

Show Ordinance

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Section 1 General

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 The Show ordinance is controlled by the National Breed Committee and covers the procedures for breed shows.
- 1.1.2 All shows must be run strictly in accordance with this ordinance.
- 1.1.3 The German Shepherd Dog Federation only recognises specialist shows and any shows run in conjunction with other breeds will only be recognised if run strictly according to the specifications laid down in this ordinance, i.e. no concessions may be made to accommodate other breeds.
- 1.1.4 Federation members are allowed to enter KUSA events subject to the condition that awards gained at such events will only be recognised by the Federation if the Council has given specific prior approval thereto. Special conditions may be set by the Council for the recognition of such awards.

1.2 Categories of Shows

- 1.2.1 **Informal Shows** may be held by local clubs and incorporate novelty events at the discretion of the local club, provided that
 - a) Such shows do not in any way conflict with the aims and image of the Federation;
 - b) No gradings awarded at such shows will be official and indicated as such on the schedule;
 - c) Informal shows are run independently and without the involvement of the National Administration other than the National Administration must approve the date and schedule at least three weeks in advance.
- 1.2.2 Local club shows
- 1.2.3 National Show

1.3 General

- 1.3.1 The behaviour and dress of all parties in the ring should be appropriate.
- 1.3.2 Smoking and drinking of alcohol is not permitted in the ring while judging is in progress.
- 1.3.3 No person may be in the ring while a dog owned by that person or a close family member is being judged.

Section 2 Organising Breed Shows

2.1 Equipment Required at Shows

- 2.1.1 A 6 mm or 22” starter’s pistol and blanks.
- 2.1.2 An SV approved measuring stick.

2.2 Appointment of Ring Stewards and Secretaries

The National Administrator in conjunction with the National Breed Supervisor are responsible for the maintenance of a panel of Ring Stewards and Ring Secretaries. Identified appointees to this panel will consist of both experienced and trainee Federation members. It is recommended that Show organisers preferentially appoint show officials from this panel where possible.

2.3 Appointment of Judges

- 2.3.1 The selection of the judge(s) is the responsibility of the organising group and appointment is subject to approval by the National Breed Supervisor.
- 2.3.2 A judge may be appointed for each sex or class in a show, but no panel judging is allowed.
- 2.3.3 All judges have to be qualified specialist German Shepherd Dog judges on the Federation or the Approved Foreign Judges’ Panels
- 2.3.4 If there are more than 140 dogs entered for a one day show or more than 90 dogs entered for a one day show on which a breed survey is also intended, a second judge must be appointed to judge the puppies and/or survey provided that he was listed on the schedule as a reserve judge. Alternatively, the show must be extended into a second day.
- 2.3.5 If more than one Breed Judge is officiating at a show, an officiating judge may enter his/her dog or a dog from a close family member in classes not judged by him/her.

2.4 Special Regulations Pertaining to Foreign Judges

- 2.4.1 The Executive Committee will maintain an “Approved Foreign Judges Panel” of at least 20 SV approved judges and ensure that these judges agree to abide by all the Federation’s rules and regulations. Clubs wishing to include foreign judges on the Approved Foreign Judges panel must submit a full CV of the judge to the Executive Committee who will decide whether to include the judge on the panel.
- 2.4.2 Judges on the SV Executive may only be invited to officiate at shows at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

- 2.4.3 The National Administration has to clear the judge(s) for each and every Federation event. All other dealings with the judge shall be conducted by the organising group directly with the judge.
- 2.4.4 All applications to clear foreign judges must be in writing to the National Administration and no club may approach the registration authorities of a foreign country (including the SV) directly.
- 2.4.5 Judges are obliged to sign the official Federation Judges' Contract upon acceptance of a judging appointment and agree to abide by all the Federation's rules and regulations.
- 2.4.6 When foreign judges are invited, clubs should make maximum use of such judges by arranging for them to give seminars, conduct Breed Surveys and judge's courses, etc. Clubs must note that any requests in this regard have to be cleared in advance by the authorities in the country from which the Judge originates (including the SV). Clubs must therefore check, before application is made, that the judge(s) they may wish to invite is qualified to present the required additional obligations.
- 2.4.7 At shows judged by a foreign judge, a local judge must be appointed to advise the foreign judge to judge according to the Judges' Directives and the Federation's rules and regulations, which must be briefed to the foreign judge before the show. The advising local judge may still show his dogs at the show.

2.5 Show Schedules

- 2.5.1 Schedules announcing a show should include all relevant information pertaining to the show and must be approved by the National Administration prior to being sent out to members.
- 2.5.2 Schedules should be sent to as many exhibitors as possible, but must at least be sent to all other clubs affiliated to the Federation as well as be posted on the Federation's Web Page. It is the club's responsibility to provide the schedule in a suitable format for inclusion on the Web by the Webmaster.
- 2.5.3 The schedule must be distributed to potential exhibitors at least five weeks prior to the stipulated official (first) closing date.
- 2.5.4 It is recommended that shows are held on one (1) day only.

2.6 Show Entry Forms

- 2.6.1 The format of entry forms is determined by the National Administration.
- 2.6.2 The entry form must be completed in full by the owner of the dog(s) or his nominee and submitted to the Federation office.
- 2.6.3 Only dogs belonging to the same owner(s) may be entered on one entry form and a different form must be completed for each different owner or combination of owners.

- 2.6.4 In the case of more than one owner, the address entered on the entry form must be the address of the owner taking responsibility of the dog on the day of the show.
- 2.6.5 All information on the entry form must be truthful and completed in detail. Deliberately incomplete or false information may cause the cancellation and/or forfeiting of all prizes and awards granted to the dog at the show and, depending on the seriousness of the offence, may subject the owner to disciplinary action under the Federation's disciplinary rules.

2.7 Closing Date of Entries

- 2.7.1 Show schedules must clearly stipulate the following official closing dates:
- a) The **first closing date**, which shall be at least 15 clear working days before the show;
 - b) The **late entry closing date**, which shall be at least 10 clear working days before the show.
- 2.7.2 Should the closing date stipulated in the show schedule fall on a weekend or public holiday, the date of the first normal working day thereafter will apply.
- 2.7.3 Entries sent by post, fax or internet must reach the Federation office at midnight on the date that entries close.
- 2.7.4 Entries delivered by hand must be in the possession of the Federation office at 16:00 on the day that entries close.
- 2.7.5 Informal Shows – Procedure may allow for entries on the day.

2.8 Acceptance of Entries

- 2.8.1 Mailing of the entry form, sending the entry form by fax or internet or handing the entry form to the Federation office confirms the acceptance of the show regulations by the owner(s) and receipt of the entry form by the Federation office obliges payment of the entry fees by the owner(s).
- 2.8.2 The Federation office will only accept entries on an official entry form as approved by the Administration.
- 2.8.3 Federation bred dogs registered after the first official closing date will not be eligible for entry in that show.
- 2.8.4 The Federation office or the show organisers accepts no responsibility for entries lost in the post or entries not received and are only obliged to accept entries correctly received in terms of this ordinance and submitted according to these regulations.

2.9 Late Entries

- 2.9.1 No late entries will be accepted after the official late entry closing date as stipulated in the show schedule.

- 2.9.2 Late entries must be shown as part of the official catalogue in the correct class. No loose leaflets or inserts in the back of the catalogue are permitted.
- 2.9.3 The numbering system used for late entries must fit within the numbering system as that used by the administration in the official catalogue as mistakes can have far-reaching consequences.
- 2.9.4 Grading cards for late entries will be issued by the Administration after the show results have been received from the club and the administration shall sign on behalf of the judge.

2.10 Entry Fees

- 2.10.1 Entry fees for shows are determined by the Council who may also include a levy payable to the National Administration. It is the duty of the show organisers to enquire about the relevant fees applicable.
- 2.10.2 Entry fees for informal shows are determined by the relevant organising club and no levy will be payable to the National Administration.
- 2.10.3 A fee of one half of the total entry fee must be levied and paid to the Federation as a prerequisite for the acceptance of any entry made after the official first closing date.
- 2.10.4 Fees paid in lieu of entries that are withdrawn after the first closing date are not refundable. People refusing to pay entry fees will be liable to disciplinary action under the Federation's disciplinary rules.
- 2.10.5 Entry fees are paid directly to the show organisers and payment details must be stipulated on the schedule.
- 2.10.6 No dog may be allowed into a class if the entry has not been paid for.

2.11 Show Catalogue

- 2.11.1 All entries must be shown in the correct classes of the official catalogue, a copy of which must be made available to all exhibitors.
- 2.11.2 Qualifications and the highest grading previously awarded must be added to the name of the dog entered as well as its sire and dam. If the dog is Breed Surveyed, the appropriate symbol must also be added. For example, *Dingo vom Haus Gero, SchH3 indicates that the dog is Breed Surveyed (*) and has the training qualification of SchH3.
- 2.11.3 All clubs must use the Federation's administration office to compile their show catalogues for all entries received up to and including the official late entry closing date.
- 2.11.4 In cases where an exhibitor can conclusively demonstrate that he had entered his dog(s) correctly and that the omission in the catalogue is the fault of the Federation's administration, he may be allowed to enter subject to the following:

- a) Such entries shall not be entered in all catalogues, but must at least be recorded in the judge's book and the official marked catalogue. Responsibility hereto lies with the show organisers.
- b) Exhibitors must provide proof of correct entry. Where special circumstances exist, it may be permitted that such proof of validity is provided after the show.
- c) Any person unable to prove within 30 days after a show that the entry form was correctly completely and timeously forwarded or presented to the Federation office will be automatically banned from entering shows for 3 (three) months.

Section 3 Special Regulations for National Shows

3.1 National Show

- 3.1.1 The major annual breed show is the National Show and is the responsibility of the National Administrator and his/her administrative committee.
- 3.1.2 Special regulations set by the National Breed Committee may be promulgated for the National Show and must be stipulated in the schedule announcing the show.
- 3.1.3 The responsibility of decisions regarding the setting of entry fees, prizes and venue lies with the Executive Committee.
- 3.1.4 The date of the National Show is determined by unanimous decision of the Executive Committee.

3.2 Judges

- a) The National Breed Committee will approve a list of senior SV judges consisting of not more than six names who will be suitable for judging the National Show.
- b) The list may be reviewed annually.
- c) The Executive Committee will appoint the judges for the National Show from this list. It is recommended that a judge's appointment shall be for two years with one new judge being appointed each year.
- d) If something out of the ordinary happens, such as a judge cancelling at the last minute, the Executive Committee has the power to appoint any suitable substitute.
- e) Puppies 6-12 months will be judged by local judges. These local judges may still enter their own dogs in age classes not judged by them, as well as in the progeny and kennel groups.

3.3 Courage Test

- a) The helpers' panel for the National Show and the allocation of this panel between dogs and bitches is selected by the Federation Breed Surveyors

together with the National Breed Supervisor. Notification of the Helpers selected will be circulated to all clubs six months prior to the date of the National Show.

- b) Bitches may be presented for the courage test in any order and may nominate a helper.
- c) The protection-work manager must ensure that dogs in all classes are divided into groups of 4 dogs as far as is possible.
- d) Official Helpers in the Male Protection Work Class may handle a maximum of three dogs in each in that class, provided no disruptions in the proceedings occur as a result thereof.

3.3.1 Male dogs

- a) Competitors who have entered more than one male dog should report to the administration of the show between 12h00 and 16h00 on the day before the courage test where they will be allowed to slot their dogs into timeslots that will allow the handlers sufficient time between the dogs they are handling. After 16h00, but before the draw of helpers, handlers may slot their dogs in the remaining available spaces on a first-come-first-served basis.
- b) Dogs to be handled by official helpers and the order in which they will be presented must be declared to the Administration between 12h00 and 16h00 on the day before the courage test.
- c) The order of the helpers will be drawn immediately before the courage test.
- d) If the draw leads to a situation where a dog will bite on a family member or a person who has a personal bond with the dog, the owner or handler may approach the Show Protection-work Manager who may change the order will slot the dog in at the end of the next group.

After the draw, the Protection Work Manager will slot dogs to be handled by official helpers into the schedule as follows:

- i. Starting with the dogs of the helpers in the order that each helper was drawn, each dog, in the order in which it was declared by the Helper concerned the day before, will be slotted in at the end of each of the next groups immediately following the group for which the helper was drawn with the following provisos:
- ii. that should a following group immediately precede the next group to be worked by the helper concerned, the dog will be slotted in at the end of the first earlier group that does not immediately precede a group the helper will be working;
- iii. Should there not be sufficient groups available following the last group a helper has drawn to work, the dog will, starting at the beginning of the schedule, be slotted into the first available group not preceding a group the helper is working;
- iv. If rescheduling results in groups larger than six dogs, the dog concerned will be slotted in at the end of the next available group numbering five or less dogs that does not immediately precede a group the helper will be working.

- v. Only if it is impossible to slot a dog in as above, will a dog be allowed to work at the end of the protection-work.
- vi. The onus is on the Helper to ensure that he has enough assistance with his dogs to ensure smooth running of the system and dogs presented outside the determined order due to the fault of the Helper, will be disqualified.
- vii. No Helper will have any recourse against the Organisation should a dog handled by him fail for any reason whatsoever.
- viii. The organisers will keep a test dog available to be used in the event of the courage test process being halted for any reason in order to give every dog the same chance, namely to be able to see a dog biting before being presented for its courage test.

3.4 Critiques

Verbal critiques at the National Show will be limited to an overall impression of the class and to the first few dogs as per the discretion of the judge. Written critiques on all dogs will be published by the Federation.

Section 4 Eligible Exhibits

4.1 Ownership

- 4.1.1 All dogs entered must be registered in the name of the specified owner(s) at the time of entry.
- 4.1.2 With the exception of dogs entered under Schedule V of the constitution, only dogs belonging to Federation members in good standing with the Federation may be exhibited.

4.2 Registration

- 4.2.1 Only dogs eligible for registration on the Federation's Breed Register or a breed register recognised by the Federation are allowed to be exhibited at a show.
- 4.2.2 For dogs not yet fully registered at the time of entry, application for registration must have been received by the National Administration at least by the closing date of the entries.

4.3 Identification

- 4.3.1 All dogs entered at a show, unless otherwise specified in Schedule IV *Foreign and Non-Member Competitors*, must be identifiable by a legible tattoo number or a microchip certified by a recognised authority.
- 4.3.2 Absence of identification will lead to immediate disqualification.

- 4.3.3 Illegible or unreadable identification: the judge may suspend any awards until such time as the validity of the entry can be checked and confirmed. Responsibility of this confirmation lies with the National Administrator and the dog remains suspended from further exhibition until confirmation is obtained and any fault rectified.
- 4.3.4 Illegible or unreadable identification must be noted in the official Judge's Book.

4.4 Age

- 4.4.1 Only dogs older than six months of age on the day of exhibition may be entered or accepted for entry at a Federation recognised show.
- 4.4.2 The class in which a dog shall be exhibited shall be determined according the dog's age on the first day of the show.

4.5 Health

- 4.5.1 Dogs who are sick, suspected of being sick, and/or are suffering from a skin disease or fits are not allowed to be shown.
- 4.5.2 Potential exhibitors must avail themselves of State Veterinary Regulations (e.g. Rabies control requirements) and adhere thereto.

4.6 Disqualifying Faults

- 4.6.1 Dogs with disqualifying faults specified in the Breed Ordinance will be disqualified at the discretion of the Judge.
- 4.6.2 If it can be proved, either by presentation of an officially endorsed pedigree or the official Breed Survey report that a disqualifying fault is a direct result of trauma, the dog is exonerated.

4.7 Veterinary Certificates

- 4.7.1 The exoneration of a dog regarding matters that may influence the judging of the dog shall be based on the official endorsement thereto on the pedigree as according to procedures set out in the Breed Ordinance.
- 4.7.2 Veterinary certificates shall not be accepted unless the National Administrator has agreed thereto in each and every individual case.

4.8 Withdrawal

- 4.8.1 Dogs entered and present at a show, may only be withdrawn with good reason and with the permission of the judge for their particular class.
- 4.8.2 Dogs withdrawn without such permission will be graded "insufficient".

Section 5 Classes at Shows

5.1 Breed Classes

- 5.1.1 Dogs to be exhibited are categorised according to sex and age.
- 5.1.1 Dogs to be exhibited are categorized according to coat type, sex and age.
- 5.1.2 The following Short Stock Hair classes must be part of each show:
- | | |
|---|---|
| Class 1 - Bitches 6 to 9 months | Class 2 - Dogs 6 to 9 months |
| Class 3 - Bitches 9 to 12 months | Class 4 - Dogs 9 to 12 months |
| Class 5 - Bitches 12 to 18 months | Class 6 - Dogs 12 to 18 months |
| Class 7 - Bitches 18 to 24 months | Class 8 - Dogs 18 to 24 months |
| Class 9 - Open Bitches 24 months
and older | Class 10 - Open Dogs 24 months
and older |
- 5.1.3 The following Long Stock Hair with undercoat classes must be part of each show:
- | | |
|--|---|
| Class 11 - Bitches 6 to 9 months | Class 12 - Dogs 6 to 9 months |
| Class 13 - Bitches 9 to 12 months | Class 14 - Dogs 9 to 12 months |
| Class 15 - Bitches 12 to 18 months | Class 16 - Dogs 12 to 18 months |
| Class 17 - Bitches 18 to 24 months | Class 18 - Dogs 18 to 24 months |
| Class 19 - Open Bitches 24 months
and older | Class 20 - Open Dogs 24 months
and older |

5.2 Kennel Groups

- 5.2.1 This class is presented at the National Show.
- 5.2.2 The Kennel Group class must be the last class of a show.
- 5.2.3 Entries may only be made by the Breeder on the specified form.
- 5.2.4 A minimum of three and a maximum number of five dogs and/or bitches with the same Kennel Name and coat type may be entered per group.
- 5.2.5 All dogs exhibited must have received a minimum grading of “G” or “P” at the same show.
- 5.2.6 If an SV judge, who is also a Breed Surveyor, is not officiating, the class will be for “Exhibition only”.
- 5.2.7 The handlers of all dogs exhibited in a Kennel Group are obliged to wear the official catalogue number of those dogs.
- 5.2.8 Short Stock Hair dogs may not be shown in the same Kennel Group as Long Stock Hair dogs.

5.3 Progeny Groups

- 5.3.1 This class is presented at the National Show for exhibition purposes only, as per Germany.
- 5.3.2 The class must take place before the running of the Working Dog classes.
- 5.3.3 The administrator must inform each owner of a stud dog of which more than 6 progenies had been entered. The owner must then confirm within three days of having been informed thereto whether the group will be presented or not. Once confirmed, and with the exception specified in terms of paragraphs 5.3.4 and 5.3.5 below, it is compulsory that the group participates. If the group is withdrawn without good reason, the sire may be barred from further participation in the open class.
- 5.3.4 The owner of the sire has an obligation to ensure that as many of the dog's progeny as is possible are presented for the class. If less than six (6) progeny are present, the group will not be allowed to be presented.
- 5.3.5 Dogs with less than six (6) progeny over the age of 12 months, but six or more progeny entered in the show, may withdraw provided that the show manager is informed thereof at least one hour before the scheduled start of the class.
- 5.3.6 The show-holding organization must include all sires of which six or more progeny has been entered, and of which the group has been confirmed as entries in the catalogue. If a sire so entered was not entered as an individual dog and does not participate in the open class, no entry fee shall be payable.
- 5.3.7 All the progeny of an eligible sire presented at a show which are over 12 months of age must be present for the running of the class. Participation of puppies under the age of twelve months is voluntary, their entry decided upon by the owner of the sire.
- 5.3.8 Progeny not entered and presented in the show may not be included in the group.
- 5.3.9 The handlers of all dogs exhibited in a progeny group are obliged to wear the official catalogue number of those dogs they are handling.
- 5.3.10 Once presented in a group, a dog may only be withdrawn from classes that may be held after the group class upon presentation of a valid veterinary certificate or with the permission of the Show Manager.

5.4 Working Classes at the National Show

- 5.4.1 Class 31 – Working Bitches with Short Stock Hair 24 months and older
Class 32 – Working Dogs with Short Stock Hair 24 months and older
Class 33 – Working Bitches with Long Stock Hair 24 months and older
Class 34 – Working Dogs with Long Stock Hair 24 months and older
- 5.4.2 To enter these classes Dogs and Bitches must have at least a BH-VT qualification (commencing 1 January 2025).

- 5.4.3 Dogs and Bitches entered in these classes will do protection work at the show.
- 5.4.4 The highest gradings that will be awarded for these classes will be the VA(SA), V(NBS) gradings.
- 5.4.5 Dogs and Bitches entered in these classes are subjected to all the requirements for entry into the progeny groups.
- 5.4.65 Dogs and Bitches not classified “Courage Pronounced” in the protection work have the option to transfer to the Open Classes provided the option is exercised and the Show Administration has been notified before the end of the individuals of their original classes.

5.5 Open Classes at the National Show

- 5.5.1 Class 9 – Open Bitches with Short Stock Hair 24 months and over
Class 10 – Open Dogs with Short Stock Hair 24 months and over
Class 19 – Open Bitches with Long Stock Hair 24 months and over
Class 20 – Open Dogs with Long Stock Hair 24 months and over
- 5.5.2 Bitches entered in Classes 9 or 19 may not enter in Classes 31 or 33 and Dogs entered in Class 10 or 20 may not enter in Class 32 or 34.
- 5.5.3 Dogs and Bitches entered in these classes will not do protection work at the show.
- 5.5.4 The highest grading that will be awarded for these classes will be the V grading.
- 5.5.5 Dogs and Bitches entered in these classes are subjected to all the requirements for entry into the progeny groups.
- 5.5.6 Where Dogs and Bitches entered in these classes are presented in a Kennel Group, they will receive the same weighting as dogs from the younger classes.
- 5.5.7 The Judges Directives pertaining to Local shows will apply in these classes where applicable.

Section 6 Running the Show

6.1 Certificates & Prizes

- 6.1.1 Trophies must be awarded as follows:
 - a) In all classes for at least the first place, additionally second and third place at the National Show, as well as one trophy per four dogs entered thereafter;
 - b) A “Best Locally Bred” trophy if there is an imported dog presented in the open class;
 - c) To all “V” graded dogs and bitches that have not been awarded a place trophy in the class;
 - d) All trophies from second place downwards may be smaller than the first place trophy and of equal size.

- 6.1.2 Official grading cards obtainable from the National Administration must be signed by the judge and issued to every dog.
- 6.1.3 Special prize cards, rosettes, trophies and other prizes are issued on the authority and initiative of the show organisers.

6.2 The Ring

- 6.2.1 The inside of the ring where the dogs are exhibited must be a minimum size 30m x 40m and a maximum size 40m x 60m and be demarcated with a continuous barrier right around the ring.
- 6.2.2 This inside barrier must be 10 to 15 cm high and may not be flat on the ground.
- 6.2.3 Approximately 1.5 m outside the inner ring must be another barrier so that the dogs have a track of 1.5 metres wide in which to run.
- 6.2.4 A third barrier must be erected 2 to 2.5 m further out to form a track to demarcate the area reserved for double handling.
- 6.2.5 The corners of the first and second barriers must be rounded.
- 6.2.6 The innermost barrier may only consist of rope or plastic tape so as not to obscure the view of the Judge.
- 6.2.7 The outer two barriers may contain advertising material, flags or bunting.
- 6.2.8 Pegs used to support the ropes or tape must be of a construction that will not injure dogs or handlers.

6.3 Judging Procedures

- 6.3.1 The dogs are judged according to the breed standard and according to the rules and regulations of the Federation.
- 6.3.2 A gun-sure test is compulsory in all classes of dogs over the age of twelve months.
- 6.3.3 When a Judge is unable to, due to a large entry, examine the identification, teeth of dogs not in possession of a teeth certification and testicles of the male dogs personally, the task may be delegated to a qualified or aspirant judge.
- 6.3.4 At the end of each class the judge must place the dogs in order of merit from first to last, publicly announce the gradings awarded as well as give a critique on each animal exhibited.
- 6.3.5 Judges should ensure where possible that the top group, and in particular the top 3 animals, in the open classes conform to the minimum requirements for the VA(SA) grading.
- 6.3.6 Judges must respect the findings of a Breed Survey. In the event of dogs not yet Breed Surveyed, the judge may, at his/her discretion, check any or all relevant points and penalise dogs accordingly.

6.4 Dogs Entered in the Wrong Class

- 6.4.1 Dogs inadvertently entered in the wrong class shall be moved to their correct classes.
- 6.4.2 In the event of a dog being transferred to a class already completed, the dog may be evaluated by the officiating judge after the completion of the last class. Such a dog has to be graded, but has no claim on prizes and is not given a placing. A late evaluation by another Judge is not permitted.

6.5 Show Gradings

- 6.5.1 **VA(SA):** “Excellent Select” grading awarded only at the National Show if an official SV Judge officiates. The grading is awarded to the very best dogs over 24 months of age in a working class and which conform to the following:
- Dogs and bitches must have passed a Federation recognised HD scheme;
 - Dogs and bitches must be Breed Surveyed;
 - Dogs and bitches must have passed the courage test with TSB “pronounced”;
 - It is recommended that dogs be in possession of a minimum training qualification of IGP 1 or equivalent level;
 - Dogs and bitches must have at least a BH-VT qualification (commencing 1 January 2025);
 - Dogs and bitches born after 1 January 2023 must have passed a Federation recognised ED scheme (commencing 1 January 2025).
- 6.5.2 **V(NBS):** “Excellent” grading awarded only at the National Show to dogs over 24 months of age in a working class and which meet the strictest breed standard requirements regarding construction, appearance, temperament and which conform to the following:
- Dogs and bitches must have passed a Federation recognised HD scheme;
 - Dogs and bitches must have passed the courage test with TSB “pronounced”;
 - Bitches with courage test “present” will be placed at the back of the V grading group unless the anatomical quality warrants a lower grading;
 - Dogs and bitches must have at least a BH-VT qualification (commencing 1 January 2025);
 - Dogs and bitches born after 1 January 2023 must have passed a Federation recognised ED scheme (commencing 1 January 2025).
- 6.5.3 **SG(NBS):** “Very Good” grading awarded only at the National Show to dogs over 24 months of age in a working class and which meet the breed standard in most requirements regarding construction, appearance and temperament and which conform to the following:
- Dogs and bitches must have passed the courage test with TSB “pronounced”;
 - Bitches with courage test “present” will be placed at the back of the SG grading group unless the anatomical quality warrants a lower grading;

- c) Dogs and bitches must have at least a BH-VT qualification (commencing 1 January 2025);
- 6.5.4 **G(NBS)**: “Very Good” grading awarded only at the National Show to dogs over 24 months of age in a working class and which meet the breed standard in most requirements regarding construction, appearance and temperament and which conform to the following:
- a) Dogs and bitches must have passed the courage test with TSB “pronounced”;
 - b) Bitches with courage test “present” will be placed at the back of the G grading;
 - c) Dogs and bitches must have at least a BH-VT qualification (commencing 1 January 2025);
- 6.5.5 **V**: “Excellent” grading awarded to dogs over 24 months of age which meet the strictest breed standard requirements regarding construction, appearance and temperament and which conform to the following:
- a) Dogs and bitches must have passed a Federation recognised HD scheme;
 - b) Dogs and bitches born after 1 January 2023 must have passed a Federation recognised ED scheme (commencing 1 January 2025).
- 6.5.6 **SG**: “Very Good” grading awarded to dogs over the age of 12 months and who meet the breed standard in most requirements regarding construction, appearance and temperament.
- 6.5.7 **G**: “Good” grading awarded to dogs over the age of 12 months with small failures regarding construction, appearance and temperament but that largely meet the breed standard requirements or to dogs and bitches not as yet sufficiently developed.
- 6.5.8 **A**: “Sufficient” – awarded to dogs over the age of 12 months with noticeable faults in construction and appearance or to dogs that show a slight negative response to a gunshot.
- 6.5.9 **U**: “Insufficient” grading awarded to dogs over the age of 12 months with prominent faults, bad temperaments or which are scared or nervous or to dogs that have failed the gunshot test. The following regulations apply:
- a) This grading can only be overturned by participation in a Breed Show. This procedure will not influence valid gradings previously obtained in a show-ring.
 - b) Dogs with valid breed gradings which are graded “insufficient” in two consecutive shows are automatically suspended from breeding until such time as a valid breed grading is again awarded in an official show. Upon reinstatement all previously awarded breed qualifications will be reinstated.
- 6.5.10 Federation breed judges may assess dogs and award gradings of maximum “SG” outside the show-ring subject to the following regulations:
- a) Assessments may only be made at official Federation clubs during official club training hours;
 - b) Assessments may only be done in exceptional circumstances where good reason exists for the dog not to be shown in an official show;

- c) Application for an assessment must be made to the Administrator who shall, in conjunction with the National Breed Supervisor, decide whether there is sufficient merit for such an assessment to be made outside the show ring.
 - d) If sufficient merit exists for an assessment to be made, the Chairman of the Breed Judges Committee or the Judges Committee shall appoint a judge to make the assessment.
 - e) The National Breed Supervisor may set special conditions under which the assessment grading may be awarded.
 - f) The assessing judge may recommend alternative or additional conditions to the National Breed Supervisor.
 - g) The judge making the assessment must forward confirmation of the grading he has awarded to the National Administration in the format required by the National Administration as well as give a copy thereof to the owner of the dog;
 - h) Fees charged are determined by the Council.
- 6.5.11 Dogs and bitches under the age of 12 months cannot be graded and will be described by the Judge as “Very Promising”, “Promising” or “Less Promising”.
- 6.5.12 Should any Judge, person or the National Administration discover a physical fault that excludes a dog from a grading or award previously awarded, they are required to refer the case to the Judges’ Committee which may, at its discretion, revoke the grading and re-grade the dog.
- 6.5.13 Show holding clubs are obliged to personally hand an official grading card to each owner or handler immediately after the class. Failing this, grading cards must be posted to the owners at the show holding organisation’s expense.
- 6.5.14 Whilst the National Administration will make every attempt to maintain a record of the highest grading awarded, proof of a grading awarded to the dog shall be solely based upon grading cards in possession of owner.

6.6 Teeth Faults Affecting Gradings

- 6.6.1 Teeth Faults and how they are graded in shows and surveys are listed in the Breed Ordinance.
- 6.6.2 Dogs with valid teeth certification should present the teeth certification to the ring steward at the commencement of the show class entered.

6.7 Judges’ Decisions

- 6.7.1 The judge’s decision is final and a dispute is not permitted.
- 6.7.2 An objection may be lodged only if it can be shown that the judge was misled through incorrect, false or irregular information supplied by the handler, owner, Show Manager or catalogue.

6.8 Attraction from Outside the Ring

- 6.8.1 Dogs may be attracted, called or encouraged (double handled) from outside the ring during the judging of a class.
- 6.8.2 No actions or use of props, such as a protection work sleeve or ball, that could unfairly prejudice another dog or endanger fellow exhibitors are allowed. Complaints in this regard can be made directly to the ring steward, who must inform the judge and whose decision regarding the matter is final.
- 6.8.3 Participating in double handling is at own risk and the judge or show organisers cannot be held responsible for injury.

6.9 Results

- 6.9.1 The placings and awards of each recognised show must be recorded in the Judge's Book by the ring secretary and must be signed by the judge.
- 6.9.2 The show secretary has the responsibility to mark one catalogue and to electronically submit it together with the properly completed judge's book(s) to the National Administration within three (3) working days after the show. The original documents must be forwarded to the National Administration within ten (10) working days after the show.

6.10 Objections

- 6.10.1 Objections at shows must be submitted in writing to the show manager within eight days of the show.
- 6.10.2 All objections must be accompanied by a deposit of which the amount is determined by the Council.

6.11 Documents Required

- 6.11.1 All dogs that have a valid teeth certification should have available:
 - a) The Pedigree containing the certification (or Training Test Record Book for older pedigrees that do not have the required section for teeth certification)
or
 - b) The Breed Survey Certificate.
- 6.11.2 Proof of membership
 - a) Membership cards (digital or hard copy) of all participants to be available at events
 - b) Checking of membership cards will be done simultaneously with checking of tattoo numbers
 - c) If membership cards cannot be produced, a Day Membership fee will be payable

Section 7 Show Dates

7.1 Allocation of Show Dates

- 7.1.1 Show dates are determined by the National Administration in conjunction with the National Breed Supervisor.
- 7.1.2 Where possible preferences of clubs will be accommodated, but this is not mandatory.
- 7.1.3 Show dates are allocated on a permanent basis as the weekend of a particular week each year.
- 7.1.4 Once allocated, dates can only be changed in exceptional circumstances by a unanimous decision of the Executive Committee.
- 7.1.5 New clubs will be allocated a date from unallocated dates that do not encroach on the existing dates of nearby clubs.
- 7.1.6 Clubs in the same area may exchange dates.
- 7.1.7 No other events may be planned or run on the dates allocated to the following events:
 - a) National Breed Show
 - b) National Working Trials
 - c) National Breed and Training Meetings
 - d) National Council Meeting

7.2 Cancellation of Shows

- 7.2.1 Should a Breed Show be cancelled without a valid reason, or for any reason whatsoever after the schedule of the show has been published, or within the eight weeks before the allocated date of the show, the club will immediately lose its voting rights and be subject to a fine, the amount of which will be decided by the Council from time to time.
- 7.2.2 Voting rights so forfeited will only be re-instated after the fine has been paid and a show has been held in terms of the Federation's rules and regulations.

Section 8 Annual Showing Awards

8.1 Categories

- 8.1.1 **Top Twenty Show Kennels of the Year** - All the progeny bred under a kennel name allocated points as stipulated in the schedule below.
- 8.1.2 **Top Twenty Sires of the Year** - All the progeny of a sire will be allocated points as stipulated in the schedule below.

- 8.1.3 **Top Twenty Dams of the Year** - All the progeny of a dam will be allocated points stipulated as in the schedule below.

8.2 Points Schedule

- 8.2.1 Each time a dog is shown in an official Federation show and receives the highest possible grading for its class (except in the case of the national show where the grading V(NBS) is also included), it will be allocated points as follows:
- | | |
|---|-----------|
| a) VP in the puppy classes: | 1 point |
| b) SG in the classes 12 months up to 2 years: | 3 points |
| c) V: | 5 points |
| d) V(NBS): | 8 points |
| e) VA(SA): | 15 points |
- 8.2.2 The Sire or Dam of each dog:
- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) Awarded Angekört, TSB Pronounced: | 8 points |
| b) Awarded Angekört, TSB Present: | 4 points |
| c) Upgraded Angekört, TSB Present to Pronounced: | 4 points |
| d) Awarded Angekört, "For Life": | 4 points |
- 8.2.3 A year in which points may be accumulated will start six weeks before a National Breed Show and end six weeks before the next National Breed Show.
- 8.2.4 The awards will be presented at the subsequent National Breed Show.

Section 9 Child and Junior Handler Awards

9.1 Classes

- 9.1.1 **Child Handler:** Federation members in good standing under 14 years of age six weeks before the National Breed Show.
- 9.1.2 **Junior Handler:** Federation members in good standing too old to be classified as a child handler and who are under 18 years of age six weeks before the National Breed Show.

9.2 Top Twenty Handlers of the Year

- 9.2.1 Each child or junior handler will be allocated points as stipulated in the points schedule below each time they handle a dog in an official event.
- 9.2.2 A year in which points may be accumulated will start six weeks before a National Breed Show and end six weeks before the next National Breed Show.
- 9.2.3 The awards will be presented at the subsequent National Breed Show.

9.3 Youth Handler's Medal

9.3.1 Each Youth Handler will be awarded a Youth Handler's Medal upon having accumulated, irrespective of age group, the following points:

Bronze	-	150 points
Silver	-	300 points
Gold	-	500 points

9.4 Points Schedule

9.4.1 Classes 1 to 34:

a) VP in the puppy classes:	1 Point
b) SG in the classes 12 months up to 2 years:	3 Points
c) V:	5 Points
d) V(NBS):	8 Points
e) VA(SA):	15 Points
f) AD	1 Point
g) Breed Survey	3 Points
h) BH	5 Points
i) Each IGP Level	5 Points

9.4.2 No points are awarded for male classes over 24 months of age.

9.5 Recording of Points

9.5.1 The show secretary must note the name and surname of each child or junior handler and the dog which they are handling in the Judges Book.