GSDCA HIP DYSPLASIA CONTROL SCHEME

BACKGROUND

The German Shepherd Dog Council Hip Dysplasia Control Scheme was first introduced in 1982 when a committee was formed, chaired by Mr. Tom Luxton to investigate the possibility of approaching the Melbourne University to assess x-ray plates for a National Scheme. At the 1984 Annual General Meeting the initial Hip Dysplasia Control Scheme was approved.

An application form is purchased via the State Registrars and there are detailed instructions to the Veterinarians as to how the animal must be x-rayed and how the x-ray plates must be identified. Failure to adhere to the correct procedure requires the animal to be re-x-rayed. The x-rays must be identified radiographically with the GSDCA Tattoo number.

The responsible attitude that the breeders have taken in regards to not breeding with animals that have not passed the above scheme is to be commended and has meant that the incidence of Hip Dysplasia in German Shepherd Dogs is being controlled and improved upon each year.

PARTICIPATION IN GSDCA BREED IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES

1. To participate in any GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes that are conducted for and on behalf on the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia you must be a member of an affiliated Club of the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia.

2. To participate in the GSDCA Hip Dysplasia Control Scheme the animal must be 12 months of age or older and must be tattooed within the GSDCA National Tattoo Scheme or any other Tattoo scheme recognised by the German Shepherd Dog Council of Council of Australia.

3. ANKC Registered German Shepherd Dog. (Those animals on the Limited Registrar are able to participate in the GSDCA Hip Dysplasia Control Scheme)

PURCHASE OF AN APPLICATION FORM

An application form is to be issued by the State H.D./Elbow Dysplasia Registrar upon payment of the required fee.

The forms must be paid for when purchased and the forms attached to that particular animal’s x-rays. Forms cannot be transferred to another animal or any monies refunded under any circumstances.

The State Registrar completes the form with the following details.

1. State Contract Number allocated.
2. Name of Dog
3. Tattoo Number of Dog.
4. Owner/Breed of Dog.
5. Mark the reader who will be reading the x-rays. The purchaser of the form may nominate the preferred reader.

The Instructions to the Veterinarian should be highlighted so that they are clearly visible. Incorrectly labeled films will not be accepted for reading.

The onus is on the Veterinarian to ensure that the animals comply with the requirements of the GSDCA scheme. Failure to meet these requirements will mean that the animal will be required to be re-x-rayed. No attached labels will be accepted as means of positive identification.
The radiograph must be identified with all of the following:-
   a) The dog’s GSDCA tattoo number
   b) The date
   c) Right or left marker
   d) The dog’s name
   e) State Contract Number

ADVICE TO VETERINARIAN
One view of the dog’s pelvis is to be taken under general anaesthesia. A high quality radiograph is required and any incorrectly exposed or poorly positioned films will not be read. The radiograph should be repeated at the Veterinarian’s expense.

View: Extended Ventro-Dorsal Pelvis: (No other view will be accepted for assessment). The radiograph should cover an area from the iliac crest to the stifle joint. The femora should be parallel to each other and the stifles rotated inward so the patellae lie in the centre of the trochleae of the femora. Care should be taken to ensure that the pelvis is square and the femora are parallel to the cassette.

FORWARDING OF X-RAYS TO THE GSDCA READERS
Once the animal has been x-rayed the x-rays plates and all documentation are to be forward to the nominated reader.

Dr Roger Lavelle
80 Ashworths Road
LANCEFIELD VIC 3435

Dr R S Wyburn
P.O. Box 841
MARGARET RIVER WA 6285

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION
1. The GSDCA Hip Dysplasia and Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme Application Form.
2. A copy of the ANKC pedigree.
3. A stamped self addressed envelope for the return of the provisional result

QUALIFICATION FOR A GSDCA ‘A’ STAMP

Animals are awarded the GSDCA ‘A’ stamp that score no more than 8 in any one hip with a proviso that in any one area the animal does not score more than three (3).

Animals that score greater than outlined above are deemed to have failed the GSDCA Hip Dysplasia Control Scheme and are not recommended for breeding.

RECEIPT OF THE GSDCA ‘A’ STAMP CERTIFICATE

A provisional result (pink copy) will be returned in the stamped self addressed envelope. Shortly thereafter a GSDCA Hip certificate will be forwarded to you by the GSDCA Hip Dysplasia/Elbow Dysplasia Registrar. Please check that the details as shown on the certificate are correct.

RULES FOR RE-SUBMIT OF X-RAYS FOR THE GSDCA HIP DYSPLASIA CONTROL SCHEME
X-ray plates of animals that are re-submitted for assessment must adhere to the following:-

1. Resubmit of the second plate to the reader of choice.
2. If there is a less than 6 point discrepancy then the benefit of doubt shall go to the dog.
3. If there is a greater than 6 point difference in the total score, then the matter shall be adjudicated by the GSDCA HD/ED Registrar sending the two sets of plates to the GSDCA appeal adjudicator to verify that the two plates are of the same animal. Upon verification to the GSDCA HD/ED Registrar the animal shall receive the best possible result.

It should be noted that if the x-ray is being re-submitted due to tilted x-ray and returned to the same reader then no payment is required when the new form is purchased.

If the x-ray is being re-submitted to a different reader/same reader for a second assessment then the form must be purchased and paid for.

**APPEAL SYSTEM FOR THE GSDCA HIP DYSPLASIA CONTROL SCHEME**

The following procedures to appeal a result in the GSDCA Hip Dysplasia and Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme.

1. Contact the National H.D/Elbow. Registrar.
2. Payment forwarded to the National H.D/Elbow Registrar for the amount of the required fee.
3. National H.D./Elbow Registrar to request the x-rays to be forwarded to the National H.D/Elbow Registrar from the reader concerned.
4. X-rays forwarded with payment to the Adjudicator Radiologist.
5. Results returned to the National H.D./Elbow Registrar
6. National H.D./Elbow Registrar informs the owner of the animals the result.

The animal receives the best possible result.

Please do not hesitate to contact the GSDCA Hip Dysplasia/Elbow Dysplasia Control Scheme Registrar or the National Breed Commission Chairman who would be only too happy to answer any questions or queries that you may have.

Respectfully yours,

*Joylene Neddermeyer*

*National Breed Commission Chairman*

*German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia*