

NBC Chairperson's Report 2019 - Jenny Yuen

It is with great pleasure that I present my first report and welcome you all to the 2019 NBC meeting. As Melanie said in her first report it is a very steep learning curve. I have huge shoes to fill following on from Joylene and Melanie. I have taken on board the comments made in Vince's report at last year's NBC meeting and am working towards sharing the workload. I am extremely fortunate to be surrounded by a very capable and helpful team - Frank Moody as National Database Coordinator, National HD/ED Registrar Doug West, NBC Registrar Melanie Groth, Breed Health and Welfare Dr Candy Baker, Title Verification Officer Jenny DeLucia and The Education Working Group leader Jo Cathie.

I would like to thank sincerely all of you for continuing in your roles. I urge you all to read their reports as they do contain valuable information.

I would like to thank my fellow GSDCA Executive for their support and assistance, all of whom have had me on the 'phone with queries. I have to make special mention of Frank Moody, Jane Pike, Jacinta Poole and Val Moody who have been of enormous assistance over and above their normal roles. I would also like to thank Barbara Blythe for always being there and assisting me.

Throughout the year I have attended many interstate shows and of course the National Show in Melbourne. I note the usual issues with size continues. I note the reference made by Herr Hohmann and Herr Brauch at the National with regard to the length and lay of the upper arm and I would certainly agree here. We need to also bear in mind the pronounced hind angulation. The croups tend toward being too steep and this is exacerbated in some cases by the curve of the lumbar spine and we still have an issue with the length of the under chest. I have seen a steady increase in and seemingly acceptance of an elevated forehead reach. The German Shepherd should move close to the ground, covering it with a minimum of effort not wasting energy by high stepping. A number of our dogs do not present themselves well during the measuring and teeth check. By the time a German Shepherd moves into the adult classes there really is no excuse for unruly or nervous behaviour during the teeth check and measuring. Remember the German Shepherd Dog must be sound in mind and body.

I was a little disappointed by the lack of support by some exhibitors in not presenting their dogs to the Sires Progeny parade at the National Show and Trial in Melbourne this year. It should be noted that it is a condition of entry. Setting that aside the Sires Progeny is an important aspect of the National. It is an opportunity for breeders, exhibitors, enthusiasts and spectators to view progeny that may be an aid in making future breeding and/or purchasing decisions.

I was indeed gratified at the GSDCA AGM in February to see all State Clubs working together to forge a way forward with the Harmonisation program that is acceptable and doable here in Australia. Much has been accomplished through compromise and dare I say it some common sense. I hope we can all continue to work together toward suitable and satisfactory outcomes. It is easy to forget sometimes just how much we, the German Shepherd enthusiasts, through our State Clubs and the GSDCA, have achieved since the import ban was lifted.

I was reminded of this recently when a Judge/Breeder of another working type breed came to a Survey in Melbourne and was so impressed that we were able to establish our Breed Survey scheme and yet sometimes we all take it for granted.

Let's all work together going forward, enjoy this lovely breed and the company of fellow Shepherd lovers. Look forward to seeing you all this weekend.

Tooth Certificates:

Certificate 10122	Lago Giotto	Issued 07/06/2018
Certificate 10123	Delkit Northern Lights	Issued 23/09/2018
Certificate 10124	Leberhine Umeeke	Issued 21/02/2019
Certificate 10125	Bhuachaille Deliberation	Issued 21/05/2019

GSDCA Registrar's Reports

National HD/ED Registrar Report – Doug West

Madam Chairperson, Mr. President, Club Delegates, Ladies & Gentlemen.

Once again, I'm pleased to present my report to the 2019 NBC Meeting covering activity on Hip & Elbows. Councils Database now has **11,221** animals recorded as at **17/05/2019**, comprising of **3,269 males (29.13%)** and **7,952 bitches (70.87%)**.

Again, this year the statistics have been extracted from the GSDCA database and is an increase of 3.55% on the 10,835 submitted in 2018. There have been 385 animals entered into Councils Database during the 2018/19 year covering the period 04/05/2018 to 17/05/2019 based on certificates issued.

The Hip scheme has now been in operation since 1982, 37 years, the Elbow Scheme commenced in 1993, 26 years ago, and it has been my pleasure to have been involved from day one and to see the pass rates improve over the years.

This report comprises of data extracted from the Database and covers the period 4th May 2018 to 17th May 2019 the last 12 months, however the whole database is also reported on to give the complete picture with regard to Hip & Elbow Dysplasia in this Country & NZ.

Table: 1 - 2019 Full Database to 17/05/2019						
Club	Submitted		'A'		'Z'	
ACT:	195	1.74%	164	1.46%	189	1.68%
BH:	35	0.31%	28	0.25%	34	0.30%
NCHR:	468	4.17%	424	3.78%	460	4.10%
NSW:	2,727	24.30%	2,407	21.45%	2,676	23.85%
NT:	87	0.78%	63	0.56%	83	0.74%
NZ:	664	5.92%	526	4.69%	614	5.47%
QLD:	1,755	15.64%	1,461	13.02%	1,692	15.08%
SA:	1,315	11.72%	1,157	10.31%	1,267	13.44%
TAS:	384	3.42%	329	2.93%	364	3.24%
VIC:	2,185	19.47%	1,901	16.94%	2,104	18.75%
WA:	1,405	12.52%	1,228	10.94%	1,366	12.17%
Year 2019:	11,220	100.00%	9,688	86.35%	10,849	96.69%
Year 2018:	10,835	100.00%	9,386	86.24%	10,528	89.15%
Year 2017:	10,510	100.00%	9,047	86.08%	10,172	96.78%
Year 2016:	10,115	100.00%	8,681	85.82%	9,831	97.19%
Year 2015:	9,582	100.00%	8,222	85.81%	9,320	97.27%
Year 2014:	9,430	100.00%	8,084	85.73%	9,171	97.25%

As can be seen from Table 1 above, which gives a snapshot of the full database as at 17/05/2019, 11,220 animals have been submitted to the scheme since records have been recorded electronically some 30 odd years ago. During that time 9,688 animals have gained the "A" stamp giving a 86.35% pass rate (L/Y 86.24%), this is an increase on the 9,386 from last year. With elbows there was 10,849 gaining the 'Z' resulting in a pass rate of 96.69% compared to last year's 96.78% which is a slight drop. There have been 126 cases of UAP recorded in the full Database giving a pass rate of 98.88%.

Table: 1a - Last 12 Months 04/05/2018 17/05/2019						
Club	Submitted		'A'		'Z'	
ACT:	2	0.52%	2	100.00%	2	100.00%
BH:	0	0.00%	0	100.00%	0	100.00%
N&HR:	11	2.86%	11	100.00%	10	90.91%
NSW:	98	25.45%	87	88.78%	97	98.98%
NT:	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
NZ:	8	2.08%	7	1.82%	8	2.08%
QLD:	57	14.81%	51	89.47%	55	96.49%
SA:	54	14.03%	47	87.04%	53	98.15%
TAS:	16	4.16%	15	93.75%	14	87.50%
VIC:	84	21.82%	73	86.90%	77	91.67%
WA:	55	14.29%	48	87.27%	52	94.55%
Year 2019:	385	100.00%	341	88.57%	368	95.58%

Table 1a above shows the results from the past 12 Months (04/05/2018 to 17/05/2019). There have been 385 animals submitted to the Scheme during that period based on certificates issued. Comprising of, 341 gaining the 'A', with a pass rate of 88.57%, and 368 gaining the 'Z' with a pass rate of 95.58%. During the 12 Month period there were a total of 5 animals recorded with UAP giving a pass rate of 98.70%.

Once again NSW has submitted the most animals with 98 animals presented (25.45% of the total presented for the year), 87 of them gained the 'A' (88.78% pass rate) and 97 gaining the 'Z' giving a pass rate on Elbows of 98.98%.

Close behind NSW is Victoria who recorded a total of 84 (21.82% of the total for the 12 Month period). 73 of them received the 'A' (86.90% pass rate) and 77 gaining the 'Z' giving a pass rate on Elbows of 91.67% for Victoria.

Table 1E Full Database to 9/5/2019 - Elbow Results

Club	BORDERLINE		NEAR NORMAL		NORMAL		GR1 ELB		GR2 ELB		GR3 ELB		UAP	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
ACT:	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	135	1.20%	36	0.32%	20	0.03%	3	0.03%	0	0.00%
N&HR:	0	0.00%	1	0.01%	369	3.51%	72	0.64%	22	0.20%	3	0.03%	1	0.01%
NSW:	0	0.00%	4	0.04%	2,159	21.34%	376	3.35%	155	1.38%	13	0.12%	13	0.12%
NT:	0	0.00%	0	0.01%	67	0.70%	10	0.09%	7	0.06%	3	0.03%	1	0.01%
NZ:	0	0.00%	1	0.01%	420	4.45%	148	1.32%	53	0.47%	2	0.02%	15	0.13%
QLD:	0	0.00%	1	0.01%	1304	11.62%	290	2.58%	114	1.02%	11	0.10%	25	0.22%
SA:	0	0.00%	1	0.01%	1006	8.97%	199	1.77%	76	0.68%	7	0.06%	21	0.19%
TAS:	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	286	2.55%	56	0.50%	30	0.27%	3	0.03%	6	0.05%
VIC:	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	1,650	14.70%	350	3.12%	126	1.12%	8	0.07%	35	0.31%
WA:	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	975	8.69%	232	2.07%	171	1.52%	14	0.12%	9	0.08%
Year 2019:	0	0.00%	8	0.07%	8395	74.82%	1777	15.84%	777	6.92%	67	0.60%	126	1.12%
Year 2018:	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	8275	75.69%	1772	16.21%	776	7.10%	65	0.59%	124	1.13%
Year 2017:	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	7942	75.57%	1734	16.50%	765	7.28%	103	0.98%	118	1.12%
Year 2016:	0	0.00%	1	0.01%	7575	74.89%	1708	16.89%	752	7.43%	123	1.22%	112	1.11%
Year 2015:	0	0.00%	6	0.06%	7,193	75.07%	1,675	17.48%	734	7.66%	117	1.22%	107	1.12%
Year 2014:	0	0.00%	1	0.01%	6,825	72.38%	1,611	17.08%	723	7.67%	118	1.25%	99	1.05%

Table 1E above, is broken up into State participation for the whole database for Elbow grades. The breakdown of elbows is shown including UAP. This table gives an overall picture of where each state is in relation to elbows for the scheme based on the full database. A comparison is also given between the past 5 years at the bottom. The percentages for 2019 are based on 11,221 animals.

Table 1E Show's the comparison between the 6 years. Looking at the last 2 years, 2018 and 2019, Near Normal recorded 8 more for 2019, Normal had an increase of 120 or + 1.45%, Gr1 +5 or +0.28%, Gr2 +1 or +0.13%. Gr3 was +2 or -2.99%, UAP recorded 126 for the whole database, an increase for 2019 of 2 or 1.59%.

Table 2 Full Database 2019

Total Data Base =	11,221	100%
Dr Lavelle =	6,000	53.47%
Dr Wyburn =	4,636	41.32%
Dr Richardson =	585	5.21%
Females: =	7,952	70.87%
Males: =	3,269	29.13%

Hips:

Total Hip Pass=	9,690	86.35%
Total Hip Fail =	1,464	13.05%
Hip N/S =	67	0.60%

Table 2 shows the consolidated figures above for the whole data base, 11,221 animals, and 9,690 have gained the 'A' stamp giving a **pass rate 86.35%** for hips.

Dr Lavelle has adjudicated on **6,000** = 53.47%, Since the start of the Scheme.

Dr Wyburn has adjudicated on **4,636** = 41.32%. up to 2011.

Dr Richardson has adjudicated on **585** = 5.21% From 2011 to 2019 8 years.

The feminine influence with **7,952** (70.87%) continues to be much stronger than the males with **3,269** (29.13%).

Elbow Summary below shows 10,849 animals passing the 'Z' with a pass rate of 96.69%. Total number of animals with Near Normal 8 =0.07%, Normal elbow is 8,395 animals 74.82%, Grade 1 =1,777 15.84%, Grade 2, 777 =6.92%, Grade 3 =3, 0.03%, total number of Elbow Fail is 304 = 2.714%. Total number affected with UAP is 126 & this represents 1.12% of the total 11,221 in the database. There have been 67 that were not submitted for elbows 0.60%.

Elbow Summary:

Total "Z"=	10,849	96.69%
Total "N/N"=	8	0.07%
Total "N"=	8,395	74.82%
Total Gr1=	1,777	15.84%
Total G2=	777	6.92%
Total G3=	3	0.03%
Total Elbow Fail=	304	2.71%
Total "UAP in right Elbow"=	91	0.81%
Total "UAP in left Elbow"=	77	0.69%
Total "UAP in both Elbows"=	42	0.37%
Total No. animals with "UAP"=	126	1.12%
Elbow Not/Scored =	67	0.60%

Table 3 (Below) The Statistics at the top is for the period 04/05/2018 to 17/05/2019 the last 12 Months.

Below shows the number of H&E certificates issued yearly, for the past 7 years.

Since 2013 the number of certificates issued increased from 478 to 482 in 2014. And then in 2015 there was 443 a further drop of 39 or 8.80%, and then in 2016 there was 448 an increase of 5, or +1.13%, but there has been a 6.27% drop in the 4 years 2013,2014,2015 & 2016.

In 2017 421 animals were submitted to the Scheme a further drop of 27 or 6% in that 12 Month period. Then in 2018 there were 374 submitted a further drop of 47 or -11.16%. Then in 2019 there was 385 submitted, an increase of 11 or +2.94% increase. When you look at the drop between 2013 (478) to the last 12 Months (385) there has been a drop of 93 that's a drop in participation of 19.46% over the 7 year period.

Since 2017 the numbers presented have now dropped below 400. I guess it's a bit like show entries etc., which have been decreasing over the years. Hopefully the trend for the future will continue on the upward trend that was realised in the last 12 Months.

Table 3	"Certificates Issued" Annually. Chart below is for 2013 year to 17/05/2019										
Club	Submitted	%	A	Z	N/N ELB	"N" ELB	GR1 ELB	GR2 ELB	GR3 ELB	UAP	UAP %
ACT:	2	0.52%	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0.00%
BH:	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
N&HR:	11	2.86%	10	8	0	10	0	1	0	0	0.00%
NSW:	98	25.45%	97	36	0	87	10	1	0	0	0.00%
NT:	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
NZ:	8	2.08%	7	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.26%
QLD	57	14.81%	51	55	0	6	3	2	0	0	0.00%
SA:	54	14.03%	47	53	0	45	8	1	0	0	0.00%
TAS:	16	4.16%	15	14	0	11	3	2	0	0	0.00%
VIC:	84	21.82%	73	77	0	71	6	5	0	2	0.52%
WA:	55	14.29%	48	52	0	45	7	1	0	2	0.52%
Year 2019:	385	100%	350	298	0	277	37	13	0	5	1.30%
Year 2018:	374	100%	339	356	0	329	27	11	0	7	1.87%
Year 2017:	421	100%	389	399	0	372	27	16	0	5	1.19%
Year 2016:	448	100%	405	422	2	368	34	11	2	5	1.12%
Year 2015:	443	100%	380	427	4	362	61	6	1	7	1.58%
Year 2014:	482	100%	420	464	1	374	82	9	13	6	1.24%
Year 2013:	478	100%	438	466	0	356	106	10	5	5	1.05%

Table 4 – Consolidation of the last 12 months									
Table 4 Yearly Figures:	2019	2019%	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Total Submitted:	385	100.00%	423	421	424	448	482	426	387
Dr Lavelle=	306	79.48%	292	263	339	406	446	384	331
Dr Richardson=	79	20.52%	128	89	85	42	36	42	55
Total "A"=	342	88.83%	388	81	385	385	409	389	338
Total Hip Fail=	43	11.17%	35	8	38	64	62	37	9
Hip N/S=	0	0.00%	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Females:	298	77.40%	307	284	324	341	365	325	268
Males:	87	22.60%	116	137	100	108	106	100	118
Total "Z"=	367	95.32%	399	323	401	435	450	416	370
Total "N"	327	84.94%	366	268	367	373	370	313	292
Total N/N=	0	0.00%	1	1	1	3	3	0	0
Total Gr1=	39	10.13%	32	35	33	59	76	99	69
Total G2=	40	10.39%	15	66	9	8	5	10	17
Total G3=	0	0.00%	0	45	2	2	0	0	1
Total Elbow Fail=	19	4.94%	23	95	12	10	11	4	9
Total "UAP Right"=	3	0.78%	5	1	2	3	6	3	7
Total "UAP Left"=	4	1.04%	6	2	3	3	6	2	2
Total "UAP Both"=	2	0.52%	2	0	0	2	6	0	2
Total "UAP"=	5	1.30%	9	3	5	3	8	5	7
Elbow N/S:	0	0.00%	0	2	1	0	2	1	0

Table 4 above is a consolidation of the past 12 months 04/05/2018 to 17/05/2019, plus the 7 years 2018 to 2012.

Dr Wyburn for many years used to receive the lions share, however since his passing, Dr Lavelle now receives the greater share with 306 (79.48%), and Dr Richardson receiving 79 (20.52%). for the past 12 Month period.

The total number of 'A's was 342 giving an 88.83% pass rate for 2019 for Hips, compared to previous year 2018 with 388 animals with a 91.73% pass rate. During the 2019 period 298 bitches were presented giving 77.4%, compared to the Males 87 or 22.6%.

Total 'Z' was 367 or 95.32% pass rate for elbows for 2019 compared to 399 or 94.33% for 2018. The average pass rate over the past 5 years is 91.22%.

For the 2019 year a total of 19 or 4.94% failed elbows, 327 or 84.94% had Normal Elbows, 39 or 10.13% had Grade1, 40 or 10.39% with Grade2, and 5 or 1.30% had UAP. Two of the 5 animals had UAP in both Elbows, 3 were affected with UAP in the Right Elbow, and 4 were affected in the Left Elbow.

GSDCA Breed Average - Hip Scores (as at 17/05/2019)

Australian Bred Dogs Only

GSDCA Yearly Average				GSDCA Rolling 5 Year Average			
Year of Birth	Number of Dogs (per year)	Sum of Total Scores (per year)	Average Total Score	Year of Birth	Number of Dogs (Over 5 years)	Sum of Total Scores (Over 5 years)	Average Total Score
1989	1	2	2.00				
1990	4	79	19.75				
1991	4	27	6.75				
1992	16	197	12.31				
1993	25	310	12.40				
1994	55	989	17.98				
1995	244	2996	12.28	1995	344	4,519	13.14
1996	659	7399	11.23	1996	999	11,891	11.90
1997	622	6914	11.12	1997	1,605	18,608	11.59
1998	630	7333	11.64	1998	2,210	25,631	11.60
1999	491	4658	9.49	1999	2,646	29,300	11.07
2000	493	4329	8.78	2000	2,895	30,633	10.58
2001	471	4717	10.01	2001	2,707	27,951	10.33
2002	467	3585	7.68	2002	2,552	24,622	9.65
2003	406	2827	6.96	2003	2,328	20,116	8.64
2004	485	3374	6.96	2004	2,322	18,832	8.11
2005	424	2608	6.15	2005	2,253	17,111	7.59
2006	445	2710	6.09	2006	2,227	15,104	6.78
2007	442	2740	6.20	2007	2,202	14,259	6.48
2008	437	2577	5.90	2008	2,233	14,009	6.27
2009	375	2535	6.76	2009	2,123	13,170	6.20
2010	408	3544	8.69	2010	2,107	14,106	6.69
2011	391	3060	7.83	2011	2,053	14,456	7.04
2012	467	3577	7.66	2012	2,078	15,293	7.36
2013	457	4194	9.18	2013	2,098	16,910	8.06
2014	402	3709	9.23	2014	2,125	18,084	8.51
2015	397	3427	8.63	2015	2,114	17,967	8.50
2016	378	3275	8.66	2016	2,101	18,182	8.65
2017	279	2445	8.76	2017	1,913	17,050	8.91
2018	17	86	5.06	2018	1,473	12,942	8.79

Further to the minutes from the 39th Annual General Meeting.

The following was noted in the NBC minutes:

"That the HD/ED Registrar includes in his annual report a rolling breed average taken over the past 5 years". This was raised by Dr Karen Hedberg. Karen stated it is the only way of truly determining whether we are improving or going backwards.

Above is a chart depicting the Yearly Average and the Rolling 5 year Average.

The charts are based on the "year of birth" of the dog (not the x-ray date).

This is so we do not get distortion by animals submitted well after the normal 12 month age – it therefore gives a more accurate picture of the influence of Sires used at that time.

The results of the period 2005 to 2012 were very much due to the popular stud dogs of the day that produced very good hip results. The overall yearly average 2005 to 2012 was 6.91, and the rolling 5 year overall average was 6.80.

One can see from the chart that the yearly average and the rolling 5 year average have increased over the years 2012 to 2017. The overall yearly average for those 6 years was 8.69, and the rolling 5 year overall average was 8.33.

During the 6 years from 2012 to 2017 there was 188 less dogs presented for the yearly average chart, that's a drop of 40.25%, and the rolling 5 year average chart there was a drop of 165 dogs for the 6 years that's 7.94% drop. It needs to be noted the 2018 year is incomplete.

Congratulations to the 20 Kennels below that qualified for GSDCA H&E Awards during the 2019 Year.

A total of 20 Kennels achieved 33 Medallion's in 2019, 7 Bronze for Hips & 6 for Elbows, 4 Kennels received both 'A' & 'Z'. 5 Silver for Hips and 5 Silver for elbows, with 1 kennel gaining Silver in Both 'A' & 'Z'. 3 Gold for Hips and 5 Gold for Elbows, and 2 Kennels gained Gold in both 'A' & 'Z'. No Plaques were achieved this year.

The ACT = 1, NCHR = 1, NSW = 4, Qld = 2, SA = 4, Tas = 1, Vic = 5 & WA = 2.

The Chart below depicts those Kennels that qualified in 2018 (to 30th December 2018) for awards.

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

AWARDS 2018 KENNELS	STATE	"A"	"Z"	Award
UHLMSDORF	ACT		50	Gold 'Z'
BABANGA	N&HR		25	Silver 'Z'
HAUSILLEVON	NSW	11	13	BRZ 'A' & 'Z'
SHEZNOVA	NSW	10	11	BRZ 'A' & 'Z'
AMBERG	NSW	50	49	Gold 'A'
CONKASHA	NSW		50	Gold 'Z'
KARALCIN	QLD		10	BRZ 'Z'
DEBBAR	QLD	52	52	Gold 'A' & 'Z'
GEWALT	S A	11	12	BRZ 'A' & 'Z'
GILARISHA	S A	26		Silver 'A'
SIEGERHEIMS	S A	25	26	Silver 'A' & 'Z'
TONAKER	S A		31	Silver 'Z'
GARSOVA	Tas	10	10	BRZ 'A' & 'Z'
CAMNUSCH	VIC	11		BRZ 'A'
KARASTRO	VIC		15	BRZ 'Z'
HASENWAY	VIC	38		Silver 'A'
VOLSCAIN	VIC		25	Silver 'Z'
STOBAR	VIC		59	Gold 'A' & 'Z'

LASHADAS	W A		73	Gold 'Z'
BRONBOREO	WA	10		BRZ 'A'

Gaining Council's Awards are not easy to achieve, and it can take several years to receive the Bronze which is for successfully presenting 10 or more animals with your Kennel prefix gaining the "A" or a "Z" stamp. Silver is for achieving 25 and Gold is for 50, and there is a special Plaque awarded to those kennels achieving 100.

It would be appreciated if Clubs could ensure that the postal address and phone number of their Clubs Hon. Secretary is on their web page. This would assist greatly when I go looking for that address to post any Awards that have been achieved by your members to you for presentation, and for anyone else that needs to contact the Hon. Secretary.

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

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

Members can you please ensure your **Vet reads all the instructions on the H&E Dysplasia Control Scheme Application Form before your animal is x-rayed**, and saves any digital Disc's in the DICOM Image (ie: **.dcm extension**). Some x-rays received have had **no copy of the Registration Papers, & some no self stamped address envelope enclosed. These items need to be included.** Please ensure that all the correct information is supplied as per the information & Notes contained within the H&E Dysplasia Control Scheme Application Form, as this will get your results back to you much quicker from our Readers. Also ensure your Vet fills out their details (And that it is readable) in the greyed out area at the bottom left on the form, and completes the **"Veterinarian Declaration"** at the bottom right by signing it, if this is not completed the Form and x-ray will be returned. Some x-rays have been received and the required details have not been Radiographically identified, **this will result in your animal having to be x-rayed again** to get the positive identification embedded into the x-rays, no one wants to put their animal through general anaesthesia unless it's necessary, and then have the extra wait to get your results.

A big thank you to all the Members and Breeders who have continued to support the H&E Dysplasia Control Scheme over the years and has seen the value in reducing the number of animals affected by this crippling disease. The pass rate is at an all-time high, we need to continue to monitor this so we can be proactive if and when needed.

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

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

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

NBC Breed Survey Registrar Report – Melanie Groth

It's been a busy six months. Surveys are up to date in the database. Fewer surveys were held this year as compared with the same period in 2018. As a result, fewer animals have been surveyed, however the failure rate has remained consistent.

Table 1. Breed Surveys (January 1 – June 30 2019)

Club	No. of surveys	Classified	Fail	Reason
ACT	0	0	0	
GSDL	2	16	1	gun test
Newcastle	0	0	0	
Queensland	2	8	2	level bite/gun
South Australia	2	17	Nil	
Tasmania	2	4	Nil	
Victoria	4	16	2	Character/Character
Western Australia	2	6	Nil	
Total 2019	14	67	5	
2018	16	84	7	
2017	15	80	7	

INPUTTING SURVEYS INTO THE DATABASE – “Mel’s tips”

Follow these simple steps

BEFORE you open the data base:

- a) CHECK the pedigree, linebreeding, siblings, hips and elbows results of the family.
- b) Record the linebreeding Remo Fichtenschlag (3-4) Hill Farbenspiel (5,5-4), (note no vons, v etc).
- c) LOOK at the dog's pedigree and don't rely on the owner or the registrar to have the linebreeding correct.
- d) Type the general description, virtues and faults and breeding recommendations into a word document first.
- e) Make sure you include character and gun sureness in the general description. No issues with dentition are recorded in the general description.
- f) SPELL AND GRAMMAR check it.
- g) Check the general description against your underlining on the worksheet or at least be mindful of it when you are doing the dropdown menus. If the general description says the dog needs more foreleg or is deep in under chest, the measurement is 60/30 and the drop down says very good length of foreleg. That's a confusing message. Which one is right?
- h) Virtues and faults – don't re-type the general description – one or two really virtues or the most glaring issue could be emphasised here. Look at the hip and elbow status – if it's particularly good and the family is good this is something to recognise. Is it family typical? Any decent siblings you are aware of? If it's linebred does it look like the dog it's linebred to, or does it bear no resemblance? The answers to these questions can be addressed here.
- i) Next ... You are now ready to open the database and input your survey.

Open the Database

- a) Input the registration number of the dog then **WAIT!**
- b) A few seconds later the database will tell you who the dog is click on it and the dog's details will appear.
- c) If you do not click on the dog's name, the whole worksheet will not come up and it **WILL NOT** save. It will however let you think you are in.
- d) If the dog's pedigree does not come up, then you should log out and start again.
- e) Check the registration, hip and elbow status and microchip numbers match the paperwork on the registration (*this should have been done at the survey, however sometimes there are errors*).
- f) Check the TITLE status – Check if the dog has any titles and highlight this for the NBC Chair/NBC Breed Survey Registrar.
- g) LINEBREEDING - This should be at your fingertips because you checked it before you OPENED the database! E.g. Remo Fichtenschlag (3-4) Hill Farbenspiel (5,5-4) (Note: no "vons", "v" etc), (*this is not done well and we need practice*).
- h) State numbers – note the state abbreviation and the space between the number.

ACT 1150	WA 1151	SA 1152	Q 1153	NSW 1154	NEW 1155	T 1156	V 1157
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- i) Enter the height/chest depth, chest circumference, colour, coat, pigment, character etc.
- j) Cut and paste the general description from your word document.
- k) Drop down menus – record the nuances you didn't allude to in the survey and make sure the rest lines up with the general description.
- l) Dentition any notes about the dentition are recorded in the dentition box. If there are none, just type nil.
- m) Cut and paste – Virtues and faults.
- n) Cut and paste – Breeding recommendations. There are various restrictions that NBC has asked surveyors to record over the years. The most relevant is if the animal is line bred to Vegus du Haus Mansard and carries the hallmarks of deep hindquarter angulation/soft large ears/or character issues then no further linebreeding is noted. It also has to do with hip and elbows – this is where the stats come in handy and to know the families. If the dog has a score and one or both of its parents have scored also – then you recommend only to lines with excellent producing elbows or low means for hips.
- o) As for recommending actual dogs – It's fraught – you are better to go with:
Use a male that will correct the planes of the skull and foreface, the bone strength and the length and lay of the upper arm.
If people want you to suggest a sire then talk to them rather than putting it in the survey.
- p) Click on "Save Draft" on the bottom of the page.
This is a new feature that enables you to go back and check your work.
- q) Click on "Edit" in the LH column against the dog.
Go back and check your entry for any spelling, grammar, or incorrect drop-down options. You can again click on "Save Draft" which will allow you the ability to further edit your work.
- r) Once you are completely happy with the information, again click on "Edit" and go to the bottom of the page. Now click on "Submit for Approval". **THIS IS ESSENTIAL.**
The results are now available for the NBC Chair/Registrar to check and "Approve" – NOTE: you can no longer change anything in the survey.
- s) Now check that the results for the dog have saved, by going to the Breed Survey filter bar and entering the dog's name into the "Name" field. – The dog's name should appear with a status of "Pending".
- t) The data entry is now complete.

Some suggestions about keeping your records

In your folder you should have copies of the following:

- Breed Survey Manual latest version – familiarise yourself with it.
- Copy of your signed contract.
- A current blank worksheet and a fail form (Just in case).
- Height and Teeth chart (helpful for judging as well).
- NBC Report updates – circulated at the JULY meeting and throughout the year.
 - Current stats on hips and elbows (Produced twice a year 30 June and 31 December).
 - Directives on lines for breeding recommendation.
 - A copy of Sires Progeny report from the National Show and Trial.
 - The line breeding of the current sires in Australia.
 - Material produced by the Education group or produced for NBC meetings.
- Past surveys you have completed.
- Copies of the surveys of dogs you may be thinking of recommending.

Breed Survey State Registrars and Survey teams 2019

Club	Active Breed Surveyors	State Registrar	State Registrar email
ACTGSDA	Melanie Groth	Veronica Fairbairn	wmeffert62@gmail.com
GSDL	Fay Stokes (Coordinator) Melanie Groth Karen Hedberg Terry Jarvis Graham Stevenson	Pam Jarvis	tepe@bigpond.net
N&HRGSDC	NBC Chair appoints	Gavin Bean	Gavin.bean@honeywell.com
GSDCQ	Carol O'Rourke (Coordinator) Sharon Ballantyne-Gordon Louis Donald	Gail Donald	gsdcqbreedaffairs@gmail.com
GSDCSA	Peter Flynn (Coordinator) Jean Butterfield Christine Collins Steve Collins, Jane Pike, Doug West	Jenny Delucia	jjdelucia@bigpond.com
GSDCT	Alastair Henderson	Janet Haase	janet1602@gmail.com
GSDCV	Alastair Henderson (Coordinator) Greg Green, Ian Urie, Vince Tantaro, Jenny Yuen Andrew Jones (Aspirant)	Gill Cafari	cafari@bigpond.com
GSDAWA	Robyn Knuckey (Coordinator) John Fenner Natalie Humphries Honey Gross-Richardson (retired 2018)	Vicki Beaton	bruvic2000@gmail.com

Registrars are relatively prompt in sending their cover sheets for the surveys by email and then the original arrives with the paperwork. This system works well. Paperwork is sometimes slow in getting back from the surveyors to the registrars. I would ask surveyors to please be prompt with surveys. Some surveyors have taken to scanning their worksheets and sending them to me directly which is helpful.

Current updates in the seat of the Breed Health & Welfare Chairperson's report –

- Continuing to provide health articles, advice and input from veterinarians in their fields of expertise, such as; dermatology, gastroenterology/internal medicine and orthopedics (to be included in national review magazines).
- Continued point of contact for health advice for breeding animals, working and show animals for general membership.
- Education on common breed health issues to focus on.
- Research updates:
 - o Degenerative Myelopathy
 - Latest updates in research in police dogs in QLD, pending.
 - Results of progeny of clear DNA to carrier DNA producing affected progeny, likely DNA sampling technique fault. Clear results reliability? If carrier or affected then believable.
 - Actual development of the disease < 5%, article written by Dr Wolfgang Lauber and breed warden Lothar Quoll and published in the SV Zeitung in 2015 (Honey GR translated article).
 - o Bloat/Gastric Dilation Volvulus
 - Latest research and journal articles out of the US.
 - Gastric pH and bacteria as well as faecal bacteria population studies, showing changes in bacterial load in the gut with GDV affected Great Danes.
 - Strong genetic/familial predisposition, identifying the DNA increasing the association risk of developing GDV.
 - Immune effects on the gut microbiome.
 - Conclusions from an article entitled "The canine gut microbiome is associated with higher risk of gastric dilatation-volvulus and high-risk genetic variants of the immune system" Hullar et al 2018.
 - "The microbiome in GDV was altered by an expansion of a minor lineage and was associated with specific alleles of both innate and adaptive immunity genes. These associations are consistent with our hypothesis that immune genes may play a role in predisposition to GDV by altering the gut microbiome. Further research will be required to directly test the causal relationships of immune genes, the gut microbiome and GDV."
 - o Haemangiosarcoma (cancer of the blood vessels)
 - Most recent research in Australia identifying the glycoprotein triggering HAS, based of the human angiosarcoma model.
- Committee plans:
 - o As the Breed Health and Welfare Chairperson I have a lot going on. There are many things in the pipeline that are difficult to focus on and get on top of consistently due to other family and work commitments myself.
 - o Such as letters to Veterinary Surgeon Boards in each state for notification of JPS procedures if they have been performed and to be recorded on a national database as well as letter asking Vets if they can complete or ask owners to complete breed health form.
 - o I have approached a few people with the intent of using them to help with leg work to the best of their ability.
 - o The emphasis on discretion and the ability to perform and understand tasks that involve breed health and research data collection are very beneficial to provide me with some assistance.
 - o With more people working with me, more ideas may come to light with strategies and plans to put forth to the council for breed health programs in the future.

- Research and data compilation for the breed council.
 - o Whilst the breed health reports are not that frequently completed and submitted the information and reports that I have obtained require administrative compilation to collect data.
 - o The outcome of the breed health reports is to show statistics on major health issues within the breed. This can be helpful for other research focus as a reference for other academics and research personnel.
- Haemophilia A / Factor VIII deficiency cessation of testing.
 - o No further Haemophilia testing since last report.
 - o Be aware and advise if any known cases or concerns.
- Inter varietal breeding
 - o For reference, LSC to LSC vs SC to SC offspring to be reported tick box if known.
- Elbows
 - o Elbow disease is often troublesome and frustrating to diagnose, with or without the presence of a lameness.
 - o It is a common issue with our GSDs sold to the general population, and radiographs are not always clear cut for any diagnosis.
 - o Advanced imaging in the form of CT scans or assessment of the elbow joint surgically is sometimes our only way to find the problem, which is almost always coronoid disease (fragmented coronoid process).
 - o With further contact and liaison with our radiologists some foresight and advice on breeding recommendations with regards to elbow radiographs and scoring would be beneficial.
 - o One current consideration should be decreasing the arthritic change to less than 1.5mm, the reality of this, is that no arthritic change should be acceptable as it is likely indicative of underlying elbow disease.
 - o We need to consider more stringent breeding practices to avoid producing coronoid disease (fragmented coronoid process), delay in anconeal process closure (separate center of ossification).
 - o Grade 1 (without arthritic changes) raises concern for coronoid disease or other underlying elbow pathology.
 - o Advice from current radiologists needs to be followed up.
 - o Liaison with Dr Graeme Allen with regards to delayed closure of UAPs as this is a fairly uncommon situation.

Title Verification Officer Report – Jenny DeLucia

This is my second report to the GSDCA NBC Annual Meeting as Title Verification Officer. From my last report in 2018 to the NBC Annual Meeting to the present time, I have verified the following animals.

- Iliano von Juvenisty (Netherlands) non surveyed male SC
- Olexius Vera (Sweden) non surveyed female SC
- Ica von der Zenteiche (Germany) surveyed female SC

Due to two animals being bred outside of the SV, additional resources are required in order to correctly verify details which is a little more time consuming.

Owners of animals to be verified are submitting their completed forms together with the required documents seemingly without difficulty and the online system is working well.

National Database Coordinator – Frank Moody

It is my pleasure to submit this GSDCA Database report to the 2019 NBC Meeting.

At the time of writing this report we have nearly completed changes to the Breed Survey section which will greatly assist the surveyors:

- The ability to re-edit their results after initially entering them to the database, prior to submitting them for approval by the NBC Breed Survey Registrar. This will enable them to pick up any errors (i.e. spelling, grammar, or incorrect drop-down options etc.) before submitting.
- A warning prior to the system timing you out, if you have taken too long to complete the survey entry.
- Other background fixes.

By the time we get to the NBC meeting I hope this will have been completed.

HD/ED Sire Statistics

The updated HD/ED Sire Statistics as at 30th June 2019 as prepared using the GSDCA Database, will be available at the NBC meeting and placed on the GSDCA website.

DATA UPDATE

Dog Database

Registrations have recently been updated to 11th June 2019.

Records in the Database

- Dog registrations – nearly 304,000 records,
- HD/ED – over 11,200 results,
- Breed Survey – nearly 1,800 results,
- Haemophilia – 1,083 results.

Breed Survey Photos

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

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

We have therefore developed a report to assist the Club Registrars to chase-up outstanding photos. This report is forwarded to Jenny and Mel for distribution to Registrars.

Below is the current status (as at 6th June) of missing photos by Year and Club.

	2016			2017			2018			2019 YTD		
	Surveyed	No Photo	Percent	Surveyed	No Photo	Percent	Surveyed	No Photo	Percent	Surveyed	No Photo	Percent
ACT	5	1	20%	6	2	33%	5	4	80%	0		-
GSDL	20		-	46	3	7%	25	5	20%	16	9	56%
NCHR	4		-	10		-	12	3	25%	0		-
QLD	31		-	18	1	6%	22		-	9	3	33%
SA	30		-	32	2	6%	40	5	13%	10	4	40%
TAS	9		-	9	1	11%	14	3	21%	2	1	50%
VIC	34	3	9%	41	2	5%	39	6	15%	13	6	46%
WA	18	1	6%	28	2	7%	23	1	4%	4		-
Grand Total	151	5	3%	190	13	7%	180	27	15%	54	23	43%

USERS

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

Monthly average				
YEAR	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits
2015	372	659	18,277	28,744
2016	398	722	16,870	28,795
2017	427	857	19,682	34,451
2018	477	992	18,629	35,840
2019	594	1,095	18,848	36,798

My sincere thank you to Rob Filardo for all the programming work he undertakes voluntarily. Also thank you to Jenny Yuen, Melanie Groth, Doug West, Candy Baker, and the Breed Surveyors for their time, and assistance in ongoing data entry and maintenance of the Database.

Education Working Group Chair – “WHERE IS IT AT”? - Jo Cathie

As the group was formed, we are – myself, Melanie Groth, Alistair Henderson, Ian Urie, Janet Haase, Karen Hedberg, Nicky McDermott and Vince Tantaro - is part of the portfolio of the NBC Chair.

We were 'reformed' from groups 2 and 3 of the Breed Survey Improvement Working party groups born out of the 2016 forum. My job is to steer us along and report to the NBC Chair.

INITIATIVE 1

THE JUDGES SHOW REPORT - In order to further increase both communication and transparency of thought among the peer group with the members, a judges report is now required from all GSDCA judges officiating in Australia to be supplied with critiques to the judges chair and thereafter to member clubs for publication.

This was discussed by the group, a proforma devised, and a 'test' completed by Mel when judging the NSW SBE in August 2018.

Following further discussion this was agreed upon and sent to all judges on 12.11.2018 with a note from Vince.

THIS IS CURRENT AND IS BEING FOLLOWED BY ALL GSDCA JUDGES

INITIATIVE 2

THE GSDCA STATE EDUCATION WORKSHOPS/SEMINARS

Direct education delivery ☺

A most helpful and insightful discussion among the education group members and reaching out to some of our membership for ideas led to a collection of the 'hot' topics for an education day/weekend which, when discussed, was felt should ideally be run in all states. With several of us NSW based and Mel the educator on hand NSW led with a weekend event. This ran on the 9th and 10th of March.

The uptake was large and immediate and SO POSITIVE.

We capped the number at 110, due to limitations in size of the clubhouse.

(I will forward you the education booklet we made up and the running order in another mail – I am sure you heard from the Vic attendees how it went).

The league as hosts are particularly enthused and are keen to move to the next subjects.

Meantime both WA and Victoria have approached us to run similar events with events likely in WA in August and Victoria in November.

These are works in progress currently.

ZAP TEST!

As the ZAP puppy test has been voted FOR as a prerequisite for breed survey – the need for Education among the membership surrounding the test itself, its aims and its origin becomes apparent. However, as most of you will be well aware, this is well underway.

Herr Harald Hohmann the judge of Males at the 2019 National Show and Trial was asked by the GSDCA Executive to run a seminar and practical workshop on the SV ZAP Puppy Test (hosted by GSDCV Western Branch) on 30.3.19.

This was attended by the CWO from each State, along with up to two delegates from each club by invitation. Herr Hohmann was very clear and very positive in his explanations and discussion around what we were looking at and how we were assessing animals going through the test. There were four tests on the day and much discussion and insight about action and reaction of the dogs. It is the intention of the GSDCA Executive that those in attendance will now act as the drivers for demonstration and ultimately implementation and uptake of the test across the states.

As aforementioned a demonstration of the ZAP test was part of the GSDL NSW Education Weekend in March, which looks likely to be replicated similarly in November in Victoria.

Victoria also ran a ZAP test demo on 17th February in conjunction with their February Breed Survey where four participants were put through the various obstacles. It was run on behalf of Specialist Show Branch.

The GSDC Tas ran a ZAP test demo on Saturday 25th May with the Vic and Tas CWO Alastair Henderson and the NSW CWO Melanie Groth at the helm. By all accounts the set up for the test was particularly good (perhaps as a result of further clarification following Herr Hohmann's visit) the atmosphere and interest level hugely positive and the two participants sailed through each evaluation.

Without exception the overwhelming response to all ZAP test demos and events has been VERY positive with members apparently realising that it is quite easily achievable.

It is of course hoped that all states will make education a priority for the membership and it is of great importance to cover the ZAP puppy test as clearly as possible to allow for members in all states to take part at the earliest opportunity.

The progress of the group was somewhat dulled by the GSDCA National as so many of us were involved in preparation for the show itself and like myself, of our dogs.

The Next Topics for discussion are:

- 1 THE AUSTRALIAN SIRES PRESENTATION UPDATE – currently underway.
- 2 “OPERATION OUTREACH”

- 1) The Sires Progeny content comes from the NBC Executive and Vince mentioned Mel and I in addition to be involved in building the updated presentation. This is then a separate working party under the education umbrella focused on Sires Progeny.

Unfortunately, the timing of any suggestion of starting clashed with several of the new groups preparations for judging of SBEs, and then the National, Robyn's overload at work, Melanie immersed neck deep in the education weekend, etc., and we stalled.

Driven along by my own enthusiasm however I spoke to Jacinta because two ideas had been put forth - from the NBC Chair 'A Stud Book' of sorts – a reference guide for the surveyors and from the President, the presentation as an online reference tool – IDEAL I THINK!

Jacinta assures me both are (probably) doable once the content is sorted so that is most positive.

She was good enough to send me Joylene's material.

This in mind I have been looking at a modernised presentation taking content from Vince's 2012 Victorian presentation 'Let's Talk Dogs' and from Joylene's latest presentation – updating it with reference to the 2019 Sires Progeny from the National Show and Trial. Thus, the actual content comes from the Sires Progeny at the National - and in light of the NBC Chairs request to have state by state 'young stud dog' discussion – will go on to incorporate these dogs after NBC meeting to discuss.

With regard to the working group – it was my thought to perhaps have their insight if and when the presentation starts to take shape under the Executives' green light. As this is such an important subject, I await Executive instruction and have not put this to the group before now.

- 2) Re "Operation Outreach" – there was ZERO reply to this when Vince's draft aims and suggestions went to the group as noted by Vince at the time and I also felt personally at a loss where to begin with this as I don't partake of any activities out with the 'registered dog' remit. I wonder if a further sub-group is required including the Obedience Chair and obedience officers as certainly in NSW the obedience classes are attended by many people with dogs of other origin.

I also feel however that when the ZAP Manual is ready, and we can look to run ZAP tests at club level we have a GOLDEN opportunity to 'reach' the members of the clubs who are not show members. Certainly, at the League I believe there are a high number of obedience members in this category with whom ZAP will be a definite first stepping stone in reaching out.

I hope this brings you fully up to date.