



EXECUTIVE AND OFFICE HOLDERS UPDATE

6 October 2023

This month the Executive Update will be devoted to reports of the meetings held over the Sieger Show weekend and the WUSV meeting. Alastair Henderson and Janet Haase were representing Australia in these meetings.

Meeting One - Friday 8 September 2023

Alastair and I met with Heather McDonald (our Continental Director) along with the representatives from countries under her supervision. (Finland, Norway, Sweden, Great Britain, Ireland, and Australia.) Heather provided an overview of her discussions with the WUSV Board of Directors.

The Board was much more understanding of the difficulties countries have in meeting the Harmonisation requirements, much more willing to accept National schemes for HD/ED and DNA and no longer require protection work as part of a working title. The President and the board expressed a desire to listen and negotiate mutually acceptable outcomes. The breed's health, both mental and physical, being the prime objective.

Items discussed.

1. DNA for proof of parentage - there is no expectation the test will need to go to Germany. In fact, it is illegal to send blood internationally. The SV will provide us with the markers allowing us to set up our own scheme, using an accredited lab in Australia or NZ. The suggestion being that samples are collected at the time of hip and elbow Xray; therefore, we only test those animals we want to show and breed. This scheme would be recognised within Australia and be a *National* DNA proof of parentage. (Note: It would be a positive move to begin investigation of this as soon as possible. Our Health Officer, Candy Wedge, has offered to begin preliminary research.)
2. HD/ED - once again it is highly likely our own hip and elbow scheme will be recognised and valid for all purposes within Australia. Heather is meeting with Dr Tellheim to advance this further. They will be looking at our scoring system and alignment of the schemes.
3. A working title - it was emphasised there is no requirement for protection work. We have a variety of options to meet the requirement for a working title.
 - a) We could look at utilising suitable Dogs Australia's recognised dog sport fields.
 - b) We could develop our own working test involving basic obedience, a track, and a jump for example.
 - c) Or it could be a combination of both above, with a range of activities recognised for the purposes of a working title. We need to consider access to trainers and assessors.

These schemes would be used by Australian bred dogs for Breed Survey and Excellent gradings within Australia. Those wishing to compete outside Australia would be required to use the SV schemes.

Norway's three-tiered Breed Survey system was outlined.

1. An SV style breed survey with protection work that qualifies the dog eligible for a VA/V grading.
2. A breed survey that requires an obedience/tracking qualification. They have developed their own program that does not require bite work. This Breed Survey qualifies the dog eligible for a V grading.
3. A breed survey with no working qualification requirement. This allows the animal to be bred from.

In summary we use our own HD/ED scheme, develop our own DNA scheme, continue with the ZAP Assessment, making it a prerequisite for Breed Survey and develop a range of avenues for gaining a working title.

At the end of the meeting Roswitha Dannenberg and Daniele Strazzeri joined us to introduce themselves, express their understanding of the difficulties countries have in reaching compliance with the harmonisation schedules. They assured us that the new board would listen, be problems solvers and improve communications. They willingly answered questions and were open to compromise.

Regular three-monthly Zoom meetings will be held with Heather, representatives from the countries for which she is responsible and Roswitha Dannenberg.

Daniele offered to meet Australian club and council officials in attendance at the show the following day to open communication.

Meeting 2 - Saturday 9 September

Meeting with council officers, our Continental Director, Heather McDonald and the Vice President of the SV, Daniele Strazzeri.

Those in attendance were:

Daniele Strazzeri, Heather McDonald

Janet Haase and Alastair Henderson

John De Lucia (SA), Jess Kada (NSW), Gabrielle Peacock (TAS) club representatives.

Candy Wedge (Health Officer), Vince Tantaro (NSLO and past President).

Chelsea Bird (Youth Officer) was invited but declined as the class she was most interested in watching was being run off.

Heather recapped the items discussed at the previous day's meeting (See notes above). Those present were able to offer views and ask clarifying questions. It was suggested that the timeline for compliance would be extended to 2027; the timeline will be discussed at the WUSV meeting. (*Please note outcome from WUSV meeting)

Suggestions offered by the group for a working title included those offered by Dogs Australia. (Since the meeting, a summary of the elements of the dog sports offered by Dogs Australia has been sent to Heather to aid in discussions.) It was suggested that one pass in CCD could meet the requirement of a working title. Or it could be ET, tracking, scent work, agility etc. Alastair and John's input in this area was most valuable. Daniele was supportive of us using acceptable dog sport qualifications.

The DNA proposal for a National was discussed with positivity. It was felt important that a proper, detailed, and costed proposal be put to the council. Candy Wedge was prepared to work on this with support from the NBC Executive.

Candy was able to supply more information about our hip and elbow scheme, which was particularly useful. Information is noted on the result form if lumbosacral transitional vertebrae is evident.

Daniele reiterated that the new board of the SV and the WUSV wanted to collaborate with member countries and negotiate suitable harmonisation outcomes.

Heather is to be commended for the work she has done in supporting and negotiating on our behalf. I suggest we write to her expressing our gratitude and thanks.

Meeting 3 - WUSV General Annual Assembly

Monday 11 September 2023



The agenda was approved with a rearrangement to the order of items. Item 7 being moved to follow item 4. This was done to accommodate those who may need to leave early.

This report is designed to give highlights of the meeting and is not a complete record of the meeting. The minutes of the meeting will supply the detailed account.

The President, Roswitha Dannenberg, introduced herself and set the tone of the meeting by stating that there was a need to reestablish trust and harmony between the WUSV and the SV. She acknowledged there was significant conflict between the two organisations. Her goal is to stabilise the organisations and work collaboratively with members. She identified communication as an area in need of significant improvement.

She said the board was aware of members' concerns and will look at engaging in meaningful dialogue to resolve these disagreements. She said the board was enthusiastic about the members' activities.

Frau Dannenberg was aware that people were trying to promote conflict and that a joint way forward needed to be found. She guaranteed there would be improved cooperation and communication, that she was solution oriented and would direct her focus to resolving issues and obstructions.

She was heartened by the attendance at the meeting and wanted to thank all for their congratulations on her election as President. Frau Dannenberg's address was very well received by the meeting, and she was given a standing ovation.

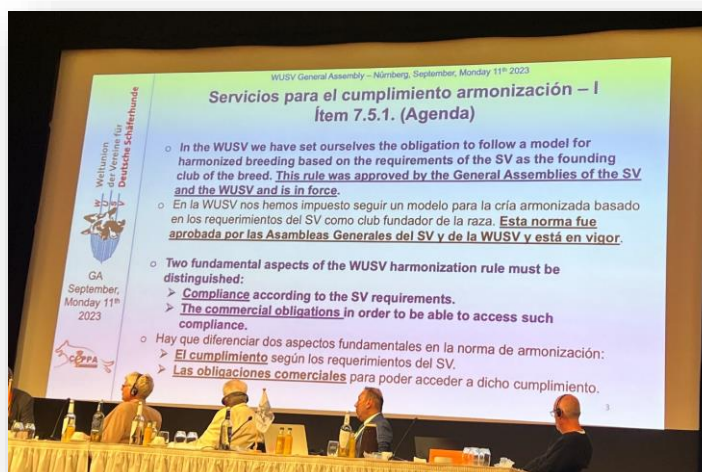
- The Auditor's report was received and the budget plan for the coming year approved.
- Kuwait was accepted as a full member after much discussion although it did not meet the regulations requiring two hundred members. The statues to be amended.
- Lebanon was also accepted as a full member, meeting all the requirements.
- Nigeria was admitted as a Junior Member.

There was active discussion on issues regarding the **Harmonisation Breeding Program** (HBR), accessibility of services, and capability of member organisations to comply with HBR regulations. The meeting acknowledged there needs to be greater equality for member organisations. The HBR is about the health and wellbeing of the breed universally, and members need to be able to access and use local accredited services to meet the requirements.

Outcome

A working group will be established to consider and review the HBR. There will be a fixed timeline, with a small group representing the continents, working quickly to provide a report to the Board. The working party is to be set up and led by Rodrigo Gonzalez Campuzano.

Slides presented during the discussion.



WUSV General Assembly – Nürnberg, September, Monday 11th 2023

WUSV - HBR
Harmonization Breeding Program

Servicios para el cumplimiento armonización – II a Ítem 7.5.1. (Agenda)

- The services we are concerned with, are:
 - HD/ED diagnosis.
 - DNA.
 - WT evaluations.
 - Breed evaluations (breed shows).
 - Companion and working tests and trials.
 - Breed survey.
- Los servicios a los que nos referimos, son:
 - HD/ED diagnosis.
 - ADN.
 - WT evaluaciones.
 - Evaluación morfológica. (Exposiciones de cría)
 - Pruebas de sociabilidad y trabajo.
 - Prueba de confirmación de la raza.

GA
September,
Monday 11th
2023

WUSV General Assembly

Servicios para el cumplimiento armonización – III Ítem 7.5.1. (Agenda)

- The WUSV harmonization rule for breeding, as it refers to commercial obligations in order to obtain recognition, can be interpreted in a pro-competitive or anti-competitive manner.
- La norma WUSV de armonización de la cría, en lo que hace referencia a las obligaciones comerciales para poder obtener el reconocimiento, se puede interpretar de manera pro-competitiva o anti-competitiva.

WUSV General Assembly – Nürnberg, September, Monday 11th 2023

WUSV - HBR
Harmonization Breeding Program

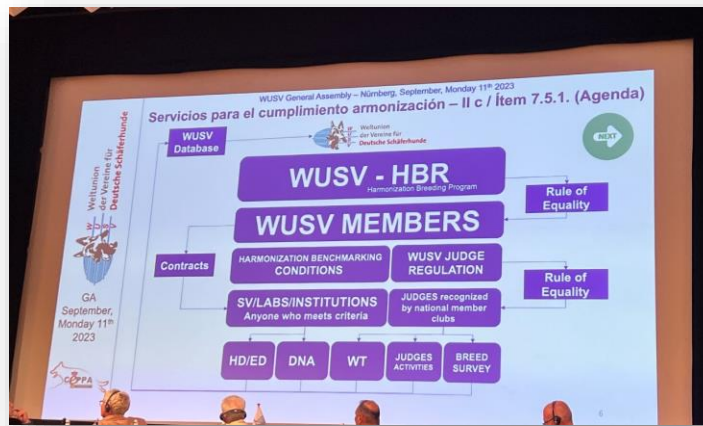
Servicios para el cumplimiento armonización – II b / Ítem 7.5.1. (Agenda)

NOW!

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graph TD
    WUSV[WUSV - HBR Harmonization Breeding Program] --- MEMBERS[WUSV MEMBERS]
    MEMBERS --- Rule[Rule of Equality]
    MEMBERS --- SV[SV (essential/exclusive provider)]
    SV --- Subcontractor[Subcontractor services]
    SV --- Services[HD/ED, DNA, WT, JUDGES Activities, BREED SURVEY]
    Services --- Judge[SV Judge regulations]
    SV --- Fee[Fixed fee]
  
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GA
September,
Monday 11th
2023



The next item discussed was the impeachment of the President and/or any member of the Board of Directors of the WUSV.

WUSV-GAM 2023-Anlage/ Attachment 9

**Weltunion der Vereine
für Deutsche Schäferhunde e.V. (WUSV)**

Proposal to the General Annual Assembly of the WUSV

Name of Club/ Proposer & Date: Real Club Español del Perro de Pastor Alemán (CEPPA) 30.05.2023

Proposal (not affecting the WUSV Statutes or other Regulations)

Title: Impeachment action if the following occur.

Request: The WUSV General Assembly is requested to proceed to vote for the impeachment of the WUSV President or any member of the Board of Directors, if due to a conflict of interest the defense of the particular interests of the SV prevails over the general interests of WUSV or a compelling reason can be shown to exist such as deliberate acts or omissions that have harmed or are intended to harm WUSV, its members or its activities.

Rationale:

The WUSV should be self-regulating, always on the basis of the breed standard of the founding breed association and the basic principles of the SV, but in no case should this be confused with the WUSV being a mere empty organization that exclusively serves the personal and economic promotion of a limited number of breeders/judges.


The WUSV needs a president who defends the interests of the entire German Shepherd Dog community worldwide, and who is adapted to the current times.

Within the WUSV, as in all self-respecting democratic organizations, there must be debate from which collective decisions emanate, and the WUSV President and the rest of Board members must support and defend these decisions throughout his sphere of influence.

In the event of a change of president in the SV and therefore in the WUSV, and as a consequence of this, actions will be taken that will harm the WUSV member clubs in favor of the SV, a vote of impeachment of the president is proposed to the General Assembly.

This impeachment action extends to any position on the WUSV Board of Directors, without exception. In other words, the WUSV General Assembly is requested, that if there are compelling reasons that can be proven of intentional actions or omissions that have harmed WUSV, its members and activities by any WUSV Board member, they can be put forward at the General Assembly in September 2023 for an impeachment action vote by the delegates.

This is in accordance with Article 15 e) of the WUSV Statutes, Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch (BGB) § 27 and Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch (BGB) § 34.


 Javier Sierra Ferrando
 (Signature)

Confirmation of Club President

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Issue 03 2019

The motion was about the president's loyalty to the WUSV. Is there a conflict of interest given the SV president is automatically the President of the WUSV? This was brought to a head by the SV veto of the Lerma motions. Did the vetoing of the Lerma proposals indicate that the WUSV was not important to the SV and the WUSV was viewed as subordinate to the SV? There were additional issues raised that occurred in 2019.

The motion to impeach was lost on the understanding that the new president will endeavour to reestablish trust and stabilise the relationship between the two organisations.

WUSV-GAM 2023-Anlage/ Attachment 11

**Weltunion der Vereine
für Deutsche Schäferhunde e.V. (WUSV)**



Proposal to the General Annual Assembly of the WUSV

Name of Club/ Proposer & Date: Real Club Español del Perro de Pastor Alemán (CEPPA) 30.05.2023

Proposal (not affecting the WUSV Statutes or other Regulations)

Title: Decision of the WUSV General Assembly on the possible veto of the SV on the change of the WUSV Statutes.

Decision: The WUSV General Assembly requests the WUSV board to start legal proceedings against a possible SV veto regarding the changes of the WUSV Statutes as amended on April 15th, 2023

Rationale:

The WUSV General Assembly unanimously decided to create a working committee for the review of the WUSV Statutes because of the pending antitrust proceedings and lawsuits. This decision is included in the minutes of the WUSV General Assembly of September 26th, 2022. These minutes were unanimously approved at the WUSV Extraordinary Assembly of April 15th, 2023, without any objection from the members.


This working committee was legally supported by the lawyers of the SV, Dr. Rennele, of the WUSV, Mr. Koch, the expert lawyer in competition law Dr. Linsmeier, a member of the board of directors of the SV and lawyer Mr. Brauch and a lawyer of a WUSV member club Dr. Vega. All contributions of the lawyers were considered by the working committee and approved by the General Assembly.

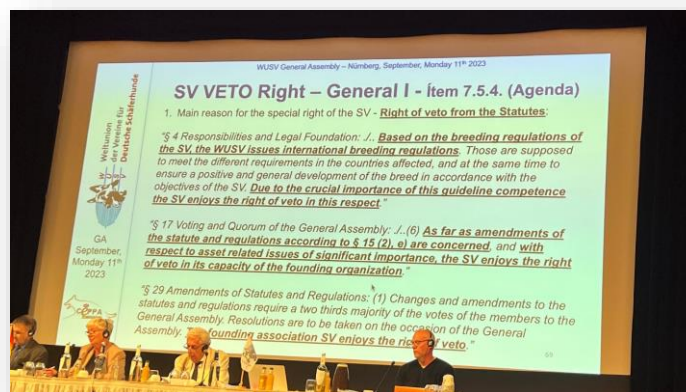
In no way were the founding member's special rights adversely affected by a resolution of the WUSV General Assembly without the member's consent. On the contrary, the founding association, the SV, participated in and proposed the approved modification to the statutes. Subsequently, during the April 2023 General Assembly in Lerma, Spain, the SV voted in favor of its proposals and amended statutes.

In the event that the Federal Assembly of the SV, to be held the first weekend of June 2023, decides to apply the right of veto on the amendments to the Statutes that were approved by the WUSV Extraordinary Assembly on April 15th, 2023 in Lerma -practically unanimously, where the legal representative of the SV participated and voted in favor of all the changes-, the WUSV General Assembly requested the WUSV Board of Directors to start legal proceedings against this possible SV veto.

The changes to the WUSV Statutes ensure that the WUSV Statutes comply with EU Competition Law. They shall avoid risks for all WUSV members and their corresponding representative bodies, including the SV, as well as to give effect to the associative right of self-organization as it is enshrined in the German Civil Code.

No member club of the WUSV may force the WUSV or its member clubs to comply with rules which are incompatible with EU Competition Law and which may result in fiduciary responsibilities inherent in the governing bodies of each and every member of the association. Especially when a club has a dominant position as is the case with the founding association (SV) and a predominance in the WUSV (Association of companies according to EU Competition Law), such a club must comply with competition law.


Confirmation of Club President (Signature)



The discussion about the SV right of veto was passionate with many members expressing their views about this power and the SV's rejection of all the agreements made in Lerma.

Some of the views put were:

- The SV board was not informed of the Lerma event, and this caused conflict; that the veto right is there for times of conflict.
- There was not enough discussion and communication from the WUSV, and it caused distrust.

- Better communication is needed.
- The new board needs to be given a chance to improve relations with member organisations.

In contrast, it was said that:

- The right of veto undermines democracy.
- There was legal basis for the changes to the statutes as agreed to in Lerma. A working group set up at the 2022 WUSV meeting drafted these changes.
- How can the WUSV move forward and ensure the new SV board doesn't reject agreements made at properly convened meetings? Certainty is needed, as is trust and respect.
- Building bridges is not vetoing agreements, it is blowing up the bridges!

Outcome

The proposal was withdrawn on the condition a clear commitment is given to investigate this matter. The president gave a commitment to find a solution and another working party will be established with members of the working party to be determined.

Item 6.1

Of significance for Australia is the proposal detailing two types of Excellent gradings. One is a WUSV Breeding Program GSD Excellent Grading and the other is a National GSD Excellent grading. Countries may choose which of the two systems apply, but not a mixture of both. This modification was approved and will be in effect on the next day of its approval.

"Excellent / Vorzüglich - WUSV" Dogs from the working dog classes who fully comply with the strictest requirements of the breed standard, who are self-confident and unconstrained, indifferent toward gun shooting, with a normal, almost normal or still admitted HD condition confirmed on the pedigree, with a normal, almost normal or still admitted ED condition confirmed on the pedigree, with a recognized trial title, and - if the animal is over the age of 3 ½ years - the first breed selection examination must have been successfully passed. Double premolars 1 are admitted.


"Excellent / Vorzüglich - National (name of the country)" Dogs from the working dog classes who fully comply with the strictest requirements of the breed standard, who are self-confident and unconstrained, indifferent toward gun shooting, with a normal, almost normal or still admitted HD condition confirmed on the pedigree, with a normal, almost normal or still admitted ED condition confirmed on the pedigree, with a breed survey examination, according to the national regulation, and - if the animal is over the age of 3 ½ years - the first breed selection examination must have been successfully passed. Double premolars 1 are admitted.

Each country may choose which of the two systems to apply, but not a mixture of both. This modification will be in effect on the next day of its approval.

Extension of time to comply with HBP.

WUSV-GAM 2023-Anlage/ Attachment 7a

**Weltunion der Vereine
für Deutsche Schäferhunde e.V. (WUSV)**



Proposal to the General Annual Assembly of the WUSV

Name des Vereines/ Antragsteller: CLUB ARGENTINO DE CRIADORES DEL PERRO OVEJERO ALEMÁN – POA –
Name of Club/ Proposer & Date: 23.05.2023


**Antrag (nicht zur Änderung der Satzung und/oder Ordnung)
Proposal (affecting the WUSV Statutes or other Regulations)**

Titel: WUSV-Breeding Program
(Paragraph and Headline)
(Paragraph and Überschrift) FINAL CLAUSES

Alte Fassung: ---
Old Version: The member clubs are allowed a transitional period of five years until January 01st, 2025.

Neue Fassung: ---
New Version: The member clubs are allowed a transitional period of five years until January 01st, 2027.

Rationale/ Begründung: *We request an extension of the requirements until the aforementioned date since the deepening of the economic difficulties have led us to delay in complying with the harmonization requirements. However, as we have already explained, we have the necessary means to adjust to the required standards - international level laboratories to comply with the DNA and on the other hand in relation to dysplasia diagnoses, for many years we have been working together with the Dra. Margarita Durán, professional recognized by you. The main economic problem of the Latin American countries and unfortunately for many years Argentina, makes it impossible to sustain the activity within the canons that you have designed. We have reached the limits of deep economic and social depression and the planned recovery is slow and with ups and downs. We hope that in a few years, Argentine breeding, with the enthusiasm and breeding rates that we have sustained in other times, will take us back to the place that we always dream and the effort and uninterrupted work that we always do.*

Name of President: 
Alejandro Baldacci

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The proposal to extend the time to fully comply with the HBP schedules was discussed and an alternative proposal suggested and accepted.

A matrix detailing the components of the HBP will be developed and distributed to member clubs for response. There will be no extension per se, however member clubs will be treated individually when assessing their ability to comply.

