

After 15 months of this, and during a time of mourning as we dealt with the unexpected loss of our other very special family dog to a sudden illness, it finally dawned on me that a dog's life is much too short for me to be worrying about achieving perfect behaviour. Why was I so concerned? What was I trying to prove, exactly, by constantly evaluating, managing, and tweaking Chili's behaviour?

I thought about it long and hard and came to the conclusion that my motivation to keep training Chili was rooted in pressure – pressure I put on myself, and pressure I imagined coming from other sources. Expectations had grown from the fact that I was a professional trainer, and yet my dog was not perfect. The social pressure – whether real or imagined – that I felt when I was out and about with my imperfect dog was weighing heavily on me.

### Focus on Your Dog's Good Behaviour to Achieve Better Behaviour

At that very moment, I stopped the daily training and the endless micromanagement of Chili's every move and social contact. I pledged to her that I would instead focus on making what's left of her unfairly short canine life the most fabulous time she had ever known. Expectations and judgment from others be damned, I was going to let Chili be Chili.

This approach has allowed us to relax and grow even closer. By taking a step back and getting to know her true personality, I have also come to realize there are a lot of things that Chili does well. I had spent so much time focusing on what was wrong, that I hadn't really noticed what was right: She has never gone shopping in any garbage bins. She doesn't bark when someone rings the doorbell or knocks at the door. She greets visitors with charm and class. She has always done her business in a far corner of the yard, without any coaching from me. . . . It turns out she's a pretty awesome family dog, just the way she is!

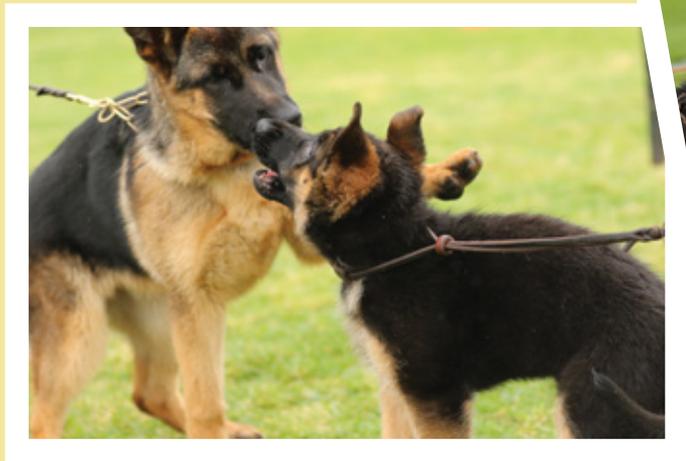
This was such a defining moment for me that I now spend a lot of time helping clients to also see the good in their dog at a time when they might feel frustrated about a particular behaviour problem.

Teaching a dog new behaviours can be lots of fun, and there are tons of people and dogs who thoroughly enjoy daily training and engaging in various canine sports or activities. However, it's equally important to give yourself permission to take the pressure off of yourself and your dog if frequent training isn't your thing.

If there are behaviour issues that you simply can't live with, then of course you should teach your dog to behave differently, or find a trainer who can show you how to make training fun for both you and your dog.

But if you feel you need to work on a behaviour just because you think that's what is expected of your dog, when really you could just as happily leave it alone, then by all means let it be and carry on as you were! It's far more important that you and your dog enjoy the time you spend together.

The truth is, there is no such thing as a perfect dog, and there is no official rule book that states exactly how every dog should behave. We get to make up most of those rules based on what works for us and our own dogs. Outside of competitive dog sports or dog shows, there is no prize for perfect dog behaviour. If your dog is good enough for you, and you're able to make the most out of those dog years, then you're already winners.



# NEWS FROM OUR member clubs



## GSDA of WESTERN AUSTRALIA

### PRESIDENT

Mr. Brian Lubbock

M: 0419 865 804

E-Mail [president@gsdawa.org](mailto:president@gsdawa.org)

### SECRETARY

Mrs. Lucy Lubbock M: 0419 865 590

E-Mail [secretary@gsdawa.org](mailto:secretary@gsdawa.org)

Goodness what a busy time we have had here in the west.

Our headquarters was prepared to perfection – thank you to all who helped to clean the clubhouse, verandah and grass for this double weekend of events. You rock!!!!

West Coast Challenge Rally O and Obedience trials

Results:

#### Novice

Ch Volscaro Lenton Brae CCD ET RA - Rachael Laubsch - 1st Score 191pts

#### Rally O Masters

Sabaranburg Purple Rain CDX RAE RM HTMN

- Di Webb - 1st Score 99 pts

TSGCH Madrodish Was Made for Luvin U

CDX - Peg Waller 8th Score 91 pts

#### Rally O Excellent B

Sabaranburg Purple Rain CDX RAE RM HTMN

- Di Webb 2nd Score 99 pts

#### Rally O Excellent A

Ch Volscaro Lenton Brae CCD ET RA - Rachael

Laubsch 4th Score 87pts

#### Rally O Advanced A

Adashad ThruToTheKeeper CCD - Eddie

Ramsden 5th Score 80 pts

A couple of other German Shepherd Dogs were entered but unfortunately failed to qualify – Good luck next time to those exhibitors.

The next day we had a vet talk by our very own Doctor B on growth in puppies – it is amazing that no matter how long you have “been in dogs” there is always something new to learn.

Thank you Candy for an informative talk which was very well received by those who stayed after training.

This was also our first part of our fund-raising for our favourite charities the McGrath & E.J. Whitten foundations so thank you to all.

On the Saturday before the West Coast

Challenge show we had a Breed Education Day where we welcomed Melanie Groth, Jo Cathie and Kylie Zimmerle to W.A.

I would like to thank them for making time for our benefit, it was a day of learning and sharing information that all members would have gained from hearing.

It was fantastic to have experienced German Shepherd enthusiasts from the G.S.D.C.A. Education Working Group to have open discussions and debates.

Thank you ladies you are welcome anytime.

The following day was the West Coast Challenge Show adjudicated by Roberto Caputi from Ecuador.

It was a hot day and we had plenty of water, pools, fans and shade to everyone's and every dog's comfort.

Thanks to Rob and his team for all their work in catering for the crowd and the V.I.P.s. If people thought it was hot outside on the grass you should try working in our kitchen!!!!

The tables were set up beautifully – the trophy table was a real treat to look at – an awful lot of work goes on behind the scenes to make this event the prestigious one it is renowned for.

#### Results:

Best In Show - Iccara Nailed It - S & N Smith

Runner-up In Show - Cinderhof Italiaa - J

Cathie/L Lynch/K Zimmerle

SC Challenge Dog - Kelpark Helluva Rebel - L Gregor

SC Challenge Bitch - Cinderhof Italiaa - J

Cathie/L Lynch/K Zimmerle

LSC Challenge Dog - Iccara Nailed It - S & N Smith

LSC Challenge Bitch - Iccara China Doll - C

Mailata / S Woollard

Puppy Cup - Bronboreo Adrianna - C Ellis

Runner-up Puppy Cup - Iccara Jean Genie - C

Mailata/S Woollard

Best Baby in Show - Cerrah Amira'cle - S

Muco

Best Minor in Show - Bronboreo Adrianna - C Ellis

Best Puppy in Show - Iccara Jean Genie - C

Mailata / S Woollard

Best Junior in Show - Cinderhof Italiaa - J

Cathie/L Lynch/K Zimmerle

Best Inter in Show - Iccara Nailed It - S & N

Smith

Best Open in Show - Kelpark Helluva Rebel - L Gregor

Top Show & Obedience - Sabaranburg

Purple Rain CDX RAE RM HTMN - Diane

Webb

Triple Crown - Sabaranburg Purple Rain

CDX RAE RM HTMN - Diane Webb

Kalgoorlie Cup - Sabaranburg Purple Rain  
CDX RAE RM HTMN - Diane Webb

Child Handler - Intermediate class -

1st Alison Shea

2nd Rachel Leeder

3rd Mitchell Shea



Getting the modern look with these updated shirts now available to members – modelled here by Honey.



Upcoming events as the year races to a close. Closed Club Trial and Graduation with our final fund-raising BBQ and raffle Open Day – Our new P.R.O. Rob Pritchard has put a new spin on our Fun Day/wind-up. This will be our usual fun day PLUS various organisations and vendors will be on hand to show off everything DOG. We are holding this on a Saturday night and look forward to a great turnout – the GIANT raffle will be amazing – thank you to all of our donors.

The show committee will be heading down to our local Bunnings store to sizzle a sausage of thousand – good luck with your fundraiser – we expect photographs for the next edition.

Night training at both of our grounds begins at the end of November – always fun and we usually get a great crowd

Our year winds up with the visit from Santa and our annual presentations.

Until 2020 I am signing off wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and the happiest and most successful New Year.

Margaret Adams Editor G.S.D.A. of W.A.

# NEWS FROM OUR member clubs



## GSDC of VICTORIA

### PRESIDENT

Mr. Tony Mercieca

Ph: (03) 9467 8653 M: 0411 462 358

E-Mail [president@gsdvc.org.au](mailto:president@gsdvc.org.au)

### SECRETARY

Mr. Vince Ebejer

Ph : (03) 9467 8653 M: 0411 462 358

E-Mail [secretary@gsdvc.org.au](mailto:secretary@gsdvc.org.au)

Hopefully summer is here to stay now, as the weather in Victoria, unlike the rest of the country recently, has been chilly for too long. By the beginning of December our branches are starting to wrap up and wind down for Christmas, with parties and break up and awards and the like. Puppy training continues at most branches throughout December and January, as we all know the importance of helping our young pups. Please take care in the hot weather of all your dogs. And if it's not heat it's snakes, so take care!

In September we held our Track and Search Dog trial, and there were some great passes. Most notably Lin Milne and Djenuen Triple Treat AZ achieved their Test 10 and became Track & Search Grand Champions. It's cheers all round when we see one of our dogs achieve the last step and ultimate title 😊 So much work by the handler and dog to get there. Tracking season is done now until next winter, but a little bit of practice never hurts.

Our Breed Seminar in early November was a big hit, presenters Sanne Pedersen, Mel Groth, Jo Cathie and Kylie Zimmerle did a great job and those who attended all got something out of the 2 days. Play and interaction is so important in puppy and dog development, as is knowing about the breed – their conformation, understanding the breed standard and how it all interrelates for our dogs in all types of work and play.

Of course Melbourne Cup weekend heralds our Champ Show and Working Dog Club weekend, our biggest of the year. We had a great entry for our judges Ian Urie and Roberto Caputi. Despite the wet weather, there were some great results across the obedience trial and two days of shows. Results are below.

## GSDCV 102nd Champ Show

SC Challenge Bitch - \*JAKNELL LOVE BOMB 'AZ'

SC Challenge Dog – \*MACHO VOM LAMORAK (IMP DEU) 'A' ED  
LSC Challenge Bitch - LORDAVO ROYAL SYMPHONY  
LSC Challenge Dog – \*JAYSHELL RICKODO AZ  
Dual Performance - \*CH MAADRICA ANYA AZ RN

## Working Dog Club of Victoria

SC Challenge Bitch - \*CHARLOTTE VON TRONJE A ED (IMP DEU)  
SC Challenge Dog – \*MACHO VOM LAMORAK (IMP DEU) 'a' ED  
LSC Challenge Bitch - \*CH. JAKNELL RUBY TUESDAY AZ  
LSC Challenge Dog – \*JAYSHELL RICKODO AZ  
WDC Best in Show – \*MACHO VOM LAMORAK (IMP DEU) 'a' ED  
WDC Best Junior in Show – CINDERHOF ITALIAA



The highlight of the weekend was actually General Specials held at the conclusion of our specialist WDC show, where Best of Breed Macho and his handler Kylie Zimmerle thrilled not only the big GSD contingent there to watch, but also the all breeds spectators. Macho and Kylie put in a superb performance, owning the ring as they gaited around. Irish Judge Karen McDevitt couldn't go past them and awarded Macho BEST IN SHOW. The crowd erupted, and if you were there to witness it you won't forget it 😊 The icing on the cake was when Macho's daughter Cinderhof Italiaa followed up with Best Junior in Show. A great day for the GSDs.

The passing of Andrew Jones in September was felt by all members, and our thoughts and condolences were with Rachel, Trinity, Stephanie, Ayden, Vince, Fran and families and friends. A large contingent of GSD friends attended his funeral to pass on respects. Andrew's passion and contribution to the GSD will be missed, but we know his family will carry on with his same passion and commitment. Rest easy Andrew.

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Barry O'Rourke, a great contributor to the German Shepherd Dog Breed for many years in WA and Qld. Our condolences to Carol and family.

From all in Victoria we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year. We thank everyone in our club who has volunteered and contributed to training and managing what we do week in week out, training hundreds of dogs, organising trials and shows and attending meetings etc. Every one of you are needed and appreciated for what you offer. Thank you to those who come along to train and get the most out of their dogs, a great family companion is always the aim. For those who strive for titles and awards, that's just the icing on the cake.

So, keep training, engaging with and enjoying your dogs. Merry Christmas !!



## GSD LEAGUE NSW Inc

PRESIDENT Mr. Terry Jarvis

M: 0407 271 418

E-Mail [tepe@bigpond.net.au](mailto:tepe@bigpond.net.au)

### SECRETARY

Mrs. Fay Stokes

Ph: (02) 4777-4241 M: 0401 019 213

E-Mail [faystokes@dodo.com](mailto:faystokes@dodo.com)

A Breed Survey was held on the 15th September with 5 males and 7 females resulting in 9 being classified with 3 surveyors in attendance. Classified were:  
Hillmagic Platinum Nokosi AZ LSC  
Sundaneka Notorius Thunda AZ SC  
Nikobishunde Haakon AZ SC  
Hausillevon Rey AZ SC  
Unshaus Djamika AZ SC  
Vladimir Me Me First AZ SC  
Atoo Brama (Imp CZE) SC  
Dellahund Midori AZ SC  
Bhuachaille Deliberation AZ SC

Congratulations to the owners and breeders. Our next survey is on 10th November followed by ZAP Character Assessment Familiarisation Day.

The club lost two long-time friends this year: our Dogs NSW Rep. Joyce Bennett and our very successful obedience trainer and competitor Pat Bailey. Our condolences to their family and friends and acknowledgement of their devotion, time and expertise which has been put into the breed and club.

Our State Breed was judged by Mrs Fay Stokes

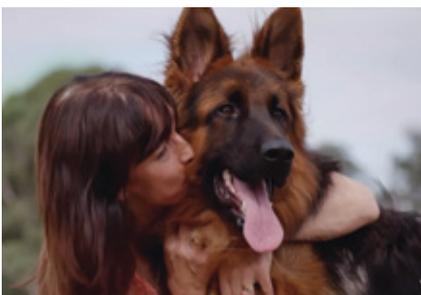
# NEWS FROM OUR member clubs

(NSW) with an entry of 106. The Sieger was \*UK CH Conbhairean Freddie aED (UK) and the Siegerin was \*Freinhaus Havoc AZ in the stock coats. The Sieger was \*Karabach Night Force AZ and Siegerin was \*Eroica Duchess of York AZ in the long stock coats. 4 Progeny groups were presented: UK Ch Conbhairean Freddie aED (UK), \*Djamba v Fichtenschlag (Deu) A ED, \*Gerry v Schacher (Deu) a ED and \*Ch. Vablo v Osterbergerland (Deu) a ED.

The October Championship Show was judged by Mr Greg Green (Vic) with 94 entries. His Best in Show was \*Cinderhof Vantaa AZ and his R/Up in Show was \*Ch Vladimir Legen WaitForit Dary AZ.

The October Members competition was judged by Ms Natalie Humphries (WA) with 85 entries. Her Best Dog SC was \*Khayem Revelation ET AZ, Best Bitch SC was \*Ch Vladimir Legen WaitForit Dary AZ, Best Dog LSC was \*Conkasha Desert Cobra AZ and Best Bitch LSC was \*Ch Siobahn Greyt Temptation (AI) ET AZ.

Members from the club supported the filming for Countdown to Australia's Top Dog which was aired on Channel 7 in a 90-minute show on the 24th September. German Shepherds were number 7 most popular dog, rated on council registrations. Thank you to Col Bailey and Lion, Karen Johnson and Tally, Tony Darcy and Maverick, Graeme Stevenson with Vablo and his pups and myself with Rio. Photos are taken off the film which can still be watched on 7 Catch Up.



On the 16th November the GSDL welcomes Mrs Sharon Ballantyne-Gordon (Qld) to

judge a Members Competition and The GSDL Christmas Members Competition on the 14th December will be judged by Andrew O'Loughlin (SA) after The Annual Awards Presentation.

The GSDL Annual General Meeting is on the 11th November with opportunities for members to take on an active roll in the running of the club.

Merry Christmas to all, enjoy your time with family, dogs and stay safe. Goodluck with your preparations and planning for the 48th GSDCA National GSD Show & Trial and we look forward to seeing you here from the 15th -17th May 2020.

Karen Stevenson



## **GSDC of QUEENSLAND**

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Hello again from beautiful one day perfect the next...

Our State Breed Exhibition and Restricted Obedience Trial was held on Sunday 15th September, our judges were Mrs Carol O'Rourke and Mr Warren Doyle, the numbers were slightly down from the previous year but the quality of the dogs was still high. Congratulations to Sharon Thorp with her lovely male Rudy v Haus Edmond being awarded the title of State Sieger. A great day was had by our conformation and obedience members. – full results and critiques are available on our website. [www.gsdqld.org.au](http://www.gsdqld.org.au)

The Club held our first introduction to Zap (Character and working assessment) and Breed Information Workshop on the 26th October, special thanks to our guest speakers Dr. Karen Hedberg BVS, Coral Pethers (ANKC Obedience Judge), Val Bonney (ANKC Obedience Judge) Julie Urie (GSDCA Obedience Chair), Sharon Ballantyne-Gordon (GSDCA Specialist Judge & Breed Surveyor) and who gave their time freely to talk about a variety of topics. The sharing

of their knowledge and personal experiences made for a day that was jammed packed with information, which included advice on correct diet and nutrition for raising young dogs and puppies, competitive fitness preparation for working dogs, Bloat (GDV), avoiding unnecessary surgeries, the importance of training, ANKC competition opportunities, and the importance of providing a healthy lifestyle (mentally and physically) with the beautiful German Shepherd Dog.

A special thanks to Cristine Begbie who flew up from Melbourne to assist Julie with running through the Zap exercises, the practical session was well presented and we would like to thank Clint Wehmeier & Lynn Ellerton for allowing your dogs to be part of the demonstration, they did you and the breed proud. Thanks to club members and friends of the breed, who supported seminar the day was well attended and from the feedback received, everyone enjoyed themselves and took away a greater knowledge of topics about our breed.

We followed this up on the Sunday the 27th October with an Open Show judged by Belinda West, followed by Members Competition Judge Dr. Karen Hedberg, thank you both for your time and agreeing to the appointment. All results from both shows and the critiques from the members competition club are available on the club website.

Dates to remember for our 2020 Championship Shows are July 4th & 5th Judges

Saturday: Mr.Felix Hollenstein (Switzerland)

Sunday: Mr. Louis Donald Qld

On behalf of the management team and members of the GSDCQ we would like to extend our personal condolences to the Rachel Jones and families on the sad passing of good friend Andrew Jones, Andrew will be sadly missed, and many are thinking of you at this time.

In closing for 2019 The German Shepherd Dog Club of Qld would like to thank Members and our interstate friends for their continued support of our Championship Shows, Members Competitions, Obedience Trials, and Breed Surveys and wish you and your Families a safe and happy festive season.

## **2021 QUEENSLAND NATIONAL!!!!!!**

Please always remember what brought us all together in the first place, our one common love – THE GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG.

Till next time Mandy Scrivens, Sharon Ballantyne-Gordon

# NEWS FROM OUR member clubs



## NEWCASTLE & HUNTER REGION GSDC

PRESIDENT

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A few of the Northern members of the GSDCT, are currently undertaking a feasibility study into suitable venues, whereby the holding of regular ring-work/obedience training can be conducted. This augers well for the future of the club, in providing club activities in the North of the state. Something which has been lacking for a number of years.

With the Summer just before us, working bees are being planned to undertake minor maintenance within the club-rooms at New Norfolk.

Similarly, Christmas is once again fast approaching and the club has again entered the local Christmas Parade at New Norfolk. This is an ideal opportunity to showcase both the club and our dogs. The success of last year and the accolades the participants received was very rewarding.

Likewise, when we mention Christmas, may the GSDCT wish all German Shepherd Clubs and members throughout Australia, the very best for the Festive Season and a truly safe New Year.

Dave Griffin, President



## GSDC of TASMANIA

PRESIDENT Mr David Griffin

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The GSDCT Annual General Meeting held in August, saw a number of new faces and old ones (no pun intended!) join the Management Committee of the club. It was very pleasing to see three of our younger members take on the key roles of Club Secretary, Web Page/Facebook Administrator and General Committee. Whilst two of our rejoining members, volunteered for the equally key roles of Show Secretary and Breed Affairs. With the collective experience of all the respective portfolio holders, the club looks to have a very bright and successful year.

The club Championship Show held in September, in the picturesque setting of New Norfolk on the banks of the River Derwent, was an unqualified success in terms of fun, friendship and fellowship by all in attendance. Even the dogs enjoyed themselves! Our thanks go to Terry Jarvis our judge on the day, whose critiques were very well received and gave us much to reflect on in regard to our dogs.

The club continues to hold weekly training sessions for both ring-work and general obedience training. Whilst participation varies, no-one loses, as the social interaction for both members and dogs is always pleasing.



## ACT GSDA

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### ACTGSDA – 2019 that's a wrap!

What fantastic year 2019 has been in Canberra and for the ACTGSDA. We have seen another great year for training at the Club with our attendances averaging between 40 -50 per week. Our members are to be congratulated for their keenness, their dedication and certainly their resilience during the chilly Canberra winter nights! We now have quite a number interested in entering trials both in Obedience and Rally – this is an exciting new venture for us leading into 2020.

We have also had several members and with their dogs participating in Noseworks classes and are now busily working on refining their scenting skills. They have been given an extra incentive with the ANKC proposal for trail rules for scenting being considered.

Training for 2019 concludes with the Club's Christmas Party and Awards Night on December 4 with training for 2020 resuming on January 29. Thanks and appreciation are expressed to all our instructors for their tireless efforts over the past 12 months, without you our training school would not run!

Our small but very dedicated team of 'showies' have yet again held their own when competing at specialist shows far and wide across the country. Their next big challenge, like many others, is the 2020 National to be held in Sydney – we are looking forward to catching up with friends from fellow Clubs over the three-day event.

In 2020 our show is on October 3 & 4, with two International Judges: returning to Australia is Jens Becker Olsen from Spain and judging for the first time in Australia is Rene Jorgensen from Denmark – we're excited for another great weekend.

Towards the end of September, the Club featured prominently on the ABC, this was via the local 7pm news, several radio spots featuring interviews with Veronica and Jenny and on the ABC Canberra Facebook page. The feedback from the Canberra community was incredibly positive.

The Committee would like to acknowledge the untimely passing of Garry Baker and express our condolences to Gloria, Colin and Sommer and their families. Garry was a past Committee member quite some time ago.

From everyone at the ACTGSDA, members and Committee, we would like to wish our friends throughout the Australian German Shepherd Dog fraternity a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holidays. Hoping everyone has a great break and a relaxing time to eat, drink and be merry! Looking forward to seeing everyone for a great 2020.



## GSDC of SOUTH AUSTRALIA

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## Handling in the Specialty Ring with Lyn Phyllis

*Lyn Phyllis in one of Australia's best handlers in the GSD specialty ring and has been involved with GSD's all her life. Thanks to Lyn for taking the time to share her thoughts on showing and handling dogs, her expertise and advise for young and new handlers in the ring.*

**Kurt Morton, GSDCA Youth Officer**

**How long have you been involved with German shepherds and showing dogs for?**

After hounding my parents for years, they finally bought me a dog, a GSD for my 10th birthday from a backyard breeder in Sydney. I joined the League as a junior member and took him to obedience training every Saturday morning at Parramatta (yes a very long time ago)

Not allowed to get another dog while I was living at home with my parents, I bought my first show dog 11 or 12 years later from Jan & Russell Wenham, an Orkan daughter and that's how it started.

**If you could give one piece of advice to anyone else that was just starting out showing German Shepherds, what would it be?**

There will be great days and not so great days, so enjoy your dogs, love your dogs. They give you so much enjoyment in and out of the show ring, give them back the time and love they deserve and remember they're working dogs, so they love to work and thrive on mental stimulation.



**How have you maintained motivation for such a long period of time?**

I've wanted to show a dog since I was 10 years old, so I guess it's in my blood. As time goes on it gets difficult maintain motivation, but I have been lucky enough to handle some beautiful dogs, so that has kept me going too.

**Now, you're known as one of the best, in fact Peter Hersant (of Astasia kennel fame) named you as one of top handlers in the country. Why do you think that is?**

I know! How wonderful for me to be recognised by Peter Hersant, certainly one of the best.

I guess because good handlers give their entire effort when handling a dog. They feel how the dog is going to work, they know their competition, they can read the class, usually the Judge and they are ring wise. Good handlers are dedicated to the dogs they handle.

**Who has been your favourite dogs to handle and why?**

I cannot say I have one favourite dog. I have many favourites, from the first imported dog I handled, Alk vom Domenica through to a Gold and Bronze medal win with Jimmy V Barutherland and two times Gold medal win with LSC Eroica Catch me if you Can. I have had some wonderful wins handling these dogs from youngsters to adult, Fremont

Hells Bells, Vladimir Envy This, Schaeferhund Rafael, Kyora Holly and now an exciting up and coming youngster Kingkesha Beauty Rich n Rare.

**What do you think makes a good handler and which aspects are part of a good presentation?**

A good handler doesn't handle every dog the same. A good handler can feel the dog through the lead and can predict what the dog will do next. A good handler will present a dog in a way so their best attributes are highlighted.

**Which role does the dog handler really play at a show?**

A very important one. A handler can 'make' or 'break' presentation of a dog. A good handler keeps an eye on everything, the judge, the double handler, the dog in front (should there be one) and the dogs behind.

**Where do you see the breed in Australia going?**

It is wonderful that new bloodlines are being imported into the country more frequently as well as frozen semen. Also local frozen or chilled semen can be moved around Australia making it much easier to access sought after bloodlines.

What is concerning to me, is the mix in type we are seeing, short under chests are still around and short necks which affects the front assembly, coarse and/or ugly heads, over angulation and long loose hocks. In my opinion, breeders need to be very careful that they stay true to type and correct the faults they have by using suitable dogs, not just the 'flavour of the day' or the 'local' dog.

It is also concerning to me that there are very few new people coming into the breed for various reasons. The keeping of more than 1 or 2 dogs has become difficult with local councils, the cost of show entries, travel and accommodation has soared etc etc, and some people just prefer to sit on the lounge with their dog and play on their phones – we have become a lazy society. The joys of modern technology.

There are going to be many challenges for the breeders and exhibitors of the GSD in the future. I feel there needs to be unity among the GSD fraternity in Australia to ride out these challenges in a hope to improve the breed. People should not be afraid of change and embrace it within the realms of their possibility. It is all part of moving forward and not being left behind.



## Junior Handler Program in Germany

*Alastair Henderson asked his good friend Christoph Ludwig (SV judge) to tell us about the programs and shows in Germany for junior handlers, how they are structured and managed to encourage junior involvement for the future of the breed. Two young handlers have also generously provided their experiences and achievements and their stories follow.*

In Germany, we started in 1985 to install Shows only for junior-handlers in a way to promote the engagement and enthusiasm of young people handling dogs in a show, and of course to find ways to involve more young people in our sport. Girls and boys want to share a sportive challenge and a competition, and we hope that handling a dog in an exhibition could be a good start to motivate them, to encourage them to learn more about the German Shepherd and its various possibilities to join this and do as sport partner, as friend and family member.

In the meantime, this idea of junior handling did grow much more, and we have in all our divisions and sections competition for junior handlers, in shows, also in trials and agility contests.

Each division in the SV, that means each local club (Ortsgruppe) and each state region (Landesgruppe) is obliged to have a supervisor (Jugendwart), to attend the kids and juveniles in their activities. So, many local clubs have meetings for their junior teams, where they can train their dogs and can get some special advice, tips and tricks.

Also, usually the regions do organize a camp, sometimes a tent camp, sometimes kind of a boot camp, once a year, for a few days during school holiday season. Kids of all age, even older, join their time together, mostly with their dogs. In our region (LG Rheinland-Palatine), each day a speaker or a consultant comes to the group, explains, gives some training lessons. For example, in the last years I made some lessons in ring training, preparing dogs for a show, do some theoretical explanations about sense of shows and showing dogs, also about breeding in general. I do also give some introductions in character tests, in socialisation of our dogs in common. Some working judges of our region did make seminars about right training in tracking, obedience and bitework etc. Of course, fun and joy is not missed out in these camps. So, kids use the time also for playing together, e.g. go swimming (with or without dogs), making excursions or other funny things together.

Junior handlers in the shows are defined up to an age of maximum 21 years. There's no limit down. But it makes sense, that kids are old enough to keep a dog at the leash.

In the junior handling-shows, we can see, that there are many kids handling a dog for the very first time, in competition with handlers who are already very experienced, with lot of knowledge, and usually handling dogs on regular shows with adults. In my opinion, it's up to the judge to explain handlers and participants, that the dogs are the subject of analysis, because it's a dog show, not a handler show. But of course, it's necessary to make comments about the abilities of the handlers, to encourage them, and to point out things they can improve.

Every years highlight for the junior handlers in Germany is the German Junior Handling Championships, each year on the weekend of Pentecost. Here, juniors from all divisions, Show, Trial and Agility, come together,

battle in their parts, mostly with their own dogs. Some do all divisions with their dogs and fight for the title "Universal Junior Sieger". After the participants are selected in each region, you can see here dogs sports on the highest level, in combination with really high sportmanship and companionship, which you will not find in this manner on any other SV-competition. Especially the show is a platform for the most successful breeders and exhibitors to show their dogs. It's not a problem for any of them, to let their highest placed dogs be shown by young handlers. Also the winners in the trial part will get the qualification to start with the top athletes on the German Bundessiegerprüfung.

I'm sure you in Australia will find a way to encourage also your young members. Including them in the sport is necessary and of course important for a future of any organization. But we figured out, that the kids like especially to enjoy their time together and fight in their own competitions, before they decide to "fight" with the adults.

*Christoph Ludwig*

### Mosaab Farag

**21 years old, German, International Marketing student**

My name is Mosaab Farag and I do dog sports (handling dogs at shows) for 6 years. I was born and raised in Egypt until the age of thirteen and in 2011 I've moved to my dad in Germany. My dream was always to own a dog and it got fulfilled when I arrived in Germany. I've bought my first dog in 2013 at the age of 15 and trained him for IPO and shows at our German Shepherd club in the small village I live in.

In 2014 I started to train more dogs and I've travelled for almost 1,5 years every Thursday after my school with the train to Cologne to train dogs and to learn better dog handling techniques. My mum and dad do not do any dog sports, but they've supported me financially which helped me through my journey. I have handled throughout the last years for many German and foreign breeders. But as I remember the most German kennels I've handled for at adult and junior shows were von Arlett, vom Hühnegrab, von Tronje. It is always a fantastic feeling when the breeders and dog owners put their trust in you to handle their dogs and you achieve good results together. It's always a pleasure and at the same time it makes lots of fun too!

In Germany junior shows are very well organized, all junior handlers get prizes and good critiques from the judges to motivate them to get better and train more with their dogs. The junior shows are allowed for juniors starting from the age of 4 to 21 years old. It's always a pleasure to watch very young juniors handling dogs and having fun in the big ring. For junior shows you mostly get asked a couple of weeks or days before the show if you can handle in classes for different breeders and sometimes you get asked when you arrive to the show venue too. So, it varies a lot.

My highlights through the last six years are:

- 2014 handling my first female under the top 30 in Germany in the stadium
- Flying in 2014, 2015 and 2016 to the Italian Junior championship and winning lots of classes
- 2016: handling my first self-trained VA Female in Germany Peperoni von Arlett
- Handling the self-trained V10 Pedra vom Pizorusso in 2017
- Doing with Karlo von Arlett the off-leash round in the stadium in 2017
- Handling Sastor team Hühnegrab SG15 at German sieger in 2017
- Handling SG10 Yuka team Hühnegrab SG10 in 2018
- Flying two times to Hong Kong Siegershow and winning VA1 males and females

- Flying two times to Korean Siegershow
- 2018 Chinese Siegershow and achieving SG3 from more than 200 females in 18-24 class
- Handling V1 longhair females Mery de Sagasta in 2019 German sieger
- Handling SG10 youth males Youles von Aducht in 2019 German sieger
- Working with my friend Niko Büttgenbach as one team since 2014

My biggest highlight in all six years happened this year at the German siegershow 2019 in Nuremberg. I was allowed to train the VA2 male Kaspar von Tronje the whole show season. It was a tough season with lots of ups and downs but at the end of the day my team (Team Tronje) and I managed a fantastic work at the German sieger and we were happy and proud that we have been working as a strong team. Kaspar is a very special dog for me, I have been handling him at shows since he was four months old and this year I had the big luck to handle him at the German sieger and achieving the result VA2 and leading him in his progeny group.

I'm sure planning to be a German shepherd dog breeder. But first after I finish my studies and start earning money from work so I can concentrate on a professional breeding program. I'm studying international Marketing and I will hopefully finish my bachelor in 2020 and do my master also in 2020.

I can recommend to all Australian youngsters to enjoy working with the dogs and training them, because at the end of the day you will definitely recognize that hard work PAYS OFF!!!

Last but not least I would like to thank Mr Christoph Ludwig for recommending me to write about my little journey in the SV. It was always a pleasure to handle dogs for him and his wife Mrs. Silke Ludwig at junior shows.

I still remember the first dog which I have handled for them: Carlos von der Zenteiche. Leona and Omen von der Zenteiche too. Also to mention that all 3 dogs were presented in the 9-12 class and all achieved the first place.

Masaab



## Niko Büttgenbach

**21 years old, German, training as an industrial clerk**

My name is Niko Büttgenbach and I already do the dog sport eternally. Since I can remember my parents have dogs. My parents breed and train working dogs.

My beginnings in dog sports were with a Border Collie I have finished training with him for the IPO 1. But I quickly realized I'm not far with my dog 'Blue' and so had a German shepherd as a new breed.

My parents bought me a well-educated 4-year-old bitch to gain experience in her. It was a lot of fun to train dogs, but my way led me to the breeding in 2010.

First training sessions in the show area have shown me how much fun it can be to handle and guide dogs. Already in my first year I ran a male in the GHKL RÜ and reached there V40.

This was the beginning of a very successful time in my eyes. In recent years, I have been bringing dogs from all sorts of breeders be it high or less. It just made so much desire to lead the dogs and train. Until I started having fun calling dogs and preparing for shows.

I got dogs from the world-famous kennel "vom Hühnegrab" and it all started by accident. About 2 months before the Sieger show a friend asked me if I would like to prepare a dog. I dared approach the task since I had a driver's license at that time. Already on the same evening my phone rang. It was Heinz Scheerer (the breeder of vom Hühnegrab). He

was happy that I would like to get a dog ready for him.

It all happened very fast a week later I had the bitch Cheyenne v Hühnegrab in my kennel. Within less than 2 months, I coached the bitch with Mosaab Farag, who has been my best friend and teammate since day one. Finally we were able to prove the placement SG3, a dream came true. The first bitch I finished came on the podium at the World Championships.

What is your kennel Name?

My parents have the kennel name "von Büttgen"

Since 3 years I have my own kennel "Team NiBue". In 3 years I was able to breed 4 litters, the name derives from Niko Büttgenbach à NiBue.

Did mum and dad start you or something else involved?

My parents have had German Shepherds since birth and have guided me to the dogs step by step.

What age did you start?

I cannot say the age exactly when I really started with dog sports. I only know that I started the show in 2010.

Where have you handled and for which breeders, highlights etc

As mentioned above, I have all sorts of breeders, whether German or foreign breeders. In the past years, I flew only for the lead of other dogs through the whole world.

No matter if it was the neighboring countries of Germany or other continents be it China Russia or Spain.

My highlights were:

The first dog on the Siegershow

- 2011 SG 4 "Chicco Dogshof"
- 2012 V10 Ghkl "Chicco Dogshof"
- 2014, Chayenne vom Hühnegrab SG 3
- 2015 SG 6 Duran team Hühnegrab
- 2016 Labo team Hühnegrab SG27
- 2016 Diaz von Veterinaria VA 5 Longhair
- 2017 Pedra v. Pizzorouso called V10
- 2017 Arte Degli Achei V5
- 2018 My own dog SG 19 Harry Potter aus Wattenscheid
- 2019 Mery de Sagasta Longhair V1

How do the junior shows get organized, do you go to the show?

The youth shows in Germany have always been something very special. Unfortunately, I'm too old for that in Germany, the maximum age is 21 years for such youth shows. There is a completely different atmosphere.

They are planned from start to finish and it starts with the trophies. Everyone is friendly and helpful. The youth shows are to introduce young people to the big shows, there may sometimes happen mistakes and nobody is in a bad mood.

It is always different times you are asked to lead weeks before and sometimes you get most of the dogs on site at the show. There are no regularities, there is often the condition of the dog is issued or not and this is often spontaneous.

Have you finished school, are you going to university, and what next?

I am currently doing my 2 training as an industrial clerk in an

international company. No matter how much fun dog sport does without the right job, you cannot enjoy this wonderful hobby.

I would like to give you a tip - Dog Sports is team sport. You are strong only when you are together and work together !

*Nika*



## It's Not "All In How You Raise Them": The Role of Genetics in Behaviour

Dr J Summerfield



*If you're a dog owner, I'm sure you've heard this refrain.*

*Conventional wisdom says that young puppies come to us as blank slates. Full of promise and limitless potential, ready to be moulded into your ideal companion as long as you do your part – provide lots of love, the right amount of discipline, and appropriate training along the way.*

If you're a caring, responsible pet owner, there's no reason that your puppy should not grow up to be a model canine citizen.

"Bad" dogs are the fault of bad owners, right? After all, it's all in how you raise them.

As always, in the world of behaviour – it's not quite that simple.

There are few myths in the field of dog training that get under my skin quite as much as this one. Perhaps it's because I've seen so many kind, committed owners with deeply troubled dogs break down in tears during a behaviour consultation, certain that they have done something to cause their dog's crippling anxiety or aggression issues. After all, they've had him since he was a puppy – so clearly, something must have been lacking in his upbringing.

Or perhaps it's the countless number of fundamentally mismatched dog/owner pairings that every veterinarian and trainer sees on a regular basis. The gentle elderly couple, with the adolescent field-bred Lab. The busy young professionals with three children under the age of five, with the spooky English Mastiff who doesn't like kids. Or even the lovely middle-aged woman who wants to do therapy work in a local nursing home, with her aloof and introverted Chow.

What all of these situations have in common, at their core, is a lack of understanding combined with an unfortunate and excessive sense of optimism – an unshakeable faith in the notion that any dog can be moulded into the perfect pet for the owner's particular lifestyle, as long as they're "raised right." That every eight-week-old puppy is a formless mass of behavioural clay, ready to be imprinted with whatever

characteristics and personality traits are most convenient for their living situation and the wishes of their new family.

Unfortunately for all involved in the examples above, this is utterly and emphatically not true.

But wait, you might say! What about socialization and training?

Can't we influence our puppies' adult characteristics through exposure to the things we want them to be comfortable with? Can't we teach them early on how we want them to behave, thus preventing any problems later on?

In other words, a perfectly socialized and well-trained puppy should be a foolproof bet to turn out the way we want – right?

Well... the answer, as they say, is complicated.

Don't get me wrong – socialization and early learning are very powerful things. There is a lot we can do to set our puppies up for success, and also to address possible problems or behavioural red flags early on. This is the "nurture" side of the nature-and-nurture paradigm, and it's incredibly important – but it's only half of the equation.

### So what does nature have to say?

We all know intuitively that behavioural characteristics can be inherited. After all, this basic notion is the reason for thousands of years of selective breeding in the dog world – it's why we've been able to develop specific lines of dogs who are consistently driven to retrieve things, herd sheep, guard our homes, or track rabbits without any formal training at all. Why, then, does it surprise us that other types of behavioural tendencies can also be passed from parents to offspring?

The truth is, your dog's genetic background plays a tremendous (and often under-valued) role not only in what inborn skills he might have, but in who he is – whether he is friendly or reserved with strangers, tolerant of other pets or not, a high-drive athlete or a snuggly couch potato, easily startled by loud noises or relatively "bombproof."

Since the 1940s, studies in canine behavioural genetics have consistently shown that traits such as fearfulness, impulsivity, problem-solving ability, working drive, and even tendencies toward aggression are strongly influenced by breeding. Socialization and early learning can certainly help to sway things in one direction or another, but these forces are operating on a pre-existing genetic blueprint.

### Is behaviour mouldable?

Of course it is – to a point. You can only modify what you already have, not create the dog of your choosing from scratch. So if you have specific goals for your pup or need a dog with a certain personality type, it pays to make sure that you're getting a temperament you can live with!

Please note that none of this should be taken as a defence of breed-specific stereotyping or discrimination, on the theory that certain breeds are bound to be aggressive or otherwise "bad." There is a tremendous amount of genetic variability within every breed – so much so that it's not possible to make any reliable predictions about behaviour based solely on breed identification. It's much more valuable to look specifically at the parents and littermates of a particular puppy, or at a certain line of dogs within a breed.

### So, what can we do with this knowledge?

If you have specific personality traits that you need in a dog, don't choose a puppy based on looks or a cheap purchase price and assume that you can "make it work" – this rarely goes well, in my experience.

Instead, I would strongly encourage you to look into getting a puppy from an excellent breeder, with a good track record of producing dogs

with the traits that you want – this is your very best chance of ending up with a dog that will be a good fit for you and your family. Many owners need a dog that is reliably gentle and tolerant with kids, or with low prey drive because of smaller pets in the home, or easy-going and low-energy because they are elderly or disabled. Getting an adult dog from a trusted source who knows the dog well (such as a breeder, or a good rescue group) can also be a great option.

This kind of predictability may not be important for all owners – which is fine! Many of my clients don't have any specific plans or goals for their dog, and their lifestyle is flexible enough that a wide range of personality types would fit into their household with no problems. If this describes you, then you could absolutely open your home to a puppy or older dog with an unknown background and see where life takes the two of you. There are many such dogs who desperately need homes, and the relationship that you have with a dog like this can be extremely special.

**By the same token – if you are thinking about breeding your dog, or if you already have an active breeding program, please carefully consider temperament in your breeding decisions!** Most good breeders know this already and are very selective about which dogs they choose to breed, but this idea can be surprising to many owners who are new to the process and aren't aware that personality traits can be inherited. Excessively fearful or aggressive dogs should not be bred – period. These issues should be taken as seriously as hereditary physical problems like hip dysplasia or degenerative myelopathy, as they are every bit as devastating for both the puppy and his/her new family.

And finally, if you have a pup from an uncertain background (or a known, not-so-great background) who is struggling with a behaviour problem despite your best efforts, don't beat yourself up! For many of my clients, it comes as a relief to know that they have done nothing wrong – the misplaced guilt that comes with having a much-loved dog who is also severely aggressive or fearful of everything can be crushing.

It helps to understand that you can only play the hand you're dealt; all dogs come with their own personalities and behavioural tendencies, for better or worse. We can do a lot to help these dogs live safer, happier lives with training and careful management – we can build their confidence, teach them better coping skills to handle stress, and strengthen their bond with their owners – but we can't change who they are. And usually, that's okay.

So if you have a dog like this, to paraphrase the famous Serenity Prayer – I would encourage you to work on the things you can change, and accept the things you can't.

The trick is learning to know the difference.



## 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.*

<b>Front Cover</b>	<b>Back Cover</b>
\$225.00 (Non - Advertising)	\$200.00 (Non - Advertising)
<b>Full Page</b>	<b>Double Spread</b>
\$360.00	\$700.00
<b>Half Page/Quarter Page</b>	
\$180/\$100	

Annual advertising package: For the same copy in 4 editions for Full, Half or Quarter pages a discount of 10% will apply  
Other advertising spaces available on request. Non-Members and/or Commercial Rates available upon request.



### 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. Optional extra, available at no extra charge to the QNR advertisement fee.

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 available for owners who place full page ads in the QNR,

**Please make Cheque/Bank draft or Money Order payable to: German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia Inc. and forward to: The Treasurer, GSDCA QNR, 12 Williams Road Two Wells SA 5501**

### 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.

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