

The 63rd Annual General Meeting

GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA Inc.
to be held on 3rd & 4th February 2024
Stamford Plaza Sydney Airport Hotel & Conference Centre
241 O'Riordan street, Mascot, NSW 2020



Special General Meeting Agenda

To be held prior to the Annual General Meeting on Saturday 3rd February commencing at 8.30am.

Motion:

“That Clause 10.2 of the GSDCA Constitution be amended.”

Current Clause:

10.2 There shall be an Executive of the Council which shall comprise:

- a President,
- a Chairman of the National Breed Commission,
- a Secretary,
- a Chairman of the Judges Committee,
- a Chairman of the Obedience Sub-Committee, a Treasurer; and
- an Editor of the Review

each of whom shall be elected by secret ballot at an Annual General Meeting and each officer so elected shall continue in office until his/her successor is appointed or becomes ineligible under Clause 10.9. An officer may seek re-election at the end of that period.

Proposed Clause:

10.2 There shall be an Executive of the Council which shall comprise:

- a President,*
- a Chairman of the National Breed Commission,*
- a Secretary,*
- a Chairperson of the Judges Committee,*
- a Chairperson of the Obedience Sub-Committee, and a Treasurer;*

each of whom shall be elected by secret ballot at an Annual General Meeting and each officer so elected shall continue in office until his/her successor is appointed or becomes ineligible under Clause 10.9. An officer may seek re-election at the end of that period.

Moved: Queensland

Seconded:

Motion:

“That Clause 10.3 of the GSDCA Constitution be amended.”

Current Clause:

- 10.3 The term of office of the Executive of Council shall be as follows:
The President, Treasurer, Chairman of the Judges Committee, and the Editor of the Review, each for a term of two (2) years commencing at the Annual General Meeting held in February 2008, and every second year thereafter for the same term of office.

Proposed Clause

- 10.3 *The term of office of the Executive of Council shall be as follows:
The President, Treasurer, Chairperson of the Judges Committee, each for a term of two (2) years commencing at the Annual General Meeting held in February 2008, and every second year thereafter for the same term of office.*

Moved: Queensland

Seconded:

Motion:

“That 1.2 of the Regulations be amended.”

Current

1.2 GSDCA Executive

- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- National Breed Commission (NBC) Chairperson
- Judges Committee (JC) Chairperson
- Obedience Committee (OC) Chairperson
- Editor Quarterly National Review (QNR)

Proposed

1.2 GSDCA Executive

- *President*
- *Secretary*
- *Treasurer*
- *National Breed Commission (NBC) Chairperson*
- *Judges Committee (JC) Chairperson*
- *Obedience Committee (OC) Chairperson*

Moved: Queensland

Seconded:

Rationale:

In the early years of the GSDCA, the QNR role was elevated to an Executive position to provide Walter Riemann with a voice on the Executive. In addition to the Editor’s role on the GSDCA, his liaison with the SV was a vital conduit for the communications between the two organisations. The role of QNR Editor has developed into a very labour intensive position to produce four quality magazines per year. Interest in the position of Editor may be restricted in obtaining interested members of our community by the extra responsibility of being a decision maker within the Executive rather than executing a successful and engaging publication of the QNR. It is proposed that the position becomes a non-executive role which will require a change to the Constitution of the GSDCA.

Annual General Meeting Agenda

The GSDCA Annual General Meeting will commence following the SGM on Saturday 3rd February 2024 and continue through to Sunday afternoon and conclude once all business has been dealt with or no later than 3.00pm.

Voting Strength

Member Club	Representative	Voting Strength
Australian Capital Territory GSDA	Sasha Beljanski	
GSD League	Graeme Stevenson	
Newcastle & Hunter Region GSDC	Paul York	
GSDC of Queensland	Sharon Thorp	
GSDC of South Australia	John DeLucia	
GSDC of Tasmania	Gabrielle Peacock	
GSDC of Victoria	Tony Mercieca	
GSDA of Western Australia	Ian Heard	
Total Votes		

Voting Strength - To be advised by the GSDCA Treasurer, as per the affiliation fees paid to the GSDCA Inc.

1 Opening

1.1 President welcome

1.2 Secretary - Housekeeping

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 4 February 2023 via Zoom be accepted as a true and accurate record."

Moved:

Seconded:

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.	Publicity Officer/Public Relations Officer	Not complete. Ongoing.
2	<p>Ineligibility to Participate in the GSDCA Improvement Schemes</p> <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 participate in the GSDCA breed improvement schemes for the length of the suspension/ban. <p>Legal advice to be sought before motion can move forward.</p>	Lyn Phillis to seek further legal information.	Not complete Ongoing

3	That a discussion re verification of titles on imported dog's and semen on database to be referred to NBC for discussion.	NBC Chair	Completed
4	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.	NBC Chair	Ongoing Pending outcome of HD/ED working party Proposal.
5	Letter to Aerial Fine Arts thanking them for their years of involvement with the GSDCA over many years.	Secretary	Completed
6	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.	President	Completed C. Bird accepted the position.
7	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.	NBC Chair	Ongoing
8	That all results, pertaining to the 2022 GSDCA National Show and Trial be reprinted as a supplement edition of the QNR.	Editor	Not Completed
9	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.	NBC Executive	Request prepared and submitted to Dogs Australia. Awaiting response.
10	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.	Public Relations Officer	Not Complete
11	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.	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

3 President's report – Sean Lynch

3.1

4 Treasurer's report – Peter Flynn

4.1 Auditor's report – Grant Thornton Australia

5 Secretary's report – Janet Haase

5.1

6 Club Reports and Financial Statements – Presidents/Delegates

6.1	ACT GSDA	Sasha Beljanski
6.2	GSD League	Graeme Stevenson
6.3	Newcastle & Hunter Region GSDC	Paul York
6.4	GSDC of Queensland	Sharon Thorp
6.5	GSDC of South Australia	John DeLucia
6.6	GSDC of Tasmania	Gabrielle Peacock
6.7	GSDC of Victoria	Tony Mercieca
6.8	GSDA of Western Australia	Ian Heard

7 Chairperson National Breed Commission – Ian Urie

7.1	National Breed Survey Registrar	Melanie Groth
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
7.5	Database Coordinator	Frank Moody

8 Chairperson Judges Committee – Melanie Groth

8.1

9 2023 WUSV Meeting Report:

9.1 Janet Haase GSDCA Secretary and Alastair Henderson GSDCA Obedience Chair – Report

Janet Haase GSDCA Secretary and Alastair Henderson GSDCA Obedience Chair attended the meeting on behalf of the GSDCA. Janet Haase prepared a report detailing the meetings held over the Sieger Show weekend which was distributed to all Member Clubs on 6th October 2023.

Minutes from the WUSV General Annual Assembly Meeting were distributed to all Member Clubs on 9th October 2023

10 Determination of scale of fees for financial year 2024 2025

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

11 Election of Office Bearers – (The following nominations have been received by the due date).

11.1 Executive

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

NOTE: Resumes for candidates for the positions of President, Treasurer and Judges Chair are placed at the end of the agenda starting on page 32, for your information.

11.2 Other Positions

Position	Nominee	Nominated by	Term
Public Officer	No Nomination		1 Year
HD/ED Registrar	Doug West	GSDL, ACTGSDA	1 Year
	Jacinta Poole	GSDCV	
NBC Registrar - (To be selected by the NBC Chair and agreed by the NBC Executive).			1 Year
Breed Health & Welfare Committee Chair	Dr. Candy Baker	GSDCV, GSDAWA, GSDL, GSDCT	1 Year
National Show Liaison Officer	Jess Lynch	GSDCV	1 Year
Public Relations Officer	Gabrielle Peacock	GSDCV	1 Year
Website Officer	Jacinta Poole	GSDL, GSDCV, GSDAWA	1 Year
Trophy Officer	Terry Jarvis	GSDL, GSDCQ, GSDCV	1 Year
Breed Specific Legislation Officer	John Fenner	ACTGSDA	1 Year
Historian	No Nomination		1 Year

NOTE: Resumes for candidates for the position HD/ED registrar are placed at the end of the agenda starting on page38, for your information.

12 GSDCA National GSD Show & Trial Reports

12.1 49th National 2023 - Vince Tantaro (NSLO) and GSDCV

Reports and review of the 49th National Show and Trial (Reports to be distributed)

12.2 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 Felder (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.

12.3 51st National – 2025 - GSDCQ

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	Rally Novice – Coral Pethers
CD Dianne Jackson	Rally Advanced – Dianne Jackson
CDX Laurie Knauth	Rally Excellent – Laurie Knauth
UD Tabitha Young	Rally Masters – Barbera Murfett
UDX Tabitha Young	

Junior Showmanship Judge: To be advised.

Entry Fees	Initial entry = \$....., subsequent \$..... per class.
Baby Puppies	Initial entry = \$....., subsequent \$..... per class.
Obedience	Initial entry = \$....., subsequent \$..... per class.

12.3 National – 2026, 2027 – for discussion in General Business 19.2

Confirmed and proposed list of judges for:	
2017 Queensland	Herr Frank Goldlust (LSC & SC Dogs), Herr Joachim Stiegler (SC Bitches) Reserve - Herr E Bosl
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

13.1 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.

13.2 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, as 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.

13.3 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 Koermeister, 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.

Motion 2:

“Amend Regulation 3.7.2 to recognize 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.

13.4 Online Hip and Elbow Process for GSDCA Member Clubs and Members

Motion:

“That the GSDCA implements a centralized 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.

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

14.1 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.

15 Matters referred to the AGM from the Judges Committee

15.1 Ratification of National Judges List

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

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.

15.3 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.

16.1 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.~~

German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia Inc. – Regulations Manual Version 12 updated– 03/07/20

~~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.

17.1 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.

17.2 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.

17.3 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 licence levels for Obedience and Rally. They are all full panel judges for both disciplines. All stewarded for the 2023 GSD National

NOTE: *Resumes are placed at the end of the agenda on page 31 for your information*

17.4 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 GDY. 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

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.

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.

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.

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 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.

17.9 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.

17.10 Rally tie (GSDCV)

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.

17.11. Excellent Plaque Track and Search Dog (GSDCV)

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.

17.12 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.

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

17.14 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:

- 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.

17.16 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.

17.17 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.

17.18 Streamlining of Council Documentation (ACTGSDA)

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.

Motions 18.1, 18.2 and 18.3 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).

18.1 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.				

18.2 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.

18.3 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.

19.1 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 utilized 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) 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.

19.2 Discussion item 52nd and 53rd National Shows Judges Chair

- National Show Judges List – see page 40.
- Review of GSDCA National Judging Policy and Timings Paper – to be distributed.

20 64th GSDCA Annual General Meeting – 2025

20.1 Dates, Venue and Meeting type 2025 AGM

- Proposed dates
 - AGM 1-2 February 2025 – Zoom?
 - 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	Melbourne or via Zoom
2025	Adelaide or via Zoom	Sydney or via Zoom
2026	Melbourne or via Zoom	Adelaide or via Zoom

- Meeting closed Sunday 4th February at
- Thank you for your attendance and have a safe journey home

Mrs. Gaye Todd



My love for dog training began in 1982 when I signed up at Southern Obedience Dog Club with my first Weimaraner.

I love seeing people working with their dogs and wanting to give back to the sport I love, in 2019 I joined the OTEC Judges Training Scheme. I gained my Full Panel Rally Judges License in 2022 and in June 2023 my Full Panel Obedience Judges License.

Throughout my judges training, the GSDCV have always been supportive, allowing me to steward, including stewarding at their 2023 National. Also giving me judging appointments in their Restricted Breed trials.

It's such a pleasure to work with the GSDCV team, they are passionate and professional in all aspects of their trials and shows.

I have judged both Obedience and Rally at the OTEC Victorian State Trials, Rally at the recent Poodle National in Victoria, stewarding at the Golden Retriever National

Mrs Lisa Sinclair

I started my Obedience judging licence in 2015 as I was retiring from teaching. After completing Obedience, I did my Rally licence and am a Full Panel Judge for both disciplines.

My main residence is in Melbourne but during the winter months I live in Townsville (due to the cold in Victoria!) While in Townsville, as well as judging at the local club. I judge at Cairns, Atherton, Mackay and Rockhampton. This year I was honoured to be invited to judge Obedience and Rally in Brisbane at the Queensland State Trial and Nationals.

In Victoria, as well as judging at the local clubs like Berwick, Southern, Croydon etc. I have been invited to judge each year at one of the GSDCV Championship Shows in the RTB Obedience and Rally trials. (I know the importance of the medallion!)

This year (2023) I stewarded at the GSD Nationals as I also did previously when the Nationals were held in Victoria (2019). (So, I have two photos with Dawn Fraser!)



Dr Maribeth Murphy



I started judging Rally in 2018 as a Full Panel Rally Judge and then started to obtain my obedience judge licenses in 2019 and completed my UDX and UD licenses in 2023.

Since I started judging I've had a wonderful relationship with the GSDCV regularly judging at Restricted to Breed trials for both Rally and Obedience and I've been fortunate to be able to steward at the 2019 and 2023 GSD Nationals held in Victoria.

My competitive involvement in Dog Sports has included Rally, Obedience, Tracking, Track and Search and Scent work with my Dobermans and my Dachshunds.

I regularly judge interstate and throughout Victoria. The highlight for 2023 was judging all Rally classes at the Royal Melbourne Show.

Resume for Sean Lynch - President



Firstly, I would like to thank the members and the clubs for the support you have shown me over the last 4 years.

I have just completed my 4th year as President of the GSDCA, I bring a long history of service, having served as the GSDCA as Treasurer for 2 years and Newcastle club President for 20 years, plus many other positions since 1986.

The past 4 years posed challenges, particularly with the unrealistic demands from the previous President of the WUSV regarding the Harmonisation Program. Proudly, we stood firm as a united group, resisting undue pressure and ensuring that any initiative aligns with our standards, legality, and achievability in Australia.

The winds of change have arrived with the appointment of a new WUSV President who embraces a positive prospective and understands the unique constraints we face. I am confident that this new leadership will collaborate with us to chart a forward path that aligns with our goals and is within our reach in Australia.

For those unfamiliar, I am married to Angie, often the orchestrator of the social events at the Newcastle club. Together with my daughter Jess, we breed under the Fremont prefix, although I haven't bred a litter since becoming President. In my work life I serve as the Dealer Principal of a highly successful truck dealership.

Accessible and always available for a conversation, I pledge that, if elected for another term, my focus will be on solidifying our stance on the Harmonisation Program. I aim to ensure that the WUSV recognizes Australia's greatness and acknowledges the remarkable achievements we've made in the last 50 years of the GSDCA.

Happing voting, and Merry Christmas
Sean Lynch
GSDCA President

Resume for Jenny Yuen – President



I joined the Kennel Control in 1973 with the purchase of a “pet” LSC German Shepherd. I trained “Sascha” at an all-breeds obedience school and have continued to train all my dogs in obedience to this day. I joined the GSDCV in 1977.

I have worked in many administrative positions at my club level including GSDCV Show Instructor, Breed Affairs Administrator, 2nd Vice President, Specialist Show Branch Manager and Show Training Administrator. I have been privileged to have received the GSDCV Outstanding Service Award and Life Membership. I am a specialist GSDCA accredited Judge, Breed Surveyor and Dogs Victoria German Shepherd examiner. I understand the workings of the GSDCA Executive having held the

position of NBC Chair and having attended nearly all NBC and GSDCA AGMs in all states since becoming a judge.

Through this hobby and the love of this breed I have had the pleasure of meeting many lovely and knowledgeable people, have enjoyed many years of fun exhibiting and have had the pleasure of owning, importing and breeding some lovely dogs. I couldn’t imagine a household without a GSD.

Suffice it to say I’ve been around awhile! I’ve seen the breed at its strongest and most popular, a time when the success of the GSDCA was exciting and envied by many other breed clubs. I believe very strongly in the GSDCA and the breed improvement schemes and believe the organisation has much of which to be proud. It is the most proactive and successful single breed organisation in the country. Having said that I’m saddened and disappointed with the apparent division and lack of harmony that has seemingly appeared over the last few years and the trend away from the idealism that has held us in such good stead since the lifting of the import ban. We must never forget that time, as here, in Australia, dog breeds and breeding are constantly under scrutiny and currently legislation is appearing that can and will impact our breed and our hobby.

We all have different ideas and that’s okay, but let’s come together and work towards finding some middle ground that can reunite us all to move the breed and the Council forward with renewed enthusiasm, idealism, mutual respect, and some common sense. By breeding German Shepherd dogs and partaking in this hobby we all become caretakers of this breed and, as such, must work towards breeding and promoting a dog that is sound in mind and body and fit for the roles for which he was intended.

We need to encourage our newer Judges/Surveyors to take on roles at both club and GSDCA level. In doing so we need to look at ways to make this step more easily doable without the need to give up the activities that brought them to our breed in the first place.

I believe I have the experience and the background to fulfil the position of President and I will undertake this role to the best of my ability.

Resume for Peter Flynn - Treasurer



My first German Shepherd Dog was a bitch called Kayla (Scenvale Ardent Lady) who my father bought in 1986. He was travelling a lot at the time, so I decided to train her at the Eastern Branch of the German Shepherd Dog Club of Victoria. I was hooked and eventually trained her through to a Utility Dog. Shifting between Victoria and South Australia for work I have been a member of either the German Shepherd Dog Club of Victoria or the German Shepherd Dog Club of South Australia since 1986.

I am Certified Practicing Accountant (CPA) and have held several senior roles in finance with General Motors Holdens (Treasurer, Chief Accounting Officer, and Finance Controller Manufacturing Operations). I also worked in Italy for five years as the Chief Accounting Officer for a joint venture company between General Motors and Fiat Auto. I am now retired.

I have been the Hon. Treasurer for the German Shepherd Dog Club of South Australia for the last twelve years, and the Hon. Treasurer for the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia for the last four years. I am also a Specialist Judge and Breed Surveyor. Together with my wife Kitty we breed and show under the Siegerheims Kennel.

If elected to the position of Treasurer I believe I have the appropriate skills to fulfil the requirements of the job, and also have a strong knowledge of the breed and the organisation to assist in the overall running of the council.

Resume for Paul York – Treasurer



My involvement with the German Shepherd Dog began in 1981 with the purchase of my first Shepherd. Since that day my love of the breed has only grown.

Throughout my forty year plus journey with the German Shepherd, I have been fortunate to be able to import (in partnership) some wonderful animals from Europe. VA Mischalands Calvin was my first followed by As Du Domaine Du Val D’Aulnoy (Silver Medalist Sydney) and most recently Ypsilon Di Cassa Caputi.

The objective of importing bloodlines has always been to improve my breeding program and like all of you, I have encountered the highs and lows, the heartbreak and joys of being a dog breeder. All of this has led to successes such as having the he good fortune to have bred some wonderful dogs, including National medal winners and National Class winners. All remain with me until their natural end comes.

My club involvement has included several committee positions with NHRGSDC serving several years as Treasurer, and then Secretary. Currently President of the NHRGSDC . My wife and myself were both honored in 2020 by being made Life Members of the Newcastle Club. This is an honor that we both cherish.

The roles I have undertaken have provided me with insights into the challenges that clubs across the country face at several levels – be it running a show, trying to remain financially viable, managing relationships with DOGS NSW or setting a strategic direction that will insure growth and resilience for my club. All of this experience and many other skills would be available to the role of Treasurer of GSDCA should I be elected.

In my day-to-day life, I work for a Multi-National Electrical Manufacturing Company, Eaton. Eaton are a fortune 500 USA Company based in Cleveland. They have a turnover in excess of 20 billion Dollars a year. I manage a \$20Mil segment of that business based in Australia. I am lucky to be able to work from home, and by managing my workload efficiently, I have the luxury of time with my dogs and the capacity to contribute to Nation Council as and when required.

My motivation for seeking your support comes from a review of the landscape in which we find ourselves at the present time. Across the country, we are again being threatened by the legislative process, with law and regulation being developed in each state that will ultimately threaten our activities. Most recently, NSW has witnessed an assault from the Animal Justice Party that has sought to label us as “puppy farmers” and attempted to impose draconian measures that would have made it impossible to continue as breeders. We are still not out of the woods yet with QLD poised to implement another round of legislation aimed at dog owners, but some progress has been made. The outcome of the Victorian legislation leaves us in no doubt as to the objectives of minority political groups with a single agenda.

Going forward, I argue that strong leadership and constant vigilance is the only option for us, and I would make this a priority of my service. I strongly support animal welfare, what I do not support is ill informed, emotive campaigns that threaten us, whether they are in NSW or anywhere else across the country. We have rights that need to be defended.

Over the past several years, the other main issue that has caused disunity has been the requirements of Harmonisation. The WUSV demands for compliance are nothing new, but as an organization, we failed to fully appreciate, as far back as 2011, what these would mean for us. A great deal of work has been done to resolve the discord, but much remains. I would work to support any resolution that is respectful of both organisations. Noting that as a democratic organization, our members will have the final voice in what is implemented in Australia. Australia is a world leader in the implementation of health schemes, has developed amazing resources and tools to develop and advance the standing of our breed.

Similarly, Germany has been an outstanding custodian of the German Shepherd Dog. With some goodwill we could move forward collaboratively and this would be my objective as secretary – to support the development of compromise that is acceptable to our members.

The vote for treasurer is important, it not only a vote for Treasurer but a vote for a strong voice on National Council

Thank You

Paul York.

Resume for Jenny De Lucia – Judges Committee Chair



I have been involved with the German Shepherd Dog since the age of 13, a member of the German Shepherd Dog Club of S.A. since 1981 and a Life Member of the club since 1997. I have also been a qualified Dog Obedience Judge.

Over many years, I have held various positions serving on the Committee of the GSDC of SA including, Public Relations Officer, Minute Secretary, Social and Fundraising, Shepherd Shop Manager, State Breed Survey Registrar, Shepherd News Co-Editor, and First Vice President. I have also served on past National Show Committees. In addition, I have been a past Obedience Head Trainer, Demonstration Team Captain and have been an Obedience Instructor since 1987. I have held the position of GSDCA Title Verification Officer since 2018.

Together with my husband, John and daughter, Isabella, our first litter under the 'Babenberg' Prefix was registered in 2001. We have bred many excellent graded animals and in 2014 were awarded the GSDCA Bronze Medal for Hip and Elbow Passes. We have to date imported two German Shepherd Dogs from Germany. **Vimo von der Hopfenhalle a ED SchHIII** (in partnership with Stephen and Christine Collins of Rhosyn Kennels), who went on to win the Gold Medal in Open Dog at the 2008 National Show and Trial held in Adelaide. **Charon vom Overledingerland a ED SchHI** (in partnership with my father, Josef Seidl of Vomkogelberg Kennels). Charon has been an exceptional producer for us. In her first litter, Charon produced the Junior Bitch 2013 National winner, Babenberg Jaci, with her siblings being placed 9th Junior Bitch – Babenberg Jasmina, 3rd Junior Dog – Babenberg Joachim and 4th Junior Dog – Babenberg Jericho. Her son, ***Babenberg Ollie AZ** has won many first placings and Challenge wins and was the recipient of the Rhosyn Point Score Trophy in 2019. We bred and own the 2023 National Gold Medal winning Open LSC Dog, **Ch. *Babenberg Valentino** who is also the 2023 winner of the Alimanda Eroica Point Score Trophy.

In 2015 I became a Licenced Single Breed Judge for German Shepherd Dogs and a GSDCA Breed Surveyor in 2022 and continue breeding, handling, and showing GS Dogs.

In my working life, I am a Home Support Assessor for My Aged Care which I have done for the past 8 years and prior to that was a HACC Coordinator working with Anglicare. I have previous to this, worked with my father in a family owned and run commercial and domestic plumbing business for over 24 years.

In considering the role of GSDCA Judges Committee Chairperson, I believe that dedication, impartiality and a clear vision are essential in fulfilling this role. I applaud the previous position holders who changed the trajectory of this position to introduce training seminars and workshops. I am a strong believer and supporter of education and striving for betterment in oneself and feel that this, together with training and performance reviews of our Judges are vital in ensuring a high calibre of judge who are proud to be representing and promoting the breed.

The GSDCA faces serious challenges due to the spate of both past and recent dog attacks and the ensuing knee jerk reactions of Government. Regardless of who the successful position holders will be, the GSDCA needs to focus on what is important and work together to protect the breed in this country.

Resume for Robyn Knuckey – Judges Committee Chair



I have been a member of the GSDA of WA for 42 years; humbled to receive a Life Membership for my contribution over that time. I am an owner, breeder (Freinhauf, with husband Kevin), exhibitor, administrator, and lover of German Shepherd Dogs.

I enjoy collaborating with the members and encouraging new members to stand for positions and contribute. My committee and management roles have enabled me to broaden the club's horizon whilst providing a conduit for WA to the National scene; reducing the isolation that distance holds for our members in WA. I have served the club as Show manager for specialty shows and SBEs; working tirelessly to build teams of people focused on providing quality show experiences for exhibitors; promoting young people and new judges; and most importantly an enjoyable day out with our wonderful breed. I have served in the executive positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer.

I am passionate about breed promotion and ensuring our organisations are sustainable. I am highly cognisant with the Judges Committee role having held the position over four terms from 2006-2010 and 2014-2018. I did not seek re-election at the end of those terms, preferring to support other willing candidates aspiring to an Executive role. As Judges Committee Chair, I redeveloped the documentation for the GSDCA Extension Course, NSLO role and implemented communication tools for Specialist Shows that are still relevant today. I have mentored, supported, and built the capacity of aspirants, celebrating their elevation to GSDCA Specialist.

My experience extends beyond single breed clubs to Dogs West. I have served on the Governing Council for 4 years and been a member of the Breed Protection and Legislation Committee. For six years I have supported trainee judges in WA as the Group 5 Convenor for Trainee Judges. I am also a DOGS AUSTRALIA accredited Examiner Judge for Group 5. I attained my Group 5 license in 1994, completing the GSDCA extension course in 1996: achieving Breed Surveyor status in 2001. I have judged German Shepherd Dogs extensively throughout Australia and New Zealand.

As a breeder and exhibitor of German Shepherds highlights include winning a National Gold Medal with *Ch Eisenland Zilli (2002) and a Bronze with *Pedra degli Achei imp Italy (2016). We purchased Pedra to improve our lines here in Australia. At the 2019 National, we achieved the ultimate: her offspring winning dual medals from littermates Freinhauf Havoc (Silver) and Hannibal (Bronze), the Breeders Group winner and the Sammy Trophy for highest performing stock coat kennel. Pedra's daughters have won SBE Siegerin titles in WA, NSW and in the 3rd generation a dual gold medalist and SBE Siegerin. She also has an Excellent Merit son in Victoria.

After a break from the role of Judges Chair, I find I still have the drive, desire, and passion to keep making a difference. When approached to stand again, I found it difficult to decline. My aim for the role is to encourage younger members of our fraternity to take up judging, whether via Group 5 or GSDs only. This is a priority and may require review of requirements to enter the scheme. I possess a unique skill set as a breeder, exhibitor, judge and administrator to understand the intricacies of clubs and the challenges they face interacting with Canine and welfare organisations, politicians and the general public.

Resume for Jacinta Poole – HD/ED Registrar



My nomination for the position of Hip Dysplasia/Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme Registrar stems from a continuing interest in assisting the GSDCA to further develop and improve. My past role on Council Executive and my continued involvement with both the Council and my Club has provided me with an extensive understanding of the functions of National Council, including the Breed Improvement Schemes.

I am currently actively involved in a GSDCA working party to consider changes to the GSDCA HD/ED contract and xray reading process, which will hopefully bring benefits to members in 2024. The GSDCA has a recognised history with the Hip and Elbow Schemes and the results and the benefits it has brought to the GSD's health in Australia. We need to continue to build on that and make every opportunity easy to involve new members in the health aspects of our dogs.

Change always brings opportunity for assessment of processes and procedures and to look for ways to improve on how we do things. Naturally this includes the use of technology in a collaborative way.

As a summary of my experience, at National Council level I was the Quarterly National Review Editor for 5 years, from 2016-2021. I am also the current GSDCA website officer, since 2015. In my home state of Victoria, I manage the Malvern training branch of the GSDCV, where we regularly train ~80 GSDs per week. I have been an obedience instructor for 20 years. I am a member of the GSDCV Management Committee and have also been Webmaster and Shepherd News Editor for 15+ years, along with many other roles. I am actively involved in Club activities and regularly attend shows and trials. I currently own two GSD's.

In my day job I am a scientist, working for CSIRO. Problem solving, organisation and management, attention to detail, statistics and reporting are daily aspects of my job, all skills that are front and centre for the HD/ED Registrar role.

I consider myself very capable, thorough, and hardworking, with a 'can-do' approach. I have the appropriate skills to both fulfil and enhance the HD/ED Registrar role. I have a strong knowledge of the breed and the organisation and if elected will continue the excellent work that has been achieved over many past years by the GSDCA.

Resume for Doug West – HD/ED Registrar



My involvement in German Shepherds started in 1962, my wife Rae and I purchased our first Shepherd a bitch called Nanlescol Beauty.

I have been a member of the German Shepherd Dog Club of SA Inc. since 1960 (63 years). I was awarded Life Membership of the German Shepherd Dog Club of SA Inc. in 1969 (54 years).

I held the position of President of the German Shepherd Dog Club of SA Inc. between 1979, 1989, 1990 to 1998 total of 18 years. During my term I was instrumental in obtaining the new grounds at West Beach, which included the Clubrooms, 3 phase power, lighting, fencing and the grassed area to be cut by the West Beach Trust, all of this was paid for by the SA Government. I went back and did a couple a terms as

Hon. Secretary, Trials, and Committee member.

I took over from Veronica Fairbairn (ACT) as Hip & Elbow National Registrar for the German Shepherd Dog of Council Aust. in 1984, (39 years).

I was a Tattoo Officer between 1970 to 2017, (47 years) until it ceased. I can still remember Don Gotchalk & Uli Swab coming to an NBC Meeting in Victoria & bringing Pigs Ears with them which we used to practice Tattooing on. And that was the start of the Tattoo Scheme until it ceased in 2017. When we were tattooing if an animal got out and was picked up by a person or a local Council or the RSPCA, they could ring German Shepherd Dog Club of SA, they would be asked to look in the dogs right ear to see if there was a tattoo, if there was then they could be told who the owner was and give them the owners address, phone and mobile number and the animal was returned to the owner. But we can't do that now and only Microchips are accepted, and Jo blow finding a lost dog is not going to have a Microchip scanner! That's progress for you. I'm one of few inaugural breed surveyors for the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia Inc. that is left. And I'm still actively Breed Surveying and Breeding. I have been doing so since 1977 to 2021 some 44 years.

I was involved in the lifting of the 42-year Ban on Importing German Shepherds that had been placed on our Breed by The Farmers & Graziers Association. I received a phone call from the new police Commissioner that came to Adelaide from England Mr Harrold Salisbury whilst I was President, he told me that he wanted to bring two dog handlers and their two police dogs out to join the SA Police force. He said he was told that he couldn't because there was a ban on importing German Shepherds. I told Mr Salisbury he was just the person that could fix this and put him in touch with Senator Don Chip. Mr Salisbury rang me back and said the ban was going to be lifted for a period of 3 Months and to advise all shepherd enthusiast's that wanted to Import a German Shepherd, that they had a 3 Month period to do so.

There was that many Shepherds Imported in that 3 Month period, that the Government was not game enough to reinstate the ban, and the rest is History.

GSDCA Current National Judges List 2023

Regulations Manual 5.5.3.1 - Conformation Judges (updated regs 2023)

The criteria for conformation judges to be selected and included on to the GSDCA National GSD Show Judges List is that:

- a) They are a recognised GSD specialist judge that must have judged on two separate occasions at GSDCA Member Club or sanctioned shows and who have been nominated by a Member Club and accepted to be added to the list; [2018]
- b) The list of approved judges will be reviewed at the annual GSDCA Judges Committee (JC) Meeting where judges may be added and or removed upon a request from a Member Club;
- c) The list as reviewed by the JC Meeting will be presented to the AGM.
- d) Member Clubs hosting the National will have the right to choose 2 of 4 judges as nominated by GSDCA Executive and choices presented to AGM 2 years before the event is to be held; The 2 judges that are not chosen will act as reserve judges. [2018]
- e) The GSDCA SV Liaison Officer will contact judges as selected. In the event, that none of the 4 chosen judges can accept the invitation the GSDCA Executive will liaise directly with the host Member Club and agreement sought to approach other judges as listed;
- f) Conditions under which the Judges are to be contracted should be as per the sample contract printed in Appendix "F" ANKC Contracts.
 - Judges will agree to not judge in Australia for two years prior to the date of the National they have been invited to Judge.
 - Judges will provide a written summation of each class that will preface their critiques when published. This summation will be provided within 15 days of the conclusion of the event.
 - International Judges should be reminded that they require a 408 visa to enter Australia.
 - Judges should be advised of what official functions they are required to attend when being contracted. German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia Inc. - Regulations Manual Version 12 updated- 03/07/2023 Page 40
 - Judges should be advised of their role (if any) and dress requirements for these functions.

Judge	Last Judged National
Richard Brauch SV	2013 D; 2019 B;
Frank Goldlust SV	2010 D; 2014 B; 2017 D
Christoph Ludwig SV	2013 B;
Heinz Scheerer FCI	2009 D; 2012 B; 2015 B;
Rainer Mast SV	2018 B & 2024 D SA
Malcolm Griffiths SV International	2023 B
Harald Hohmann SV	2019 Nominated for 2025 GSDCQ
Wolfgang Hassgall SV	2024 B
Erich Bosl SV	2012 GSDCV; 2015 GSDAWA; 2015 GSDCV;
Jens Becker Olsen SV International	
Heather Macdonald SV International	2023 DLSC
Roberto Caputi SV International	Nominated 2025 GSDCQ
Robert Lang SV (added 2023)	
Stephen Cox UK (added 2023)	