

GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF VICTORIA INC.

ABN 78 395 029 707 - Reg No: A0018463W



*'My Shepherd, My Friend,
My Responsibility'*

Club and Breed Information Sheet

The German Shepherd Dog Club of Victoria Inc. (GSDCV) has produced this document to assist you in deciding whether a German Shepherd Dog (GSD) is the right dog for you and your family and to inform you of the services that the club provides.



The GSDCV is the official custodian of the breed in Victoria and along with the other State Clubs is affiliated with the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia (GSDCA). Together, these organisations work to safeguard the development of the breed in Australia through the various national breed improvement schemes. The GSDCV promotes both responsible dog ownership and responsible dog breeding and offers many services to members. The GSDCV is the largest single breed club in Australia today and has a long and strong history of which we are justly proud.

The German Shepherd Dog is a large, active and very intelligent breed which thrives on companionship. It is essential therefore that all prospective owners are prepared to cater for the dog's need for exercise, attention and mental activity. The GSD is known throughout the world for his loyalty, trustworthiness, intelligence, courage and a calm and good-natured temperament. These qualities make him ideally suited to training, plus a wonderful friend and companion.

BREED DESCRIPTION

The German Shepherd Dog is a strong, active, very intelligent, loyal dog making him an ideal family companion. He requires socialization, training and regular exercise to make him a good canine citizen.

The German Shepherd is a medium sized breed with male dogs standing between 60-66cms high at the withers and weighing between 30-42 kgs, bitches stand about 55-61cms at the withers and weigh 22-32 kgs. Having a double coat they do tend to shed and require a regular (weekly) brush/comb to remove loose hair.

The German Shepherd is also a working dog and as such is responsive to a wide range of training. He is employed in many roles including sheep herding, police, search and rescue and guide dogs for the blind. German Shepherd Dogs also currently serve with the Australian Defence Forces.

BUYING A PUPPY

Many people buy a cute little puppy without considering the future consequences of a much larger adult dog. In the right home that puppy will be a loved family member. It is a sad fact we destroy well in excess of 100,000 dogs each year in Australia.

All dog buyers must carefully consider the exercise, fencing, shelter and particularly the socialization and training requirements of a new puppy. Are you prepared to find the time in your busy schedule to accommodate

the demands of this new family member? You need to remember that this little puppy will, in a relatively short time become a much larger adult with a lifespan of approximately 10-14 years.

The initial purchase price is the commencement of outlay. Believe it or not a puppy can be quite costly over the course of its lifetime. You will need to budget for vaccinations, worming, food, council registration fees, membership fees etc. and the possibility of Veterinary expenses that can become quite high, sometimes running into the thousands. We recommend you purchase your puppy from a breeder who complies with the GSDCV Code of Ethics using the GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes to assist as a safeguard towards good health and more importantly the sound character and temperament of your future family companion (see below). You will find a list of puppies that have been bred via these breed improvement schemes on the GSDCV website.

If you do go ahead and decide to purchase a puppy you must commence the puppy's socialisation and training from day one. This is essential. It is recommended that you join the GSDCV or another obedience dog



club to assist you. The GSDCV has eleven training grounds situated in both metropolitan Melbourne and country Victoria. GSDCV membership is inexpensive and a great way to meet people who share your interest.

BREED IMPROVEMENT

The Breed Survey scheme is the cornerstone of breed improvement. Prior to breeding, each animal is presented to a panel of qualified Breed Surveyors who assess its breed value as compared to the Breed Standard. To be classified as suitable for breeding the animal must be considered above the breed average, both physically and temperamentally. Animals that cannot achieve successful classification are not recommended for breeding. Prior to submitting to a Survey each animal must have passed the Hip and Elbow Dysplasia schemes and in certain cases the Haemophilia Scheme. This dedication by the GSDCV/GSDCA breeders has been responsible for the continued improvement of both the quality and health of the German Shepherd Dog, not only in Victoria but also Australia wide.

GSDCV ACTIVITIES

The GSDCV offers various training at branches throughout Victoria. Training starts with puppy class and then progresses to basic obedience to give you sufficient control of your dog. Certain branches offer additional training in areas such as showing, tracking, agility, and Demonstration Team Handling. Various publications, lectures and film nights are provided to help promote knowledge and an understanding of the breed. The GSDCV also runs fun day competitions and other fun social activities throughout the year.

TRAINING

The GSDCV **"Promotes Responsible Dog Ownership by the Socialisation and Training of the German Shepherd Dog"**. Puppies from eight weeks of age can begin their socialisation and training at one of our training branches, however dogs of any age can always start training and owners can receive instruction in the training of their dog. Our club has eleven branches, ten of which are obedience based and one which is solely for the training for those members who show their dogs or to put their dog through Breed Survey. Branches teach Responsible Dog Ownership so that handlers are aware of local dog laws. If you wish to commence training your German Shepherd then after finding out about the branch nearest you, both you and your dog would be most welcome to join our club and train at one of the listed branches.

WHERE CAN YOU SEE THE GSDCV?

The GSDCV regularly attends various local council Pet Expos and Shows, Dogs Victoria pet expo activities and the Royal Melbourne Show. At these events you will find a GSD breed stand, can see GSD's performing demonstrations and take the opportunity to interact with the dogs and ask questions.

Puppy Listing Service

Contact the GSDCV on (03) 9517 1702 to locate breeders with German Shepherd Dog puppies that have been bred via the GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes. Check the GSDCV website under 'Puppies' for details of each currently available litter, along with a series of FAQs that will help answer many of your questions

Please visit one of our training branches*

BALLARAT

Sundays 10.00–11.00am
Moreshead Park,
Pleasant Street, Ballarat.
Melways Map 509 A12

EASTERN:

Sundays 10.00–11.00am
J. W. Manson Reserve,
Selkirk Ave, Wantirna.
Melways Map 63 J3

GIPPSLAND:

Saturdays from 10.00am
Canal Reserve,
Punt Lane, Sale.
Melways Map 528 G6

NORTHERN

Saturdays 2.00–3.00pm
Bundoora Park,,
Bundoora.
Melways Map 19 F4

WODONGA:

Sundays 9.30–10.30 am
Wodonga TAFE,
87 McKoy Street, West
Wodonga.
Melways Map 922 E6

SPECIALIST SHOW TRAINING:

Sundays from 12.00pm
KCC Park, 655 Westernport
Highway,
Skye. Melways Map 128 H12

BENDIGO:

Sundays 10.00–11.00am
Longlea Recreation Reserve,
McIvor Highway, Longlea.
Melways Map 509 F3

GEELONG:

Sundays 9.30–10.30am
Elcho Park, Lara.
Melways (pre no 30) 221 D6

MALVERN:

Sundays 9.30–10.30am
Darling Park, Basil Street
(enter via Stanley Grose Dr)
Malvern East. Melways 60 A11

SKYE:

Sundays 10.00–11.00am
KCC Park,
655 Westernport Highway,
Skye. Melways Map 128 H12

WESTERN:

Sundays 9.30–10.30am
Green Gully Reserve,
Green Gully Road,
East Keilor. Melways 14 E7

**Please Note – training grounds may close during the Summer School Holidays*

Branch websites – each branch's websites with specific contact details can be accessed from the GSDCV website

For all the latest GSDCV News, Events, Training Locations and Contact details

www.gsdcv.org.au

Our website contains extensive information on the GSD, puppies, events we attend, training details and current news about the club and the breed

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