

## Editorial

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Dear Readers and Members,



I hope that you are all in the best of health and that you have emerged unscathed from all the stress of the past months and continue to do so in the coming months. We are all aware of the consequences of the coronavirus outbreak. All around the world, it has had a serious impact on our daily lives. Scientific and political opinions and forecasts are changing almost daily. I cannot judge whether the words that I am writing now, at the end of April, will still be correct when the SV Magazine is published. As expected, the corona crisis has had a significant impact on our hobby, breeding and work with our dogs. This not only affects us humans, but of course our dogs as well. Working with our four-legged friends is only possible to a limited extent. It is in our working dog breed's nature that they want to be trained and kept busy, even in the coming weeks and months. At the time these words are written, this is unfortunately not possible in our

local groups. Our breeding activities have been reduced considerably. Consequences for the breeding show, exhibition and examination system as well as inspections are foreseeable in the coming years. Events are at a standstill. And that also has an impact on the SV Magazine and the usual calendar of events. I have provided more information on this on Page 9 (SV Information).

It should be emphasised at this point that SV is not qualified to make general regulations in connection with the coronavirus, since the handling of the situation is strictly determined by the respective local circumstances. Political administration at different levels has the responsibility and the right to implement regulations related to restrictions for every individual and public events. Again and again we receive requests that relate to the planning and implementation of events. Against this background, the SV board has reached the decision to extend the cancellation of SV events initially decided on 16 March until 31 May 2020. All of the main annual events to be held by SV have been partially cancelled or at least postponed for 2020. The same applies to the events of WUSV. Eliminations and qualification competitions for the major events will, therefore, not be taking place.

Due to the constantly changing scientific and political data, I cannot predict what the long-term future development will be for our club. I have been receiving an unprecedented number of inquiries for puppies of our breed. It gives me the impression that our fellow citizens are rediscovering their love for dogs in the current situation. I would ask you to react to this phenomenon and to respond to the breeding demand in a responsible manner. If my impression turns out to be true, I hope that after the end of the crisis we will be able to pursue our beautiful hobby as usual. Currently, however, drastic measures are the only way to ensure the protection of people, our members and their families. We should all understand this and fully support the measures taken by the authorities. The more consistently we do so, the sooner we can return to 'normality'.

Stay healthy.

Yours truly,

Prof. Dr. Heinrich Meßler,  
President of SV and WUSV