



GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF AMERICA, INC. BREED SHOW RULES

GSDCA breed shows are open to German Shepherd Dogs only and are judged according to the Federation Cynologique International (FCI), International Standard for German Shepherd Dogs. Breed Shows may be hosted by GSDCA WDP clubs or the GSDCA Parent Club. Club and Regional shows are hosted by the WDP clubs. National Shows are hosted only by the GSDCA Parent Club.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. All dogs 12 months or older born in the United States must have American Kennel Club (AKC) Registration Certificate.
2. All dogs 12 months or older must have a four generation AKC Certified Pedigree with microchip or tattoo certified on the pedigree.
3. Puppies under 12 months of age can be “pending” registration with proof of ownership and proof of sire and dam.
4. Puppies under 12 months of age must have proof of permanent identification, either microchip or tattoo.
5. If a puppy under the age of 12 months’ microchip is not readable the presiding judge may decide to allow the puppy to continue with the class.
6. If a dog over the age of 12 months’ microchip or tattoo is not readable the presiding judge may decide to allow the dog to continue with the class.
7. All dogs born outside of the USA must present SV, Canadian or other FCI recognized registration and pedigree from the dog’s country of birth.
8. No original documents or copies will be collected at check-in except for proof of vaccinations if the hosting club requires it. Original documents **MUST** be available for the Judge at ring side if requested.
9. Copies of all required documents must be submitted with entry.
10. Entry Fee must be submitted with entry and are non-refundable.
11. Acceptable working titles are IGP, IPO titles awarded prior to 1/1/2019, Sch and HGH.
12. You do not need to be a member of the GSDCA to participate.
13. The age of the dog on the date shown will determine the correct entry for each age class.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Dogs that are not entered in the show will not be permitted on the show grounds.
2. A Judge’s decision is final and cannot be contested.
3. After a dog is presented for the “stand for examination” but later withdrawn from the show the dog will be given an “Unsatisfactory” rating unless excused by a licensed veterinarian. A written

- excuse must be presented to the presiding Judge unless the presiding judge determines the dog is either ill or injured and is unable to continue. The judge may excuse the dog.
4. Prong collars are not allowed on show grounds
 5. Shock collars are forbidden at all GSDCA/ GSDCA WDP events and on all GSDCA/GSDCA WDP event grounds.
 6. Double handlers may not use electronic, gas or compressed air amplification devices, pistols, whips, or protection sleeves. Violations may cause the dog to be disqualified and the dog and handler ordered off the field.
 7. Participants are responsible for preventing their dog from coming into contact with other dogs. The GSDCA, GSDCA WDP and any show organizer will not be responsible for injury or damage to any dog, or damage caused by any dog, or the theft of any dog.
 8. False documentation for a dog will result in the banning of the dog from the competition and possible disciplinary action.
 9. Misleading or deceiving a Judge about the true condition of a dog may result in the banning of the dog from the competition and possible disciplinary action.
 10. A judge is not allowed to judge any dog which they have owned or co-owned or which has been in their possession within the past 12 months; is owned or co-owned by them; is in the possession of close relatives (1st and 2nd degree), life partnerships, shared households, and groups of owners.
 11. All participants must sign a waiver holding the GSDCA, GSDCA-WDP, the hosting club and property owners harmless for all injuries to person and property prior to participating in the breed show.
 12. All handlers must sign a waiver holding the GSDCA, GSDCA-WDP, the hosting club and property owners harmless for all injuries to person and property prior to participating in the breed show.
 13. A dog's show rating and placement may be terminated for cause and that decision will be made through the prescribed bylaws, rules and regulations of the GSDCA.
 14. The class running order will be determined by the Hosting Club, Show Secretary or Judge at their discretion.
 15. The Hosting Club must produce at least six (6) show catalogs for recording the official results, two (2) each for the Judge, Hosting Club and the GSDCA WDP Office. Official Secretary Sheets with judge's signature may also be used in place of show catalogs. Secretary Sheets will contain all the information of the catalog entry information of each dog and to include areas for final placements, comments, testicles, teeth, and for adult classes height/chest and gun soundness. The original is to be sent to GSDCA office, 2 copies to the judge, copy to secretary and one to the hosting club.
 16. The excel file labeled Auslandsmessungen will need to be completed for all dogs over the age of 12 months and emailed to the GSDCA office and the SV judge. Save the Document with Auslandsmessungen-Clubs Name-Date (fill in hosting club and date of event). The blank excel file with English translation can be obtained through the office, do not alter the layout of the file in any way.
 17. The catalog will be laid out as follows: The catalog begins from the youngest age group classes to the working class. Female stock coats for each class will be first followed by female long stock coats then the male stock coats followed by male long stock coats and repeated for all classes.
 18. The catalog will contain the following minimum required information for each individual dog:

- a. Name
- b. Registration Number
- c. Date of Birth
- d. Sex
- e. Coat Type
- f. Microchip or Tattoo Number (if the dog has more than one microchip number ALL numbers must be included.)
- g. Show Rating, Titles, Breed Survey
- h. Sire's Name, Show Rating and Titles
- i. Dam's Name, Show Rating and Titles
- j. Breeder Name
- k. Owner's Name
- l. Owners Address
- m. A Place for each Dogs Rating and Placement to be Recorded
- n. At the bottom of each page a place for the Show Secretary and Judge to sign
- o. All pages must be numbered
- p. Additional information for each dog may be included in the catalog at the discretion of the Hosting Club or Show Secretary.

BREED SHOW CLASSES

In every class, the Judge studies how well each dog conforms to the International (FCI) Breed Standard, both in character and anatomy.

1. The presiding Judge will determine how they will run each class, (typically the judging begins with the individual stand for examination followed by the movement phase, including fast and normal paces.)
2. Working Class dogs may or may not perform off leash lap(s), this is at the Judge's discretion.
3. All Dogs 12 months of age and older will be tested for gun sensitivity. Dogs that are impartial to the gun test will then proceed with the evaluation.
4. The Judge will conduct an ongoing temperament test throughout the class
5. Unless otherwise noted Ratings and Placements will be given for all Breed Show Classes.

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Baby Puppy Classes, 3-6 months; Junior Puppy Classes, 6-9 months; Senior Puppy Classes, 9-12 months.

Ratings awarded are:

1. "Very Promising" (VP) - Dogs that conform fully to the FCI breed standard or have minor anatomical faults.
2. "Promising" (P) - Dogs that generally conform to the FCI breed standard, but with clearly observable anatomic or developmental faults.
3. "Less Promising" (LP) - Dogs that react negatively to external stimuli and/or have faults that may (would) exclude them from breeding, dependent upon their future development.

Youth Classes, 12-18 months and Young Dog Classes, 18-24 months.

Ratings awarded are:

1. "Very Good" (SG) - The highest rating in the Youth and Young Dog Classes for dogs that fully conform to the FCI breed standard. Also qualified are dogs that: (a) exceed the size limitations by no more than 1 cm below or above the standard; and (b) have missing one premolar 1 or one incisor.
2. "Good" (G) - Dogs that generally conform to the FCI breed standard but with clearly observable anatomical faults. Dental faults allowed under this rating include:
 - a. missing two premolars 1, or
 - b. missing one premolar 1 and one incisor, or
 - c. missing one premolar 2, or
 - d. missing one premolar 3, or
 - e. missing two incisors, or
 - f. missing one premolar 2 and 1 incisor, or
 - g. missing one premolar 2 and one premolar 1, or
 - h. missing two premolars 2.
3. "Satisfactory" (A) - Dogs which, on the day of the show, are gun sensitive or react negatively to external stimuli or which do not permit a higher rating due to their total condition, including anatomical factors.
4. "Unsatisfactory" (U) - Dogs that are gun shy, show limitations in their temperament, react negatively to external stimuli or display other shortcomings that prohibit breeding. Also, dogs that exceed size specifications by more than 1 cm below or above.

Open Classes, 24 months or older without working title(s).

Ratings awarded are:

1. "Very Good" (SG) - The highest rating in the Open Classes for dogs that fully conform to the FCI breed standard. Also qualified are dogs that: (a) exceed the size limitations by no more than 1 cm below or above the standard; and (b) have missing one premolar 1 or one incisor.
2. "Good" (G) - Dogs that generally conform to the FCI breed standard but with clearly observable anatomical faults. Dental faults allowed under this rating include:
 - a. missing two premolars 1, or
 - b. missing one premolar 1 and one incisor, or
 - c. missing one premolar 2, or
 - d. missing one premolar 3, or
 - e. missing two incisors, or
 - f. missing one premolar 2 and 1 incisor, or
 - g. missing one premolar 2 and one premolar 1, or
 - h. missing two premolars 2.
3. "Satisfactory" (A) - Dogs which, on the day of the show, are gun sensitive or react negatively to external stimuli or which do not permit a higher rating due to their total condition, including anatomical factors.
4. "Unsatisfactory" (U) - Dogs that are gun shy, show limitations in their temperament, react negatively to external stimuli or display other shortcomings that prohibit breeding. Also, dogs that exceed size specifications by more than 1 cm below or above.

5. Ratings and placements will be awarded in this class and may be used for the GSDCA WDP National Breed Survey.

Veteran Classes, 6 years or older with working title(s)

Ratings awarded are:

1. "Excellent" (V) – Dogs in the Veteran's Class that otherwise meet the following requirements:
 - a. Fully conform to the FCI Breed Standard.
 - b. Are self-confident, outgoing and indifferent to gun fire.
 - c. Proof of OFA, SV or any other WUSV or FCI organizations recognized HD certification equivalent to the SV's "a" 1 (normal), "a" 2 (almost normal) or "a" 3 (still permissible).
 - d. Proof of OFA, SV or any other WUSV or FCI organizations recognized ED certification equivalent to the SV's "ED" 1 (normal), "ED" 2 (almost normal), or "ED" 3 (still permissible).
 - e. If 3.5 years of age or older, have an SV recognized Breed Survey rating.
 - f. Double premolars 1 are allowed.
 - g. Have a minimum IGP1/IPO1/Sch1 or HGH title.
2. "Very Good" (SG) - Dogs in the Working Dog Class that otherwise meet the requirements for the "Excellent" rating but show minor faults in their anatomy. Also qualified are dogs that (a) exceed the size limitations by no more than 1 cm below or above the standard and (b) dogs missing one premolar 1 or one incisor.
3. "Good" (G) – As described under the Youth and Young Dog Classes.
4. "Satisfactory" (A) – As described under the Youth and Young Dog Classes.
5. "Unsatisfactory" (U) – As described under Youth/Young Dog Classes.

Working Dog Classes, 24 months or older with working title(s)

At the GSDCA WDP Sieger Show, all Working Dog class dogs must first complete a Performance Test, with a performance rating of at least "Pronounced" and "Outs." *Performance Tests are not held at Club or Regional Breed Shows.*

Ratings awarded are:

6. "Excellent Select" (VA) – Awarded only at the GSDCA WDP Sieger Show to dogs that meet the following requirements:
 - a. Fully conform to the FCI Breed Standard.
 - b. Are self-confident, outgoing and indifferent to gun fire.
 - c. Proof of OFA, SV or any other WUSV or FCI organizations recognized HD certification equivalent to the SV's "a" 1 (normal), "a" 2 (almost normal). (Have an SV, OFA or other SV recognized hip certification equivalent to the SV's "a" 1 (normal) or "a" 2 (almost normal).)
 - d. Proof of OFA, SV or any other WUSV or FCI organizations recognized ED certification equivalent to the SV's "a" 1 (normal), "a" 2 (almost normal). (Have an SV recognized elbow certification "ED"1 (normal) or "ED" 2 (almost normal).)
 - e. Must have a current SV, GSDCA WDP, USCA, or another WUSV member organizations breed survey rating.
 - f. Have complete and faultless dentition.

- g. Have a minimum IGP2, IPO2 awarded prior to 1/1/2019 or HGH performance title awarded by a GSDCA WDP, SV, SVF, WUSV, FCI, AWDF, USCA or GSSDC Judge. Dogs presented for a second VA rating must have an IGP3, IPO3 awarded prior to 1/1/2019 or HGH title.
 - h. Both parents and grandparents must have/had either an SV, GSDCA WDP, USCA, or another WUSV member organizations breed survey.
7. “Excellent” (V) – Dogs in the Working Dog Class that otherwise meet the following requirements:
- a. Fully conform to the FCI Breed Standard.
 - b. Are self-confident, outgoing and indifferent to gun fire.
 - c. Proof of OFA, SV or any other WUSV or FCI organizations recognized HD certification equivalent to the SV's "a" 1 (normal), "a" 2 (almost normal) or "a" 3 (still permissible) (Have an SV, OFA or other SV recognized hip certification equivalent to the SV's "a" 1 (normal), "a" 2 (almost normal) or "a" 3 (still permissible).)
 - d. Proof of OFA, SV or any other WUSV or FCI organizations recognized ED certification equivalent to the SV's "a" 1 (normal), "a" 2 (almost normal) or "a" 3 (still permissible) (Have an SV recognized elbow certification equivalent to the SV's "ED" 1 (normal), "ED" 2 (almost normal), or "ED" 3 (still permissible).)
 - e. If 3.5 years of age or older, have a SV, GSDCA WDP, USCA, or another WUSV member organizations breed survey rating.
 - f. Double premolars 1 are allowed.
 - g. Have a minimum IGP1/IPO1 or HGH title awarded by a GSDCA WDP, SV, SVF, WUSV, FCI, AWDF, USCA or GSSDC Judge
8. “Very Good” (SG) - Dogs in the Working Dog Class that otherwise meet the requirements for the “Excellent” rating but show minor faults in their anatomy. Also qualified are dogs that (a) exceed the size limitations by no more than 1 cm below or above the standard and (b) dogs missing one premolar 1 or one incisor.
9. “Good” (G) – As described under the Youth and Young Dog Classes.
10. “Satisfactory” (A) – As described under the Youth and Young Dog Classes.
11. “Unsatisfactory” (U) – As described under Youth/Young Dog Classes.

PERFORMANCE TEST: (Applies only to the GSDCA WDP Sieger Show.)

All dogs in the Working Dog Classes must participate in the Performance Test. The Performance Test rates the dog’s inherent drives, self-confidence and stress tolerance (TSB Evaluation). “TSB” describes the following characteristics: Triebveranlagung (instinctive behavior), Selbstsicherheit (self-confidence) and Belastbarkeit (the ability to cope with stress). Dogs that receive the results “does not release” or a DQ, do not receive a TSB rating and are not allowed to continue in the competition.

Part 1 – Attack

1. The handler reports to the judge with the dog on the leash.

2. As instructed by the judge, the handler takes a position at a marked spot 25 meters (approximately 82 feet) in front of the blind.
3. After the basic position the dog is kept on leash for about 15 steps.
4. Handler and dog stop again in the basic position.
5. Handler removes the leash and the leash must be placed around the handler's shoulder or in a pocket.
6. As instructed by the judge, the handler walks with his unleashed dog toward the helper's blind.
7. The dog must counter the attack immediately, confidently and energetically with hard and full grips.
8. The dog must counter the attack immediately, confidently and energetically with hard and full grips.
9. When the dog has gripped the sleeve, the dog is given two equal blows, the first after about 4 steps and the second after 4 additional steps, with the soft-stick. The hits are to be on the dog's thighs, sides, or in the area of the withers.
10. The handler may encourage the dog verbally to counter the attack.
11. The judge signals the helper to stop the attack and the helper then stands motionless.
12. The dog must release the sleeve independently or upon the command "aus/out" and must then guard the helper intensively.
13. The judge then instructs the handler to approach his dog.
14. The handler puts the leash on his dog and is instructed by the judge to step into an assigned blind.
15. The dog has to repel the attack with determination and a steady calm grip.

Part 2 – Countering an Attack from the Watching Position

1. The judge instructs the handler to step out of the blind and then move to the center line position.
2. Handler removes the leash and the leash must be placed around the handler's shoulder or in a pocket.
3. The dog is now unleashed and held by the collar.
4. The dog must maintain this position until he is sent to counter the attack with the command "voran/go on".
5. The judge signals the helper to step out of the blind, which is located at a distance of approximately 70 to 80 paces from the handler and to walk across the field at a normal pace.
6. The handler verbally commands the helper to stop by shouting "stop/stand still".
7. The helper ignores this command and performs a frontal attack on the handler and the dog.
8. Immediately following the attack on the handler, the judge instructs the handler to counter the attack and send the dog.
9. The handler immediately sends his dog forward with the verbal command "voran/go on" and stands still.
10. The dog must grip the sleeve with drive, energetically and with a hard and full grip in order to counter the attack.
11. Once the dog has a grip on the sleeve the helper must, after a short pressure phase, stop the counter-attack without hitting the dog with the soft-stick, when the judge instructs him to do so.
12. The dog must release the sleeve independently or when given the command "aus/out" and must then guard the helper intensively.
13. The judge instructs the handler to approach his dog directly at a normal pace and then put the dog on leash.
14. The handler then reports to the judge with his dog on the leash and leaves the field.
15. The dog has to repel the attack with determination and a steady calm grip.

Identity Control

Before leaving the field, the identified official, must check the tattoo/microchip number of the dog.

Scoring-Releasing

1. The dog must let go of the sleeve independently after the attack is stopped.
2. The handler may give the first command “au/out” independently after a suitable time.
3. If the dog does not release the sleeve after the first command the judge instructs the handler to give up to two additional commands to the dog to release the sleeve.
4. The handler must stand still when they give the command “aus/out” and must not influence the dog.
5. If the dog’s name is used in shall be regarded as a verbal command to release the sleeve.
6. If the dog releases the sleeve independently when the handler approaches, it can also be regarded as releasing (outing). However, the handler must be at least 5 paces away from the dog.
7. If the dog releases independently or by means of a verbal command during the “attack” and counters the attack from the watch position, the designation “out” is entered in the report.
8. If this is not the case, even in just one phase, the dog shall be given the designation “does not out”.
9. During the entire protection work the judge shall remain in the vicinity of the handler and observe the dogs’ and handlers’ behavior intensively until the handler goes to pick up the dog.
10. The dog will also receive a DQ if he bites the helper anywhere other than the protection sleeve.

Scoring the Drive, Self-Confidence & Resilience

The overall rating of the protection work is scored as “a” pronounced, “vh” sufficient, and “ng” insufficient.

“a” – Pronounced: Self-confidence, urgent, goal oriented, firm gripping and holding, no negative reactions to stick hits, close attention to the Helper during all phases. These dogs will proceed to the show ring.

“vh” – Sufficient/Present: Limitations in self-confidence, determination, biting, and reaction to stick hits and during the holding at bay phases. These dogs can proceed to the show ring and can be “V” rated; however, they have to be placed at the rear of all other “V” rated dogs.

“ng” – Insufficient: Lacking self-confidence, strong limitations with respect to stress tolerance and lacking interest in the Helper. These dogs will not proceed to the show ring.

Kennel Groups

GSDCA WDP Sieger Show Kennel Group Requirements:

Each Kennel Group must have no more and no less than 5 dogs that carry the same kennel name. The dogs must come from at least two different sires and two different dams. The maximum difficulty is four fathers and four mothers. The dogs in the Kennel Group must also be entered and shown in a class at the show. The dogs must be of the same coat variety. Breeders may enter more than one Kennel Group.

GSDCA WDP Regional and Club show Kennel Group Requirements:

Each Kennel Group must not have less than 3 dogs nor more than 5 dogs that carry the same kennel name. The dogs must come from at least two different sires and two different dams. The maximum difficulty is three fathers and three mothers for a group of 3 or 4 dogs and four fathers and four mothers for a group of 5 dogs. All kennel groups must contain the same number of dogs, either 3, 4 or 5. The dogs in the Kennel Group must also be entered and shown in a class at the show. The dogs must be of the same coat variety. Breeders may enter more than one Kennel Group.

Progeny Groups

Progeny Groups demonstrate the quality of dogs produced by frequently used stud dogs and brood bitches. The genetic dominance is evaluated through the consistency of individual strengths and weaknesses in the offspring. Progeny groups are critiqued in detail. However, no placements (first, second, etc.) are awarded.

WUSV or GSDCA WDP Sieger Show Progeny Group Requirements:

All dogs presented in a Progeny Group must have been entered and shown in a class at the GSDCA WDP Sieger Show. The stud dog or brood bitch is not required to be shown. A Progeny Group requires a minimum of four (4). At the GSDCA WDP Sieger Show, a Progeny Group will be automatically scheduled for any sire or dam who meets the participation requirements. There is no entry fee to present a Progeny Group.

GSDCA WDP Regional and Club Show Progeny Group Requirements:

All dogs presented in a Progeny Group must have been entered and shown in a class at the GSDCA WDP Regional or Club Show. The stud dog or brood bitch is not required to be shown. A Progeny Group requires a minimum of three (3) dogs. An entry fee may be required for a progeny group at the Regional or Club level.