

Dear Readers and Friends of the German Shepherd,

By the time you get your hands on this SV Magazine, the 2025 National Champions' Breeding Show/World Championship in Nuremberg will already be history.

With 1,310 entries, the National Champions' Breeding Show/World Championship can be considered a success given the declining breeding numbers in Germany and other European countries. Of course, we would all have liked to see more entries. I would like to thank all the staff at the Head Office and the entire organising team for their excellent preparatory work. Thanks also go to all the volunteers who organised the local and federal group breeding shows this season. It is impossible to satisfy every owner in terms of placement at the National Champions' Breeding Show/World Championship or at the preceding federal group breeding shows. However, I agree that every owner who received a breeding

assessment for their dog at the national show, particularly in the working dog category, should be proud of themselves and their dog.

In addition to the National Champions' Breeding Show/World Championship/World Championship, other main club events have already taken place in various categories. Further events will follow this autumn. Here, our German Shepherds have demonstrated, and will continue to demonstrate, their versatility.

We should take pride in the many achievements of our four-legged friends and their handlers. It is this versatility and these achievements in particular that we should focus on. The changes resulting from the National Assembly's decisions are well known and do not need to be repeated. The online mating certificate has been particularly well received and has drawn positive feedback.

A working group led by me is currently exploring the possibility of developing an alternative to Schutzdienst. This group was formed after Schutzdienst was banned in Austria, as a precaution in case something similar happens in Germany.

Under no circumstances would we abolish or replace Schutzdienst without good reason. I am also currently in close contact with the scientific community with regard to various issues, including gender diversity and the genomic inbreeding coefficient. This will also provide insights into possible hereditary diseases. We also plan to use our DOxS database to show the ancestry loss coefficient of each dog. This information will be useful for breeders. However, I will report on this in detail in the SV Magazine before the measure is implemented.

Yours truly, Bernd Weber, SV Club Head of Breeding