



KUSA GSD Liaison Council Chairman's Report 2020

I would like to thank the committee for the support I have received since I have been elected at the Special General Meeting held on 22 August 2020.

After being part of the initialisation of the formation of a GSD Liaison Council in 2013 and the tireless work that went with this, the GSD Liaison Council had its Inaugural Meeting on the 15.11.2014, where I was elected to the office of Secretary.

I served on the Council until I resigned as Secretary in August 2018. Hence, it is a big honour to now chair the Council and continue the work John Rautenbach, as initialising founder, and Chairman from 2014 until 2018 has done.

At the last AGM in October 2019 the participating Club Representatives did not elect a Chairman and up to the SGM called by Fedco/Exco, sadly the Council lost all momentum gained.

The SGM re-installed a Chairman and adopted an updated version of its founding constitution.

So now we go back to work....

I am excited about the growth we are showing.

The GSD registrations have gone up considerably and from 1.1.2018 until end of September 2020 KUSA registered 689 dogs! This means that our breeding stock and therefore our gene pool will get a major boost as these dogs will be old enough to be used for breeding within the next 2 years.

Here I must specially mention those breeders that joined KUSA recently. New breeders and those who were breeding under the GSDFSFA for years or even decades. Welcome!

On top of that I also want to mention the formation of the new GSD Specialist Clubs promoting the breed, breed shows and trials in their area.

The formation of the Liaison Council was a very good decision, as the German Shepherd Dog, its breeders and owners are much better represented in the KUSA structure than without.

2 years ago, the then Club Representatives to the Council agreed unanimously to recommend the introduction of new breeding requirements to Fedco. Fedco agreed and implemented the same.

Sadly this decision has not been communicated by all Club Representatives to their club members and breeders, so after “robust discussions”, Fedco decided to postpone the implementation of the working qualification as a breeding requirement, but to leave the show grading in place. Dogs used for breeding born after 01.01.20 will require a show grading BEFORE they can be mated. This brings me to a point of concern, where obviously a lot of communication must be done from the Council:

Breeding requirements are to be fulfilled before the mating, and not after the litter registration application has been sent to KUSA office. Breeding requirements are also applicable for accidental matings!

KUSA will review the current HD/ED assessment/score (review) process, to make sure that our gene pool does not contain dogs that should not be there or where dogs, that should be there are missing.

On the national scene, while the GSDF is still appealing court decisions regarding KUSA as the only Government recognized Registry, KUSA (after approval from the FCI Asia, Africa & Oceania Section) has decided to register all GSDFSA bred dogs on the KUSA Primary Register (and no longer in the Appendix Register). This should show the GSDFSA fraternity that we welcome them and their dogs and realize that South Africa's gene pool needs these dogs.

Internationally, a court in Germany has decided that the SV must be allowed to send judges to the GSDFSA (and other WUSV Members that have no recognition under the FCI), but these judges are not allowed to award any FCI qualifications (e.g. IGP1) at any non-FCI event. On 16 October 2020, the FCI issued Circular 45/2020 which sets out the position relating to FCI Judges and KUSA has also published a notice relating to KUSA-licensed Judges.

The VDH directive in question was violating competition law which means *de facto* that KUSA can also apply for the services of SV judges for shows and trials.

I am looking forward to seeing many dogs at our breed shows and entering our trials and also to encourage the GSD Liaison Council to welcome more breeders and GSD owners.

Thanks for your support!

Sandra Brunner

