

GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG LEAGUE OF NSW INC.

(Affiliated with The German shepherd Dog Council of Australia)

INFORMATION SHEET



Introduction

This leaflet has been designed to welcome and introduce you to the German Shepherd Dog (GSD) and The German shepherd Dog League Incorporated of NSW (GSDL). The German Shepherd Dog has a great following worldwide and is a very versatile, all-round working and companion dog. The breed has a very large number of canine registrations, which reflects the popularity and usefulness.

As a working dog, they are used by the armed services and police for protection, herding, tracking, and rescue work and as a guide dog for the blind. However, the vast majorities are owned by Shepherd enthusiasts as beloved family pets. By producing this leaflet we hope to give you some understanding of the background of the breed's history and what the GSDL can offer you in regards to training and general care of your German Shepherd.

Origin and History

The German Shepherd Dog is a relatively recently developed breed with the breed formally fixing its characteristics in the 1890's by Captain von Stephanitz in Germany. Captain von Stephanitz developed the breed and established the breed club (the SV), the association that gave its support to the developing and perfecting of the breed as a great all-round working dog. With the passing years the development of its physical characteristics was accompanied by a significant diversification in the use of the GSD.

The GSD character, particularly its faithfulness, courage, power of attention and acuteness of senses have made the GSD capable of carrying out the most varied of tasks. Soundness of temperament is most important, as a good-looking dog with a poor temperament has little value compared to a dog physically less appealing but having a temperament enabling him to properly fulfil the tasks assigned to him. This is why the GSD is given tests to determine the stability of temperament. Trials in obedience and tracking help determine and maintain the intelligence and working purpose of the dog.

Aims and objectives

The GSDL Inc. of NSW and German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia (GSDCA) has been established to promote the breeding, exhibition and overall improvement of the German Shepherd Dog. There are National schemes promoting these aims which include the Hip Dysplasia 'A' stamp scheme, Elbow Dysplasia 'Z' stamp scheme, Haemophilia schemes, which then tie up with the Breed Survey scheme.

Shows, Obedience

The German Shepherd Dog League Inc. holds breed/obedience shows and State Breed Assessment annually. Please look at Coming Events <https://gsdl.info/events> for the dates of our activities. These shows are held to promote the exhibition and judging of GSD's

GSDL of NSW Inc. General Meetings

General Meetings are held on the second Monday of the month of January, March, May, July and August whilst the AGM is held in November each year. If a scheduled meeting date falls on a public holiday that meeting will be held on the 3rd Monday of the relevant month.

Microchipping

The microchip is a positive means of legal identification in the event of loss, theft etc. and can be used to find dogs throughout Australia.

The microchip is used as a positive identification mark for the hip and elbow dysplasia, haemophilia and the breed survey scheme.

The Hip and Elbow Dysplasia Scheme

The GSDCA Hip and Elbow Dysplasia schemes involve the X-Raying of breeding stock over the age of 12 months. It is required that the dog be anaesthetised at the time of x-ray, and microchip number noted on the x-ray plate. The plates are sent to Dr Roger Lavelle in Melbourne or Dr Richardson in Perth and are scored and graded.

'A' Stamp Scheme - Hips that have a sufficiently low score - a maximum of score 8 per hip (out of a possible 53), with no more than 3 points in any one area, receive an 'A' stamp. The results are all correlated so that statistics on the breed average and that of the major producing sires can be analysed in an effort to lower the breed hip average and to avoid poor hip producing lines.

'Z' stamp Scheme - Elbows are measured for any degree of arthritic change. Breeders avoid doubling up on the condition wherever possible.

Statistics are printed on both the hip and elbow results, encouraging breeders to use the lines that are producing the soundest progeny.

The Haemophilia Scheme

The Haemophilia scheme has virtually eliminated this bleeding disorder within the breed in Australia. The disease causes a failure of blood to clot after an accident or knock. Imported stud dogs, and sons of imported bitches are tested to prevent any affected new dog or carrier bitch from entering our bloodlines.



Breed Surveys

These events are held at Luddenham Rd, Orchard Hills, commencing at 10 am. Dates are available on the GSDL website: www.gsdl.info and Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/gsdlofnsw>

The Breed Survey Scheme

The Breed Survey Scheme has been set up to evaluate the soundness and quality of breeding stock throughout Australia. All dogs presented must be over 18 months of age, microchipped possess the 'A' and 'Z' Stamp and present a 5-generation pedigree at the time of survey. The dogs are all weighed; measured and examined for correctness of dentition, construction and soundness of nerves (this involves a gun test and crowd test).

Breed Surveyed animals are considered well above the breed average. A breed survey book was produced annually. Currently they are placed on the GSDCA website which contains the results of all breed surveys within Australia as well as the dogs which have received the 'A' & 'Z' Stamp for their hips and elbows.

The Main Branch of the GSDL Inc. of NSW

The GSDL currently has one branch with our clubhouse and grounds located within the Dogs NSW grounds at Orchard Hills and is primarily concerned with obedience and show training, as well as socialisation.

The following Contacts are able to assist you with any enquiries:

<i>COMMITTEE</i>	<i>OFFICE BEARERS</i>	
President	Graeme Stevenson	0418 440 108
Vice President	Terry Jarvis	0407 271 418
Secretary	Fay Stokes 43 Treetops Avenue South Penrith 2750	0401 019 213
Treasurer	Janice Hood	0418 443 602
Breed Affairs	Matt Morris	0478 063 007
State HD /ED Administrator	Karen Johnson	0400 005 401
Merchandise	TBA	
Membership Registrar	Nev Kirkham	0413 328 976
Point Score	Jeff Rapley	0419 787 231
Publicity	Karen Stevenson	0422 619 995
Puppy Listings	Pam Jarvis	02 4773 9364 0407 271 418
GSDL Media Communications	Jessica Bird	0448 935 941
Show Manager	Tony Darcy	0418 618 817
Show Secretary	Marilyn Nicholas	0428 218 287
Training Co-ordinator	Wayne Wagstaff	0419 160 464
Web Master	Fran McAdam	0407 005 990
Welfare & GSD Rescue Liaison Officer:	Pam Jarvis	02 4773 9364, 0407 271 418
Youth Officer	Rebecca Aliverti	0434 278 927
Social Secretary	TBA	

Website

The website (www.gsdl.info) contains the GSDL information regarding to meetings, shows, trials, critiques, puppy listings, branches, news etc. You can now also find us on Facebook.

Shepherd News

This electronic newsletter comes out several times a year, and as a member of this club you will receive this newsletter along with the National Council Quarterly Review.

The Quarterly National Review

The Quarterly National Review is the official magazine of the German Shepherd Dog National Council of Australia Inc. The magazine is issued four times a year and contains Council matters, upcoming shows, critiques from major shows, articles from various judges and exhibitors and breeder advertisements. Its purpose is to communicate with GSD enthusiasts, state club members, breeders and advertisers nationwide.

<i>Microchip Officers</i>		
Terry Jarvis	Metro Areas	02 4773 9364 0407 271 418
Graeme Stevenson	Terrey Hills	02 9450 1639
Dr. Robert Zammit	Vineyard	02 9627 1257
Dr. Karen Hedberg	Richmond	02 4571 2042
Or contact your Local Veterinary Surgery		

<i>ORCHARD HILLS TRAINING BRANCH</i>		
Orchard Hills Branch Manager	Terry Jarvis	02 4773 9364 0407 271 418
Chief Instructor	Tony D'Arcy	0418 618 817

We cannot overemphasize the importance of properly socialising young dogs so that they will be well behaved and socially acceptable, particularly in public areas.

There currently are two training sessions per week. These training session details are announced in Shepherd News and also on the GSDL's website.

