

THE German Shepherd Dog

QUARTERLY NATIONAL REVIEW



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

Spring 2020

INSIDE

- German Shepherds as Guide Dogs
- Meet Jess Kada (Jaknell Kennels) & Hannah Kelly (Derharv Kennels)
- What is Pyometra?
- Meet Dr Candy Baker
- Growth and Feeding Puppies
- GSD's Relevant Weight for Age
- Shaping Success
- Preparing Your Dog for Obedience Trials
- Five things that will improve your training
- Keep the feet moving! Get those exercises flowing!
- Using Food Rewards
- GSDCA Breed Improvement Scheme Recognition
- Reports from the National Breed Commission
- Club News, Photos, Candid Camera and More..... !



www.gsdcouncilaustralia.org

EVENT calendar

GSDCA Events

Date	Event	Location
6th & 7th February 2021	GSDCA Annual General Meeting	Sydney
15th, 16th & 17th May 2021	48th GSDCA National Show & Trial	Sydney

Member Club Shows

Date	Judge	Location	Event
13/09/2020	Morton Kurt	GSDAWA	Members Competition
3/10/2020	Becker-Olsen Jens	ACTGSDC	Championship Show
3/10/2020	Jorgensen Rene	ACTGSDC	Championship Show
4/10/2020	Knuckey Robyn	GSDAWA	Members Competition
10/10/2020	Belfield Susan	GSDL	Championship Show - 2 days
25/10/2020	di Festa Mauro	GSDAWA	West Coast Challenge
31/10/2020	di Festa Mauro	GSDCV	GSDCV/WDC weekend
1/11/2020	Farley Fran	GSDCV	GSDCV/WDC Weekend
12/12/2020	Henderson Alastair	GSDL	Sanctioned Show

Quarterly National Review Closing dates

Close dates for content submission and advertising in future magazine editions

Edition	Closing date	Delivery to Members
Summer 2021	5th November 2020	Early December
Autumn 2021	5 February 2021	Early March



www.facebook.com/GSDCA



www.gsdcouncilaustralia.org



<http://database.gsdcouncilaustralia.org>



www.wusv.org



www.schaeferhunde.de

Front cover image: Photography by Zane. Vladimir Rumours Are True

Back cover image: Photo by Cathy Shayler

CONTENTS & contacts

Contents

German Shepherds as Guide Dogs	5
Meet Jess Kada – Jaknell Kennels	6
Meet Hannah Kelly – Derharv Kennels	9
Updated GSDCA Documents	11
ZAP Character Test Update	11
What is Pyometra?	12
Hip & Elbow Stats Update	13
Your dog's HEALTH feedback?	13
Meet Dr Candy Baker	14
GSDCA National Obedience Competition Winners	16
News from our Member Club's	17
Down Memory Lane.....A 1956 GSDL Show Schedule.....	17
General Health – Growth and Feeding Puppies	23
Attention Triallers !	25
Developing a Relevant Weight for Age Chart for Australian GSD's.....	26
Shaping Success.....	28
Less Serious Chat - the fun stuff	31
How to prepare your dog for obedience trials	32
Five things that will improve your training	33
Clarity within learning	34
Keep the feet moving! Get those exercises flowing!	35
Over threshold	35
When Do I Stop Using Food Rewards	36
GSDCA Breed Improvement Scheme Recognition	37
Reports from the National Breed Commission.....	38
Advertising Info for Members of Affiliated Clubs	43

Advertising

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President's Report



Covid-19

What a year so far, the world has been turned upside down. It has been a very different life for most of us, no dog shows, limited training, no chance of the social catch-up and at this time it doesn't seem to be getting any better. Melbourne and some of wider Victoria are in lock down and other states are shutting the borders again. Like most of you we

just don't know when it will end but we all are hopeful and positive about the future and looking forward to a show or trial.

Breed Surveys

A couple of surveys have been held and I must congratulate the clubs on the Covid Safe actions that took place. I would like to mention the Queensland Club specifically as they really went beyond to make it safe for everyone attending. It was very pleasing to see the actions taken by the club to ensure a safe environment for their members, I can't stress enough how important it is for all clubs to take the appropriate actions to comply with all state government regulations.

The GSDL and Newcastle & Hunter Region GSDC have both decided to postpone the planned breed surveys at this time with no set dates planned to host a breed survey at time of writing. I believe WA and SA will be proceeding with plans with no change at this stage.

NBC Meeting

Due to Covid-19 the NBC meeting had to be cancelled. This decision was not taken lightly and other possibilities were considered, but in the end the Executive decided not to hold the meeting and avoid any unnecessary risk to our members and family.

It has been decided that the reports will be sent to all clubs, judges and most reports will be included in the next magazine.

This brings us to the AGM and we are all still hopeful this meeting will occur but in the event its not possible we will look into all alternate possibilities and advise as soon as we can.

Until we meet again, enjoy the magazine and it's articles and I am sure you will find the reports very interesting, stay safe and take care and take all necessary precautions.

Regards

Sean Lynch

GSDCA President

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Editorial

It's times like these when some of us read Queensland's 'beautiful one day, perfect the next' club notes with envy 😊. Some of the country is still in the covid-19 stranglehold, especially Victoria, while QLD and WA particularly are opening up and living again! Our other states are hopefully on the up by now too. Speaking from experience, total lockdown in Melbourne is a tough lifestyle for many people. Our best wishes to all to stay safe, wherever you may be.

This edition leads off with a great little article written by breeder Jocelyn Philip and the dog she bred that has become a guide dog. What a great outcome for a dog that was originally looking for a new home !. We continue meeting some of our 'younger' members of the GSD fraternity. 😊 Both Hannah Kelly and Jess Kada have provided some great insight into their involvement in GSD's. Thank you both.

Anyone who has an unspeyed female is familiar with pyometra and its dangers. Our resident vet Dr Candy Baker has written some informative notes that are well worth reading on this dangerous condition. Several articles previously written by Dr Karen Hedberg are also reprinted, as some of our most accessed info on the website. They are a useful reminder to all. Also included are some great training articles for your interest.

With the year's National Breed Commission meeting being cancelled due to covid-19 we've included a summary of the main reports provided by NBC officers. Despite all the virus issues, breeding and managing GSD's continues ! Thank you to NBC Chair Jenny Yuen for compiling these reports. We also highlight those breeders who in 2019 qualified for GSDCA Hip and Elbow A & Z Awards for x-raying. These breeders and those who own their dogs continue to strive for breed improvement.

I was saddened to hear of the recent passing of Daryl Bourke, a GSDCV member who was instrumental in the initial build of the GSDCA Dog Database. What you see and use today for all our surveys and HDED results is largely as a result of Daryl's programming expertise.

Daryl and Frank Moody spent hundreds of hours working together to create what the GSDCA needed. At the 2015 National Daryl was presented with a GSDCA Service Award for his efforts and contribution. I worked with Daryl on some web projects in Victoria, and he was always willing and happy to share his technical expertise. Daryl stepped back from maintaining the database a few years ago, but without his help, it might never have got off the ground. He was a quiet achiever who most would not know, yet benefit from his skills each time we use the database. RIP to a good bloke.



So life goes on in this strange year, certainly one out of the box. No doubt all clubs have been working hard to ensure members and dogs have all the support they need depending on their various covid-19 restrictions in each state and the reduction in shows and trials. Its times like these when we are restricted in our normal lives that we probably rely on our dogs more than we realise. They won't mind stepping up and lending a furry ear !

Cheers

Jacinta

German Shepherds as Guide Dogs

This is Pacho!

Pacho (Grandspy Genesis) is a guide dog bred by Jocelyn Philp and trained by Stapell Working Dog's. His name means "free" in the language of his puppy raiser... a name which is consistent with the freedom of 'moving through space' much quicker than with a traditional white cane if you are blind or vision-impaired.

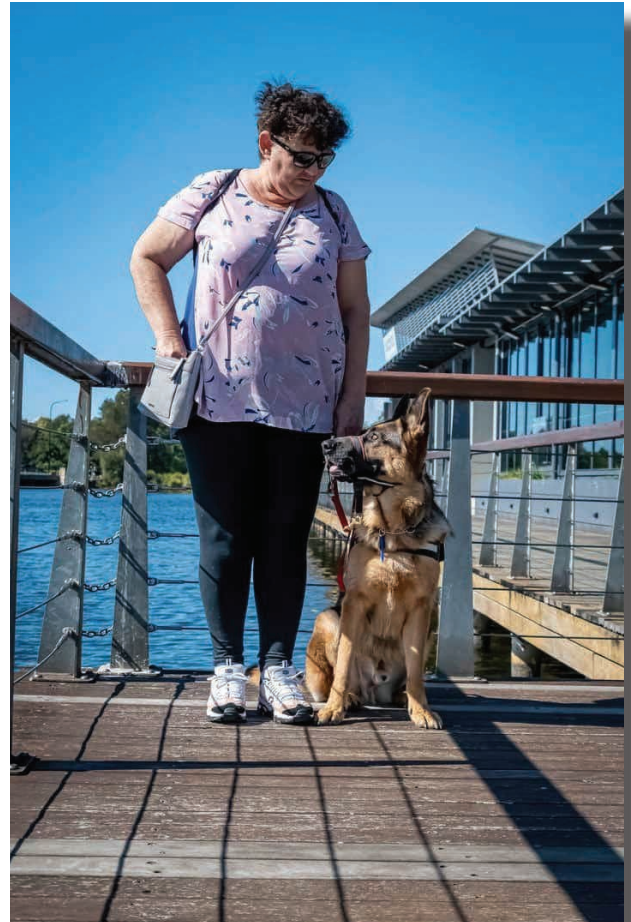
But to use a German Shepherd? The average person may not be aware that only a couple of decades ago the German Shepherd was a banned breed in Australia. Many people also may not know that the German Shepherd was also the first formally trained guide dog in the world. If they're not "working," they're usually up to "no good," a mark of how they got that "bad" reputation decades ago.

As a true working line, Stapell Working Dog & Cane, a disability services company, who have specialists in German Shepherd guide dogs, set out for their first dog to train as a guide dog for the many Australians waiting for them.

That's when they found "Pacho." He was being offered for sale by a young woman who had purchased this Radar and Maylee puppy from Grandspy and had done an amazing job socialising him to the world around him. He even went for walks with his pet Bengal cats!

After a thorough assessment by Stapell staff, they knew they wanted him. Within six months, "Pacho" was trained as Australia's first German Shepherd guide dog in around 30 years! He was placed with a woman who had just retired her first guide dog and loved the breed. "Pacho's" temperament was great for her. She was calm, patient and loving to him and he responds in his regularly sensitive and pokey nature.

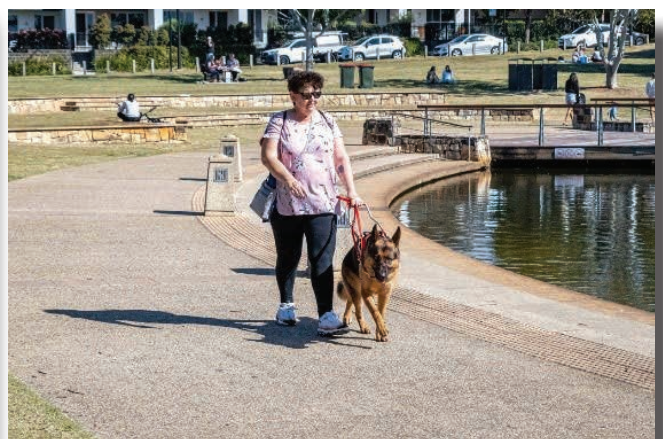
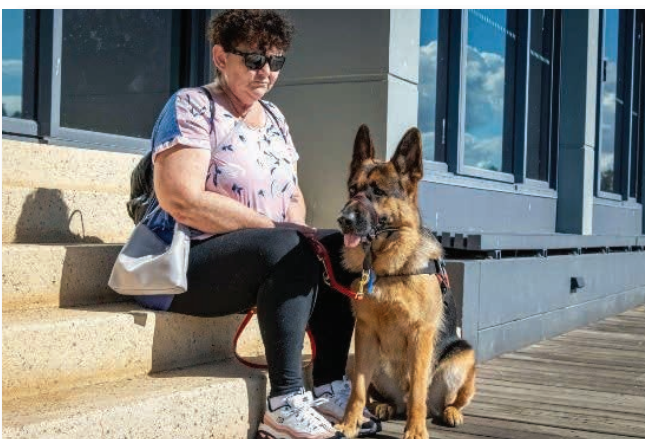
German Shepherd guide dogs are trained differently to Labrador Retrievers, the most common guide dog in the world. Whereas a Lab may go through a 20-week training program, a GSD will go through a 27-week program. They learn to walk in a straight line until told to turn, stop on their own at all street crossings and tripping hazards, multi-task on their job as other dogs are barking at them, ride escalators and all forms of public transportation and settle quickly on their own.



"Pacho" or Grandspy Genesis from the Sire: Jonkahra Legacy AZ and Dame: Ch Grandspy Collette Up In Flames AZ

This is a true nod to the nature of the German Shepherd Dog, which we have all grown to love and a classic example of the capability of this breed.

By Jocelyn Philp



Meet Hannah Kelly – Derharv Kennels

We invited Hannah Kelly of Derharv Kennels to share her history in GSDs, her achievements and future aims for her dogs.

When did you become involved in the German Shepherd Dog and why

We always had GSD's & GSD Crosses as a family pets throughout my childhood.

When I was 18 I decided I wanted to purchase my own GSD to do obedience with, I ended up getting a LSC bitch who was 5mths old from someone who had purchased her from a BYB and had decided a puppy was not suitable for them.

Gemma was a challenge from the very beginning and I don't think had any socialising before I got her.

Within a few weeks of having her I noticed she had quite a limp on one of her front legs which turned out to be UAP which was operated on with success.

Once she had recovered from surgery, I took her to a number of local obedience clubs which turned us away due to her fearful aggressive behaviour towards people.

I ended up taking her to Alpha Dog Training and we had quite a lot of success improving her behaviour through their training methods.

Unfortunately, I had to have Gemma PTS some 12mths later due to another health-related issue.

I was so upset and sad that we both had to go through so much heartache

Tell us about your first GSD

After my experience with Gemma, I researched, researched & researched current breeders and what it would take to become a GSD breeder. This is where I came across Stunadel Kennels in NSW who were having a litter from their import Rupos von der Ostfriesischen Thingstatte, I was able to purchase a stock coat bitch from this litter who was my first Bitch Stunadel Xandria A Z in 2004.

How did you get involved in showing your dogs

I had taken a job as a dog trainer with Alpha Dog Training & Boarding Kennels at this time when I met a lady who had joined our weekly classes with her GSD's. She mentioned she was very involved with the GSDCV and she was a breeder & Judge (Mrs Jenny Yuen) After many conversations with her about what it takes to be a breeder she told me to come down to the show branch at Skye with my puppy and see what showing is all about.

From the time I came down to my first show training I was instantly hooked.

Why did you take up breeding Long Stock Coat GSDs and what were the challenges

I had always been really drawn to the LSC's in the litters I bred but at the time but at the time they were not permitted in showing, at the time none of the SC bitches I had carried the LSC gene so I ended up

purchasing a daughter Xeno Von Arjakjo (a fatherline I really liked) which we had some great placings with her including 4th Junior bitch at 2016 national.

My Sable Stock coat *Derharv Pure Blonde gave us our first sable LSC from her first litter which was *Derharv Generation Gold

The main challenges in my opinion at this time were getting the fraternity to accept them as breed which I believe has now improved alongside the overall quality of dogs.

What or who (including dogs) has had the biggest influence in your involvement with showing, breeding and owning GSDs

Bronson Pereria has been a huge influence and support over the last 10 years. He helped me to develop and grow my own eye & training methods.



Denise Smith (Lawine Kennels) sold us Lawine Romulus- Chase back in 2007. Denise was an amazing support to Jason and I with advice over the years and as a handler.

Helen Dunn & Arlene Kerr I met in 2004 when I first began showing. They took me under their wing & helped me with matings and whelping my first litter and teaching me the basics of being a handler.

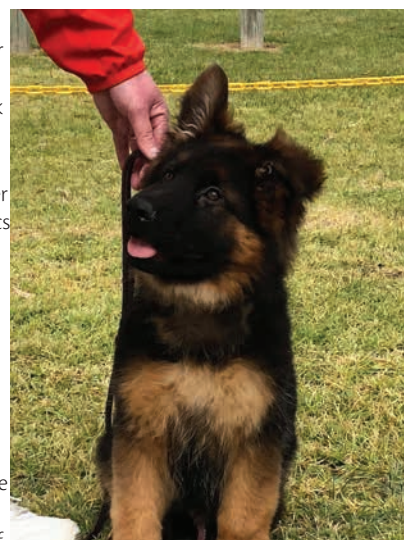
Karabach Night Force
Derharv Pure Blonde
Derharv Gold Edition
Derharv The Force is Strong

My journey in showing this breed started from the very bottom, the dogs I was sold were not picks of the litter and I had to learn from my own mistakes.

I appreciate every dog that I owned that came at the back of the line in every show because they have helped get me to where I am today.

Tell us about your 'best dogs' both now and in the past. Not necessarily wins, but about the dogs

For me I think Finn (Karabach Night Force) has really been the best dog we have owned, he is what I think is the perfect character to be a top show dog and family pet.





His exuberance and zest for life gives him a competitive edge whilst being absolutely Bomb proof (as it is said with horses). Those who know Finn outside of the show ring know he is a bit of a clown who loves to play with his toys and he lives for our 3 kids.



Derharv Gold Dust - Dusty is the basis of our sable line and a daughter of the very popular Cayos Von Der Noriswand. She had a very short show career but has produced very well for us in limited litters and is nearly 10 years old and enjoys being the mother hen of the pack to her grandchildren & great grandchildren

Lawine Romulus

Tell us about the LSC in Australia now and your aims for the future

The LSC has come a very long way in a short amount of time and I believe the current quality especially in the males has overtaken the Stock coats. As a breed I believe the LSC x LSC litters do not have enough depth in the bloodlines to really reach their full potential with a lot of the current dogs carrying the same heritage.

Ideally as breeders we need to be utilising LSC's from stock coat matings to help give more choice to bitch owners and to help to not feel blocked in a corner.

What part of being involved in GSDs gives you the greatest pleasure. And what has been the highlight

Seeing my kids in junior handlers is a definite highlight.



Winning two national classes 2 years in a row another and seeing so many Derharv Progeny in the last 12 months

Derharv Kennels have some great success at shows, tell us about the dogs, work and people involved to make that happen.

We have a great team at Derharv and our success comes down to every single person.

Firstly Jason (my husband), he helps a lot on show days with double handling, swapping dogs and the occasional training session.

Bronson Pereria who is our main handler along with Kylie Zimmerle in recent times.



Our 3 kids Ryan, Avery & Jayde help me a lot with helping to feed and exercise the dogs

What advice would you give to the novice buyer of the German Shepherd

Diet is very important, feeding the right amount of high calorie quality dry food to dogs in preparation for shows, such as Royal Canin with lots of lean muscle meat.

Training – Play time, bush walks, off lead running up hills, treadmill, walking in the sand and shallow water all help a dog develop.



Jess Kada – Jaknell Kennels

We invited Jess Kada of Jaknell Kennels, a breeder and specialist GSD Judge to share her history in GSDs, her achievements and future aims for herself and her dogs.

When did you become involved in the German Shepherd Dog and why?

I was born into breeding and showing as my parents bred and showed German Shepherds under the Eavada prefix. My mum obtained her first GSD as a teenager and she has owned German Shepherds ever since. In the early days she had dogs from the Medlow, Sarazo and Vinberg kennels.

It was inevitable that I would become involved and I became hooked from the age of 3!



Tell us about your first GSD

I grew up with many GSDs in our household however my first "own" dog was from the Quatorze kennel, her registered name was Quatorze Chartreuse, Micky to me! She was a daughter of Mutz von der Mainebene and Quatorze Burlesque.

I participated in many child handler classes including National Shows, and Micky showed me the ropes and started my passion for the breed.

She was a dog with a very sweet nature, not necessarily the top winning show dog, but she was MY dog.



Quatorze Chartreuse

How did you get involved in showing your dogs

I began showing dogs in the speciality ring as soon as I was old enough! At the age of around 7, I started in child handler classes and was showing for other breeders by the age of 12 in the specialty ring.

There were a number of breeders who were very supportive of me during my early handling days, including Marian Scaresbrook from Aldaina, Ingo and Karen Kahl and Yvonne Yun who is a very good family friend and has always supported me in all my adventures.

I have been lucky enough to handle for some of the top producing kennels in Australia including Aldaina, Denargan, Quatorze, Eigenschaft, Lashadas and Eisenland kennels amongst others.

I have also had the great privilege of handling at the Sieger Show in Germany and at the British Sieger Show in the UK.



Handling in Germany

Why did you take up breeding and when was Jaknell Kennels established

Jaknell Kennels was established when my mum (Eavada kennels) and Mim & Neville Burkett (Quatorze Kennels) joined forces and established a combined prefix.

Mim and Neville retired from showing and breeding in 2002 and mum and I have continued the Jaknell Kennel ever since.

We have successfully bred and exhibited under the Jaknell prefix and today I am the main driving force in the breeding decisions. We are a small kennel, however we pride ourselves on the quality of the animals we produce, and ensure that the puppies we breed are well loved family members, who are sociable and healthy and great ambassadors for our breed.

What or who (including dogs) has had the biggest influence in your involvement with showing, breeding and owning GSDs

My biggest influence early on would be from the Quatorze kennel. Mim and Neville bred some stunning dogs in their time, including Quatorze Burlesque, Quatorze Xcess, Quatorze Checkmate Quatorze Outrage and many others.

I have been lucky enough to become friends with Marian Scaresbrook of Aldaina kennels and had the pleasure of handling her top dogs. Over the years we purchased dogs from Marian and these animals have been fundamental in my current breeding program, including Aldaina Wizard.

I had the pleasure of handling Aldaina Bijanka, Yankee, throughout her show career and was lucky enough to own her in her later years. She was a stunning girl with a fantastic temperament to boot. Since taking over

the reins of breeding within Jaknell, Yankee became our foundation bitch and she is behind all our current dogs pedigrees today.



ALDAINA BIJANKA AZ BSCL1

Tell us about your 'best dogs' both now and in the past. Not necessarily wins, but about the dogs

In the past, the most notable dogs we have owned and bred would include but are not limited to Aldaina Bijanka (Best In Show winner), Eigenschaft Younique (National Winner), Aldaina Wizard, Jaknell Hi Society and Jaknell Hershey (Iwan von Lechtal daughters)

NSW STATE BREED ASSESSMENT INTERMEDIATE BITCH SEIGERIN AND RESERVE SEIGERIN



***JAKNELL HI SOCIETY *JAKNELL HERSHEY**

Whilst our current 'best dogs' include my main man 'Angus' Jaknell Coz Im TNT, Jaknell Love Bomb, Jaknell Worth The Wait, Jaknell Ruby Tuesday, Jaknell Patience is a Virtue and Jaknell Ahead of The Game.

Ruby – Jaknell Ruby Tuesday was the first LSC we kept to show, and what a ride she has taken us on since! From Puppy Bitch winner at the 2017 National, to Challenge Bitch from Intermediate at the 2018 National, NSW State Siegerin in 2018, 2 x Best In Show winner in Adelaide 2019 and Silver Medal winner at the 2019 National Show and trial. We have so much love for this dog, and she is such a great ambassador for our breed.



*CH. Jaknell Ruby Tuesday AZ BSCL

A dog who has a special place in our hearts, our gorgeous girl Dora, Jaknell Sweet Painted Lady AZ BSCL1, who we lost early in life. She was one of a kind, she would do anything we asked of her and we miss her terribly. A daughter of the lovely Orrinshir Elton John, she was exactly what I was hoping to achieve from that mating. She won the Bronze medal at the 2017 National Show and Trial.



*CH. Jaknell Coz Im TNT AZ BSCL1

*Jaknell Sweet Painted Lady AZ BSCL1

What significant changes do you think have affected the breed in the last 20 years and what challenges face all GSD breeders today?

I feel that society as a whole has changed and had a pronounced effect on our breed. From dog ownership laws, legislation and restrictions, owning a dog is not as straight forward as it used to be. Lifestyle changes have also changed the number of people involved in dogs as a whole, and therefore breed numbers overall are decreasing. The number of dogs that breeders can keep is now limited, particularly with our busy lifestyles of today.

The most significant changes within our breed directly, would be the changes to the GSDCA schemes. The implementation of these schemes and all the hard work by members of the GSDCA has led to a sounder GSD.

You're an ANKC Judge and a trainee Specialist GSD Judge. Tell us about the decision to become a judge and your interest in judging

As far back as I can remember, I have always wanted to become a GSD Specialist judge. I feel my extensive experience in showing and breeding all my life has taught me so much about the breed and has provided me with a platform to fulfil my passion. Having almost completed my extension course, (with no thanks to COVID!), my future aim is to also become a breed surveyor and hopefully use my experience to provide guidance to GSD enthusiasts.

I have already had the pleasure of many appointments around the country and have also been lucky enough to travel to New Zealand to

judge in both the North and South Islands.



Judging in New Zealand

What do you feel are our responsibilities as custodians of the breed and what do you think will be the biggest influence on the future of the breed

The health and welfare of our breed should be paramount. We have to be careful that personal gain does not overshadow the important issues in our breed today. As members of the GSDCA, it is important that we follow the schemes for HD and ED and breed survey. We must focus on producing a GSD which is sound in body and mind.

From a personal perspective, I feel that the direction of our breed is very much dependent upon those who are involved. The leaders in our breed, including judges and surveyors and the top breeders in the country will certainly have an influence on the future of the breed.

Moving forward and into the future, frozen semen will become an integral part of breeding, and will therefore have a significant influence on our breeds direction. It allows breeders the opportunity to source bloodlines from around the world which we may not have normally had access to. Therefore, we need to start thinking more progressively regarding frozen semen and its advantages to our breed. However, we must ensure that its use is regulated and that the same standards within our schemes are adhered to.

Jaknell Kennels have had great success at National Shows, tell us about the dogs, work and people involved to make that happen

Yes we have been very very lucky to have some great success at National Shows. Without my good friend Craig Hendricks, my partner Tony and of course my mum the success would not be possible. We enjoy training and showing the dogs, we travel interstate as a team and we are all very competitive! Our dogs are our pets first and foremost, and I am at my happiest when I am with them. We make training fun and the dogs all enjoy themselves.

Our success would also not be possible without our fantastic handlers who do an outstanding job with our dogs, notably our very good friends Candy Baker and Kylie Zimmerle.

We have had numerous class wins over the years at National Shows. Some of our highlights would include Bronze Medal Open Bitch with our gorgeous Dora 'Jaknell Sweet Painted Lady AZ BSCL', and Silver Medal Open LSC Bitch with our fluffy Ruby – "CH. Jaknell Ruby Tuesday AZ BSCL".

Also winning the Max Stokes Memorial Trophy two years running, firstly with "Jaknell Love Bomb AZ BSCL" and then "Jaknell Patience Is A Virtue AZ BSCL".



*Jaknell Patience Is A Virtue AZ BSCL



*Jaknell Sweet Painted Lady AZ BSCL1



*CH. Jaknell Ruby Tuesday AZ BSCL1



*Jaknell Love Bomb AZ BSCL

What part of being involved in GSDs gives you the greatest pleasure. And what has been the highlight

I love the German Shepherd, I could never live without a GSD. I have made a lot of lifelong friends thanks to the German Shepherd dog. I take my commitment to breeding and exhibiting successfully very seriously, and I pride myself in breeding, healthy, happy German Shepherds.

I feel it is very important as a breeder to follow the health schemes and those of the GSDCA. I always strive to improve our breed when making breeding decisions.

As breeders we have a responsibility to find the best loving forever homes for our puppies. We may breed to keep one or two puppies to show, however we must all remember that the majority of the puppies bred are to be companions and therefore should all be suitable members of society.

What advice would you give to the novice buyer of the German Shepherd

Do your homework, buy from a breeder who follows all the GSDCA schemes and ensure the parents have their A & Z stamps. Surveyed parents should also be a requirement.

My advice would be to look for a breeder who loves their dogs and one who cares for their dogs welfare. To me the environment in which the dogs live, and the way puppies are raised is very, very important.

As a breeder I prefer to sell to people who are willing to travel to meet us and meet our dogs before any decision is made by either party. We are very particular about who our puppies go to live with.

As a breeder, I introduce new puppy buyers to all the activities in which they can become involved with and encourage them to follow the breed improvement schemes.

If buying to show and/or breed, don't expect to the rise to the top right away. Patience is a virtue and I think this is paramount in showing and breeding, in any breed. Success takes time and knowledge.

Updated GSDCA Documents

New revisions of several key GSDCA documents were completed as of July 1st when motions from the GSDCA AGM came into play.

The updated documents are:

- GSDCA Regulations Manual
- Breed Survey Manual
- National Show Manual
- National Trial Manual
- ZAP Character Test Manual
- Scale of Charges GSDCA (1 July 2020)
- Communication Code of Conduct

All the revised and updated documents are available on the GSDCA website.

For easy reference find the latest documentation here
<https://www.gsdcouncilaustralia.org/documents/>

ZAP Character Test

In the previous edition of the magazine, dates as published were incorrect.

The following are the correct dates for the introduction of ZAP testing.

- All dogs born after 1 January 2020 may participate in the ZAP (Part 1 Puppy Test)
- A pass of ZAP Part 1 shall be a pre-requisite for GSDCA Breed Survey for all animals born after 1 January 2021

Julie Urie

Obedience Chair



WANTED

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

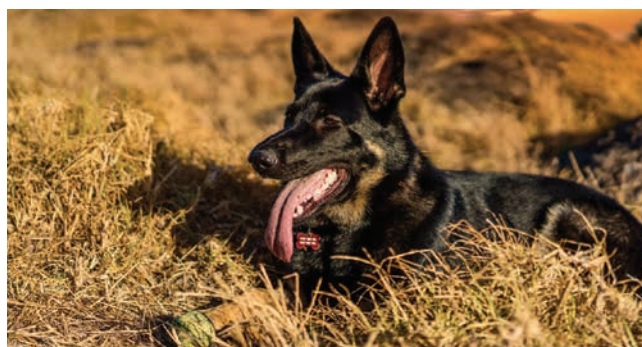
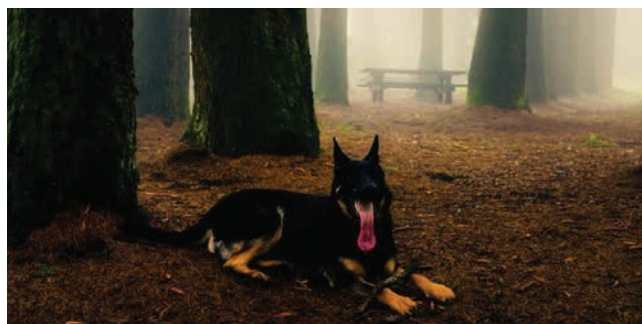
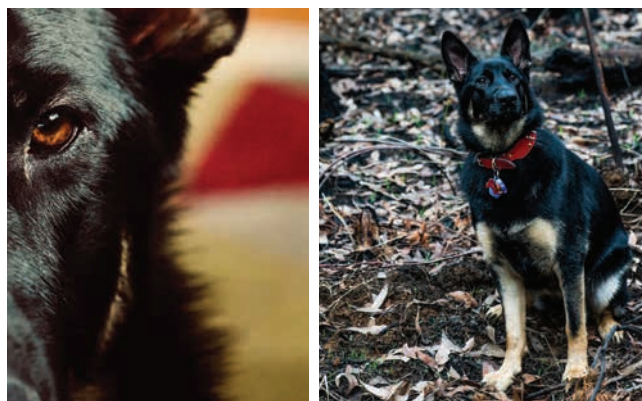
We'd love to hear about it.

Send it to us at
revieweditor@gsdcouncilaustralia.org



Meet Karl's dog Luka.

She's 12 months old and 'is a pushy Alpha dog but with a heart of gold and incredibly loving'.



What is Pyometra?

Dr Candice Baker

BSc BVMS MANZCVS (ECC)

GSDCA Breed Health & Welfare Chairperson

Pyometra is the medical term used to describe pus or infection on the inside of the uterus/womb.

This medical condition can occur anywhere from 1 – 6 weeks after the completion of their season or 4 weeks to 3 months after their last ovulation (this occurs mid cycle).

The signs of pyometra at home can vary from dog to dog. Some dogs may show signs of being a little flat, off their food, may be drinking more than usual, possibly urinating more than usual and potentially have some vomiting. Others showing signs of an “open” pyometra may only have smelly vaginal discharge and may be a little quieter than usual.

They should be seen by a vet ASAP, the examination should include a full physical examination, some bitches may or may not have a fever. Blood tests to include a complete blood count (specifically helpful looking at white blood cell counts) and biochemistry panel (aids in the assessment of other organ systems). Followed by an abdominal ultrasound to look at the uterus or an x-ray of the abdomen.

During a heat cycle the cervix (muscular structure connecting the womb to the vagina) is open to allow for pregnancy to occur. The down side to this is that outside bacteria can get into the uterus and implant and grow on the lining of the uterus (endometrium). In dogs, another factor in this process is cystic endometrial hyperplasia, this means that with hormone fluctuations the wall will become thickened and a nice environment for bacteria to grow.

Following the end of the cycle, the cervix then closes, which can in turn encapsulate the growth of pus. If the pus has no escape route, the uterus will continue to stretch and fill with pus to the point of rupture. There are two major concerns with this – first is that there is an infection inside an organ which can have subsequent ill effects on the female dog (fever, an upregulation in inflammation and detrimental effects on other organ systems, blood poisoning etc). The second is that if the uterus ruptures, then you have a life threatening peritonitis along with all of the other concerns with the former situation.

When the uterus is filling with pus it becomes an urgent medical and in some cases surgical emergency. The longer you leave the pus there with no escape or resolution, the sicker your dog will get and could die. Medical treatment and follow up is generally used for breeding females and surgical treatment rids you of the issue ever coming back in a non-breeding female.

The aim of medical treatment is to open the cervix with a specific type of injectable medication/drug and induce uterine contractions in conjunction with another type of medication. This treatment process initially takes about one week, during this time the female dog should be closely monitored – temperatures, heart rate, breathing rate, blood counts and most importantly ultrasound to ensure the evacuation of pus from the uterus. It is important to note that this could happen again at the very next cycle, therefore mating should be considered

on the next cycle. Antibiotics are frequently used but have poor penetration into the uterus and vagina, they are treating and preventing the potential of bacteria leaking from the fallopian tubes or if there is early rupture and peritonitis, similarly sepsis or bacterial translocation into other organs via the blood stream.

The aim of emergency surgical treatment is to stabilize the dog prior to an anaesthetic – rehydration with intravenous fluid therapy, assessment of other organs and blood counts using blood tests, exploratory abdominal surgery to assess the uterus for rupture and perform an ovariectomy. Intravenous antibiotic therapy to treat any spread of bacteria into the blood stream or abdomen (belly). Culture of the pus from the uterus will most commonly grow *E. coli*. Once the infection is removed antibiotics are only required as a short course unless there are other complicating factors such as sepsis or other organ involvement (eg, kidneys) but these situations are less common.



Unfortunately pyometra can occur early in a dog's life following only one or two heat cycles, however, the incidence is much higher or likely to occur in the older female dog who is still having heat cycles. What is also worthwhile considering is the de-sexing of the older female dog after her breeding age is passed, this will not only alleviate the risk of pyometra occurring and being in a critical and more expensive situation at the vet.



Prevention is always better than cure and de-sexing your female dog at an age appropriate time is the best way to prevent pyometra from occurring.

Hip & Elbow Stats Update

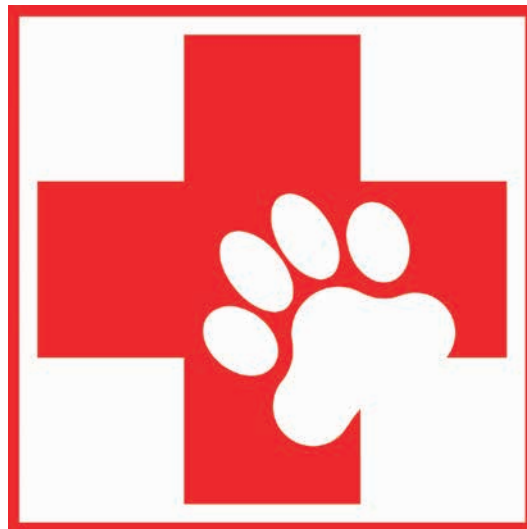
The updated statistics for the GSDCA Hip and Elbow Dysplasia Schemes are now available on the GSDCA website, current to June 2020.

Along with historical previous data, they can be viewed here

<https://www.gsdcouncilaustralia.org/hip-elbow-control-scheme/statistics/>

A screenshot of the GSDCA website. At the top, there is a logo for GSDCA (German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia Inc.) and the website address www.gsdcouncilaustralia.org. Below this, the text 'HD ED Statistics' is displayed. There are two main sections: 'Hip Control Scheme Statistics' and 'Elbow Control Scheme Statistics'. Each section has a sub-header and a bullet point indicating 'Progeny results of current sires as at 30th June 2020'.

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 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>

Meet Dr Candy Baker

An Interview with one of Australia's top handlers and the current GSDCA Breed Health and Welfare chairperson.

How would you please describe your involvement in dog showing and the GSD breed?

My involvement in dog showing and the breed goes back probably as far as 30 years. Our first family GSD was an Iccara bitch that mum did competitive obedience with. However, my involvement has included being an active member of my local association (GSDAWA), doing basic obedience, competitive showing, being available to give advice and help to the general members about anything GSD or health related in my more mature years. Competitive dog showing has included; in the past, all breeds showing, as early as competing in junior handlers as a 10 year old with my parent's first show dog – Australian Ch. Iccara Driving Force CDX ET A BSCL1



More often these days I will attend specialist (GSD specific) showing locally and interstate and in years gone by, overseas. Probably more so as a handler, helping others and taking enjoyment with the involvement but also exhibiting our own dogs from time to time when they are in their "prime".

You say that you showed in all breeds and specialty, do you feel there is a different style or handling? Or are they complimentary?

There is a different style of handling in specialty vs all breeds, for sure. All breeds

needs to be very correct and controlled with a little flare, your dog is not being judged for long, so you need to make a good impression quickly. I believe all breeds teaches handlers in the specialist ring to think quickly and make the most of short periods of assessment. It also helps some of the fine tuning skills. A good specialist handler is very versatile though compared to all breeds.

Maintaining motivation and enthusiasm for such a long period of involvement is difficult, how have you done it?

Taking a step back from time to time, looking around and just living. Whether that be taking one or two of the dogs away on a holiday with us. Focusing on work and home life from day to day without letting the general political involvement that takes over in an emotive club get in the way.

Taking the time to look back on memories too, of years gone by, achievements and how they made us feel. The love and companionship we have shared with many of our beautiful dogs.

Sometimes the negative and strong emotive sadness about the bad times with our breed and finding a way to turn it into something positive for the future to improve and aim for bettering what we have.

Remembering that even Rome wasn't built in a day.

Does your anatomical understanding improve your ability to highlight positive traits of the animal you're handling?

I probably think of this question in the converse, I'm more like a pathologist, the faults are noticed first for me and how I can help them.

But I like to think of myself as an optimist, so highlighting a positive trait is always going to be at more forefront and let's face it, the positive traits should always be found in the way the animal can move.

You've handled numerous National medallists and Best in Show winners across the country, what skills do you think have contributed to this?

Luck, is that a skill?

Having a quality animal, and recognising this with confidence. Then it's a formula – quality dog, good training, being confident, entering under a judge that you know will like that animal and have a good chance of promoting it.

You've spent some time in Germany, what did it teach you about the breed and handling?

I believe my time in German taught me many different aspects of how to raise and train the breed. Handling and building a positive rapport and connection with a dog through basic play, schutzdeinst, begleithund, IPO, socialisation, not having too many dogs to work with (keeping numbers very low), daily exercise, nutrition, stimulation, drive. Then comes the show handling, the ring is the easy part. You can practice your lead skills and control just training through the bush tracks with someone hiding or out nearby in front, or even using a toy for forward drive or movement.

Who have been your favourite dogs to handle and why?

Bobby was by far my favourite, special because she was our family dog and we had a lot of fun exhibiting her – Aus Ch. Bluebell von Arminius AZ BSCL1 Ex Select



She was so effortless on the lead, balanced, she didn't have a high wither but this was easily overcome at times. A dream to stack. A fun and calm all breeds dog.

Bliss – Aus Ch. Friedental Bliss Fulicious AZ BSCL1 Ex Merit ET



Bliss is the ultimate mover, you know that when you step into a ring with a dog like this, on the move, you can't not be noticed with her. The expansive movement with beautiful length everywhere made her a lot of fun in the specialist ring.

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

A calm and intuitive person who is also a good listener. If you talk too much, you'll miss hearing something important. Watching – the good and the not so good, understanding why it's good and why it might not be so good. Someone who truly loves the dogs.

At shows we are often surrounded by stressed people and dogs who are all picking up on that. It's good to zone this out from the moment you think about taking a dog in for a class. Focus on the dog and building some trust and doing some quiet play with the dog if they need it to help them settle with you.

Once you enter the ring the calmness needs to shine at the end of the lead – how quickly something can change, a jump or sideways movement could land you with a dog off the lead. There has to be a degree of assertiveness to ensure this doesn't happen or if it does or

almost does to recover from it.

Presentation is also largely on how the dog is finished, groomed, always be looking and checking, hair placement over the topline, tail placement when standing around. Monitoring where all four feet are placed when standing around, not necessarily just in front of the judge for individual assessment.

Fast gait – this is a common stumbling block for a lot of handlers. I believe being "ready" is most important. Listen to both the judge and the steward as to where you should be going, when to go fast and when to stop.

Always think: lead predominantly in the left hand to gently move the dog into the forefront for the judge, but if the dog starts to become unbalanced, swap hands or shorten the lead slightly, slightly tighten up on the lead if need be. Don't ever run directly up behind the handler in front, it's an epically bad move. The dog then short steps and could get kicked in the face and it's horribly inconsiderate. I've been tripped many times with people doing this and I find it incredibly rude. If you're getting too close to the handler in front then move your dog to the side maintaining a good balanced sequence of steps.

What are the 3 mistakes you see handlers make. What are 3 things all handlers should strive to improve on?

Handle each dog how it deserves to be handled

Handlers that always handle different dogs the same way – take the time to look at the dog you're about to handle, move around with it, hopefully you've had the time to see it before and have an idea of it's virtues and faults.

Be positive and be opportunistic to try new ideas

Handlers only focusing on one negative thing going on around them, for instance, if your dog is pulling too hard/falling on the forehand, instead of getting grumpy with the dog and the double handler. Send the double handler further away, stop with the dog, give it a rough but loving pat, give the lead back to the dog with some slack so it goes with it's own willingness and enthusiasm, if it starts to pull again, do the same, rough pat, loose lead, pat again. When things aren't always going well, use it as a training opportunity, don't make the dog hate it, or the next time you step into the ring the dog will be worse.

Look at the picture you're presenting

Stacking a dog without standing back to look at the picture you've just created. Not only does stepping back from the dog and holding the lead up to present it make it look like a complete picture but you can also have a look and see. Is the croup a bit steep, should you move one of the back legs, are the hocks straight, is the dog bridging?

NATIONAL awards

National Obedience Competition Winners

Results were printed in the previous edition, however there were two awards which were omitted.

I would like to congratulate the following teams for their excellent results:

Best Novice Dog 2019

RO CH Vindel Dancing with Mr D CD RM

Handler: Alex Cogdell

Average Score: 196

Best Rally Master Dog 2019

RO CH Vindel Dancing with Mr D CD RM

Handler: Alex Cogdell

Average Score: 98

I sincerely apologise for not including these results at the time the other results were printed.

Julie Urie

GSDCA Obedience Chairperson

Karen Hore's Dog Jai - *CH HILLMAGIC PLATNUM NOKOSI AZ CCD RA with his GSDCA Award for 2019 'Best Rally Advanced Dog'.

Congratulations 😊



INTRODUCING THE HAIRY HOUND

HARRY

*CH VONPETA QWACKAWOODY

A (3:5) Z (0:1)

SIRE: *CH LEBERHINE JERONIMOE AZ

DAM: *CH VONPETA GRACE N BEAUTY AZ

NIL Linebreeding



HARRY is proudly owned and loved by Mel & Dave Adamson
Proudly bred by Jane Pike & Peter Damarell
Handled & partnered in the ring by Andrew O'Loughlin

STUD ENQUIRIES
MEL ADAMSON, VONDOUSSA KENNELS, 0417 711 410
FROZEN SEMEN AVAILABLE

NEWS FROM OUR member clubs



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Good 'ol Covid-19. Just when we thought we'd seen the end of it, it split Victoria in two !

The return to stage 3 covid-19 restrictions in July in metropolitan Melbourne and the Mitchell Shire meant all our metropolitan training branches (Eastern, Malvern, Northern, Skye, Specialist Show and Western) were closed for 6 weeks. Several of these branches had seen 80- 90 dogs training each week as people and their dogs came out of lockdown and hibernation. The good news was the great shape all the dogs were in, even the young pups who'd only had email class learning during restrictions.....

Luckily our country training branches (Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Gippsland & Wodonga) remain open and active for members in those areas, with safe training protocols in place. Those dogs don't know who lucky they were and are .

BUT now Melbourne is in stage 4 total lockdown with a few more weeks to go as you read this. A totally new experience for all. Our country branches are also now closed under regional stage 3 restrictions. 😊. Look after your dogs – and let them look after you. Stay safe everyone !

In the few weeks metro Melbourne came alive again, we managed to squeeze in two Breed Survey's for animals needing them. Thankyou especially to Alastair Henderson and his team of surveyors who went above and beyond to put in place procedures to safely conduct surveys. All owners were most appreciative. Congratulations to all success owners, breeders and dogs.

Stobar Gambaa 'A' 'Z', Owned by H & C Auwema & J Cathie

Cinderhof Ninaa 'A' 'Z', Owned by Legionaire Kennels

Eroica Jethro (LSC) (AI) 'A' 'Z', Owned by C

Whitford & C Leonard

*Zygo vom Radhaus (Imp Srb) 'a' ED Normal, Owned by S Hargreaves

Jayshell Touchee (AI) TD 'A' 'Z', Owned by R Snijders

Schaeferhund Dena 'A' 'Z', Owned by M Dawood

Bodecka Mayhem 'A' 'Z', Owned by J Joseph

Bodecka Mystique 'A' 'Z', Owned by J Joseph

Vanharley Material Girl (LSC) 'A' 'Z', Owned by D Colson

Gewalt Mindys Nora 'A' 'Z', Owned by M Dawood

Bodecka Misconduct 'A' 'Z', Owned by J Joseph

Congratulations to **Alex Cogdell** and his young boy Jagger (RO Ch Vindel Dancing With Mr D CD RN). They won the Gold dumbbell in the Novice class for the Dogs Victoria Top Obedience Dog of the Year Awards 2020, with and average score of 195/200 pts.

They were also 7th in the Top Rally Dog of the Year with an average score of 98.143/100.

Alex & Jagger were the Bronze medallists at the 2019 National and have a bright future in the ring ahead 😊.

We were saddened to hear of the recent passing of former Northern Training Branch Manager Daryl Bourke. In addition to his branch involvement Daryl helped enormously with the GSDCV website rebuild back in 2008. He also created the GSDCA dog database. So he did a lot behind the scenes with his skills and made a great contribution. Our thoughts are with his extended family and friends.

There's not been much action on the show and trial scene, and won't be for a while. We confirm we have had to cancel our Exhibition Show (Aug 9), our next Breed survey on August 11th, our Track & Search Dog Trial (Sept 11-13) and the Double Obedience Trial on Oct 3rd. Our November Champ Show is still in question.

Congratulations and a big clap to **Willmaurs East End Effie AZ** (Sannjesa Crusty Demon x Rodatt Zena) owned by Keith & Rebecca Olsen who is our most recent addition to our 13 Club, having reached the grand age of 13 dog years.

My Shepherd, My Friend, My Responsibility



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With so many events being cancelled due to Covid-19 we were very lucky to run one Breed Survey for the year under Covid restrictions, which ran very smoothly.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following dogs passing Breed Survey on June 20

Sheznova Django AZ SC

Sundaneka Golden Dream AZ SC

Kingland Sambooka Twist AZ SC

Cinderhof Italiaa AZ SC

Reichstag Renata AZ SC

Kingland Fancy That AZ SC

Thank you to those participating and observing the distancing rules. Thank you to Mel Groth and Terry Jarvis and Pam Jarvis for running the event.

We are hoping to be able to run the second for the year on August 22.

We got one week of training before the area around the club grounds was declared a hot spot in July and everything shut down again.

I would like to acknowledge our oldies who have turned 13 or more in 2020 and joined the 13's Club Honour Roll:

Amy (Lindenelm Angels Amelie AZ) Born January 16th, 2007. Proudly owned and bred by Jan Kenny

Ruby (*Kuirau Ruby 'A' 'Z' BSCL. 1 Excellent) born March 11th, 2007. Proudly bred P, D & J Murray and owned and loved by James, Lisa, Joshua and Aidan Murray.

Lulu (Ch. Neut. Ch. Fleta Prides Louisa CD AZ) and Georgie (*Neut. Ch. Fleta Prides Georgiana AZ) litter sisters (from a litter of 12) were born on 27th February 2006. Proud breeder and owners Ken and Darien Northcote.

NEWS FROM OUR member clubs

Pinot (Kelinpark Pinot Noir AZ), born December 26th, 2006. Proudly owned and bred by Lyn Gregor.

Nitro (*Sundaneka Jumping Jack AZ) born May 1st, 2007. Proudly owned and loved by Vince and Vicki Panetta.

At this stage it is not sure whether the October Show will be able to go ahead or not. Watch the Facebook announcements and our website.

Hope everyone stays healthy and sane during the months ahead. We are so lucky to have our dogs to share this very different time that will go down in history. Please remember nobody is alone just make a phone call to anyone in our fraternity and I am sure they will welcome a chat. We are really thinking of our Victorian friends at this very difficult time.

Karen Stevenson



GSDC of QUEENSLAND

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Hello all from Beautiful one day, carefully getting through the next...

Our hearts & thoughts go out to our friends & family in still effected areas, especially of course to our Victorian friends & loved ones...

Well, as is with all of us, little has happened in the "Dog World" since our last issue with some States only recently starting to hold Breed Surveys. This includes us, holding our first "event" since lockdown.

Breed Survey was held on Sunday July 26th and results & photographs are available on the Club Facebook page. We would like to thank all Committee, Surveyors, owners, handlers & spectators for respecting and abiding by the Covid 19 safety measures that were in place.



As we still face the unknown, please stay safe & take care of you & yours, stay in touch with friends via this wonderful technology we have literally at our fingertips (remember a lot of people are feeling a little or even a lot, alone) until we can all get together again.



Stay safe & as always remember what brought us all together in the first place, our one common love the German Shepherd Dog



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It goes without saying that our hearts go out to our Eastern states friends – particularly Victoria - who at the time of writing - are going through the most dreadful of times.

We have been truly blessed here in WA. not

only were our borders were closed we also had the state divided into 13 regional areas plus remote aboriginal communities for extra safety.

I did all my shopping online – groceries delivered from Woolies and kept that gate locked – just in case. Life is pretty much back to normal but I am still very cautious. Isolation worked for me as I did so many of those jobs that had been on that backburner. By the time you all get this I truly hope that life is returning to normality for you all.

Our training was suspended for a few months, gradual return with the logging everyone's information and ensuring correct cleaning procedures. Now classes and breed surveys are at back in full swing.

Of course the restrictions mean interstate judges are off the table. We had planned to have Kurt Morton judge here in September however this is not an option at this stage and our reserve judge will be John Fenner.

The West Coast Challenge looks like being cancelled with the feeling it has been our most prestigious of event for so long and it would be sad not to honour it in our usual way.

During this pandemic puppies have been snapped up faster than I have ever known in all the years I have been doing the puppy listing. Most breeders have long waiting lists – we all hope that people appreciate the time and dedication it takes to raise a puppy correctly.

Congratulations to Fredo vom Hause Kampenhuber, Volsarco Missy Brown and Hinterhaus Daiquiri on joining the 13 Club.

Super congratulations to our newest Centurions Friental Colas Zac & Colas Karisma.

Our A.G.M. was held last weekend. Our Management Committee has had a big change with Honey Gross-Richardson (Obedience Chair), Natalie Humphries (Breed Affairs Chair), Joan McMulkin (Treasurer) and I (Minute Secretary) deciding not to run for another year. Replacing the four of us are Ian Marr, John Fenner, Aileen Jones and Kerrie Pearce.

I nominated Honey Gross-Richardson as our Patron – Honey's flair for grace and good manners will stand us in good stead at any event where we have important invited guests. Lee-Anne Shea was acknowledged for her efforts she has put in over many years. From her childhood she has been part of the association, her parents are both Life Members in their own right and it was a very proud Roberts family on Sunday.

NEWS FROM OUR member clubs



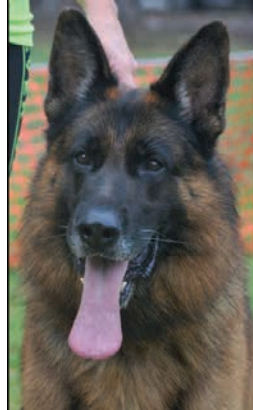
Sad farewells to a couple of our handsome stud dogs. Friedental Colas Zac and Seigen Suris Alfie.



Friedental Colas Zac



Seigen Suris Alfie.



Deepest sympathies to Natalie and Tracy and all connections to these beautiful boys.

Well it is time for me to sign off - I was re-elected as Editor at the A.G.M. - this is my 21st year - you don't get that for murder. It is a goodnight from me

Take care of yourselves and your families - stay safe, stay well - see you all on the other side.

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



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Developing a Relevant Weight for Age Chart for Australian GSD's

Karen Hedberg

BVSc. 2007

For all breeders, new comers and pet owners alike, there is a real need to realise what the **normal weight ranges** for German Shepherd dogs and bitches are during the critical growth periods, particularly the 2-9 months period. Excessive rapid weight gains in the 2-5 month period in particular can push rate of growth and influence the incidence of elbow dysplasia influence as well as the end height range.

While many new owners are guided by their veterinarian as to the "correctness" of the weight and rate of growth, few veterinarians (and even fewer novice owners) are experienced enough in the breed to correctly assess the ideal weight range of the GSD males and females particularly during this rapid growth phase. Males can be gaining over 2 kg/week around the 12-16 week age which is well above what is desirable.

I have been examining young German Shepherds in their various stages of growth for many years and by far and away the majority of problems are associated with excessive weight and rapid growth in puppies up to the age of 9 months. Many of the owners are totally unaware that their dogs are often vastly overweight. Rarely has any veterinarian pointed out the weight of the puppy at that age was a problem. Breeders equally have constant complaints from pet owners coming back to them with problems (most commonly soreness of joints), mostly exacerbated by excessive weight gains in short periods.

The weight for age chart which follows has a range of acceptable weights for different age and sex groups, which can be given to be handed out to new owners (and their veterinarians). In this way we can hopefully prevent some of the problems veterinarians and breeders are seeing from over feeding and excessive rates of growth. Equally, we can point out when (less commonly) puppies are presented significantly **under** weight for age.

Eventually correlating this type of data and results of say HD/ED schemes could be very beneficial in providing better information to breeders and pet owners alike **as to a realistic and desirable rate of weight gain for each sex at each stage of growth.**

It is noteworthy that with the end weight of the GSD, there is up to 25% difference in weight between males and females. This large difference between the sexes in weight highlights the additional strain of excessively high rates of weight gain can have on males in particular.

The weight ranges shown I would consider to be fairly close to normal from my own experience of the breed. Some general overviews of acceptable weight gains per week in the early stages of rapid growth are added after the chart. We may over time be able to correlate this weight with heights at different ages to give good estimation of end height/weight ratios.

Quick Overview of Joint Problems associated with Rapid Growth

Rapid weight gain and rate of growth through excessive nutritional intake may cause a disparity of development of supporting tissues.

All dog studies in this area support the concept that high caloric intake rather than the specific intake of protein, minerals or vitamins, influences the frequency and severity of osteochondrosis and HD. The causes of ED while not as thoroughly studied, show similarities and probably similar outcomes.

The common conclusion from studies on dogs is that excessive calcium, phosphorus and vitamin D along with a high energy diet and rapid weight gain causing rapid growth, are almost a sure fire recipe for pushing the parameters for normal structural growth and joint soundness well beyond their normal limits, resulting in joint disorders.

The higher incidence of osteochondrosis in males versus females is probably a direct reflection of this as males can be anywhere between 15-25% heavier than females at any one time (and certainly by full maturity), despite being born at a comparable weight.

Equally, this is not to say that genetics does not play a very important part in the body's structural soundness. Excessive rates of weight gain and thus rapid growth result in pushing the body's parameters beyond which they can cope, particularly if they were not the most structurally stable to start with. For example, an excessive rate of growth and weight will not create severe HD in itself but it certainly can make an existing problem considerably worse.

New Owners and Pet Owners

Many pet owners pick up their puppies (usually at a good weight), go home and then start fiddling with diets. Veterinarians may then add their preferences for types of dry food and different diets. Puppies often become picky eaters mostly due to lack of competition having come from a litter, and diets get changed even further.

The type of dry food can make significant differences in weight gains, particularly the super premium or more concentrated dry foods. The high energy or calorie diets are easily overfed as being concentrated, the correct amount to be fed can look very "small", so inexperienced owners often increase the amounts per feed.

I would also suggest that feeding high energy foods to pets with sedentary life styles is probably not an ideal thing as it tends to make the dogs more hyperactive. To avoid this, with my own GSD puppies, I suggest that the puppies go onto a middle of the road, average quality adult dry food from 8-12 weeks onwards. Usually I suggest a complete dry food with 22-24% protein and 12-14% fat. Further I usually suggest that one feeds $\frac{3}{4}$ dry food to $\frac{1}{4}$ what ever (chicken, red meat, cheese etc). If these dry foods are overfed the consequences are not as drastic in relation to rate of weight gain or activity wise.

Looking at the chart, one can see there are tremendous growth spurts occurring between the 2-5 month period. Excessive rates of gain on a per week basis can set up joint problems for life. While we as breeders and exhibitors tend to keep a close eye on the weight of our puppies (show puppies in particular), novices and pet owners are not nearly as attentive in this area. Most pet owners prefer their pets "well covered"!

Some generalizations on growth rates

1. Males – between 12-20 weeks on average are gaining up to 1-1.25 kg max /week.

- between 20-26 weeks, gaining .75-1kg max per week.

- between 26-35 weeks gaining .5-.75kg/week

Male GSD's largely stop growing in height by 9 months and may gain an extra 1cm (maximum) in height by 15 months. Adult Male 18 months
Average weight range 32-38kg Average 36,

Male full grown 3-4 years Average weight range 36-40kg Average 38kg

2. Females - between 12-20 weeks are gaining up to .75-1kg maximum week,

- between 20-26 weeks, gaining .5-.75kg maximum week,

- between 26-32 weeks, gaining .25-.5kg/week

Female GSD's largely stop growing in height by 8 months of age and may gain up to 1cm in height by 12-15 months of age.

Adult Female 18 months - average weight range 26-32kg Average 28kg

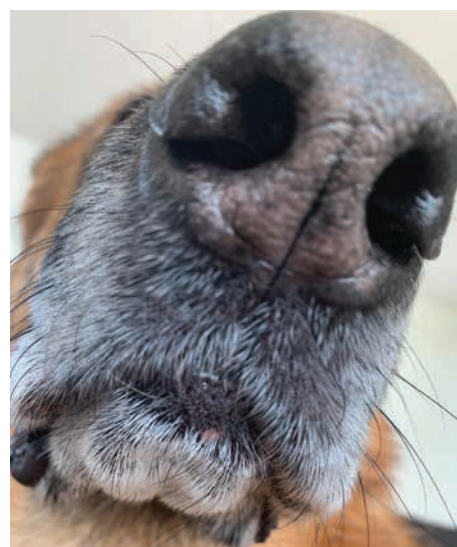
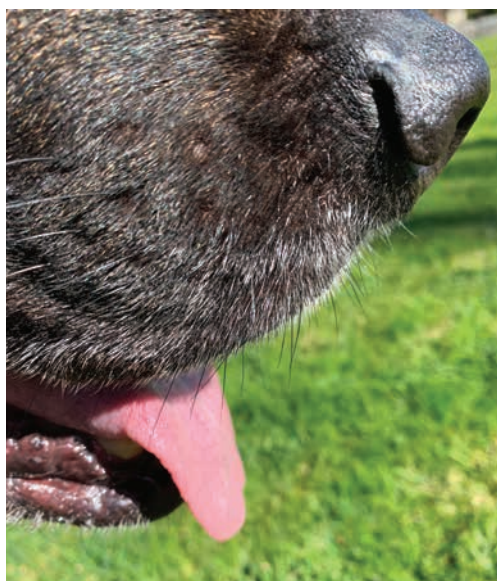
Fully grown female 2-3 years - average weight range 26-32kg, Average 30kg

#The weight of a puppy (male or female) at 4 months (16 weeks) is roughly ½ the adult end weight.

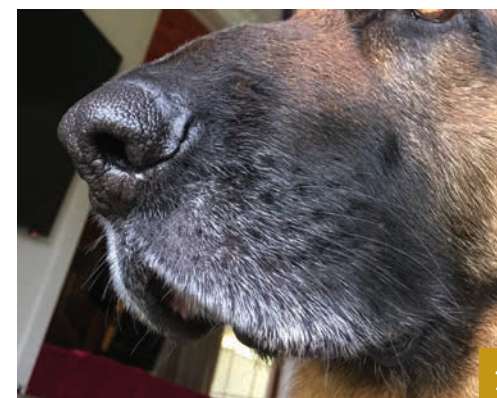
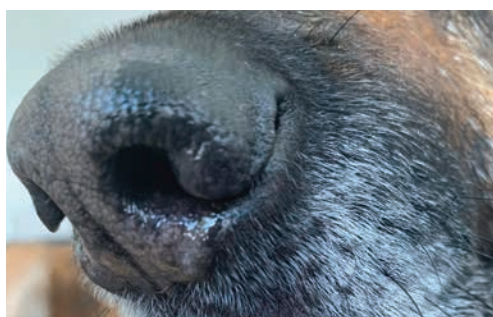
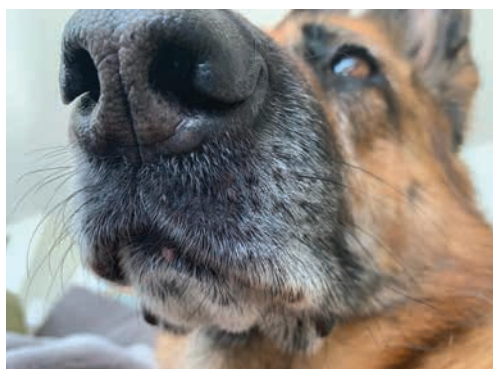
German Shepherd Weight for Age Growth Chart

Age Months	Male Range	Male Average	Female Range	Female Average	% Adult weight (approx)
1	2.5-4	3.5	2- 3.5	3	10
2	6- 9	7	5- 7.5	6.5	22
3	10-14	12	8- 12	10	40
4	16-18	17	13-16	15	50
5	18-22	21	16-20	18	60
6	22-26	24	20-22	21	70
7	26-28	27	22-24	23	80
8	28-30	29	24-26	25	85
9	29-32	31	25-27	26	90
10	30-33	32	26-28	27	92
11	30-34	33	27-29	28	95
12	32-34	34	27-29	28	95
18	32-36	36	27-30	28	98
24	32-38	37	28-30	29	98
36	36-40	38	28-32	30	100





ears ...



A 1956 show schedule for a GSDL Show

THE GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA
 Affiliated with
 THE R.A.S. KENNEL CLUB
 and
 THE ALSATIAN LEAGUE & CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN
 * * *

CONDUCTED UNDER R.A.S. KENNEL CLUB RULES, A COPY
 OF WHICH CAN BE PERUSED AT THE SOCIETY'S OFFICE.
 * * *

ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW
 To be held at
 GRANVILLE SHOW GROUNDS, PARRAMATTA ROAD, CLYDE
 (5 minutes from Clyde Railway Station)
 SUNDAY, 6th NOVEMBER, 1956
 * * *

SCHEDULE
 JUDGE
 CLASS JUDGING ... MR. W. J. DREW
 RING STEWARD ... TO BE APPOINTED
 C.D. & C.D.X. TESTS ... MR. A. F. R. PORTER, J.P.
 RING STEWARD ... MR. G. COX
 VETTING: 10.00 am to 11.00 am DR. SWERT
 1.00 pm to 2.00 pm MR. J. ANDERSON, B.V.Sc.
 VETERINARY STEWARDS: Messrs. R. I. Monroe and
 I. Nance
 ASSEMBLY STEWARD: Mr. C. Scholten
 R.A.S.K.C. REPRESENTATIVE Mrs. D. F. Scott
 (R.A.S. KENNEL CLUB RULES 101 & 103 WILL BE OBSERVED IN THEIR ENTIRETY)
 * * *

DOG CLASSES TO COMMENCE 11 a.m. PROMPTLY.
 BITCH CLASSES APPROXIMATELY 2.30 p.m.
 COMPANION DOG TESTS TO START 1.30 p.m.

Dogs entered in C.D. & C.D.X. TESTS need not be entered in any breed classes, but if
 entered in breed classes they will not forfeit their right to enter individual classes
 If same are in progress at the same time as tests. The Ring Steward will be responsible
 for exhibitor's presence in Breed Classes.
 ENTRY FEES: NON-MEMBERS 4/- per class, MEMBERS 3/- per class. FEES MUST ACCOMPANY ENTRY FORM.
 CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES: 24.10.56 - with Secretary Only - Mrs. E. PORTER, 42 JOHN STREET,
 LIDCOMBE. Phone YX 8012.

ADDED CLASSIFICATIONS
 CLASS 16 VETERAN DOG (Must be entered in one other)
 CLASS 17 VETERAN BITCH (class, and over 6 years of age.)
 CLASS 18 BEST HEADED DOG (Must be entered in one other breed class.
 CLASS 19 BEST HEADED BITCH (See back of entry form.)
 CLASS 20 BEST GAITED DOG (Must be entered in one other breed class.
 CLASS 21 BEST GAITED BITCH (See back of entry form.)
 CLASS 22 COMPANION DOG TEST
 CLASS 23 COMPANION DOG EXCELLENT.
 NOTE: ENTER BY CLASSIFICATION NUMBERS. NOT TROPHY NUMBERS.
 All prize winners will be entered for. Further trophies will be acknowledged in the catalogue.
 First and Second Ribbons and Cards. Best of Breed Card.
 Challenges may be awarded at the discretion of the Judge.
 All Cards and Trophies MUST be collected on day of Show. No cards will be posted if not
 collected by exhibitor.
 CLASS 22 - COMPANION DOG TEST - To Start 1.30 p.m.
 All dogs that qualify will receive the R.A.S.K.C. Certificate of "Companion Dog."
 1. CHARACTER TEST (10) - The dog must submit to handling by the Judge for temperament as
 required by breed standards.
 2. HEEL ON LEASH (5) - The dog must heel on short leash; (b) close to knee of handler;
 (c) executing turns to left and right; (d) one command only for
 "Forward" and "Sit" at each Halt.
 3. RUN ON LEASH (5) - Same as for "Heel on Leash".
 4. HEEL FREE (15) - Same as for "Heel on Leash" except dog must sit once when and where
 required by the Judge.
 5. RUN FREE (10) - As for "Run on Leash".
 6. COME WHEN CALLED (10) - The dog is required to sit or lie at a distance of 15 yards from
 handler. On the command the dog runs in and remains at heel.
 7. SITTING (15) - The dog is required to sit in front of handler for 2 minutes. All
 dogs, male or female, should be in the ring at the same time. The
 handler to be approximately one yard in front of the dog. One com-
 mand or signal only to be given.
 8. LYING (15) - The same conditions as for sitting. Time, 3 minutes.
 9. STAND FREE (15) - The dog is heeling free and on command stands free whilst handler
 advances 15 feet, then turns and faces the dog for approximately 15
 seconds and returns around the dog, finishing on the right side. The
 dog does not move until commanded by handler to "heel".
 To qualify for a certificate a dog must obtain a minimum of 70 per cent of all the required
 points. 70-80% the certificate will be endorsed "Good", 81-90% "Very Good", and 91-100%
 "Excellent". For further information apply to the Hon. Secretary.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY
 ONLY R.A.S. KENNEL CLUB REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED.
 UNDER R.A.S. KENNEL CLUB RULES ALL ENTRIES MUST BE PAID FOR BEFORE BEING CATALOGUED.
 NO PHONE OR GATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED.
 NO DOGS OTHER THAN THOSE CATALOGUED WILL BE ALLOWED ON THE GROUND, KENNEL CLUB RULE.
 Dogs must be solely the property of the Exhibitor. The Club reserves the right of refusing
 any entry.
 Bitches in oestrus may be shown, but owners are asked "to play the game" with dog owners,
 "ACQUAINTANCE" at the Veterinary table free of charge.
 Exhibitors in the Metropolitan Districts travelling by train should enquire at their local
 Railway re Special Show Dog Ticket available on Saturdays and Sundays only.
 To support the tone of the Show the Judge will be desired to withhold any prizes from
 exhibits which he considers of insufficient merit.
 Under R.A.S.K.C. Rules, no Puppy under the age of Six Months may compete against any Dog
 or Bitch, Six Months of age or over.
 After calling a Dog's number three times and the dog fails to come into the ring the Ring
 Steward has the power to class the dog absent.
 The Committee do not hold themselves liable for any loss or damage to any exhibits,
 exhibitor or visitor, and everyone visiting the show does so on this understanding.
 OUR THANKS ... and our appreciation are extended to those liberal-hearted fanciers and
 friends who so generously assisted us with Trophies, Prizes and Specials which has
 enabled us to present such a comprehensive Schedule.
 OUR CLUB ... is democratic and progressive and any element of discord has no place amongst
 us. We cordially invite all fanciers who appreciate such an atmosphere to come and join.
 Join our Club and help us to stamp out the ridiculous antagonism against the German
 Shepherd Dog. We need You! Your dog needs us! See the Secretary to-day!
 ADMISSION BY CATALOGUE OR DONATION - CARS 1/-d.
 REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE.

OFFICIALS
 PATRON Capt. H. Harrison
 PRESIDENT Mr. A. Porter
 HON. SECRETARY & TREASURER: Mrs. E. Porter
 ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Mrs. T. Mackie
 VICE PRESIDENTS: Mr. R. Hilton; Mrs. E. Armstrong;
 Mr. W. G. Mackie
 PUBLICITY OFFICER Mr. D. Smith

TROPHY LIST FOR ANNUAL SHOW
 Judging of General Specials to commence with the lowest award & work through to the Best Exhibit.

		DONORS
1. BEST EXHIBIT	Engraved Sash	G.S.D. League of Aust.
2. BEST OPPOSITE SEX	Engraved Sash	G.S.D. League of Aust.
3. RES. CH. WINNING BITCH	Trophy Spoon (Members	Alsatian League & Club
4. RES. CH. WINNING DOG	Trophy Spoon only)	of Great Britain
5. SP. BABY PUPPY BITCH (under 3 months)	Engraved Sash	
6. SP. BABY PUPPY DOG (under 3 months)	Engraved Sash	
7. BEST BABY PUPPY BITCH (under 6 months)	Trophy	Mrs. M. Hackett
8. BEST BABY PUPPY DOG (under 6 months)	5/- cash	Mrs. L. A. Van Gerken
9. BEST MINOR PUPPY (under 9 months)	Trophy and Sash	Mrs. J. Caspersen
10. BEST OPPOSITE (under 9 months)	Engraved Sash	"Harada" Kennels
11. BEST PUPPY BITCH (under 12 months and entered in Class 4e)	10/6 cash	Mrs. L. A. Van Gerken
12. BEST PUPPY DOG (under 12 months and entered in Class 4)	Engraved Sash	"Harada" Kennels
13. BEST MAIDEN or NOVICE	Engraved Sash	Mrs. & Mrs. John Sherril
14. BEST JUNIOR BITCH	Engraved Sash	Mr. & Mrs. A. H. Shaw
15. BEST JUNIOR DOG	Engraved Sash	
16. BEST MID-LIMIT DOG or BITCH	Engraved Sash	
17. BEST LIMIT DOG OR BITCH	Engraved Sash	Mr. & Mrs. H. A. Toomy
18. BEST AUSTRALASIAN BRED BITCH	Engraved Sash	
19. BEST AUSTRALASIAN BRED DOG	Engraved Sash	
20. BEST OPEN BITCH	Engraved Sash	
21. BEST OPEN DOG	Engraved Sash	
22. BEST HEADED BITCH	Engraved Sash	Mrs. T. McDiarmid
23. BEST HEADED DOG	Engraved Sash	Mrs. E. Porter
24. BEST GAITED BITCH	Engraved Sash	
25. BEST GAITED DOG	Engraved Sash	
26. BEST BRACE	Engraved Sash	
27. BEST VETERAN (over 6 years old)	Engraved Sash	
28. WINNER COMPANION DOG TEST	Engraved Sash	
29. WINNER COMPANION DOG EXCELLENT	Engraved Sash	
30. BEST 2nd PRIZE WINNER OVER 12 MONTHS	"Special" Sash	G.S.D. League of Aust.
31. BEST 2nd PRIZE WINNER 6 to 12 MONTHS	"Special" Sash	G.S.D. League of Aust.

PERPETUAL CUPS OPEN TO MEMBERS ONLY AT ANNUAL SHOW
 "ISOLA WHITE" CUP. Donated by Sister Brevis. To be competed for at the Club's Annual Show for best of breed. Holder: Mrs. E. E. Lawton's K.C.Ch. "Kittlamount Felcon".
 "TINTARA" CUP. Best Opposite Sex. Holder: Mrs. E. Armstrong's "Grieshaw Garlin".
 "CHRISTVALE" CUP. Donated by Mr. & Mrs. W. G. Mackie, Best Puppy, over 6 months & under 12 mths. Holder: Mrs. E. E. Lawton's "Fair-Haven Krysta".
 CUPS TO REMAIN THE PROPERTY OF THE CLUB.
 TO BE HELD BY THE WINNER FOR TWELVE MONTHS.

General Health – Growth and Feeding Puppies

Karen Hedberg

BVSc 2007

The following article, written by Dr Karen Hedberg is one of the most read articles on our website, so we've reprinted for information.

Size and End Weight

- Dogs come in all sizes and shapes and have enormous variation in their final body weights.
- Dogs generally can be fed a very wide range of diets and do extremely well.
- Provided there are adequate amounts of fats, proteins, carbohydrates and a good range of minerals and vitamins available in the diet and that adequate amounts are fed to maintain good body weight and normal growth rates in puppies, most dogs will cope quite well.

Critical Demand Periods

There are several periods of a dog's life where there are higher demands for good nutrition, ie. during :

- rapid growth
- Pregnancy and lactation
- heavy work or stress situations
- extreme conditions (temperature)

Rapid Growth

- Failure to provide sufficient nutrition during critical periods can result in major problems - particularly during rapid growth periods in young puppies.
- Equally, over nutrition can create its own set of problems in the rapidly growing dog.

Feeding

Levels of Nutrition

- A growing puppy requires more food than an adult dog as it is eating for growth as well as maintenance of body weight.
- A pregnant bitch requires more food her own maintenance and for the growing puppies, particularly in the last 3 weeks of pregnancy (can need to be fed up to twice normal intake).
- A lactating bitch needs up to three times the normal diet to produce sufficient milk to feed the growing puppies and to be able to maintain her own body weight.

- Dogs in heavy work can, depending on the circumstances (eg. excessive cold) require 2-3 times the energy intake of their normal adult maintenance diet.

Puppy Growth Rates

What you feed your puppy and what it needs at the various stages of growth, will depend on its weight, rate of growth and the desired end body weight for that breed and sex.

- Puppies grow extremely rapidly, usually doubling their birth weight in the first week. A puppy of a medium sized breed is born at around 0.5kg at birth, and will grow to 20-35 kg by 8-9 months.
- A child grows at nowhere near the same rate - the equivalent growth may take 2-5 years. This rapid growth is even more exaggerated in the giant breeds where a 1kg puppy at birth can grow to weight 60-70 kg by 9-10 months.
- Due to this tremendous expansion in both size and weight, the diet must be capable of delivering a balanced supply of energy, proteins, fats and carbohydrates as well as sufficient minerals, vitamins and correct amino acid profile such that the puppy grows steadily and is not pushed too fast.
- The amount of food fed reduces as the rate of growth decreases.

Always remember that a young dog is eating not only for daily maintenance, but for growth as well, ie. it may require up to twice that of a normal adult when it is very young.

Proportionally, a puppy eats far more per unit of body weight than does an adult. This gradually reduces to a maintenance level by 8-10 months of age.

- In an average sized breed, puppies grow very rapidly between 0-8 weeks of age, then fairly steadily up to 20-24 weeks, they then slow down to a slower rate between 6-8 months until they reach around 3/4 adult weight.
- After 8-9 months of age, the vast majority of height has been achieved and they gradually fully mature at around 15-18 months of age. Smaller toy breeds are often fully mature by 6-7 months of age. Giant breeds can take 12-15 months to achieve full height and 18-36 months to mature.
- It is also important to remember that the smaller the breed, the higher the metabolic rate.
- What this means in real terms is that the smaller breeds need to be fed more frequently, particularly when very young, when pregnant or during lactation.

Very small toy breeds often need to be fed at least 4-5 times a day when they are very young.

Feeding at Different Growth Stages

The aim is to grow puppies at a steady rate of weight gain and stay within the normal weight ranges of that sex and breed at that age group.

- Weight - It is most important to keep an eye on your dog's weight. A simple test is to run your fingers over the ribs and there should be a thin layer of fat between the ribs and the skin.
- A growing dog, especially between three and six months of age,

should not get too thin or too fat as it is growing very fast and either excess is not helpful to the firmness and soundness of the eventual adult dog.

- Adult dogs can carry a bit more weight, but this should never be excessive.

Time needed to reach 50% Adult Weight

- Small breeds can reach 50% of adult weight by 12 weeks. They are prone to obesity and shortened life spans if overweight.
- Medium to large breeds reach 50% adult weight by 16 weeks (4 months).
- Large and giant breeds reach 50% adult weight by 5-6 months.
- Very rapid growth (3-8 weeks of age) :
- Puppies need at least 12-16% fat levels in the diet, together with a 25-28% protein level in order to keep up with such rapid growth rates.

Feeding 8-20 weeks

- Rapid growth – 8-20 weeks (to around ½ adult weight) and depending on the rate of growth and weight gain desired for that breed and sex, the level of activity, etc.
- The aim for medium to large breeds is to slightly lower the energy density of the diet to 10- 14% fat and 22-25% protein. Giant breeds may need to stay on higher protein and fat levels for longer.
- Medium sized to large breed individuals, particularly if they are growing too fast, need reduced overall energy levels in the diet in order to slow growth and/or weight gains to more normal levels. If concerned, swap to an adult maintenance diet.

Rapid growth 8-20 weeks

- This growth stage is most commonly the one where dietary overfeeding occurs.
- It is also the time when most of the growth associated bone conditions start to develop eg. osteochondritis (OCD).

Slower Growth to Puberty

- From ½ to around ¾ adult weight - In the average medium to large size breeds the growth starts to slow down considerably after 5-6 months of age.
- This is the time to start reducing the amount fed, particularly if your puppy is already slightly heavy. Usually once a day feeding is ample in all breeds, apart from the very small and the very large, which may still require feeding twice a day.
- Equally any very skinny or hyperactive puppy of any breed may require more than an average puppy that is easily maintaining its bodyweight.
- Always go by the individual : too fat, reduce the amount fed, too light, increase the food given.
- Feeding excessive amounts of high energy dense foods to a puppy that is just playing around in a backyard is a bit like feeding cordial to ADD children – they can become very hyperactive and destructive.

Feeding for Maintenance

- Diet levels - generally around 22-24% protein, 10-12% fat - This level of protein and energy is generally quite sufficient for dogs sitting around in the back yard. It should be remembered that individuals should be fed relative to their metabolic efficiency and level of activity. A hyperactive dog will require a higher fat and protein level in its diet than a slothful older dog.
- Adult dogs under no particular stress or work situation can be feed an enormous variety of diets with little or no ill affects.
- Many dogs develop obesity by sheer overfeeding. Others may develop skin or bowel conditions due to either dietary allergies or dietary deficiencies.
- Remember in winter the energy levels required to maintain body heat are higher (depending on the severity of conditions).
- Conversely, in hot weather the energy requirements are much lower, particularly if the dogs are not being actively worked, ie. feed less in hot weather, feed more energy dense foods in very cold weather.

Feeding Recommendations

With the more palatable diets, and particularly those with high energy densities, feeding should be carried out with due regard to the desired end body weight of the dog, hence its energy intake. (Kronfeld 1984).

Homemade Diets

- Recently, there has been an increasing tendency to feed homemade diets in the mistaken idea that prepared or commercial dog food is in someway deleterious to the health of dogs.
- While I do not have a great problem with these diets (and the so called BARF diets) being fed to healthy adult dogs that are under no real stress, I do have grave concerns about the effects of these diets on rapidly growing dogs, particularly with the heavier and giant breeds.
- Additionally, bitches being fed these diets are often so lacking in minerals and fats that they may refuse to feed their puppies after 2-3 weeks as they themselves are so heavily depleted in minerals, particularly calcium.
- The people feeding these diets (particularly novice owners and breeders) often have little or no knowledge of the dietary requirements of dogs or their breed in particular, especially during the rapid growth phase (1-8 months).
- The diets are often very poorly balanced, particularly for mineral content – the major problems being lack of calcium, zinc, iron and well as trace elements such as Selenium.
- Often excessive amounts of meat are fed (giving high phosphorus levels) relative to any cereal or carbohydrate content.
- There is often a low fat content in the misguided belief that if fat is bad for humans, it is bad for dogs!

Dogs are not humans and have significantly different requirements, particularly in relation to mineral supplementation during their rapid growth period.

Dietary Myths

A commonly heard argument in support of these diets is that wild dogs (wolves, jackals etc) in the wild live on an all- meat diet, therefore this is the correct thing to feed - wrong!

Several important facts are overlooked in this area :

1. Wild dogs eat mainly herbivores and will eat all sections of the carcass, including the skin, bones and the intestines along with semi-digested grains and grass.
2. Domesticated dogs have been adapting and scavenging for food around human populations for well over 100,000 years and have adapted around "leftovers" – cooked and raw meat, vegetables and cooked grains.
3. Modern medium to large breeds of dog are, on average between 15-25% heavier than they were 100 years ago.
4. The selection has been for increased bone and substance such that the German Shepherd during this period has gone from 20-22 kg (bitch) up to 28-32 kg, and dogs 26-28 kg up to 34-40 kg. The height standard has not changed, but the weight gain has been predominantly one of increased bone and substance.
5. The weight of an adult wolf is lucky to exceed 25-28 kg, yet many large and giant breeds exceed this weight by 4-5 months of age.
6. Toy breeds are the exceptions in this area and many have been further "miniaturised" in the last 100 years, a fact that brings its own set of problems.
7. High meat diets, as well as being unbalanced for mineral content (low calcium etc as mentioned above), are much more likely in the long run to adversely affect the kidneys.
8. Most of the grains and meat used in the diets today are from heavily used agricultural land, where trace elements are missing or severely depleted.

9. The chance of trace element deficiencies developing will increase over time.
10. Elements such as zinc, calcium, iodine and selenium are commonly very low and a lack of these elements can affect growth rates as well as the functioning of various glands, in particular the thyroid gland.
11. Preparation of homemade diets is usually very time consuming, let alone balancing the important components of the diet such that adequate levels of various minerals, vitamins, fats, proteins and carbohydrates are available for growth etc.
12. Problems extend further if selling puppies to people who can not cope with the delicate balancing act required of a homemade diet and/or when such dogs have to be kenneled with other people.

Summary on Homemade Diets

For the vast majority of people, the use of a well balanced readily available commercial dry food is quick, and provided they are not grossly overfed, very safe.

The general life span of domestic pets is now significantly longer than 50 years ago by around a conservative 4 years for average sized breeds, and up to 6-8 years in many smaller breeds. This is largely attributable to better diets, vaccinations and health care: commercial diets make a highly significant contribution.

Generally, I would avoid homemade diets for rapidly growing puppies, dogs in heavy work or bitches in production situations (pregnancy, lactation).

Very experienced people may be able to cope in these situations, but novices rarely do and the vast majority will fail to recognise the early signs of developing problems.

Attention Triallers !

Members of the obedience trial fraternity would be aware that a revision of the Obedience Trial and Rally Trial rules has recently been undertaken.

The new ANKC Rules (effective 1 January 2021) are now available. Check them out for any changes to your class exercises from next year.

See the links below on the ANKC website. The current rules in place can be viewed, along with the revised rules to be introduced on January 1st 2021. There are also new Rally signs for Novice, Advanced, Excellent and Master available on the rules page.

ANKC Rules page

<http://ankc.org.au/AboutUs/?id=1253>

New rules for the Conduct of Obedience Trials

<http://ankc.org.au/media/9437/9-obedience-01-01-2021.pdf>

New rules for the Conduct of Rally Trials

<http://ankc.org.au/media/9438/10-rally-rules-01-01-2021.pdf>



Shaping Success

By Sarah Fulcher

Free shape—or not?

Free **shaping** is a type of animal training where you teach the behaviours in gradual steps using a marker, like a clicker, and rewards. Shaping can be a great way to teach some difficult behaviours, expand your animal's capabilities, exercise your animal's brain, and build your chops as a trainer. There has been a recent trend pushing toward free shaping as much as possible. While it is a powerful training tool, it can also be frustrating for the learner if the shaping is done poorly. Free shaping is sometimes not the most effective training option.

Timing

If you want to be successful building behaviours with shaping, you will need to have good timing. There are lots of games you can play to practice timing with a clicker. Try bouncing a ball and clicking every time it hits the ground. Or, while watching TV, take a few minutes and click every time the camera angle changes. If you don't have good timing, you're not going to be able to click your target's behaviour, and you might end up shaping some pretty bizarre actions.

Plan ahead

Before beginning shaping sessions you should have a plan of what the probable steps of the behaviour should look like. Start with something the dog can and likely will do easily, and build up in logical steps to the finished behaviour. For example, if I wanted to train my dog to bow, my steps might look something like:

1. Dip the head in a standing position
2. Head halfway to the floor
3. Nose close to touching the floor
4. Elbows bent
5. Elbows touching floor, rear in the air—a bow!

Establishing criteria and reinforcement rate

A common misconception about free shaping is that there is a lack of information provided to the learner. The truth is that if you are free shaping well, you will provide plenty of feedback to the animal. Your goal should be about 15 clicks a minute—that is feedback an average of every 4 seconds. With that rate of feedback and reinforcement, your dog should be having lots of success, understanding what you are looking for, and working eagerly for you. If you notice your dog getting frustrated, then you are probably asking too much and need to adjust your criteria.

When you are getting the 15 clicks a minute consistently after a few training sessions, then it is time to wait the dog out before offering the next step of your shaping plan. Keep your training sessions short, only a minute or two in length, and track how many treats you go through so you know what your **rate of reinforcement** is. Count out a certain number of treats before the session, and count what was left afterward to know how many clicks per minute you logged.

Cues to communicate

Another objection to free shaping is that it causes dogs to be frantic and to offer behaviours continually. While this definitely can happen, I don't feel it is the fault of free shaping itself. I believe that dogs get this

way because their trainers do not add cues early enough. It's commonly accepted in the clicker training world that you do not add a cue until the behaviour is perfect. However, this gives the animal plenty of rehearsals of the behaviour without a cue attached. The more times the dog does the behaviour without being cued, and gets reinforced for it, the more likely it will be that the dog will offer that behaviour when it hasn't been asked (cued) to do so.

So, when do you add a cue? As early as possible! When you can predict with relative certainty that the dog will do some form of the behaviour, start attaching a cue. Once you add a cue, do not reinforce un-cued responses afterwards. You can always change your cue once you get the behaviour exactly where you want it so your final cue is not attached to the imperfections associated with training.

Provided that your dog has a good understanding of the concept of cues and you are diligent about getting behaviours on **stimulus control**, this practice will help avoid frantic offering of behaviour. Your dog will know the difference between when it is time to experiment (shaping) and when to perform a specific behaviour when asked. Another trick I really like to do that seems to help dogs have a "shaping off-switch" is to use "game on" and "game off" signals to indicate when we are going to start shaping and when we are done. I will use "are you ready?" to mean we are going to start training and "all done" to tell the dog our session is over.

Reward placement

One of the single most important efforts that can speed up your shaping sessions (and training in general) is utilizing the placement of rewards. For example, you can deliver your reinforcement in a physical location that will jump-start your dog to offer the next repetition. Reward placement comes down to planning, but also to thinking on your feet. Where do you want the dog to be positioned to set up for the next rep? If you want the dog to stay in position, deliver the food directly to the dog. If, for example, you are trying to train a dog to go around an object, click for just moving beside it and toss the food so that the dog has to move even further around it. Instead of having the dog return to you to get the food, jump-start the behaviour of moving around the object by using your food reward placement to get the dog there. If you want to set the dog up to repeat an action, go to a platform, for example, toss the food away after you click so that the dog moves off and has the opportunity to return to the platform.

Many people think that they have to be extremely sterile during clicker training, and during shaping in general. Not true! Put some heart into it! If you are engaging, your dog is going to enjoy the process so much more. Training should be a game that both of you enjoy. While you should remain quiet before you click, there is no reason why you cannot praise the heck out of your dog after a click, for a big breakthrough, or at the end of a session. Relax, have fun!

Shaping - just one tool

While shaping can be a really cool way to teach some behaviours, it is not always the most efficient or effective way to train a skill. This is why shaping is not something I use to train all the time; I use shaping if I cannot get the behaviour easily in another manner, or if I want to challenge myself and my dog. To avoid frustration and make training go smoother, I suggest that you pick a method that will get the behaviour started as quickly as possible. Often, this choice will not be shaping. Utilizing prompts such as targets, setting up the environment, or even just capturing may be much faster means of training. You can even mix a combination of targeting, shaping, etc— whatever works best to explain to the animal what you are looking for.

One wonderful benefit of shaping is that there are no prompts to fade, since the training process is based completely on the dog offering behaviours. If you are going to use a prompt, it is important that you do not use it more than is necessary. For example, if the animal will do the behaviour naturally, you don't need to set up the environment. If you can set up the training area to get the behaviour easily, try not to use targets. If you can get the job done with targets, avoid using a lure. The less you prompt, the less you have to fade. Remember, if you are using a prompt, you want to fade it as quickly as possible to avoid the animal's reliance on it. Get the prompt out of the picture as quickly as you can.

Some dogs will prefer shaping more than others. If one of you, you or your dog, does not really like shaping, that's just fine. There are plenty of other training tools to teach your dog to perform many wonderful tricks and behaviours. My 5-year-old Belgian shepherd, Dexter, loves to shape and is really fun to work with. I will do shaping with him often, just because he is so enjoyable to train this way. In contrast, my young Australian shepherd, Brew, finds shaping a frustrating process. For Brew, I limit the amount of shaping I do and try to use other methods to prompt behaviours with him. I do work on shaping with him occasionally, as it is good practice for him to think and use his brain in that way. Sometimes shaping really is the best way to accomplish my goals.

A useful technique

Shaping is an excellent way to enhance your skills as a trainer.

Shaping is often misunderstood and can be difficult to do well. But if you have well-developed timing and planning skills, with some practice it can be a helpful addition to your toolkit—especially as there are some behaviours you can shape that are very difficult to train in another manner. Overall, shaping is an excellent way to enhance your skills as a trainer and exercise your dog mentally.

Happy training!

The Ten Laws of Shaping

By Karen Pryor

1. Raise **criteria** in increments small enough so that the subject always has a realistic chance of **reinforcement**.
2. Train one aspect of any particular **behaviour** at a time. Don't try to shape for two criteria simultaneously.
3. During **shaping**, put the current level of response on a **variable ratio** schedule of reinforcement before adding or raising the criteria.
4. When introducing a new criterion, or aspect of the behavioural skill, temporarily relax the old ones.
5. Stay ahead of your subject: Plan your shaping program completely so that if the subject makes sudden progress, you are aware of what to reinforce next.
6. Don't change trainers in midstream. You can have several trainers per trainee, but stick to one shaper per behaviour.
7. If one shaping procedure is not eliciting progress, find another. There are as many ways to get behaviour as there are trainers to think them up.
8. Don't interrupt a **training session** gratuitously; that constitutes a **punishment**.
9. If behaviour deteriorates, "Go back to kindergarten." Quickly review the whole shaping process with a series of easily earned reinforcers.
10. End each session on a high note, if possible, but in any case quit while you're ahead.

Taken from Chapter 2 of Don't Shoot the Dog by Karen Pryor



Misconceptions about Shaping

By Ken Ramirez

In 1999, Paul Chance defined shaping as “the use of successive approximations to achieve a **target** behavioural goal.” In 2017, David Pierce and Carl Cheney used an almost identical definition, adding only that shaping includes the use of “selective **reinforcement**.” Based on those definitions, most of us use shaping every time we train. Yet, trainers still have misconceptions about shaping, and I find myself having to address those misconceptions with my students and clients.

Here are five of the most common misunderstandings.

Misconception #1: Targeting is not a form of shaping

This is one of the most common misperceptions I encounter. When you use a target or any type of prompt, you are still relying on successive approximations and using selective reinforcement to achieve the goal behaviour. Target training is shaping, or “shaping with a prompt.”

Misconception #2: Shaping and free shaping are the same thing

The term “free shaping” does not appear in scientific literature. It is a relatively new term that refers to the type of shaping where the trainer uses no deliberate prompts and makes no conscious attempt to adapt the learning environment to make the desired behaviour more likely. Instead, the trainer captures small movements offered by the animal and gradually approximates toward a desired goal. Many people think of free shaping as “shaping,” and any arrangement of the environment is not “real shaping.” This perspective may stem from Skinner’s original work with animals in an operant chamber, where there was no obvious trainer interaction with the animal. The belief that shaping must be free of prompts in order to be “true” shaping is the cause of so much confusion.

Misconception #3: Free shaping does not rely on arrangement of the environment to achieve results

All behaviour is impacted by the environment.

All behaviour is impacted by the environment. Even if the trainer does nothing consciously, the environment has influence over the animal’s learning. By bringing the dog to a room, closing the door, and sitting near the dog with a pouch full of treats, the trainer relies on some environmental arrangement. Moreover, setting up the environment is an essential way to help your animal succeed, and it is a mark of good training. For example, placing a toy or a prop between you and your animal may encourage the animal to interact with the object; it is a good way to start a free shaping session.

Misconception #4: Free shaping is a better way to train

I do not consider free shaping to be a better way to train. Free shaping is a difficult skill to master, particularly for novice trainers who can frustrate their animal easily. Professional trainers need to know how to free shape, but they should prioritize using whichever technique is going to set up their animal for success the best.

Some trainers prefer to train without prompts so that the animal figures out the behaviour on its own and is not dependent on external environmental cues.

If you don’t focus on the environment in the beginning, you will need to focus on it eventually.

However, the animal will still perceive the cues that are in the environment while training. That is why some dogs have difficulty transferring behaviour into new locations or new contexts; all the new environmental cues in the new location were not part of the initial training. If you don’t focus on the environment in the beginning, you will need to focus on it eventually.

Whether a trainer uses capturing, targeting, luring, moulding, or free shaping, every technique has benefits and drawbacks. Skilled trainers will know how and when to use each one.

Misconception #5: Mixing free shaping with other techniques is wrong

There is nothing wrong with combining techniques. People believe that certain techniques must be used in their “purest” form because some professional dog training schools and programs, including the Karen Pryor Academy Dog Trainer Professional program, require their students to learn how to shape behaviour with minimal to no prompting. These professional dog training programs aim to teach students to use all the available training tools, focusing on each tool separately, so that the student can use them in an expert manner when needed. A basketball coach may ask an athlete to practice passing, dribbling, and shooting free throws during certain segments of practice, not because the athlete will use only one of those tools in a game, but because it helps athletes develop each skill thoroughly before an actual game. Similarly, a trainer should practice and learn various individual techniques, so that when s/he works with an animal, s/he can adapt and mix the techniques as needed.

Final thoughts

We overcomplicate things in the training world sometimes. I don’t think many trainers are purely free shapers; most of us use a variety of techniques, because our goal is to help animals succeed. There is no merit in suggesting that one technique should always be used; some techniques should be combined if it will help the learner.

Happy Training,

Basic Examples of Subtext and How to Deliver Them to the Dog

Purpose	Text	Tone	Subtext
Praise	"Good boy/girl!" "Who's a good boy/girl?"	Qualified, tentative. Unresolved, with an implied "but"	"Don't get a swelled head, nobody's perfect."
Mild Rebuke	"No no...."	Gently chiding. Either slightly indulgent, or with a tone of reminding rather than berating	"Look, I don't really care that you did this. Life is short and I'm crazy about you. So ignore me. Just don't do it again."
Stern Rebuke	"Bad!" "No!" "Bad girl/boy!"	Devastated, near despair	"How can you do this to me? What did I do to deserve this? Is it me? Is this my fault? Go on, you can tell me."
Neutral Small Talk	"So, tell me, how are you?" "Is everything all right?"	Stiffly "friendly." Obviously trying to conceal explosive emotions	"You have been bad, but I am giving you one last chance to acknowledge it and save me the heartache I can see is probably inevitable."
Brave Reassurance	"I'm fine." "No, don't worry, it's nothing"	Neutral, flat, devoid of feeling	"What you have done is so unspeakable and such a violation of me (who only loves you and wants what's best for you) that I can't even talk about it."

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How to prepare your dog for obedience trials

By Fanny Satt

Training the obedience exercises to perfection is of course important, but it is not enough. Without preparing your dog for performing at a trial, you risk getting a dog that is “ring wise” before long. This happened with the first dog that I competed with to the highest level. She did great in the first trials, but after a while, her performance in trials was about half as good as in training. And when I finally realised that we had a problem, it was not easy to solve it.

Now, preparing the dogs for trials is a big part of our training. There are different aspects of trialing that can be worked on separately. Most of it can be done already with a puppy or young dog. Here are some of the things we work on before trialing:

- Prepare your dog for doing longer sequences without rewards. The biggest difference between training and trialing is usually that we reward our dogs much more often during training. This is usually what make dogs “ring wise”, they will find that difference out and stop performing as well in trials. Make sure that you do longer sequences without rewarding (of course, there is always a reward at the end of the sequence) in training and not just rewarding every exercise. My goal is to have the dog do 50% more (than what is required in a competition) before getting rewarded in training before we go to a trial. Sequences as a concept can be trained as soon as the puppy knows a few behaviours. Instead of rewarding every cued behaviour, you might ask the puppy to “down” after coming to heel position and then reward. As the puppy gets used to that, you will sometimes start asking for more. I would say that this is the most important thing to do before trialing. If you do this well, you probably don’t have to worry about your dog getting ring wise.
- Do your training in a trial like setting. Arrange training that looks a lot like a real trial. Preferably, you’d set up a ring in a unknown location with new people and new dogs around. Let people act as judge and ring steward. This is the optimal set up, but I also find that just bringing in one or two of these elements into my training helps a lot. I might be at home, but have a ring set up and someone new telling me where to go in the ring. Or i might go to a new place and do trial like training with our usual training group. It all helps a lot!

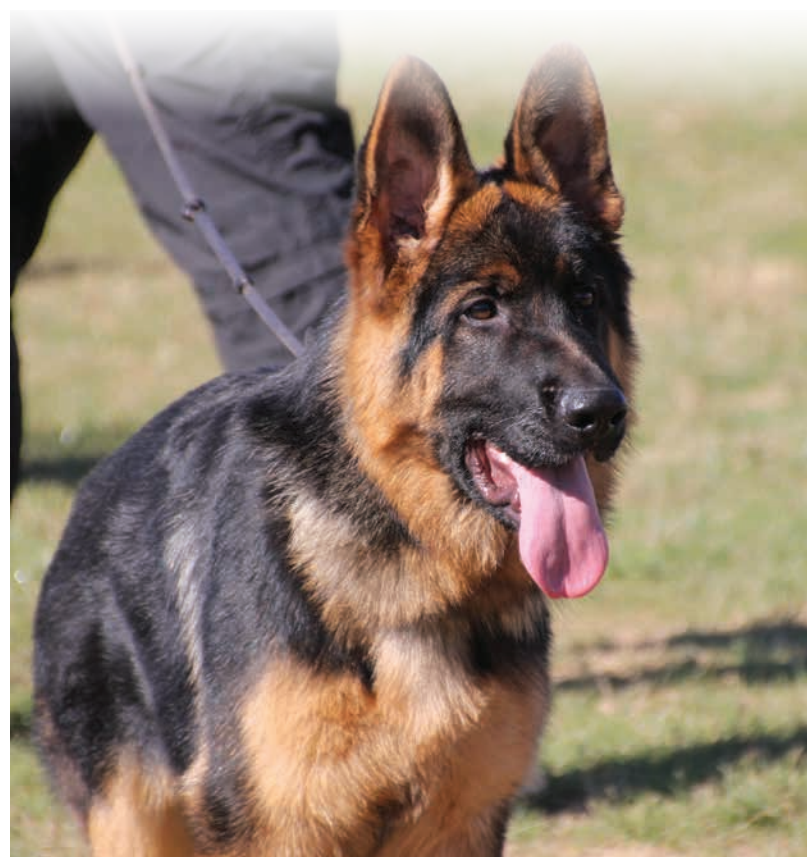
A common mistake is to make trial-like training boring for the dog. As soon as we do training in a trial-like setting, we want to try hard things to see what the dog can do. We reward more seldom than in our regular training and we add too many difficult tasks for the dog at once. Then all of this training is bad for our future career, just as if we’d already taken an unprepared dog and trialed. You risk making the dog ring wise before even entering a trial.

So make sure that you give your dog pleasant memories from the “trial”.

Do easy stuff that you know that your dog will be good at. Make sure that your rewards are extra good. The most important thing is that the dog starts liking trials. The really hard challenges can be saved for training at home. You will of course at some point do hard things in a trial-like setting, but by then your dog should be at an even higher level while training at home.

- Do a lot of training on heeling the dog into the ring and heeling the dog between exercises. A lot of people tend to only train on exercises before trialing, but that would not make the dog fully prepared for the trial. In a trial, you also have to walk into the ring and heel the dog between exercises. Working on how to enter the ring is important for many reasons. I would get very nervous if my dog wasn’t with me while walking into the ring and my dog would probably not do as well in the exercises if she had to start the trial with something we never trained for. This is also your chance to give the judge a good first impression of you as a team. So train your heeling into the ring and between exercises. Don’t always reward when your dog finishes an exercise, do some heeling before rewarding from time to time.
- Proof for distractions. List all the distractions that could happen at a trial and train for them: A clumsy ring steward, dumbbells right by the jump, cones in your way while heeling, loud speakers, people commanding their dogs in a loud and aggressive way, food on the ground, bitches in heat, judges that follow you close by while heeling etc.
- Train for more than what is required by the rules. Few will perform as good in a trial as they do while training. Make sure that your dog can do a little bit more than what you will be doing in a trial. Longer distances, harder challenges and tough distractions. This will allow you to perform worse than in training but still be perfect in a trial. This will also make sure that your dog finds trialing easy and fun.

Good luck!



Five things that will improve your training

By Fanny Sott

When we teach seminars, we often start by giving some input on how trainers can have better quality in their training. These are some easy points that often make a huge difference:

1. Use Crate Games

Crate games has made a huge difference in my own training, and an even bigger difference in our classes. The crate game teaches the dog to engage in training, be fast, have self control and to relax. In a training session, crate games provide a perfect start and a perfect end to the session.

2. Play a lot of Tug

Play a lot with your dog in training and keep a good balance between treats and tugging in your training. A good rule of thumb is to break it off and play for every third to fifth treat in a session. These breaks will keep your dog in optimum arousal throughout the session, helps with building value for both treats and tugging, helps with your transitions and teaches the dog to alter between play and concentration. It also helps with keeping sessions light and fun for both trainer and dog. Sometimes, we get so into training that the dog gets worried by our serious mood.

3. Keep Your Sessions Short

Trainers often train for way too long. We try to limit our sessions to three minutes (unless we do trial training with the obedience dogs, search and rescue training, or other activities where the dog sometimes has to work for a lot more than 3 minutes before he gets a reward). Any time we're about to start training a new behaviour, we keep sessions even shorter (like one minute), so that we are able to evaluate if our plan is right before doing anything else. We make adjustments to the plan and to a one minute session again. Only when we feel confident that we're on the right track, we add a few minutes to the sessions. When I do agility with Shejpa (who has had issues with focus and speed), I mostly do 30 second sessions (or shorter). This has really made a huge difference in her speed and focus in agility.

The length of a training session is determined by how long the dog is able to work with focus and enthusiasm and by our own need for evaluation and planning. Even if the dog is able to work for long periods of time, it is necessary to stop and evaluate the training often. If not, you might be going in the wrong direction for a long time without noticing.

4. Make Your Transitions More Smooth

Good dog training really has a lot to do with mechanical skills. If you want your dog to be fully focused during training and trialing, you must be fully focused and plan your training so that it is smooth, with no unmotivated breaks. A good training session is focused and active from beginning to end. Three minutes of pure joy and concentration.

This means that you don't have time to search your pockets for treats, move equipment or walk from one place to another without planning it well. In my shaping sessions, I often keep treats in my hand to be able to reward the dog quickly. Breaking off training with a game of tug gives me a chance to pick up some more treats and get ready for a new repetition without any dead time for the dog. As soon as I tell my dog to drop the toy, I am ready to click and reward again. No transportations, no dead time. Plan your transitions, train your transitions, so that your dog can be as attentive as you would like. Send your dog to his crate any time you need to think, get something or talk to a friend or instructor.

5. Evaluate Your Training

A common mistake that dog trainers make is to forget about evaluation and just keep doing the same thing over and over again. There are a lot of things to evaluate after a training session. First: are you better of now than you were when you started? Did your plan work out? Do you need changes to your plan? If the session went bad – when did it go wrong? Did you train for too long? Could your transitions be more smooth? How many treats since your last game of tug? Did you stay for too long on one criteria? Or did you ask too much of the dog? Are you working with two criteria at the same time (like training the retrieve and at the same time training the dog to focus during distractions)? What needs to be changed before your next session? What could get better?

There are a lot of things to consider. Video recording your sessions can be a great tool. It helps your to evaluate your training from the outside and find new things to get better at. I love this quote by Bob Bailey: Video recording is the greatest invention since the secondary reinforcer.



Clarity within learning

By Denise Fenzi

Let's consider the idea of Clarity within the teaching process itself – once learning has begun.

If you think about it for a moment, true clarity, the dog being clear on what is required, is impossible with a trainee. If the dog knew what you wanted you wouldn't be teaching it, and the less clarity that exists, and the harder it is for the dog to figure it out, the more frustration the learner will experience. Frustration expresses as stressing up or shutting down, depending on the dog. How quickly a learner expresses signs of frustration are a combination of genetics and the animal's learning history; prior success with learning will create a more resilient and less frustrated learner. So how does one increase clarity – progress to a new behaviour as quickly and painlessly as possible?

Let's think about teaching on a continuum from pure luring with an exceptionally high rate of reinforcement to pure shaping with very little reinforcement.

At first glance, it might appear that pure luring with a high rate of reinforcement is the solution. The dog is eating! So – happy and unfrustrated, yes?

Not really. Because there is another consideration – the value of puzzling.

Luring is effectively a buffet and shaping is a puzzle. Both are useful, but if you offer a buffet to a full learner it's not much fun and if your puzzle is too hard (or too easy) then that's not much fun either. The trick is the right amount of puzzle with the occasional buffet, according to the preferences of you and your learner.

Animals enjoy puzzles; the trick with a puzzle is getting it right. If it's too easy it's boring and if it's too hard it's frustrating.

And how about the buffet, does everyone enjoy a buffet? No. Buffets are a lot more appealing to individuals who could care less about the work itself or solving puzzles – they simply want the reinforcement. Not all dogs are interested in eating past a basic level of satiation; some take great value in the activity and working with a handler as a source of reinforcement and that is a quality that should be nurtured, not discouraged.

There is also the reality of progress. As mentioned earlier, the true source of clarity is understanding what is required, so your choices – buffet or puzzling – must move the learner towards the final behaviour as expeditiously as possible.

What's the solution?

Clarity comes from the right amount of participation from the trainer (helping) and the learner (puzzling). What is "right" will vary by the team; the skill and preferences of both the learner and the trainer need to be taken into account.

In shaping, appropriate handler help comes in the form of structuring the environment so the dog is likely to hit on the correct solution quickly and frequently – that means rewarding small increments of

success. Not so small and structured that the dog isn't using their brain at all (let the dog be a part of the process!) but not so free form that the dog feels adrift and guessing, left to their own ability to stay in the game as frustration rises.

In luring, appropriate handler help comes by regularly giving the dog a chance to demonstrate what has been learned, in tiny doses, and stepping in immediately with help when the dogs' behaviour suggests that they are not ready to take ownership of the expectation, or that the path selected is not communicating what is required to the learner.

Both methods work. Select the one that fits the specific dog and handler in question at the given time, sliding back and forth with how much you open up a buffet and how much you allow the dog to puzzle.

At the end of the day, it's the learner's behaviour that informs you if you're succeeding. Signs of frustration in a dog such as barking, panting, offering random behaviours, wandering away or disconnect, etc., are LATE signs of distress; look for the earlier signs such as glancing away, a delay before beginning the next repetition or just the slightest change in the learner's enthusiasm from what you know is the normal baseline. When you see those early signs emerging, you may or may not change course, but you need to recognize them because over time "what happens next" after those early signs is how you will become more sophisticated in your training of that given learner.

The thing to hold on to here is that clarity in the learning process is impossible; our best middle ground is discovering the correct amount of support vs. puzzles for the learner and setting up sessions that allow for a good deal of success while paying attention to your dog's opinion of the whole experience.



Keep the feet moving! Get those exercises flowing!

by Denise Fenzi

Keeping your dog engaged in training can be a challenge. Food is fine, toys are fine and picking work that dogs like is fine too. Now, in addition, consider this simple phrase: 'Keep the feet moving!'

Who's feet are we talking about? It doesn't matter much but someone's feet should be moving as much as possible because when all of the feet stop moving things get boring fast. Dog and handler doing not much of anything, staring at each other. Waiting. For something. That never comes. Or comes so slowly as to suck the life out the entire session,

So, as the feet are moving, how fast should they move? Well, what are you doing? When I'm within an exercise, I may not be moving very fast at all – neither may my dog – because maybe we are concentrating and performing. For example, if my dog is selecting the correct scent article, the feet are moving but...slowly. But between exercises? Well someone's feet are moving rather fast! Maybe everyone's feet if I'm taking the dog to a new spot in a light and playful fashion. Maybe only the dog's if I sent them to the new spot. But odds are pretty good that no one is moseying along, doing not much of anything.

Keep the feet moving.

And while you're at it? Keep the exercises flowing!

What does that look like?

It's a function of creativity. What's gonna happen? Your dog isn't sure because THINGS are happening. Feet are moving, cues are flowing, and you're using up as much of your training space as possible. All of a sudden your dog is really paying attention, not because they have been trained to do so, but because they are curious about what might happen next. Paying attention is the way to succeed! Plus, it's more fun. We covered that already; don't be boring.

Got an error? So what, who cares?! Get back to moving your feet or your dog's feet. Get on with it, let it go, and enjoy that training time with your dog. Keep going! This isn't the time to stare at your dog like a deer in the headlights while stewing about how you'll fail if your dog does that in a show. It's not important. Get those feet moving and the exercises flowing again so your dog doesn't start stressing and worrying. Move your feet and move through the exercises.

Keep your feet moving. Get the exercises flowing.

How about disengagement? You're working just fine and your dog finds something better to do?

Errors and disengagement are not the same thing. If you have errors get back to work! Disengagement is more complicated. A whole workshop's worth of complication.

Disengagement is what happens when a dog starts out checked in and then... Disengages! A dog who appeared properly acclimated, opted into work, and then...poof! Changed their mind! Found something better to

do! Got worried about the dog around the corner!

So...what do you do when your engaged dog hears a sound and stops working to stare at it? What do you do when your engaged dog spies a cookie on the table and decides to head in that direction instead of focusing on you and the work at hand?

As with so much of dog training, it depends. It depends on the dog you are training and the circumstances that led to the disconnect. But what you do not do is Nothing. Because if you do nothing you are incorporating disengagement into the behavior chain of work, and you really don't want to do that. Kind of...never. Remember, remaining engaged is a habit and the goal should be to stop disengagement while strengthening the habit of engagement.

Over threshold

by Denise Fenzi

What does it mean when we say a dog is "over threshold?"

It means the dog is over the optimal level of arousal to learn or perform.

As with all terminology, the exact meaning will vary according to the culture you are speaking within. A person in the protection sports talking about over threshold may have a different tolerance level than a person who specializes in changing dog behaviour. But at the end of the day, we say a dog is over threshold when it is no longer able to perform or learn.

It would probably be more accurate to say no longer able to perform or learn at an "optimal level", because even dogs who are extremely over threshold sometimes manage to perform or learn, especially if their life is on the line. But extremes of "feelings" tends to require extreme interventions, and most of us can agree that learning is slow and hard to accomplish when extreme interventions are required to get the learner's attention, and performing tends to lack accuracy under similar circumstances.

Over threshold can be driven by fear: If a lion is standing behind you and you're pretty sure he's hungry, most of your energy is going to be spent trying not to panic and very little will be available to focus on the conversations taking place around you – maybe conversation from another person who is inexplicably unable to see the lion themselves. Presumably some dogs feel that way when they're at a dog class and they see every dog as a threat, even if the owner doesn't, and the owner just wants the dog to learn or perform a set of skills.

Over threshold can be driven by excitement and desire: A handler holding an amazing piece of food and a dog who hasn't eaten in two days. The dog is so fixated on that food (and the possibility of getting it) that his brain can't stop long enough to hear the cues being given by the handler; the same cues that would actually get the dog that cookie. Or maybe the dog heard the cues but the handler is trying to get three minutes worth of work for that amazing food and the dog doesn't understand that. He just knows that for two minutes he worked his absolute hardest and he's not getting anything, so the combination of frustration and panic (over the feeling of possibly starving) and split focus between trying to follow cues and thinking about that food...it's

too much. The dog is over threshold and unable to perform.

Dogs can perform over threshold for much longer than they can learn because performing can come down to habit and muscle memory but learning requires concentration. The more the trained performance is one of rote execution (retrieve over high jump) vs. paying attention (cue discrimination), the more the issue of threshold will become a significant factor.

The goal is to find the correct level of arousal for learning and training. For most dogs the correct level will be lower for learning than for rehearsing which is why we often use lower value motivators when teaching than when performing. Your goal should be the "optimal" level of arousal – "over" threshold suggests inhibited performing or learning because the dog is too stressed or excited (a form of stress) and "under" threshold means not motivated to perform or learn, though I don't normally hear people say that. Then they usually say they dog is unmotivated or low drive.

When Do I Stop Using Food Rewards ?

By Ed Frawley

When we train with food rewards we will meet people who tell us how foolish we are for training with FOOD TREATS. We will be told that it is only a matter of time before we ask our dog to do something and we don't have food with us to reward the dog with and then what will you do?

That is just one of the reasons why it is important that you understand exactly how we reduce the using food rewards in your training program.

When we start reward based training our dogs are put on a continuous reward program. This is where the dog is rewarded every time it performs a behaviour correctly. In fact, when we start training, we often

reward the dog for just TRYING to perform the behaviour.

A continuous reward program is the perfect way to teach a dog new behaviours. But leaving the dog on a continuous reward program too long will create a problem.

When the continuous reward is used for too long of a period of time, the dogs start to expect the reward every single time they offer the behaviour and when the handler stops rewarding each attempt, the dogs stop offering the behaviour.

This is the reason trainers need to move on to VARIABLE and RANDOM rewards as soon as possible.

An example of a VARIABLE reward system occurs when the dog is rewarded for the 3rd, 5th, and 7th and 9th time it performs a behaviour.

An example of a RANDOM reward system occurs when the dog is rewarded for the 3rd, 5th, 2nd, 7th, and 1st. time it performs a behaviour. The schedule may change depending on the training results.

The goal in a reward based training is to create a situation where we create an expectation of a reward and when that reward is not delivered as expected the dog goes UP IN DRIVE and tries harder the next time it's asked to perform.

We compare this to people who play slot machines. They know they won't win every time but they hope the next time they pull that handle will be their lucky day.

The question new trainers are always going to ask is **"WHEN DO I MOVE OFF OF A CONTINUOUS REWARD?"**

What we do is move to a RANDOM REWARD when our dog performs a behaviour **THREE TIMES IN A ROW** without making a mistake.

With this said it is vitally important to understand that there is **no reason to completely STOP using food in training**. Food is a motivator for your dog. You are about to find out how true that really is. So with this said, **we hope you will keep your dog on a random reinforcement schedule for the rest of its life.**



HIP & ELBOW awards

GSDCA Breed Improvement Scheme Recognition

The following Kennels are recognised by the number of animals successfully presented to the Hip and Elbow Dysplasia Improvement Schemes. The Council recognises their contribution and significant achievement. Medallions and plaques are sent to each state club for special presentation so that breeders can be recognised within their own states. Congratulations to the following Kennels on these milestones in your breeding programs.

Doug West & Jenny Yuen

Kennels that qualified in 2019 (to 30th December 2019) for awards.

100+ Plaque

Kennel	Owner	State	Award	'A' Stamps	'Z' Stamps	Total dogs awarded a stamp
SUNDANEKA	Mr G D & Mrs K Stevenson	NSW	'A' & 'Z' Plaque	107	104	102

Gold 50+

Kennel	Owner	State	Award	'A' Stamps	'Z' Stamps	Total dogs awarded a stamp
GRANDWEST	Mr D R & Mrs C M Willis	WA	'A' & 'Z' Gold	50	53	54
LEISHJACLYN & NUJACLYN	Ms J Hitchings	QLD	'A' & 'Z' Gold	57	58	42



Silver 25 +

Kennel	Owner	State	Award	'A' Stamps	'Z' Stamps	Total dogs awarded a stamp
TONAKER	Tony H & Anna Schoemaker.	SA	'A' Silver	25	33	33
SHEPROSE	Beryl Owen	SA	'A' & 'Z' Silver	25	26	28
KINGVALE	Mrs S & Mr I Pacek	NSW	'A' & 'Z' Silver	26	27	27



Bronze 10+

Kennel	Owner	State	Award	'A' Stamps	'Z' Stamps	Total dogs awarded a stamp
HAUSILLEVON	Mr J Novelli	NSW	'A' Bronze	14	16	16
KARABACH	Mr J Carter	NSW	'A' Bronze	12	14	15
REICHKAISER	Mrs H Birac	NSW	'A' Bronze	12	11	12
TYRILEBEE	Mrs C Morrison	NSW	'A' Bronze	13	15	15
BURSHUNE	Ms L Burston	SA	'A' Bronze	10	11	11
ROXAMBURG	Mr G & Mrs K Hall	TAS	'A' Bronze	10	9	10
CAMNUSCH	Mrs T Lewis	Vic	'A' Bronze	11	13	12
KARASTRO	Ms D Berghofer	Vic	'Z' Bronze	17	15	17
FREINHAUF	Mr K R & Mrs R T & Mr C A Knuckey	WA	'A' & 'Z' Bronze	10	10	10



The awards have been forwarded to the various States to be presented to the Kennels at a significant Club event.

Reports from the National Breed Commission

The 2020 NBC meeting, due to be held in Adelaide in August 2020 was cancelled due to covid-19. The following reports are provided by office holders. The full documentation can be viewed on the GSDCA website.

National Breed Commission Chairperson

It is important to keep everyone informed as the NBC meeting was cancelled due to the Corona virus.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the NBC team for all their support and assistance- Registrar Melanie Groth, Database Coordinator Frank Moody, Verification Officer Jenny DeLucia, Health and Welfare Candy Baker and HD/ED Doug West. I couldn't do this job without their assistance. Sadly, Jo Cathie has stepped down from the Education role and that position is vacant. I also have to mention the incredible assistance given to me by Jane Pike, Jacinta Poole and our secretary Lyn Phyllis. Thank you all.

It was indeed gratifying that most states managed to get some Surveys completed during June/July while still complying with State and Federal Covid-19 restrictions. Well done all. Dogs continue to have Hips and Elbows X-rayed, puppies are born and new imports continue to arrive so life does go on.

I do have regular queries about Breed Survey, particularly lately regarding height limits, Line breeding and the BS 4 form. I will take this opportunity to clarify these points. The current, revised Breed Survey Manual, that was approved at the 2020 GSDCA AGM is on the GSDCA website. Line breeding was discussed at length in the last Review so I won't go into it again here.

Please note the latest update with regard to size that came into effect as of the 1/7/2020.

11.4 Measurement

Animals that are oversize and measure no more than 62 cm (bitches) or 67 cm (dogs), that are considered of HIGH anatomical worth may be considered for Breed Survey Classification. Animals that measure over 62 cm (bitches) and 67cm (dogs) will be recorded as failed. [July 2020]

Please note the words "may be considered", as it is not automatic.

With regard to Interstate Surveys, the BS 4 form is no longer required. The requirements are as follows:

5.2 Interstate Survey

Animals should be surveyed in the State of domicile however it shall not be compulsory.

If an owner wishes to survey in a state other than their state of domicile, they must advise the NBC Chairperson via email nbc@gsdcouncilaustralia.

org who will advise the relevant SBSC Coordinators.

For whatever reason, re-presentation of animals will only be accepted if the animal is presented again to the Breed Survey Panel where the original survey was conducted.

Where the original survey was conducted at a National Show, application may be made to the NBC Executive to re-present to a different panel and location. [2019]

I would also like to draw your attention to the ANKC, your State Kennel club's and the GSDCA Codes of Practice with regards to Social Media. Think carefully before you press the post button. It is easy to come to flawed conclusions when not aware of all the facts.

Many people work very hard for our organisation and they do their best. None of us are perfect. There is an appropriate procedure if one is dissatisfied with the classification of their dog. Please refer to the Breed Survey Manual and the GSDCA Regulations Manual.

I know we're all feeling like caged tigers, none more so than us here in Victoria. but let's not forget why we are all in this game - The German Shepherd Dog.

Fingers crossed 2021 sees us all back together having shows and enjoying this lovely breed.

Be kind to each other, love your dogs and stay safe.

Jenny Yuen

GSDCA NBC Chairperson

Tooth Certificates Issued

1/7/2019 - 30/6/2020

10126 Freundhund Xinxin For Faith	Issued 24/7/2019
10127 Shernaa Pakros	Issued 12/8/2019
10128 Hasenway Montgomery	Issued 24/9/2019
10129 Castastar Jazmyne	Issued 28/6/2020

Hip Dysplasia and Elbow Dysplasia Registrar Report

To 30 May 2020

Madam Chairperson,

This report has been compiled to keep yourself & the Members up to date on the GSDCA Hip & Elbow Control Scheme. Due to the Covid-19 as there will be no NBC Meeting this report will give a brief update on what I would have reported on.

The report covers the activity on Hip & Elbows. Councils Data Base now has **11,589** animals recorded as at **30/05/2020**, comprising of **3,378 males (29.15%)** and **8,211 bitches (70.85%)**. Of the 11,587 total animals submitted, **10,029** gained the 'A', giving a pass rate of 86.55%, **11,204** gained the 'Z' 96.69% pass rate, and there have been **131** recording **UAP** = 98.97% pass rate for UAP.

Again this year the statistics have been extracted from the GSDCA data base and is an increase of 3.28% on the 11,221 reported on in 2019. There have been 368 animals entered into Councils Database during the 2019/20 year covering the period 17/05/2019 to 30/05/2020.

The Hip scheme has now been in operation since 1982, 38 years, the Elbow Scheme commenced in 1993, 27 years ago, and it has been my pleasure to have been involved from day one and to see the pass rates improve over the years.

All Clubs have participated, the report is based on data extracted from the Database and covers the period **17th May 2019 to 31st May 2020** the last 12 months.

With all Dogs now being Micro Chipped the H/E Application Form has a place to record the animal's microchip number. And if the Chip can't be found at the time of X-Ray a new chip is to be implanted by the Vet conducting the X-Ray, there is a place for the Vet to record the new microchip number on the H/E Application Form under Labelling.

A reminder that the purchasing of a Hip & Elbow Control Scheme Application Form must be done **prior to the animal being x-rayed, as the information from it is required to be embedded in the X-Ray**, the animal must be 12 Months of age or older, the Application Form & State Contract numbers are not to be given out over the phone by the Registrar, forms are not transferable between animals.

Members can you please ensure your **Vet reads all the instructions on the H&E Dysplasia Control Scheme Application Form before your animal is x-rayed**, and saves any digital Disc's in the DICOM Image (i.e. .dcm extension). Some x-rays received have had **no copy of the Registration Papers, & some no self stamp addressed envelope enclosed. These items need to be included**. Please ensure that all the correct information is supplied as per the information & Notes contained within the H&E Dysplasia Control Scheme Application Form, as this will get your results back to you much quicker from our Readers. Also ensure your Vet fills out their details (And that it is readable) in the greyed out area at the bottom left on the form, and completes the **"Veterinarian Declaration"** at the bottom right by signing it, if this is not completed the Form and x-ray will be returned.

Some x-rays have been received and the required details have not been Radiographically identified, **this will result in your animal having to be x-rayed again** to get the positive identification embedded into the x-rays, no one wants to put their animal through general anaesthesia unless it's necessary, and then have the extra wait to get your results.

I would like to thank the various State Registrars around Australia and New Zealand for their input in distributing the H&E Forms to the Members.

I have enjoyed working with Jenny Yuen who I have known for many years. Thank you to Frank Moody the Database Coordinator for his continuing assistance & co-operation with problems as they have arisen.

Remember Dysplasia can only be diagnosed radiographically, and not by the naked eye!

Thank You.

Doug West

GSDCA National Hip & Elbow Registrar

GSDCA Database Co Ordinator Report

Here is my brief GSDCA Database report due to the cancelation of the 2020 NBC Meeting.

At the time of writing this report we are in the midst of a major system upgrade which will bring us up to date with all the latest operating software changes. The LIVE Database will not be affected during this upgrade, and once extensive testing is completed there will be no visible changes to the Database Users – it is all behind the scenes.

Once the upgrade is complete we will be working on implementing a new ZAP section within the database, for entry as dogs are assessed. This will also be available to the members to view results.

HD/ED Sire Statistics

The updated HD/ED Sire Statistics as at 30th June 2020 as prepared using the GSDCA Database, will be available approximately mid-July and placed on the GSDCA website.

DATA UPDATE

Dog Database

Registrations have been updated to 18th March 2020, and at the time of writing we are awaiting another update from the ANKC.

Records in the Database

- Dog registrations – over 306,500 records,
- HD/ED – over 11,600 results,
- Breed Survey – nearly 1,950 results,
- Haemophilia – 1,086 results – the scheme has now been discontinued.

Breed Survey photos

At the Feb 2019 AGM, the requirement for a photo prior to releasing the Breed Survey Certificate was changed. This has enabled surveys to be completed much more quickly, and therefore available for the members to view.

The need for photos is still very important so that we have a pictorial record of the dogs surveyed.

USERS

The use of the Database continues steadily with a slight increase year over year, as can be seen by the table below.

Monthly average				
YEAR	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits
2015	372	659	18,277	28,744
2016	398	722	16,870	28,795
2017	427	857	19,682	34,451
2018	477	992	18,629	35,840
2019	597	1,200	19,005	37,155
2020 YTD	709	1,254	15,659	33,919

It is with great sadness that I inform the members of the passing of Daryl Bourke the inaugural programmer who developed the GSDCA Dog Database. In recent years Daryl has stood down from his role in the Database, however we are deeply indebted for the tremendous work he did in establishing this valuable tool which is available to all members. Our sincere condolences to Daryl's family and friends. Taken far too soon. RIP Daryl.

My sincere thank you to Rob Filardo for all the programming work he undertakes voluntarily.

Also thank you to Jenny Yuen, Melanie Groth, Doug West, Candy Baker, and the Breed Surveyors for their time, and assistance in ongoing data entry and maintenance of the Database.

Frank Moody

GSDCA Database Coordinator

Breed Health and Welfare Chairperson Report

In these difficult and unprecedented COVID times it has seen our clubs, associations, breeders and companion dog owners faced with a number of challenges. Continuing to educate the general public and aid with training and general dog sports that we enjoy with our beloved breed has proven difficult and somewhat absent compared to previous times. Social media has gone a little crazy; we have to be cautious and diligent in how we use social media, given the situation that "any opinion is made public" and it may not be factual or correct or sound advice. Social media has its place for promoting the breed and advertising important information relative to the clubs. However, we need to be careful to not fall into the trap of discussing dangerous topics on a platform where the most amount of knowledge should be heard the loudest. It's just not possible in this setting.

General health articles are something that I have been working on for the National Review and also to be more widely distributed via the clubs as information for the general ownership. We also have some very good articles written by Dr Karen Hedberg available on the council website on general breed specific issues. A reminder to clubs that members and the general public can be directed to these articles and links.

Breed health forms and collection of health data is ongoing, I urge those breeders and people alike who have had contact from owners with health issues in their GSD to send them the link to the form to fill in and liaise with me.

Elbow disease – UAPs, FCP etc in young pups; if you are x-raying your pups <12 months due to either a lameness or general screening or preliminary x-rays and your vet picks up a serious elbow issue, please relay this back to myself via the gsdhealth@gsdcouncilaustralia.org email address. It can be notified via the health profile form or with just a short email to advise of the animal and it's sire + dam.

Genome mapping of the GSD by Professor Ballard and Dr Zammit – success!

This lays the foundation for genetic testing in the breed, which is a milestone for paving the future scientific research into diseases that commonly affect our breed.

Consideration for application of an additional small fee/surcharge to be included on each hip and elbow application form and/or each breed survey application would be beneficial. This small additional fee on those applications could go into a research fund to aid future studies for diseases affecting our breed. I feel this would be well received by the wider membership as it comes directly from those pockets of the people wanting to better the breed for the future.

Dr Candice Baker

BSc BVMS MANZCVS

GSDCA Breed Health and Welfare Chair

Title Verification Officer Report

This is now my third report to the GSDCA NBC Annual Meeting as Title Verification Officer. In the absence of an official NBC meeting due to Covid-19 restrictions, this report has been sent to the NBC Chairperson to be presented in her report.

For the year 2020, 7 animals have been verified to 10 July 2020.

Xander vom Grabfeldgau	(Germany) Surveyed Male SC
Zygo vom Radhaus	(Serbia) Surveyed Male SC
Dingo Di Casa Mary	(Italy) Imported Semen Male SC
Lucie du Lamentin	(France) Surveyed Female SC
Dux di Casa Nobili	(Italy) Non Surveyed Male SC
Umberto vom Bierstadter Hof	(Germany) Surveyed Male SC
Chili della Valcuvia	(Italy) Non surveyed Male SC

One of the animals, Dux di Casa Nobili, only had the ANKC transfer of pedigree attached to the emailed Verification Form and after discussion with the owners, a copy of the Italian pedigree was submitted to me via email. I thank, Vince Tantaro, who assisted me with this particular verification by corresponding with the Italian Breeder as I could find no information regarding this particular animal and unfortunately, there appears to be two animals with the exact same name but different parentage.

Some owners are typing the information onto the Verification Form which makes it much easier to read than hand writing. I would like to suggest that 'Male' and 'Female' could be added to the form in addition to all other information required.

Jenny De Lucia

GSDCA Title Verification Officer

NBC Registrar Report

Half Yearly Report June 2020

State Club Breed Surveys for the period 1 January – 30 June 2020

Twelve scheduled surveys were cancelled between the period 1/01/2020 – 30/06/2020. One was due to weather and the rest were cancelled due to Covid-19.

A total of 12 Breed surveys were held. A total of 75 animals were presented for Breed Survey in the first six months of 2020. Fifty-five stock coats and 17 long stock coats. 67 of the 75 animals presented were classified. During the six month period 8 animals failed, 4 oversize, 3 failed the gun test and 1 failed for aggression.

Total income from Breed Surveys for this period is \$2079.



Club	Surveys	Animals Presented	SC	LSC	Classified	FAIL	REASON	Imported Dogs
ACTGSDA	1	4	4	0	4	0	0	1
GSDAWA	2	14	10	4	13	1	Failed gun test	0
GSDCQ	1	6	5	1	5	1(SC)	Failed gun test	0
GSDCSA	2	15	10	5	14	1 (LSC)	Oversize	0
GSDCT	1	2	1	1	2	0	0	0
GSDCV	3	15	10	3	13	2	Oversize x 2	2
GSDL	1	8	8	0	6	2 (SC)	Failed gun test Oversize	0
NHRGSDC	1	11	7	3	10	1 (LSC)	Aggression	1
Totals	12	75	55	17	67	8		4

Imported Dogs surveyed for the period 1 January – 30 June 2020

All four imported dogs had been breed surveyed prior to entering Australia. Details verified by the GSDCA and ratified at surveys as per the table below

Date	Name	Sire	Dam	Sex	Country of Origin	Surveyor	Club
15 Feb	Ypsilon di Casa Caputi	Arre Huhnegrab	Baily Huhnegrab	M	GERMANY	F Stokes	NHRGSDC
16 Feb	Olexius Vera	Keule Holtkamper Hof	Olexius Imola	F	SWEDEN	V Tantaro	GSDCV
22 Mar	Xander Grabfeldgau	Duncan Messina	Molly Schmeide	M	GERMANY	F Stokes	ACTGSDA
14 Jun	Zygo vom Radhaus	Hugo Radhaus	Lyra Platansof	M	SERBIA	V Tantaro	GSDCV

Participating Surveyor table 1 January – 30 June 2020

This table shows the number of surveys where GSDCA surveyors adjudicated, the total number of animals, those classified and the other clubs they may have officiated at. Two surveyors *data does not take into account where surveyors were present at the survey and did not survey an animal.

Surveyor	Resident Club	Other Club Surveys	Classified	Fail	Total Number
A Henderson	GSDCV	GSDCT	2	1	3
G Green			2	0	2
I Urie		GSDCT	4	1	5
J Yuen			3	0	3
V Tantaro			4	0	4
L Donald	GSDCQ		3	1	4
C O'Rourke			2	0	2
P Flynn	GSDCSA		9	1	10
J Butterfield			4	1	3
J Pike			1	0	1
D West			1	0	1
R Knuckey	GSDAWA		4	0	4
N Humphries			5	1	6
J Fenner			4	0	4
T Jarvis	GSDL	NHRGSDC	7	1	8
F Stokes		NHRGSDC	7	1	8
M Groth		ACTGSDA	6	1	7
Totals			67	8	75

Surveyors that have not surveyed dogs 1 January – 30 June 2020

S Ballantyne-Gordon	GSDCQ	Connected with a dog in survey
S Collins	GSDCSA	Connected with a dog in survey
G Stevenson	GSDL	Connected with a dog in survey
K Hedburg	GSDL	N/A

Thanks to all of the Registrars and State Coordinators. You do a great job. I really appreciate you getting the paperwork to me asap. If you can forward me a copy of the Survey cover sheet asap after the survey so that I can begin allocating numbers. It just helps me get things done a bit quicker. Please remind your people to send photos as soon as possible. There are a lot of dogs just processed and only 40% with photos.

Thanks also to Jenny Yuen and Frank Moody who are both great support to me in this role.

Mel Groth

GSDCA NBC Registrar

regnbc@gsdcouncilaustralia.org



Advertising Info for Members of Affiliated Clubs

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

Front Cover

\$225.00 (Non - Advertising)

Full Page

\$360.00

Half Page/Quarter Page

\$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.

Back Cover

\$200.00 (Non - Advertising)

Double Spread

\$700.00



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, 93 Dawkins Road, LEWISTON 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.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

GSDCA QUARTERLY NATIONAL REVIEW

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