

THE German Shepherd Dog QUARTERLY NATIONAL REVIEW



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

Summer 2023

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Aus Respekt zum Hund.
www.schaeferhunde.de

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



"This year has really flown by, I hope you all had lovely Christmas and a very merry New Year. I look forward to seeing you during 2023.

By the time this edition is printed I am sure all clubs will be back into full swing with various club activities. I am looking forward to everyone getting back and enjoying what the clubs

have to offer.

NSW Government

Most of you are aware of the "Emma Hurst Farming Bill" in NSW government at the moment, a small group of people headed by Yvonne Yun have worked extremely hard to stop this bill going forward and I am happy to report that we are making huge inroads in stopping or at a minimum changing this bill so it doesn't stop our breeders breeding or doesn't have the restrictions that will see dog breeding and dog activities, like showing disappear altogether. If you are not already aware of this bill it's a good time to check it as if it comes into NSW it will eventually end up Australia wide.

WUSV Update

We still eagerly await a reply from Germany regarding the Harmonisation Program meeting held with our representatives and Herr Messler in September 2022, we have sent another request asking for the agreement to allow Excellent gradings up until 2025 in writing but at this point we have nothing. This is disappointing but I see no reason not to engage SV judges at this time. Maybe Herr Messler has his hands full with his election coming up later this year.

I am happy to report that we will have a representative attending the Extraordinary WUSV General Assembly - April 15th, 2023 in Lerma - Spain. We have been notified after the statutory commission was appointed at last year's WUSV General Assembly to review the statutes of compliance within the law the only agenda item will be the "approval of the amendments to the WUSV Statutes", we will be sent a draft to review once the final legal review has been completed. This meeting will coincide with the WUSV World Dog Week from the 10th to the 16th April 2023 in Spain.

2023 GSDCA National Show & Trial

This year we will see the return of International judges for our National Show and Trial, I am sure you are all excited and looking forward to this event hosted by the Victorian club.

We have had confirmation that our aussie hero Dawn Fraser will attend, I am sure this will be an amazing few days and a great opportunity to see some of Australia's top dogs as well as all the new imports.

It will be held on the 28th to 30th April. See you all in Melbourne

AGM Elections

I would like to thank the Executive members on the wonderful job they have all done over the years and best of luck in the upcoming election.

To Lyn Phillis who has decided to retire, I thank you

for your assistance, loyalty and advice over the last 3 years. You certainly made my job easier and I will miss you, I couldn't have asked for a better secretary, enjoy your retirement.

Also retiring is Kurt Morton as Youth Officer, thank you Kurt you have done an amazing job which was highlighted at the 48th National.

By the time you read this the elections for Executive Council positions would have been completed, so I would like to welcome the new Executive members.

Have a very safe and enjoyable 2023

Best Regards

Sean Lynch

GSDCA President

EDITORIAL

Happy New Year to all readers and it is to be hoped that your Christmas was everything you'd hoped for. After the last few years, it really would be a pleasant change if 2023 was less eventful in every respect.

Congratulations to Janet Haase and Alistair Henderson on their election to National Council Executive. It is also essential that we thank the outgoing officers, Lyn Phillis and John De Lucia for outstanding efforts in a time, which, for the GSDCA, has been unprecedented in terms of challenge and turmoil. Each has worked diligently to support what they believe is in the best interests of the GSD in Australia. Both have had other demands on their time and have juggled personal life, their own dogs and their roles within the Council. Their contribution has been amazing and we all need to thank them.

Moving forward there are a great many things happening in our calendar. For NSW, we have a March election which will be critical to the ownership of companion animals in this state. We all need to be aware that Emma Hurst is not a unique individual. The Animal Justice Party has already been successful at elections in two states - NSW and Victoria - with 3 elected representatives in each state. They have state committees in every other state and we need to be aware that from a policy perspective, many of us would agree with their objectives. Who does not want a better life for production poultry? Who does not want a better life for live sheep exports and the images from past shipments? The problem is that both of these industries and many of their other target practices are extremely well organised and funded, so very well defended when it comes to protecting their industries.

If you have a look at their websites, many of their representatives are pictured with dogs - not purebred dogs, but mixed breed, sad looking individuals where the candidate is seen as saviour. Many of their campaigns are hidden from view and their definition of cruelty can be very flexible, where necessary. They are organised and well strategized.

We quite simply are not, nor do we have a motivated group to support any campaign against the changes these folks propose. We keep getting caught napping and at every turn, we lose a little. The erosion is set to continue unless we act to protect our sport and hobby.

And let's not forget that the Australian political

system which, whether by design or accident, has created a landscape in which the lowest form of government, local government, can be the most dangerous for us. One only has to look at the outcomes in some Victorian municipalities to understand that the way state legislation is interpreted and enforced to understand that it's a minefield. In NSW, more menacing dogs are put down every year than dangerous dogs – why? Because it is easier. If you own a dog deemed as menacing, it can be put down without any right of appeal. A dangerous dog has avenues of appeal. Just consider how this could be misused.

I was reminded at the AGM that the Victorian National is only 100 days away. It is a certainty that those intending to go will be in full preparation swing. Hope

JOINING THE SURVEYOR TEAM

As NBC Chair I am pleased to present two new Breed Surveyors who joined our GSDCA Panel this year. Both Jenny Delucia and Jo Cathie were approved as trainees at the 2021 NBC meeting and completed 12 months doing stand-ins with qualified surveyors, and three mock surveys. Their appointment was confirmed at the 2022 NBC meeting, and both ladies have since conducted surveys for their home clubs.

Ian Urie.

RESUME FOR JO CATHIE



My passion for all things German Shepherd began some 34 years in Scotland. I was introduced to the breed by a high school friend whose family did a little obedience, showing and breeding. That family provided me with an introduction to several 'larger' breeders who presented me with opportunities as a junior handler and eventually I found my great mentor and friend Janette Irvine of Millvins kennels. Janette trusted me with her dogs both in and out of the ring and taught me all the techniques I currently still employ about feeding, whelping, conditioning and generally founded my ideas re type and style. My foundation was based on learning from those around me, none more so than David and Joan Hall of the UK's leading 'Gayville' kennel who often took me under their wings and remain interested

it all goes well for you.

Over the time I have held this position, there have been a number of individuals who without question can always be relied upon to provide articles and content for the readership. They are generous with their time and talents and four in particular come to mind – Ian Marr, Karen Stevenson, Candy Baker and Karen Hedberg. Their sustained and frequent contributions provide content for the enjoyment of all. This does not mean that there have not been others who have offered support over years, but it would be fabulous to see some others coming forward with material that they wanted to see included.

Yvonne Yun

and supportive of my progress in the breed to this day. They encouraged me to complete my judging credentials and I did so in 2006. In 2013, I completed the WUSV course as it was then and am delighted to now be a specialist judge here in Australia. I have now judge in many countries including Norway, Pakistan, Scotland, Wales, England, Belgium and New Zealand.

I moved to Belgium in 2007 to pursue showing dogs on the continent and during those 8 years, mainly with vom Amulree and then von Santamar, I continued to learn and develop my skills in presentation for the show ring and in absolute joy in 'contact' with my dogs. Marc Van Hout of the Von Santamar kennel truly knows how to get the best from show dogs and I remain grateful for my time with him for making such a difference to my own ways of thinking.

Whilst in Belgium I was the holder of 2 x VA (UK, NL) Ch Veneze Ellie Sch3, SG5 BSZS Juwika Destroyer, VA (BSZS) Leo vd Zenteiche for his first year and Young Sieger (B, NL) Quattro Steffen Haus among others. I also owned and exhibited V' Lara vd Zenteiche Sch2, VA Ch Veneze Chaos Sch3 and VA Hera von der Tejada Schloss who won the 2012 German Sieger LC GBKL.

I held breeder prefixes in both the UK and in Belgium although I bred very few litters myself while working with and for others.

In 2015 I arrived in Australia bringing with me the kennel name (vom) Cinderhof from Belgium. Since that time, I have been blessed with good luck and great friends and have in seven years here, handled two national medalists, owned three more national medalists in Freinhauf Havoc and Hannibal, and Chili della Valcuvia, and have now bred a national gold medalist in Ch Cinderhof Italiaa.

I have imported VA Ch Veneze Chaos, Ch Conbhariean Freddie and Chili della Valcuvia to Australia to add to the gene pool here in Australia. I am proud of the impact on breed health and conformation that both Freddie and Chili continue to have here in Australia and also in New Zealand. Cinderhof dogs have won seven national classes to date in three years of exhibiting and this year secured the prestigious Sam Bonifacio award.

Cinderhof have now bred six breed champions, (Italiaa, Vantaa, Vandaal, Chaanel, Khaleesii, Evitaa) all but one competing successfully in both All-breed and specialist shows, two excellent merit females in Italiaa and Vantaa, and hold the bronze medallion for hips

and elbows now working toward silver with 17 passes through the scheme.

I am an active member of the GSDL having held a number of positions on the committee and set up the Mid North Coast branch who train regularly and its members continue to go from strength to strength often acting on the breeding and training advice and support that I have offered since my arrival in Australia.

My education in the breed from the UK, to Europe and exposure to so many enthusiasts there has given me a great grounding to continue to love, admire and understand the breed and its needs. Careful and honest assessment of each dog and equally careful selection of suitable partners - understanding the strength and areas for improvement in bloodlines and the dogs themselves, has delivered success for the kennel since its beginning here and I am perhaps most proud of the fact that so many Cinderhofs have successfully gone to new owners and have made a family of us all.

The understanding of complimentary breeding and how bloodlines mix has always fascinated me and I continue to study the breed today as I always have and have the utmost respect for clever decision makers and dedicated breeders and enthusiasts.

As a breed surveyor I aim to continue to be clear and truthful and avail myself to anyone who requests information or advice. I believe strongly in the intended aims of the GSDCA breed improvement schemes and continue to strive toward a healthy breed future for all.

My thanks to the clubs of Australia for their support of me as a judge and surveyor. I hope to be available for many years here and continue to add value as a representative of the National Breed Commission of the GSDCA.

RESUME FOR JENNY DE LUCIA

I have been involved with the German Shepherd breed since the age of 13 when I got my first German Shepherd, a member of the German Shepherd Dog Club of S.A. since 1981 and a Life Member of the club since 1997.

In 1998 I became an ANKC licenced Novice Obedience Judge but have since retired.

My first German Shepherd Dog, *Zandastein Asaboson AZ, was one of the first dogs in South Australia to gain an AD Title and in 1982, he won the GSDCA Dual Trophy for wins in both obedience and conformation.

Since 1987 to the present, I have held various positions on the Committee of the GSDC of SA including-

- Head Instructor (Obedience)
- Demonstration Team Captain
- Social and Fundraising Convenor
- Public Relations Officer
- Minute Secretary
- Shepherd Shop Manager
- First Vice President
- State Breed Survey Registrar



I have also held the position of Titles Verification Officer for the GSDCA since 2018.

Together with my husband, John, our first litter under the 'Babenberg' Prefix was registered in 2001.

To date, we have bred 24 litters.

Babenberg Kennels has bred 12 Excellent Graded animals, 12 animals have passed through the Breed Survey Scheme and every animal that Babenberg Kennels have bred with or from has been Breed Surveyed.

In 2014, Babenberg Kennels were the recipients of the Bronze Medal for Hip and Elbow passes.

Babenberg Kennels have to date imported two German Shepherd Dogs from Germany

- **Vimo von der Hopfenhalle** a ED SchHIII (in partnership with Stephen and Christine Collins of Rhosyn Kennels), who went on to win the Gold Medal in Open Dog at the 2008 National Show and Trial held in Adelaide

- **Charon vom Overledingerland** a ED SchHI

In her first litter, Charon produced the Junior Bitch 2013 National winner, Babenberg Jaci, with her siblings being placed 9th Junior Bitch - Babenberg Jasmina, 3rd Junior Dog - Babenberg Joachim and 4th Junior Dog - Babenberg Jericho.

In 2015 I became a Licenced Single Breed Judge for German Shepherd Dogs.

In 2018 I became a qualified GSDCA Specialist Breed Judge.

In 2021, I was accepted onto the GSDCA Panel of Breed Surveyors.

I have also been involved with breed presentations to the GSDC SA.

I have in the past competed in obedience trials, gained CD, CDX, ET, AD titles and achieved a BH. I am still actively breeding, exhibiting, training, (both show and obedience), and handling German Shepherd Dogs.

To date, I have had the pleasure of judging Open shows, Members Competitions and Championship shows in, Adelaide, Sydney, Perth, Queensland, Newcastle, New Zealand (South Island) and Tasmania. Four new Life Members of the GSDA of WA (Inc)

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

Dr Karen Hedberg

This debate about coat length in the GSD and what this supposedly does to the breed long term has gone on for far too long. Much of the argument has been based **on poorly supported information that, far from showing direction, causes greater confusion than ever.** We need to get back to basics, look at the science and be realistic about the coat length gene.

FGF5 (or the coat length gene) exists in all breeds. This gene can be tested for quite readily and some gene testing companies list over 55 breeds carrying the long coat gene. The same gene affects coat length in cats, donkeys and, believe it or not, humans.

The canine coat length gene FGF5 has 2 major alleles, L = dominant short coat, l = recessive long coat. This means all individuals that have L/L have short coats, all L/l individuals have short coats but the length is often slightly longer, and all l/l individuals are long coats.

"L/l dogs have a small but notable increase in length. In certain breeds, the GSD, Alaskan Malamute and Cardigan Welsh Corgi, the coat is often of medium length and many dogs of these breeds are also heterozygous at the L locus (L/l)." [Schmutz, Berryere 2007] It should be remembered, while the short coat L allele is always dominant to the long coat allele l, there is a "blending" of these genes to produce what we call good coats. The vast majority of our good coated show dogs carry the L/l allele combination.

The GSD in reality has 3 coat types.

One, the *double short coat* L/L (photo below) which shows very little ruff or pants. These dogs perpetually look like they are out of coat, the coat is very tight, short, almost a mole coat, which in its own way, is incorrect, if looking at breed standard descriptions. These dogs will never throw a long coat puppy even if mated to a long coated partner. These are normally present as less than 25% of the short coated individuals.



The *normal or good coat* L/l (photo below) show

good ruff, definite pants and body to the coat. The coat is of medium length. This coat type correctly matches the breed standard description. These dogs are invariably heterozygous at the L locus ie. are L/l.



The long coat l/l definite long coat, increase in length across the body especially around the ruff and pants and under line.



The SV breed standard calls for "the coat to be a little longer and heavier on the neck. The hair lengthens on the back of the legs to the pasterns or hock joints; and on the back of the thighs as it forms moderate breaching"

The UK standard calls for the "males to have a slight ruff, thick trousers on the hindquarters. Mole coats highly undesirable."

There has been some suggestion the long coat gene has been associated with other factors such as temperament, bone structure, etc... There is no evidence that the FGF5 gene is any way associated with any other gene ie. is linked to other genes during meiosis.

My understanding of the long coat gene was originally introduced into the GSD to improve coat quality, which it definitely does. No one at the time thought that any other detrimental characteristics came along with the long coat gene apart from the longer coat was obviously more open and therefore not waterproof. We all have been breeding with both of the FGF5 allele types for very long periods and not had any real issues until the recognition of the long coat as a separate variety.

Prior to the import ban in Australia being lifted in 1971, there were very few, if any long coat dogs in Australia.

It seems that the long coat gene has arrived with the arrival of imported animals.

Many breeds have several coat varieties, most allow intervarietal breeding to ensure a wide gene pool. Their breed standards are identical apart from coat description and length. Some breed varieties are judged together, others are judged separately.

Current trends

By artificially separating the long and short coat varieties, eventually the short coated variety will suffer as more double short coats are born as the long coat gene is weeded out. If the Germans truly wished to get rid of the long coat (l) gene, I challenge them to DNA test all their dogs, and divide the breed into 3 varieties, short, medium and long haired varieties!

To block intervarietal breeding is to the detriment of our breed and severely limits the gene pool, particularly of the long coat variety. It also reduces the quality of coats seen in the short coated individual. The so called science that the SV keeps referring to that “proves” long coats will take over the world was done in a very biased fashion (and unscientific manner) where a long coat was crossed with a short coat and the resultant progeny were continually mated back to a long coat, so guess what, you got more and more long coats! Fancy that! Idiot science is what it should be called.

When you look at registration statistics of long to short coats, the numbers/ percentages have not changed much since the intervarietal breeding ban was enacted. In countries where no ban was imposed (eg. New Zealand) the long and short coat statistics have not changed greatly since the date of onset of intervarietal exhibition.

% OF TOTAL NEW ZEALAND REGISTRATIONS SINCE ESTABLISHMENT OF SEPARATE VARIETIES

YEAR	%OF TOTAL REGISTRATIONS
2014	7.5
2017	9.5
2021	11

TYPE	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
SC	3877	3723	3645	3584	3668	3438	3296	3107	2768	3279	3755
LSC	0	285	416	480	548	545	706	566	709	682	810

The statistics in Australia have not changed much with around 18-22% of GSD's being registered as long coats and around 78-82% as short coats.

In countries where the ban exists, I can definitely see an increase in the number of double short coat individuals, who, as they look like they are perpetually out of coat, they constantly pay the price and get shifted down the line behind their better coated peers.

With these dogs/bitches, they should go to long coated dogs and while all their progeny will be short coated, they now all carry the L/l blend and all will have “good” coats.

To go further and comply with current SV suggestions that progeny of long and short coat crosses be not allowed to be given an excellent is sheer insanity! This would mean penalising otherwise beautiful and healthy specimens for nothing wrong apart from a revival of apartheid (be it of coat length instead of skin colour) of their parents, who are not even there to be judged. Imagine asking each exhibitor, what coat type were the parents, followed by, I am sorry, you can win the class but not get an excellent as you were very naughty to breed for better coat (and better type,) Again, I challenge the SV to DNA test all their show dogs for the presence of the long coat allele (l). If they wish to be idiotic suggesting the above restriction, then put their money where their mouth is and penalise all those dogs carrying the recessive l allele. If they did this, I think there would be a very sudden removal of the of above proposed suggestion.

ELSASS GERMAN SHEPHERDS

RASTI'S BREED SURVEY DIETER NITSCHKE

Medium sized, powerful and full bodied.

Very good building ratio, absolutely dry and firm, very well pigmented.

Expressive, powerful head, with dark eyes, correct, firm ears.

High withers firm back, harmonious top and underline, very good length and position of the croup, very good angulations of the fore and hindquarters, balanced chest proportions.

The front is straight, seen from the front and rear he walks absolutely straight and shows very dynamic gaits with powerful replenishment and far-reaching movement, while remaining absolutely sublime in every phase of the gait test in the withers. Secure nature TSB pronounced.

Rasti Vom Gamsetal

Male German Shepherd
Nov 19, 2018

Yack Von Del Nando 2012-10-25 German Shepherd	Homar dei Colli di Uzzano 2008-06-16 German Shepherd	Furbo degli Achei 2006-04-11 German Shepherd	Quenn vom loher Weg 2003-02-10	Uran vom Moorbeck 2003-02-10
		Cassia dei Colli di Uzzano 2004-04-30 German Shepherd	Fenia degli Achei 2002-03-18	Elsa vom Kuckucksland 2002-03-18
	Gabi Vom Schwedenring German Shepherd	Wegas vom Fichtenschlag 2007-11-06 German Shepherd	Esko vom Danischen Hof 1997-02-06	Baru von Haus Yu 2002-03-18
		Mary vom Poxdorfer-Tannenhof 2006-07-07 German Shepherd	Dora delle Cinque Terre 2002-12-30	Arlet Degli Achei (1998) LOI 98-63706
Odette Vom Merkur-Stern German Shepherd	Fred vom Rumbachtal German Shepherd	Yerom vom Haus Salihin 2005-06-21 German Shepherd	Vegas du Haut Mansard 2004-03-16	Jango vom Furstenberg 2002-03-18
		Zaira vom Rumbachtal German Shepherd	Tiana vom Fichtenschlag 2005-01-01	Una von Oxsalis 2002-03-18
	Jin vom Merkur-Stern 2009-04-29 German Shepherd	Floro degli Achei 2006-04-11 German Shepherd	Gauner von der Roten Matter 2004-04-18	Vallum von Arminius 2002-03-18
		Foxi vom Merkur-Stern German Shepherd	Maxi vom Klebinger Schlob 2002-01-20	Bell d' Ulmental 2002-03-18
			Mark vom Schwalmbergthal 2002-02-22	Pakros d'Ulmental 2002-03-18
			Heksa von der Werther-Muhle 2001-04-28	Rangoon du Haut Mansard 2002-03-18
Odette Vom Merkur-Stern German Shepherd	Fred vom Rumbachtal German Shepherd	Yerom vom Haus Salihin 2005-06-21 German Shepherd	Quenn vom loher Weg 2003-02-10	Wilko vom Fichtenschlag 2002-03-18
		Zaira vom Rumbachtal German Shepherd	Usa vom Rumbachtal 2002-01-23	Lufti vom Huhngrab 2002-03-18
	Jin vom Merkur-Stern 2009-04-29 German Shepherd	Floro degli Achei 2006-04-11 German Shepherd	Quenn vom loher Weg 2003-02-10	Zasko vom Thermodos 2002-03-18
		Foxi vom Merkur-Stern German Shepherd	Fenia degli Achei 2002-03-18	Sindy vom Schacher 2002-03-18
			Quentin von Karanberg 2001-06-24	Zeppo vom Klebinger Schlob 2002-03-18
			Dama vom Merkur-Stern 2003-10-31	Carmen von der Jahnhohe 2002-03-18
Odette Vom Merkur-Stern German Shepherd	Fred vom Rumbachtal German Shepherd	Yerom vom Haus Salihin 2005-06-21 German Shepherd	Quenn vom loher Weg 2003-02-10	Henry von der Duneschenke 2002-03-18
		Zaira vom Rumbachtal German Shepherd	Usa vom Rumbachtal 2002-01-23	Ira vom Schwalmbergthal 2002-03-18
	Jin vom Merkur-Stern 2009-04-29 German Shepherd	Floro degli Achei 2006-04-11 German Shepherd	Quenn vom loher Weg 2003-02-10	Baru von Haus Yu 2002-03-18
		Foxi vom Merkur-Stern German Shepherd	Fenia degli Achei 2002-03-18	Dolli von der Werther-Muhle 2002-03-18
			Quentin von Karanberg 2001-06-24	Uran vom Moorbeck 2002-03-18
			Dama vom Merkur-Stern 2003-10-31	Elsa vom Kuckucksland 2002-03-18



Pedigree online

The information herein does not serve as an official registry document

ELSASS GERMAN SHEPHERDS

RASTI VOM GAMSETAL IMP Germany

IGP3 NORMAL HIPS AND ELBOWS – DNA VERIFIED – DM CLEAR – SV(AD)

V23 BSZS 2021



**ELSASS GERMAN SHEPHERDS WILL BE WELCOMING
RASTI TO TASMANIA MARCH 2023**

**PLEASE CONTACT LORRAINE
AND TASS MASSIS
0409 979 918 - 0433 213 761**

**Bitches collected and boarded on site
EMAIL – elsassgsd@gmail.com**

TRICKS OF THE PHOTOGRAPHY TRADE

ffiona Erskine

Having photographed many amazing breeds across the world, I have to admit to having a special place in my heart for the German Shepherd Dog. And when it comes to photographs of their dogs, the GSD fraternity are very discerning. I have been asked to select some of my favourite shots and to provide a few insights into what appeals about the image and some technical information on how it was shot.

Modern cameras certainly have made it so much easier and less expensive to get "the shot", but when you consider the three basics required – aperture, ISO speed and Shutter speed – it can sometimes be a little daunting. Hopefully, my specs, may give you a few hints.



Capturing the right things in GSD's ! When I came into it I was taught to capture in Judges training by Dogs NSW so I learnt from the best. So I learnt how to understand what the most beautiful dogs should look like and how to make sure all dogs should look like when I am behind the camera. If you ever want to learn come sit with me ring side.

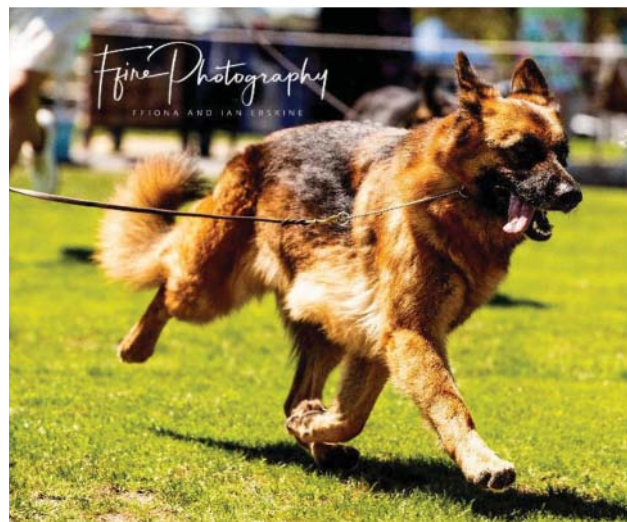


F 5.6 1/2000 ISO 640

Shot in beautiful sunlight, I had this ready to go to shoot on the move. Sometimes I love to capture the

images of the most beautiful heads in the ring when being judged.

The ear set the out line of the head and the way they are supposed to be captured. I zoom right in and get the details that no IPHONE will.



F5.6 1/1250 ISO 500

Again nice bright light and an ISO in-between, this shot capturing a beautiful moving dog.

I love taking the images as the handlers are moving around the ring with their dogs. This is where I will have to up the ISO speed just a little. If the day light is bright you can get away with a 400 ISO but if you want the best images and not have to worry about BLUR up your images to 800 ISO and you will never worry in that DAY LIGHT ever, they will be beautiful. If you have a camera and you are unsure set it to Programme and let it to all the work itself. But sometimes you will make the mistake and you will miss the image all together. If I am ever at a show ring side and I am not the official photographer and you want to know anything just ask I will show you.



F 5.6 1/2000 ISO 640

The light was fantastic, allowing this ISO setting. This made for an incredible image of a beautiful dog.

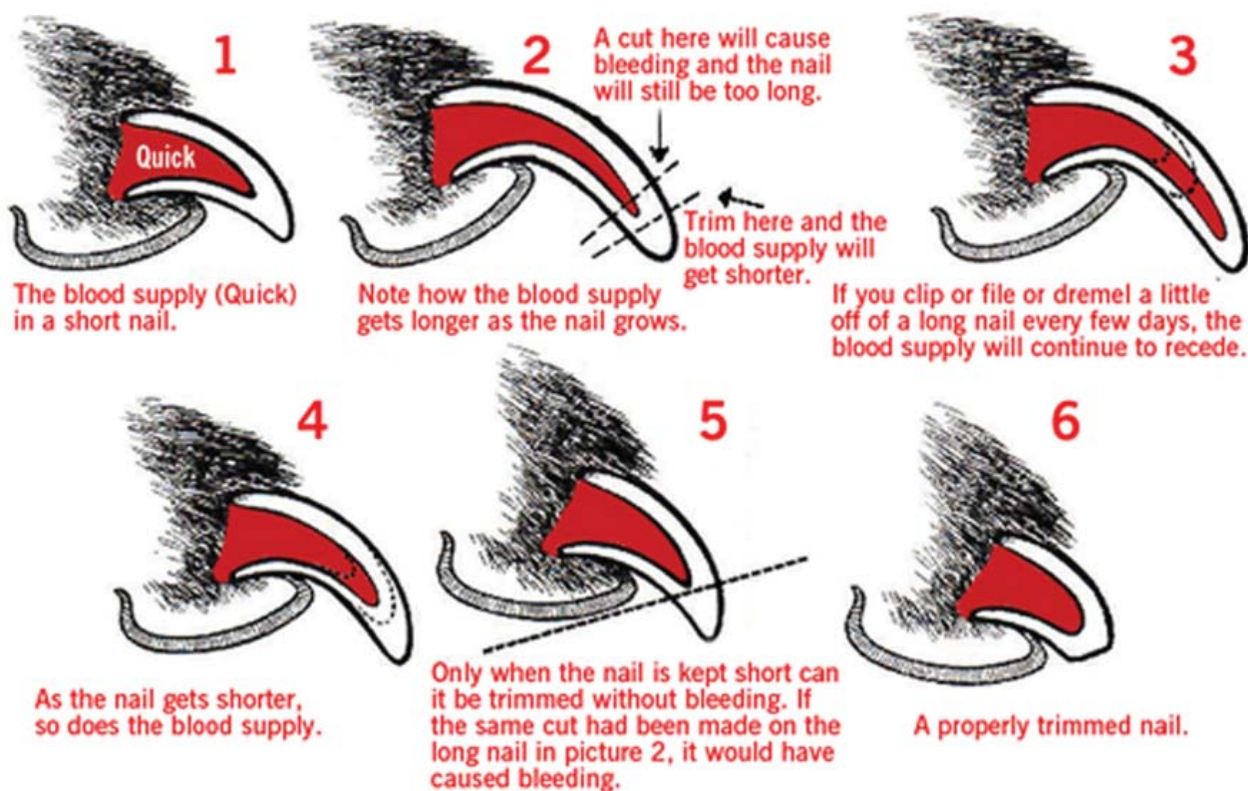
The reason why I love this image of this Shepherd is the beautiful colours the way the light has picked up the coat and the way the dog is so balanced. I love the way always I try to capture the colours of your German Shepherds It's so important that I make sure

I capture the Colours of your beautiful dogs and the structure. Front, head set and topline, making sure that when I take the image the sun is behind me to

capture the best light on the dog to make sure we get that beautiful colour.



A GUIDE TO NAIL TRIMMING





Who's Your

In these pages, you will find 9 images of puppies from 3 sires. We have asked for 3 photos of puppies for each, 2 of which are in the eyes of the owner of the sire father typical and one that is maybe not so.

Each puppy photo is numbered and your challenge is to match sire to offspring e.g. Sire A - is puppies 3, 5 and 8 (just an example).

Have a shot and see how you go. Results further on in this publication on Page 27.



Daddy?

4



7



5



8



9



6



Daddy's



FOUR NEW LIFE MEMBERS OF THE GSDA OF WA (INC)



Dorothy Marr was presented with her Life Member Certificate at the Club QGM on the 6th November 2022



Vicki Beaton was presented with her Life Member Certificate at the Club QGM on the 6th November 2022



Lucy Lubbock was presented with her Life Member Certificate at the club AGM on the 7th August 2022



Andy Crace was presented with her Life Member Certificate at the club AGM on the 7th August 2022

Congratulations to Dorothy, Vicki, Lucy and Andy who have all been very active members of the German Shepherd Dog Association of WA (Inc) for many years. They are well deserved recipients of the honour of Life Membership

POLITICAL ACTIVITY IN 2022 IN NSW



We are amateurs in understanding the workings of government when it comes to the drafting of legislation and the deals being done out of sight that result in laws that are quite simply, making the dogworld extinct.

That is of course unless you are a commercial operation with the resources to lobby and convince politicians that they need to listen or a breeder of cute broodles, spoodles, etc. Many in the community have convinced themselves that these are rare, purebred dogs.

Last year, NSW breeders faced the threat of two separate pieces of legislation or legislative change that almost meant that if you were not caught by one, the other would get you, if they became law.

PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS ACT (POCTA)

In January 2022, with little prior notice, we became aware of proposed changes to Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979. The proposal included:

- o The banning of surgical AI
- o The granting of Police powers of entry to organisations such as the RSPCA and massive increases in officer delegations
- o A major change to required fence heights
- o A requirement for air conditioned dog trailers, without exception
- o Changes to vaccination requirements, the amount of record keeping and the age at which puppies could leave home

These are by no means the full extent of the changes, but should give breeders an indication of where it was all headed.

The overarching philosophy of these changes was to make all things animal subject to a single piece of legislation – that's right, we were to be considered "livestock" and legislated alongside reptiles, cows, crustaceans and many other types with which we share little in common. This was to be a "one size fits all" approach.

The upside was that we saw legislated massive increases to penalties and tightening / bans and an inability to offer most defences. Many of the offences that were proposed would result in absolute bans against animal ownership.

EMMA HURST PUPPY FARMING BILL

Move along to mid year and here we go again – the Emma Hurst Puppy Farming Bill, an amendment to the Companion Animals Act 1992. This one originated in the Legislative Council and came upon us all like a "thief in the night".

Some of the issues contained in this Bill were:

- Caps on the number of breeding females at 10 and the requirement for a commercial licence for between 5-10 breeding females.
- Staffing ratios for anything over 5 animals (it is unclear whether these requirements only apply for 5 females or a mix of male/female)
- Elimination from breeding programs of any animal producing hereditary issues
- Breeding bitches not to be bred more than twice
- Puppies can only leave breeder at age 12 weeks – this will lead to socialisation issues and other psychological problems such as separation anxiety.
- Mandatory desexing of males at 6 years old – imported bloodlines will become a thing of the past
- Artificial insemination – despite repeated calls for negotiation on this single issue, it appears that Ms Hurst remains adamant on this one
- The role that Local Government will play in this legislation

In Australia, we seem to have a love of three levels of government – Federal, State and Local. Some of the major concerns with both pieces of legislation above are the relationships between the Department responsible for the Act, once it is enacted and the agency tasked with operational management, be it local government or a body such as the RSPCA.

A further complication is how the Act will be interpreted in terms of Regulations. Once a bill is enacted, it becomes an Act of Parliament. It is then handed back to the responsible department to draft the Regulations. There is no requirement at law for us as stakeholders to be consulted further and the bureaucrats can interpret things as they see fit, not always with any sense of fairness or in the true spirit of the Act.

And then there's the question of Local Government; ask anyone who lives in Victoria and they'll let you know that Local Government in some areas creates what is effectively unique and draconian local rules. There is no consistency across the State and unfortunately, inconsistent and heavy handed enforcement can be the result.

SO WHAT WAS THE PLAN?

In both instances, we needed help!

As a standalone organisation, there was absolutely no way our voice would be heard.

Also, we needed to recognise that if these became law in NSW, other states would follow. Indeed, we were aware that if POCTA as proposed got the nod, the Federal Government was proposing to adopt this as the model for Federal Statute that would have made it applicable over all State/Territories legislation.

To that end, we needed to share the learning and start the development of resources in each state. The

GSDCA formed a working party to liaise with state controlling bodies, create a knowledge base across Australia and generally, argue, lobby and advocate for our interests.

And do it quickly!

The details are pretty tedious, but a team of really committed and dedicated individuals put themselves in front of politicians, committee hearings and anyone else who would listen to make our points. At times it appeared that DOGS NSW were not as excited about the project and needed a few nudges. But nudges they got!

All in all, the collaboration was brilliant and many of the resources of the GSDCA were shared to ensure that our outcome was on script. Lynn Brand shared with us their collateral and whilst not 'hand in glove' there was great dialogue and cooperation.

The following have provided support and guidance with the process for which we are very grateful Hon. Mark Latham, the Hon. Mark Banasiak, Ray Hadley, the Hon. Mick Vietch, and the Hon Robert Borsak.

WHAT DID WE ACHIEVE?

- o The GSDCA is now known to every current politician in NSW.
- o The GSDCA was invited to give evidence before two Parliamentary Committees.
- o POCTA was enacted on 1st January, 2023 and is a far more acceptable piece of legislation than it might have been
- o In a last minute reprieve, the Emma Hurst Bill was amended in the Legislative Council to exclude hobbyists from its worst aspects.
- o We have started to form some relationships with key party personnel in the hope that we do not end up in the same panicked state as 2022.

WHAT HAVE WE LEARNT?

- o That different pieces of legislation create havoc – in NSW there are at least 3 Acts that have the potential to destroy what we do. These can be administered by different government departments that do not always talk to one another.
- o That apathy is our greatest enemy! All too often our members take the view that "it won't happen" or "someone else will fix it"
- o That we cannot take our eye off the ball

WHERE ARE WE UP TO?

The Emma Hurst Puppy Farming Bill has been sent to the Legislative Assembly (the Lower House in NSW).

NSW elections are scheduled for 25th March, 2023. Parliament is soon to be adjourned and will remain so until after the State election.

We don't have much time in which to ensure that this Bill is passed as it currently stands and that there are no last minute changes.

Members throughout NSW need to find their voice with local politicians to let them know that we will not support those who do not support us. It's a very simple question really:

"Will you support the exemption of registered, purebred dog breeders from the provisions of the Emma Hurst Puppy Farming Amendments?"

Let them know that you will not be supporting them if they do not support you!

Paul York

INTENDING NATIONAL EXHIBITORS AND TRIALLERS PLEASE NOTE:

1. For publication purposes, photographs of placegetters 1-10 for conformation and all obedience competitors are required.
2. It is the responsibility of exhibitors / trailers to view photographs taken at the event by the Official Photographer. Once you have approved the photo for publication, you will be asked to sign a consent that this image will be used.
3. Obedience competitors must present themselves to the photography area directly after vetting.
4. Competitors may substitute a single photo of their choice NO LATER THAN 15th May, 2023.

This must be supplied to revieweditor@gsdcouncilaustralia.org.

The format must be jpeg and with file size 1MB or greater. The image must be attached to an email and show the following details in the subject line:

- Catalogue number
- Class and variety e.g. OB LSC
- Animal's name
- Placing

Owners details will be as provided on entry

Each photo submitted must be on a single email i.e. **an email for each photo provided**

5. One substitution only will be permitted and submissions NOT complying with the format outlined will not be accepted.
6. Where an exhibitor / competitor fails to approve the official photograph taken or provide a suitable substitution, their critique will be published without an accompanying image.

Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated. **There will be no extension to date for providing photos."**

A NATIONAL TREASURE

Dawn Fraser AC MBE

By Jenny Kenworthy

For those of us who have attended a fair few Nationals, it would be true to say that a National without “Our Dawnie” would just not be a National! For the past ten years, since accepting to be our Patron, she has been as much a part of the National scene as the gold medals!

Dawn was appointed as our third Patron in 2013, following in the footsteps of Judge Norman F. Mitchell and then the Rt. Hon. Donald L. Chip MP. Throughout her life, Dawn Fraser has never accepted limitations on her achievements, succeeding in several different fields and careers throughout her life.



Photo by JP Fotos

Born in 1937, in Balmain, which was then a very much “working class” suburb, not the gentrified, sought after location of today, Dawn’s swimming potential was spotted by Harry Gallagher when she was fourteen years old. She had been swimming from the age of three, aided and abetted by her older brother, Donny.

Like many working-class families of the time, Dawn’s found it tough finding the spare cash to indulge her passion for the pool and at an early age, she became a dab hand at breaching the fence of the local baths. Most times she was spotted, but whether it was her winning ways or the fact that the staff recognised the early signs of her talent, she spent an immense time in the pool.

As far as career choices were concerned, there were only ever two under consideration – a doctor or a swimmer. At an early age, medicine had become a choice following the loss of her brother, Donny to Leukaemia; by age twelve and following her first clash with officialdom, Olympic swimming took priority.

By the age of fifteen, Dawn had already been handed her first swimming ban, for beating the famous swimmer, Lorraine Crapp. This was against the amateur swimming rules, but it also led to her teaming up with Harry Gallagher and him becoming her coach. This successful partnership was to last many, many years.



Photo by JP Fotos

Dawn’s profile as a larrikin had begun and was to become a tag that she has owned throughout her life.

At age sixteen, she tried out for the Vancouver Empire Games, a slot she missed out on, but this set back led to her moving to Adelaide and training with Harry Gallagher at the local pool. In terms of competition, she had to swim against the men and her highly competitive nature probably resulted in her gaining an edge, which she employed when she went on to represent Australia at so many world events.

She was a working-class Balmain girl who made good, winning five Olympic gold, six Commonwealth gold and holding the 100 metres freestyle record for fifteen

years. She successfully competed in three successive Summer Olympics with Gold and Silver medals at each, one of only four swimmers to have done so. Her mastery of Freestyle was incredible and she did Australia proud at a time when national pride was not greatly in evidence.

She lunched with HRH Queen Elizabeth on board Britannia and in 1964 was made Australian of the Year.

Her rebellious nature probably led to the end of her swimming career, when she received a ten-year ban at the Tokyo Olympics. This after winning a Gold and Silver for Australia. There is much folklore about the Olympic Flag ending up with Dawn, but that's a story for her to tell. In 1960, she lost her Dad to Lung Cancer, then three months before the Olympics, Dawn lost her mother. Despite these personal tragedies in the early 60's, she pushed ahead and competed in Tokyo taking a Gold and a Silver medal.

community, knew how things worked and was able to mix it just as easily with the sinners as with the saints. She owned the Riverview Hotel from 1978 to 1983.



Photo by JP Fotos

In 1999, Dawn Fraser was awarded the title of "World Athlete of the Century" in Vienna at the World Sports Awards. She was also named "Australian Athlete of the Century" in the same year by the Australian Sports Hall of Fame.

Between 1988 and 1991, Dawn was an elected member of NSW Legislative Assembly, representing her beloved Balmain.

Dawn has now moved north to Noosa with her only daughter and her grandson.



Photo by JP Fotos

With the ten-year ban, the end of her marriage and a young child to raise, Dawn turned her attention to becoming a publican. She took up a licence in her beloved Balmain, a place where she was loved by the



Photo by JP Fotos

Since being appointed as our Patron, Dawn has routinely travelled to be with us at our annual National Show and Trial. Not for her is the token attendance of an hour or so- she is on the grounds for the entire weekend and is an absolute trooper when it comes to her participation.



She has a remarkable memory, using people's names immediately as she re-engages with them. She engages wholeheartedly be it with the dogs, spectators or any dignitaries that may be in attendance, bringing her "Balmain touch" to the event.



Dawn & Coco

Her position as our Patron means that whenever or wherever possible, Dawn lends a hand, be it with a bit of advice, promoting our breed or just making people feel welcome in our midst.



Coco & Bronson



Photos by Ffiona Erskine

As always, Dawn lives her beliefs, and she shares her life with two beautiful GSDs- Bronson who is 12 and is Dawn's dog and Coco a 2 year old black shepherd owned by Jackson her grandson and who loves the breed just as much as his grandmother and would like a farm so he can have 100's as he tells everyone. (Potential for a new Junior Handler here folks!)



Photos by Ffiona Erskine

She is our National treasure and we urge you to let her know how much her contribution means every year. You will undoubtedly run into her at the 2023 National Show and Trial.



Photos by Ffiona Erskine



Photos by Ffiona Erskine



Young Dawn Fraser

BREED RESEARCH AND LEGISLATION OFFICER – MR JOHN FENNER

Item 1

GSDCA States Canine Legislations Activities.

A year ago, I wrote the following article:

Legislation:

New Approach in Australian States to Dog Ownership and Breeding !

As you would or should be aware, State Governments across Australia have progressively, starting about eighteen (18) or so years ago, rewritten regulations for Dog Owners and Dog Breeders.

A month or so after becoming the Breed Research and Legislation Officer, I was contacted by a New South Wales GSD member about the situation in her State. But at that point in time, that State's Canine Legislation Provisions had well established plans for the immediate future.

My understanding is that it appears each State has somewhat varying and mixed approaches to Dog Owners and Dog Breeders in their State.

The Canine World as we have known it in Australia will change significantly in the coming years and in particular the German Shepherd Dog Breed

This Year, unfortunately nothing has changed for the individual States, Territories and Canine bodies. They are still being challenged by very different approaches by the States and Territories Governments.

Currently, the most significant Government activities and proposals in Australia are occurring in New South Wales.

In 2022, some 115 items/documents/activities to all participants in the GSDCA States Canine Legislations activity and Working Party are reported. So far in 2023 a further 11 items/documents/activities have been created.

The significant driver/contributor amongst many of the States and Territories teams is Yvonne Yun, whom has set an agenda particularly for the NSW State needs. In that State, the Government like other State Governments, seems to be intent to be creating a new world order of breeding standards, with the RSPCA to become the sole organisation responsible for canine breeding and registration. Within this environment, Yvonne is to be seen as a Champion of our common cause in the State of NSW and this potentially might help other States create reliable outcomes.

Within my own State of Western Australia, the State Government in 2015 commissioned a **Committee Report** on the 17 of November 2015 titled **Puppy Farming in Western Australia**.

In the following years of 2016 to 2018/9, a State Government Committee addressed Dogs West (CAWA) members regarding the so called **Puppy Farming in Western Australia** alleged situation and reforms that were under consideration for all Dogs. At the centre of the State Government Committee's considerations was the RSPCA's doctrine.

The State Government Committee held four Meetings for Dogs West (CAWA) members. I attended all four but sadly to say, only a few GSD Members attended. Since this, the State Government appear to be quiet on this subject.

Item 2

Breed Research

Sadly, no requests have been submitted to me in 2022/2023 at this point.

Item 3

DOGS AUSTRALIA ANKC REGULATIONS Part 5 CONFORMATION SHOW Effective 1 January 2023 Amended October 2022 SECTION 4 Exhibitors

• SECTION 4 Exhibitors

4.1 Ownership Interest (*Previously was defined as "Proprietary Interest". See previous Regulations below*)

4.1.1 No person shall enter or exhibit a dog in any sanctioned conformation exhibition at which a judge who is a member of the competitor's immediate family, or who resides at the same address, or who has had a proprietary interest in such dog whether solely or in partnership, is scheduled to officiate

4.1.2 A person may not exhibit or handle under a judge officiating at a conformation show where:

- The person is a member of the judge's family and/or resides at the same address as the judge.
- The judge has or has had any ownership interest in a dog or dogs solely or in partnership with the member within a period of 12 months prior to the conformation show
- Where the judge has handled any dog owned, leased or part leased by the person within a period of **12** months prior to the conformation show
- The person has accommodated the judge or been accommodated by the judge within a period of **12** months prior to the conformation show or intends to accommodate the judge within **24** hours after the conformation show
- The judge has trained or groomed for reward, for gift or favour a dog owned, or part owned, leased or part leased by the person in a period of **12** months prior to the conformation show

f. The dog was bred by the judge or the judge's family.

g. For the purposes of these regulations the definition "handled" does not include any circumstance where a person has assisted another exhibitor who, due to a judging decision on the day, was required to compete with two or more exhibits at the same time. **(Clause 4.1.2 amended 10/22, 7.5.3. Effective 01/01/23)**

Understanding the Old and New Changes relative to Regulations Prior to October 2022

OLD

SECTION 4 Exhibitors 4.1 Proprietary Interest

4.1.1 No person shall enter or exhibit a dog in any sanctioned conformation exhibition at which a judge who is a member of the competitor's immediate family, or who resides at the same address, or who has had a proprietary interest in such dog whether solely or in partnership, is scheduled to officiate.

4.1.2 A person may not enter, exhibit or handle under a judge officiating at a conformation show where:

a. The person is a member of the judge's family and/or resides at the same address as the judge.

b. The judge has or has had any proprietary interest in a dog or dogs solely or in partnership with the member within a period of 12 months prior to the conformation show.

c. Where the judge has handled any dog owned, leased or part leased by the person within a period of 12 months prior to the conformation show.

d. The person has handled any dog owned or part owned or leased, or part leased by the judge in a period of 12 months prior to the conformation show. (This regulation was deleted in the new rules effective 01/2023).

e. The person has accommodated the judge or been accommodated by the judge within a period of 12 months prior to the conformation show or intends to accommodate the judge within 24 hours after the conformation show

f. The judge has trained or groomed for reward, for gift or favour a dog owned, or part owned, leased or part leased by the person in a period of 12 months prior to the conformation show

g. The dog was bred by the judge or the judge's family.

h. Either the exhibitor or the judge has used a stud dog belonging to the other within the last 6 months. *(This regulation in red was deleted in the new rules effective 01/2023).*

(Clause 4.1.2 amended 10/22, 7.5.3. Effective 01/01/23) New definition effective 01/2023)

VALE DARRYL WILLIS



Darryl was a well-loved member of the German Shepherd Dog Association of WA who sadly passed away on Thursday the 29th December 2022. While reflecting on our friend Darryl the following words are so true of this special person who has left a huge hole in all of our lives.

We could say that he and Cherylyn imported, owned and bred some lovely dogs over their years as Grandwest German Shepherds.

We could say that he was a great supporter of the GSDA of WA always available to help out when something needed constructing, digging or transporting and able to organize a team where it was needed.

We could say that he enjoyed and supported our shows and could always be found ringside watching all the dogs strut their stuff.

But what we do say is that even though Darryl had been unwell for a long time he never complained, he had that cheeky smile and a cheery word to say and was always so very positive.

The German Shepherd Dog Association of WA has lost a friend, a mate and supporter and we send our deepest sympathies to Cherylyn and Family and all who called him Friend.

As we say farewell to Darryl.

May you Rest in Peace Darryl until we meet again at the Bridge

SPINAL DISEASES IN GERMAN SHEPHERD DOGS

Dr Candice Baker BSc BVMS
MANZCVS

GSDCA Breed Health & Welfare Chairperson

*Emergency & Critical Care Veterinarian
(Western Australian Veterinary Emergency
& Specialty)*

There are many spinal diseases that *may* occur in German Shepherd Dogs. Some can be managed in the same way that we manage any type of osteoarthritis, others may require surgery and some have no favorable treatment or cure. The problems which can arise following their diagnosis warrant some factual and informative educational articles which are helpful for our general GSD owner. There is such a vast variety of spinal issues that can occur in our breed, as such, this article was written to provide information on those disease processes.

Contrary to popular belief, our breed isn't over represented in the surgical suite for not being able to walk due to intervertebral disc disease. The most common breeds include - Dachshunds, Beagles, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels, Cocker Spaniels and cross breeds make up the majority. Intervertebral disc diseases are vast in their varieties and presentations and GSD's have a greater representation for chronic osteoarthritic back issues, rather than sudden disc protrusions. The difficulty in interpretation of anything to do with locomotion issues in GSDs is that there are a lot of possibilities. There is often a differential diagnoses list requiring a process of elimination based on imaging and other medical diagnostic tests. It is also evident that there is potentially a lot of cross over for the processes that can occur that require a very similar set of diagnostic tests to find an answer.

When we talk about spinal diseases and back problems it helps to have a basic picture in your mind, of the anatomy. The back is made up of the cervical spine (C1-C7), thoracic spine (T1-T13), lumbar spine (L1-L7), sacrum (S1&S2) and caudal spine / tail. The vertebral bodies are bone and between those vertebral bodies there is a soft tissue structure called a disc, the disc contains two components - the annulus fibrosus (outer layer) and nucleus pulposus (inner layer). As shown below in figure 1.

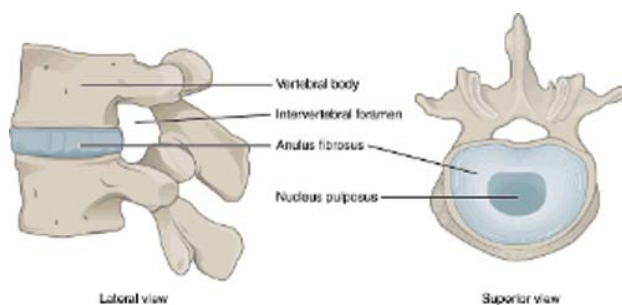


Figure 1 vertebral body and disc anatomy (anatomy & physiology Wikimedia commons)

The spinal cord runs through the vertebral bodies protected by bone and discs. When the bone or discs are compromised, for reasons such as; excess pressure on the back due to conformation or trauma, arthritis, growth abnormalities, infection or cancer. The consequence is disturbance of messages from the brain to the limbs.

The process of assessing a dog that is losing the ability to walk is an EMERGENCY, because rapid deterioration can occur with negative outcomes the longer you wait. A neurological exam is the first step in the vet's assessment, following this, blood work +/- urine testing, plain xrays and following that advanced imaging. Advanced imaging includes computed tomography (CT scan), myelography (injecting dye via spinal tap) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). This is only accessible in specialist veterinary practices, including universities and private specialist practices.

Some of the more common disease processes that occur in GSDs have been listed and explained below:

Diskospondylitis

- Painful, active, sudden inflammation within the disc and disc space, which can most commonly be caused by fungus in GSDs, bacterial diskospondylitis also occurs not infrequently
- The effect of the disease and how it is seen and interpreted on an X-ray is the lytic or eaten appearance of the vertebrae end plate (shown in a picture below - figure 2)
- Diagnosis is often based on a plain x-ray
- However, sometimes more advanced imaging such as computed tomography (CT) or magnetic resonance (MRI) along with a fine needle biopsy of the disc to culture the organisms causing the infection is the only way to find and diagnose it
- The end result once the infection is treated is often arthritis in the back at that particular vertebrae



Figure 2 Diskospondylitis lesion L3-L4

Treatment of diskospondylitis requires aggressive anti-fungal or anti-biotic therapy combined with pain relief and anti-inflammatories. With wide spread fungal diseases in the body there is often a guarded prognosis due to there being multiple organs affected and the potential for failure in those organs.

Intervertebral disc disease

- Often long standing, painful disease, over time becomes less painful
- Causes weakness in the hindlimbs and often paralysis, toe dragging and scuffing of the toes, wobbly gait, low tail carriage and tail weakness

- When they are paralysed with disc disease they cannot control bladder or bowel function appropriately
- Protrusion of the soft disc between the vertebrae onto the spinal cord
- In GSDs often a Type II Hansen disc protrusion, long standing calcification of the disc slowly protrudes over time (shown in figure 3)
- Type I disc protrusions can also occur – sudden prolapse of the disc compressing the spinal cord
- Type III disc – fibrocartilaginous embolism can also occur, these are a more sudden insult to the spinal cord secondary to a piece of disc shooting out into the spinal cord

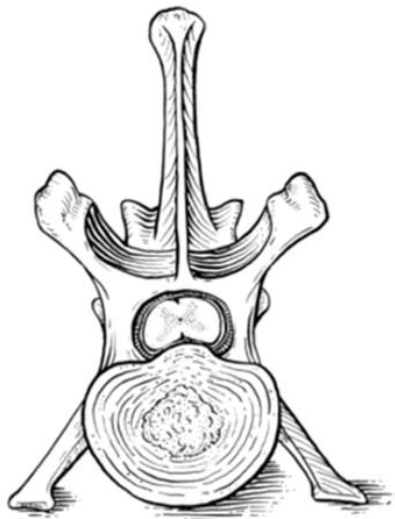


Figure 3 Hansen Type II disc extrusion showing compression on the spinal cord (Sturges, 2012)

Diagnosis is made with the combination of (sometimes) plain X-rays, myelography, CT scan or MR imaging. Depending on the degree of pain and neurological deficits management and treatment is often done through anti-inflammatories and pain killers, medications to aid urination and occasionally surgery to decompress the spine.

Tumours & cancers

- Can affect the spinal cord and peripheral nerve as well as the bony vertebrae
- Such as peripheral nerve sheath tumours, lymphoma, bone cancers and so on
- Extremely painful and progressive

Diagnosis is made through a combination of blood tests, X-rays, CT scan or MR imaging. Some discrete tumours can be surgically removed but often they are too invasive and the prognosis for them to be able to walk after surgery can be very guarded.

Bridging spondylosis - Spondylosis Deformans

- Degenerative disc disease causes arthritic changes along the vertebrae in the back
- Calcification of the discs occur, which in turn cause degenerative changes that look like hooks linking from one vertebrae to the next (as shown in figure 3)
- Osteochondrosis (abnormal cartilage flap occurring during growth as a pup) at the vertebrae end plates can occur in dogs

- o This in turn causes degenerative joint disease in the vertebrae
- o The last lumbar vertebrae and the sacrum is the most common site in GSDs

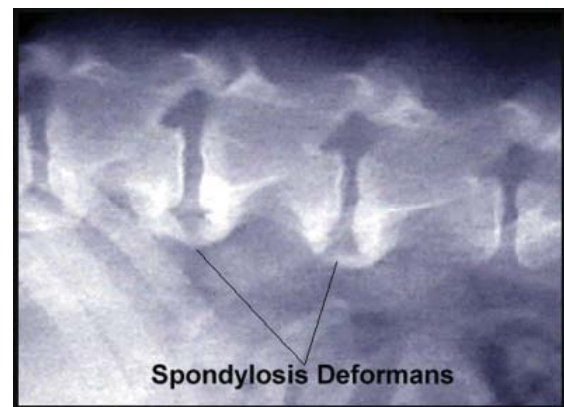


Figure 4 radiograph of spondylosis deformans

Diagnosis is made through X-rays, management is through physiotherapy, gentle regular exercise, anti-inflammatory pain killers and soft bedding, particularly in the winter months.

Transitional vertebrae

- Lumbosacral transitional vertebrae are the malformation of the bone through the pelvis that shows anatomy of both the lumbar vertebrae and the sacral vertebrae
- Due to the unbalanced anatomy of the bones in that region the pelvis tilts and this can affect the hip scoring
- It also creates an eight-fold increase in the likelihood of cauda equina syndrome – explained below

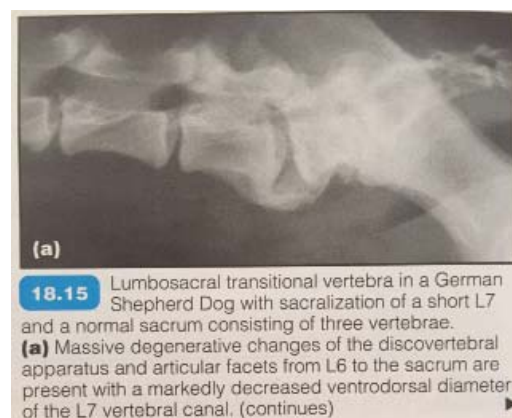
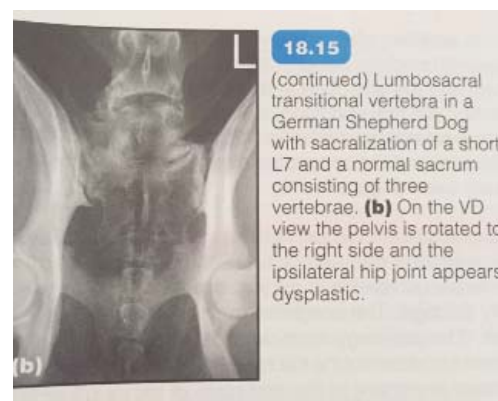


Figure 5 BSAVA manual of canine & feline musculoskeletal imaging - images of lumbosacral transitional vertebra

Diagnosis is often made through plain X-rays alone, the secondary effects occur through the process of cauda equina syndrome, explained following this.

Cauda equina syndrome

- Signs result from compression of the spinal cord or the nerve roots at the level of the pelvis
- the syndrome manifests itself in some of the following issues:
 - o tail chasing, dead tails, tail pain, hind limb weakness and lameness, increases the risk of perianal furunculosis
- back pain is noticeable during jumping, climbing or any kind of hyperextension on the back
- The tail may be weak in advanced cases and compression will lead to weakness and paralysis of the hind limbs, finally faecal and urinary incontinence can follow
- Osteochondrosis is also a predisposing factor, as explained earlier
- we should probably be considering this condition as a main differential in the common diagnosis of degenerative myelopathy for somewhat similar presenting signs – weakness, limp tail, un-coordinated hind limb gait etc.
- At this point in time the best diagnostic tool is MRI



Figure 6 MR image of the narrowing and cord compression at the level of the sacrum

Treatment is with anti-inflammatories, pain killers, rest and physiotherapy. There are surgical options to decompress the spinal cord in this area, as well as steroid injection into the area. Acupuncture could

be considered for management of pain and to aid mobility.

Degenerative myelopathy

- Degenerative Myelopathy is a term used to describe a progressive spinal cord degenerative disease
- The disease process affects the pelvic limbs to start with, whereby causing a hind limb weakness that is slowly progressive in an ascending fashion, over months to a year
- It is a non-painful disease and the age of onset is typically over 8 years old, but can be as young as 4 or 5, or as late as 12 to 13 years old
- Due to a variety of other spinal cord lesions, as seen above, definitive diagnosis is made on post mortem examination of the spinal cord
- The DNA/genetic identification of an animal that is homozygous for the A allele of SOD1 missense mutation – clear of SOD1, carrier of SOD1, at risk SOD1 are the resultant possibilities
- However, it is a known possibility that an affected DNA mutation does not always go on to exhibit the disease
- Overly aggressive breeding programs to eliminate the gene are advised against due to the “bottle neck” effect, possibly increasing the potential for other diseases to occur and other undesirable traits
- At risk/affected should be considered a more serious fault than carrier in breeding programs

Intervertebral disc disease and degenerative disc disease through the thoraco-lumbar and lumbar spine are also common places for GSDs to have disc protrusion and subsequent weakness and paralysis of the hind limbs. The most common site for disc protrusion in all breeds of dogs is the middle of the back.

The vast majority of GSD owners are quick to assume their old (or even young) GSD has gone “off their legs” due to hip dysplasia, without considering that these other diseases could be the primary issue. Future breeding should always consider back and spinal issues and due diligence should be taken. There are not always easy and inexpensive ways to find out the exact spinal disease you GSD may have when any of these signs occur, however appropriate assessment with your trusted vet and consideration of a second opinion with a surgical specialist should always be considered. Private and university based specialist veterinary practices have access to advanced imaging techniques to appropriately diagnose and treat a lot of these conditions. Simple management and physiotherapy options are also there for the long-term comfort for you dog.

Who's Your Daddy - ANSWERS

Puppy 1.	Leppsdorf Over The Moon	Puppy 6:	Denargun Bellarena
Sire	A: *GEWALT TENNESSEE DRUMMER (AI) BSC1 AZ Excellent Merit.	Sire	WULKANO-UNO VON SCHNITZERTEAM HD 'a' ED Normal IPO2 KKL
Dam:	Leppsdord Chi Chi AZ	Dam:	Kelinpark Rozata AZ BSCL
Puppy 2.	Taurorn Huzzah	Puppy 7.	(Name) Babanga Bound For Glory
Sire	WULKANO-UNO VON SCHNITZERTEAM HD 'a' ED Normal IPO2 KKL	Sire	B: YPSILON DI CASA CAPUTI IPO1 IMP GMY
Dam:	Taurorn Champagne and Gucci AZ	Dam:	Fremont Mystique
Puppy 3.	Taurorn Heru	Puppy 8:	Babanga Galway Girl
Sire	WULKANO-UNO VON SCHNITZERTEAM HD 'a' ED Normal IPO2 KKL	Sire	B: YPSILON DI CASA CAPUTI IPO1 IMP GMY
Dam:	Taurorn Champagne and Gucci AZ	Dam:	Sadria Ring My Bell
Puppy 4	Vladimir Remember Th Name	Puppy 9:	Volscaro La Di Da
Sire	B: YPSILON DI CASA CAPUTI IPO1 IMP GMY	Sire	A: *GEWALT TENNESSEE DRUMMER (AI) BSC1 AZ Excellent Merit
Dam:	Ch. Vladimir Legen WaitForIt Dary	Dam:	Ch Volscaro Ricraf Raffy AZ
Puppy 5.	Gewalt Flamenco		
Sire	A: *GEWALT TENNESSEE DRUMMER (AI) BSC1 AZ Excellent Merit.		
Dam:	Gewalt I Love Rock N Roll AZ		

Judges Appointments as at 18/01/2023

DATE	JUDGE NAME	HOST CLUB	CLUB	COMMENT- SHOW /TYPE
28/05/23	Hedberg, Karen	(NSW) Other NSW	Broken Hill, NSW Ladies KC of Broken Hill	Group 5
13/05/23	Butterfield, Jean	(SA) Other NSW	Bathurst, NSW Bathurst & District KC Inc	Group 5
28/04/23	Griffith, Malcolm (UK)	GSDCV Skye, Vic	National - Bitches (28, 29 & 30 April) GSD	Specialty
28/04/23	MacDonald, Heather (UK)	GSDCV Skye, Vic	National - LSCs & SC Dogs (28, 29 & 30 April)	GSD Specialty
22/04/23	Green, Greg (VIC)	GSDAWA Southern River, WA	WA SBE GSD	Specialty
16/04/23	TBA	GSDCSA West Beach, SA	GSDCSA Members Competition GSD	Specialty
8/04/23	Butterfield, Jean (SA)	Other NZ Wellington,	NZ GSD Championship show GSD	Specialty
8/04/23	Sykes, Carol (UK)	GSDL Orchard Hills,	NSW Championship Show (8 & 9 April) GSD	Specialty
26/03/23	Gibson, Tony (NZ)	GSDCQ Durack, Qld	GSDCQ Members Competition GSD	Specialty
19/03/23	Pike, Jane (SA)	GSDC Sth Isl Christchurch,	NZ SIGSL GSD	Specialty
18/03/23	Knuckey, Robyn (WA)	GSDC Sth Isl Christchurch,	NZ SIGSL GSD	Specialty
11/03/23	Knuckey, Robyn (WA)	GSDCV Skye, Vic	Victorian SBE (11 & 12 March) GSD	Specialty
25/02/23	Tantaro, Vincenzo(VIC)	GSDC Sth Isl Dunedin, NZ	Otago GSDC GSD	Specialty
25/02/23	Butterfield, Jean (SA) Other	SA Naracoorte,	SA Naracoorte Kennel Club	Group 5
18/02/23	Pike, Jane (SA)	GSDCSA West Beach, SA	GSDCSA Members Competition GSD	Specialty

PHOTOS FROM THE KINGS PARK WALKABOUT IN PERTH WA



The German Shepherd Dog Association of WA organised a puppy walkabout at the beautiful Kings Park.

My thanks to our Advanced Pre-Kindy Instructor, Karen Westmacott, for arranging this walk, and to our PR Officer Kym Glenny for attending and arranging for the many photos taken on the day.

The walkabout was very well attended and all the members thoroughly enjoyed their new experience.

Members of the public were all suitably impressed with many of them taking photos of the sight of so many German Shepherds all walking together and so well behaved.

Cars even stopped to allow the group to cross the road at one stage.

The photos in this article are just a few of the many taken by one of the club members on the walk



The photos above were taken in front of the War memorial and an area overlooking the City of Perth and the Swan River. It was terrific to see so many young dogs behaving in such a well behaved manner and it was a credit to all the handlers who have put in so much work during classes to get their puppies to this standard.



The photo on the left is a group photo at the start of the walk and the photo on the right is our hard working PR Officer and Instructor extraordinaire Kym Glenny.



The group walking through the park grounds on the left with Karen talking to the group at one of the rest places during the walk



I am extremely proud of the work done by the Instructors of the GSDA of WA who work tirelessly for 50 weeks of the year volunteering their time, free of charge, to all of our obedience fraternity. They are the heart and soul of our club and I feel privileged to be a part of the group of instructors as well as being the Obedience Chair on the club Management Committee. I hope you all enjoy this article as much as I enjoyed putting it together for you.

Ian Marr. GSDA of WA Obedience Chair. Pre-Kindy Obedience Instructor

SEPARATION ANXIETY IN DOGS

Separation anxiety is one of the most common, yet most undiagnosed behavioural problems in dogs. The symptoms of excessive barking, whining, self-mutilation, urination and defecation can take a big toll on both dogs and owners. It can also result in many dogs being labelled as “naughty”, with the real cause of the condition going undetected. Luckily separation anxiety is now widely understood by veterinarians and there are many management options that can decrease and even eradicate the condition completely.

What is Separation Anxiety?

Separation anxiety is your dog's reaction to being away from you. As dogs are pack animals, it's normal for a puppy to become attached to their litter and then subsequently to the human that becomes their master. It's also normal for a dog to get bored when his/ her owner leaves the house or to occasionally whine, bark and act destructively. What distinguishes separation anxiety from day-to-day mischievousness is that in separation anxiety the behaviours occur only in the owner's absence.

Symptoms

Some owners notice the signs of separation anxiety by what goes on when they are away – a dug-up garden, a torn-up house or neighbours reporting loud barking. Other people notice it as they prepare to leave the house – the dog notices cues that his/ her owner is leaving (like picking up keys, putting on shoes or applying make-up) and begins to bark, scratch or become hyperactive. Signs of separation anxiety can also include the following:

- Pacing
- Loss of appetite
- Diarrhoea or vomiting
- Hyperactivity

Treatment

As the causal nature of the condition is over-dependence or strong attachment, the key to effective treatment is teaching your dog to feel safe in your absence. There are a number of different techniques that can assist with this and a few you should avoid.

What Works

- **Use Command-Response-Reward** interaction, which provides reward-based positive reinforcement for good behaviour. Ignore all attention seeking behaviour such as whining, barking, pawing or licking for 3-4 weeks (or longer if you are not seeing improvement). Only initiate interactions with your dog when it is calm and not seeking attention; this will help shift the association of reward from attention-seeking behaviour.
- **Train your dog** to do a reliable down-stay using reward-based techniques:

- Start by training a down and rewarding the dog.
- Gradually increase the time he/ she must stay before the reward is given.
- Once the dog can remain in a down-stay for several minutes, return to frequent rewards but this time take a step back from the dog before giving them.
- Continue increasing the distance gradually and the length of reward time gradually.
- Incorporate this exercise into your daily routine, e.g. when you are having breakfast, working at your desk or relaxing at night. Use it to prevent your dog following you around.
- **Encourage independence** by allowing your dog to have positive associations in your absence. For example, leave a Kong®, rawhide chew or bone in another room and allow your dog to find it.
- **Ignore** your dog for 20 minutes before you leave the house and then again for as long as it takes for him/ her to become settled when you return home. This will help to reduce your dog's arousal levels and the sudden experience of separation when you leave.
- **Give your dog a long-lasting chew item** 5 minutes before you leave the house and with minimal interaction (as mentioned above, 20 minutes of ignoring your dog is optimum). Interactive toys such as Kongs®, Buster Cubes® and other food dispensing toys are useful to use at these times.
- **Walk your dog** at least twice a day for a minimum of 15-30 minutes each time. Exercise is known to decrease anxiety and to be important for socialisation and mental stimulation.
- **Break associations** that cue to your dog you are about to leave the house. For example, pick up your keys, put on your shoes and put on make-up without going outside. You can also mix up departure cues by performing them in a different order; put on your shoes and coat before having breakfast or drive the car out of the garage and shut the door, come back in the house and leave later in the day.
- **Anti-anxiety medication** can assist to reduce a dog's anxiety. However, as the underlying cause is relationship-based, it's important to treat the dependency issues at the same time (using techniques above). Before commencing medication it is important to take your dog to see your vet, get a full physical examination and, if appropriate, consider pathology tests (blood work) to ensure liver and kidney function are normal and there are no underlying diseases.

What Doesn't Work

- **Getting another dog for companionship.** As the dependent bond is between you and your dog, even when a new dog is introduced, the dog will still feel panicked when you leave the house.
- **Punishment.** Unlike humans, dogs are not able to associate past behaviours with subsequent punishment. As such, punishment does not work. The 'guilty' look that owners sometimes report dogs having is usually the dog's learned response to the owner's reaction. Reward-based approaches for good behaviour are most effective.

- **Detering chewing** by tying the dog to chewed objects or painting them with a deterrent (e.g. Tabasco sauce), may stop the dog from chewing that object, but he/ she will then find another outlet for their anxiety.

Other Things to Consider

Confinement can often increase anxiety. While it may be necessary to prevent self-injury or damage to the house, try to reduce confinement as much as possible. If necessary, stacked baby gates in a room are preferable to a crate. Systematic desensitisation to departures can also be effective, but can be a time-consuming process and require significant commitment from the owner.

Separation anxiety often manifests or worsens in winter. With the reduced daylight hours and cold weather, dogs may be walked less often. Where possible, owners need to keep up the same routines and exercise regimes in winter as they do in summer.

<https://www.vetwest.com.au/pet-library/separation-anxiety-in-dogs>

Preventing Separation Anxiety in 10 Steps

The most important ingredient in a successful separation anxiety prevention program is to set your dog up for success. When you bring a new dog or puppy home, implement a program to help him be comfortable with being alone for gradually increasing periods. This will help to assure him that it's not necessary to panic: you haven't abandoned him; you always come back. Be sure to exercise him well before you practice; a tired dog is a much better candidate for relaxation than one who's "full of it."

Here are the 10 steps of a two-day program to create a dog who is comfortable being left alone. Note that if you are modifying an already existing distress or anxiety condition you will need to work through the steps of the program much more slowly.

1. Bring your dog home at a time when someone can spend a few days with him to ease the stress of the transition.
2. Prepare a quiet, safe space in advance such as a playpen or puppy pen, or a dog-proofed room such as a laundry room.
3. When you bring your dog home, give him a chance to relieve himself outdoors, and spend 10 to 15 minutes with him in the house under close supervision. Then put him in his pen and stay in the room with him.
4. Stay close at first. Read a book. If he fusses, ignore him. When he's quiet, greet him calmly, take one step away, and then return before he has a chance to get upset. Speak to him calmly, then go back to reading. You're teaching him that if you leave, you will return. Other family members should make themselves scarce during this time: your dog needs to learn to be alone.
5. Continue to occasionally step away, gradually increasing the distance and varying the length of time that you stay away, so that eventually you can wander around the room without upsetting your dog. Each time you return, greet him calmly. Every once in a while say "Yes!" in a calm but cheerful voice before you return to him, then walk back to the pen and feed him a treat.
6. After an hour or so, give him a break. Take him outside to potty and play. Hang out for a while. Then go back inside and resume his pen exercises.

7. Begin again, staying near the pen until he settles. More quickly this time, move along steps 4 and 5 until you can wander around the room without generating alarm. Now step into another room very briefly, and return before your dog has time to get upset. Gradually increase the length of time you stay out of the room, interspersing it with wandering around the room, sitting near him reading a book, and sitting across the room reading a book. If he starts to fuss, wait until he stops fussing to move back toward him. Teach him that calm behaviour makes you return, fussing keeps you away.

8. Occasionally, step outside of the house. Your goal for the first day is to get your dog comfortable with you being away from him for 15 to 20 minutes; it's usually the first 20 minutes of separation that are most difficult. Vary the times so he doesn't start anticipating your return. Remember to give him plenty of potty and play breaks: every hour for a young pup, every one to two hours for an older dog.

9. On the second day, quickly repeat the warm-up steps, until you can step outside for 15 to 20 minutes at a time, interspersed with shorter separations. On one of your outdoor excursions, hop into your car and drive around the block. Return in 5 to 10 minutes, and calmly re-enter the house just as you have been during the rest of the exercises. Hang out for a while, then go outside and drive away again, for a half-hour this time.

10. Now it's time for Sunday brunch. Be sure your dog gets a thorough potty break and playtime, then give him 15 minutes to relax after the stimulation of play. Put a Kong stuffed with tasty treats into his pen, round up the family, and calmly exit the house for an outing of a couple of hours' duration. When you arrive home to a calm and happy dog, drink an orange juice toast to your graduation from separation anxiety prevention school !.

Time Alone for Dogs: There is a Limit

It's unfair to ask a young dog to stay home alone for 5 to 10 hours; he needs to get out to relieve himself midway through the day. If you force him to soil in the home, at worst you can cause stress-related behaviours, at best you may create house-training problems. Options may include taking him to work with you, having family members come home on their lunch hour, arranging for stay-at-home neighbours to take him out, hiring a pet walker to walk him and play with him.

If you set up a routine to help your dog succeed, he'll someday earn his Master's Degree in Home Alone, and be trusted with full house freedom. It may be too late for some dog owners to say they've never had a dog with separation anxiety, but it's never too late to say "never again"!

Dogs with Separation Anxiety: Overview

1. Take steps to prevent separation anxiety in your new dog by conditioning him to accept being left alone.
2. Assess your dog's anxious behaviours (destructive behaviour, vocalization, and inappropriate elimination) to determine if the behaviours might have a cause other than separation anxiety.
3. Understand that your dog's difficult behaviour is not deliberate, and that punishment is ineffective, inappropriate, and will only exacerbate the behaviour.

Pat Miller, CBCC-KA, CPDT-KA

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBER CLUBS



GSDC of TASMANIA

PRESIDENT

Janet Haase

SECRETARY

Gabrielle Peacock

Website: gsdct.com/committee-members.asp

We concluded our training for 2022 with a members' Family Funday. It provided a terrific opportunity to get together and share our love of German Shepherd Dogs in a relaxed, supportive way.

Our guest judge, Karen Hedberg was generous with her knowledge and offered positive advice and encouragement to everyone. It was wonderful to see our junior members practising their handling skills in the show ring under Karen's guidance.



Many thanks to all those involved in arranging and running the Funday: to Lorraine and Tass for coordinating the day and hosting Karen, to John and Sandra Parker for donating and cooking the BBQ lunch and to Maureen and Russell for donating the drinks and making things happen on the ground. Thanks to Carol Mason, Gordon Mathers, Gabrielle Peacock, Zac and Brooke Munnings for all their assistance with the lead-up preparation and on the day.

Training for 2023 has commenced. We train every Saturday morning at the Esplanade in New Norfolk and offer socialisation, show classes and Breed Survey preparation. Our training ground would have to be one of the most beautiful dog training grounds in Australia, as it is situated on the banks of the beautiful River Derwent.



We have a great lineup of judges for our 2023 shows. In February Melanie Groth and Jane Pike are judging. In May we look forward to Lou Donald judging and in September we welcome judges Robyn Knuckey and Greg Green.

Show dates for 2023 are 11 and 12 February, 21 May, 23 and 24 September.

A Breed Survey will be held at each of these show weekends. For more information about Breed Survey please contact our Breed Affairs Officer, Lorraine Massis, on +61 409 979 918.

Congratulations to the owners and breeders of the following animals who have recently passed the A and Z schemes.

Roxamburg Too Hot To Handle AZ Owner A.Smith

Roxamburg Commander In Chief AZ. Owner A. Butler.

We've had a terrific team of committee members clearing out and reorganising our club rooms. It is amazing what a difference a good tidy-up can make. As an additional benefit, we now have an up-to-date, accurate Asset Register. Thank you to Russell Lowery, Maureen Lowery, Carol Mason, Sandra Parker and Gabrielle Peacock.

We look forward to a positive and collaborative year.

Janet Haase
President GSDCT



GSDC of QUEENSLAND

PRESIDENT

Sharon Thorp

E-Mail president@gsdcqld.org.au

SECRETARY

Mr Gerry Williams

E-Mail secretary@gsdcqld.org.au

As the last report was in October the GSDCQ had held all their events for the year with the exception of a Breed Survey which was held on the 12th November 2022, where 8 dogs went through survey.

The GSDCQ held its AGM in December 2022, and we welcome Peter Hersant- Breed Affairs and Ray Turner HD/ED Registrar to the committee for 2023.

Show Training continued until towards the end of December 2022 on Wednesday nights at Durack.

The GSDCQ hold their first events on the 24th and 25th March 2023, Breed Survey followed by an Open Show- Catherine Walker, and the next day a Members Comp with Tony Gibson (NZ) the judge.

Our biggest events next year will be the Double Header Championship Shows and Trials in July with 2 overseas judges.

An exciting event in 2023 is the introduction of Obedience by the club, this is currently being sorted and hopefully we will be able to offer obedience classes from February 2023.

On behalf of the GSDCQ we hope that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and we look forward to seeing you firstly at the National in Melbourne in April, and then here in Queensland for our extravaganza Championship Shows.

Regards

Sharon Thorp
President GSDCQ 2023



GSDA of WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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Goodness this year is really slipping away I can't believe this is the last report for 2022.

The Show and Trials year is now complete – congratulations to all the winners and placegetters.

To those members who have farewelled their beloved dogs this year – my deepest sympathies – it never gets any easier.

Our two Members' Competitions with Andrew O'Loughlin and Kurt Morton judging were much appreciated by the members.

The West Coast Challenge is done and dusted for another year with Mr David Middleton (U.K.) adjudicating – although I didn't stay all day I enjoyed his judging.

This coming Sunday is our Quarterly General Meeting – I suspect there may be a surprise or two tabled at the meeting.

Shortly we will be holding our final graduation and Closed Club Trial then we will be going into night socialisation classes until early 2023.

We are planning a Fun Day at the end of November – the raffle prizes look sensational – immediately following that is our final Breed Survey for the year.

The year wraps up with our Presentation Day where trophies will be awarded to members who have gained titles in the various disciplines of Obedience and also the Australian and Grand Champions in Conformation. Perpetual trophies for all disciplines and special categories are awarded via the point score and points earned at training.

It only leaves me to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and sincerely hope that 2023 is one of joy and success – but please remember your dog doesn't have a clue what grading or trophy you

receive of its behalf – they just want you to love them for what they are – your best friend.

Cheers – stay safe Margaret Adams Editor G.S.D.A. of W.A.



GSDC of SOUTH AUSTRALIA

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Happy New Year from GSDCSA. Some of our members have already been busily volunteering at the Dogs SA grounds this year to raise funds for the 50th National next year. We held a breed affairs meeting on January 8 and are looking forward to our Puppy Day on January 15 before the club resumes training as usual on the 25th of January.

The first breed survey for the year will be February 12, with a members competition on February 18 at 6pm.

We are really looking forward to what this year brings and seeing you around the grounds.

Kiara Stacey - GSDCSA



GSDC of VICTORIA

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Welcome to 2023 – the year of the 49th National Show & Trial, hosted by the GSDCV.

But first, we all look forward to the end of each year, for a break and a recharge from Club events and training. We hope everyone had a great festive season, your

dogs had some extra valuable time with you on holidays and you're ready to go again. Because 2023 is already off and racing !! 😊

By now, all our 11 training branches are back in full swing, with some only having had a two-week break, keeping classes running over summer. As we know, 'puppies need training not holidays' so there's no rest to ensure all pups and owners get the best start they can.

As we reflect on 2022, all our training branches held Christmas parties and from all reports and photos, members had a great end to the year, making the most of fun games with their dogs, 'best dressed' comps were a hoot and award recipients were recognised for their efforts. Well done to all, especially branch committees and instructors for their contributions. We trained a lot of dogs and helped a lot of handlers during the year, which was much appreciated by all.

Our last Club event was our Open Show on 3rd December, judged by Ms Vicki McGinty (Vic)

Winners were:

Long Stock Coat Bitch Winner
*BODECKA OOH LA LA (AI) AZ
Long Stock Coat Dog Winner
*AUST GRAND CHAMPION
LORDAVO ROYAL COMMANDER
AZ RN
Stock Coat Bitch Winner
*WILLMAURS GIDJET GIRL AZ
Stock Coat Dog Winner
*UMBERTO VOM BIERSTADTER
HOF 'A' NORMAL ED NORMAL
(IMP DEU)

Just prior to Christmas, the GSDCV lost one of our own. David Berry was a member for 43 years and was a Life Member of the GSDCV, recognised for his exceptional service to our Club. David served the GSDCV and its members as an Obedience Instructor for 41 years and was also a Show Instructor for 30 of those years. David served on branch committees and was integral to many Club activities. He was active in the show ring, bred under the Volkriss prefix and was a popular and valued friend to many members. He was the friendly smiling face who many met when they first arrived at the Club and training branch and was always there to lend a helping hand. His contribution of many years to so many was immeasurable. We remember and honour our friend David for what he gave to our club and our breed. Our condolences and thoughts are with Carla and family. David will be sadly missed.

Vale David.

We are looking forward to a busy year as we ramp up our efforts at Club and training branch level and we can't wait to see all our members back at training.

Don't forget the National Show & Trial, 28-30 April 2023.

The schedule was printed in the Spring edition of the QNR.

Where can you find all the info?

Check our website www.gsdcv.org.au/2023national

Check our event facebook page www.facebook.com/2023GSDNational for every bit of news.

We're looking forward to a big event with great judges in both the show and trial ring. We always run a great event, so we can only remind you to get your entries in by close and book your accommodation, and we'll see you soon !

Online you can order a great range of merchandise, buy a catalogue, book catalogue advertising, sponsor a class trophy or sash and much more. Just visit here www.gsdcv.org.au/shop

'My Shepherd, My Friend, My Responsibility'



GSD LEAGUE NSW Inc

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The October Double Championship Show

The October Double Championship Show went ahead at Luddenham Showground as our grounds were closed due to floods. On Saturday 8th October Susan Belfield (UK) judged with an entry of 111. Her Challenge SC Bitch was *Ch Vladimir Remember Th Name and Challenge SC Dog was *Olymp vom Larchenhain. Her Challenge LSC Bitch was Vladimir The Bees Knees and Challenge LSC Dog was *Kuirau Orlando. Best in Show was *Olymp vom Larchenhain and Runner Up was Vladimir The Bees

Knees. The day began well with mixed weather but judging went on, thank you Susan.

On Sunday 9th October Tony Gibson (NZ) judged with an entry of 118 in muddy conditions but no rain. The slippery mud made it very hard on everyone's legs. His Challenge SC Bitch was Cinderhof Sansaa AZ and Challenge SC Dog was *Ch Sheznova Django. His Challenge LSC Bitch was *Kaygar Esther and Challenge LSC Dog was *Ch Eroica Ice Ice Baby. Best in Show was *Ch Eroica Ice Ice Baby and Runner Up was *Kaygar Esther.

November Survey

Congratulations to the owners and breeders of the following animals who were successfully classified at breed survey today, 6th November, at the GSDL with 4 surveyors present:

- *Azincourt Miss Dior (LSC) -
*Ch Siobahn Greyt Impact x Ch Lindenelm Fancy Tickled Pink AZ
- *Bhuachaille In Your Dreams (LSC) - *Bhuachaille Demonstrator x Bhuachaille Always a Dreamer
- *Brigenti Onyx - *Jacis Style Einstein x Brigenti Montana AZ
- *Freevale Miss Dior in Pink -
*Iliano von Juvenisty x Freevale Crazy Oohla Pink
- *Stormnak Xyna - *Django vom Team Panoniansee x *Adjure Daphne
- *Uzza v Larchenhain (verified)-
*Goran vom Bierstadter Hof x
*Hadina vom Larchenhain



ZAP

The ZAP workshop was a great success on Sunday 6th November. The GSDL would like to thank Mel Groth for running and going through the workshop with the members who attended.

We look forward to holding more ZAP days in the near future. Thankyou to everyone who attended.



Stud Dog Presentation

Stud Dog Presentation was held on the 6th November. Presented by Jo Cathie.

The GSDL wishes to thank Jo for taking the time today to provide this session for our members. The members found it informative and appreciated the huge effort Jo had put into its preparation.



13s Club

We welcome the following dogs that have reached the age of 13: Shakira (Kuirau Wanika) born 25.10.09. Very much loved by the Murray family.

Shibu (*Sundaneka White Satin AZ) born on the 11.11.09, proudly bred and owned by Graeme & Karen Stevenson.

AGM

The AGM of the GSDL was held Monday 28th November, both on Teams and at the Clubhouse, and the committee for the club elected by the members is:

- President – JESSICA KADA
- Vice President – GRANT MORTON

- Treasurer – MANI SINGHAI
- Secretary – CASSANDRA BOOTH
- Show Secretary – KURT MORTON
- Show Manager – JEFF RAPLEY
- Merchandising – DEB MARTIN
- Point Score – JESSICA LYNCH
- Membership Registrar – NEVILLE KIRKHAM
- Training Coordinator – CATHY SHAYLER
- Shepherd News / Social Media – JESSICA BIRD
- Puppy Listings – PAM JARVIS
- Webmaster – FRAN MCADAM
- Social Secretary – ARTIENE TATIAN
- Publicity – KAREN STEVENSON
- Breed Affairs – MELANIE GROTH
- State HD ED Administrator – MELISSA TUROCZY
- Youth Officer – CHELSEA BIRD
- Welfare Officer – PAM JARVIS
- Identification Officer – GRAEME STEVENSON

Our thanks also go to those outgoing committee members for their hard work and contributions to the GSDL in 2022. We welcome the following members to the 2023 committee: Mani Singhai, Jeff Rapley, Jessica Lynch, Cathy Shayler and Artiene Tatian.

December Open Show

It was so nice to be back on our home grounds after 10 months moving around other available grounds due to rain and floods. It was a lovely sunny day possibly a bit hotter than what the dogs had been use to. On the 6th December Mrs Jean Butterfield judged our Open Show with an entry of 66.

Her Best SC Female was *Ch. Vladimir Supercalifragilistic (Inter) and Reserve was *Brigenti Onyx (Inter). Her Best LSC Female was *Ch. Eroica Nova (Open) and Reserve was *Ch. Siobahn Greyt Expectations (Open).

Her Best SC Dog was *Sheznova Luca (Open) and Reserve was *Ch. Sheznova Django (Open). Open Dog 1st and 2nd are from the same sire and their mothers are full sisters congratulations to their breeder Teresa and Wayne Curry. Her Best LSC Dog was *Derharv The Force is Strong (Open) and Reserve was *Conkasha Desert Cobra (Open). This was Jeff Rapley's first show as Show Manager, well done and congratulations on the running of a great show.

GSDL Point Score Presentation



During the lunch break complimentary finger food was served during the Annual Point Score Awards Presentation. Congratulations to the winners and their owners and breeders:

- Puppy Bitch – Kelpark Vientetta & Kuirau Willow
- Puppy Dog – Kuirau Ywan
- Adult Bitch – *Ch Vladimir Remember Th Name
- Adult Dog – *Olymp vom Larchenhain (IMP Deu)
- Puppy Bitch LSC – Ch. Vladimir The Bees Knees
- Puppy Dog LSC – Cinderhof Diaablo
- Adult Bitch LSC – *Ch. Siobahn Greyt Expectations
- Adult Dog LSC – *Kuirau Orlando
- Dams Progeny – *Ch. Vladimir Legen Wait Forit Dary
- Sires Progeny – *Djambo v Fichtenschlag (IMP Deu)
- Breeder – Vladimir – Grant, Dianne and Kurt Morton

The full Point Score results can be found on the GSDL website

Junior Showmanship:

- 7-10 Years – Harrison B
- 10-13 Years – Isabella M
- 13-19 Years – Paris T

Obedience Bitch Winner - *Ato Brama HD/ED (FCI)normal. BH. IPO 1.ET. JC. WPD. (IMP Cze)

Recently the League lost a long time member, Frank McBain. Our sincere condolences go to his wife, Sandra and family. Adored father of Billy, Yvonne and Angela. Well known and loved by many.

The coming events for the GSDL are:
Breed Surveys at 10am – 11th Feb
2nd April
4th June

February Members Competition – 12th February to be judged by Mr S Pitelli (SA)

April Championship Show – 8th & 9th April to be judged by Mrs C Sykes (UK)

June Sanction Show – 3rd June to be judged by Mrs J Brabham (SA)

Wishing everyone a fantastic, safe and healthy 2023 with uninterrupted showing.

Karen Stevenson



NEWCASTLE & HUNTER REGION

GSDC

PRESIDENT

Mr. Paul York

M: 0419 266 726

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SECRETARY

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Newcastle & Hunter Region
German Shepherd Dog Club of
NSW Inc

This year after a couple of years
of Covid the Club activities have
started to come together again.

Even though we have had a lot of
rain and some Tuesday Obedience
Training has been disjointed we
have added for our members a
Sunday afternoon Training session
which has become popular.
This in turn has increased our
membership with others rejoining
that had fallen away during Covid.

Our Championship Shows in July
went very well with our judges
Sharon Ballantyne-Gordon and
Jenny De Lucia both officiating.
Exhibitors and judges had a most
enjoyable day. Looking forward to
July shows in 2023 when we will
reintroduce our Evening Exhibitors
get together and this time will
include live music.

Again, this year we have
continued the improvements of
Ring 8. We have now secured
a government funded Grant to
erect a new Office area near
the Clubhouse. This should be
operational by Easter and we look
forward to using it for our July
Championship Shows.

The Canteen we operate continues
to go from strength to strength.
This year we undertook the task
of not only running the canteen
for our shows but also for the
Northern Districts Rottweiler Club
and the NSW Rottweiler Club.
These proved highly profitable.

This year it has been a pleasure to
work with this bunch of people. It
is a fact that not everyone always
agrees and that is ok. What is
important is that we work together
with honesty and respect. This has

been the case this year.

More needs to be done and
we will continue to make small
improvements on a continued
basis.

On the whole I think that it
has been a great year for the
Newcastle and Hunter Region
German Shepherd Dog Club. I
believe that we can only get better
and Stronger.

Looking forward to year in 2023.

Paul York
President



ACTGSDA

PRESIDENT

Sasha Beljanski

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SECRETARY

Wolf Meffert

E-Mail wmeffert62@gmail.com

ACTGSDA Article for NQR '23

Happy New Year to all.

Our end of year awards were
awarded to the following Dogs and
Handlers.

ACTGSDA AWARDS 2022

BREED SURVEY CLASSIFICATION

* UHLMSDORF RUSSIAN
ROULETTE 'A' 'Z' - Vic
Grzeszkiewicz

* UHLMSDORF CASINO ROYALE
'A' 'Z' - Mona Carroll

* UHLMSDORF RIZZOLI 'A' 'Z'
- Veronica Fairbairn and Wolf
Meffert.

* ALLINKA VERSACE 'A' 'Z'
- Vic Grzeszkiewicz

* SENKA CHAI 'A' 'Z' - Sasha
Beljanski

SHOW DOG OF THE YEAR 2022 PUPPY BITCH

LOZANI PANAMA 'A' 'Z' - Jovan
Dojcinovski

SHOW DOG OF THE YEAR 2022 ADULT BITCH

LOZANI PANAMA 'A' 'Z' - Jovan
Dojcinovski

SHOW DOG OF THE YEAR 2022 ADULT DOG

*UHLMSDORF RUSSIAN
ROULETTE 'A' 'Z' UD - Vic
Grzeszkiewicz

OBEDIENCE TRIAL TITLE AWARDS

COMMUNITY COMPANION DOG

Ambala Javah CCD - Ludie
Popowycz

COMPANION DOG

*Uhlmsdorf Russian Roulette 'A' 'Z'
CD - Vic Grzeszkiewicz

COMPANION DOG EXCELLENT

*Uhlmsdorf Russian Roulette 'A' 'Z'
CDX - Vic Grzeszkiewicz

* Allinka Versace 'A' 'Z' CDX -
Vic Grzeszkiewicz

UTILITY DOG

*Uhlmsdorf Russian Roulette 'A' 'Z'
UD - Vic Grzeszkiewicz

* Allinka Versace 'A' 'Z' UD -
Vic Grzeszkiewicz

OBEDIENCE DOG OF THE YEAR 2022

*Uhlmsdorf Russian Roulette 'A' 'Z'
UD - Vic Grzeszkiewicz

TRICK AND SCENTWORK TRIAL TITLE AWARDS

TRICK DOG STARTER

Dexter SWA, TDS - Victoria
Swalling

SCENT WORK NOVICE

Dexter SWN - Victoria Swalling

SCENT WORK NOVICE

Hunterbase Arco SWN - Michael
Smith

SCENT WORK ADVANCE

Dexter SWA - Victoria Swalling

SPECIAL AWARDS

CON POULOS TROPHY FOR SHOW AND TRIAL

*Uhlmsdorf Russian Roulette 'A' 'Z'
UD - Vic Grzeszkiewicz

BOB KNIGHT MEMORIAL TROPHY

Lozani Panama 'A' 'Z' - Jovan
Dojcinovski

BATLERS TROPHY

Georgia Nielsen

Upcoming Championship Shows

Set the dates in your calendars for
ACTGSDA Championship Shows
which will held on the weekend
of **30th September & 1st October
2023.**

Sasha Beljanski
President ACTGSDA

MANDY MCATEER VISITS CANBERRA

I was delighted and honoured to be asked to judge the ACT GSD Championship Shows in Canberra, Australia this year. When Veronica's got in touch to ask, I couldn't believe my luck and boy it didn't disappoint. I was judging alongside UK and international judge, Stephen Cox from Shotaan kennels and we arranged to travel over together although I would be travelling back by myself as Stephen was staying on longer for the National.

From the moment we arrived till the moment we left, we taken care of, making sure we had the best time possible.

We flew with Emirates, arranged by our very own GSD enthusiast, Carrie Berry at Hays travel. Service was impeccable. Carrie was amazing, shameless plug but I would recommend, but I would recommend using Carrie for your holiday needs in future. I've flown Emirates a couple of times with work, so I know they are a decent airline,, the food on the plane was good on all legs of the journey and of course anything you wanted to drink, just had to ask. The legroom was ok for economy, Business Class was just too expensive. The flight wasn't full on the way over, so we got to spread out, which helped, but it was full on the way home, which was a bit of a bummer. Top tip order the aisle seat for long haul. I was in the window seat on the way home and in hindsight, wish I had booked the aisle seat, because it would be easier to stand up and walk around to stretch my legs.

The journey began for me on the Monday night when I flew to London, stayed overnight in a hotel and then began the epic journey to Australia on the Tuesday evening. Stephen and I had a good natter about the UK Champ show he had just judged as I was unable to attend, so was interested in how it all went; it's always interesting hearing how the dogs performed and rationale for placings etc. and as you can imagine the amount of chit chat made the journey made the journey go on fairly quickly. We arrived in Australia on Thursday morning, a bit later than planned after missing our internal flight from Sydney to Canberra due to a delay with the luggage, but no drama, Qantas just popped us on another flight.

We were met by Jenny at the Airport, a stalwart of the ACT club and a lovely lady, so friendly and kind. She took good care of us dropping us at the hotel with a care package full of drinks and nibbles, even sourcing my favourite alcoholic drink, Rhubarb and Ginger Gin. Later that night we had dinner in the hotel and we met up with another couple of committee members, Sasha and Mo, both really lovely and great company. We sat and chatted for hours; it was great to sit and relax and enjoy the company of like minded people.

On Friday, I met with Margaret and she was my tour guide for the day, another lovely lady who chauffeured me for the day to Canberra Zoo, where I was able to go into an enclosure with the Kangaroos, see the Koalas, fell in love with the Meerkats, who were just so much fun and saw a baby Giraffe; so many animals to mention, the list could go on and on. It was a brilliant morning wandering around, taking lots of photos of some beautiful and spectacular animals. Next we moved into the National Arboretum, a 618 acre area that was created after the area was subjected to a devastating bushfire. As you can imagine, a significant amount of trees were destroyed in the fires and this later, in 2013, enabled the Arboretum to be built and lots of trees replanted using rare and symbolic trees from around the world. The views were spectacular; a great place to gather your thoughts, clear your head and get some wonderful fresh air, not to mention a great lunch too. Saturday night was dinner at a local Chinese restaurant with some of the other committee members and stewards- it was lovely to meet Glenda Vince and Ben; again a great night, great food and wonderful company.

On to the real reason I was over in Australia, the judging of the most wonderful breed in the world, our beloved German Shepherd Dogs.

It's only natural to be nervous the night before a judging appointment and so as, as you can imagine sleep alluded me somewhat at times throughout the night, but from the minute we arrived, we were made to feel so welcome from everyone. Saturday, I was judging the LSH females, males and short coat males whilst Stephen was judging the short coat females in the other ring.

A couple of immediate positive observations -

Outside attraction is allowed by the ANKC, which creates a great atmosphere and lots of excitement, especially in the bigger classes.

All the dogs come into the ring at the same time, they are presented in stance to the judge as a group and then moved around the ring for 2 or 3 laps to give them a chance to settle, then we begin the individuals.

All dogs from Junior Class upwards are measured and I have to say I was impressed about how good they all were with the measuring stick - not one single dog had an issue with it and they were all brilliant at getting their teeth looked at too.

Classes were rationalised compared to the UK - Baby Puppy, Minor Puppy, Puppy, Junior, Intermediate and Open, CC, Reserve CC for both sexes and the same LSH classes. There is no Best Puppy Dog / Bitch, no Best of Breed. LSH have their own CC allocations.

The prizes are outstanding, stunning trophies for 1st place and top awards plus every entrant received a ribbon (we would call it a banner) that had the club

name, date of event, class name and placing. These were fabulous quality.

1st to 10th place received a verbal critique from Junior onwards and a general overview for puppies.

All the dogs generally were well behaved from the moment they entered the ring until the class finished. There is a fair amount of uniformity of dogs over the weekend in terms of type, overall construction, much more consistent than we are seeing here in the UK.-

Stewards are very organised and make sure the dogs are all in catalogue order before and after the individuals.

You verbalise your critiques on the individual judging and you have a stenographer in the ring with you typing all your critiques, this is an excellent idea.

It really is a positive and wonderful experience to judge such high-quality dogs in such large numbers- 85 short coat females, shown on the Sunday from an entry of 105, 76 SC males, LSH males and LSH females from an entry of 99. What was delightful was that not only were there large numbers in the Open Classes, but there was 16 in both the Baby Puppy female and Minor Puppy female classes too; what a joy to see and beautiful quality. It's difficult to put into words how exhilarating the whole experience was, I loved every minute of it, there were handlers of all shapes and sizes, ages and abilities. The exhibitors were brilliant, cheered one another on, listened to the critiques, applauded people's success, which again, all created a brilliant atmosphere. I never heard a bad word said all weekend.

The quality of the dogs on the whole was very high, naturally there are a couple that really stand out, the key winners from the start.

LSH LC Male CC - Eroica Ice Ice Baby, a substantial male of excellent type. He is a male of stretched proportions, very good fore and hind angulation, which he uses very well during his movement phase, lovely clean overline and free from exaggeration, his movement is simply outstanding, covering the

ground effortlessly, displaying power throughout his movement and retaining those clean lines throughout the class. Shown in top condition on the day.

LSH LC Male Reserve CC - Babenburg Valentino: a striking rich black and gold male of very good proportions, very good head and expression and beautiful expression, lovely clean over line, the forehand is a good angle, could be slightly longer, excellent hind angulation, a young male who moved with ease and soundness, retaining a correct top line throughout the challenge. Also shown in top condition on the day.

LSH LC Female CC - Kaygarr Esther- large expressive female of very good type and overall construction, very good head and lovely expression, clean overline and the croup is well moulded, the forehand angulation is very good and hind angulation, a female who moved with ease displaying a far reaching, ground covering gait, retaining her clean line at all speeds.

I watched her on Sunday. During the LSH female challenge and she didn't disappoint on the second day where she took the reserve CC, using the whole ring, her movement was truly spectacular. She certainly had the WOW factor.

LSH LC Female Reserve CC - Gambalu Helga over medium size female of excellent type and proportions, very good fore and hind angulation and a beautiful top line and well moulded croup, another very good moving female who was awarded CC the following day, solidifying how good a female she is.

SC Female CC - Cinderhof Italia - WOW WOW WOW what a mover, demanding your eye at every opportunity, excellent type of female. Of correct proportions, feminine and expressive, but with good strength, beautiful clean top line, well moulded croup, forehand is of very good length but could be better angled, excellent hind angulation, she glides around the ring with ease, retaining her clean lines throughout her movement showing a powerful drive. A real top quality female who is the mother of the Minor Puppy Bitch winner Cinderhof Cersei, a puppy who blew me away with her depth of quality. Everything about Italia was pure class and effortless. A joy to judge such quality.

SC Reserve CC - Sardis What a Storm - a beautiful type of female who has no exaggerations and is of very good type and proportions, feminine, expressive, again a very clean top line and croup, good fore and hind angulation, slightly more stretched than the CC winning female, demonstrates powerful movement throughout the class.

SC Male CC- Wulkano- UNO von Schnitzerteam- a typical Ulsan so, initially started off as 2nd in the class but with his outstanding movement finished first and took CC. A male of excellent quality and type and of stretched proportions, he has a good head, masculine and expressive, another very clean top line- very good fore and hind angulation, throughout his class his performance just continued to improve, the more he settled, his fore reach is outstanding and he retained clean lines throughout. A real delight to judge.

SC Reserve Male CC - Obama Di Montgison- shown in excellent condition during the weekend, a male of excellent type and proportions lovely high whither and clean topline, the forehand could be better angled, very good hind angulation, displayed a very good gait retaining his lines throughout, in the end, it was the better fore reach on the first dog that pushed Obama into second place.

A couple of other dogs that really caught my eye and are worth a special mention, as I stated the Minor Puppy Female, Cinderhof Cersei, Junio Dog winner, Debbar Quall, who I now understand has a LSH brother who appears from the photos and videos I've seen from the National to be just as good and a sister who looks to be a cracker too. Clearly an excellent breeding combination of the parents, the Baby Puppy Female, Roxamburg Serrano who is by the Dog CC winner Wulkano-UNO, what a cracking little puppy, such a lot of potential for the future

if she keeps developing the way she is. SG2 Junior female, Komatsu Extra Hot Ruby, I really was splitting hairs with her and the winning female of this class, very much my type of girl and I think on a different day, she could have won the class and lastly the x3 Open Male, Ch Sheznova Django, a typical Djambo Fichtenslag son, who was pushing hard for 2nd place in the open male class. He was the highest placed Australian bred dog, I liked him a lot.

You can see from my ramblings, I had an awesome time in Australia, any UK judge who gets the opportunity to go I would say jump at the chance, you will not be disappointed!

Whilst writing this, the Australian National has taken place with entries of over 350 dogs across 3 days, 50 Open females entered, reminds me of days past in the UK.

I was delighted to see a number of my winners were highly placed in the National under the top Australian Judges, Louis Donald and Jenny Yuen. I hope to be invited back in the not too distant future.

I travelled with Stephen Cox (Shotaan GSDs) this wasn't his first Australian rodeo so he was well versed

in the travelling etc. He was an awesome co judge, I can be a bit of a stress monkey when it comes to travelling simply because I don't do it a lot, but Stephen kept me sane. Throughout our journey and time at the hotel we had lots of last and generally good fun, his enthusiasm is infectious and it's very evident, he has a real passion for the breed. After the judging on Sunday we headed back to the hotel for dinner with some of the committee, stewards and friends, it was a great night. Stephen is really lovely, so complimentary about my judging both days, he really does know how to put you at your ease, a genuine guy.

On Monday I started my long journey home, throughout that at each airport change, Stephen was texting me to make sure everything was going to plan and I was safe, I really couldn't have asked for a better friend to travel with.

It was great to see all the livestream from my judging in Canberra and also the Nation, thank you to all our Australian friends and exhibitors.

Mandy McAteer

ALASTAIR HENDERSON

Following my appointment as GSDCA Obedience Chairperson, I would like to introduce myself to members across Australia, and outline some of my plans for the future growth of performance disciplines for our breed.



There are many disciplines available through the ANKC, which are suited to our dogs, such as Obedience, Rally, Tracking, Track and Search, Scent Work, Herding and Endurance. I would like to encourage all members to take the next step towards participating with their dogs, if they haven't already done so.

To this end I would like to establish an Australia wide Performance Committee, which will consist of a representative from each member body. Hopefully we can all work together to lift the profile of our dogs in these working disciplines. There will be an added bonus in that pet owners will also be able receive some quality training for their dogs.



The GSDCA has a number of Performance awards already available for Obedience and Rally, which are awarded annually.

There are also awards for GSDCA Excellent Handler and a Performance Dog award.

I would encourage members to view to the full list of awards and criteria on the GSDCA website.

The GSDCA ZAP Assessment is being embraced by member clubs around the country. This is a very valuable assessment I encourage all members to participate in this when it is offered by your Club. It is not an onerous assessment, and in fact people who have participated say it's a lot of fun.

I invite all members to feel free to contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Obedience@GSDCouncil.org or 0417 567 159

TO CRATE OR NOT TO CRATE?

Crate training has so many benefits, it is definitely worth the small investment of time it takes to teach your dog to love the crate.

Crates are not cruel. Introduced correctly, a crate can become a dog's sanctuary. For a dog, it can be like having his own bedroom. When travelling with your dog or attending a show or performance event, it's especially nice to be able to bring that "bit of home" along. It offers comfort and a feeling of security for your dog. If your dog is ever injured or recovering from surgery, a crate will provide containment for rest during recuperation.

By Sarah Fulcher



A bonus, not a penalty

Many people refuse to crate or kennel-train their dogs because they feel the confinement is cruel. However, a crate or kennel can give dogs a sense of security. Crate training done properly is also a highly effective management system that can be a lifesaver for dog owners. Like any training method, crating can be abused, but using a crate for appropriate time periods is helpful with a variety of important goals, including house training, preventing destructive behaviour, and teaching a dog to settle and relax.

If a dog is taught through positive reinforcement to love the crate, the crate becomes his own private and safe place, much like a bedroom for a child. The crate or kennel is somewhere the dog can go and not be bothered; it's a perfect destination when the dog is tired or nervous. Dogs have a natural instinct to be in

a den. Many dogs take to a crate very easily.

Crate training provides a number of benefits to owners. A crate that is sized properly (read more about size below) encourages a dog's instinct not to mess where he sleeps, helping to teach the dog bladder and bowel control. This tendency to view the crate as a clean place is a huge benefit house training a new rescue dog or puppy, of course!

Using a crate prevents a dog or pup from getting into trouble when you can't supervise directly. Those times might include at night, when you are at work (provided the work day is not too long and the dog gets exercise before and after), when you are busy cooking, or any other time when your attention is elsewhere than directly on your dog.

Crate training also teaches puppies and excitable dogs to expect and enjoy some down time, and conditions relaxed behaviour. Dogs and pups can be put into a crate with a yummy and safe chew or stuffed Kong to keep them secure, relaxed, and out of mischief for periods of time.

Choosing a crate: type, size, and location

There are several varieties of crates available. It can be a bit daunting to figure out the size and style to pick for your dog. The most common crate varieties are wire crates, plastic crates, and fabric crates.

Fabric crates are great for small dogs (pups) to travel in, for sporting events, or for camping. With a fabric crate, your dog must be well trained. Since fabric crates are not secure, they are not recommended for long-term confinement without supervision. The benefits of a fabric crate are that it is lightweight and that it folds flat for easy storage and travel.

Some crates double as furniture!

Probably the best bet for a pet's home crate is a plastic or wire crate. Wire crates fold flat for storage and are more economical to purchase. Plastic crates are sturdier and often feel more secure for your dog, as the walls are mostly solid. However, there are very sturdy metal crates that can be purchased, and you can always cover a wire crate with a blanket if your dog needs more privacy. For an escape artist, either a plastic crate or a rugged (not collapsible) metal crate would be best. Both plastic and metal crates can be fortified using strategically placed zip ties. If you are looking for a crate that matches your decor, fashionable dog crate furniture combos that double as end tables are available!

Selecting the right size crate can be confusing. Some people are inclined to choose a large-sized crate to give the dog lots of room. If you pick a crate that is too large, your dog may use a portion of the crate as a toilet. Pick a crate that is just large enough for your dog to stand up, turn around, and lay down comfortably, at least until the dog is house trained. Most wire crates come with a divider to block off a portion of the crate in order to make it smaller. With a plastic crate, place a box in the back half of the crate to make the space smaller. With these adjustment tricks, you do not have to buy multiple crates as your puppy grows. When your dog is toilet trained but not mature enough to be left loose in the house, feel free to go with a larger crate so the dog really has room to stretch out.

Place the crate in an area of the house where both you and the dog can access it easily. The crate should be close enough to be handy, but out of the way enough that it is not going to be tripped over constantly. I usually place a crate right beside my bed; it helps teach puppies to sleep in the crate if you are right

beside them and they don't feel so alone. I place another crate in a corner of my living room.

A positive place

It works best for a dog to be introduced to a crate gradually, rather than just plopping him in for the night or long periods. When your new dog or puppy first comes home, acclimate him to the crate by tossing a treat in, leaving the door open so that the dog can enter and exit freely. When your dog is comfortable going in and out of the crate, toss a treat inside and close the door for a second or two before letting the dog out.

Place a bed or mat that your dog already likes into the crate. This will help reduce any startling noises when the dog enters the crate. The dog will also be familiar with the bed, which could make him more willing to go into the crate. When you are not training, leave the crate open and place your dog's toy basket or favourite toys inside. Feed your dog meals in the crate, starting by leaving the door open and, as training progresses, closing it. If you give your dog any special treats, chewies, or bones, give them to him in the crate. A special bonus of having the mat in the crate is that the dog will begin to associate good things with the mat after being fed on it. Take the mat with you to the vet. Place it on the floor in the waiting room, on the scale, and in the exam room to help your dog become more comfortable and relaxed during vet visits.

Cue in and out

When the dog is going into the crate willingly, add a cue for entering the crate. Try "crate" or "bed" or "go in." Say your cue before tossing a treat inside. Soon your dog or puppy will be going into the crate on cue and eagerly.

Next, give the crate cue and wait for the puppy to go in on its own. Stop tossing the treat and wait for the puppy to enter. When the dog does go in, say "Yes!" and then feed the treat.

This training step has the added benefit of encouraging and increasing self control.

Start training a release cue at this time. The release cue tells your dog when he or she is free to leave the crate. This training step has the added benefit of encouraging and increasing self control. Your dog learns to remain calm and not rush out, even with the crate door wide open.

Cue the entrance, mark with yes, and treat. Almost immediately, say your release cue (try "ok," "free," "break," or "get out") and toss a treat on the floor outside of the crate. Keep tossing treats until the dog can leave the crate without seeing the treat; the dog exits just hearing the release cue. At that point, you can phase out the treat. Leaving the crate has become the reward.

Duration

If your dog is comfortable with the door closed for a few seconds, gradually increase the time the dog is in the crate. Remember to keep using a release cue to tell the dog that he can leave. If your dog does not have a problem remaining in the crate calmly for several minutes, start closing the door and ducking out of sight for a second before returning. Gradually build up the amount of time your dog is in the crate. If the dog starts to whine, ignore him, letting the dog out once he is calm. If you want to leave your dog in the crate for longer periods, try putting a stuffed Kong, or a safe chewie into the crate as well. A good general rule to follow is one hour in the crate for each month of age.

All through this training process it is important to

be patient and not to push your dog. Ask for what your dog is comfortable with rather than forcing your dog to do what you want. Crate training is best done in baby steps. If you can get your dog or puppy comfortable with the crate before the first night in it, your odds of getting a good sleep that night will be much higher. Once your dog is crate trained and house trained fully, you can leave the dog in a crate for several hours. The dog should have good exercise before and after, and should be left in the crate with something safe to occupy his attention. Your dog will likely spend most of the time sleeping!

Younger puppies cannot be left in a crate for as long. Physically, puppies cannot hold their bladders long enough, and it isn't fair to ask for that. A good general rule to follow is one hour in the crate for each month of age. A three-month-old puppy should be fine in the crate for three hours. Puppies should sleep in their crates at night, as this helps them learn to sleep through the night. Place the crate directly beside your bed in early first training so that your puppy will not feel lonely and frightened, and can wake you easily in the middle of the night for a bathroom break.

When a little extra is needed

While some dogs take naturally to a crate, others are not as eager. If your dog whines, cries, and puts up a fuss that keeps you awake, it's easy to give in and let him out of the crate and into your bed to sleep. Therefore, it is essential that your dog or puppy never learns that whining, crying, and barking will get open the crate and earn an invitation to your bed. Be patient and consistent with the message that calm behaviour is the key to being let out. Wait for even a few seconds of silence before opening the door.

Be strong and you will make it through the first few nights. Set up a puppy's crate with a hot water bottle and a blanket that has your scent on it. This will help the puppy feel more secure and will be reminiscent of sleeping close to his canine mom and littermates. Remember, your puppy has just been taken away from his family. Everything he knows has changed and he is likely frightened and confused.

Time-out

If crate training is done properly, your pup will be conditioned to relax and settle inside the crate.

A crate can also be used as an effective and humane punishment. As long as the crate has lots of positive value built up, you can use it as an occasional time-out zone. If crate training is done properly, your pup will be conditioned to relax and settle inside the crate. Putting an unruly pup into a crate as a time-out for a few minutes teaches him to settle, and also removes all reinforcing stimulus for his "naughty" behaviour. However, if you are resorting to putting your dog in time-out multiple times per day, you risk developing a negative association with the crate. The crate should be used in this way as a last resort, and only if redirecting to an appropriate behaviour or ignoring the undesirable behaviour does not work.

From the crate, onward

In addition to the value of a crate at home, having a crate-trained dog is wonderful when you are travelling, when your dog needs to go to the vet or groomer, or if you plan to compete in any dog sports. Trained properly with positive reinforcement and patience, the crate becomes a safe place for a dog. You will find that your dog uses the crate on his own when he is tired, and enters willingly and eagerly when asked. All it takes is an investment of time and a few treats to end up with a happy dog and a happy human!

Heat stroke prevention

Dogs don't sweat, except to a minor degree through their foot pads, so they can't tolerate high environmental temperatures. Dogs use panting as a way to exchange warm air for cool air. But when the air temperature is close to the dog's body temperature, cooling by panting is not an efficient process. This is when heat stroke can occur.

Heat stroke signs



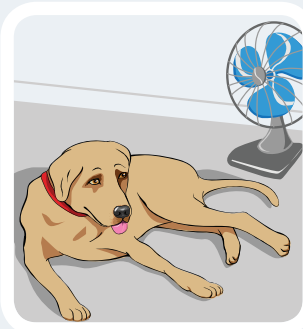
Symptoms

- Bright red tongue
- Depression
- Diarrhoea
- Dizziness
- Excessive panting
- Increased heart rate
- Increased salivation
- Red or pale gums
- Thick, sticky saliva
- Vomiting
- Weakness

Prevention



- Always give your dog **access to drinking water**.
- **Avoid hot sand, concrete or asphalt areas** where heat is reflected and there is no access to shade.
- **Don't leave your dog in a car** unattended at any time.
- Ensure outside dogs have access to shade.

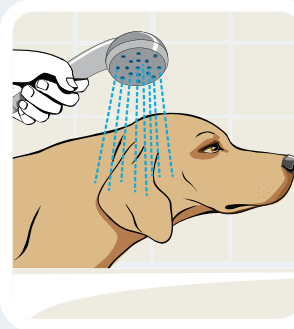


- **Place a circulating fan near your dog** to cool him down.
- **Restrict exercise activity** in hot weather.
- Wetting down your dog with **cool water** or allowing him to swim can help maintain a normal body temperature.

Heat stroke first aid



- **Remove dog from heat immediately** and move preferably into an air-conditioned building or, at the very least, into the shade.
- **Wetting down the area around your dog** can also help to lower the ambient temperature.



- **Check rectal temperature** every five minutes using a digital thermometer and continue cooling process until the temperature drops to around 39°.
- **Lower temperature by wetting with cool water** (not chilled) and setting up a circulating fan.
- **Caution:** cooling too quickly can cause complications.

You should always see a vet



- Even if your dog appears to be recovering, **take him to your vet** as soon as possible. He should still be examined since he may be dehydrated or have other complications.
- **Caution:** if your dog is displaying severe signs of heat distress, get him to the vet as quickly as you can.

In most instances, pet heat stroke is preventable. By using common sense and taking some simple precautions, your dog can enjoy his normal outdoor activities. Please ensure your pet stays cool in hot weather, never leave him in a car alone and always provide him with adequate water and shelter from the sun.



Please note: this fact sheet provides general information and should not act as a substitute for contacting your vet.

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.

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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.

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