



GSD League British Regional Group Constitution

Preliminary Notes:

- i. The 'German Shepherd Dog League – British Region Group' shall be referred to as the 'GSDL-BRG'.
- ii. The 'GSDL-BRG National Executive Committee' will be referred to as 'the GSDL-BRG Committee'
- iii. This constitution can only be amended by members voting at an AGM. If a minor adjustment is required, this can be implemented by the GSDL-BRG Committee but it must be proposed at the next AGM.

1. Aims and Objectives

1.1. The aims of the GSDL-BRG are as follows:

1.1.1. To promote the health and welfare of the German Shepherd Dog

1.1.2. To provide a medium for members to exchange views and information

1.1.3. To organise and arrange events for the GSD based on WUSV rules

1.1.4. To provide an educational base for sharing information on:-

- WUSV rules and regulations
- Mandatory Health Issues
- Koerung Requirements

1.1.5. To promote the GSD as per the SV standard

1.1.6. To assist members in obtaining qualifications based on the SV/WUSV system

- Character Assessment (known as WB in the SV)
- AD
- Koerung
- Koerung (Lebenzeit/life)

1.1.7 To facilitate the training and education of breed judges

1.1.8 To promote the activities of the GSD League Working Group to support 1.1.6

- Breed Disposition Test (BDT / known as ZAP in the SV)
- BH
- IGP 1, 2 & 3

1.2. To promote a sound, healthy German Shepherd Dog, conforming to the breed standard and which is capable of achieving the minimum required to obtain a Koerung. Koerung will not be mandatory for breeding purposes as puppy registrations are regulated and issued by The Kennel Club.



2. The Objectives of the GSDL-BRG are as follows:

- 2.1. To organise a calendar of Regional Events to be posted on the GSDL-BRG and GSD League websites.
- 2.2. It is an objective of the GSDL-BRG to ensure that training, events and competition are conducted with the maximum safety to all persons concerned. Failure to comply with any of the safety rules may result in immediate suspension pending disciplinary action. (See disciplinary code)
- 2.3. The GSDL-BRG will not tolerate any form of bullying of its members, guests, judges or exhibitors. This includes abuse through social media. Reports of bullying may result in immediate suspension pending disciplinary action. (See disciplinary code)
- 2.4. This organisation will treat all its members with dignity and respect .
- 2.5. The GSDL-BRG facilitates other GSD Clubs/Groups throughout Great Britain to have the opportunity to organise and host WUSV activities through the issue of a GSDL-BRG event license. Such events to be held in accordance with the Regional event rules herein.

3. General

- 3.1. It is the primary objective of the GSDL-BRG to ensure that training, events and competition are conducted with the maximum safety to all persons concerned. Failure to comply with any of the safety rules may result in immediate suspension pending disciplinary action. (See disciplinary code)
- 3.2. GSDL-BRG Clubs are free to form their own constitution and rules, however no item or rule should contradict or compromise the Rules of the GSDL-BRG. Failure to comply may result in immediate suspension pending disciplinary action. (See disciplinary code)
- 3.3. The Committee of the GSDL-BRG shall be made up of up to 7 people to be elected annually on a rotational basis at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the GSDL-BRG (See section 5).
- 3.4. The GSDL-BRG AGM will be held during the month of February each year and any agenda items must be received at least 21 days before the AGM date by the General Secretary. The agenda will be issued members and posted on the GSDL-BRG website at least 14 days before the AGM date. All agenda items must be detailed, proposed and seconded by current GSDL-BRG members, the proposer and/or seconder of the agenda item must be present at the meeting for the item to be discussed and voted upon.
- 3.5. The annual membership fee is due by the 31st of December of the previous year. No member whose subscription is unpaid is entitled to any of the privileges of membership and if the member shall fail to pay outstanding subscriptions within the relevant year, he/she will be considered a new member, should he/she reapply for membership.
- 3.6. Only GSDL-BRG members with a full membership (see section C4), who are fully paid up by the 31st of December will be entitled to vote on matters presented at the AGM. Members without voting rights may attend the meeting but will not be entitled to vote on any matters presented.



4. Membership

- 4.1. Application for and renewal of membership to the GSDL-BRG will be in ALL cases through the GSD League membership system – selecting the relevant membership type “including BRG”
- 4.2. New members must obtain final approval of membership from the GSDL-BRG Committee. Such approval to be sought and recorded by the GSD League Membership Secretary upon application.
- 4.3. Memberships may be refused when the GSDL-BRG Committee feel that membership of an individual may not be in the best interests of the GSDL-BRG.
- 4.4. There are six (6) types of membership available.
 - Single membership entitling the member to vote at the annual meeting.
 - Joint membership entitling two votes at the annual meeting.
 - Single OAP membership entitling the member to vote at the annual meeting
 - Joint OAP membership entitling two votes at the annual meeting
 - Joint OAP and single membership entitling two votes at the annual meeting
 - Junior membership up to age 16 with no voting rights at the annual meeting
- 4.5. Membership subscription shall be as follows:
 - Single membership – £15
 - Joint membership – £25
 - OAP membership – £10
 - Joint OAP membership – £15
 - Junior membership - £0
- 4.6. The GSD League Council shall have power to elect Honorary GSDL Members on such terms and conditions as it may deem expedient. Honorary GSDL members shall not be considered GSDL-BRG members and will not have voting rights.
- 4.7. The liability of Members shall be limited to the amount of their subscription as provided herein.
- 4.8. Officials of the BRG shall be indemnified by the BRG against any legal claim made against them, in connection with any oral or written statement, made by them in good faith in the course of, or in furtherance of their BRG duties or responsibility.
- 4.9. An up to date list of members and their addresses must be maintained and, if so requested, made available for inspection by the GSD League Council.

5. Annual General Meeting

- 5.1. Notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be posted on the GSDL-BRG website at least 4 weeks prior to the meeting.
- 5.2. Ten members personally present shall be a quorum at an Annual General Meeting of the GSDL-BRG.
- 5.3. The Constitution of the GSDL-BRG may not be altered by the GSDL-BRG except at an annual general meeting or a special general meeting, notice of which includes



details of the proposal to alter the Rules. (New Rules or amendments introduced specifically to meet either the SV/WUSV or The Kennel Club requirements shall be adopted immediately and be included in the GSD League's Constitution with effect from the GSD League's annual meeting). No business shall be transacted at an Annual General Meeting unless notice thereof appears on the agenda, with the exception of routine matters or those which in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting are urgent. The committee shall have the power to deal with all matters in relation to the day to day running of the organization which are not specifically provided for in the Constitution.

5.4. At the discretion of the Chair, the Annual General Meeting may be held virtually using an appropriate platform. All notices will be served and procedures followed in the same manner as an in-person AGM. Only members may attend and it will be mandatory for attendees to have their device cameras active and to appear on screen throughout the meeting to verify their identity.

6. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

6.1. A Special General Meeting shall be Called by the Committee

6.1.1. At the committee's discretion

6.1.2. If 10% of the fully paid up members send a signed requisition stating the subject to be discussed and requesting a Special General Meeting to do so.

6.2. No business other than that detailed on the agenda can be discussed at a Special General Meeting.

6.3. Quorum for a special General meeting shall be at least 10% of the current fully paid up members.

7. GSDL-BRG Committee

7.1. The GSDL-BRG Committee shall manage the day to day affairs of the GSDL-BRG, and shall comprise of up to seven GSDL-BRG members and be voted for on a rotation basis (three of the number of committee members stepping down each year and offering themselves for re-election if they so wish). The Committee members to retire in each year shall be those who have been longest in the office since the last election, but as between persons who became Committee members on the same date, those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot.

7.2. A maximum of 3 members from any one club can be on the GSDL-BRG Committee at the same time.

7.3. Voting for the GSDL-BRG Committee shall take place at the Annual General Meeting of the GSDL-BRG.

7.4. On completion of voting the following Officers shall be appointed from within and by the elected GSDL-BRG Committee:

- Chairman
- Vice Chairman
- General Secretary
- Treasurer
- Awards Co-ordinator



- Three Delegates to Represent the GSDL-BRG on the GSD League Council
- 7.5. The GSDL-BRG Committee shall have the right to appoint non-executive members to fulfil specific roles on an as and when required basis
 - 7.6. The GSDL-BRG Committee will meet at least twice a year at properly convened meetings with a detailed agenda for which items will need to be received by the General Secretary at least 14 days prior to the agreed meeting dates. Extraordinary Committee Meetings will be held when considered necessary by a majority of Committee members. Seven days' notice shall be given for the holding of committee meetings, except in the case of any emergency, when three days' notice shall suffice.
 - 7.7. Quorum for committee decisions shall be 50% +1 of the current committee members (if the committee consists of an uneven number of members, quorum shall be $((\text{number of committee members minus } 1) \text{ divided by } 2) + 1$) ie. For a committee of 7, the quorum shall be 4)
 - 7.8. Anyone seeking election for a vacant position on the GSDL-BRG Committee must have been a GSDL-BRG member for three complete years consecutively prior to the year in which they offer to stand for election and be proposed and seconded by current GSDL-BRG members.
 - 7.9. No person whilst an undischarged bankrupt may serve on the Committee of or hold any other office or appointment within a Kennel Club registered GSD League.
 - 7.10. Voting for the vacant GSDL-BRG Committee positions will be by secret ballot. Proxy votes are not allowed.
 - 7.11. Members may vote for between one (1) and up to and including the number of vacant committee positions (usually 3).
 - 7.12. In the event of a vacancy arising on the Committee by death, resignation, or expulsion of a Member or due to insufficient nominations for the committee at the AGM, the Council may fill the vacancy/vacancies by co-opting, but a Member so co-opted shall retire at the next Annual General Meeting. A Member requires a minimum of three full consecutive years Membership in order to qualify for co-option. If for any reason the Committee are unable to obtain a quorum (e.g. Committee Membership having fallen to less than five) the Committee shall have the power to hold a Committee meeting for the purpose only of co-opting sufficient members to enable a quorate meeting to be held. In these circumstances the Committee shall immediately call a Special General Meeting at which the co-opted Members shall first of all retire and an election held to fill the remaining vacancies on the Committee.
 - 7.13. Committee business is confidential and Committee members should not discuss these matters outside of Committee Meetings, unless otherwise agreed by the Committee
 - 7.14. The duties of the GSDL-BRG Committee shall be to manage the GSDL-BRG's affairs at GSDL-BRG and Club level properly and diligently. Without prejudice to these duties, they should be mindful of the following:
 - 7.15. The property of the GSDL-BRG shall be vested in the Executive Committee and property at Club level shall be vested in the Club Committee.



- 7.16. The GSDL-BRG Committee may appoint such of its members as it from time to time thinks fit to constitute a Sub-Committee(s) or Working Party(s) to exercise such of the powers of the GSDL-BRG Committee may decide.
- 7.17. The GSDL-BRG Committee in respect of National events and the Club Committee in respect of Club events shall decide upon the value and nature of prizes to be offered at competitions or club events and may make regulations for their conduct according to any applicable WUSV or GSDL regulation.
- 7.18. The GSDL-BRG Committee shall prepare and/or review at regular intervals of not more than twelve months, a list of persons who are official representatives of the GSDL-BRG Committee, Club Committees, Sub-Committees and also approved Breed Judges. The GSDL-BRG Committee will allocate an agreed sum of money to the organising Clubs of National events. Any shortfall/profit made by the organising Club shall be borne by that Club.
- 8. GSDL-BRG Awards Administrator**
- 8.1. The Secretary (or show secretary) of the GSD Club/Group holding the event, will be responsible for supplying the final results, including Gradings, to the GSDL-BRG General Secretary, who in turn will then submit them to the Awards Administrator, who will be responsible for allocating points to the criteria agreed by the GSDL-BRG in order to produce the GSDL-BRG Annual League Table Awards and/or any other Award the GSDL-BRG may see fit to create in the future.
- 8.2. The GSDL-BRG committee will appoint an Awards Administrator who will keep a record of:
- dogs names,
 - their Grading and
 - points gained at every Regional Event and the British Sieger.
- 9. Discipline**
- 9.1. Any member who shall be suspended by the GSDL, SV, WUSV, Kennel Club and / or FCI shall ipso facto cease to be a member of the GSDL-BRG.
- 9.2. Disciplinary measures will be as per the Disciplinary Code of Conduct
- 10. Revenue**
- 10.1. The GSDL-BRG Membership Fee should be reviewed annually. The GSDL-BRG Membership Fee will become the property and funds of the GSDL-BRG and will be transferred to the GSDL-BRG by the GSD League Treasurer at the end of each month.
- 11. Winding Up**
- 11.1. The procedure for winding up the GSDL-BRG or a GSDL-BRG Club shall be by way of a properly convened Special General Meeting.
- 11.2. If the GSDL-BRG or any of its Clubs cease to exist, any property or profits of the GSDL-BRG or Club concerned shall be dealt with or disposed of as the members attending the Special General Meeting convened specifically for that purpose think fit.
- 12. Accounting**



- 12.1. An account shall be opened in the name of the Club at such a bank as the GSDL-BRG Treasurer or GSDL-BRG Club Treasurer may decide and only the signatures of any two of its GSDL-BRG Committee or GSDL-BRG Club officers shall operate such accounts. Accounts and records shall be kept by each GSDL-BRG Treasurer and shall be made available for inspection annually to the GSDL-BRG Committee.
- 12.2. The Financial year of the GSDL-BRG shall be the calendar year commencing on 1st January and ending on 31st December in each year.
- 12.3. The GSDL-BRG accounts will be certified annually and presented to the Members at the Annual General Meeting. NOTE: Certification of accounts must be carried out by one qualified Accountant or two unqualified individuals with accountancy experience.



GSDL-BRG Rules

These rules set out the operational processes of the GSDL-BRG and are managed and amended by the GSDL-BRG Committee as appropriate.

1. GSDL-BRG Club Affiliation

1.1. New Club Affiliation Proposals

1.1.1. If four or more individuals wish to form a GSDL-BRG Club, they must seek approval from the GSDL-BRG Committee. Initial application shall be in writing using the appropriate club affiliation form to the GSDL-BRG General Secretary, in order that it may be included on the next GSDL-BRG Committee meeting agenda. The application **MUST** include:

- The proposed name of the Club.
- The details of the officers (chairman, secretary and treasurer). All officers must be and remain GSD League members whilst holding office. Officer positions must be held by three separate individuals.
- A copy of the GSD Club's/Group's rules and regulations
- To include details of membership rules and election of officers
- Give an undertaking to abide by the GSD League Rules & Regulations for WUSV Activities
- Provide contact details (i.e. Telephone number, address and e-mail address)

1.1.2. Upon approval by the GSDL-BRG Committee, the new Club will be subject to a six month probationary period. The Affiliation Fee must be paid immediately, together with the submission of the Affiliation application form. Following a 12 month period the club shall be reviewed to assess its growth and its general performance.

1.1.3. New clubs will not be permitted to hold shows, koerungs or character assessments during their probationary period.

1.1.4. The first show that the new Club holds **MUST** be judged by a GSDL approved SV Special or WUSV Breed Judge.

1.2. GSDL-BRG Club Affiliation – General

1.2.1. A public liability insurance, will be maintained at all times by each affiliated GSD Club/Group

1.2.2. It is strongly recommended that each GSDL-BRG Club should hold at least one event / trial per annum.

1.2.3. Renewal of Affiliation is on an annual basis. The Affiliation application and required fees **MUST** be tendered by 31st December of each year.



1.2.4. The current affiliation fee is £40

1.2.5. The amount of the affiliation fee to be decided annually at the AGM for the next year.

2. Club Licensing

2.1. Club Annual License Proposals

2.1.1. If an established KC registered GSD Club wishes to run a Regional event, they may apply for an annual license to do so from the GSDL-BRG Committee. Initial application shall be in writing using the appropriate license application form to the GSDL-BRG General Secretary, in order that it may be included on the next GSDL-BRG Committee meeting agenda. The application MUST include:

- The name of the Club.
- The details of the officers (chairman, secretary and treasurer).
- Give an undertaking to abide by the GSD League Rules & Regulations for WUSV Activities
- Provide contact details (i.e. Telephone number, address and e-mail address)

2.2. GSDL-BRG Event License - General

2.2.1. A public liability insurance, will be maintained at all times by each licensed club

2.2.2. The annual license fee is currently £40

2.2.3. The amount of the license fee to be decided annually at the AGM for the next year.

3. Training

3.1. Each GSDL-BRG Club shall appoint at least one Club Trainer to be responsible for the training activities conducted by that GSDL-BRG Club.

3.2. Before dogs are allowed to participate or train in any activity, they must be of good physical fitness and free from infectious diseases. Dogs must be approved by the relevant Club Trainer as being of suitable temperament to participate in any activity.

3.3. It is ultimately the responsibility of the handler to ensure that the dog remains fit, healthy and free from any ailments or infectious diseases.

3.4. It is recommended that all dogs have the hips and elbows X-rayed and scored by the SV A Stamp system.

3.5. Where minors are present at training the GSDL-BRG's child protection policy must be adhered to.

3.6. It is the responsibility of the officers of the GSDL-BRG Club and, in particular, the trainers of the GSDL-BRG Club, to ensure that the correct equipment is used throughout training.

4. Judges

4.1. The GSDL-BRG will be responsible for the nomination of breed judges to be approved by the GSD League. Any breed judge approved by the GSD League must first be nominated by the GSDL-BRG and cannot apply for SV or WUSV recognition without such approval by the GSD League.



4.2. In order to be considered for inclusion on the GSDL-BRG Breed Judges List, an applicant must:

- Support the aims and objectives of the GSDL-BRG
- Be proposed and seconded by member of the GSDL-BRG Committee and approved by a majority of the GSDL-BRG Committee
- Agree to grade all dogs presented to them at a GSDL-BRG event and provide verbal critiques to at least the top 3 dogs in each class.

4.3. SV and WUSV approved judges are automatically approved for inclusion on the GSDL-BRG Judges list.

4.4. Applicants to become GSDL-BRG Apprentice Judges must meet the following qualifying criteria:

- Must be a member of the GSDL-BRG
- Have served on a Breed Club / Association / Group committee for a minimum of 3 years within the last 10 years
- Have bred or owned 3 GSDs which have attained top grading in the yearling class or above at a GSDL-BRG event
- Have passed an approved GSD breed specialist judges exam. (Currently the GSD Breed Council and WUSV exams are the only ones approved)
- Only breed from GSDs (male or female) that are eligible to enter the yearling class or above at a GSDL-BRG event.
- Have been actively involved with the GSD Breed for at least 5 years
- May not be banned from judging by any SV/WUSV or RKC canine organization.

4.5. If the Apprentice Judge application is accepted by the GSDL-BRG Committee, the Apprentice Judge will be required to carry out the following:

- Participate in a minimum of 2 apprentice judging appointments under the supervision of a GSDL-BRG approved Training Judge. The appointments should not be under the same training judge.
- Written reports on all dogs assessed must be submitted to the training judge within 2 weeks of the appointment.
- Apprenticeships will be arranged by the GSDL-BRG and aspiring apprentice judges should apply to the GSDL-BRG secretary for allocation of a training judge
- A minimum of fifty (50) dogs shall be judged with at least 10 entered in the Working Classes
- The supervising judge will provide a report to the GSDL BRG Executive Committee on the suitability or otherwise of the Apprentice Judge for each apprenticeship. The GSDL BRG Executive Committee will confirm approval or otherwise of the apprentice judge to the GSDL-BRG Judges List



- For breed judges who hold RKC Championship Status for GSDs, the number of required apprenticeships assessments is reduced to one to ensure the differing requirements of Regional Events are understood. A minimum of 50 dogs shall be judged – if this is not achieved in one apprenticeship then subsequent apprenticeships are required until 50 dogs have been judged.
 - The GSDL BRG Executive Committee will be responsible for appointing Training Judges who will as a minimum by an approved SV or SV Special International Judge
- 4.6. Maintenance of the active Judges list will be by the GSDL-BRG General Secretary.
- 4.7. Maintenance of Judging practice is paramount and any judge not officiating at a show for three calendar years shall be required to carry out a further apprenticeship with an approved GSDL-BRG or SV breed judge (with the report submitted to the GSDL-BRG Committee) in order to maintain active status on the Judges list.
- 4.8. Non-renewal of membership to the GSDL-BRG will preclude entry on the active Judges list.
- 4.9. Maintenance of the active Judges list will be by the General Secretary who will inform the Webmaster for inclusion onto the GSDL-BRG website.
- 4.10. It is recommended that the GSDL-BRG Judges and Apprentice Judges set up a Judges Panel to meet annually in order to discuss rule changes etc. to be passed down to the membership. A Chairperson to be appointed annually.

5. Regional Shows

- 5.1. The “**GSDL-BRG**” Title must appear in ALL documents, schedules, catalogues, advertisements, facebook pages, website pages and any other media used in the promotion, organisation, communication, hosting and publicity etc. in anyway connected with the GSDL-BRG.
- 5.2. GSDL-BRG Regional events must be held in compliance with GSDL-BRG rules. As set out below:
- 5.2.1. *The Event is open to German Shepherd Dogs only. All dogs must be registered with the governing body in their country of birth. All dogs permanently imported to the UK must register with the Kennel Club within 12 months of their first BRG show entry..*
- 5.2.2. The Event will be held under the rules of the GSDL-BRG based on WUSV Rules & Regulations.
- 5.2.3. The Event will open at hh.mm
- 5.2.4. Judging will commence at .hh.mm.
- 5.2.5. Entry Fees must accompany the Entry.
- 5.2.6. The GSD Club/Group reserves the right to refuse entries.
- 5.2.7. The Judges’ decisions are final.
- 5.2.8. Exhibitors are responsible for arriving in time for their Class.
- 5.2.9. The GSD Club/Group reserves the right to exclude any dog which is not fit for exhibition due to disease or other cause.
- 5.2.10. Should any Judge be prevented from fulfilling his/her engagement another Judge will be appointed
- 5.2.11. ALL handlers when exhibiting in the Ring must wear a Numbered Bib. The Bib must be clearly visible. It is the dog owner’s responsibility to ensure the Bib is



- returned to the Steward/s at the end of each Class, otherwise a charge of **£10** will be levied against the owner for each non-returned bib/s.
- 5.2.12. ALL Exhibits must have verifiable identification of a ISO approved Microchip.
 - 5.2.13. ALL exhibitors should report to the IDENTIFICATION STEWARD, who will check the dogs Tattoo Number / Microchip Number in the ring at the start of the class. Teeth & Testicles will be checked by the Judge, or appointed competent person.
 - 5.2.14. ALL dogs over 12 months will be measured.
 - 5.2.15. ALL exhibitors and handlers must abide by all instructions given by the Judges/Ring Stewards & Event Manager.
 - 5.2.16. Cheques/Postal orders must be made payable to the "INSERT CLUB/GROUP NAME". If any cheque or postal order is not honoured upon first presentation to the Bank the entries will either be returned or the cheque re-presented. Exhibitors will be liable for any costs or fees that are incurred.
 - 5.2.17. In the event a "Regional Event" has to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances the Club/Group will refund any fees less reasonable expenses to all Exhibitors on request provided they produce a Statement of the Costs.
 - 5.2.18. Dogs must not be left unattended in the precincts of the Event and under no circumstances are they to be tied up. Dogs in cars - Remedial action will be taken in the event of dogs left in cars found to be in a distressed condition. Warning - If your dog is found to be at risk forcible entry to your vehicle may be necessary without liability for any damage caused.
 - 5.2.19. Exhibitors are responsible for the behaviour of their children & will be held responsible for any damage they cause.
 - 5.2.20. Awards will be given out at the end of each Class.
 - 5.2.21. Winners may use the Titles of "Regional Sieger/Regional Siegerin" of their respective Classes.
 - 5.2.22. Entries close on ????? and the Group is not obliged to accept entries after that date; it is at the sole discretion of the event secretary whether late entries will be accepted. No entries will be accepted on the day.
 - 5.2.23. Please respect the Venue and clean up after your animal. Anyone found not cleaning up after their animals will be asked to leave the Venue.
 - 5.2.24. In the interest of SAFETY no running around the outside of the ring will be allowed. Except in the designated area specifically provided for this practice.
 - 5.2.25. The use of Remote Trainers and Pinch Collars will not be allowed and anyone found using them will be reported and disqualified.
 - 5.2.26. Exhibitors are obligated to make true statements about their dog(s). Any attempt at deception may lead to the implementation of disciplinary procedures by the GSDL-BRG, which may result in disqualification of the Owners and the dog(s) from this and any future GSDL-BRG Regional Event based on WUSV Rules & Regulations.
 - 5.2.27. Exhibitors are obligated to show sportsmanlike conduct. Offences determined by the Group's disciplinary procedures could lead to a reprimand and/or to the disqualification of the dog(s). Also Exhibitors who intentionally make wrong statements or do not answer questions put to them by the Event Officials, also those who make or tolerate changes in their dog(s), or take actions intended to deceive the Judge will lose any award already given to their



dog(s) at this Event and can, according to the gravity of the case, be excluded from future GSDL-BRG Events or have another penalty administered by the organizing Club/Group.

5.2.28. It is not allowed for the Judge at a Regional Event to judge dogs that are bred or owned by himself and/or his agents. Extreme caution should be exercised regarding dogs that are owned or cared for by the Judges' near relatives. This includes persons one lives with, breeds with, owns dogs with and share households with.

5.3. The definition of classes for a Regional Event is as follows:

- **BABY PUPPY:** For dogs of four (4) and up to six (6) calendar months of age.
- **MINOR PUPPY:** For dogs of six (6) and up to nine (9) calendar months of age
- **PUPPY:** For dogs of nine (9) and up to twelve (12) calendar months of age
- **JUNIOR - (Youth - Jugend)** For dogs of twelve (12) and up to eighteen (18) calendar months of age
 - Hip and elbow scores* are not required, however if a score has been granted it **MUST** be disclosed.
- **YEARLING - (Young – Junghund)** For dogs of eighteen (18) and up to twenty four (24) calendar months of age
 - Health test scores* **MUST** be disclosed.
 - DNA recording is mandatory. Parentage proven is recommended.

For clarity if a dog is 6 months of age on the day of a show then they must enter the minor puppy class etc

* Exhibits with health test results which do not meet the following criteria are not eligible to compete at GSDL-BRG events. ** Hip scores must be BVA/ANKC max 20 and no more than 12 on either side or SV A stamp, Elbow scores must be BVA/ANKC 0 or 1 or SV A stamp to compete at a GSDL-BRG event. If the score is being appealed, the exhibit is not eligible to compete until the result of the appeal is known and then falls into the range specified above.

ADULT CLASS REQUIREMENTS - ADULT 24 Months +:

- Any Dog without a SchH/VPG/IPO or equivalent Training Degree can enter the Adult Class provided they meet the above health test criteria.
- Health test scores* **MUST** be disclosed.
- DNA recording is mandatory. Parentage proven is recommended.
- Dogs born on or after 1st January 2025 must have completed an SV character assessment.
- **WORKING CLASS REQUIREMENTS – (Working – Gebrauchshund) 24 Months + :**



- All dogs must have a Training Degree of at least a SchH1/VPG1/IPO1/IGP1 or equivalent
 - Health test scores* MUST be disclosed.
 - DNA recording is mandatory. Parentage proven is recommended.
 - All dogs will be subject to off lead gaiting (no more than one lap of the ring)
 - Any dog without a Koerung, may participate up to three years and six months old maximum, whereby they can achieve the maximum grading of V, thereafter they will only be eligible for the maximum grading of SG (Very Good).
 - Dogs born on or after 1st January 2025 must have completed an SV character assessment.
 - **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**
 - ALL dogs over 12 mths will be required to pass a GUN TEST.
 - ALL dogs over 12 mths may be measured.
 - **LONG COAT CLASS REQUIREMENT**
 - All dogs with a long coat of which an undercoat MUST be present.
 - All Rules and Regulations pertaining to Health Checks, Koerungs and Working Qualifications are also applicable in accordance with the age group classifications as set out above.
6. Hosting a GSDL-BRG Regional Event
- 6.1. An application to host an event must in the first instance be processed through the GSDL-BRG Secretary who will check the availability of the requested date.
 - 6.2. Judges should be chosen from the GSDL-BRG / WUSV / SV breed judge's list/s and should not have judged in the UK for six months prior to the event.
 - 6.3. Koerung judges shall be taken from the GSDL-BRG / SV/WUSV list of approved Koermeisters.
 - 6.4. The Club/Group will also inform the GSDL-BRG Secretary of their choice of judge/s.
 - 6.5. A list of judges and the classes they have judged or been invited to judge six months will be held by the Secretary. Hosts clubs/groups are requested to refer to this list prior to selecting judge/s, in order that there is no repetition of judges within six months
 - 6.6. Where SV approval is necessary, clearance must be obtained from the GSDL-BRG events co-ordinator, prior to any formal request to the GSD League General Secretary.
 - 6.7. Written requests should be sent to the GSD League Secretary, (copied to the GSDL-BRG Secretary and Events Co-ordinator) at least 12 weeks prior to the show/event. All information will be logged and submitted to the SV by the GSD League Secretary, who will invoice the relevant club/group.
 - 6.8. Until receipt of SV approval the wording 'Subject to SV approval' must accompany the announcement of the judge on the GSDL-BRG Events Calendar and any other publication.



- 6.9. On receipt of SV approval, the GSD League Secretary will inform the applicant, with copies to the Secretary of the GSDL-BRG and Events Co-ordinator. SV Approval details will then be posted onto the GSDL-BRG Events Calendar and the GSD League Website and any other publication.
- 6.10. Grading Cards must be issued to every exhibit at the end of every class and signed by the judge. This must be an 'Official' GSDL-BRG Grading Card obtained from the Secretary. Judges should also give verbal critiques at the end of every class to at least the top 3 in that class.
- 6.11. The GSDL-BRG and the Working Branches of the GSDL must work in harmony. No GSDL-BRG Club/Group may hold a Schutzhund Trial unless held in conjunction with a GSD League Working Branch. No GSD League Working Branch may hold a Breed Show unless in conjunction with a GSDL-BRG Club/Group. All 'Joint Events' must go through the GSDL-BRG Event Coordinator and be approved by the GSD League & GSD League Working Branch Committees.
- 6.12. The following items must be sent to the GSDL-BRG Secretary in electronic format, no later than 14 days from the close of event.
- The Event Schedule.
 - A fully marked up catalogue.
 - Results sheets in the prescribed format.
 - Incident report if applicable.
- 6.13. All paperwork appertaining to a Regional Event must be retained by the host Club/Group secretary for a minimum of 2 years. In particular:
- The Event Schedule.
 - A fully marked up catalogue.
 - Awards and Grading Slips signed by the judge
 - Results sheet in the prescribed format.
 - Incident report or nil return if applicable.
- 6.14. The GSDL-BRG Secretary will then send a copy of the results and grades to the Awards Administrator and publish on the GSDL-BRG Website and Social Media. Copy will be sent to the GSD League Magazine Editor and Webmaster. The results will be submitted by the GSDL-BRG Secretary to the SV SID
- 6.15. The following guides should be obtained from the GSDL-BRG Secretary prior to holding an event:
- Proforma Schedule and Entry Form
 - Results Slips
 - Show Secretary's Checklist
 - Event Manager's Checklist
 - Judges Briefing document
 - Stewards Instructions



- Health and Safety Document

7. GSDL-BRG BRG Gold Medal and Annual Awards.

7.1. BRG Gold Medal

7.1.1. The BRG Gold Medal recognises exhibits which have achieved outstanding show results over their lifetime at Regional Events and the British Sieger.

7.1.2. Points are awarded on the following basis:

- VV1 (VP1) = 1 point.
- SG1 = 2 points
- SG2 = 1 point
- SG1 adult = 4 points
- SG2 adult = 2 points
- V1 working = 5 points
- V2 working = 4 points
- VA working = 10 points

7.1.3. An exhibit which obtains 25 points is awarded the BRG Gold Medal – these points must include:

7.1.4. At least 5 points gained in the adult or working class

7.1.5. At least one SG1/V1 at a regional show with a minimum of 3 exhibits presented in the class

7.1.6. An exhibit which achieves the required 25 points in the UK but does not have an SG1/V1 in a class of three or more, can utilise an SG1/ V1 win in a class overseas with three or more in the class under an SV or BRG approved judge. It is the responsibility of the owner to notify the awards co-ordinator of such a win.

7.2. Annual Awards

7.2.1. Each year a list of the top 10 exhibits in the categories Male, Female, Long Coat Male and Long Coat Female will be declared.

7.2.2. Each Year a list of the top 5 kennels will be declared. Each kennel must have exhibited more than one dog during the year and the ranking of the kennels will be determined by the cumulative points of all dogs shown bred by that kennel during the year.

7.2.3. All exhibits who will be 12 months or over by the 31st December will be able to be included in the Annual Points Award Scheme which will recognise the Top 10 consistently highly placed dogs. To be included an exhibit must have entered at least one Regional show – entry at the British Sieger only will not be sufficient although points can be gained at the British Sieger.

7.2.4. Points are awarded on the following basis:

- VV1 (VP1) = 1 point.



- SG1 = 2 points
- SG2 = 1 point
- SG1 adult = 4 points
- SG2 adult = 2 points
- V1 working = 5 points
- V2 working = 4 points
- VA = 10 points

7.2.5. The grading is as important as the placing and an animal which is first or second in a class but does not receive the top grade possible for its age will not receive any points.

7.2.6. For final points and placings to be confirmed the health test results of each exhibit must satisfy the requirements as specified in 5.3 above. For dogs born on or after 1st January 2025, only SV A Stamp Hip and Elbow Grades will be accepted

7.2.7. Owners have up to 31st January in the following year to submit health test results to the awards administrator for verification. In the event of an appeal of a health test result which has not been confirmed by 31st January, the original score will be used for verification purposes. Any exhibit without confirmed satisfactory health test results by this date will not be included in the final listings for the year.

7.3. Certificate of Excellence

7.3.1. All exhibits who gain 10 or more V gradings (working class) or SG (adult class) at Regional shows or the British Sieger are eligible for a Certificate of Excellence. This can be applied for using the appropriate form available on the BRG website which should be sent to the BRG secretary.

7.4. The awards of Gold Medals, Top 10s and Certificates of Excellence are only open to members of the GSDL-BRG.



GSDL BRG Complaints & Disciplinary Procedure

This document refers to Section 9.2 of the Constitution of the GSDL British Regional Group and is a procedural appendix thereto.

The Complaint & Disciplinary Panel is to be made up of a permanent 4 person panel (unless directly involved in a complaint or due to conflict of interest), sourced from any Club, (preferably Club officers.) and 2 GSDL British Regional Group Officers, (the Chairman and the Secretary preferable unless directly involved in a complaint or due to conflict of interest).

All minutes to be taken by the GSDL BRG Secretary (or the national officer appointed as secretary for the complaint) and agreed by the panel.

The 2 officers will not be voting members of the panel. Exceptions to this rule are:

1. In the case of a split decision the Chairperson has the deciding vote.
2. Should a member of the panel be required to withdraw due to being directly involved in a complaint or due to conflict of interest the GSDL BRG Secretary (or the national officer appointed as secretary for the complaint) would become a voting member. Where more than one panel member is required to withdraw then an extra person/persons can be co-opted onto the panel by the GSDL BRG Chairman
3. All members of the panel are required to withdraw from the panel if there is a conflict of interest Failure to disclose any conflict or any direct involvement in any complaint will be a disciplinary offence punishable by a mandatory six-month suspension from the club, GSDL BRG, including training rights

The Complaint

The complaint must be given to the event organiser/club committee at the time of the incident (in person) and in writing to the GSDL BRG within 7 days of the incident.

The written complaint must be accompanied with a £50.00 fee, refundable if the complaint is upheld. Where a complainant wishes to remain anonymous, no disciplinary action can be taken to protect members from spurious complaints.

There are two routes the panel can take, informal or formal.

Wherever possible the informal route should be considered as the first course of action.

When faced with a potential disciplinary matter, the panel must carry out a full investigation before taking any action.

They must consider:

- What the alleged breach of discipline is
- The surrounding circumstances



- The consequences of the breach
- The person's history and disciplinary record
- The evidence of witnesses
- Any other evidence that can shed light on the situation
- Any previous incidents that relate to this one
- Any mitigating circumstances eg health or domestic problems, or provocation.

Once the panel has taken these factors into account, **review the evidence** to determine whether:

- There is a case to answer
- There is an alternative to disciplinary action – eg, an informal resolution
- The complaint is serious enough to require a disciplinary hearing

It may be better to deal with minor cases of misconduct by informal discussions, rather than through the disciplinary procedure.

If this route is taken all conversations with persons accused of any minor misconduct must be confirmed by letter, detailing the complaint and the fact that they are accepting an informal warning, a copy must be signed by the national secretary (or the national officer appointed as secretary for the complaint) and any person concerned.

If the situation justifies informal discussions:

- highlight the problem to the person
- explain what needs to be done to improve conduct or behaviour
- outline how future conduct or behaviour will be reviewed and over what period.
- outline what further action may occur if the person fails to improve their conduct or performance.

Any person accused of a minor infringement of GSDL BRG rules has the right not to accept an informal warning and ask for a formal hearing.

For certain **serious** offences the panel may need to suspend a person whilst a full investigation takes place.

The panel must prepare carefully for a disciplinary hearing:

- Carry out a full investigation
- Make sure you have all relevant facts and documents (including details of any past disciplinary action taken against the person including informal warnings) are available for the hearing.
- Arrange a suitable time, date and venue for the hearing.
- Inform the person in plenty of time so they can prepare their case and consult any representatives (minimum three weeks).



- Give them details of the complaint, the procedure to be followed the need for them to attend disciplinary hearing, their right to be accompanied at the hearing by a representative or friend, their right to delay the hearing by up to seven days if their chosen representative cannot attend, and the text of any witness statements if heavy reliance is to be placed on them.
- Inform any witnesses who may need to attend.
- Obtain witness statements which must be signed from any witnesses unable to attend the hearing.
- Where necessary delay the hearing for witnesses to be available.
- In cases where a person may be expelled or suspended from the GSDL BRG, all persons involved eg complainants/witnesses and accused will be requested to attend. (Where the accused person is thought to be deliberately delaying a hearing the hearing can be held without them providing they have been informed via registered / hand delivered letter that the hearing will go forward without them present.)
- Extensive note of any hearing must be taken

When holding a disciplinary hearing;

- Introduce everyone present and explain why they are there
- explain that the reason for the hearing is to consider whether disciplinary action should be taken against the person
- explain how the hearing will be conducted
- describe the exact nature of the complaint and go through the evidence
- allow the person to see any statements made by witnesses if they have not already seen them
- give the person a chance to state their case and to respond to any allegations made
- ensure that you get all the facts relating to the complaint and take note of any special circumstances
- summarise the main points made by both parties and highlight any issues that need to be investigated further
- adjourn to consider your decision
- reconvene to let the person know of your decision and ensure that they are clear about what is likely to happen next

Following a disciplinary hearing, the panel should inform the person as soon as possible in writing of:

- The result of the hearing
- The reasoning behind the decision
- The consequences of repeating the offence and what specific improvement is required, if any



- How long the warning is going to remain in force
- The likely consequences of repetition of the misconduct
- The right to appeal.

Some reasons why there should be a hearing;

- Discrimination and harassment
- Health and safety
- bullying
- Drunkenness or drug abuse
- fighting
- Theft
- Animal abuse
- Animal cruelty
- Damage to property

Mileage expenses are to be paid by the GSDL BRG to all panel members and to witnesses, where required to attend. Mileage will be paid in accordance with HMRC guidance for fuel only reimbursement.

Mileage expenses are to be paid by the GSDL BRG to any person accused of an offence and required to attend such a hearing where that person is found to be innocent of an offence.

The Kennel Club shall be the final Court of Appeal in all matters of dispute between the GSDL BRG and its Members, no matter in what manner arising. On a point of law legal opinion may be sought.

Any member who shall be suspended under The Kennel Club Rule A24j (4) and/or disqualified under The Kennel Club Rule A42j (8) shall ipso facto cease to be a member of the Society for the duration of suspension and/or disqualification. If the conduct of any member shall, in the opinion of the committee of the society, be injurious or likely to be injurious to the character or interests of the society, the committee of the society may, at a meeting, the notice convening which includes as an object the consideration of the conduct of the member, determine that a Special General Meeting of the Society shall be called for the purpose of passing a resolution to expel him. Notice of the Special General Meeting shall be sent to the accused member, giving particulars of the complaint and advising him/her of the place, date and hour of the meeting that he may attend and offer an explanation. If at that meeting a resolution to expel is passed by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting, his name shall be forthwith erased from the list of members, and he shall thereupon cease for all purposes to be a member of the society, except that he may within two calendar months from the date of such meeting appeal to the Kennel Club upon and subject to such conditions as The Kennel Club may impose”

If a Member is expelled for discreditable conduct in connection with dogs, dog shows or trials, the matter must be reported to The Kennel Club within seven days and particulars supplied as required.