



GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF AMERICA

BREED SURVEY RULES AND PROCEDURE FOR DOGS IN AMERICA

General

The breed survey procedures serve to promote a disciplined breeding of the German Shepherd Dog of the variety of “stock coated” and “long stock coated with undercoat” and apply to the entire breed survey activities. The purpose of the breed survey procedures is to select dogs for breeding that appear particularly suited in regard to their temperament, their performances and their physical appearance. The breed survey season is from January 1st to December 31st. A dog may only be presented once during the season.

- GSDCA Breed Survey events are open to German Shepherds only. Dogs with AKC Limited Registration are not eligible to participate.
- A dog owned by a person who is not in good standing with the GSDCA or the SV cannot participate
- Breed Surveys are for “stock coated” and “long stock coated with undercoat” only.
- Dogs must be a minimum of two years of age within the calendar year of the Breed Survey
- Dogs must be identifiable by tattoo or microchip
- Females in season must be reported to the Körmeister, who shall regulate their participation
- Pregnant females can only participate up until their 42nd day of pregnancy. Nursing females may not participate before the 42nd day after delivery

The breed survey is the highest breed qualification. It emphasizes the dogs that are recommended for breeding. Dogs that comply with the breed standard will be included in this class.

- Size, weight and anatomy comply with standard, or minor discrepancies in the anatomy
- The entire behavior is self-confident, good-natured and the dog has earned a rating of “pronounced” or “present” during the TSB test
- Measures within 1cm below or above the size standard
- Perfect, full set of teeth; double premolars 1 are permitted.
Also permitted are missing of two premolar 1; or one premolar 1 and one incisor; or one premolar 2; or slight level bite of the middle incisors

Documents Required for Entry

- Proof of the AD awarded by an SV, SVF or WUSV Judge. Dogs six years of age or older are exempt from the AD requirement
- Proof of BH and one of the following: IGP1, IPO1, SchH1 title awarded by an SV, SVF, or WUSV Performance Judge. A minimum of 80 points in phase C is required.
- Dogs with proof of the HGH title awarded by SV, SVF or WUSV Judge, the AD, BH and IGP, or SchH requirement does not apply
- Proof of OFA, SV “HD” or other SV approved hip certification

- Proof of SV “ED” or other SV approved elbow certification
- Proof of a minimum Breed Show evaluation of “Good” awarded by an SV or SVF Judge.
- *For dogs intended to compete or breed in Germany refer to character test (Wesensbeurteilung) rules and regulations for requirements of breed survey for dogs born July 1st 2017 and after.

GSDCA SV/WUSV PROGRAMS MEMBER CLUBS and GSDCA REGIONAL CLUBS HOSTING A BREED SURVEY

1) Prerequisites

- SV Körmeister release (richterfreigabe).
- Clubs are no longer able to contact Körmeister judges prior to event, the SV breed warden will be responsible for the selection. After the release has been granted the club may contact the judge to make final arrangements for event, travel etc.
- A large field with suitable space and sanitary facilities
- Experienced assistants sufficient to run the event
- A Breed Survey Secretary

2) Equipment

- Shelter for the Körmeister and breed survey secretary
- An SV-breed survey measuring device (Körmass)
- Universal Microchip reader
- Metric tape measure
- Metric scale
- Computer with Excel program (ex. Microsoft or Google Excel docs etc.)
- Two blank pistols (6mm) with sufficient blank ammunition.
- Identification numbers to be worn by the dog handlers.
- SV original Excel document for breed survey, (un-altered) format. All information is to be recorded on the Excel document via computer in an Excel program; do not alter, move or add to cells original format. Lap-top computer is recommended to have at ring side. Excel document is to be provided by GSDCA office secretary, Joy Schultz once approval of breed survey (richterfreigabe) is obtained from the SV.

Excel Breed Survey document and required paperwork

- The club secretary is to record all owner and dog information as requested in the excel document. The SV judge will then record all measurements and ratings. To save document ‘Save As, add the GSDCA-(then your Clubs name)’. The final document will be sent with all required copies to enter breed survey to Joy Schultz at office@gsdca.org . The SV judge will also receive an excel file emailed or copied to a scan-drive along with all required copied documents for their files.
- Copied documents of the originals will need to be sent to the GSDCA office: Certified pedigree from AKC 4-generation, SV, or FCI-recognized kennel club in the dog’s country of birth. *(Exception: Canadian registration, pedigrees and scorebooks are accepted at all GSDCA events)*. Scorebook if not on the pedigree. If a breed survey renewal, original breed survey Bescheinigung.

Entries for the Breed Survey

Entries for the breed survey must be submitted to the breed survey secretary at least seven days prior to the date of the survey. The number of dogs permitted per breed survey day is 50. If more than 50 dogs are entered, another day or half day on the same weekend must be added.

The following original documents must be presented to the breed survey secretary on the day of the survey.

- Certified pedigree from AKC 4-generation, SV, or FCI-recognized kennel club in the dog's country of birth. (*Exception: Canadian registration, pedigrees and scorebooks are accepted at all GSDCA events*)
- Scorebook if not on the pedigree.
- If a breed survey renewal, original breed survey Bescheinigung

Breed Survey Temperament Test

The Körmeister shall conduct a temperament test for each dog. The test may be conducted during the entire course of the breed survey. The dog must present a sound temperament; it must be uninhibited, self-confident, good-natured and exhibit steady nerves.

At least two shots must be fired from a blank pistol (6mm) at a distance of at least 15 paces. The dog must remain indifferent during the test.

Protection Work

The Körmeister judges the protection work. A GSDCA Qualified Helper shall assist during the protection work. A SV Teaching Helper may also do the protection work with prior approval of the GSDCA Board of Directors.

Implementation

Attack:

- 1) The handler reports to the Körmeister with the dog on the leash
- 2) As instructed by the Körmeister the handler takes position at a marked spot 25 meters (approximately 82 feet) in front of the blind, stands with the dog in basic position and unleashes his dog
- 3) The leash must be placed around the handler's shoulder or in a pocket
- 4) As instructed by the Körmeister the handler walks with his unleashed dog toward the helper's blind. The dog must stay closely at heel until the handler reaches a marked spot located 7 meters (approximately 23 feet) in front of the blind. Repeated verbal commands are permitted. Touching of the dog is not permitted. If handler and heeling dog reach this marked spot, the helper, as instructed by the Körmeister, will perform an attack while making threatening noises. If the dog breaks the heel before reaching the marked spot, the helper shall not attack. The handler has two more opportunities to reach the 7 meter marking with his dog at heel. Should the dog fail to heel to the 7 meter marking in all three attempts, the protection test will be discontinued due to lack of obedience. The dog can be presented again for breed survey with a maximum of three attempts within the same calendar year
- 6) The dog must counter the attack immediately, confidently and energetically with hard and full grips
- 7) When the dog has gripped the sleeve the helper raises the soft-stick and hits the dog 2 times on thighs, sides, or in the area of the wither
- 8) The handler may encourage the dog verbally to counter the attack
- 9) The Körmeister signals the helper to stop the attack and the helper then stands motionless

- 10) The dog must release the sleeve independently or upon the command “aus/out” and must then guard the helper intensively
- 11) The Körmeister then instructs the handler to approach his dog
- 12) The handler puts the leash on his dog and is instructed by the Körmeister to step into an assigned blind.

Countering an Attack from the Watching Position:

- 1) The Körmeister instructs the handler to step out of the blind and then move to the center line position
- 2) The dog is now unleashed and held by the collar
- 3) The dog must maintain this position until he is sent to counter the attack with the command “voran/go on”
- 4) The Körmeister 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
- 5) The handler verbally commands the helper to stop by shouting “stop/stand still”
- 6) The helper ignores this command and performs a frontal attack on the handler and the dog
- 7) Immediately following the attack on the handler, the Körmeister instructs the handler to counter the attack and send the dog
- 8) The handler immediately sends his dog forward with the verbal command “voran/go on” and stands still
- 9) The dog must grip the sleeve with drive, energetically and with a hard and full grip in order to counter the attack
- 10) 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 Körmeister instructs him to do so
- 11) The dog must release the sleeve independently or when given the command “aus/out” and must then guard the helper intensively
- 12) The Körmeister instructs the handler to approach his dog directly at a normal pace and then put the dog on leash
- 13) The handler then reports to the Körmeister with his dog on the leash and leaves the field

Identity Control:

Before leaving the field the Körmeister must check the tattoo or microchip number on 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 “aus/out” independently after a suitable time
- 3) If the dog does not release the sleeve after the first command the Körmeister instructs the handler to give up to two additional commands to the dog to release the sleeve
- 4) The handler must stand still when he gives the command “aus/out” and must not influence the dog
- 5) If the dog’s name is used it 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 – he shall be given the designation “does not out”. In this case the breed survey cannot be continued. The dog can be presented again for breed survey with a maximum of three attempts within the same calendar year. It is not possible to present a dog more than three times per calendar year, regardless if the breed survey was stopped due to lack of obedience or not releasing
- 9) During the entire protection work the Körmeister shall remain in the vicinity of the handler and observe the dog’s and handler’s behavior intensively until the handler goes to pick up the dog

Scoring the Drive, Self-Confidence & Resilience:

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

Pronounced (a): Self-confident, intense, goal-oriented and secure grip and holding, no negative behavior during soft-stick hits, close and attentive watching in the guarding phases.

Present (vh): Deficiencies in self-confidence, goal-oriented behavior, in grip and stick behavior, as well as in the guarding phases.

Insufficient (ng): Lacking self-confidence, limitations with respect to hardness and disinterest in the helper.

Measurements and Weight Controls

The breed survey secretary or an appointed assistant may weigh the dogs and take measurements for chest depth and chest circumference. The Körmeister shall measure the height at the withers.

Stand for Examination and Evaluation of Movement

The Körmeister writes the breed survey report during this examination. The dog must be presented to the Körmeister without any significant help from the handler.

Breed Survey Confirmation

After completing the survey for each dog, the owners of the dogs receive a temporary breed survey Bescheinigung that has been signed by the Körmeister. This contains the breed survey results and proof that the required documents have been forwarded to the GSDCA SV/WUSV Programs Office.

Dogs Not Suitable For a Breed Survey

A breed survey is not possible if the following deficiencies prevail:

- 1) Major anatomical deficiencies
- 2) Deviances of more than 1 cm from the size standard
- 3) Faulty testicles
- 4) Faulty teeth:
 - Missing 1 premolar 3 or
 - 2 incisors or
 - 1 premolar 2 and 1 incisor or

- 1 premolar 2 and 1 premolar 1 or
2 premolar 2.
- 5) Dogs with considerable pigment deficiencies
- 6) Dogs with long coats or long stock coats without undercoat

Term of Breed Survey

- 1) A new breed survey or a breed survey following a lapse is valid for two years; the dog must be presented for a renewal of this breed survey in the second year
- 2) A breed survey renewal is valid for a lifetime.
- 3) A breed survey improvement does not extend the duration of the original breed survey.

Terminating the Breed Survey

- 1) If a dog with a breed survey rating is not presented for renewal the breed survey shall end at the year's end
- 2) The breed survey standing may end with an "Abkörung" (revocation of certificate)
- 1) The breed survey master or breed judge shall submit an application to the breed survey office for this purpose. The breed survey may be suspended for the duration of the proceedings

Breed Survey Certificate and Breed Survey Register

The SV breed survey office issues breed survey certificates for dogs having passed the breed survey. The reason for not attaining the breed survey standing shall be specified by the SV.

Dogs having attained the breed survey standing in a certain year shall be entered in the SV breed survey register by variety of "stock coat" and "long stock coat with undercoat" and gender and published. The breed survey register, containing detailed information on the dogs that are recommended and suited for breeding in regard to their anatomy and temperament, in connection with the information provided by the Körmeister on breed recommendations, is an important and extensive reference book for serious breeders.