



Dear Readers,

By the time you get your hands on this issue of the SV Magazine, some of the most important SV club events will already be history. With the National Champions' Breeding Show/World Championship, the National Performance Herding, but also the National Champions' Test, the WUSV World Championship and the National Champions' Test for Specialised Dogs/International Championship, we were able to experience excellently organised spectacles and great performances by our four-legged friends. I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of these major events.

On Monday after the National Champions' Breeding Show, I attended the WUSV General Assembly as a delegate of SV. There, the working dog judges also present the VA groups. Last year the atmosphere was tense and some delegates were very argumentative, but this year it was a very harmonious event.

I think that the dismissal of the well-known lawsuit at the court in Augsburg has finally brought clarity about the legitimate election of the SV and WUSV presidents.

At the General Assembly, in a good exchange of views, forward-looking decisions were made for the benefit of the WUSV member countries and our German Shepherds.

One example is the revision of the WUSV breeding programme. WUSV board member Roberto Caputi Sr worked with me to prepare and deliver a presentation for the assembly entitled 'Think globally, act locally'. It was made clear to the members of the General Assembly that SV does not want to act alone, but wants to find a common consensus within WUSV. On the occasion of the 125th anniversary of SV and the 50th anniversary of WUSV, this is a good path and was unanimously supported by all delegates.

With regard to the National Champions' Breeding Show, there have been repeated criticisms that the stadium in Nuremberg is far too large for our event and that it does not have the appropriate atmosphere. I can assure you that we are looking for alternative solutions. But it is not as easy as some people may think.

The breed clubs – all of them, by the way – still have a difficult road ahead of them in terms of legislation on dog ownership and event requirements.

Let us all work together to ensure that we present a positive image of our German Shepherd to the outside world through our responsible behaviour, whatever form it takes.

Yours truly,

Bernd Weber, SV Association Breeding Inspector