



**GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF AMERICA-  
WORKING DOG ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**BREED SURVEY RULES AND PROCEDURES**

Revised April 12, 2013

**1. 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. They are binding for all club members.

The purpose of the breed survey procedures is to select animals for breeding that appear particularly suited in regard to their temperament, their performances and their physical appearance.

**2. GSDCA-WDA Office**

**2.1 Breed Survey Reports**

All breed survey reports are compiled, checked for correctness and documented in the GSDCA-WDA Office. The GSDCA-WDA Office forwards all breed survey reports to the SV. The SV issues all breed survey documents and publishes the results on a yearly basis.

**2.2 Breed Survey Masters**

The SV assigns experienced breed judges as breed survey masters. Breed survey masters are not automatically entitled to judge breed surveys each year. The respective GSDCA-WDA member clubs request breed survey masters through the GSDCA-WDA Office.

**2.3 Breed Survey Districts – responsibility**

The GSDCA-WDA delegates hosting breed surveys to local clubs. At the current time there is no restriction on the location of a breed survey that a member may enter.

**2.4 Breed Survey Season**

The breed survey season lasts from January 1st to December 31st. A dog may only be presented once for the breed survey in this timeframe.

**2.5 Legal Questions**

- 1) A dog owned by a person who is not in good standing with either the GSDCA-WDA or the SV cannot be presented by that person or by third parties at a breed survey.
- 2) The breed survey master’s decision is final. Objections are not permitted.
- 3) When a dog is presented for a breed survey, or if its breed survey certificate has been revoked, the parties involved or third parties have no legal entitlements. Any damage claims made by the parties involved (owners), or third parties, against a breed survey or revocation of a breed survey certificate decision is explicitly refused.
- 4) Liability – A dog’s owner is liable for any damages caused by his dog.
- 5) The use of any false information on any German Shepherd Dog entered in an authorized or sanctioned GSDCA-WDA event shall result in the banning of the German Shepherd Dog from all

future events and the termination of the membership of the party or parties who falsified the information.

- 6) German Shepherd Dogs with Limited AKC Registration are not eligible for entry into a breed survey.

### **3. Prerequisites for Participating At a Breed Survey**

#### **General:**

- Breed Surveys are for German Shepherd Dogs of the variety “stock coated” and “long stock coated with undercoat” only.
- Dogs with AKC Limited Registration are not eligible to participate.
- Dogs must be a minimum of two years old within the calendar year of the Breed Survey.
- Dogs must be identifiable by either tattoo or microchip.
- Sick dogs may not be presented.
- Females in season must be reported to the Breed Survey Master, who shall regulate their participation.
- Pregnant females may not be presented effective the 42<sup>nd</sup> day of pregnancy. Nursing females may not be presented before the 42<sup>nd</sup> day post delivery.

#### **Required Documentation:**

- I. Proof of an AD awarded by an SV, SVF, or WUSV Judge. Dogs six years of age or older are exempt from the AD requirement.
- II. Proof of at least one SchH or IPO title awarded by an SV, SVF, or WUSV Trial Judge. A minimum of 80 points in phase C is required.
- III. With proof of a HGH title awarded by an SV, SVF, or WUSV Judge. The AD, BH and SchH or IPO requirements are waived.
- IV. Proof of OFA, SV “a” stamp, or other SV approved hip certification.
- V. Proof of SV or other SV approved elbow certification.
- VI. Proof of a minimum Breed Show evaluation of “Good” awarded by an SV or SVF Judge.

### **4. Local Club Hosting a Breed Survey**

#### **4.1 Prerequisites for the Hosting Club:**

- Large training field with suitable space and sanitary facilities.
- A sufficient number of trained assistants.
- A Breed survey Secretary.

#### **4.2 Equipment**

- Shelter for the breed survey master and breed survey secretary.
- Sufficiently large ring.
- Audio system.
- SV-breed survey measuring device (Körmass).
- Tape measure (metric).
- Scale (metric).
- 2 blank pistols (6 mm) with sufficient blank ammunition.
- Identification numbers to be worn by the dog handlers.

#### **4.3 The Breed Survey Secretary’s Responsibilities**

- Provide breed survey entry forms at least three weeks prior to the breed survey.
- Check submitted entry forms and documents for completeness and correctness.
- Check the breed survey master’s information on the number of entry forms received.

- Compile a numbered list of participants divided into males and females for each category of the breed survey.
- Hand over the checked original documents and forms for the individual dogs to the breed survey master before the breed survey begins.

### **5. Entries for the Breed Survey**

Entries for a breed survey must be made to the breed survey organizer at least seven days prior to the date of the breed survey event. The following original documents must be presented on the day of the breed survey.

- 1) Original certified pedigree from FCI-recognized kennel club in the country of birth.  
(Exception: Canadian registration certificates, pedigrees and scorebooks are accepted at all GSDCA-WDA events.)
- 2) Scorebook if not on pedigree.
- 3) For a breed survey renewal – original breed survey certificate.
- 4) Proof of remaining prerequisites as listed under item 3.

The number of dogs permitted per breed survey day is 50. If more than 50 dogs are registered another day (half day) on the same weekend must be added to the day of the breed survey.

### **6. Breed Survey**

#### **6.1 Temperament Test**

The breed survey master shall conduct a temperament test for each dog. This test may be conducted during the entire course of the breed survey. In compliance with the standard the dog must present a sound temperament, i.e. it must be uninhibited, self-confident, good-natured and exhibit steady nerves.

#### **6.2 Gun Test**

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

#### **6.3 Protection Work (effective breed survey season 2012)**

A breed survey master judges the protection work. A GSDCA-WDA Certified Helper shall assist the breed survey master during the protection work. An SV Teaching Helper may also do the protection work with prior approval of the GSDCA-WDA Board of Directors.

### **IMPLEMENTATION:**

#### **Attack:**

- 1) The handler reports to the breed survey master with the dog on the leash.
- 2) As instructed by the breed survey master 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 the pocket.
- 4) As instructed by the breed survey master the handler walks with his unleashed dog toward the helper's blind.
- 5) 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 breed survey master, 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 breed survey master 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 breed survey master then instructs the handler to approach his dog.
- 12) The handler puts the leash on his dog and is instructed by the breed survey master to step into an assigned blind.

#### **Countering an Attack from the Watching Position:**

- 1) The breed survey master 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 breed survey master signals the helper to step out of the blind, which is located at a distance of approx. 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 breed survey master 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 breed survey master 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 breed survey master 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 breed survey master with his dog on the leash and leaves the field.

#### **Identity Control:**

Before leaving the field the breed survey master 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 breed survey master 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 breed survey master 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.

#### **6.4 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 breed survey master shall measure the height at the withers.

#### **6.5 Stand for Examination and Evaluation of Movement**

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

#### **6.6 Reports, Confirmations**

After completing the survey for each dog, the breed survey master reports the results over the audio system. The owners of the dogs receive a temporary breed survey certificate that has been signed by the breed survey master. This contains the breed survey results and proof that the required documents have been forwarded to the GSDCA-WDA Office.

### **7. Breed Survey**

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

a) Size, weight and anatomy comply with standard, or minor discrepancies in the anatomy.

- b) The entire behavior is self-confident, good-natured and the dog has earned a rating of “pronounced” or “present” during the TSB test.
- c) Measures within 1cm below or above the size standard
- d) 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

### **7.1 Breed Survey Improvement**

The owner of a breed surveyed dog (first survey/renewal) has the opportunity – in the following year at the earliest – to present this dog for a breed survey improvement. A breed survey improvement may only be attempted once in both areas (first survey / renewal)

### **7.2 Deferment for One Year Is Feasible If:**

- 1) The physical development does not yet permit a breed survey but is expected.
- 2) A suitable result cannot be reached because of the dog’s behavior or as a result of testing the drive, self-confidence and working ability.
- 3) The deferment in accordance with 7.2.1 and 7.2.2 is only possible once for the same reason; if the dog fails to attain this goal twice for the same reason a breed survey certificate cannot be issued. This dog is deemed not suitable for breed survey.

### **7.3 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.

### **7.4 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.

### **7.5 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.

## **8. Breed Survey Certificate and Breed Survey Register**

The SV breed survey office issues breed survey certificates for dogs having passed the breed survey. This certificate and the original papers shall be returned to the dog's owner by the GSDCA-WDA Office after they are returned by the SV. The original papers of dogs that have not attained a breed survey standing shall also be returned to their proper owners. The reason for not attaining the breed survey standing shall be specified in the pedigree papers 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 breed survey masters on breed recommendations, is an important and extensive reference book for serious breeders.

Violations of these guidelines by individuals and event-giving clubs may result in disciplinary action by the GSDCA-WDA.