

Information WUSV Member Clubs for Character Testing and Character Test Judge Recognition

Introduction of Character Testing in the WUSV member countries and recognition of Character Test Evaluations abroad

The General Annual Assembly of the Verein für Deutsche Schäferhunde (SV) e.V. decided in May 2019 that the SV Board of Directors shall be authorized to decide about proposals from WUSV member countries in terms of the recognition of character test evaluations, provided that all relevant requirements in this respect are complied with.

Full recognition of character test evaluations from abroad by the SV for the purpose of breeding, breed surveys and breed shows is only possible if the character test judge from the WUSV member club abroad was trained in accordance with the respective rules that apply in Germany in this respect.

Requirements for Applicants

1. The applicants must be fully-fledged judges for trial or breeding in their respective national WUSV member clubs.
2. The applicants need to be registered with the SV by their national clubs prior to their character test training. The following details are required:
 - Complete Address
 - Date of Birth
 - Confirmation of the judgeship
3. The applicants may not be older than 70 years.

Requirements for Training:

Prior to the training of the character test judges, the WUSV member clubs must implement the examination regulations for character testing into their respective statutes.

Training Course:

The training course includes one seminar and following this, three practical examinations with a total of 20 dogs.

The training course can be held in terms of a weekend seminar (Friday, Saturday, Sunday) covering both, the theoretical and the practical part. The training may only be chaired and carried out by a character test judge from the SV. The character test judges for training shall be appointed by the SV Board of Directors. Depending on the number of applicants it might be necessary to appoint more than one training judge for a training course.

The proposal must be submitted in a timely fashion by the WUSV member club and requires the approval of the SV Headquarters office for the official judge release for the training course, including the practical examinations.

The dogs presented on such an occasion will be granted the rating of an SV character test evaluation. The event shall be judged by an SV character test judge, the second SV character test judge functions as an observer who accompanies the trainee during the practical examinations and who offers support while the trainees work on their assessments.

In case that a weekend seminar is not an option for a training course, the training can be split, e.g., one day for the theoretical seminar and one practical examination, and further seminar days for the other two practical examinations.

The training course and practical examinations can also be held in Germany by a character test judge previously allocated by the national SV breeding warden for this assignment. In

this case the proposal for the training course must be submitted to the SV headquarters office in a timely fashion as well.

Training courses in Germany shall be organized and schedules be published in a timely fashion if demand proves to be sufficient. In case that you would like to use this option, please kindly let us have your list of applicants for reservation purposes.

Every applicant is obligated to fill in an evaluation sheet for every dog he or she examines and grant a ranking at the end of the exercise. Within the period of seven days a short report covering the event and the complete evaluation sheets of the examined dogs must be made available to the SV character test judge in charge.

The SV character test judges verify the evaluations submitted by the trainee judges and inform the SV headquarters office about their assessment.

Training Seminar preparations in the Home Country:

You will be informed about the details and requirements for the training course seminar by the SV headquarters office upon receipt of your proposal hereof. Following this the SV headquarters office will provide for a release notification of the SV character test judges. Please note the following in this respect:

For the performance of the character test judge training course the event organizer must provide for a computer with WINDOWS 10 and a printer.

The registrations must be submitted at the SV headquarters office prior to the training course for the relevant entries. A fee will be charged by the SV amounting to 40,00 € for dogs in the age between 9 months and younger than 13 months per participant.

For dogs older than mentioned above an additional fee amounting to 100,00 € will be charged for special permit and for the recognition of the evaluation.

Once the complete data of the participants will be found complete after the deadline for submission, the event organizer and the SV character test judges will receive a respective file by electronic mail.

The event organizer and all applicants will also receive a tool installer for character testing purposes on their computers than is only usable for the purpose of the training course. Once the input of the separate data file has been completed, the event organizer can print out the evaluation sheets on site the training seminar venue. A complete evaluation sheet showing all relevant data of the dog and the dog's owner must be made available to the SV character test judge and to the applicant of the training course.

Once the training course respectively the practical examinations have been finalized, the SV character test judge transfers the complete evaluation via the tool for character testing to the SV headquarters office.

The data will then be published in SV-DOxS and made available to all interested parties.

Approval Procedure:

After having successfully completed the training course, the applicants can be appointed National Character Test Judges by their national club.

In addition to that a proposal for recognition of the national character tests can be filed with the SV. The proposal must include a sample of the entry of the character test evaluation into the pedigree in accordance with the national system, a sample of the evaluation sheet as well as the respective implementation of the regulation for character testing in your organization. Once this procedure is finalized, the SV decides about the recognition for breeding, breed surveys and breed shows in Germany.

The recognition of the character test judges ends when reaching the age of 70 years analogous to the respective requirements as laid down in the SV judge regulations.

The WUSV member clubs shall report their still active character test judges to the SV on an annual basis.

The approval can be withdrawn by the SV in the event of an important reason.

National character tests that are not based on the SV examination regulation for character testing or with national character test judges who have not been trained in accordance with the above-mentioned scheme, cannot obtain unlimited recognition by the SV.

In such cases, a proposal can be filed with the SV headquarters office that aims at the recognition for the purpose of participation at a breed show in Germany, and to obtain the recognition of the national breed survey in the home country. In such a case the SV board of directors decides whether all requirements for recognition have been complied with.

Usage of the Scheme for Character Testing

National character tests judges who are recognized by the SV are entitled to use the scheme for character testing. However, this requires a usage agreement between the WUSV member club and the SV which is subject to an annual fee. Upon request the SV gladly provides for a respective offer.

Bernd Weber
SV National Breed Warden