

GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA Inc.
NATIONAL BREED COMMISSION MEETING to be
held on Saturday 21st July 2018 – 5.00pm to 6.00pm and Sunday
22nd July 2018 8.30am to 4.00pm
at “Airport Motel & Convention Centre”
33 Ardlie Street, Attwood, Victoria



A G E N D A

1. Opening & Welcome:

Chair Mr. Vince Tantaro – GSDCA President.

Meeting opened at :.....

2. Present & Apologies: As per signature sheet.

“That apologies be accepted”.

Moved:..... Seconded:.....

3. Adoption of the Agenda:

Adoption of the Agenda for the National Breed Commission meeting.

“That the Agenda for the National Breed Commission Meeting as circulated, be adopted”.

Moved:..... Seconded:.....

4. Confirmation of the Minutes:

“That the minutes of the National Breed Commission Meeting held on Sunday 30th July 2017 in Adelaide, South Australia be accepted as a true and accurate record”.

Moved:..... Seconded:.....

5. Business Arising from the 2017 Minutes:

5.1 Results of Motions presented to the 2018 GSDCA AGM:

7.1, 7.2 and 7.3:

Applications for Aspiring Breed Surveyor status for Sharon Ballantyne, Natalie Humphries and Andrew Jones. Carried.

5.2 7.4 “That the current regulation regarding inbreeding is amended to read:

“Animals born after 1 July 2018 to be classified at breed survey must not have any line-breeding closer than (3-3)”.

Animals born prior to 1 July 2018 must not have any linebreeding closer than (3-2) or (2-3). Carried.

This motion applies with regard to classification at Breed Survey.

6. National Breed Commission Reports

- 6.1 National Breed Commission Chair – NBC Executive
 - 6.1.1 National HD/ED Registrar – Mr. Doug West
 - 6.1.2 NBC Registrar – Ms. Melanie Groth
 - 6.1.3 Breed Health & Welfare Committee Chair – Dr. Candy Baker
 - 6.1.4 Haemophilia Registrar – Dr. Candy Baker
 - 6.1.5 National Database Coordinator – Mr. Frank Moody

7. Matters Arising from the National Breed Commission Chairman's Report

8. Matters Referred to the 2018 NBC Meeting from GSDCA Member Clubs:

8.1 GSDC SA – Discussion Item

1. There have been incidents recently over veterinarians who have been suggesting JPS surgery to new GS puppy owners, usually when they attend the vet for the pup's 10 week vaccinations.
The GSDC SA suggests contacting both the Australian Veterinary Association and the Veterinary Surgeons Board in each State advising them that due to the GSDCA Hip Scheme that the chances of a pedigree puppy developing HD through genetic means has been greatly reduced.
Further, we feel that suggesting JPS surgery is not only over-servicing of clients but a puppy should not be put through this surgery for something that may never happen. Other factors to consider in a pup developing HD, is diet and environment. Most registered and responsible breeders provide a diet chart and information on the importance of moderate exercise to their puppy buyers.
2. Neither Dr Roger Lavelle, Dr Karen Hedberg or Dr Candy Baker can categorically state that a dog that has had JPS procedure would NOT pass the GSDCA HD scheme. This has serious and detrimental consequences to the health of our breed as we will never know the true incidents of HD in the breed if GS dogs are having JPS surgery and would therefore totally compromise the GSDCA HD statistics.

Explanation on JPS Surgery as taken from the Adelaide Vet Animal Hospital,
"JPS is a procedure which enables puppies to have much improved hips with a very minor surgery. The cartilage connecting the 2 sides of the pelvis is fused and this in turn results in rotation of the hip sockets into a more normal position giving a much sounder fit of the femoral head (ball) into the acetabulum (socket). Best results are achieved if the operation is done before 20 weeks (18 weeks is best). Since this is a good age for desexing the two procedures can be combined with one anaesthetic and recovery is very rapid".

8.2 GSDA WA – Discussion Item

NBC Breed Surveyors – Review

A discussion needs to be had on the matter of how changes to the Breed Survey from "Class 1" & "Class 2" to "Breed Survey Classified" (BSC) is, and will, affect the way animals are breed surveyed. This matter should be discussed at the NBC Surveyors meeting as a review of where we are in regards to the size issue since BSC came in. The Breed Standard stipulates that oversize is a Disqualification.

8.3 GSDA WA – Discussion Item

NBC Breed Surveyors and Judges – Review

A discussion needs to be had in relation to where SV Judges are placing oversize animals at the GSDCA National Shows. Should we follow the SV BSZS process of larger dogs not being placed in the top 30, in Germany, with perhaps a change, in Australia, to be applied to the top 10?

8.4 GSDA WA – Discussion Item

NBC Breed Surveyors– Review

A discussion, at the NBC Surveyors meeting, needs to be had regarding Health issues of the breed with emphasis on the importance of pursuing DNA Testing. Bearing in mind that the clubs knocked back using the WUSV DNA testing procedure in favour of the ANKC procedure which is not yet up and running.

9. Matters Referred to the 2018 NBC Meeting from GSDCA Annual General Meeting:

9.1 Nil

10. Any Other Business:

10.1 Discussion Item: Inter- Variety Breeding

10.1.1 The Genetics of Inter Variety Breeding: John Fenner

Short presentation by John Fenner on this topic.

10.1.2 Changing our policy on Inter Variety Breeding - Dr. Karen Hedberg

The issue of the long coats and their severely reduced gene pool in Australia keeps raising its head. I tried very hard to allow inter varietal breeding to be permitted but was defeated, largely due to I feel a lack of understanding of the long term issues involved.

Australia has a small population of GSD's compared to Germany and within that reduced population, to further reduce it (unnaturally) to totally separated varieties is a great detriment to all long coated dogs. There are reduced bloodlines, severely reduced access to newer bloodlines (limited LC dogs available, limited semen access to LC dogs) and long coated breeders are often limited to poorer quality of dogs with little or no statistical health data behind them to support their widespread use.

New Zealand with a similarly smaller population, has allowed inter varietal breeding with no detriment to the shorter coated variety and with no artificial limitations on stud dog usage.

I am in agreement with Yvonne that if the 3-3 minimal line breeding is introduced, there will be an even smaller gene pool available to long coated breeders.

It is not healthy to so limit a breed, let alone a variety, when the solution is so patently obvious.

I strongly suggest there be open inter varietal breeding allowed for a minimum of 10 years and if this is not possible that the 3-3 minimal line breeding be only applied to stock coats.

As the ANKC Chairperson on Canine Health and Wellbeing, we are forever trying to keep gene pools as open as possible to allow the widest possible gene combinations so as to maintain overall breed health.

I personally do not have an issue with the 3-3 minimal line breeding restriction, provided inter varietal breeding is permitted.

I hope this item is put forwards for discussion as it needs to be looked at for long term health and welfare of the long stock coat variety.

Dr Karen Hedberg BVSc,
ANKC Health and Wellbeing Chairperson

10.2 Discussion Item - BS1 – Application – Jane Pike

Owners that pay to enter an animal at a survey and then defer with permission.

- Currently if the owner applies for the NEXT survey they do not have to pay again.
- If they want to present, say 12 months later or 2 survey's later, and had previously paid they need to pay another fee.
- In these cases the club collects the original \$35, which they keep in its entirety.
- The Club pays Council \$27 when the animal completes the survey either successfully or fail.

Suggestion - we look at the same process as for HD/ED.

- Have the BS1 application in triplicate.
- Purchased from the State Breed Survey Registrar. It then stays with the animal for life until it is submitted for Breed Survey.
- Like the HD/ED forms, the money is paid to council on purchase by the applicant. Clubs still get the \$8 handling fee and the \$27 is payable to council.
- Original form to the owner, copy 1 to the NBC Chair and copy 2 to the State Breed Survey Registrar.
- This could be set up so that billing is done quarterly from the NBC Chairs record of the "copy 1" received from the State Registrar quarterly.

10.3 Discussion Item: Imported Semen Verification - NBC Executive

The increasing use of imported semen requires us to consider implementing a verification process as applies to imported animals: GSDCA Title Verification for Imported dogs.

Noting that the importation of semen is now seen as another tool to utilise new bloodlines and that by doing so expands our breeding pool, it is as is the case with imported dogs imperative that we verify Hip, Elbow, Breed Survey and/or Title status of these animals.

Currently imported dogs and imported semen are entered into the GSDCA Database via the ANKC Registration quarterly uploads.

- Only those imported animals that have a GSDCA Title Verification have a full 4 generation pedigree created on the GSDCA Database with all Hip, Elbow, Breed Survey and Titles for all dogs in the pedigree. This ensures the integrity of the GSDCA Database.
- Imported animals that do not have a GSDCA Title Verification are added to the GSDCA Database, but with only the basic 3 generation pedigree (as per the ANKC) with NO Hip, Elbow, Breed Survey or Title information, for the imported animal and dogs within their pedigree.

This has not been an issue up to now, as generally speaking the progeny from these dogs do not come through the GSDCA Schemes. However this is changing with the use of imported semen.

Recommendation: Prerequisite for Breed Survey: Imported Semen

- GSDCA Title Verification of animals whose semen is imported must be provided with application for their progeny to be presented to GSDCA Breed Survey.
- The process to be applied will be that as for imported animals with the exception that verification can take place at any time.
- Noting the requirement for GSDCA Breed Survey, importers of semen are encouraged to apply for verification well before the semen is used and any progeny are presented to survey.
- Breeders utilising such should also insist on viewing GSDCA Title Verification prior to using the semen.

- 10.4 Discussion Item: GSDCA Breed Surveyor/Judges Service Agreement - NBC Executive**
That the GSDCA Breed Surveyor and Judges Service Agreements be amalgamated in order to see only one document to be signed.

11. Date & Venue for 2019:

Date and Venue for the 2019 National Breed Commission Meeting
Weekend of 20th & 21st July 2019 in Sydney, New South Wales.

12. Close of Meeting:

Meeting closed at :

BREED SURVEYORS & JUDGES - WORKSHOP ITINERARY

to be held on Sunday 22nd July 2018 – 8.30am to 4.00pm

		Proposed Speakers
8:30 – 8:45	Introduction	Vince Tantaro & Robyn Knuckey
8.45 – 9.30	Database – practical session	Frank Moody
9.30 – 10. 30	Part A - BS workshop - Alignment, roles and responsibilities Part B - unpacking the general description for clarity of anatomical worth	Robyn Knuckey Jenny Yuen
10:30 – 10.45	Morning tea	
10.45 – 11.45	Practical workshop measuring	Vince Tantaro & Robyn Knuckey
11.45 – 12.00	Presentation of proposed Breed Survey Manual	Jane Pike & Stephen Collins
12.00 – 1.30	Workshop of BS Manual in designated groups	All
1:30 – 2:45	Lunch	
2:45 – 3:45	Workshop information in designated groups	All
3:45 – 4:00	Recap of the day and Close	Vince Tantaro & Robyn Knuckey

15 minutes

Introduction set the plan for the day.

Database session

Session on the database.

- Reminder of common problems.
- Finding a dog on the database to enter a survey registration number waiting for it to come up.
- Searching for dogs on the database – using the filters to find results/progeny.
- Useful for looking at hips and elbows of the sires and dams of dogs.
- Using the stats.
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Breed Survey Workshop - outline their responsibilities with regard to:

- running state Breed Surveys.
- how they interact with the Aspirants.
- their roles as leaders in their state in promoting Breed Survey and the Schemes.
- the management of paperwork between survey and to the NBC Chair.
- protection of their Registrars who often get abused by the members with late paperwork etc.
- get them to give a brief chat about how they manage their patch and hear what others do in the other states.
- conduct of surveyors in relation to the contract.

The General Description in the survey – how do we use it to ensure that there is delineation between superior animals.

Particular virtues and faults and Recommendations – how do we get credibility in this area? – what is limiting us in this area?

Practical workshop Measuring – judging and surveying

- The height/chest ratio – what does it mean?
- Some samples of dogs and their measurements.
- Making reference to it in the survey.
- What do you see when you measure a dog.
- What do the spectators see?
- What do you look for?
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Workshop the proposed updated Breed Survey Manual from last NBC Meeting and info provided on BS

- The reformat is to align all areas that refer to Breed Survey Manual, including references/motions in the Regulation Manual.
- Consolidation of all specific areas eg: all points on dentition are now in the same section to decrease confusion
- All Breed Surveyors and Aspirants are aware of all components of the BS Manual and therefore improve compliance and credibility across the fraternity.
- Ownership by all present to support motion presented at GSDCA AGM at Club level.
- What information should be included in Selection of Breeding Partners?
- When recommending bloodlines, how close do we recommend animals – by actual male or closest major line?
- What bloodlines produce virtues/faults to inform recommendations?
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