

GSDCA-WDA Breed Show Rules
(Revised 8/03/2012)

INTRODUCTION

Breed Shows are part of the GSDCA-WDA comprehensive program to evaluate and certify German Shepherd Dogs for breeding purposes. Dogs are judged according to the International (FCI) Standard for German Shepherd Dogs. Classes are divided by both age and sex. Progeny groups show the genetic dominance of individual male dogs. Kennel groups demonstrate the quality and consistency within an individual breeder's program.

Breed Shows may be Club, Regional, or National events. Club events are unlimited in number. Each Region may host one Regional Breed Show per year. The annual North American Sieger Show (NASS) serves as the GSDCA-WDA National Championship Breed Show.

The rules and requirements below are binding for all Breed Shows.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. American Kennel Club (AKC) registration for all dogs born in the United States (USA):
 - a) An AKC four generation pedigree for dogs born on or after January 1, 2005
 - or -
 - b) An AKC three generation pedigree for dogs born before January 1, 2005.
 - c) Pedigrees must be tattoo or microchip certified.
 - i. For NASS, **ALL** pedigrees must be tattoo or microchip certified.
 - ii. For Club or Regional Breed Shows, tattoo/microchip certified pedigrees are only required for dogs 12 months of age and older.
 - iii. United Schutzhund Clubs (UScA) pedigrees are acceptable for tattoo or microchip certification and/or HD/ED certification purposes only.
2. A Canadian or AKC recognized FCI registration for all dogs born outside of the USA.
3. Tattoos or microchips must be completely readable. Owners are responsible for providing an appropriate microchip scanner.
4. Original documents are required at check-in. (See Appendix A or B for complete document requirements by class and event.)
5. Copies of all required documents must be submitted with the official entry form.
6. All entry fees must be included with the entry form. Entry fees are non-refundable.
7. An entry is not complete until copies of the original documents and all entry fees are received by the GSDCA-WDA or hosting Club.
8. At Club and Regional Breed Shows, the requirements for original, certified documents are waived for dogs younger than 12 months of age.
9. Acceptable working titles are SchH/VPG, HGH and IPO.

10. GSDCA-WDA membership is not required for participation in Club or Regional Breed Shows. At the North American Sieger Show, either the owner or the co-owner of the dog must be a GSDCA-WDA member in good standing. This rule does not apply to dogs owned by foreign residents. GSDCA-WDA reserves the right to make exceptions to the rule and allow non-members to enter with an amended entry fee.
11. Any person who is officially “Not in Good Standing” with the GSDCA-WDA may not participate in Breed Shows.

GENERAL

1. Only dogs entered in the Breed Show are permitted on the show grounds.
2. All Judges’ decisions are final and may not be contested.
3. Dogs that have been presented for the standing examination but are later withdrawn from the show without explicit permission of the presiding Judge must be given the rating of “Unsatisfactory”. A dog may be excused, without penalty, with a written note from a licensed veterinarian, delivered to the presiding Judge of the appropriate class.
4. PRONG COLLARS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THE SHOW GROUNDS.
5. SHOCK COLLARS ARE STRICTLY FORBIDDEN AT ALL GSDCA-WDA EVENTS AND ON ALL GSDCA-WDA EVENT GROUNDS.
6. All participants are responsible for sportsmanlike behavior and presentation of their dogs. Double handlers may not use electronic, gas or compressed air amplification devices, pistols, whips, or protective arm sleeves. Violations may lead to a disqualification of the dog, the ordering of both dog and handler(s) off the field, and/or the initiation of disciplinary proceedings.
7. Participants must be alert to prevent their dogs from coming into contact with other dogs. The GSDCA-WDA and any show organizer are not responsible for injury or damage to any dog, damage caused by any dog, or the theft of any dog.
8. Any false documentation about a dog shall result (a) in the banning of the dog from all future GSDCA-WDA events and (b) the termination of the GSDCA-WDA membership of the person(s) who falsified the information.
9. Any action that misleads or deceives a Judge about the true condition of the dog at a Breed Show may result in the banning of the dog from all future GSDCA-WDA events and/or the initiation of disciplinary proceedings.

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. Judging in each class begins with the individual standing examination. All dogs twelve months of age and older will be tested for gun sensitivity. Dogs that are impartial to the gun test may then proceed to the gaiting evaluation. Here, the interplay between bone structure, muscles, ligaments, strength, endurance, and overall showmanship is carefully evaluated.

The age of the dog on the first day of the Breed Show determines the proper age classification. In each age group, females are judged before males.

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 would exclude them from breeding.

Youth Classes, 12-18 months

Young Dog Classes, 18-24 months

Ratings awarded are:

1. “Very Good” (SG) – This is the highest rating in the Young Dog and Youth Class, for those 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; (b) have missing one premolar 1 or one incisor.
2. “Good” (G) – This rating is for 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) – This rating is for 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) – This rating is for dogs that are gun shy, show limitations in their temperament, react negatively to external stimuli or display other shortcomings that prohibit breeding. Also, this rating is for dogs that exceed size specifications by more than 1 cm below or above.

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

No ratings are awarded for this class, but dogs are ranked and placed according to quality. Dogs entered in the Veteran’s Class may not be included in a Kennel Group.

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

At the North American Sieger Show, all dogs in the Working Dog classes must first complete a Performance Test, with a minimum performance rating of “Pronounced” and “Outs.” No Performance Tests are held at Club or Regional Breed Shows.

Ratings awarded are:

1. “Excellent Select” (VA) – Awarded only at the annual North American Sieger Show to dogs that meet the following eligibility requirements:
 - a. Fully conform to the FCI Breed Standard.
 - b. Are self-confident, outgoing and indifferent to gun fire.
 - c. Have an SV recognized hip dysplasia certification.
 - d. If born after January 1, 2004, have an SV recognized elbow dysplasia certification.
 - e. Have a current Breed Survey Class I rating.
 - f. Have complete and faultless dentition.
 - g. Have a minimum SchH2 or HGH performance rating. (Dogs presenting for a second VA rating must have a SchH 3 or HGH title.)
 - h. Both parents and all grandparents must have earned a working title and Breed Survey valid on the day of the dog’s breeding
2. “Excellent” (V) – Dogs in the Working Dog Class that meet the following eligibility requirements:
 - a. Fully conform to the FCI Breed Standard.
 - b. Are self-confident, outgoing and indifferent to gun fire.
 - c. Have an SV recognized hip dysplasia certification.
 - d. If born after January 1, 2004, have an SV recognized elbow dysplasia certification.
 - e. If 3.5 years of age or older, have an SV recognized Breed Survey rating.
 - f. Double premolars 1 are allowed
3. “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: (a) dogs that exceed the size limitations by no more than 1 cm below or above the standard; (b) dogs missing one premolar 1 or one incisor.
4. “Good” (G) – As described under Youth/Young Dog Classes
5. “Satisfactory” (A) – As described under Youth/Young Dog Classes
6. “Unsatisfactory” (U) – As described under Youth/Young Dog Classes

Kennel Groups

Each Kennel Group must consist of five (5) dogs with the same kennel name. Dogs must come from at least two different mothers and two different fathers. Dogs entered in the kennel group must also be entered and shown in a regular class. Kennel Groups are judged on (a) the quality of individual dogs, (b) the overall uniformity of the group, and (c) the highest degree of difficulty (for example, the highest degree of difficulty would be the presentation of five dogs from five different mothers and five different fathers). The Kennel owner must be a member in good standing of the GSDCA-WDA.

Progeny Groups

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

All dogs presented in a Progeny Group must have been entered and shown in a class. The stud dog is not required to be shown. For sires between 24 and 48 months of age, a Progeny Group may be presented with a minimum of four (4) dogs. For sires 48 months of age and older, each Progeny Group requires a minimum of six (6) dogs. At the North American Sieger Show, a Progeny Group will be automatically scheduled for any sire who meets these minimum age and participation requirements. Participation in a Progeny Group is required for all entered dogs, whose sire is eligible to present a Progeny Group. There is no entry fee to present a Progeny Group.

PERFORMANCE TEST: (Applies only to the North American 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).

Ratings awarded are:

1. "a" - Pronounced (*ausgeprägt*): Self-confidence, urgent, goal oriented, and firm gripping and holding, no negative reactions to stick hits, close attention to the helper during all phases.
2. "vh" - Sufficient/Present (*vorhanden*): Limitations in self-confidence, determination, biting, and reaction to stick hits and during the holding at bay phases.
3. "ng" - Insufficient (*nicht genügend*): Lacking self-confidence, strong limitations with respect to stress tolerance and lacking interest in the helper.

The dog is allowed three attempts to perform the free heeling exercise to the attack on handler and must reach a predetermined distance from the blind to pass. The actual attack will commence when the dog is at the predetermined distance from the blind. The distance from the starting point of heeling to the blind will be approximately 80 feet.

The Judge will evaluate the grip work as it is described in the GSDCA-WDA Breed Survey Regulations.

The "out" should show the dog clearly off the sleeve and in the guarding phase. The only command permitted is one word for the "Out", such as: "Out", "Aus", or any other single command of "Out". The commands to "Sit" or "Down," in order to affect the "Out" are not permitted here. The dog, however, may sit, down or stand upon the "Out" command, but may not bother the helper. The sit or down may be reinforced, if necessary, as the handler approaches the dog and is within a distance of 10 feet from the dog.

The handler should, after the attack, leash the dog without physical restraint (such as grabbing the dog to prevent a re-grip). The dog may receive an extra command to out in order to put the leash on the dog with no penalty; however, any dog that must be physically restrained or taken off of the sleeve physically will be disqualified. Once the dog is secured on lead, this exercise is over.

On the pursuit or the long grip, the handler may encourage the dog while holding them by the collar at the basic position to initiate the release as the helper proceeds to the middle

of the field to start the exercise. The handler will release the dog upon a signal from the judge. The grip work and the out will be evaluated in the same manner as in the attack on handler.

Evaluation of the Performance Test

Dogs that do not perform the free heeling exercise within three attempts, dogs that do not release their grip on command, or that receive the evaluation of “Sufficient” or “Insufficient” cannot continue in the Breed Show competition. No show rating may be given.

ADDENDUM FOR 2012

- I. Officiating Judges are not allowed to judge any dogs at a Breed Show which they have owned or co-owned or which have been in their possession in the past 12 months (here, the date of notification of the transfer of ownership shall be decisive) and which have been bred by them, as well as any dogs owned or co-owned by, or in the possession of, close relatives (1st and 2nd degree). For this purpose, the term “close relatives“ also refers to life partnerships, groups of owners and shared households. In this respect, please note that, as of immediately, any dogs which fulfill the criteria mentioned may not be judged by the Judge of the respective class at a Breed Show.

- II. Dogs entered in the Long Stock Hair (LSH) Class who are determined by the Judge prior to the event to be a Long Stock Hair coat will be allowed to be exhibited in the appropriate Class at NASS. Forms for this determination will be available from GSDCA-WDA at NASS.

Appendix A

Documents Required to Enter GSDCA-WDA Breed Shows

CLASS	ORIGINAL REGISTRATION/PEDIGREE PAPERS					HIP & ELBOW CERTIFIED		SCOREBOOK	BREED SURVEY
	If USA Born			If Foreign Born		SV HD	SV ED	WDA, SV, UScA GSSCC or other FCI recognized club with proof of at least SchH/ VPG, IPO1 or HGH Title	If 3.5 years of age or older, a V-rating requires a valid Breed survey
	Original Registration	Original 4- Generation Pedigree if born after 1/1/05	Tattoo/Chip Certified on original pedigree by WDA or UScA	SV or other FCI recognized pedigree papers The FCI Stamp must be on the pedigree papers	Tattoo/Chip number must be on the original pedigree papers	Stamp on original pedigree papers or proof of OFA Hip Certification	Stamp on original pedigree papers if born 1/1/04 or after		
3-6 Month Puppy	x	x		x					
6-9 Month Puppy	x	x		x					
9-12 Month Puppy	x	x		x					
Youth, 12-18 Month	x	x	x	x	x				
Young Dog, 18-24 Month	x	x	x	x	x				
Adult, 24 Month or Older Without Title	x	x	x	x	x				
Working, 24 Month or Older With Title	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Veteran, 6 Years or Older	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	

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Appendix B

Documents Required to Enter the GSDCA-WDA North American Sieger Show

CLASS	ORIGINAL REGISTRATION/PEDIGREE PAPERS					HIP & ELBOW CERTIFIED		SCOREBOOK		BREED SURVEY	
	If USA Born			If Foreign Born		SV HD	SV ED	WDA, SV, UScA	To be eligible for VA, must be SchH/VPG/IPO2 or HGH. To repeat a VA, must be SchH/VPG/IPO3 or HGH	If 3.5 years of age or older, a V-rating requires a valid Breed Survey	To be eligible for a VA title, Breed Survey must show that both parents & all grandparents had a valid Breed Survey on the day of the dog's breeding
	Original Registration	Original 4-Generation Pedigree if born after 1/1/05	Tattoo/Chip Certified on original pedigree by WDA or UScA	SV or other FCI recognized pedigree papers The FCI Stamp must be on the pedigree papers	Tattoo/Chip number must be on the original pedigree papers	Stamp on original pedigree papers or proof of OFA Hip Certification	Stamp on original pedigree papers if born 1/1/04 or after	GSSCC or other FCI recognized club with proof of at least SchH/VPG, IPO1 and HGH title			
3-6 Month Puppy	x	x	x	x	x						
6-9 Month Puppy	x	x	x	x	x						
9-12 Month Puppy	x	x	x	x	x						
Youth, 12-18 Month	x	x	x	x	x						
Young Dog, 18-24 Month	x	x	x	x	x						
Working, 24 Month or Older With Title	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Veteran, 6 Years or Older	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			