

SCHEDULE 05E(28) – REGULATIONS FOR GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG SPECIALIST CHAMPIONSHIP SHOWS

(Effective 01.10.2026)

1. LICENSING AND SHOW REGULATIONS

The Regulations and other matters governing Shows are set out in Schedule 03 and Schedule 04 of the KUSA Constitution. These Regulations apply to German Shepherd Dog (GSD) Specialist Shows insofar as they are relevant and not in conflict with the terms of this Schedule 05E(28).

2. SCOPE OF THE LICENCE

- 2.1 Only GSD Specialist Clubs (with either Championship or Non-championship Show-holding status) that are in good standing with KUSA, and are affiliated to the German Shepherd Dog Liaison Council (GSDLC) may host a Schedule 05E(28) German Shepherd Dog Specialist Breed Show.
- 2.2 All GSD Specialist Breed Shows will be held under the provisions of this Schedule and all such Shows must be graded Shows with or without Critiques.
- 2.3 A Double Ring is required for a GSD Specialist Championship Show.

3. HOST CLUB

Any KUSA-affiliated Club in good standing with KUSA and the GSDLC may host a GSD Specialist Championship Show.

4. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- 4.1 All GSDs entered in the Show are to be judged as presented on the day. Veterinary Certificates, attesting to the condition or physical attributes of a dog may be taken into account.
- 4.2 GSDs that are on the KUSA Primary Breed Register or Appendix Breed Register are eligible for entry. Dogs on the KUSA Breed Appendix Register may be graded, but are not eligible to be placed in the Show.
- 4.3 Pregnant or lactating bitches are not allowed to take part in the Show should they be forty-two (42) days or more into pregnancy or less than forty-two (42) days post whelping.
- 4.4 The mating of bitches within the precincts of the Show is forbidden
- 4.5 It is a condition of entry that all Exhibitors abide by the rules pertaining to double handling and attraction from outside the ring:
 - 4.5.1 No more than two (2) persons may attract the dog during the critiquing process.
 - 4.5.2 No live animals of any kind may be used to attract the dog's attention.

- 4.5.3 No equipment associated with protection work such as whips, armguards, bite sausages, protection suits, real or fake firearms may be used for the purpose of attraction at any time.
- 4.6 The Show Manager's decision pertaining to the above is final.
- 4.7 Before any dog enters the ring, it shall be positively identified by microchip and checked against the Show Catalogue in the marshalling area. This duty shall be performed by an ID Regulator/Marshalling Steward appointed by the Host Club on the day.
- 4.8 In cases where positive identification is not possible (i.e. where no microchip can be detected) the dog's details must be recorded on the GSDLC Identification Discrepancy Form and the Form signed by the Registered Owner/Authorised Agent of the dog before entering the ring. The copy of the Form must be lodged with the Host Club Show Secretary on completion of judging.
- 4.9 In cases of microchip detection failure, the Registered Owner of the dog shall have sixty (60) days within which to re-microchip the dog and inform both KUSA and the Host Club of the dog's new microchip number.
- 4.10 The Host Club Show Secretary must forward a copy of the signed Identification Discrepancy Form to the GSDLC and the KUSA Office.
- 4.11 Awards/qualifications/prizes won on the day may be suspended by the Host Club until such time that the Club, the GSDLC and KUSA have been provided with proof of implantation of a new microchip.
- 4.12 All dogs re-entering the ring for Awards must be re-identified via their microchip number before re-entry.

5. COMPETITION BY OFFICIALS AT TRIALS

- 5.1 A Judge appointed for a GSD Specialist Breed Show may not enter or handle a dog in his ownership or care in the Show at which he is officiating.
- 5.2 A Show Official (e.g. Show Secretary Trial Manager, Steward, Marshall, etc, but excluding the Judge and Judge's Steward) may enter, exhibit or handle a dog at any KUSA licensed event held at the same venue under the same or a different licence, on the day that he is officiating, provided:
 - 5.2.1 The Class(es) he is officiating for must take preference at all times.
 - 5.2.2 At no time may the Class(es) he is officiating for be stopped or halted in any way so he may compete elsewhere. Where necessary, a substitute official must be nominated to carry out the relevant duties until such time as the Official returns to their post, i.e. the Trial Secretary steps away from his duties temporarily.

6. JUDGES

- 6.1 Judges will be required to judge the GSD in accordance with the FCI Breed Standard No. 166, as adopted by KUSA.
- 6.2 Only Specialist Judges meeting the following requirements may judge at a Show held under this Schedule:

- 6.2.1 Any qualified German Shepherd Dog Specialist Judge in good standing with KUSA and the GSDLC.
- 6.2.2 Any Specialist German Shepherd Dog Judge recognised by FCI-affiliated National Canine Organisations (NCOs).
- 6.2.3 A qualified KUSA All-breeds Judge (under the “7 Group Classification under KUSA”), a KUSA Working Group Judge (Level 4) or a FCI Group 1 Judge who has attended additional webinars/seminars hosted by the GSDLC, and deemed appropriate and in good standing with KUSA and the GSDLC, or a suitably qualified international Specialist GSD Judge.
- 6.3 The Host Club may invite more than one Judge and split judging responsibilities by Sex or by selected Classes.

7. GUN-SURENESS

- 7.1 All dogs entered that are over 12 months of age shall be subject to a Gun-sureness Test.
- 7.2 The ‘gun’ used must be a suitable starter’s pistol, electronic starter’s pistol, cap gun, blank pistol or suitable gunshot simulator app. Under no circumstances may live ammunition be used. Effective ear protection must be worn by the person firing the gun, e.g. earmuffs, headphones or earplugs (inserts).
- 7.3 The gun may not be discharged closer than 15 meters from the dogs being tested and must be fired at least twice.

8. CLASSES

- 8.1 Classes for this Show shall be as defined in Schedule 03 Appendix 1 (Definition of Classes).

CLASS NAME	DESCRIPTION
BABY PUPPY	For dogs of four (4) and under six (6) months of age on the first day of the show.
MINOR PUPPY	For dogs of six (6) and under nine (9) months of age on the first day of the Show.
PUPPY	For dogs of nine (9) and under twelve (12) months of age on the first day of the Show.
JUNIOR	For dogs of twelve (12) and under eighteen (18) months of age on the first day of the Show.
GRADUATE	For dogs of eighteen (18) and under twenty-four (24) months of age on the first day of the Show.
OPEN	For dogs over twenty-four (24) months of age on the first day of the Show.
VETERANS	For dogs over eight (8) years of age on the first day of the Show. The owner is allowed to enter the Open Class if he so chooses.

- 8.2 The Open Class may be split, at the discretion of the Show Hosting Club, into the following categories (upon which the Open Class is not listed):

CLASS NAME	DESCRIPTION
IMPORT	For dogs over twenty-four (24) months of age on the first day of the Show that were not born in Southern Africa and imported therein from any country outside the jurisdiction of the Kennel Union of Southern Africa.
SA BRED	For dogs over twenty-four (24) months of age on the first day of the Show that were born in Southern Africa, south of the Limpopo River.

WORKING	For dogs over twenty-four (24) months of age on the first day of the show with any of the following minimum qualifications: Class "A" in Obedience, CD, FCI-IGP 1 in Working Trials, BWT or TT2/TT2.
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** The Classes described in Regulations 8.1 and 8.2 are the only ones that may be awarded Gradings during the Show.

The following Classes may be added to the Show but will not be eligible for Gradings but will be eligible for Critiques:

CLASS NAME	DESCRIPTION
NEUTER	For dogs of any age that have been castrated/spayed for any reason whatsoever (not eligible for CC or BOB). Note: Separate Classes for Dogs and Bitches

- 8.3 It must be clearly stated in the Show Schedule that the Show shall be a Grading and/or Critiquing Show.
- 8.4 The Baby Puppy Class needs to be presented last in the Show.
- 8.5 Classes will run in age order, alternating females first (Stockhaar then Langstockhaar) and then males (Stockhaar then Langstockhaar), i.e. Minor Puppy females, Stockhaar followed by Minor Puppy female Langstockhaar, followed by Minor Puppy males, Stockhaar and Minor Puppy males, Langstockhaar, thereafter proceeding to the next age Class.
- 8.6 Clubs are entitled to provide additional awards such as Best Puppy in Show, Best Junior in Show, Best in Show and Best Opposite Sex to these awards. Should these awards be included, the first-placed dog in each Class at the Show, in that category, may be presented, but should a dog have a higher Grading than its competitors, the dogs with the highest Gradings are to be considered only.

That is to be interpreted as follows: The Show has the following Classes to be considered for Best in Show – SA Bred, Working, Import and Veteran. Of the eight (8) classes available, four (4) dogs received Excellent Show Gradings, three (3) received Very Good Show Gradings and one (1) received a Good Show Grading. For this award, only the dogs that received an Excellent Show Grading may be presented for the Best in Show.
- 8.7 The males and females from each Class are presented together, males first, for the purposes of the Best in Show categories.
- 8.8 Best in Show awards need to be awarded to Stockhaar and Langstockhaar separately

9. GRADINGS

9.1 Grading definitions for GSD Specialist Judges and Working Group Judges (Level 4) accepted by the GSDLC

Application of criteria for the awarding of a GSDLC Gradings to exhibits at GSD Specialist Shows are as follows:

AGE	GRADING (Acronym)	GRADING	DESCRIPTION	IN ADDITION, FOR GSD
4-12 Months	VP	Very Promising (Vielversprechend)	May be awarded to a puppy under 12 months of age who already at this young age shows, although not fully developed yet, that it comes very close to the ideal standard of the breed. Must be in excellent condition and show typical characteristics, have complete dentition and be of well-balanced proportions. Minor imperfections may be ignored.	
4-12 Months	P	Promising (Versprechend)	May be awarded to a puppy under 12 months of age which, already at this young age, and although not yet fully developed, shows typical features of its breed. A few minor faults may be tolerated but none of a morphological nature.	
4-12 Months	LP	Little Promising (Wenig Versprechend)	May be awarded to a puppy under 12 months of age which, already at this young age, and although not yet fully developed, shows that it possesses the main features of the breed, however, showing faults and provided that these are not concealed.	
Over 12 Months	V	Excellent (Vorzuglich)	May only be awarded to a dog which comes very close to the ideal standard of the breed, which is presented in excellent condition, displays a harmonious, well-balanced temperament, is of high class and has excellent posture. Its superior characteristics in respect of its breed permit that minor imperfections can be ignored, it must however have the typical features of its sex.	• Faultless, gapless, healthy dentition • May have slightly level bite, but without wear • Double Premolar 1s allowed • Proof of HD: C2 or better, ED: 2 or better • Firm outgoing character with Gun-sureness • Acceptable size limits, Dogs max 67 cm and Bitches max 62 cm
Over 12 Months	SG	Very Good (Sehr Gut)	May only be awarded to a dog which possesses the typical features of its breed, which has well-balanced proportions and is in correct condition. A few minor faults may be tolerated, but none of a morphological nature. This award may only be granted to a dog that shows class.	• Not quite correct scissor bite • Missing one only Premolar 1 or Molar 4 or Incisor • Firm outgoing character with Gun-sureness • Slightly worn teeth, not due to age
Over 12 Months	G	Good (Gut)	Is to be awarded to a dog that possesses the main features of its breed, however, showing faults provided these are not concealed.	• Missing two only Premolar 1s or one only Premolar 2 • Missing one only Premolar 1 plus one only Incisor • Missing one only Premolar 3 • Missing two only Incisors or two only Premolar 2s • Missing one only Premolar 2s plus one

				only Incisor • Firm outgoing character with Gun-sureness
Over 12 Months	S	Sufficient (Genugend)	Must be awarded to a dog which corresponds adequately to its breed, without possessing the generally accepted characteristics or whose physical condition leaves something to be desired.	
Over 12 Months	I	Insufficient (Nicht Genugend)	Is given to a dog that presents any disqualifying faults.	• Missing one only Premolar 3 plus one further tooth • Missing one only Canine or one only Premolar 4 • Bite Level or Undershot or Overshot • Character that is not firm and outgoing, Gun-shyness
Over 6 Months	NG	Not Graded (Ohne Bewertung)	This Grading is to be given to any dog of which it is impossible to assess the gait and the movement, or a dog that avoids being examined by the Judge and makes it impossible to inspect teeth, anatomy and structure, tail or testicles. This Grading is also to be given if traces of operations or treatments can be observed, which seem to indicate that the exhibitor wanted to deceive the Judge.	

9.1 Grading by Class

CLASS	AGE GROUP	GRADING THAT CAN BE AWARDED
Baby Puppy	4 months to 6 months	Very Promising, Promising, Little Promising, Ungraded
Minor Puppy	6 months to 9 months	Very Promising, Promising, Little Promising, Ungraded
Puppy	9 months to 12 months	Very Promising, Promising, Little Promising, Ungraded
Junior	12 months to 18 months	Excellent (with official HD and ED presented), Very Good, Good, Sufficient, Insufficient, Ungraded
Graduate	18 months to 24 months	Excellent (with official HD and ED presented), Very Good, Good, Sufficient, Insufficient, Ungraded
Open	Over 24 months	Excellent (with official HD and ED presented), Very Good, Good, Sufficient, Insufficient, Ungraded
Import	Over 24 months	Excellent (with official HD and ED presented), Very Good, Good, Sufficient, Insufficient, Ungraded
SA Bred	Over 24 months	Excellent (with official HD and ED presented), Very Good, Good, Sufficient, Insufficient, Ungraded
Working	Over 24 months	Excellent (with official HD and ED presented), Very Good, Good, Sufficient, Insufficient, Ungraded
All other classes		Ungraded

9.2 Size Definition for reference

Dogs (cm)	Bitches (cm)	English Description
60-61	55-56	Small
61-62	56-57	Under Medium Size
62-63	57-58	Medium Size
63-64	58-59	Above Medium Size
64-65	59-60	Large
65-66	60-61	Very Large
Above 66	Above 61	Over Size



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