



Dear Readers,

As you read these lines in the current issue of the SV Magazine, we are approaching the end of our 125th anniversary year. We can now look back on events after all the national competitions in the various disciplines have taken place. Having attended all the IGP performance events and the National Champions' Breeding Show/World Championship, I would like to praise all the hosts and thank the organisers and participants.

The fascination of our hobby often goes far beyond our borders. If you take your time at an event and let the impressions sink in, you will be proud of what we have achieved together. In today's fast-paced world, it is not easy to dedicate so many hours to volunteering and maintain the motivation to do so. On top of that, there are more and more demands from the regional veterinary offices, which makes it more difficult to organise events.

Fortunately, the legal dispute regarding the continuation of SV in the WUSV has been settled, so we can once again pull together and put our energy into the tasks ahead of us.

One of the main tasks will continue to be the implementation of the Animal Welfare Dog Ordinance. At present, there are varying degrees of requirements imposed by regional veterinary offices on the organisation of SV events. We are all responsible dog owners and often bring our pets to competitions, even if they are not actively competing, and ensure that they are properly cared for, housed and organised. Due to the sometimes difficult conditions, some dog owners may decide not to attend an event because they cannot organise a place for their four-legged friend to stay.

We also have new FCI Test Regulations in the pipeline that will come into effect next year. We will organise training courses for judges before the end of this year and communicate the changes and updates in the January issue of the SV Magazine.

Looking back on the year from a performance point of view, I can proudly say that our SV members were once again very successful and that the German Shepherd was very well represented both nationally in comparison with other working dog breeds and internationally. Once again, SV handlers and their German Shepherds were able to assert themselves at the VDH German Championship, demonstrating that our German Shepherds are very capable working dogs when compared to other breeds. Internationally our club can also look back on a very successful time. In the last three years alone, the SV team has secured a place on the podium and the title of Vice World Champion at the WUSV World Championship. The same success can be seen in the field of tracking dogs, both nationally and internationally.

Even though the time for Christmas wishes is a little early, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and stress-free end of the year and a lovely holiday season.

Yours truly,

Wilfried Tautz
Association Head of Training