

An honest word...



I was just writing my editorial on the New Dog Regulations when I received the news that the dog sporting associations DVG and dhv are ceasing their cooperation with SV. Or rather, that dhv is withdrawing confirmations of judges that have already been issued. Once again, as in the past, the sporting section of SV is affected. Why? This question is asked by those of us who wanted to organise sporting tournaments in SV, but also by the athletes themselves. The answer is that this is purely a political issue and has nothing to do with our sport. It has to do with accusations, misunderstandings and the withholding of information on the part of SV/VDH and vice versa. But instead of standing shoulder to shoulder in these difficult times and standing up together for our cause, kicking each other down seems to be the order of the day. Unfortunately, by both sides.

Poor communication has led to accusations of inaction regarding the new animal welfare law as well as unauthorised publications contrary to the agreement on stick stress tests. Although on the latter topic, I must say that SV did demand a long overdue clarification for the protection of its judges, players and members. Unfortunately, this communication ended up on Facebook and on some SV federal group websites. And that, of course, is not where it belongs. From this point of view, both parties are right.

But instead of sitting down at a round table, clarifying the issue with those concerned and reflecting on their own behaviour, people have turned to hostility. The strategies that are urgently needed to tackle these acute issues end up taking a back seat.

Criticism being expressed against the VDH executive committee cannot be allowed to lead to the people criticised using their positions in their associations to 'punish' SV. This feels very much like: whoever steps out of line will feel the consequences.

Dog sport and breeding events will become much more difficult to implement in Germany in the future. I see it as the goal and task of VDH and all its member clubs to work together on what has been neglected and to bundle joint activities! No 'punishment'.

What remains for our future in SV sport? SV members will have to provide their own judges in the future. Levelling accusations against the other associations now for not providing us with sporting judges, stewards etc. would simply be wrong.

In the meantime, all SV sporting judges have got together to make up for the cancelled confirmations and thus to guarantee a smooth 2022 test season for local groups and athletes. A big thank you to my judges for being so cooperative.

Such actions always affect the active members, not only those in SV, but also those in DVG and dhv. The club base has been providing officials with a fine example of how to work together for a long time. Let's hope that this reaches the board members at some point as well.

Yours truly,

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SV Sport Representative