

Minutes
63rd Annual General Meeting
 GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA Inc.
 3rd and 4th February 2024



1 Opening

CHAIR: Sean Lynch - GSDCA President

Meeting opened at: 9:05am

The meeting was declared open with the Chair welcoming all Presidents and delegates to the 63rd GSDCA Annual General Meeting. President noted that he would move straight to the AGM agenda as GSDCQ had withdrawn the SGM motion.

Voting Strength

Member Club	Representative	Voting Strength
Australian Capital Territory GSDA	Sasha Beljanski/Wolf Meffert	4 (229)
GSD League	Graeme Stevenson/Fay Stokes	6 (472)
Newcastle & Hunter Region GSDC	Paul York	5 (331)
GSDC of Queensland	Sharon Thorp	4 (278)
GSDC of South Australia	John De Lucia	5 (331)
GSDC of Tasmania	Gabrielle Peacock	2 (68)
GSDC of Victoria	Tony Mercieca	8 (2868)
GSDA of Western Australia	Robyn Knuckey	6 (455)
Total Votes		

Voting Strength - Advised by the GSDCA Treasurer

Attendance:

Executive	
President	Sean Lynch
Secretary	Janet Haase
NBC Chair	Ian Urie
Judges Chair	Melanie Groth
Treasurer	Peter Flynn
QNR Editor	Apology
Obedience Chair	Alastair Henderson
Delegates	
ACT GSDA President	Sasha Beljanski
ACT GSDA 2 nd Delegate	Wolf Meffert
GSD League President	Graeme Stevenson

GSD League 2 nd Delegate	Terry Jarvis - Day 1 Fay Stokes - Apology
GSDC of Victoria President	Tony Mercieca
GSDC of South Australia Delegate	John De Lucia
GSDA of Western Australia Delegate	Robyn Knuckey
GSDC of Tasmania Delegate	Gabrielle Peacock
Newcastle & Hunter Region GSDC President	Paul York
GSDC of Queensland President	Sharon Thorp
• AGM Minutes Secretary	Jessica Kada
Position Holders and Nominees	
Chelsea Bird - Apology	Melanie Groth
John Fenner - Absent	Candy Baker - Apology, Attended DNA Session via Zoom
Terry Jarvis - Day 1	Vince Tantaro - Apology
Frank Moody - Apology	Paul York
Jacinta Poole - Apology	Gail Donald
Doug West - Apology	Jess Lynch - Day 1
Observers	
Jenny Yuen	Nicky McDermott
Glen Gregory	Pam Jarvis - Day 1

2 Minutes of the 62nd Annual General Meeting

2.1 Confirmation of Minutes from 62nd GSDCA AGM

Motion: That the minutes of the 62nd GSDCA Annual General Meeting held on the 04 February 2023 via Zoom be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: ROBYN KNUCKEY (WA)

Seconded: GABRIELLE PEACOCK (TAS)

Motion **Carried**

2.2 Matters Arising from 62nd AGM.

No.	ACTION	ACTIONED BY	OUTCOME
1	An information pack be compiled about the GSDCA Xray scheme and JPS surgery for use by breeders, to be placed on the website and in the QNR to educate puppy buyers. <i>Action: Carry Forward</i>	Publicity Officer/Public Relations Officer	Not complete.
2	Ineligibility to Participate in the GSDCA Improvement Schemes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any person or persons that is suspended/ banned from a State Canine body will be ineligible to participate in the GSDCA breed improvement schemes for the length of the suspension/ban. Any person or persons that have been expelled/ suspended from a GSDCA Affiliate club will be ineligible to 	Lyn Phillis to seek further legal information.	Not complete

	<p>participate in the GSDCA breed improvement schemes for the length of the suspension/ban.</p> <p>Legal advice to be sought before motion can move forward.</p> <p><i>Outcome:</i> superseded by motion 17.2 at this meeting.</p>		
3	<p>That a discussion re verification of titles on imported dogs and semen on database to be referred to NBC for discussion.</p>	NBC Chair	Completed
4	<p>The HD &ED working party advised that the current storage available on the Database will not cope with increased data requirements and storage will need to be increased. A proposal for storage upgrade be prepared.</p> <p><i>Outcome:</i> action subsumed into motion 13.4 of this meeting</p>	NBC Chair	Ongoing Pending outcome of HD/ED working party Proposal.
5	<p>Letter to Aerial Fine Arts thanking them for their years of involvement with the GSDCA over many years.</p>	Secretary	Completed
6	<p>Chelsea Bird was put forward by the President as an ideal candidate to serve as the GSDCA's Youth Officer. Chelsea to be contacted to ascertain interest.</p>	President	Completed C. Bird accepted the position.
7	<p>NBC Chair to discuss with GSDAC (NZ) putting forward a motion next year so that NZ Breeders can also purchase HD/ED Forms for their puppy buyers at normal member price.</p> <p><i>Action:</i> Carry forward</p>	NBC Chair	Ongoing
8	<p>That all results, pertaining to the 2022 GSDCA National Show and Trial be reprinted as a supplement edition of the QNR.</p> <p><i>Outcome:</i> Item closed, no further action</p>	Editor	Not Completed
9	<p>A request to Dogs Australia for a partial exemption from the ANKC Regulation Section 4 Exhibitors. 4.1.2 specifically for an exemption for specialty showing of German Shepherd Dogs from items b, c, d, e, f & h be submitted.</p> <p><i>Action:</i> Carry forward</p>	NBC Executive	Request prepared and submitted to Dogs Australia. Awaiting response.
10	<p>To develop a strategy and action plan, in liaison with ANKC Chair and in consultation with clubs, including publicity materials for use by council, clubs and breeders to promote ANKC registered purebred dogs.</p> <p><i>Outcome:</i> action is more suited to Dogs Australia and kennel controls. Incoming public relations officer can draw on their work as required. Item closed.</p>	Public Relations Officer	Not Complete
11	<p>GSDCV to provide a copy of their exemption and process for the information of other clubs re Regulations 7.5.5 and 7.6.21.</p>	Vince Ebejer	Complete

2.3 Ratification of Matters Arising from the 62nd AGM under the "60 Day rule".

Motion 1	That the German Shepherd Dog Club of Queensland (GSDCQ) hosts the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia's (GSDCA) National Show and Trial in 2025.	Carried
Motion 2	That all correspondence to the GSDCA, incoming and outgoing, that concerns Council business, is circulated to all member clubs within 30 days of receipt.	Carried
Motion 3	That from this meeting, the following advertising rates in the Quarterly National Review are adjusted to the following rates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Front Cover: \$130 (Currently \$225 Non-Advertising)• Back Cover: \$115 (currently non-Advertising)• Full Page: \$165• Annual advertising package: For the same copy in 4 editions for Full, Half or Quarter pages a discount of 10% will apply.• Other advertising spaces available on request. Non-Members and/or Commercial Rates available upon request.	Carried

Ratification of 60-day Motions

Moved: GSDCSA Motion: Carried

3 President's report - S Lynch - refer Annual report

4 Treasurer's report - P Flynn - refer Annual report

4.1 Auditor's report - William Buck, Adelaide. South Australia.

Discussion:

QLD noted that the Quarterly review numbers and member counts (for voting strength) remain inconsistent.

ACT queried the amount of interest from the term deposit; Treasurer provided an explanation.

5 Secretary's report - J Haase - refer Annual report

WA - Complimented Janet Haase on her work as Secretary, and the quality of reports

6 Club Reports and Financial Statements - Presidents/Delegates - refer Annual report

6.1 ACT GSDA

6.2 GSD League

6.3 Newcastle & Hunter Region GSDC

- 6.4 GSDC of Queensland
- 6.5 GSDC of South Australia
- 6.6 GSDC of Tasmania
- 6.7 GSDC of Victoria - Council passed on best wishes to Vince Ebejer's wife.
- 6.8 GSDA of Western Australia - report construction arose from having 3 President's over last month - SGM held last Monday, and new Committee appointed.

7 Chairperson National Breed Commission - Ian Urie - refer Annual report

Ian acknowledged the work Jacinta Poole has done on the HD/ED automation.

7.1 National Breed Survey Registrar, Melanie Groth

Discussion - Noted reduced number of breed surveys, may continue to be impacted by reduced puppy sales. Encourage Breed Survey coordinators to read the reports about the process to follow.

Action: Distribute the relevant sections of the document to clubs for distribution and discussion.

- 7.2 Breed Health & Welfare Committee Chairperson, Dr. Candy Baker
- 7.3 National Hip & Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme Registrar, Doug West
- 7.4 National Title Verification Officer, Jenny De Lucia

8 Chairperson Judges Committee - Melanie Groth, refer Annual report

- o Mel encouraged clubs to use the NSLO for support.
- o Thank you to Jane Pike for her great work on judge lists and appointments.
- o Encourage judges to participate at NBC level for professional development.
- o Important for NBC to be held face to face - assists with moral.
- o Clubs to encourage Judges and Show Secretaries to read the report.
- o QLD thanked Mel for her hard work.

9 Chairperson Obedience Committee - Alastair Henderson, refer Annual report

10 Editor Quarterly National Review - Yvonne Yun, refer Annual report

No Report provided.

11 Sub Committee Reports, refer Annual Report

- 11.1 National Show Liaison Officer - Vince Tantaro
- 11.2 National Database Coordinator - Frank Moody
- 11.3 Trophy Officer - Terry Jarvis
- 11.4 Website Officer - Jacinta Poole
- 11.5 GSDCA Youth Officer - Chelsea Bird
- 11.6 Public Relations Officer - vacant

11.7 Historian - vacant

11.8 Breed Research and Legislation Officer - John Fenner - No report provided.

12 WUSV Meeting (2023): Refer Annual Report

WUSV Meeting Report - Nuremburg.

Secretary thanked those who attended the meeting in Nuremburg.

13 Determination of scale of fees for financial year 2024/2025

- No increases proposed for the 2024/2025 financial year.

Discussion:

President proposed that we need to look at our fees - meeting agreed to discuss a 60-day motion in General Business

14 Election of Office Bearers

14.1 Executive

Position	Nominee	Nominator	Term
President	Sean Lynch - ELECTED	GSDAWA, NHRGSDC, GSDL	2 Year
	Jenny Yuen - WITHDRAWN	GSDCV	
Treasurer	Peter Flynn - ELECTED	GSDAWA, GSDCSA, GSDCV, GSDCT, GSDCQ	2 Year
	Paul York -	ACTGSDA, NHRGSDC	
Judges Committee Chair	Jenny De Lucia - ELECTED	NHRGSDC, GSDAWA, GSDCSA	2 Year
	Robyn Knuckey	GSDCV	
Editor - Quarterly National Review	Gail Donald - ELECTED	GSDCT, GSDCV, GSDCQ,	2 Year

Total voting strength 40, constitution states that if a tied vote, President will have the deciding vote - this was applied to the Judges Committee Chair election.

14.2 Other Positions

Position	Nominee	Nominated by	Term
Public Officer	Brenton Lowes	ACTGSDA	1 Year
HD/ED Registrar	Doug West	GSDL, ACTGSDA	1 Year
	Jacinta Poole - ELECTED	GSDCV	
NBC Registrar - (To be selected by the NBC Chair and agreed by the NBC Executive) - MEL GROTH - ELECTED			1 Year
Breed Health & Welfare Committee Chair	Dr. Candy Baker- ELECTED	GSDCV, GSDAWA, GSDL, GSDCT	1 Year
National Show Liaison Officer	Jess Lynch- ELECTED	GSDCV	1 Year
Public Relations Officer	Gabrielle Peacock - ELECTED	GSDCV	1 Year
Website Officer	Jacinta Poole- ELECTED	GSDT, GSDCV, GSDL, GSDCQ	1 Year
Trophy Officer	Terry Jarvis- ELECTED	GSDL, GSDCT, NHRGSDC	1 Year
Breed Specific Legislation Officer	John Fenner- ELECTED	GSDAWA	1 Year

Historian	No Nomination		1 Year
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15 GSDCA National GSD Show & Trial Reports

15.1 49th National 2023 - Vince Tantaro (NSLO) and GSDCV

Review of the 49th National Show and Trial Report was extensively discussed at the NBC meeting. The President congratulated GSDCV, it was a great National.

15.2 50th National - 2024 - GSDCSA

Host -German Shepherd Dog Club of South Australia - Progress Report

Dates - 3rd, 4th, & 5th, May 2024

Major Sponsor is "Royal Canin"

Conformation Judges:

Herr Rainer Mast (Gmy)

All Long Stock Coat Classes - minus Baby Puppy Classes

All Stock Coat Males - minus Baby Puppy Class

SC Challenge Dog, LSC Challenge Bitch & Dog

Herr Wolfgang Hassgall (Gmy)

All Stock Coat Females, SC Baby Puppy Dog

LSC Baby Puppy Bitch, LSC Baby Puppy Dog, Challenge Bitch
SC

Miss Jessica Bird (NSW)

Junior Showmanship

Obedience Judges:

Mr. Brian Fielder (SA)

Utility Dog Excellent (Ring 1)

Mrs. Jan Brabham (SA)

Utility Dog (Ring 2)

Mr. Peter Dynan (SA)

Companion Dog Excellent (Ring 1)

Mrs. Donna Vigor (SA)

Companion Dog (Ring 2)

Mr. Brian Fielder (SA)

Community Companion Dog (Ring 1)

Entry Fees:

Baby Puppies only

Initial entry = \$30.00 subsequent - \$20.00 per class.

Minor & Puppy

Initial entry = \$40.00 subsequent - \$30.00 per class

Junior, Intermediate & Open

Initial entry = \$50.00 subsequent - \$40.00 per class

Obedience

Initial entry = \$40.00, subsequent - \$30.00 per class.

Update provided from GSDCSA President

John De Lucia gave an overview of planning for the event and various costs. Noted that some accommodation still available at Adelaide Shores, Saturday night event will go ahead if get minimum number of 40, some sponsorship classes still available, raffle tickets available online, and some tents left on the bitch ring. Gail Donald has offered to do Sunday photographs. Noted it's also the 50th Year of the SA Police Dog Squad and hoping to have media there to cover joint 50th. Meeting agreed to Police Dog Bandit being awarded.

Suggestion made that clubs who run the nationals should get together to discuss costs and how to reduce.

Host - German Shepherd Dog Club of Queensland - Progress Report

Dates - 30th May 31st May & 1st June 2025

Major Sponsor -

Conformation Judges:

All Long Stock Coat (Dog & Bitch) classes - Roberto Caputi

All Stock Coat Dog classes - Roberto Caputi

All Stock Coat Bitch classes - Harald Hohmann

Obedience Judges:

CCD Barbera Murfett

CD Dearne Jackson

CDX Laurie Knauth

UD Tabitha Young

UDX Tabitha Young

Rally Novice - Coral Pethers

Rally Advanced - Dearne Jackson

Rally Excellent - Laurie Knauth

Rally Masters - Barbera Murfett

Junior Showmanship Judge: To be advised.

Entry Fees:

Baby Puppies only	Initial entry = \$30.00 subsequent - \$20.00 per class.
Minor & Puppy	Initial entry = \$40.00 subsequent - \$30.00 per class
Junior, Intermediate & Open	Initial entry = \$50.00 subsequent - \$40.00 per class
Obedience	Initial entry = \$40.00, subsequent - \$30.00 per class.

Update - GSDCQ President

Show committee - 23 members including interstate members.

Royal Canin - won't commit until next year for Sponsorship; EAC Probiotics expressed interest in sponsorship; Conformation judges verbally approved, awaiting clearance and then contracts will be sent out shortly; accommodation being investigated; obedience judges have been contracted; stewards organised: Photographers organised; class sponsorship - almost full.

Aim to raise 30k in sponsorship to assist with the running; Catering - cannot make income here as canteen run by another body; Tents - looking into purchasing tents from overseas.

Entry fees will remain the same as SA; Draft logo will be submitted to Council for approval.

Action: Meeting agreed that the four clubs (Vic, Qld, the League and SA) will get together to work out ways to rationalise costs at Nationals, including options for trophies going forward.

Confirmed and proposed list of judges for:	
2017 Queensland	Herr Frank Goldlust (LSC & SC Dogs), Herr Joachim Stiegler (SC Bitches) Reserve - Herr E Bösl
2018 South Australia	Herr Hans-Peter Schweimer (LSC & SC Dogs) Herr Rainer Mast (SC Bitches)
2019 Melbourne	Herr Harald Hohmann (SC Males & LSC's), Herr Richard Brauch (All SC Bitches)
2020 & 2021	Cancelled due to COVID
2022 Sydney	Mr. Louis Donald (Qld) (All LSC & SC Dogs) Mrs. Jenny Yuen (Vic) (All SC Bitches)
2023 Melbourne	Mrs. Heather MacDonald (UK) (All LSC's & SC Dogs) Mr. Malcolm Griffiths (UK) (All SC Bitches)
2024 Adelaide 50th National Show and Trial	<u>Herr Rainer Mast (Gmy)</u> All Long Stock Coat Classes - minus Baby Puppy Classes All Stock Coat Males - minus Baby Puppy Dog SC Challenge Dog, LSC Challenge Bitch & Dog <u>Herr Wolfgang Hassgall (Gmy)</u> All Stock Coat Females, SC Baby Puppy Dog LSC Baby Puppy Bitch, LSC Baby Puppy Dog, Challenge Bitch SC
2025 Brisbane 51st National Show and Trial	Mr. Roberto Caputi - Dogs and all LSC Herr Harald Hohmann - SC Bitches
2026 Sydney 52nd National Show and Trial	For discussion in General Business
2027 Melbourne 53rd National Show and Trial	For discussion in General Business

16 Matters referred to AGM from National Breed Commission

16.1 Disposal of x-Ray media

Motion:

“That the HD/ED Registrar be authorised to dispose of X-ray media (film, CD discs and USB) after retaining for a period of two years. The results will remain on our GSDCA database.”

Rationale:

Current regulations require HD/ED x-ray records (films and other media) to be retained for seven years. This seems excessive, as any appeals would normally be made within 6 to 12 months of the initial result which may be queried. With the proposed move to digital storage, the size of the files would require purchasing of inordinate amounts of storage space, an expense which the meeting agreed was not justified.

Discussion:

NHRGSDC proposed that the motion be altered to retain failed x-rays for 5 years to cover appeal issues over time.

Amended Motion

“That the HDED registrar be authorised to dispose of x-ray media (film, CD discs and USB), for all x-rays that have passed the GSDCA HDED scheme after having been retained for a period of 2 years. All other x-rays will be retained and disposed of after 5 years. The results will remain in our database. Effective immediately.”

Vote on amendment - Carried unanimously.

The amended motion was put to the meeting.

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against:

Carried Unanimously

16.2 Recognition of CHEDS results

Motion:

“That hip and elbow x-rays that have been scored through the CHEDS scheme by a radiologist who is also a reader for the GSDCA HD/ED scheme be eligible for the GSDCA “A” or “Z” stamp.”

Rationale:

There was discussion at the 2022 AGM regarding acceptance of CHEDS results for Breed Survey. The consensus was that this would be acceptable, so long as they meet the same criteria and were scored by one of our common readers. Since then, we now have all four of the CHEDS readers also on the GSDCA panel. The scoring system is identical to the GSDCA scheme, and the NBC meeting agreed they should be eligible for an “A” and/or “Z” stamp, following purchase of a GSDCA application form and submission with a pedigree to the GSDCA HD/ED Registrar, without the need to have further x-rays taken.

Discussion:

Following discussion, the meeting agreed to amend the motion to make it clearer. Vote on amendment carried unanimously.

The amended motion was put to the meeting.

Amended Motion

“That hip and elbow x-rays that have been scored through the CHEDS scheme by a radiologist who is also a reader for the GSDCA HD/ED scheme be eligible for the GSDCA “A” or “Z” stamp without the need to have further x-rays taken, following purchase of the GSDCA application form, submission with the pedigree to the GSDCA HDED registrar, and meeting the GSDCA criteria.”

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against:

Carried Unanimously

16.3 Recognition of SV surveys conducted in Australia.

Motion 1:

“Amend rule 5.3.4 in the Breed Survey Manual to include recognition of SV Surveys conducted in Australia by a current SV Koermeister.”

Existing rule:

5.3.4 That all imported animals with a survey status from the country of origin must have the following checked and any differences as observed from original survey noted on their survey:

- Verification of Tattoo and/or Microchip,
- Dentition,
- Testicles,
- Height,
- Gun Test, and
- Crowd Test.

The original survey classification and findings will not be altered, but differences must be noted.

Amend Rule to read as follows:

5.3.4 That all imported animals with a survey status from the country of origin; or animals with an SV Breed Survey status conducted in Australia by a current SV; must be presented to a GSDCA Survey panel and have the following checked and any differences as observed from original survey noted on their survey:

- *Verification of Tattoo and/or Microchip,*
- *Dentition,*
- *Testicles,*

- Height,
- Gun Test, and
- Crowd Test.

The original survey classification and findings will not be altered, but differences must be noted.

Amended Motion

“5.3.4 That all imported animals with a survey status from the country of origin; or animals with an SV Breed Survey status conducted in Australia by a current SV Koermeister **who have a Dogs Australia recognised HDED result; must be presented to a GSDCA Survey panel and have the following checked and any differences as observed from original survey noted on their survey:**

- **Verification of Tattoo and/or Microchip,**
- **Dentition,**
- **Testicles,**
- **Height,**
- **Gun Test, and**
- **Crowd Test.**

The original survey classification and findings will not be altered, but differences must be noted.”

Vote for amendment - Carried unanimously.

The amended motion was put to the meeting.

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT -

Against:

Carried Unanimously

Motion 2:

“Amend Regulation 3.7.2 to recognise SV Breed Surveys conducted in Australia.”

Existing Regulation:

3.7.2 Breed Survey

The GSDCA recognises the breed survey classification from the following organisations for a period of six months from release from quarantine for breeding, show and advertising purposes provided the animal meet the requirements as per Breed Survey Manual rule 5.3.3 [2022]

3.7.2.1 The GSDCA recognises the breed survey classification from New Zealand provided the animals meet the requirements as per Breed Survey Manual rule 5.4 [2022]

Currently those organisations are: (Country / Organisation)

Germany / Verein fur Deutsche Schaferhunde (SV) e.V.

Italy / Societa Amatori Schaferhunde (S.A.S.)

Netherlands / VDH - Holland

New Zealand / German Shepherd Dog Advisory Council (Breed Survey Manual rule 5.4)
Other - Where a GSD has been breed surveyed in an overseas country by a current SV Breed Surveyor and where an SV Breed Survey certificate has been issued to the animal.

Amend to read as follows:

3.7.2 Breed Survey

The GSDCA recognises the breed survey classification from the following organisations for a period of six months from release from quarantine for breeding, show and advertising purposes provided the animal meet the requirements as per Breed Survey Manual rule 5.3.3 [2022]

3.7.2.1 The GSDCA recognises the breed survey classification from New Zealand provided the animals meet the requirements as per Breed Survey Manual rule 5.4 [2022]

Currently those organisations are: (Country / Organisation)

Germany / Verein fur Deutsche Schaferhunde (SV) e.V.

Italy / Societa Amatori Schaferhunde (S.A.S.)

Netherlands / VDH - Holland

New Zealand / German Shepherd Dog Advisory Council (Breed Survey Manual rule 5.4)

Other - Where a GSD has been breed surveyed in an overseas country, or in Australia by a current SV Breed surveyor and where an SV Breed Survey certificate has been issued to the animal, they should be presented to a GSDCA Survey panel for confirmation of their Survey status as per Breed Survey Manual Rule 5.3.4

Rationale:

We recognise SV Surveys from other countries of imported animals when they are presented to a GSDCA Survey panel for verification, and they are then eligible for GSDCA Breed Survey status which enables them to be graded Excellent at shows. The NBC meeting agreed that SV Surveys conducted in Australia should also be recognised, provided they go through the same verification process that applies for an imported animal with an SV survey status.

Discussion: The meeting agreed that this motion needed to be amended in line with the amendments to 16.3 motion 1

Amendment -

Other - Where a GSD has been breed surveyed in an overseas country; or in Australia by a current SV Koermeister, holds a Dogs Australia recognised HDED result, and where an SV Breed Survey certificate has been issued to the animal; they should be presented to a GSDCA Survey panel for confirmation of their Survey status as per Breed Survey Manual Rule 5.3.4

Vote on amendment - Carried unanimously.

The amended motion was put to the meeting.

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against:

Carried Unanimously

Motion:

“That the GSDCA implements a centralised online purchase system for electronic Hip and Elbow (HD/ED) contracts, together with an upload portal for sending x-rays to GSDCA readers for scoring and electronic provision of results.”

Rationale:

Moving the HDED contract process online will reduce the time taken to obtain an AZ certificate for their animals, improving the member experience. This will be achieved by implementing centralised online payments to obtain the HDED contract and online submission of x-rays direct to the reader of choice, thereby enabling rapid scoring and receipt of results by owner. This will negate the issues of physical payments, slow postage, and manual handling of contracts, x-rays, and results by utilising the GSDCA website and associated technologies.

Desired Outcome:

1. Owners pay online for contract and will receive digital contract form via email.
2. Signed contract and Xray files uploaded for GSDCA Readers access for scoring = rapid turnaround time and provision of results to owners and the GSDCA
3. Results imported into GSDCA Dog Database, AZ certificate generated and posted.

The Xray booking with the vet of choice remains with the Owner, but the process to apply and pay online for a contract is improved, Xray reading and time to receive results will be significantly reduced.

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against:

Carried Unanimously

Meeting noted that the motion approves the GSDCA to proceed with an online system in principle. The supporting procedures will now be put together. It was agreed that there will be consultation with clubs on the supporting procedures, and endorsement from clubs before going live.

Thanks were expressed to Jacinta for all her work.

Action: Secretary to write a letter thanking Jacinta.

Carried Unanimously

17 Matters referred to the AGM from the GSDCA Breed Surveyors and GSDCA Specialist Judges Meeting

17.1 Criteria for Aspiring Breed Surveyors

Motion:

“Amend the criteria for Aspiring Breed Surveyors by altering Regulation 6.4.1.”

Existing Regulation

6.4.1.4 After completing the GSDCA Specialist Judges Extension Course, the applicant must have officiated as a judge at a minimum of five (5) shows as conducted by GSDCA Member Clubs or at

approved shows where gradings as approved by the GSDCA are awarded and both written and verbal critiques are given from the Junior classes upward.

Amend Regulation to read as follows:

6.4.1.4 The applicant must have officiated as a judge at a minimum of ten (10) shows as conducted by GSDCA Member Clubs or at approved shows where gradings as approved by the GSDCA are awarded and both written and verbal critiques are given from the Junior classes upward to be eligible for Breed Surveyor status.

Consideration may be given by the NBC Executive to accept applications from aspirants who have completed no less than five judging appointments at the time of application, on the condition that the required number (10 shows) will be completed whilst the Aspiring Surveyor is in training. If the required number of appointments is not completed within the 12-month training period, the aspirant shall continue in the course until such time as the requirements are met.

Rationale:

Points raised at the NBC meeting:

- Multiple clubs support newly qualified GSDCA aspirant judges offering them appointments. Consequently, those clubs do not contract them again for some time (to prevent oversaturation)

The result is:

- significant delay in the aspirant's ability to meet the current requirements (further five appointments) after becoming eligible to apply for Breed Surveyor status as set out in the regulation.
- It is felt that 10 appointments in total may be a more reasonable and attainable requirement.

Discussion:

The meeting agreed to amend the motion to make it clearer.

Amendment -

6.4.1.4 The applicant must have officiated as GSDCA judge or Aspirant GSDCA judge at a minimum of ten (10) shows as conducted by GSDCA Member Clubs or at approved shows where gradings as approved by the GSDCA are awarded and both written and verbal critiques are given from the Junior classes upward, to be eligible for Breed Surveyor status.

Consideration may be given by the NBC Executive to accept applications from aspirants who have completed no less than five judging appointments at the time of application, on the condition that the required number (10 shows) will be completed whilst the Aspiring Surveyor is in training. If the required number of appointments is not completed within the 12-month training period, the aspirant shall continue in the course until such time as the requirements are met.

Vote on amendment

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against: NHRGSD

Amendment - Carried

The amended motion was put to the meeting.

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against: NHRGSD

Carried

18 Matters referred to the AGM from the Judges Committee

18.1 Ratification of National Judges List

- Member clubs ratify inclusion of Robert Lang SV, Stephen Cox UK

Discussion:

In future separate the names as some clubs thought they had to consider both names as a block

Meeting ratified these additions to the National Judges List:

For - ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against-

Abstain - GSDCV

18.2 Adjudication of Breeders Groups at National Show and Trial

Motion:

“That the following dot point be added to the National Show and Trial Manual clause 19 Breeders Groups.”

19 Breeders Groups

- A Breeders Group Team must consist of five (5) animals from the one Kennel and are at least 9 months of age.
- A minimum of two (2) sires and two (2) dams, are required to make up the group.
- A separate entry form indicating entry to the class is required by the close of entry.
- The list of animals competing in each group must be handed to the Show Secretary by completion of Judging on Day One. Breeders Groups must consist of only one coat type, (however Breeders may enter more than one group).
- All animals listed in the Breeders Group, must be entered in the National Show.
- The Winning Group will be awarded a Plaque and a Tri-colour Sash.

New dot point:

- *The Breeders Group Class will be judged by the Judges’ Chair. In the event the Judges’ Chair is unavailable to judge the class; the NBC Chair will officiate. In the event the NBC Chair is unavailable to judge, the class will be judged by the GSDCA President (if an accredited GSDCA Breed Surveyor). In the event, that no member of the NBC Executive is available to judge the class; adjudication of the Breeders Group class will be decided by the National Breed Commission and will be one of the conformation judges officiating at the National Show and Trial. The executive will inform the club of the decision.*

Rationale:

Currently no regulation exists in the Manual pertaining to adjudication of the Breeder's Group class at the National Show and Trial. It is acknowledged that this class has traditionally been judged by the Judges' Chair. However, at the previous three Nationals (2019, 2022 and 2023); the Judges' Chair has withdrawn from judging due to a perceived conflict of interest or actual involvement in the class. It was felt by the judges/surveyors/presidents and delegates at the NBC meeting that this needed to be tidied up and a dot point added to Item 19 in the National Show Manual. The motion to include the regulation is being put to the AGM for clarification going forward.

Discussion:

The meeting agreed to amend the motion to make it clearer.

Amendment -

- *The Breeders Group Class will be judged by the Judges Committee Chairperson. In the event the Judges Committee Chairperson is unavailable to judge the class; the NBC Chairperson will officiate. In the event the NBC Chairperson is unavailable to judge, the class will be judged by the GSDCA President. In the event, that no member of the NBC Executive is available to judge the class; adjudication of the Breeders Group class will be decided by the National Breed Commission Executive and will be one of the conformation judges officiating at the National Show and Trial. The executive will inform the club of the decision. The officiating judge must be an approved GSDCA Judge/Surveyor.*

Vote on amendment - Carried unanimously.

The amended motion was put to the meeting.

For: GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against: ACTGSDA

Carried

Action: Meeting agreed that the schedule should note that the Breeders Groups will be judges per regulation 15.2, and that judge's contracts should contain reference to this too.

18.3.1 Judges Extension Course requirements

The current regulation (6.1.1.1 p.42) states that

All resident Australian judges must have completed or be participating in the GSDCA Specialist Judges Extension Course in order to award GSDCA gradings.

Motion:

"That the following statement be added to the 6.2.2 Criteria for Application and becomes 6.2.2.8."

6.2.2.8 In the event the application does not quite meet all the criteria prior to application, the NBC Executive will review the application. On merit of each applicant the NBC Executive may

provide advice of early entry under the premise that the applicant MUST meet the criteria during the period of training and prior to obtaining the GSDCA Specialist Judges License.

Rationale

At present the criteria that aspirants must meet is a limiting and inhibiting factor, unless the person is older and has been involved in the breed and clubs for an extended period. Subsequently, an adjustment to the entry for acceptance into the Extension Course is necessary to meet the current demographic involved in the breed, prevent de-motivation and loss to advance their standing in the breed.

I am seeking clubs' approval to adjust the timing of entry into the Extension Course for new judges or trainees. The purpose of this is to enable interested GSD judges to gain early entry into the Extension Course without having to meet the stringent criteria laid down in our regulations prior to being accepted into the scheme.

Aspirants can be encouraged to serve an apprenticeship with senior judges, award gradings at specialist shows until such time as they meet the criteria. Currently, they have four years to complete the Extension course with a further 2 should it be necessary. In total they have six years in which to complete the requirements.

Existing requirements and criteria currently are: (6.2.2.1- 6.2.2.7)

- *To complete the course in 4 years with possible extension of 2 years whilst maintaining continued and active involvement in their member club of domicile*
- *Attendance and active participation at GSDCA and Member Club activities including but not limited to shows seminars judges meetings, practical days, and breed meetings.*
- 1. *Proof of acceptance into ANKC Judges Training and supporting statement from the domiciled club*
- 2. *Been a financial member of a member club for 8 years during the 10 years prior to the date of application.*
- 3. *Provide evidence of involvement committee (position holder), club instructor. Could include Kennel Control level.*
- 4. *Evidence as a breeder*
 - a) *Bred five litters under own/shared prefix for no less than eight years.*
 - b) *Bred five Breed Survey classified animals.*
 - c) *Bred five A & Z*
 - d) *Bred at least five Excellent graded (conformation) animals.*
- 5. *Steward appointments at 3 Specialist GSD/All Breeds or Group events*

Enabling the aspirant to commence the extension course earlier, provides an extension of time to meet the criteria listed above. They remain an aspirant until the requirements are met and evidence submitted.

The integrity of the qualification is maintained as the criteria in the regulations are important evidence of continued and sustained involvement in the breed.

Acceptance of this adjustment enables applicants to adjudicate at shows and award GSDCA gradings whilst obtaining the expected requirements before becoming a recognised GSDCA Specialist Judge. They will remain an aspirant until all the requirements are completed. That then enables them to meet Regulation 6.1.1.1 below.

6.1.1.1 All resident Australian judges must have completed or be participating in the GSDCA Specialist Judges Extension Course in order to award GSDCA gradings.

Discussion: Meeting agreed to amend the motion to make it clearer.

Amendment Motion

"That the following statement be added to the 6.2.2 Criteria for Application and becomes 6.2.2.8."

6.2.2.8 In the event the application does not meet point 4a), 4b), 4c) and 4d) of the criteria prior to application, the NBC Executive will review the application. On merit of each applicant the NBC Executive may provide advice of early entry under the premise that the applicant MUST meet the criteria during the period of training and prior to obtaining the GSDCA Specialist Judges License.

Vote for amendment

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against: NHRGSDC, GSDCSA

Carried

The amended motion was put to the meeting.

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against: NHRGSDC, GSDCSA, GSDCV

Carried

19 Matters referred to the AGM from the GSDCA Obedience Committee.

19.1 National Obedience Competition

Motion:

"That the GSDCA Annual National Obedience Competition be amended as follows:"

4.2.3 The GSDCA Annual National ~~Obedience~~Performance Competition

The GSDCA Annual National ~~Obedience~~Performance Plaque shall be awarded to the best ~~obedience~~Performance dog and handler gaining the highest aggregate of qualifying scores for each of the CCD, Novice, Open, UD and UDX classes.

From the 2016 National Rally Novice, Rally Advanced Rally Master be added to these awards, and from the 2019 National Rally Excellent be added to these awards. [2019]

The awards will be known as:

- CCD - "Best Community Companion Dog",
- CD - "Best Novice Dog",
- Open - "Best Open Dog",
- UD - "Best Utility Dog",
- UDX - "Best Utility Dog Excellent",
- "Best Rally Novice Dog, [2015] • "Best Rally Advanced Dog", [2015]

- "Best Rally Excellent Dog". [2015]

- "Best Rally Master Dog". [2019]

4.2.3.1 Criteria:

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

4.2.3.1.2 Entry into Competition

a) The competition shall run for twelve (12) months from 1st March to the 28th of February the following year. [2018]

~~b) To qualify to enter CCD and Novice do not require GSDCA National participation.~~

~~c) To qualify to enter Open, UD and UDX Competitors must have competed at the previous GSDCA National. Where the National score is non-qualifying, it must still be included as proof of participation.~~

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~~d) b) Competitors shall present clear photocopies of their best qualifying cards and certification by their Member Club Secretary confirming that they are a financial member, to the Obedience Chairperson by the closing date -being from 1st March to the 28th of February the following year. [2018]~~

~~e) c) The relevant information on the winning dogs and handlers, Dates of trials, Member Clubs conducting the trials and scores, shall be published in the QNR.~~

4.2.3.1.3 Scores

All scores shall be qualifying scores gained at ANKC Sanctioned trials. The winner shall be, for the highest aggregate:

a) 3 x CCD Scores for the "Best Community Companion Dog" award

b) 3 x Novice Scores for the "Best Novice Dog" award

c) ~~6~~ 3 x Open Scores for the "Best Open Dog" award

d) ~~6~~ 3 x Utility Scores for the "Best Utility Dog" award

e) ~~6~~ 3 x UDX Scores for the "Best Utility Dog Excellent" award

f) 3 x Rally Novice scores for the "Best Rally Novice Dog" award [2015]

g) ~~6~~ 3 x Rally Advanced scores for the "Best Rally Advanced Dog" award [2015]

h) ~~6~~ 5 x Rally Excellent scores for the "Best Rally Excellent" award [2015]

i) ~~6~~ 7 x Rally Master scores for the "Best Rally Master" award. [2019]

4.2.3.1.4 In the event of a tie in a section, the winner will be decided by:

a) The competitor with the highest score at the National will win, if one of their qualifying certificates was gained at the previous National.

~~b) If still no result, it will be determined by the Highest Score on Count Back Exercises according to the ANKC Obedience rulebook.~~

~~b) If there is still no result, the competitor with the highest individual qualifying score from the qualifying scores submitted will win.~~

~~b) c) If there is still no result, they will each/all be presented with the award for that section.~~

c) If there is no qualifier in any of the sections, then the award for that section will not be presented for that year.

Rationale:

Removing the requirement for Open, UD and UDX competitors to have competed at the previous National will open the competition to more members who actively Trial but have not had the opportunity to compete in the National that year. There are many reasons why a team may not enter the National. Such as: injured/ill dogs, bitches in season, owner's inability to travel interstate due to work/family commitments etc. In addition, this is not a requirement for owners applying for any of the Rally awards, and a level playing field in that respect will be achieved.

The required number of qualifying certificates needed to enter the various categories of the competition have been altered to bring them into line with the number of qualifying certificates needed to gain a title at that level. There is a difference in the number of qualifying certificates required, and this change brings the competition into line with ANKC rules.

Deciding the result of a tie needs to be determined in a different manner, as it is impossible to break a tie in this way. Scores for individual exercises are not supplied on a qualifying certificate, therefore are unavailable for any determination. The suggested change gives some weight to those who have competed at the National Trial, then defers to passes gained at other trials.

Discussion:

Meeting agreed that the motion be amended to refer to Dog Sports in line with Dogs Australia nomenclature.

Proposed Amendment

4.2.3 The GSDCA Annual National Dog Sports Competition

The GSDCA Annual National Dog Sports plaque shall be awarded to the best performing dog and handler gaining the highest aggregate of qualifying scores for each of the CCD, Novice, Open, UD and UDX classes.

From the 2016 National Rally Novice, Rally Advanced Rally Master be added to these awards, and from the 2019 National Rally Excellent be added to these awards. [2019]

The awards will be known as:

- CCD - "Best Community Companion Dog",
- CD - "Best Novice Dog",
- Open - "Best Open Dog",
- UD - "Best Utility Dog",
- UDX - "Best Utility Dog Excellent",
- "Best Rally Novice Dog, [2015] • "Best Rally Advanced Dog", [2015]
- "Best Rally Excellent Dog". [2015]
- "Best Rally Master Dog". [2019]

4.2.3.1 Criteria:

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

4.2.3.1.2 Entry into Competition

a) The competition shall run for twelve (12) months from 1st March to the 28th of February the following year. [2018]

~~b) To qualify to enter CCD and Novice do not require GSDCA National participation:~~

~~c) To qualify to enter Open, UD and UDX Competitors must have competed at the previous GSDCA National. Where the National score is non-qualifying, it must still be included as proof of participation:~~

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~~d) b) Competitors shall present clear photocopies of their best qualifying cards and certification by their Member Club Secretary confirming that they are a financial member, to the Obedience Chairperson by the closing date -being from 1st March to the 28th of February the following year. [2018]~~

~~e) c) The relevant information on the winning dogs and handlers, Dates of trials, Member Clubs conducting the trials and scores, shall be published in the QNR.~~

4.2.3.1.3 Scores

All scores shall be qualifying scores gained at ANKC Sanctioned trials. The winner shall be, for the highest aggregate:

- a) 3 x CCD Scores for the "Best Community Companion Dog" award
 - b) 3 x Novice Scores for the "Best Novice Dog" award
 - c) ~~6~~ 3 x Open Scores for the "Best Open Dog" award
 - d) ~~6~~ 3 x Utility Scores for the "Best Utility Dog" award
 - e) ~~6~~ 3 x UDX Scores for the "Best Utility Dog Excellent" award
 - f) 3 x Rally Novice scores for the "Best Rally Novice Dog" award [2015]
 - g) ~~6~~ 3 x Rally Advanced scores for the "Best Rally Advanced Dog" award [2015]
 - h) ~~6~~ 5 x Rally Excellent scores for the "Best Rally Excellent" award [2015]
 - i) ~~6~~ 7 x Rally Master scores for the "Best Rally Master" award. [2019]
- 4.2.3.1.4 In the event of a tie in a section, the winner will be decided by:
- a) The competitor with the highest score at the National will win, if one of their qualifying certificates was gained at the previous National.
 - ~~b) If still no result, it will be determined by the Highest Score on Count Back Exercises according to the ANKC Obedience rulebook.~~
 - ~~b) If there is still no result, the competitor with the highest individual qualifying score from the qualifying scores submitted will win.~~
 - ~~b) c) If there is still no result, they will each/all be presented with the award for that section.~~
 - c) If there is no qualifier in any of the sections, then the award for that section will not be presented for that year.

Vote on amendment - Carried unanimously.

The amended motion was put to the meeting.

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDCT

Against: GSDL

Carried

20 Matters referred by Member Clubs to the AGM

20.1 Quarterly National Review (GSDCQ)

Motion:

“That the current format of four (4) hard copy editions of the quarterly review is changed to three (3) digital editions and one (1) hard copy edition for the GSDCA National Show and Trial.”

Rationale:

The cost to the council and the clubs of producing 4 hard copy editions in this economic climate is a costly exercise. 3 digital editions would be a substantial savings to the clubs, and the 4th edition for the National Show and Trial could be a bumper edition, that is a collector’s item, I am sure rather than paying for 4 editions paying a bit more for 1 edition in order to have a truly wonderful edition would be beneficial for all parties. We are living in a digital world and most, if not, all clubs have seen the benefits and cost saving of moving their state magazines to digital. Members would still receive their magazine just in a different format.

Discussion:

QLD - We haven’t mentioned the cost, we are saying that there will be a cost yes, we are not saying there won’t be a cost. Distribution costs will be greatly reduced. Point was raised that this needs to go to a point of discussion and withdraw the motion as it stands to expand on how this process will work.

WA - We acknowledge that there are still costs and this will reduce cost. Would it be looked at to see if there are some savings, will this be passed onto the clubs.

SA - Voted against, what’s the cost and what reduction are we getting in our membership. Treasurer confirmed that this is the major loss for the GSDCA.

NHRGSD - Against as we want a physical magazine, however if the digital goes ahead then the magazine could be uploaded to the database login.

VIC - Absence of costing, also membership age.

GSDL - Against, we want a hard copy. Not everyone has a computer or system may not work.

QLD - For this, perhaps we look at a 60-day motion for 2 magazines (1 x national and 1 x other)

Do we look at perhaps an annual yearbook which can become a keepsake for people now that the Breed survey book is no longer in place.

Discussion around pros and cons, do we need 4 magazines?

For: GSDCWA, GSDCQ

Against: ACTGSDA, GSDCSA, GSDL, GSDCT, NHRGSDC, GSDCV

Lost

20.2 Eligibility for Breed Improvement Schemes (GSDCQ)

Motion:

“That a clause 3.1.1 as detailed below is added to the regulation’s manual 3.1 GSDCA breed improvement schemes.”

Current Regulation

3 GSDCA BREED IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES

The GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes promote and offer guidance for the uniform development of the German Shepherd Dog Breed and to improve the overall health and well-being of the German Shepherd Dog.

3.1 Eligibility to Participate in the GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes The base requirements to participate in any GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes conducted for or on behalf of the GSDCA are:

- The animal must be an ANKC registered pedigree German Shepherd Dog,
- Owners must be a member of a Member Club of the GSDCA, or if a dog is owned in partnership at least one member must be a member of a Member Club of the GSDCA.
- Residents of Australia who are non-members of any Member Club of the GSDCA may apply for participation in a GSDCA Breed Improvement Scheme provided that the equivalent of one year's subscription fee plus the joining fee of that Member Club is paid in addition to the normal fee applicable to the desired scheme.
- Residents of New Zealand wishing to participate in a GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes must be a member of the New Zealand German Shepherd Dog Advisory Council (NZGSDAC), or an affiliate of the NZGSDAC.
- Other specific requirements may exist for each of the Schemes (refer the relevant section)

Additional Clause

3.1.1 Ineligibility to Participate in the GSDCA Improvement Schemes

The following will be ineligible to participate in the GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes:

- *Any person or persons that is suspended/ banned from a State Canine body will be ineligible to participate in the GSDCA breed improvement schemes for the length of the suspension/ban.*
- *Any person or persons that have been expelled/ suspended from a GSDCA Affiliate club will be ineligible to participate in the GSDCA breed improvement schemes for the length of the suspension/ban.*
- *Any person who is deemed excluded from participation from the GSDCA breed improvement schemes, may appeal to the GSDCA Executive for reinstatement. The GSDCA Executive decision is final.*

Rationale:

This was originally placed as a discussion item at the 2022 GSDCA AGM with the GSDCA to seek legal advice. With no response and legal advice forthcoming the GSSCQ wishes to place this as an agenda item for the GSDCA AGM.

Clubs expel/suspend members, and these people then join other clubs, and clubs are reluctant to refuse membership based on what a person/persons has or is doing in another state. Added to that is the fact that a person doesn't have to be a member of an affiliate club to participate in the schemes there is no way of excluding any persons from participating in the GSDCA breed improvement schemes as there is no ineligibility clause. This motion seeks to close this loophole and put the GSDCA back in control of who can participate in the GSDCA schemes. Whilst the intention is to exclude people who have been banned or suspended there is a right of appeal to the GSDCA Executive.

For: GSDCQ

Against: ACTGSDA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC, GSDCV, GSDL, GSDCT, GSDCWA

Lost

20.3 Obedience Judge Supplementary List (GSDCV)

Motion:

“That the following judges, Gaye Todd, Lisa Sinclair, and Maribeth Murphy be added to the GSDCA Obedience Judge Supplementary List.”

Rationale:

All three judges have proven themselves popular judges with the GSD fraternity judging regularly at the GSDCV Obedience and Rally trials as they have worked through their license levels for Obedience and Rally. They are all full panel judges for both disciplines. All stewarded for the 2023 GSD National

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against:

Carried Unanimously

20.4 GSDCA Obedience Judge Badge (GSDCV)

Motion:

“That Dearne Jackson receive the GSDCA Obedience Judge Badge.”

Rationale:

Dearne Jackson has requested, and the GSDCV endorsed her request for a GSDCA Obedience Judge Badge. Dearne meets the criteria laid out in Regulation 6. 5.3. She was put forward by the GSDCV to be included on the GSDCA Preferred Judges list at the 2019 GSDCA AGM held in February 2020, and was accepted. She is eligible to judge all levels of Obedience and Rally disciplines and judges regularly at GSDCV Obedience and Rally trials. Since 2021 she has also been an Obedience and Rally Judge mentor and assessor with Dogs Victoria.

She has trained and trialed dogs to Open Obedience (CDX) level and two dogs to Utility Dog level, Glenraco James Bond CDX TD and Kate Annie GD. She continues to train and compete with the current dogs in disciplines they are eligible for at local and interstate GSD (including GSDCA National) events. And was the proud owner of a Victorian Dual Performance Trophy winner *Glenraco Golly Gosh AZ CD RE who was also multi excellent in the conformation ring.

Dearne continues to administer for the GSDCV the Endurance Test and Track and Search Dog Test events each year as well as assist with the administration of the GSDCV Obedience and Rally events and the GSD National Obedience & Rally trials held in Victoria (2015, 2019, 2023). She also continues to instruct weekly obedience classes at the GSDCV Malvern Branch

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against:

Carried Unanimously

20.5 GSDCA Judges List (GSDCV)

Motion:

"Replace the description of the GSDCA Preferred and Supplementary Judges lists to be "GSDCA Preferred and Supplementary Performance Discipline Judges" respectively."

Current document names:

GSDCA "Preferred Judges List" for GSDCA Events

GSDCA "Supplementary List" of Obedience Judges for GSDCA Events

Rationale:

There is inconsistency in the naming of these documents. The judges currently listed on either the Preferred or Supplementary lists are either full panel judges (since regulation change in 2019) or are there by prior year nomination for specific Obedience discipline levels.

Many already hold multiple ANKC sanctioned performance discipline licences in addition to the Obedience discipline.

This change would allow for Performance Discipline judges who are not obedience judges to be nominated for recording on the lists.

This is particularly relevant to Rally, Herding, Agility, Tracking and Endurance judges as these judges are not required to hold an obedience licence (note a Track and Search Dog judge is required to hold a Tracking licence) and there are a number of Member Club members who hold these ANKC Judging licences but are not recorded (and therefore other state affiliates are not aware that they are part of Member Clubs).

A "full panel judge" just means that the judge is able to judge all levels available in a specified discipline - not that they can judge other disciplines. It is possible for other disciplines to be held at the GSDCA National e.g., Rally, Herding or Agility, but if these judges are Full Panel judges in their own discipline i.e., able to judge all available levels in that discipline then they should be able to be included on the list.

This is also significant for Regulation 5.4.1 Requirements for Sponsored Trials because this regulation states that the judges must be present on the Preferred or Supplementary lists in order for the Sponsored Trial to be selected.

Amendment -

"Replace the description of the GSDCA Preferred and Supplementary Judges lists to be "GSDCA Preferred and Supplementary Dog Sport Discipline Judges" respectively."

Vote on amendment - Carried unanimously.

The amended motion was put to the meeting.

Motion

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against:

Carried Unanimously

Motion:

“To incorporate a definition statement into the GSDCA Regulations 9.1 that “Performance discipline” means ANKC sanctioned Performance Disciplines.”

Proposed Wording:

“When reading a Regulation pertaining to a Performance discipline, this includes any discipline that is an ANKC sanctioned Performance Discipline with competition rules present on the ANKC (Dogs Australia) website.

Rationale:

There is no description in the GSDCA Regulations 9.1 to define what a Performance Discipline means. Currently the wording in various regulations pertaining to Performance disciplines, the words Performance Discipline has been added to the word “Obedience” with an “/” implying that the discipline will be connected to the Obedience discipline. The regulations and Constitution when formulated, only had to deal with Obedience as a discipline. However, the rules and levels of competition available for different disciplines are different depending on the discipline.

Having to name individual disciplines and the levels available within a discipline continues to expand the individual GSDCA regulations. Where other ANKC sanctioned performance disciplines are available for registered pedigree GSD dogs to compete in.

By creating a definition in Regulation 9.1 this removes the need for individual regulations having to specify that a Performance Discipline is an ANKC sanctioned discipline.

Amendment -

When reading a Regulation pertaining to a **Dog Sport** discipline, this includes any discipline that is an ANKC sanctioned **Dog Sport** Discipline with competition rules present on the ANKC (Dogs Australia) website.

Vote on amendment - Carried unanimously.

The amended motion was put to the meeting.

Motion

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against:

Carried Unanimously

Motion:

“Replace the word “Obedience” with “Performance” in all Regulations pertaining to Performance discipline requirements that are not specifically referring to the Obedience discipline.”

Rationale:

This would remove the need for change / creation of regulations in future where other ANKC sanctioned performance disciplines not specifically listed are held by Member Clubs or nominated

events and make available GSDCA Member Club Excellent Medallions or Grading Certificates for registered pedigreed German Shepherd Dogs.

Amendment -

Replace the word "Obedience" with "**Dogs Sports**" in all Regulations pertaining to **Dog Sport** discipline requirements that are not specifically referring to the Obedience discipline.

Vote on amendment - Carried unanimously.

The amended motion was put to the meeting.

Motion

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against:

Carried Unanimously

20.8 Tracking or Track Search Dog certificates (GSDCV)

Motion:

"To insert an additional Regulation to 4.2 Obedience Awards to allow for Tracking or Track and Search Dog grading certificates to be provided at Member Club events held for these disciplines."

Current Regulation:

4.2.1 Obedience/Performance Awards and GSDCA Gradings

4.2.1.1 The following GSDCA Obedience/~~Performance Awards~~ Dog Sport Awards will only be awarded at GSDCA Member Club trials, and "sponsored" Trials, and are available to ANKC registered pedigree GSDs that receive the following qualifying scores within the following classes:

4.2.1.1.1 CCD classes, and Rally classes: [2018]

4.2.1.1.2 Novice, Open, UD, UDX:

- Good - 170 to 179 points
- Very Good - 180 to 189 points
- Excellent - 190 to 200 points

4.2.1.1.3 Agility and Jumping (Novice, Open and Master classes)

- Excellent - must complete two (2) clear rounds.

4.2.1.2 Grading Certificates: Member Clubs shall issue Obedience/Performance Grading Certificates at Restricted Trials when conducted with a show at which gradings are awarded, based on the scores above.

Proposed Additional Regulation:

4.2.1.1.4 Tracking or Track and Search Dog

Pass

Good

Very Good

Excellent

Rationale:

Tracking and Track and Search Dog disciplines have very specific grading outcomes for qualifying scores, but because the gradings are not listed these disciplines do not fit in with the current wording shown below for Regulation 4.2.1.2 Grading Certificates:

Further Regulation 4.2.1.1 states that Grading Certificates can be awarded at GSDCA Member Club trials, and "sponsored" Trials. So, there is a need to specify what the gradings are for Tracking and Track and Search Dog.

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against:

Carried Unanimously

20.9 Include Rally in National Obedience Performance Competition sub-sections (GSDCV)

Motion:

"Amend 4.2.3 The GSDCA Annual National Obedience/Performance Competition subsections 4.2.3.1.2

b) to include "or Rally Novice" and 4.2.3.1.2 c) To qualify to enter Open, UD and UDX, "Rally Advanced, Excellent or Master" Competitors must have competed at the previous GSDCA National if the dog was eligible to compete. Where the National score is non-qualifying, it must still be included as proof of participation."

Current:

4.2.3.1.2 b) To qualify to enter CCD and Novice do not require GSDCA National participation.

Proposed Amendment

4.2.3.1.2 b) To qualify to enter CCD and Novice or Rally Novice, do not require GSDCA National participation is not required.

Rationale:

To include Rally Novice as dogs would not have been competing in the previous year National as per CCD or Novice.

Current:

4.2.3.1.2 c) To qualify to enter Open, UD and UDX Competitors must have competed at the previous GSDCA National. Where the National score is non-qualifying, it must still be included as proof of participation.

Proposed Amendment

4.2.3.1.2 c) To qualify to enter Open, UD and UDX, Rally Advanced, Excellent or Master Competitors must have competed at the previous GSDCA National if the dog was eligible to compete. Where the National score is non-qualifying, it must still be included as proof of participation.

Rationale:

4.2.3.1.2 c) currently precludes a dog that may be eligible to qualify for entry in these higher-level class awards but may not have been competing in ANKC sanctioned competition at the previous National. CCD and Novice or Rally Novice only covers three qualifying passes which may have been achieved after the previous National was held. OR the Previous National was not held within the past year.

Motion withdrawn.

Motion:

"Insert an additional Regulation, separate to 4.2.3.1.4 to provide for Rally tie in a section as there are no countbacks possible."

Current Regulation:

4.2.3.1.4

In the event of a tie in a section, the winner will be decided by:

The competitor with the highest score at the National, will win,

If still no result, it will be determined by the Highest Score on Count Back Exercises according to the ANKC Obedience rulebook,

If still no result, they will each/all be presented with the award for that section.

If there is no qualifier in any of the sections, then the award for that section will not be presented for that year.

PROPOSED ADDITIONAL REGULATION

4.2.3.1.5

In the event of a tie in a section, the Rally winner will be decided by:

a) The competitor with the highest score at the National, will win,

b) If still no result, then the highest score with the fastest time (will need to be verified by National Judge sheet retained by Member Affiliate holding preceding National event as qualification certificates do not include time. E.g., placings are determined first by score and in the event of a tie, by time. So, the higher placing will be the higher score/faster time.

c) If still no result, they will each/all be presented with the award for that section.

d) If there is no qualifier in any of the sections, then the award for that section will not be presented for that year.

Rationale:

The 4.2.3.1.4 is specific to Obedience which is a distinct discipline and has the availability of countbacks for score achieved in set exercises. An additional regulation is required to cover the event of a tie in Rally as there are no countbacks possible.

Motion withdrawn.**Motion:**

"To amend 4.2.4.1 Excellent Handler plaque award to include Track and Search Dog (TSD) in the combination of disciplines listed."

Current: 4.2.4.1

4.2.4.1 The GSDCA Excellent Handler plaque is awarded to the Handler who has achieved Excellent gradings with an ANKC registered pedigree GSD in one, or any combination of the following disciplines - Obedience, Tracking, Agility and Rally. [2015] The total number of Excellent gradings achieved for each award is:

a) Bronze 5

b) Silver 10

c) Gold 15

Proposed 4.2.4.1:

- 4.2.4.1 The GSDCA Excellent Handler plaque is awarded to the Handler who has achieved Excellent gradings with an ANKC registered pedigree GSD in one, or any combination of the following disciplines - Obedience, Tracking, Track and Search Dog, Agility and Rally. [2015]
The total number of Excellent gradings achieved for each award is:
- a) Bronze 5
 - b) Silver 10
 - c) Gold 15

Rationale:

Track and Search Dog is a separate discipline to Tracking and does not require a handler to have completed Tracking first. TSD is listed specifically in the 4.2.5 Regulation pertaining to an Animal.

Motion withdrawn.

20.12 Remove requirement for Breed Survey to be eligible for Breeder award (GSDCV)

Motion:

"Amend Regulation 4.5.2 Excellent in Obedience, Rally, Tracking or Agility to remove requirement for Breed Surveyed animal to be eligible."

Current:

4.5.2 Excellent in Obedience, Rally, Tracking or Agility:

A plaque be available from the GSDCA, for Member Clubs to purchase and present to their Breeders for any animal receiving a GSDCA Excellent grading for the first time in obedience, rally, tracking/TSD or agility, provided that the dog has also been successfully Breed Surveyed.

4.5.2.1 It is the Breeders responsibility to apply to their Member Club for this award.

4.5.2.2 The plaque shall state the discipline in which the Excellent was gained. (i.e., Obedience, Rally, Tracking/TSD or Agility).

Proposed Regulation 4.5.2:

4.5.2 Excellent in Obedience, Rally, Tracking/TSD or Agility:

A plaque be available from the GSDCA, for Member Clubs to purchase and present to their Breeders for any animal receiving a GSDCA Excellent grading for the first time in Obedience, Rally, Tracking, / TSD or Agility, provided that the dog has also been successfully Breed Surveyed.

Rationale:

Remove the requirement that the dog has also been successfully breed surveyed. While this (Breed Survey) achievement can be applauded, the ability to gain an excellent grading is a significant achievement in itself and demonstrates working ability in the bloodlines.

Breed Survey is a requisite for gaining an Excellent in the Conformation Ring. Not every ANKC pedigree dog is going to be "breed survey"/ conformation competition quality or live in a "breeder" home, OR the dog may not be eligible for Breed Survey due to age i.e., under 18 months, but the ANKC registered pedigree dog is still achieving excellence gradings and the breeder should be able to be recognised for having "working ability" within their breeding program.

Motion withdrawn.

17.13 Tidy up Regulation (GSDCV)

Motion:

"To amend 5.3.1.4 to include the word "local" and remove individual disciplines."

Current:

5.3.1.4 Awards and/or prizes will only be given to designated class winners and placegetters who obtained a qualifying score subject to Canine Control rules. For details of Awards and Gradings for CCD, Novice, Open, UD, UDX. Agility, Jumping, Rally and Tracking. Refer Section 4.2.

Proposed Amendment:

5.3.1.4 Awards and/or prizes will only be given to designated class winners and placegetters who obtained a qualifying score subject to local Canine Control rules. For details of Awards and Gradings for CCD, Novice, Open, UD, UDX. Agility, Jumping, Rally and Tracking. refer Section 4.2.

Rationale:

Tidy up regulation by removing the individual Obedience classes listed as other specific disciplines listed that do not have their multiple class levels listed here, but they are listed in Section 4.2

Motion withdrawn.

20.14 Requirements for Sponsored Trials (GSDCV)

Motion:

"Amend Regulation 5.4.1 Requirements for Sponsored Trials wording to remove the word "Obedience" and insert "ANKC Sanctioned Trials".

5.4 Requirements for Sponsored Trials

Current:

5.4.1 That all GSD Member Clubs, can upon application to the GSDCA Executive each year, nominate up to three (3) All Breed Obedience Trials judged by judges from the GSDCA "preferred or supplementary" list where any registered, pedigreed GSD can be awarded the GSDCA Obedience Gradings. [2018]

Proposed:

5.4.1 That all GSD Member Clubs, can upon application to the GSDCA Executive each year, nominate up to three (3) ANKC Sanctioned Trials judged by judges from the GSDCA "preferred or supplementary" list where any registered, pedigreed GSD can be awarded the GSDCA Obedience Gradings. [2018]

Rationale:

This regulation by currently specifying "Obedience" precludes e.g. a Rally only, Tracking, TSD, Herding or Agility Trial from being selected as a sponsored trial.

Motion withdrawn.

20.15 GSDCA Performance Judge Badge (GSDCV)

Motion:

- A) To update 6.5.3 GSDCA Obedience Judges Badge description to "GSDCA Performance Judge Badge" and Criteria for eligibility,
- B) Amend 6.5.3.1 to include trained to the minimum Open level for a discipline and

C) Amend 6.5.3.2 to remove the sentence *The Application Form is available from the GSDCA Obedience Chairperson and the reference to the Judge shall complete the application form.*

D) To include an additional sub regulation 6.5.3.4 *"That the GSDCA Judges Badge will be automatically presented to an ANKC Performance Judge when the Member Club endorses an application for inclusion on the Performance Discipline Preferred Judge List if the judge meets the criteria of 6.5.3.1."*

A) Current: 6.5.3 GSDCA Obedience Judges Badge Criteria

A) Proposed: 6.5.3 *"GSDCA Performance Judge Badge*

Rationale:

Currently the 6.5.3 Regulation restricts this badge to only be available to a Performance Judge who is an Obedience Judge. This Regulation also does not allow that other Performance Disciplines having different requirements for Judges, and it is not necessary for a Performance Judge in a different discipline e.g., Tracking or Endurance, to hold an Obedience licence. Therefore, all other Performance Discipline judges are prevented from applying for recognition as a GSDCA Performance Judge unless they are also an Obedience discipline judge, even though Member Affiliates can nominate non-Obedience Performance Judges to be included on the GSDCA Preferred Judges List.

B) Current 6.5.3.1

The GSDCA Judges' Badge may be presented to ANKC Obedience Judges who are on the GSDCA Preferred Obedience Judge list and have trained German Shepherd Dog to a minimum of a CDX title and have been actively judging at their Member Club's Obedience Trials, or judging at Nationals, and involved in the activities of the Member Club in their state of domicile.

Proposed amendment to 6.5.3.1

6.5.3.1 The GSDCA Judges' Badge may be presented to ANKC Obedience Performance Discipline Judges who are on the GSDCA Performance Discipline Preferred Obedience Judge list, and have trained German Shepherd Dog to a minimum of a CDX title, have trained a German Shepherd Dog to the minimum "Open" level title for the discipline or Champion level for Tracking and Track and Search Dog and have been actively judging at their Member Club's Obedience Performance Trials, or judging at Nationals, and involved in the Performance activities of the Member Club in their state of domicile.

Rationale:

The minimum "Open" level for a particular discipline is the level where a dog may continue to compete once that level title is achieved. E.g., In Obedience, this is the Open class (CDX), in Rally this would be the Advanced (RA) class level. Tracking and Track and Search disciplines are different again as once titles are completed, a dog cannot continue to compete in the discipline. There is no limit to the number of Endurance Tests a dog may successfully compete in.

C) Proposed amendment to 6.5.3.2

To remove the sentence The Application Form is available from the GSDCA Obedience Chairperson and the reference to the Judge shall complete the application form.

Current 6.5.3.2

A judge that meets the above criteria may apply for the GSDCA Obedience Judge's Badge. The Application Form is available from the GSDCA Obedience Chairperson. The judge shall

complete the application form and submit it along with their resume to their Member Club. The Member Club if endorsing the application shall submit it as an agenda item for the GSDCA AGM.

Proposed: 6.5.3.2

A judge that meets the above criteria may apply for the GSDCA Obedience Performance Judge's Badge. The Application Form is available from the GSDCA Obedience Chairperson. The judge shall complete the application form and submit it along with their resume to their Member Club. The Member Club, if endorsing the application shall submit it as an agenda item for the GSDCA AGM.

Rationale:

There is no Application Form. Therefore, remove from the regulation because a) it serves no purpose and b) it does not need to involve the Obedience Chairperson because the judge is submitting a resume to their member club for endorsement and submission as an agenda item for the GSDCA AGM.

D) *PROPOSED Additional Regulation.*

6.5.3.4 That the GSDCA Judges Badge will be automatically presented to an ANKC Performance Judge when the Member Club endorses an application for inclusion on the Performance Discipline Preferred Judge List if the judge meets the criteria of 6.5.3.1.

Rationale:

The GSDCA judge badge is automatically provided to an ANKC conformation judge who has met the criteria for the GSD Specialist Judges training (Regulation 6.2.4.4.1) If a performance judge meets the criteria at the time of nomination for the preferred judges list, it serves no purpose to require a judge to apply for a badge separately when the resume provided for inclusion on the Preferred Judge list has the information requested in 6.5.3.1 If the judge has not met the criteria for 6.5.3.1 then the badge is withheld until the judge provides evidence to the Member Affiliate that the criteria is met, member club endorses and submission as an agenda item for the GSDCA AGM.

Motion withdrawn.

20.16 Gun Test for Excellent Grading (GSDCV)

Motion:

"To expand GSDCA regulation 2.14.2 -gun test for excellent."

CURRENT 2.14.2

Gun test for Excellent grading [2017] That the gun test will be introduced and conducted forthwith (the exception being for shows where the ANKC schedule has been approved) and apply to all animals exhibited in the Open Classes at all Member Club and or sponsored shows where the GSDCA Excellent grading may be awarded.

Additional Text:

If an exhibit is GUNSURE when tested it must be firm, self- assured, calm, indifferent. They are initially allowed to have a brief reaction, but fully stand their ground on retest.

Then and only then it can be awarded the EXCELLENT GRADING.

If assessed as SUFFICIENTLY FIRM, the exhibit on the first shot will show an initial reaction and on retest their body language is still uncomfortable but stands its ground.

Then can only receive the grading of VERY GOOD.

An exhibit is GUN SHY when it shows fear, shyness and body language does not recover even with retest. This exhibit should be UNGRADED regardless of anatomy or any other reason.

Rationale:

This follows from guidelines set up at NBC Meeting in Adelaide 2023 as advice for judges and some dogs being penalised and others not which has caused quite a bit of frustration amongst the fraternity.

So, we believe for consistency local and visiting judges should follow the guidelines listed and penalise as per the additional text.

Bringing this in as a rule when followed by judges will bring back more consistency.

Discussion:

Meeting noted that this matter is covered in Judges guidelines.

For: GSDCV, GSDCQ,

Against: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC GSDL, GSDCT

Lost

20.17 X-rays submitted to Overseas Schemes (ACTGSDA)

This motion applies to the acceptance of the SV 'a' stamp for Australian Bred and resident animals that have been x-rayed in Australia. It does not apply to imported animals.

Motion

"Australian bred and resident animals that have been x-rayed in Australia and that participate in the GSDCA Hip Dysplasia (HD) and Elbow Dysplasia (ED) Control Schemes; or Dogs Australia CHEDS recognised scheme, can be accepted as having an A stamp required to participate in GSDCA Breed Improvement schemes.

These x-rays must comply with the relevant GSDCA Regulations and are read and graded by an authorised Australian based Radiographer.

Results that have been submitted to a recognised overseas scheme, such as the SV Scheme, for reading cannot be accepted into the GSDCA schemes unless they are accompanied by the hip scores. In line with the GSDCA scheme, only animals that score no more than eight (8) in any one hip, and no score greater than three (3) in any one area may be accepted into the GSDCA scheme."

Rationale:

It has come to our attention that some Working Dog Club Members have been sending X-rays to the SV for reading. In general terms an SV 'a' Normal would meet the requirements for a GSDCA A stamp. An SV 'a' Near Normal (Fast Normal) may be a GSDCA Fail depending on the score. An SV 'a' Still Admitted (Noch Zugelassen) would be a GSDCA Failure.

We need to ensure that the standard of hips in Australia are not diminished.

It is therefore important that we do not accept this 'a' result into the GSDCA schemes.

It would follow that we also recommend to Dogs Australia that these results do not meet the Litter Registration Limits standards.

Just a reminder that Australia has proven to be a world leader in German Shepherd Dog health issues. When the GSDCA raised the elbow Dysplasia issue it was rejected by the SV. It was a similar matter in the case of haemophilia, which was highlighted by Australia, yet again initially rejected by the SV.

Motion withdrawn

Motion:

"That the Documents of the Council's Portfolios, be 'streamlined' to expediate access to information and the conduct of events, that is, all matters related to the National Show for example be contained within the National Show Manual.

This would include all Rules and Regulations pertinent to, for example the conduct of the National Show and Trial e.g., the Review requirements.

The same would apply to the Breed Survey Manual with all the forms being required for Breed Survey being contained within the manual rather than in the forms section of the website."

Rationale

If all the information pertaining to Breed Survey, The National Show and Trial were included in the relevant document it would ensure that errors/oversights/being unaware etc as has occurred in the past, would not happen.

If the forms required are in the Breed Survey Manual, it would save time and effort for those administrators preparing Surveys rather than having to search in other documents.

Discussion:

Meeting noted that the documents are set up with hyperlinks already.

Action: Secretary advised she will be looking at tidying up the Regulations eg nomenclature - will work with QLD and Tas to develop proposed amendments.

Motion withdrawn**21 Other Matters referred to the AGM**

Motions 21.1, 21.2 and 21.3 are recommended by the President, German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia.

Note: *The below motions have been discussed by the Executive and placed on the agenda via the President as required by the Constitution - Annual General Meeting Clause 23.1 (j).*

21.1

Breed Surveyor Competency

The NBC Executive recommends:

Motion:

"That as of 1st July 2024 the GSDCA NBC Executive implements a formalised criterion-based re-accreditation process that GSDCA Breed Surveyors must meet every three years to maintain their GSDCA Breed Survey status."

Rationale

The GSDCA has formal processes in place for the approval and education of aspiring Breed Surveyors. Over the past few years, several clubs and Breed Surveyors have raised concerns at various times that no formal processes exist for surveyors to prove their continued competency. Presently, once a Breed Surveyor completes the aspirant process, they are a Surveyor for life. This leaves the scheme vulnerable.

It is recognised that to maintain accreditation, ensuring the integrity of the Breed Survey scheme; individuals must meet a set of criteria that enables them to demonstrate practical and theoretical knowledge, ability, and competency at least once every three years.

A draft outline of the proposed process and criteria

Every three years the survey team from each member club will undergo a compliance check. The State Coordinator or personnel identified by the NBC Executive with the NBC Chair will complete a compliance checklist and rating scale (to be developed) in each state.

The checklist will include observation of the Breed Surveyors' capacity and competence to perform the following duties at survey:

- ✓ Member club endorsement of the Breed Surveyor
- ✓ active participation in club surveys; NBC/Member club education events
- ✓ confidently and efficiently performs bona fides checks (e.g., measuring, microchip, teeth, weight, chest circumference).

Decisions and articulation of:

- ✓ the correct survey processes and procedures as according to the Breed Survey regulations and manual
- ✓ character and gun test
- ✓ anatomy virtues and faults in the breed and their cause-and-effect relationships on dogs they survey
- ✓ line-breeding and its effect on future breeding decisions
- ✓ appropriate summations for the dogs surveyed
- ✓ timely input of surveys into the database

Surveyors deemed non-compliant overall will be referred to the NBC Executive. A meeting (either online or in person) will be convened by the NBC Chair for the candidate and the State Coordinator to consider the appropriate action to become compliant.

A program for improvement or period of probation may be coordinated by the NBC Chair and implemented over 6 months from date of the meeting.

If the Breed Surveyor does not meet compliance at the end of the period of probation or program for improvement the GSDCA Breed Survey license may be revoked, or they may choose to retire.

If the license is to be revoked the Breed Surveyor has the right of appeal in writing to the President of the GSDCA. The President will convene a panel of five to consider whether the appeal is to be upheld or declined.

The panel of five will include:

- ✓ GSDCA President
- ✓ Member Club President (not from the same state)
- ✓ A senior Breed surveyor (nominated by the NBC Chair)
- ✓ An independent State Breed Survey Co-ordinator
- ✓ A general member (not from the same state)

The decision of the panel will be final.

DRAFT Checklist presented below.

Suggested Checklist

Criteria	Scale			Decision
	Yes	No		
Member club endorsement of the Breed Surveyor	Yes	No		
Active participation in club surveys; NBC/Member club education events	Attends regularly, highly supportive	Rarely attends	Never attends	
Confidently and efficiently performs bona fides checks (e.g. measuring, microchip, teeth, weight, chest circumference).	Highly Competent	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
Articulates processes and procedures from BS Manual and regulations	Highly Competent	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
Articulates sound reasoning decisions - Tests for gun and character	Highly Competent	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
Able to justify anatomical decisions, identify faults and articulate how they affect the function and purpose for a GSD	Highly Competent	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
Correctly identifies linebreeding and can make sound recommendations according to family traits	Highly Competent	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
Clearly articulates summations for the dogs surveyed	Highly Competent	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
Database input	Highly Competent	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
Observations and comments to support overall decision.				

Discussion:

Meeting agreed with the motion itself, noting that the process and criteria are in draft. Meeting discussed adding the option for a Support Person, and the opportunity for Breed Surveyor to advise any concerns about individuals selected for the appeal panel. Understanding that the following to be considered:

- Inclusion of a Support person - Need a support person and definition of the role of that support person.
- Pilot the process
- Improvement plan

Run the final draft past clubs before implementation.

For: GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDCT

Against: GSDL, ACTGSDA

Carried

21.2 Amendment to Regulation 2.14 WUSV Harmonisation

Motion:

“That regulation 2.14.1 Working Test ZAP (Part 1 Puppy Assessment) be amended.”

Current regulation

2.14.1 Working Test ZAP (Part I Puppy Assessment) [2022]
The GSDCA will introduce the Working Test ZAP (Part I Puppy Assessment), effective February 2022 on a voluntary basis.

- The minimum age to participate in ZAP shall be 9 months.
- The ZAP (part 1 Puppy Assessment) shall be conducted as per the GSDCA ZAP Character Assessment Manual [version July 2020].
- Dogs that pass the ZAP Part 1 test will be issued with a GSDCA certificate and a pass shall be added to the GSDCA Database for the information of breeders.
- An animal that fails may be presented one more time.

Proposed amendment

2.14.1 *GSDCA ZAP Character Assessment*

The GSDCA ZAP Character Assessment is effective February 2022 on a voluntary basis.

- *The minimum age to participate in ZAP shall be 9 months.*
- *The Assessment shall be conducted as per the GSDCA ZAP Character Assessment Manual [version July 2020].*
- *Dogs that pass the ZAP Character Assessment will be issued with a GSDCA Certificate and the results will be recorded in the GSDCA Database for the information of breeders.*
- *An animal that fails the assessment may be presented one more time.*

Rationale:

This is to tidy up the wording to align with the ZAP Character Assessment Manual.

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC GSDCV, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against:

Carried Unanimously

21.3 Gun Test for Excellent Grading

Motion:

“That regulation 2.14.2 be amended to include the use of the Clapper board.”

Current regulation

That the gun test will be introduced and conducted forthwith (the exception for shows where the ANKC schedule has been approved) and apply to all animals exhibited in the Open classes at all Member club and or sponsored shows where the GSDCA Excellent grading may be awarded.

Proposed amendment

The gun test for animals entered in the open class will be conducted at GSDCA specialty and recognised shows where the excellent grading may be awarded. The clapper board (as recognised by the WUSV) may be used as an alternative to the gun test on grounds where the gun test is not approved for use.

Rationale:

This amendment enables an alternative to be used where clubs are not able to gain permission from their local canine authority to hold the gun test. It is recognised that member clubs will make every endeavour to conduct the gun test in line with the regulation.

Action: A protocol for use be developed by NBC Exec

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT

Against: GSDCV

Carried

22

General Business

22.1 Discussion Item NBC Chair, Dr Candy Baker

That we consider the benefits of introducing a GSDCA DNA parentage testing scheme.

Background from NBC: DNA testing for proof of parentage was seen as an achievable goal towards our compliance with parts of the WUSV Harmonisation program. The Council originally agreed to go down this path in anticipation that ANKC was going to introduce a National DNA scheme, which would provide an avenue for testing our dogs in preference to sending samples to the SV in Germany. The ANKC scheme did not proceed however, and only Dogs Queensland introduced it as a requirement for registration.

Proposal from GSDCA Health Officer Dr Candy Baker:

Subject: DNA for parentage scheme

Objective: To set up a local scheme for DNA testing to prove parentage.

Reasoning: to provide proof of parentage and pedigree within the Australian gene pool (bred/born in Australia). To remove any concern or question over clarity for sired litters. mis-mating or dual sired litters for example. The SV have had this scheme in place for well over twenty years. Whilst it seems obvious, the clarity and honesty of proving this remains absent in our breeding program in Australia.

Consideration is given to only performing DNA sampling on dogs who are going through hip and elbow X-ray scheme for breeding. Rather than doing an entire litter at the time of registration with the local state ANKC affiliated body.

Dogs QLD have had DNA testing for parentage in place for some time now for all registered puppies. There has been a more recent transition from the use of an Australian laboratory - Orivet, to utilizing Massey University NZ DNA laboratory (InfogeneNZ). It is a worthwhile consideration to use the same laboratory so that Dogs QLD members do not have to double up.

The recommendation from Clare Wade (Professor at Sydney University of animal genomics) is to utilise the same laboratory consistently. Massey is using a microsatellite panel while Orivet is using a SNP panel. Based on her knowledge and information provided, either is ok to use but best if all animals are tested on the same one. All of the parentage test providers are meant to use ISAG markers. In order to determine parentage accuracy, the information for both parents and the progeny are required and these need to be for example, all SNP or all microsatellite. The laboratory should be able to save the marker results with the dog ID.

The preferred collection method for DNA based testing is hair samples, as these store well for a long time. Buccal swab sampling is also preferred and easy sampling technique, both are included in the DNA sampling pack provided by InfogeneNZ. Semen and blood can be utilised; however, an FTA card is needed for this. Vials or straws for Semen can also be used and sent in a tamper proof bag.

However, submission of biological products (blood and semen) incurs greater risk and expense for posting internationally.

A veterinarian or approved collection agent can be utilised for hair or buccal swab sampling to submit. Information on the Canine DNA sample collection envelope can be completed by the owner and collector. Then posted to InfogeneNZ at Massey University. Test requests must be submitted online and paid for at that time.

Currently InfogeneNZ charges \$50nz (~~AUD 46.18~~ now \$54) for a genotype which includes any parentage and resamples are at no cost.

Consideration for data compilation; InfogeneNZ has a system that can accept a "data dump" transfer onto a database or spreadsheet. A spreadsheet at our end may be a worthwhile consideration to start with or immediate submission onto the council database at time of hip and elbow results being added.

InfogeneNZ stores the samples, so if the owner needed other testing further down the track, we can pull the stored sample and if in good condition, can test for other diseases.

Discussion:

Candy dialed in via zoom and gave an overview of the proposal -

Candy is piloting the use of InfogeneNZ with a sample of dogs in Australia.

Action: Proposal will be developed further and presented to the next NBC meeting.

22.2. Discussion item 52nd and 53rd National Shows Judges Chair

- National Show Judges List - see page 40.

President suggested that we revise the rule around a judge having to officiate here twice before they can judge a National show. Our list of National Judges has decrease as a number judges have retired.

Following discussion, the meeting agreed to the following 60-day motion:

60 Day Motions

Motion 1 "That Regulation 5.5.3.1 be amended as follows:

Rescind section (a) and replace with:

They are a recognised GSD specialist judge that has judged conformation classes either on one occasion at a GSDCA Member Club or Sanctioned show, or the German Sieger Show and who has been nominated by a Member Club and accepted to be added to the list."; (2024)

Moved: GSDCQ

Subject to the above 60-day motion being passed, clubs proposed the following additions to the National Judges List (each as a separate motion).

Motion 2 That the following judge be added to the National Judges List - Jochen Prall (Lieberswarte)

Moved: GSDAWA

- Motion 3 That the following judge be added to the National Judges List - Dirk Gabriel
(Quartier Latin)
Moved: NHRGSDC
- Motion 4 That the following judge be added to the National Judges List - Nickolas Messler
(Tronje)
Moved: GSDCT
- Motion 5 That the following judge be added to the National Judges List - Bernd Weber
(Breed Warden - vom Augrund)
Moved: GSDCV
- Motion 6 That the following judge be added to the National Judges List - Marco Ossman
(Fichtenschlag)
Moved: GSDAWA

60 Day Motions agreed unanimously.

*Action:*Judges Committee Chair to provide resumes of these judges for distribution with the 60-day motions.

22.3 Review of GSDCA National Show Timing Paper

Discussion: Meeting discussed the paper and thanked Vince Tantaro for his work.

Action: Jess Lynch (new NSLO), Jess Kada and Sharon Thorp (original working party members) and John De Lucia, to further develop the proposals with a view to piloting by SA and QLD.

22.4 Increase of Fees

The Treasurer and the President of NHRGSDC propose that a 60-day motion be prepared and put to increase the charges for GSDCA breed improvement schemes by \$5 respectively for HDED, Breed Survey and ZAP.

Rationale - To recover increased costs.

Vote

For: ACTGSDA, GSDCWA, GSDCSA, NHRGSDC, GSDCQ, GSDL, GSDCT, GSDCV

Against:

Carried Unanimously

22.5 National Trophies

Queensland noted that the cost trophies far exceed the \$500 allocated.
Suggestions:

- Do a bulk order through the GSDCA for say 5 years' worth from overseas to save on cost e.g. Vietnam.
- Perhaps work on 3D scan prototype and look for options on developing.
- Gail Donald has identified a supplier in China.
- Victoria advised their costs for the 2023 National were:
 - Medallions \$1575
 - Mementos \$1572
 - Trophies \$2038
 - Sashes \$3671
 - Trophies & Plaques \$3148

Action: Gail to contact her supplier in China and come back to the executive with options.

22.6 Discussion Item - (GSDL)

The President GSDL raised his objection to the fact that the NBC Chair had authorised the provision of an HD/ED number before the form (that was in the mail) was received by the applicant, on the basis that the HDED Registrar said this was not allowed. Meeting noted that this was not a rule and, in that circumstance, the local registrar had already validated eligibility to participate in the scheme, received payment and issued the contract. Further, the automated system will remove issues like this as we won't be relying on snail mail.

22.7 Discussion Item (GSDCV) - DNA Profiling

Victoria raised a late item around the DNA parentage scheme. Chair thanked Victoria for their interest, noted that the item had already been discussed, and that further opportunity for discussion will happen at the NBC.

23 64th GSDCA Annual General Meeting - 2025

23.1 Dates, Venue and Meeting type 2025 AGM

- Proposed dates
 - AGM 1-2 February 2025 - Zoom/Face to Face (Adelaide)
 - NBC 12-13 July 2025 - Face to Face Sydney

Year	Annual General Meeting	National Breed Commission Meeting
2016	Adelaide	Sydney
2017	Melbourne	Adelaide
2018	Sydney	Melbourne
2019	Adelaide	Sydney
2020	Melbourne	Cancelled
2021	Via Zoom	Via Zoom
2022	Via Zoom	Via Zoom

2023	Via Zoom	Adelaide
2024	Sydney Face to Face	Melbourne 13/14 July F to Face
2025	Adelaide	Sydney 12/13 July
2026	Melbourne	Adelaide

Discussion:

SA proposed that the 2025 AGM be held in their club rooms to save time and cost to the GSDCA for conference room hire etc.

Could always organise a group bus for pickup to and from the hotel.

Presidents Closing Comments:

Thank you to everyone who attended, it was a very productive meeting and weekend. I appreciate the way everyone conducted themselves. We all enjoyed the social interaction and opportunities for informal discussions. Thank you to everyone who attended, and I wish them a safe trip home.

Meeting closed Sunday 4th February 2024 at 12:35pm