



WGSDCA

Dog'sport Magazine

Issue 1
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National Sponsors



General information

SCOREBOOKS, SPORTS PASSES AND FORMS

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

Please Note: The Admin of Records only processes orders on the last week of each month. 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 WGS DCA 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, WGS DCA has something for you.

www.wgsdca.org.au/membership.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

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

Members of WGS DCA have to renew their WGS DCA Individual Membership annually.

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

CLUB AFFILIATES

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

Events are announced on WGS DCA Facebook page "events" and website www.wgsdca.org.au/event-calendar

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: WINNER OF WGS DCA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, GLYNIS HENDRICKS WITH HER DOG HAVELOC FYNN.
PHOTO: WILD DOG PHOTOGRAPHY

A word from the president

Dear members, friends and supporters,

What a quarter!

The WGSDCA fraternity started the year in style. We had Metro Dogsport Club, Fenrir Dogsport Club, Valley Dogsport Club and Sydney Dogsport Club presenting a dozen of dogs at various GSDCA shows to get their show gradings. I commend the members for entering a territory that is foreign for many and congratulate all involved for getting such fine gradings – we even saw some placing. We made history by having 4 ‘working-line’ dogs receiving Excellent show gradings. It is with much pride I see the fraternity embarking on aligning with the WUSV Breed Mandate and kudos to ‘our breeders’ who have fully embraced the challenges. I hope to see more of our GSD members/breeders entering shows in the years ahead of us.

With that said, all our club affiliates started the year in ‘full-steam ahead’ mode. We have already had several helper seminars, cross-licensed two Trial Helpers and half a dozen IGP trials will have been executed by the time we get to the 2023 WGSDCA National Championship held in Wagga Wagga on June 8-11.

MIKE HARPER, WILD DOG PHOTOGRAPHY



This year's National Championship is coordinated by Sydney & Junee Dogsport Clubs and officiated by SV Judge Herr Daniele Strazzeri. It is once again supported by RedLine and K9Pro as well as Clear Canine, Orivet and K9 Power. 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. For the first time ever, the event will include an opportunity to participate in an SV Breed Survey. You can find all the details on www.wgsdca.org.au/2023nationalchampionship. So, get your entry in no later than May 5, 2023.

The Board of Management stepped into 2023 with a focus on removing more 'red tape'. The SV Endurance test has replaced the FCI AID, which enables members/breeders to get this title without the need for a BH-VT title. The dog still needs a scorebook and the handler must subscribe to WGSDCA Social Membership to enter. The WGSDCA also changed the long-standing rule pertaining to title recognition. Now any of the titles described in the FCI IGP Rule book will be recognised by WGSDCA irrespective of the judge/organisation such title was achieved under.

On a closing note, the Board of Management would like to encourage our clubs to host more ZAP-W events to help members align with the WUSV Breed Mandate. This is an 'easy' event to run and it presents an opportunity to engage with owners of young GSDs. Our HD-ED portal with the DZG is also ticking along. We take the opportunity to remind people who have a long-term goal to participate in WUSV World Championships that:

- a) from 01.01.25, dogs have to be HD/ED assessed by a recognised scheme and;
- b) dogs born from 01.01.18 must have a show grading of at least Good and HD/ED scores within the WUSV accepted range.

Keep up the good work.

SANNE PEDERSEN | WGSDCA PRESIDENT

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SP', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Our Judge for the 2023 National Championship

We are excited to see Herr. Daniele Strazzeri return to Australia to judge our 2023 WGSDCA IGP National Championship.

Herr Strazzeri is one of only two SV judges who 'can do it all'. His IGP Judge license was obtained in 2010, show judge license in 2018, breed surveyor in 2021 and he has been a licensed ZAP-W assessor since 2017.

As an IGP judge, he has officiated at +100 trials, including LGA (regional trial) as well as BSP (Bundessiegerprüfung – National Championships) events. Besides being the WGSDCA National judge in 2019, he has also judged Nationals in South Africa, Estonia, United States and Egypt.

Daniele Strazzeri has been involved with IGP dogsport since 1997. He and his wife have trained several dogs and he has competed with different dogs at the BSP level as well as several LGAs in Germany.

On top of all that - he also breeds German Shepherds under the prefix "Kennel von der Donauvorstadt"



SV Korung – Breed Survey

WHAT IS THE SV BREED SURVEY?

It's the ultimate assessment of the German Shepherd Dog, combining conformation and utility.

It was developed in Germany and is used as a tool to identify the dogs best suited for reproduction.

A German Shepherd with a SV korung title has been verified to 'have it all' - and as such no easy task to obtain.

The requirements for a GSD to be eligible to enter a SV korung are:

- » ZAP test for dogs born from 01.01.17 (we have from 2021) - otherwise a BH-VT
- » Endurance test OR a HGH
- » Show grading \geq G
- » DNA profiled
- » Recognised HD/ED scores and within acceptance range (as well as parents)
- » Breeding must not be closer than 3-3, 4-2, 2-4 (for dogs born after 01.01.2017)
- » IGP1-3 or HGH or RH2 or SGP2 or IFH2 or Agility Test (A2) or Obedience test (o2)* or a qualification recognised as equivalent.

The Breed Survey Judge will evaluate the dog's temperament in different stimulus situation. It must always demonstrate a friendly and self-confident character and in any situation, must show control even when in confrontation with its own natural instincts. After these tests, the dogs will be measured, weighted and anatomically assessed in a stand position as well as in movement.

Why is it important?

The SV Korung may seem to be very restrictive, but all GSD breeders should have a foremost interest in selecting GSDs based on their temperament, performance and anatomy to improve and advance the breed.





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PHOTO: MIKE HARPER, WILD DOG PHOTOGRAPHY



Interview with Nicky Kuipers

Can you tell us a little background about you and where you grew up and your first dog/pets?

I grew up in a little town in the east of Holland. I've been around GSD's all my life as my father has been training in IGP since before I was born. The first dog I can remember us having was a showline female called Astor. She was very nurturing and protective of me and my brother when we were little. She lived inside the house and was part of the family. The dogs that followed were workingline GSD's. They all lived in a kennel in the backyard and were not as social as Astor. Fast forward to today, I live together with Katalin and our two dogs Apollo and Jagger, both workingline GSDs. They like to sleep on the couch and watch movies with us. In my daily life I'm a social worker specialising in crisis situations, behavioral and family treatment.

How did you get involved in IGP Dogsport?

It was only natural that I wanted to do IGP because of my father. The club was practically family to me when I was growing up. It was a place where I could be myself and have fun.

Choosing a club to Join? What influenced your choice to join?

I'm a member of several clubs in IGP and Agility. Having a healthy and a stable club is top sport in itself. For me a club has to have some ambitions too. Just clublife is not enough for me anymore. I want to strive towards a goal and be better every day. Getting results! Having a team of people with the same goals, ambitions and drive is very rewarding.

How many dogs have you titled?

I've only owned one dog before that I've titled, his name was Floyd. Together we achieved IGP 3 and competed in a few regional trials. It was in a different time, with methods to what we do today. IGP sport has come a long way since then and there is much better and interesting ways to train. Over the years I've handled a few dogs for club members in IGP and Agility because they were not able to handle them or for troubleshooting. Over the past decade I've been concentrating on my helper career. Nowadays I focus on training together with Katalin. She competes at National level with Apollo in IGP and Agility. Besides that, I try to train my young dog Jagger.



I must say it's not easy to learn new methods. I found that my ambition can sometimes get counterproductive on our training process. I got some good advice on that topic from Glynis Hendricks during my visit to Australia and it helped a lot. Thanks for that Glynis!

How/ why did you become a helper?

When I was 15 years old, club members dared me to put on a helpersuit. Immediately, I was hooked! My father taught me the basics. It took me a few years to get my license, you could say that I wasn't quite the natural at the start.

In 2012, I went to the Bundes Sieger Prufung in Germany with Katalin. I remember walking to the stadium and I could already hear the dog barking on the field. I knew then that they started the first group in C-Work. So we hurried to the ticket booth but it took forever to get the tickets and by the time we got to the field they were at the long flight/ courage test. The helper roared at the dog and the sound reflected against the stadium walls. Grass and drool were flying through the air while the helper struggled to stay on his feet. At that moment the crowd went bonkers cheering. It was an electric moment! I knew I wanted that too! One year later I became a trial helper. The year after that I earned my A-level status.

How many dogs have you helped get to the Worlds?

Throughout the years I've helped two club-members to compete at the Worlds (including my father). For the last few years we train (in our own backyard) on a regular basis with friends who have Mallies and compete at the FMBB World Championships. We are like-minded and love to spend our weekends on training, good food and philosophising about Dogsport.

Besides that I've been a helper for the National team several times. As an international level helper I get the honour of training with a lot of people who compete at the Worlds. I can't take any credits for that, but it's very educational and it got me a lot of new friends from all over the world.

What do you think is important to know as a trial and / or training helper?

I could write a book about this question! Being a clubhelper or a trialhelper are two very different things. For a clubhelper it's about teaching dogs and handlers, reading behavior and preparing them for trials. As a trialhelper it's about physical performance, perfecting technique and testing character. A good clubhelper doesn't have to be a good trialhelper or the other way around. And yet it's beneficial for both types of helpers to have some expertise from the other. A clubhelper with good technique can better simulate a trial setting. A trialhelper that can read a dog is better in testing character.

At the highest level it's (for me) about finding that one special dog. A dog that ignites under pressure and actually thrives because of it. This is not about speed or strength. For a big strong male it's easy to be strong and dominate in C-work. I find it more impressive when a small female packs a punch like a sledgehammer! It's about fighting spirit and commitment. But of course that's only one aspect in IGP.

What would your tops tips / advice be for an up-coming helper in Dogsport?

Be patience! Give yourself the time to learn. Film yourself so you can reflect on your own work. Be receptive to feedback and have good sportsmanship. Train yourself physically, mentally and technically. Last but not least.... Don't forget to appreciate and enjoy the dogs and the sport.

Highlights in your career (including WUSV 2017)?

Of course the WUSV 2017 is my biggest achievement as a helper. If I could do it again I wouldn't hesitate. But the trips I made around the world and the friends I made are priceless. As a young boy we didn't have the means to travel a lot. Helperwork literally changed my life.

Who has influenced / inspired you in Dogsport?

In Holland we have a luxury of good instructors in C-work. Big names from the past and present at only a short drive away. Once I became a trial helper I got access to such kind of instruction and training. Now I just enjoy working dogs with Katalin. We're learning as we go.

Plans / goals for you over the next few years in Dogsport?

Train our dogs the best we can. Teaching other helpers. Doing workshops. Having fun! 🐾





Word from the Breed Warden

CLINT WEHMEIER

The German Shepherd Dog Club of Queensland held a Breed Survey, Open Show and Specialist show on the weekend of 25th and 26th March 2023.

The WGSDCA had representatives and dogs from some of our Queensland Clubs attend the weekend to achieve their breed survey, have some fun in the ring for the open show and attain their show grading in the Specialist Show.

The Breed Survey numbers for Saturday had listed 17 dogs with eight dogs from WGSDCA members. The surveyors were Louis Donald, Carol O'Rourke and Melanie Groth and they worked tirelessly through the day assessing the dogs. A special mention goes to Melanie Groth for allowing me to listen in on the critiques, showing and guiding me with information about the dogs as they were surveyed.

The Open show on Saturday afternoon kicked off under Judge Catherine Walker, with 61 entries. There was a nice representation from WGSDCA with 8 dogs entering under differing classes recording some placings in their classes.



Sunday Specialist Show with Judge Tony Gibson (NZ), was a cracker. There was a total of 71 dogs entered for the show. A record number of 14 Working Line dogs across all classes attended the event.

I believe it was a record-breaking event and a first for Working Line German Shepherds with four dogs achieving Excellent gradings. Levi, Raven, Valak and Enyo.

The weekend was a great success for all attending WGSDCA members with great comradery from each other and also the inclusiveness from the GSDCQ and their members. The event was well organised and run by the club. 🐾

Photo top: Ros, Amanda, Monica and Clint with their dogs who were graded excellent.



Levi



Rock

Rhiannon with Logan



CLUB NEWS: Fenrir Dogsport Club

March, a month of workshops,
trial and helper certification

March was a huge month for Fenrir Dogsport Club Inc. with the first C-work workshop on 4th and 5th March with Ronny Heumke who is a certified trial helper and highly experienced training helper from Berlin, Germany. The weather was super-hot the over weekend however, it did not deter the handlers. The workshop was well supported by not only our own club but other clubs from in and around the southeast corner of Queensland. In total there were more than

16 dogs of various levels of training presented, with each dog being worked by Ronny three and sometimes four times each. It was great to see both handlers and dogs progressing significantly over the weekend. Some of the teams also took the opportunity to use the workshop to fine tune their performances for the Fenrir trial the following weekend.

One week later and we were running our trial, judged by the wonderfully experienced judge Mr Reg Worth and helpers Ronny who double hatted at the event as a helper for the IGP1 and the front half of the IGP2's and 3 and Conor Maguire who picked up the rest of the helper duties doing the back half of the 2's and 3's.





Ronny also took on the tracklaying duties for us. Overall, we had three BH and six IGP dogs with all teams passing! Brandan Baxter and Andrea Gerard from Valley Dogsport Club successfully passed a BH, IGP1 and IGP2 respectively, with Andrea's IGP 2 dog taking out High in Trial tracking. Fenrir's Roz Masterman took out Best BH with her male and Best IGP1 with her female, Tabitha Young took out best IGP2 and Lacey Taylor took out High in Trial protection with her girl. Cheryl and Heat IGP 3 took out High in Trial obedience and High in Trial overall. We had a great turnout of spectators for the trial and thanks to the weather gods we were extremely fortunate to avoid the predicted heavy rain!!!

Following the trial, we sent Ronny to Darwin for the week where he got to finally have the crocodile experience he had been craving!!

Ronny was back from Darwin at the end of the week ready to do his 2nd and final workshop of the trip. We were fortunate to be able to incorporate a helper seminar and validation into the workshop which was facilitated by Mr Reg Worth and supported by Ronny. Many of the same faces joined us again for the workshop, along with a few new visitors from NSW and one from Adelaide. On the Sunday, Fenrir members Dan and Adam sat their helper theory exams successfully passing which enabled them to undertake the practical assessments. Each helper

was tested against an IGP1 and 3 runout, all dogs used were competitors from the previous weekend's trial. At the end of the day both helpers had been deemed to have passed their assessments!! Congratulations Dan and Adam!

All in all, it was a brilliant weekend of Dogsport with members from many different organisations coming together to watch, learn, help, support each other and enjoy watching some amazingly dedicated and talented helpers, handlers and trainers doing their thing. 🐾





CLUB NEWS:

Metro Dog'sport Club

Breed Survey, Show and
IGP – March Madness!

March was jammed packed for our Metro members and especially for our Rockhampton members who made the trip down two weekends in a row!

On 25 and 26 March our members and members from Valley and Fenrir Dog'sport Clubs entered their dogs into the GSDCQ breed survey and specialty show. It was great to see so many working line dogs out there amongst it and even better was how well they carried themselves in the ring. It was nice to join in and feel welcomed by the show fraternity, so a big thanks to GSDCQ for a great day. All dogs received gradings ranging from 'good to excellent'! A special congratulations to four of these dogs who achieved an excellent show grading under the New Zealand judge.

Roll on the following weekend and the start of our three-day trial. All up we received 27 entries so we knew we were going to be busy!!! What makes a great club is not the number of competitors you have on the field (of course that is still a bonus), it's the people who are there to help run

trials. They are the ones who make sure everything is well-organised so that spectators and competitors have the best experience possible. Shout out to our BBQ chefs, photographers, trial secretary, track layer and of course all our members who stood in the group, set up and took down equipment! Thank you also to Eden and Connor for their good and safe helperwork. This was Eden's first trial as a certified helper and it was good that he could do it at Metro together with Connor.





We had some really nice performances in all three phases so there is a lot to look forward to for the club in the future. The highlight for me and probably most who were still there to see it was Charlie's IGP 1 obedience run out with Marvel, a 95 VG rated performance. Charlie was the last to go out after all the obedience and C-work had been completed as Marvel was still in season! Love the girls but seasons make trialing difficult at times.



The next day was tracking and we arrived to fields of freshly cut grass, but that's the way it goes and everyone just got on with it and to their credit nearly all the IGP/FPR 1 tracks scored 90 or above, with Charlie and Marvel stealing the show again with a V rated performance of 98. As we had so many competitors for tracking the IGP 3 track was laid on another piece of land about 10 mins away, so in convoy we all drove over to watch Glynis and Fynn do their track. The conditions were really tough, long but very sparse grass with lots of solid almost cement like dirt in-between. To Fynn's credit he performed really well scoring 82 points.

Taking out High in trial went to Rod and Dex with a score of 256 (A:93 B:82 C:81). Congratulations Rod we were all very pleased for you and your commitment has paid off.



The third and final day of the trial was an early start at 5.30am in the State Forest for the AD endurance test. The sun forgot to get there on time but by 6am she had arrived and what a beautiful morning it turned out to be. The temperature sitting around 16 degrees which meant there was a cool nip in the air to start everyone off on their journey. By the end of the first 8 kilometers everyone had settled in nicely, then came the first of two breaks to have drink and rest (dog and human). During each rest break the condition of the dogs were checked including all the dog's paws which were wiped down with water and inspected to ensure they were okay to continue. The next two rounds seemed to go quickly with one of the competitors saying once they settled into the ride and stopped thinking about the dog and the bike they looked around and thought 'how beautiful is this' to actually be riding with their dog in the forest! Congratulations to all the competitors for successfully achieving their AD title.

Lastly thank you to Sanne Pedersen for judging our trial, three days is a lot of late nights and early mornings, so we appreciate you giving up your time and travelling from Sydney to judge for us.

Now to prepare for the National Championship in Wagga Wagga in June. Metro is looking forward to road-tripping together and catching up with everyone again. 🐾





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