

Dear Readers,

When you find the extra-large special edition of the SV Magazine with all the judge reports from the National Champions' Breeding Show and the National IGP & Agility Champions' Test waiting in your postbox, you'll know: it's December, and Christmas is just around the corner. But before another eventful year comes to an end, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all our club members who are involved in *Verein für Deutsche Schäferhunde (SV) e.V.* on a volunteer basis.

From day-to-day work in the local groups to the many activities and jobs at our events – without your helping hands, none of this would be possible. You all dedicate your time, energy, knowledge and passion for SV: for German Shepherds, the sport, the breed and the community. This makes you the best ambassadors for our association. Every day, your work gives people a reason to be members of SV. And to stay members. You are role models, mentors and esteemed fans of the sport. And we want to thank you for that as well, because all of you make up the heartbeat of our organisation, and you have earned a bit of rest over the holidays.

And this past year has shown something else: the greatest potential for SV lies in the breed itself. The range of our events with German Shepherds alone shows the diversity of our four-legged friends, who aren't referred to as 'the decathletes' among the dogs for nothing. Let's use this potential: for breeding, for example, but also to inspire people – young and old – to gain in-depth knowledge in dealing with dogs and to be active in the sport. Because at SV, we offer all of that! Everyone can do their part. And that includes making German Shepherds visible to the public and remembering what reliable partners they are and what strong character they have.

We wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a wonderful time with your families. Enjoy it, and make plans for the new year. Because next year too, there will be a lot to experience and do – both for and with our Germans Shepherds.

We look forward to everything that awaits us.

The SV Board

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