

## Editorial

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### Sport during the pandemic

Dear Members,



No training, no classes, no judging: for months, dog sport in Germany has been paralysed by the coronavirus pandemic. Many sportspeople are therefore asking themselves: 'Where do I stand now?' and 'How do I move forward?' What remains possible in the face of contact restrictions, closed dog training areas and clubhouses and cancelled tournaments? What is important, for members and local groups? It is important to stay in touch and not let the connection between the club and its members be severed. The magic word is 'online learning', something which has gained further importance and completely new target groups during the pandemic. However, 'online learning' also poses new challenges for us as an association and for local groups, while at the same time it enables learning independent of time and place with the help of digital media. Learning videos can convey content well with images and sound. What remains missing are members at local and federal group level who create training situations and learning objectives and upload them to these platforms. Due to the long lockdowns, professional trainers are also offering online courses for different training levels, dog age groups and sports. Of course, local groups cannot set up and provide courses of such a professional calibre. However, together with training in the local groups, these professional courses can help perfect training paths.

Videos found online or shared on WhatsApp create a good additional offer in Covid times so that everyone can benefit from their tips. Training videos can be implemented according to your own individual daily routine, and the option to play individual sequences several times provides even more space to learn. This is not to say that local group trainers will cease to be important in future. On the contrary, these options simply provide another training opportunity. With a few tips and tricks and today's technology, short video clips can be quickly created on your smartphone and distributed to federal and local group members. Before Covid, WhatsApp groups were used to arrange training, but now you can use this medium *for* training and to evaluate each other.

There's one more offer that I'd like to present to you today. As a member of the National Board, it is very close to my heart to make a contribution to the subject of training in dog sport: in this issue of the SV Magazine, you will find the first article in the new series 'Puppy Training in Lockdown'. In this series, experienced dog sportspeople and performance judges in the sport will present their tips and tricks for training.

The coronavirus pandemic is not over yet, and we will be lucky if we can train and participate in tournaments more or less normally again in a few weeks. I am therefore happy about everyone who accepts this challenge, takes the risk and organises a tournament themselves. Although we all could have done without the pandemic, these unusual months have also created time and thoughts for new developments.

In this spirit, stay healthy!  
Yours truly,

Björn Bröker, SV Sport Representative