

Körordnung (SV Breed Survey Rules) in English

Translation © by Fred Lanting

2009 revision of Körordnung (previous version was 2007, and 1997 before that).

Changes highlighted.

Körordnung Fassung 2009 Augsburg-Hauptgeschäftsstelle --- Inhaltsübersicht

2009 edition/revision

1. General

2. SV– Nature of the survey

- 2.1 Köramt (HQ survey office)
- 2.2 The Körmeister (breed survey master)
- 2.3 Survey administration — regional club jurisdiction
- 2.4 Körzeit (Time of survey)
- 2.5 Legal issues

3. Requirements for breed survey participation

4. Activity & conduct of the local clubs, and...

Duties of the Kör (survey) manager

- 4.1. Requirements for the local club
- 4.2. Equipment
- 4.3. Survey manager's duties

5. Registering for the breed survey

6. At the survey (Ankörung)

- 6.1 Temperament test
- 6.2 Gunsureness test
- 6.3 Protection [courage] test
- 6.4 Measurements: heights, weights, etc.
- 6.5 Standing exam and movement evaluation
- 6.6 Reports, Confirmations

7. Körung (the survey)

- 7.1 Körklasse 1
- 7.2 Körklasse 2
- 7.3 Final Körklasse (re-survey)
- 7.4 Postponement of re-survey -- one year
- 7.5 Unsuitability for the Körung
- 7.6 Lifetime or length of time Körung is effective
- 7.7 Completion of the breed survey

8. Survey certificates and survey record book

1. General

The Verein für Deutsche Schäferhunde (SV) e.V. [Club for GSDs Inc.] is the parent club for the breed, and has responsibility for it and its Standard, which is acknowledged by the German (VDH) and international (FCI) Kennel Clubs. The *Körordnung* [breed survey regulations] of the SV serve the advancement of the controlled breeding of the German Shepherd Dog race in both varieties: the “*Stockhaar*” (straight-haired, medium length topcoat) and the “*Langstockhaar*” (longer topcoat but also with undercoat), and regulate the overall breed survey. They are a permanent part of the SV rules, and obligatory for all members. The purpose of the *Körordnung* is to select from the breed registry a number of dogs which in their character, performance, and anatomical construction appear to be suitable for the conservation and improvement of the breed.

2. SV - Nature of the survey

2.1 Köramt (survey office)

The Kör (survey) office prepares the annual survey scheme (deadlines, reporting local chapters, acting Körmeisters, survey regions, etc.). All evaluation reports from the various survey districts are recorded in that office, and are examined and documented for form and accuracy. The Köramt produces the survey certificates and annually publishes all surveyed dogs in the Körbuch (survey record book).

2.2 The Körmeister (breed survey master)

For the implementation of the breed survey the SV requires an experienced conformation judge as Körmeister. The Körmeisters have no legal right to annual employment in breed surveys. The choice and employment of the Körmeister is done by the respective Landesgruppe (region). The jurisdiction of arranging for these teacher-helpers for the breed surveys lies with each Landesgruppe's executive committee.

2.3 Survey administration — regional club jurisdiction

The regional and/or local jurisdiction of the breed survey shall be delegated from the SV headquarters to the SV regions and/or local chapters.

2.4 Time of survey

The survey season [in Germany] extends from the 1st of March to the 30th of November each year. The presentation of a dog for the breed survey is possible once in this period.

2.5 Legal issues

2.5.1 The owner of a dog scheduled for the survey's tests must be a current member of the SV. The eligibility of the dog ends with the withdrawal of the owner's membership in the club.

2.5.2 Survey jurisdiction

The location of the dog's residence determines which breed survey it participates in (where the Körung is performed); that is, in the owner's region (Landesgruppe). Local club (Ortsgruppe) membership determines which region that is. If a person holds membership in several local clubs, regional membership is determined by the main place of residence. Members who belong to no local clubs are assigned to a region based on principal place of residence. Breed survey masters (Körmeister) are free to choose or approve of Körung locations in all regional groups.

2.5.3 A dog that is the property of a person listed as being permanently barred/suspended from the studbook can neither be shown in a breed survey by him personally nor by any other person.

2.5.4 The decision of the acting Körmeister is final. An objection against it is not permitted. 2.5.5 At the survey of a dog, any and all damage claims by any party involved (owner and/or outsider) resulting from an *Ankörung*- (conformation measurement/survey) decision or an *Abkörungsentscheidung* (performance) decision regarding any dog will explicitly not be allowed.

2.5.6 Responsibility: The owner of a dog is responsible for any damage attributable to his dog.

3. Requirements for participation at breed surveys [see note below re Körung in Germany]

- The Körung is appropriate only for German Shepherd Dogs registered in the breed book of the SV, and which have coats classified as "Stockhaar" or "Langstockhaar mit Unterwolle" (translation: "straight topcoat hair" or "long straight topcoat" -- both requiring wooly undercoat). In the year of the Körung they must be at least two years old;
- Proof at least a SchH-1 or IP-1 *Prüfung* (test) under an SV *Leistungsrichter* (performance judge); including at least 80 points in section C, the courage and protection phase;
- Proof of an AD examination under an SV judge;
- "a"-stamp for hips, shown in the *Ahnentafel* [certified SV pedigree. Translator's note: an equivalent issued in another country where the dog resides is satisfactory];
- ED stamp for elbows also in the *Ahnentafel* (if born after 01.01.2004, required starting in the 2008 show season);
- Proof of a minimum quality evaluation of "Good" under an SV judge.

Further conditions:

- Sick dogs may not be shown;

- The Körmeister must be informed of bitches in season; this determines when that dog will participate;
- The dog must be identifiable in regard to a legible tattoo, microchip reading, etc.

4. Activity of the local clubs

4.1 Requirements of the local club:

- Large training ground with ancillary premises and sanitary facilities
- Trained members in sufficient number
- Typewriter or word processor.

4.2 The club must have or obtain:

- Assistant/steward and typist/secretary for the Körmeister
- Sufficiently large ring
- Public address system
- SV-approved measuring devices [for height at withers and depth of chest]
- Tape measure
- Weight scale
- 2 starter's pistols with sufficient ammunition
- Number vests for the dog handlers.

4.3 Duties and responsibilities of the Körung manager:

- Timely delivery of the registration forms
- Examination of documents for completeness and accuracy
- Information given to the Körmeisters regarding the receipt and standing of the entries
- Establishing a catalog-like list of contestants and their dogs and bitches, for repeat and new breed surveys
- Submission of the individual dogs' examined documents to the Körmeister before the beginning of the breed survey
- Confirmation of entrants' SV memberships

5. Registering for the breed survey

The entry for the breed survey has to be received by the local Kör managers at least seven days before the scheduled survey as indicated in the survey announcement and entry form. By the day of the breed survey at the latest, the following documents are to be presented:

1. Original Ahnentafel [SV pedigree and performance record]
2. Conformation show cards and scorebook

3. If at the repeat survey, the first survey's certificate
4. Proof of completion of any specified requirements remaining from the first survey

The maximum number of dogs admitted for one breed survey day is 50. In case of an entry of more than 50 dogs a further survey day (or half-day) is to be added on the same weekend. [In practice, preference is normally given to dogs going for their *Lebenzeit* (second and lifetime) survey.]

6. At the survey (Ankörung)

6.1 Temperament test

Each dog is to be subjected a temperament test by the Körmeister. The examination of the dog's character can be made during the over-all breed survey. According to the Standard, the dog has stable character, i.e., in particular he is impartial and unaffected, self-assured, with firm nerves, and amiable and peaceful.

6.2 Gunsureness test

From a distance of at least 15 steps, at least two shots are to be fired from a starter's pistol (6 mm *or* .22 caliber); the dog has to behave indifferently [is not bothered, cowed, or nervous because of it; joyfully expecting to do bitework, such as when a whip is cracked with similar sound, is O.K.].

6.3 Protection/Courage test [this rule version effective since 1997]

To help in the protection phase of trials in his Landesgruppe, the Körmeister is available as a teacher-assistant.

Conduct:

I. The attack from the blind

1. The handler reports with his accompanying dog to the Körmeister.
2. On order from the Körmeister the dog handler takes 30 steps from a place marked as the starting position toward the hiding-place, with his dog off leash.
3. The leash is draped around the handler or put in his pocket.
4. On command from the Körmeister the dog handler proceeds, with his dog heeling off-lead, in the direction of the hidden helper.
5. The dog should heel tightly.
6. On command from the Körmeister, the helper comes out of the blind and undertakes an attack as if to drive off the dog handler and dog, or he may initiate this himself if the dog or dog and handler are found to be 5 steps from the hiding-place.
7. The dog must immediately, surely, and energetically fend off the attack by applying a firm and full-mouth grip.
8. When the dog has grasped, it receives from the helper two blows with a padded stick upon thighs, sides, or the area of the withers.
9. To encourage the dog's defense against the attack, encouragement by the dog handler is allowed.
10. Upon command from the Körmeister, the helper discontinues the attack and stands still quietly.
11. The dog then (independently or on the audible signal "Aus!") must let go and [appear to] hold the helper

“spellbound” [by its gaze and perhaps barking a warning not to move].

12. The dog handler is given the order from the Körmeister to approach his dog.

13. He leashes his dog and receives the order from the Körmeister to step into a certain hiding-place [momentarily, to prepare for the next attack].

II. Defense of an attack from a distance

1. The handler is called out from the hiding-place by the Körmeister and goes with his dog to the assigned position [at a central place at one end of the field].

2. The dog is taken off-leash and may be firmly held by the collar.

3. The dog has to be restrained in this position, until it is later sent with the audible command “Voran!” in the defense of the next attack.

4. The helper leaves his hiding-place upon a signal from the Körmeister, and crosses, at a normal pace, to approximately 70 to 80 steps distance from the dog handler.

5. The dog handler yells something at the helper; for example, “Stay where you are!”

6. The helper disregards this warning, and commences a [running, threatening] frontal attack on the dog and handler.

7. As soon as this attack begins, the Körmeister immediately gives the dog handler the signal for their defense.

8. The dog handler immediately sets his dog in action with the audible signal “Voran!” and stands still.

9. The dog should very eagerly and energetically grab with a firm, full, sure, and steady grip in order to avert the attack [on its handler].

10. When the dog has gripped, the helper must give it a short pressing [threaten with the stick] without hitting and then, as instructed by the Körmeister, discontinue the struggle.

11. Thereupon, the dog must let go independently and/or on the audible signal “Aus!” and must hold the helper by threat.

12. Upon a signal from the Körmeister, the dog handler approaches his dog at a normal pace and in a direct way, and attaches the leash.

13. The dog handler heels his dog to the Körmeister, to report to him before being allowed to leave the field.

III. Identity control

Before the team departs from the field, the Körmeister [or an assistant] must note the registered tattoo number.

IV. The appraisal/evaluation

1. The release of the bite

1.1. After discontinuation of the helper’s attack, the dog should let go independently.

1.2. The dog handler can independently give the first voice command, “Aus!” after an appropriate time.

1.3. If the dog did not release after the first voice command, the dog handler receives the order or signal from the Körmeister for up to two further audible commands to let go of the sleeve.

- 1.4. When giving the “Aus!” command, the handler must stand steady, without otherwise directing the dog.
- 1.5. Should the name of the dog be used, that will be considered as a separate command to release [let go of the sleeve].
- 1.6. If the dog independently releases [“outs”] when being retrieved by the handler, this also can be considered as a legitimate release. The dog handler however must be at least five steps away from the dog.
- 1.7. If the dog, either independently or upon audible signals, properly outs in the first attack [from the blind] and also in the [long] attack “from ambush” it receives the official notation of *lässt ab* (“lets out”).
- 1.8. If this “out” does not happen, even if in only one case, the dog does not receive the notation of “lets out”.
- 1.9 The Kör evaluation is not awarded or publicized at that time [but is kept by the Körmeister until later].
- 1.10. The Körmeister stays relatively close to the dog handler during the entire courage test and closely observes the conduct of dog and handler until the conclusion when the dog is picked up.

2. Appraisal of the *Triebveranlung, Selbstsicherheit und Belastbarkeit* (TSB) [drive, self-confidence and ability to handle stress]

- 2.1 The overall rating for the courage test will be one of these graded evaluations: “pronounced”, “sufficient”, or “insufficient”.
- 2.2 Pronounced (*Ausgeprägt*): Self-confident, very eager, purposeful, with sure grasp and retention of the grip; no negative reactions to the blows; close and attentive watching in the guarding phase.
- 2.3 Sufficient [Present] (*Vorhanden*): A little restraint [or less eagerness], e.g., in the areas of self-confidence, determination, the grip, and reaction to the stick, as well as in the guarding phase.
- 2.4 Insufficient (*Nicht genügend*): Lacking in self-confidence, very limited concerning ability to handle stress, and/or lacking in focus on the helper.

*I inserted the following three points here, even though they are not actually part of the Körung. **Supplemental determinations for the courage test at the German Sieger Show (an addendum):***

1. Two teacher-assistants from the Landesgruppen serve as aides for each courage test at the disposal of the Körmeister.
2. Announcement of the respective results is to be given over the microphone directly after completion of each courage test.
3. Upon completion of the courage test the tattoo control number is obtained [confirmed] by a judge authorized by the Körmeister. The judge will be made available by the Landesgruppe having jurisdiction.

6.4 Measurements and weights

The measurements for weight, depth of chest and chest diameter can be taken by the Körmeister or his authorized helper or Körung manager; the withers measurements are taken by the Körmeister.

6.5 Standing Exam and Movement Evaluation

During this inspection the Körmeister prepares the Körbericht (breed survey report). The dog is to be presented to him for this exam without substantial help [hand-posing, etc.].

6.6 Reports, Confirmations

After the conclusion of the respective breed survey of each dog, the Körmeister gives his report on the loudspeaker. The owner of the dog will receive from the Körung manager a confirmation signed by the Körmeister. This contains the results of the breed survey and the evidence that it and the pedigree will have been sent to the SV headquarters.

7. Körung

7.1 Körklasse 1 (Kkl-1)

The Körklasse-1 is the highest breed qualification, i.e., a classification of dogs that are recommended for breeding. In Kkl-1 will be the dog that corresponds to the image of the breed [meets the Standard]:

- a) in height, weight, and anatomical construction;
- b) in its entire conduct, i.e., self-assurance, calmness and expression, has “TSB”: pronounced attitude of drive, self-confidence and loading capacity [ability to handle pressure]; and has flawless, complete dentures, though double P-1 premolars are permissible.

7.2 Körklasse 2

Dogs included in the rating of Kkl-2:

- a) with minor defects in the anatomical area;
- b) with measurement over or under the limits of withers height by up to 1 cm;
- c) with TSB fighting drive (*Triebveranlagung*), self-confidence (*Selbstsicherheit*), and ability to handle pressure (*Belastbarkeit*) in the courage test evaluated as being *Vorhanden* [“present” or “sufficient”];
- d) missing: one P-1 premolar *or* an incisor; *or* two P-1s, *or* one P-1 and an incisor, *or* a P-2, *or* a slight off-bite (level, even, pincer bite) of the center incisors.

7.3 Final Körklasse (Re-survey)

The possibility exists for the owner of a dog given a Körklasse-2 in its first or subsequent Körung to have this upgraded (at the earliest, in the subsequent year) by the same Körmeister. A deviation is only permissible with consent of the Körmeister, who determines that the dog has made the improvement for the impending survey. The desired Körklasse upgrade from first or repeated survey is possible only one time.

7.4 The re-survey deferment (postponement) of one year is permissible if:

- a) the body has not yet developed as expected in order to permit a re-survey;
- b) in the conduct of the dog or at the examination for fighting drive, self-confidence, and hardness (TSB), a status of being qualified for breeding has not yet been reached;
- c) the deferment is because the reevaluation is possible only once. A dog unsuccessful the second time is not suitable for the purpose of the survey (which is, to determine breed worthiness).

7.5 Unsuitability for the Körung The following defects exclude a dog from the Körung:

- a) considerable anatomical defects;
- b) Oversize or undersize of more than 1 cm;
- c) Testicle fault [missing, unequal size];
- d) Tooth defects [also see chart at the end of this document]; an absence of:

one P-3 [third premolar] *or*

two incisors *or*

one P-2 plus one incisor *or*

one P-2 plus one P-1 *or*

two P-2s

e) Dogs with considerably faulty pigment

f) Longcoated dogs (Langhaar or Langstockhaar) **that are lacking undercoat.**

7.6 Lifetime or length of time Körung is effective

7.6.1 The new breed survey and the survey after interruption [i.e., if the repeat is not done in time] are good for two years at most. During the second calendar year (Kör season) of the time the survey is good for, the dog must be presented for the second survey.

7.6.2 The second survey results are for life (“Lebenzeit”).

7.6.3 A Kör class upgrade does not extend the original Kör class effective duration.

7.6.4 A surveyed bitch heavy in whelp in the year of the impending second survey, can be given extra time for resurvey: a further year without demonstration of being qualified to breed (gekört). If this is the case, then on the day of the scheduled survey, there must be shown:

- The certificate of mating indicating the gestation period to date is at least 42 days.
- Certification from the responsible local breed warden re the visible pregnancy.

The same [extra time] consideration is given for nursing bitches, if not more than 42 days between whelping date and scheduled survey. No other reason for extension of the breed survey is possible.

7.7 Completion of the breed survey: If a surveyed dog does not make the second survey, the original breed survey ends with the conclusion of that calendar year. [Must start all over again.]

7.7.1 The breed survey ends if the surveyed dog is sold to a non-member, except that the buyer is given up to three months to join the SV.

7.7.2 The breed survey term of a dog whose owner is excluded from the SV as a result of a club’s criminal proceedings ends with the day on which the expulsion decree attains legal force.

7.7.3 The breed survey can end, become invalid, through the process of revocation. This comes about through a recommendation by a Körmeister or conformation judge to the Köramt [survey office at HQ]. A “hold” can be put on the process of recording the survey results for whatever time is necessary to iron out any possible problems.

8. Survey certificates and survey record book:

For a fee, a certificate (*Körschein*) for the breed-surveyed dog is prepared by the *Köramt* [survey office at the SV’s HQ]. It will take some weeks for this and the original pedigree to be returned to the owner of the dog after the breed survey summary is added. The owners of dogs not successful at the survey likewise get back their original pedigree after the time it takes to process the report. On the pedigree the reason for the non-survey is noted.

These dogs are annually listed in the SV’s survey record book [*Körbuch*] **by coat variety (Normal,**

Langhaar or Langstockhaar) [detailed above] and by sex. The Körbuch includes a statement about the dog's classification called "recommended for breeding" (Kkl-1) as well as those "suitable for breeding" (Kkl-2). These concern anatomical construction as well as character. With the statements by the Körmeisters about breeding recommendations, this makes an inclusive and indispensable reference book for the earnest breeder.

On the effective date of these survey rules (2009), all earlier versions become invalid. *This concludes the rules for the breed survey (Körung). This translation is prepared and copyrighted by Fred Lanting. All rights reserved, but permission to reproduce will be granted if approved biographical information is appended to any such publication.*

more notes from Fred:

SV and the long-coated GSD

In July 2008, there was an announcement that SV & FCI had signed an agreement to permit the showing of "long-stock coated" GSDs as a legitimate variety of the breed. The German word "stock" can best be transliterated as "stiff, straight, and harsh" and refers to the normal topcoat hairs seen in the typical coat of this breed. The "long-stock coat" has the same straight, harsh texture as the normal, historically accepted coat. The decision was made that these dogs were to be "re-integrated" into the breed. In the summer of 2009, it was announced that long-haired GSDs (with the "long-stock" coat) could be shown, but only in their own shows or classes. It is to have its own Stud Book and its own Körung. It will not be permitted to be shown at the BSZS. Matings between the long-coat and normal-coat dogs would not be approved (their offspring not registrable). Of course, when long-coated dogs are born to dogs whose coats are of normal length (as has happened since before the SV was formed), those individuals would have to be registered as longcoats.

Note: As of 01.01.2010, the changes in rules referring to microchips likewise apply to the long-haired dogs, subject to the permission of the FCI.

SV Kórordnung and Zuchtordnung, revised 2009: <http://www.schaeferhund.de/site/index.php?id=571>

4. Zuchtwert und Zucht voraussetzungen

Die Zucht des Deutschen Schäferhundes ist nur innerhalb der Varietäten der Haararten "Stockhaar" und "Langstockhaar mit Unterwolle" erlaubt. Eine Verpaarung von stockhaarigen mit langstockhaarigen Hunden mit Unterwolle ist nicht gestattet. Hunde aus derartigen Verbindungen können keine Aufnahme in das Zuchtbuch finden, lediglich in das Gebrauchshunderegister.

translation: The breeding of German Shepherd Dogs is permitted only within the coat varieties, viz., the "stock hair" and "long stock hair with undercoat." Both varieties have mostly or all straight topcoat hair. A mating of normal-length (stockhaarigen) with long-coated (langstockhaarigen-with-Unterwolle [undercoat]) dogs is not permitted. Dogs from such pairings cannot be admitted into the studbook (breed registry), only into the working-dog register.

According to the SV Kórordnung (breeding classification rules), a person cannot get an SV breed survey done on a dog unless the AD and at least one SchH title are awarded by an SV judge. Clarification in a letter from SV to me: "*June 13, 2003: Dear Mr. Lanting, Concerning your inquiry, we want to inform you that a dog must have passed [at least one of] the trials under an SV judge only if the dog is presented for a breed survey in Germany. If the dog takes part in the breed survey in the States, it has to meet the requirements of USCA or WDA. Please note: a dog whose owner resides in Germany cannot be presented for breed survey outside of Germany. Furthermore, we must inform you that training degrees which have not been passed under an SV judge are not sufficient for breeding in Germany.*" Thus, if you want to exhibit your dog anywhere under an SV judge, and get internationally-recognized awards, it must have the Körung (breed survey) and SchH or IPO (IP) title as described above.

As a postscript, comments on tooth faults follow on:

The Judging of Tooth Faults in Conformation Shows and Breed Surveys

Classification

Kkl-1, VA (Vorzüglich-Select)

Kkl-1, V (Vorzüglich, excellent)

Kkl-2, SG (Sehr-Gut, very good)

Kkl-2, G (Gut, good)

Not eligible for a Kör classification,
but still may get a “G” in a show ring

“U” (Ungenügend, Insufficient) and blocked from the registry

Conditions

Flawless bite, complete dentures, no broken* or defective teeth or large gaps, no extra (double) teeth.

Flawless bite, complete dentures, no large gaps; (double P-1s, and tooth broken accidentally are allowed).

Missing one P-1 premolar or an incisor**

(double P-1s, and accidentally broken teeth are allowed).

Missing two P-1s; *or*

one P-1 *and* an incisor; *or*

one P-2 **

Missing one P-3; *or*

two incisors; *or*

one P-2 *plus* one incisor; *or*

one P-2 *plus* one P-1; *or*

two P-2s;

Absence of: one P-3 *and* any other tooth; *or* one fang (canine); *or*

one P-4; *or*

one M-1 (1st molar); *or*

one M-2; *or*

a total of any three teeth.

* See rule change of 1998, allowing for exceptions due to non-genetic causes.

** In puppy classes at shows, the judge *may* give “Promising” to either condition, but for breed surveys and adult show classes, the maximum rating is as above. Puppies are eligible for these show ratings: Very Promising,

Promising, Less Promising, and Faulty.

Other Tooth and Jaw Defects

Over- and Under- bites:

Obviously undershot or overshot (the latter being the separation of top incisors standing in front of the bottom ones by the thickness of a matchstick or greater): the dog is not allowed to be listed in the registry.

Imperfect bite (Aufbeißen, off-bite)

A slight off-bite (level, even, pincer bite) of the center incisors can be allowed in Kkl-2.

Caries (tooth decay) disqualifies from the breed survey.

Worn down and discolored:

If due to age, it is considered in the judgment, but with no major downgrading. If teeth have turned slightly yellow or brown, but if the tooth is substantially O.K., Kkl-2 is possible.

Change in SV Breed Show Dentition Rules

Note: This is my translation of the Dentition Rules the SV announced in August 1998. The “dental notation” can be done anywhere, any time, by certain authorized people. The purpose is to provide proof of normal dentition in case disease or accident causes loss before the dog is presented for a Körung (the official record being the Körschein).

The SV concluded this year’s [1998] conference on changing the breed show rules concerning the Ahnentafel (“official pedigree”-registration paper) and regarding damaged (broken) or missing teeth. This is the new wording of section 4.3. of the breed show rules:

Environmental influences that lead to damage to a portion of the teeth, or to their entire absence, have no consequence for breed evaluation awards (such as show placings or Körung). However, it is required that the former presence of healthy, strong teeth and/or a flawless scissors bite be confirmed and noted on the Ahnentafel. The proof to be given the studbook office can be as follows:

(Check-list for establishing dentition registrations)

1. Submission of a dog show judgment [critique and results] and the scorebook, in which a conformation judge has described and confirmed the totality and [former] presence and sufficiency of healthy, robust teeth and a flawless scissors bite determined by personal examination. This is done after the dog has reached the age of 12 months.
2. Submission of the breed survey certificate (Körschein), in which were recorded the dentition and bite status at the time of the survey.
3. The submission of a radiograph together with a certificate by an SV-certified HD veterinarian, or a veterinary dentist approved by the SV. On the radiograph, parts of the root or at least the tooth socket must be shown.

Directives to Veterinarians regarding certification for tooth faults, and X-ray requirement for the entry in the Ahnentafeln: Unfortunately it frequently occurs that veterinary certifications of damaged or missing teeth are inadequate in description. Until the necessary statements about the Ahnentafel registration exist, taking much time, this can be very vexing to the owners, who are not allowed to exhibit their dogs! We therefore had to put together the most important points for you to certify, in the form of a checklist:

* Complete name of the dog on the pedigree: obvious and legible

* SZ number (SV Zuchtbuch/studbook), on the pedigree

* Tattoo number: in the right ear, agreeing with that on the pedigree

* Give the status of any dentition problem:

- Tooth is broken off, chipped, etc.
- Tooth with root is missing completely (due to environmental, non-genetic) influence)
- Tooth had to be extracted (give reason)

* Cause of the tooth fault

* Position reference (right/left, top/bottom) please imagine yourself behind the dog, to determine which is right or left side

* Description of teeth: Please pay attention to the correct designation (P1, P2, etc.)

* X-rays: Requirement for the entry in the Ahnentafel:

Tooth faults in the GSD occur often, even though it may be that dogs are completely free of tooth faults for many generations. Inheritance plays a role in the congenital tooth fault, but loss or damage acquired later in life through environmental influences plays no role in determining the breeding value of the GSD or for its descendants. Before the extraction of a tooth, a radiograph must be made in each case. It is a requirement for recording the missing tooth in the Ahnentafel of the dog. The stud-book office of the SV acknowledges radiographs only by certified HD veterinarians or from approved veterinarians specializing in dentistry. Please note, at the establishing of the radiograph, the following:

* Do the X-ray before the extraction!

* Clearly mark: "right" or "left"!

Still another note: Teeth that do not emerge completely from the gum (or are not normally developed) generally have no designation in the Ahnentafel. Veterinary certifications and radiographs therefore are necessary only for damaged or extracted teeth, whose absence is a result of non-hereditary, outside influences.

Translation and added notes © Fred Lanting, Mr.GSD@netscape.com This notice must appear on all reprints and postings, and all such use must have specific permission from the author. Fred has years of experience as an SV Zuchtrichter (conformation judge) and is an author of books on the GSD and on Orthopedic Disorders, among others.