

USCA NEWS & VIEWS

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Presidents Message

Congratulations to the 2003 Sieger Bax von der Luisenstrasse and Siegerin Kora vom Bierstadter Hof from the Bundessiegerzuchtschauen in Ulm Germany. Congratulations to the USCA members that competed, from the Working Class Males; Jeannie Lee & Whitney aus Agrigento V-3, Julie Martinez & Bella II vom Mittelwest V-4, Irina Deresh & Natan Gelezinis vilkas V-45, Julie Martinez & Tito Wildmarkens V-68, David Plank Aiko von der Kahler Heide V-86, and from the Working Class Females Karen Henkel Kennedy & Gaeli Von Wilhendorf V-61, David Reinke & Ora vom Danischen Hof V-93. The event itself was spectacular, congratulations to all of our members that worked so hard to be a part of this magnificent event.

Congratulations to the representatives of the FCI Team Martin Vollrath & Racker vom Enzthal, Ivan Balabanov & Django ot Vitosha, Cathy Jobe & Cliff vom Wildenburgerland, Tim Crusier & Union Jack Van't Leefdaalhof, Beth Bradley & Anya vom Haus Sova for their 5th place finish of 840 team points tying with Germany, France Italy and Finland. For more results go to the official website at;
http://users.belgacom.net/rci2003/page_en.htm

In a few short weeks the unified United States Team will be competing at the WUSV Championship hosted by the SAS in Ravenna Italy, more information and results can be found on the SAS website at; <http://www.sas-italia.com/>

It is a matter of record that during the 7 years as a Line Officer for USCA, I have been a strong proponent that positive communications and a peaceful coexistence should be pursued with the GSDCA and GSDCA-WDA. Through this process, we can greatly improve upon the time element and probability for a restoration of the German Shepherd Dog and prolong its existence as a viable healthy working dog in America. Certainly, it is only logical that the combined efforts of 10,000 members would greatly improve upon the results versus the current situation. In that context, it may seem that our recent decision would be counterproductive towards this goal yet it is necessary to establish our determination in resolving this matter.

USCA leadership has diligently pursued positive communications and still a simple resolution for the one-team issue could not be determined without SV involvement. It is embarrassing to realize that the two leading GSD organizations in America could not solve a simple math problem relating to five people without SV mediation. Mr. Henke kindly reported at the WUSV meeting "America is a large country and has two organizations which now found a way to build one team for the WUSV World Championships. These two organizations are now sitting on one table and also want to do so in the future for the sake of the GSD". A nice comment for the world to hear but the truth is the SV had to get involved.

During the course of the Sieger Show, discussions transpired with Steve Miller and others about the time line of events surrounding our positive efforts. Steve viewed documents that supported these statements. The same discussion occurred later with David Landau in Steve's presence. These discussions revealed the positive efforts that the USCA administration has actively pursued towards a constructive relationship and also pointed out the destructive tactics created by their current administration.

USCA provided proof to the GSDCA Treasurer that our financial position and membership growth is positive. We took this action so that he would rebuke their negative comments made during the GSDCA board meeting. During our first meeting this year with SV President Wolfgang Henke, much of our discussions pivoted around the USCA efforts towards a peaceful relationship. It was very much to our surprise when Mr. Henke produced a letter from GSDCA President Downing, (which was copied to both Davis and Landau) demanding with strong suggestions of legal ramifications for the SV to remove USCA from the WUSV.

Understand that the present leadership of the GSDCA and the GSDCA-WDA never intended to resolve anything with USCA. During the course of our letters and conversations with Downing, Landau and Davis they continued to create division by telling their members they would send 6 dog teams to the WUSV, reporting to their board that USCA was bankrupt with membership in a sharp decline, and that they scheduled meetings USCA never attended. During this entire time, they relied on the SV removing USCA from the WUSV.

While attending the Sieger Show in Ulm, Johannes Grewe, Stephanie Dunion and I had a meeting with SV President Mr. Henke and the WUSV Vice President Dr. Tauber of the SVO. Mr. Henke was concerned that we would not recognize SV judges at GSDCA-WDA events. Once more, I carefully and clearly explained the interconnections between AKC, GSDCA, GSDCA-WDA, SV, WUSV and USCA discussed at our previous meeting. These are the facts related during the meeting;

The GSDCA and the GSDCA-WDA are two separate organizations.

GSDCA-WDA is not a member of the WUSV and has no direct ties to the AKC.

The GSDCA leadership uses the membership of the GSDCA-WDA to select their WUSV team and through David Landau to present the appearance of adhering to the breeding regulations of the SV.

Members of GSDCA-WDA need not be members of the GSDCA unless they declare for the WUSV team.

(At this point, the meeting stopped momentarily as Dr. Tauber brought David Landau and Mr. Lux into the meeting.)

With Henke, Tauber, Lux, Grewe, Dunion, and Landau present, I explained the chain of events occurring up to our decision not to accept the GSDCA-WDA in full detail including the above comments. Mr. Henke declared he understood by our previous meeting that USCA wanted a peaceful relationship. I replied that sometimes in order to create peace you must get the attention of those involved and that it was a pleasure to finally have a representative of the GSDCA sitting at the table. Mr. Lux stated that USCA should recognize SV judges. I explained that our board decision will not go into effect until January 1, 2004 and that there is still time for the other WUSV club in America (the GSDCA) to come to a resolution with USCA. However, USCA will do what is correct to protect our business interests and that of the German Shepherd Dog and the decision not to recognize the GSDCA-WDA will stand. I also offered another simple option; the SV could be of assistance by discontinuing sending judges to the GSDCA-WDA, as they are not a member of the WUSV. Mr. Lux adjusted by saying that the SV only sends judges to the GSDCA, as that is where all requests come from. Johannes Grewe interjects that GSDCA-WDA had trials where up to 10 dogs are shown under one handler and that USCA complies with all the rules pertaining to the SV quality control. Landau denies this but documents were available to prove otherwise. Mr. Lux said that the SV has no way to control this request but titles from SV judges should be recognized.

This meeting ended with these conclusions and Mr. Henke stated that;

- 1) The GSDCA will follow the recommended outline provided in the USCA proposal for sending one-team and will not send three and an alternate as Landau reported, however the team captain issue should be resolved in America.

- 2) Mr. Lux will send a letter to the GSDCA urging them to work with USCA for the betterment of the German Shepherd Dog in America.

There were absolutely no discussions regarding sanctions should USCA not recognize SV judges' awards occurring at GSDCA-WDA events; however it goes without saying that the SV may very well decide to impose sanctions should we be determined not to recognize SV judges.

While it is unfortunate and certainly not our intention, a few members of both organizations will feel the effects of this decision. A simple meeting would have been much more preferable than the present situation. The major concern from those opposed to our decision is that there will not be enough Breed Shows and Surveys. Weighing on the outpouring and positive responses received supporting this decision, I ask that our members, clubs and regional directors encourage those individuals in using the USCA services, by providing venues to support their needs. Furthermore, the USCA board would support former WDA clubs to become USCA clubs without an affiliation trial if the Regional Director were to so recommend.

Since our board made this decision I have had numerous and very positive phone calls and emails from GSDCA and GSDCA-WDA members, they too are interested in a peaceful relationship. The bottom line is that USCA will not recognize the GSDCA-WDA. Like the USCA, the GSDCA is a member of the WUSV, and we will continue to pursue positive relations with the GSDCA, optimistically I urge the GSDCA membership to elect officials that will make this possible.

I urge you to contact your local representatives should you have any questions.

Best regards,

Jim Elder

USA

Vice President's Message

Recently there has been some discussion about your Executive Board's decision to no longer recognize the WDA. Your Executive Board voted two and a half years ago to recognize the WDA in an attempt to help build a working relationship with regard to the WUSV's decision that there only be one team entered per country at the WUSV Championship. During that two and a half year period there was no attempt by the WDA leadership to work with us in resolving the "one team" issue. Our leadership extended a hand of cooperation and made every attempt to work out any differences, both real and imagined. Unfortunately, the WDA leadership chose to be disinterested in joining us in an attempt to both unify the team process and promote the German Shepherd Dog in the United States of America. Therefore, your Executive Board voted overwhelmingly to no longer recognize an organization that is NOT a member of the WUSV and whose leadership has chosen to build walls between themselves and a recognized WUSV member, the United Schutzhund Clubs of America.

I would like to congratulate all members who recently competed at the FCI Championship. Your dedication to your dogs and your efforts are greatly appreciated. I would also like to send words of encouragement and support to Gary Hanrahan, Debbie Zappia and Thomas Vollrath as they prepare to represent the United Schutzhund Clubs of America and our country at the WUSV Championship. I wish all of you the very best of luck and wish the same for those members of our "United States Team" that were selected by the GSDCA. The National Championship and general Board Meeting are quickly approaching. Even though this is not an election year, there are many important issues that will be discussed and voted upon. Please send a delegate to the meeting to represent your club.

Best regards,

Lyle Roetemeyer, Vice-President

USA

Secretaries Message

Hello Sportfans,

The fall trial season is in progress and there is a steady stream of trial scoresheets being received at the Office. Many of these trials are being reported without **scorebook bonds**.

A scorebook bond is required when a dog is entered into a trial without a scorebook or without a USA certified scorebook.

This \$50 check should be addressed to United Schutzhund Clubs of America. The bond is returned (minus the certification and/or scorebook fees) to the handler, upon receipt of all required paperwork by the USA Office.

Required paperwork to certify a scorebook is listed on the scorebook application form and must be received by the USA Office within 10 days after the trial. Acquiring the scorebook bond is the club's responsibility. Notice of these events will not be removed from the Events Page, and the trial results will not be posted until all scorebook, filing fee, and membership issues are resolved. Your Regional Director may also withhold Event Authorizations or cancel future events.

The Executive Board is currently working on one mail ballot: Regional Championship participation is not required for those individuals whose permanent residence is outside the 48 contingent United States of America. Permanent residence will be the address provided to the Office with membership application or renewal. If accepted this motion appears to finish the development of the Regional Policy that will be included with the mailing of the 2003 GBM Agenda.

To date I have received only a few delegate letters. There are many important issues on the Agenda that will affect education, national events, and the direction of the organization. If at all possible, please send your club's delegate, or voice your concerns to your Regional Director.

Very Best Regards,

Diane Madigan, Secretary

USA

Treasurer's Message

No Updated news

Bill Plumb, Treasurer

USA

Director of Judge's Message

No Updated news

Mark F. Przybylski, USA Director of Judges

USA

National Breed Warden's Message

We have created a new web-page, "The Breeders Directory".

This was long overdue and has become now reality.

Thousands of people click on to our web-site and perhaps a lot of them are searching for a breeder where they can find their new puppy. We offer this service to all of our members who have a kennel name registered with us. In order to be listed on this page you need to send a note to the USA office stating your kennel name, name and address, phone number and e-mail address. Also send proof of current membership.

Litters for sale will only be listed when our office receives the litter application registration form. The office will automatically list these litters for two months.

Please visit us at www.germanshepherddog.com.

Johannes Grewe, National Breed Warden

USA

World Championship Committee Message



<http://www.sas-italia.com/>

USA

National Events Committee Message

No updated news.

USA

Nominating Committee Message

The following persons wish to be considered for the following committees at the General Board meeting in Reno.

Candidates Slate for the 2003 Elections

National Event Committee (4)

Patti Garcia

Cathy Jobe

Jean-Luc Gustin

Jim Closson

Judges Committee (2)

Willie Ortner

Sharyn Baker

Nominating Committee (5)

Carl Johnson Mid-Eastern Region

Vicki Bartley South Central Region
Jim Clossen Pacific North West Region
Dennis VanderLinde South East Region

Kay Koerner
Chair, Nominating Committee
1926 Hillman Ave,
Belmont, CA 94002
650 591 1917
K9KOERNER@AOL.COM

USA

Police/K9 Committee

No updated news.

USA

Helper Committee

No updated news.

USA

Bylaws Committee

No updated news.

USA

Comments From USA Members Forum:

Give us your opinion on these comments or send in one of
your own, go to the USA Members Forum:

[http://www.germanshepherddog.com/members/Members%20
Forum.htm](http://www.germanshepherddog.com/members/Members%20Forum.htm)

USA

USA Web Site Links:

Events page

www.germanshepherddog.com/eventcalendar.htm

Members Page Sign On

www.germanshepherddog.com/memberssignupstaging.htm

2003 WUSV Championship

<http://www.sas-italia.com/>

2003 National Championship

<http://www.webhund.com/2003Natls/index.htm>

USA