

WGSDCA Dogsport Magazine



General information

SCOREBOOKS, SPORTS PASSES AND FORMS

To apply for a scorebook and sportspass go to www.wgsdca.org.au/scorebooks-sportspasses.

Please Note: The Admin of Records <u>only</u> processes orders on the <u>last</u> <u>week of each month</u>. So make sure you plan well ahead if you intend to enter a trial, apply for your sportspass and scorebook well in advance. Allow 6 weeks for delivery time.

INDIVIDUAL WGSDCA MEMBERSHIP

Whether your interest is breeding or training the German Shepherd Dog, or simply enjoying the company of people like you who love to spend time with their dogs, WGSDCA has something for you. www.wgsdca.org.au/membership.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

You can join WGSDCA through one of our Club Affiliates or directly. WGSDCA have five categories of Individual Membership:

- » Individual Membership
- » Dual Membership
- » Youth Membership (free)
- » Life member
- » Social Membership

Members of WGSDCA have to renew their WGSDCA Individual Membership annually.

To find out more go to www.wgsdca.org.au/membership

CLUB AFFILIATES

Brisbane Sporting Dog Club	Sydney Dogsport Club	
Dogsport New Zealand	Valley Dogsport Club	
Eastside Shepherd Dogsport Group	West Australian German Shepherd Dog Sports	
Junee Dogsport Club	Working German	
Metro Dogsport Club	Shepherd Victoria	
Norwest Dogsport Club	Fenrir Dogsport Club	
Scenic Rim Sportdog Club		
South East Queensland Dogsport Club	Karma K9 Dog Sports Club	

Events are announced on WGSDCA Facebook page 'events' and website **www.wgsdca.org.au/upcomingtrials-seminars**

Online Shop: wgsdca.deco-uniforms.com

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Dogsport: the preservation of the working dog.

Mission Statement

To maintain and improve the temperament and physical soundness of the German Shepherd Dog in Australasia.

To promote responsible dog ownership to our members.

Our Vision

To be a progressive dogsport organisation in partnership with the international dogsport community.



www.facebook.com/ WorkingGermanShepherdDogsportClubsOfAustralasia

FRONT COVER: SANNE PEDERSEN AND GLYNIS HENDRICKS AT THE TRACKING FIELDS, HUNGARY.
PHOTO: CLINT WEHMEIER

A word from the president

Dear members, friends and supporters,

We are moving from some very hot summer months into autumn and this year's trialing season is about to kick off. With 8 club trials announced for the first half of 2024, it looks like we are lining up for another busy year. The Board of Management would like to encourage our clubs to include the offer of ZAP-W assessment at their club trials to help members align with the WUSV Breed Mandate.

The 2024 WGSDCA Championship is in Sydney at the Hawkesbury Showground, May 31st to June 2nd. There is an option to camp at the event. This year, the WGSDCA is calling upon the whole fraternity to help showcasing IGP dogsport as well as SV Breed Survey at our National. Please contact us if you haven't already offered your help. In particularly, we need hands on deck during the event which is officiated by SV Judge Ilona Fornal (Performance judge)



and USCA National Breed Warden, Heidi Theis (Breed Survey). Both ladies are active dog handlers as well as experienced judges. You can read more about them within this magazine. If you plan to enter the breed survey, then your GSD needs to be a minimum of 2 years of age, have at least an IGP1 title, an endurance title, DNA profile on record, ZAP-W (if born 01.01.21 or later) and a show rating of at least 'Good' as well as a pedigree and hip/elbow scores.

The 2024 WGSDCA National Championship is sponsored by K9Pro and RedLine and supported by Petcover Australia, Clear Dog Treats and Orivet. We hope the event is supported in full by our members and friends. This is a great opportunity to showcase our dogs and IGP

dogsport. You can find all the details on www. wgsdca.org.au/2024nationalchampionship. So, get your entry in no later than April 30th, 2024.

On a closing note, it is timely to mention our HD-ED portal with the DZG in Germany. To our members who have a long-term goal to participate in WUSV World Championships, please remember that dogs born from 01.01.18 must have a show grading of at least Good. The dogs must have HD/ED scores within the WUSV accepted range and from 01.01.25, the HD/ED scores must be under a WUSV recognised scheme.

SANNE PEDERSEN | WGSDCA PRESIDENT





The K9 Professionals

For most Dog Sports enthusiasts, this isn't merely a hobby, it's a lifestyle. At K9 Pro we not only sell the equipment we have on offer, but we use it ourselves, with our own dogs, daily.

K9 Pro also offers specialised training for all different dog sports. Whatever your passion, we've got the experience to help you and your dog succeed!

If you need assistance with products, customised training support or are looking to upskill as a trainer, send us an email at info@k9pro.com.au and Candace can help you!



X-ray scores recognised by the WUSV

From 01.01.2025, dogs participating in WUSV events, such as the WUSV World Championship, must have HD-ED scores from a recognised service provider. WGSDCA members may use the WGSDCA-DZG portal to get such recognised scores.

Who are DZG?

The Dysplasia Centrum Gießen (DZG) is an academic institute dedicated to diagnostic imaging of skeletal dysplasia in small animals, including dogs. They offer their HD-ED assessment services to many canine umbrella organisations, such as the WUSV and many FCI national bodies, including the SV.



The DZG HD-ED Expert Panel are accredited members of the GRSK e.V, which is the German equivalent to the Radiology Chapter of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (ANZCVS).

WGSDCA members have access to DZG's HD-ED assessment services via our WGSDCA-DZG HDED Portal.

Do you intend to align with the WUSV Breed Mandate?

Are you preparing your dog for an opportunity to qualify for a WUSV World Championship?

If the answer is yes to the questions above, then you must use an Australian vet who is accredited by the DZG as additional images are required. Most countries with mainstream HD-ED screening programs only require one type of flexed ML view. The WUSV recommends two different projections of the hip and elbow joins to safeguard against misinterpretations of changes at the medial coronoid process.

Perhaps you just have an interest in having your dog's hip and elbow assessed in Germany?

If so, then you can use your own vet and submit the x-rays via the WGSDCA-DZG Portal.

Help us helping Australian GSD breeders wishing to support the WUSV Breed Mandate

Invite your vet to partake in the WGSDCA-DZG HD-ED Scheme. Please contact our breed warden for more information: breedwarden@wgsdca.org.au.

You can find more information here: www.wgsdca.org.au/hips-elbows-assessment



The journey to the 2023 WUSV IGP World Championship

GLYNIS HENDRICKS

PHOTOS BY: PICS4DOGS

hat can I say except it is no mean feat to organise the trip and compete at the world championships. But, what I can say is that like having a baby, lucky you forget the pain as otherwise you would not want to do it again. Well not from Australia anyway! Once all the hard work is done, I can say it is an experience that I will never forget and I feel so privileged to have been able represent Australia with Sanne Pedersen on the world stage!

Team Australia consisted of the Team Manager Clint Wehmeier, Assistant Team Manager Samantha Hendricks, Australia Team 1 - Sanne Pedersen with Kanikular Blast of Bindee AZ IGP3 and Australia Team 2 - Glynis Hendricks with Haveloc Fynn AZ BSC AD IGP3.



The start of the journey for Fynn and I began on Saturday 16 September 2023 when Clint and I drove from Rockhampton to Brisbane to get Fynn on a flight to Sydney the next day where Samantha would collect him from the airport.

The next day Samantha delivered Fynn to the transport office where she met Sanne and Bindy. It was getting very real as the dogs were about to start their journey to Europe. It was now that all the paperwork had to be provided and most importantly the rabies certificate.

Australia for good reasons is very protective of our beautiful country but it does make it difficult for competitors to get their animals out and back into the country with what is required and within tight timeframes! It is an exercise in precision timing! Team Australia had to arrive earlier than most as we had to be in Munich to get the blood tests done on the dogs straight away so the results could be received before the dogs were to return to Australia.

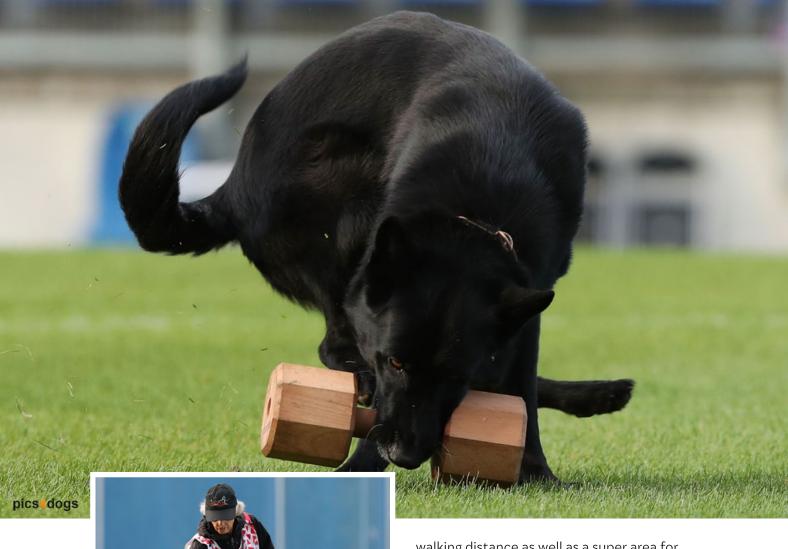
The dogs departed at 8.10pm on Monday and had a stopover in Dubai before arriving in Munich on Wednesday at 1.15pm. Sanne flew out to Munich after seeing the dogs leave to ensure that everything went smoothly. Clint and I flew to Melbourne on Sunday afternoon. I'm sure you are thinking why Melbourne couldn't you fly from Brisbane? Well, you're right however we needed to have a return flight to Melbourne so that we could return at the same time the dogs arrived

back into Melbourne as we had to handle the dogs on arrival at the quarantine station.

Clint and I flew into Munich and met Sanne there. Our first job was to get some shopping done for the dogs which included smaller crates to fit into the hire vehicles. The larger crates needed for international flights were left at the transport company ready for the trip home. There was no way they were fitting in the cars!

The dogs landed safely but there was a glitch in the paperwork and it took around 6 hours before the dogs were released to us. To say that the team was extremely stressed would be putting it mildly. If it wasn't for Uwe Stople stepping in to





help us get the paperwork sorted with customs it may have been a lot longer. We are so grateful for all his help in getting us on our way!

Thursday started with a very early appointment at the government approved vet in Munich to get the blood tests for the dogs. Once that was done, we were free to travel to Hungary! The world championship was being hosted by Magyarorszagi Nemet Juhaszkutya Klub in Györ, Hungary.

We arrived at the house Sanne had arranged and it was truly wonderful. There were ploughed fields that we could track on that were within walking distance as well as a super area for cycling the dogs. Clint organised somewhere for us to train (Hungarian helper, Frigyes Arlay's home field) and do our obedience and character work.

It was also a very special occasion for us as our friend Nicky Kuipers (Dutch helper) arrived to do some training with us and help us prepare for the competition.

Everything seemed to be going well until I came down with a really bad flu and Sanne broke her heel bone. Not a great start but we were so grateful as Clint took really good care of us doing all the shopping and cooking for all of us while we tried to recover. The flu I eventually got over but poor Sanne had to endure her whole experience at the championship with a broken heel bone. I don't know how she managed to walk on it let alone compete with it as it was very painful.

So on the Sunday before the event we needed to take the dogs for the WUSV vet check. We arrived early to see a long queue was already in place! It was extremely hot with no shade and we had to stand in line for hours as the vet checks took approximately 10 minutes per



dog. Considering there were 124 dogs entered, it took all day. There were no refreshments available at the grounds but at least we had water for the dogs.

Now it all started to become real, it was the opening ceremony and Team Australia was first up! It was quite emotional as each team had chosen the music they wanted played as they walked out on to the field. I think each of us felt such excitement and pride to be representing Australia. The feeling when you walked onto the field is hard to describe it had the hairs on our arms standing on end an almost tingling sensation.

That evening we had the draw for the competition and the tent was full to the brim with competitors and their support crew. Everyone was in high spirts and as you can imagine the noise was deafening as everyone was chatting and greeting new and old friends from all over the world. Team Australia drew an early place for obedience so after we had our draw, we left immediately so we could get home and rest up for the early morning start.

After our obedience the draw had us having a day's break in between each phase which was really good for both handler and dog. Our draw for the tracking was Friday and it was a midday timeslot which on the day was very hot and the

fields were very dry and full of corn stalks but the dogs worked well with both of them passing in what could be said to be hard conditions. On the Sunday (the last day of the competition was our character assessment phase. Then just like that the competition was coming to an end with the closing ceremony kicking off in what felt like freezing conditions for us Aussies. All in all, considering it was a stressful trip and some of the health issues experienced for dogs and handlers the team overall did well. After the closing ceremony Clint collected all the paperwork from the WUSV office and we rushed back to the house to clean up, finish packing and try to get in a 2-hour sleep before setting off for Munich at 12pm.



So the journey home began! The team had a meeting with a State Vet at 7.30am to check all the paperwork for the dogs' flight home. We then had to get the dogs to the transport company by 10am to start their road trip to Frankfurt where they would start their journey home to Australia. Clint and I flew out to Melbourne that evening and Sanne stayed back until Wednesday evening as she waited for the dogs to be successfully transported. At the last moment before switching her phone off Sanne got a message from the quarantine station saying they had changed arrangements!!!! Luckily Sanne managed to get hold of Clint at midnight back in Melbourne to tell him that things had changed. That meant he would have to change our flights and hotel bookings to stay an extra night so that we could be there for when the dogs arrived. Well, the dogs arrived safely and we were there to greet them and handle them (a requirement by quarantine) for the quarantine staff. We placed the dogs in the kennels and were happy that they were safe and sound back in Australia.

On Monday 16 October, Samantha flew to Melbourne to handle the dogs for their first quarantine Vet check. Sanne then drove through to Melbourne with her copilot Jonas to handle the dogs for the final Vet check on the Friday, and on Sunday the dogs were finally free. Sanne collected them from quarantine and drove them through to Sydney where Samatha collected Fynn and put him on a flight to Brisbane the next day. Reg Worth collected Fynn from the airport and stayed overnight with the Worths before Reg drove him home to Rockhampton on the Tuesday.

As I said in the beginning it must be a precision exercise to get everything in order to ensure the dogs can safely go out and come back into the country but what an experience it was and one I will never forget! Thanks to WGSDCA for making it possible for competitors to have the opportunity to represent their country at a World Championship!











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JULIA HUNT

As someone who had trained at a dog sport club less than a handful of times, my experience at the 2023 Nationals was an initiation by fire into the world of IGP!

week before registrations for the event closed, I'd posted on social media about how I'd like to get my dog Halen his BH-VT soon. A friend reached out and asked if she could tempt me to register for Nationals, and I guess that was the only push I needed. Some amazing people in the community helped me in my last-minute rush to get everything organised. I joined

a club as an associate member and then quickly got started preparing Halen for the trial.

When it was time to start our almost 12-hour road trip to Nationals, the nerves kicked in. Halen's my first dog and I'd only watched one IGP trial before entering this one, so it felt like a big deal to test my dog's ability in this way. But like I told myself at the time, if you never take chances in life and

jump in the deep end, then you may never know what you're truly capable of.

We arrived in Wagga Wagga late at night and had to be up early the next day to get out on the field for our allocated practice time. In the morning, the weather was wild, and it was absolutely pouring with rain as we worked on our long down under distraction. That's an experience I'll never forget!



During the event there were a lot of 'firsts' for us, like the microchip scan, being on such a big field with so many other dogs while practicing, and the structure of the traffic test. I was super proud of how Halen navigated these new challenges, and it was reassuring to see our teamwork come together under pressure.

On trial day, being on the field felt exactly like I thought it would (equal amounts terrifying and exhilarating), and I think the biggest thing I learned from getting out there was to trust my dog and trust the work I've put into him. I'd also say I learnt to expect the unexpected and just have fun with it. Halen earnt his BH-VT that day, and I also came away from the event with the National Trophy for Best Handling in 2023, which was a huge compliment.

The opportunity to enter Nationals and catch a glimpse of everything this dog sport has to offer was great for us, but watching everyone else with their dogs on the trial field, and being a part of the wider IGP community while we were there was just as impactful. I left the event feeling inspired to work hard and keep us moving towards our next goal!





The benefits of DNA testing

- ✓ Ensures your responsibility as a breeder in maintaining the best standards when it comes to the health of your animals
- ✓ Allows you to screen for relevant diseases assess genetic status (clear or carrier or affected)
- ✓ Screens for desirable traits such as coat colours & hair length
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e started off 2024
with some new
additions to club
training in the form of puppies
from fan favourites Lupe,
Frankie and Yoda! Matt had
been coming along to training
for several months while waiting
for his pup, and the arrival of
Sumo was worth the wait.

It's been great having Leo back with his new charge, Rami

after the retirement of Ozzy, and Marcus with his hands full with his new dog Rocco. A rose amongst the thorns, Rossi adds another female to balance the tally and is keeping Vanessa well and truly on her toes.

Everyone has enjoyed watching the pups grow and progress, and their handlers alongside them as even experienced handlers know, no two dogs are the same to train. We look forward to ticking off some BH's and beyond with these guys in the near future!

Last year we also enjoyed a training weekend with Karma K9 club in Canberra in May. As well as the social aspect of getting together with like-minded people, it's great for the dogs to experience new fields, new helpers/people













around their training as well as the sometimes-challenging aspects of travel and being away from home. It was a valuable experience in the lead up to the Nationals in Wagga of June last year. We are proud that the whole club attended the Nationals to support and represent our club, and especially proud of those who were on the field showcasing their hard work.

We had a number of club members hit the Nationals trial field including, Crystal with Duelpurpose Czar, Istvan with Lupe, Maddie with Ludo and Cass with Lira! Istvan scored a high in protection with Lupe, as well as Maddie scoring a high in obedience with Ludo, and Cass with Lira also scoring a high in obedience in their categories.

It was very special to see the four L litter siblings from Drago vom Patriot x Jira Ja Na Ka all trialling together - a proud breeder moment for Istvan and Crystal as well as Istvan, Maddie, Cass and Karyn who have trained them.

While on the topic of trials, we held two club trials in 2023, which were well supported by our members and some interstate visitors.

In September judge Cheryl Chaffey put the handlers through their paces. It was very warm conditions for the dogs on the day, which was unexpected after a run of cooler weather.

We had some big achievements on the day for our club members with Crystal and Czar achieving IGP1, and Maddie with Ludo achieving IGP1 for the second time!

Chris passed his BH-VT with Nasa and Michelle also passed her BH-VT with Oxsana.

The trial was catered for by Matt and friends and the food enjoyed by all!

Our second trial was judged by Reg Worth in November where a number of members hit the trial field again! We also ran a ZAP-W test at this trial for the young pups.

After our dinner reservations were cancelled at the last minute due to weather concerns, a pizza party in the shed with good friends and good music rounded off a great day.



We thank our interstate friends for travelling down and supporting our trials!

We have made a few big purchases for the club throughout the year including shiny new blinds to replace the very heavy, very old ones we had been using. A new jump, which better represents the picture our dogs will see at away trials, and we also replaced a few weathered dumbbells.

Maddie and Ludo after attaining IGP1

We have been training hard towards competitions this year, including our club trials in the coming months. Lupe with Crystal and Lira with Cass have IGP1 and beyond in their sights this year. Ludo is ready to smash IGP2 after having a break for motherhood duties.

Chris has been sidelined with a knee injury but we hope to see him and Nasa back and competing again soon. Qabib and Istvan are making good progress together with BH, the aim for the first half of the year. Michelle and pocket rocket Oxsana are making steady progress towards the big step up to IGP1, after ticking off their BH last year.

The club is also excited to be behind the IGP Club trial hosted by Karma K9 Dog Sports Club and referred to as the Capital IGP Cup. The trial is in September this year with SV Judge Uwe Stolpe. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Chris and Nasa in their BH-VT routine







Marcus

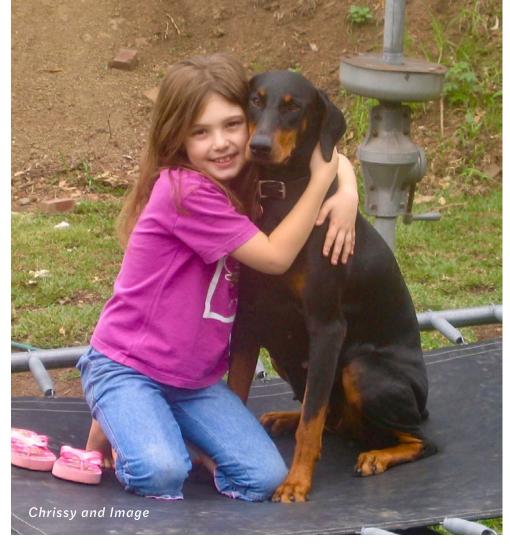


here's a special bond that forms between a person and their canine companions. For me that began at the tender age of three when my family welcomed our first Dobermann into the home.

From that moment on, there was never a day when a Dobermann wasn't present in our household. Gracie, Image, and Indy were the beloved companions of my childhood, from playing ball or just hanging out together. From the age of eighteen I started planting the seed that I wanted a Dobermann to call my own.

The catalyst for this to happen came unexpectedly during a chance encounter at a dog show with my mum, who had changed breeds and now owned a miniature poodle. It was there we bumped into Monika, a long-time family friend who had known me since I was a toddler. Monika was frequently a part of Dobermann adventures growing up with night walks on the golf course with her boy Rex or attending shows.

As mum prepared her poodle for the show, Monika and I caught up on the past few years, I mentioned I had been asking for the last 4 years to have my own Dobermann. A week later, Monika reached out to my mum with exciting news. She was breeding one of her Dobes and wondered if I would be interested in having one of the puppies. For the next few weeks anticipation built as I spent numerous hours convincing my dad to let me add a puppy to our



home. Finally two days after their expected due date eleven MonElite Dobermanns came into the world, 9 girls and 2 boys. Eight weeks and countless visits, conversations and assessing we finally chose Miss Yellow, a spirited little puppy chosen for her confirmation, temperament and drive, with the hope to show and do some obedience. I named her Saski.

In the months that followed, Saski and I dove headfirst into the world of confirmation showing and she gained her Australian Championship just shy of 18 months old. Saski loved to play and was not a dog that would ever sit still so we started to explore options to keep her entertained and discovered Saski's natural talent and love for obedience.

Through Mon I was introduced to the world of IGP dogsport and in early 2023 met Sanne.

Over the next 10 months I was mentored by Sanne, stripping everything back to basics and building the foundations for our IGP journey. It was also my first introduction to tracking - an activity that Saski took to naturally and thoroughly enjoys. Sanne provided endless help and guidance to me whilst learning all about IGP and how to get the best out of my dog. Despite Saski being a Dobermann, and I a novice handler we have made great progress. At the end of 2023 I joined Sydney Dogsport Club and have continued to learn, grow and strengthen my bond with Saski. Looking forward to the future to see what we can achieve next! 🐇



anuary 27th – 29th saw Fenrir Dogsport Club host a superbly well organised seminar with a member of the IGP royal family, Mia Skogster. The event was held at the Dogs Queensland site at Durak, utilising both the upstairs conference room and an outdoor field. Wags Café did a great job of catering the event ensuring meals were available for breaks in Mia's presentation.

Mia is very passionate, highly emotive presenter and trainer, which ensured all participants remained invested and involved in the three full mornings of theory followed by the afternoons of practical work.

It had been several years since Mia had been to Australia and the visit was long overdue, evidenced by the huge group of attendees, many travelling from interstate to invest in their education. This included them braving the

Queensland heat to participate in or observe the practical sessions in the afternoons.

The teams used to practically demonstrate Mia's work ranged from young ANKC obedience dogs, to dogs training in and some competing in IGP. Malinois and German Shepherds were the predominate breed with a Doberman thrown in for good measure.

All participants reported that they took a lot away from the experience and since the seminar have already noticed improvements in their dogs performance as a result of implementing some of Mia's advice.

Fenrir are bringing Mia back to Australia in 2026 and we are all keenly waiting for bookings to open for that!





























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