

Josef Vonarburg
WUSV-Head Judge

Report Head Judge - WUSV-World Championship UNIVERSAL 2024

Triengen, in May 2024

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The WUSV-Board of Directors entrusted me with the task of head judge on the occasion of this year's WUSV-World Championship UNIVERSAL 2024 in Semur en Auxois in France. I would like to give thanks for the appointment and for the trust placed in me.

The French WUSV-Member – the *Club du Chien de Berger Allemand (CCBA)* – invited the world to Semur en Auxois where the event was hosted. The competition was scheduled from May 03rd to May 05th, 2024, and thus a little earlier than other events of this kind. For some of the WUSV member countries this led to a problem in terms of the scheduling for their national qualification trials in this respect.

The excellently maintained sporting facility offered the best conditions for the IGP examinations from the very first to the last day – despite the poor weather conditions. The same applied for the adjacent sports field on which the female dogs were shown on Friday and the male dogs followed on Sunday. The size of the stadium offered enough seatings for the visiting audience. A mighty tree avenue that leads to the stadium provided shade and offered enough space for nice and cool parking lots for the dog handlers. A tent was available for the drawing and catering. The culinary offer was added by different food- and refreshment stands. On Saturday night a festive dinner was held in a nearby banqueting hall.

The WUSV-World Championship UNIVERSAL 2024 was carried out by the CCBA in collaboration with the local vocational school and technical college (Maison Familiale Rural). We will remember the many and highly motivated children well, who were employed in the field of technical support and culinary services. All of them contributed to the good success of the entire event. Just a perfect project. Thank you very much and congratulations to the CCBA, the MFR and the entire team around Olivier Geiss for the organization and management of the WUSV-World Championship UNIVERSAL 2024!

A total of 12 Nations with 45 teams were registered to the competition. The group of participants consisted of 24 teams presenting male dogs and 21 teams presenting the female dogs. In total, 17 female dogs were classified. For the male dogs, the number of failures were a bit higher – only 14 dogs achieved their objectives. The failures were based on disqualifications from the event and failed examinations in sections A and C. The event schedule was set up in a fashion that every team still had to pass examinations in sections A, B or C on Sunday. Thus, the event remained exiting until the very end.

The following judges were employed: Section A, Marinus Bastiaansen/Belgium, section B, Peter Mayerl/Austria, section C, Daniele Strazzeri/Germany, and the Show Part, Jean Vollenweider/Switzerland. Furthermore, Manfred Drescher from Germany was employed as tracking commissioner and Maurice Merkle from France was responsible for the down position exercise. All judges performed their work in an even fashion with sound judgement and sensitivity. Thank you very much for this great achievement.

The two helpers Adrien Georg (in part 1) and Thomas Cassier (in part 2) both worked in a very fair fashion during the protection work exercises. They encouraged the dogs' performance in an even manner and in doing so provided the necessary support for the judge's evaluation of the protection work examinations.

The following places were gained:

Male Dogs

Place 1	HUN 1 Ms. Klaudia Toth	Bijan vom Land des Stolzen Löwen
Place 2	FRA 1 Mr. Jerome Robert	Popeye du Normont
Place 3	GER 2 Mr. Hans Werner Steup	Klark vom Dreisbachtal

Female Dogs

Place 1	SUI 1 Ms Tanja Lutz	Chicca vom Haus Vax
Place 2	GER 5 Ms. Jasmin Kretzer	Inside Out vom Haus Vax
Place 3	FRA 4 Ms. Léa Torras	Ostine du Domaine de Fontblanche

Teams

Place 1	Germany
Place 2	Switzerland
Place 3	France

The WUSV-World Championship is a very good example for international cooperation based on sports which succeeded perfectly with all member countries present. This was my firsthand experience in my position as Head Judge to the event. I do now very much hope that a constructive solution will be found on the political stage as well, with the aim to continue the wonderful history of the WUSV under the leadership of the mother country of the breed for the empowerment of the presence of German Shepherd Dogs all over the world.

Triengen, May 2024

Josef Vonarburg
WUSV-Head Judge