



# Shep-O-Gram

German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis/St Paul

April 2022

## Shep-O-Gram

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We are entering our busiest time of year. We have our first Agility Trial weekend of the year in April and zoom into May with the Tending Clinic followed by the Specialty Shows and the Scent Work Trial in June.

On April 16 the first Breeder's Education program will be held at Kubistraum (Verna and Jinny's place) with Bob Drescher and Mike Metz presenting a program on the German Shepherd breed standard. This will be great for anyone to attend, not just breeders. Complete information has been sent out by our club Secretary, Sheila Metz. Please read her highly informative e-mail for a complete understanding of how beneficial this will be for all GSD enthusiasts.

Remember to document the various titles your dogs obtain so we can enter the GSDCA's Regional Challenge. Amber Danielowski has offered to submit the information to the parent club later this year. She is preparing some information for the Shep-O-Gram on what she will need from you. You may remember that when we participated in this competition in the past we tended to win every year in our division.

I am hoping to have some short training tips from Terry Berg, our Training Director by the time I get the May Shep-O-Gram out. I also plan to have some information on aromatherapy.

Terry Berg has taken on the chair position for the fall obedience/rally trial and Cynthia Curran has volunteered to help with paperwork. So we will have a trial! They will need volunteers and helpers. Our trials have been the only Obedience and Rally trials in Minnesota limited to German Shepherds. GSD only was affirmed and reaffirmed by vote of the membership over the years since the trial was separated from the conformation specialty. This separation is still in a trial period for this year. Looking forward to another great trial.

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April 9 Membership Meeting at the Animal Inn or by phone

# **Upcoming Events**

**April 1-3 Spring Agility Trial - On The Run -Ham Lake**

**April 8 New training starting**

**April 8 Membership Meeting-Animal Inn and electronically - watch for the agenda**

**April 16 Breeders Education Program - Kubistraum**

**April 23 Ron Halling Workshop - Animal Inn**

**May 13 Membership meeting**

**May 14-15 Tending Clinic Swans Farm Stanchfield, MN, for information on tending contact Cynthia Curran [cyncurran@gmail.com](mailto:cyncurran@gmail.com)**

**May 22 Ron Halling Workshop - Animal Inn**

**May 27 No TRAINING**

**June 3-5 Specialty Show Dakota County Fairgrounds Farmington**

**June 10 Membership Meeting**

**June 11-12 Scent Work Trial Cannon Valley Fairgrounds, Cannon Falls. Premium available on [GSDCMSP.org](http://GSDCMSP.org) web site**

**July 23-24 Agility Trial Maple Grove**

# How To Read Dog Body Language

By Stephanie Gibeault, MSc, CPDT



Shared from the  
AKC web site

Deciphering dog body language is an important part of communicating with your canine. Dogs use posture, facial expressions, and other body language to communicate. Understanding your's dog body language is a key aspect of responsible ownership.



Dog body language involves a series of unique methods for communicating emotions and intentions. It can be quite different from how humans communicate.

A lot of canine communication consists of barks, whines, and growls, so it's important to know what dog sounds mean. More often, though, dogs rely on nonverbal body language. That can lead to plenty of human-dog misunderstandings. Sometimes, dog body language is simply unfamiliar (after all, people don't have tails). At other times, it's in direct contrast with what that same signal means to a human, such as with yawning or looking away. To better communicate with your canine companion, learn some tips on reading dog body language.

## Tail Wagging

Tail wagging seems like an obvious body language signal. If a dog's tail is wagging, the dog is happy, right? Wrong. People misinterpret this signal all the time. All a wagging tail means is that the dog is emotionally aroused. It could be excitement, but it could be frustration or worse. To interpret the dog's emotions and intentions, look at the speed and direction of the wag as well as the position of the tail.

Basically, the faster the wag, the more aroused the dog. Think about those long, slow, side-to-side tail sweeps your dog makes when greeting you — the type that wag the dog's whole body. That's a relaxed dog. A faster twitch-like wag indicates a higher level of arousal and possibly in a negative way. Think of a guard dog on alert.

The direction of the wag may hold clues as well. A recent study on tail-wagging showed that dogs tend to wag more to the right when they feel positive about something, like interacting with their owner. Tails wagged more to the left when dogs faced something negative. Then, there's the helicopter tail wag where the dog's tail spins in a circle. Without question, that's a happy wag. You'll usually see it when a dog is greeting a beloved person.

Finally, the position of the dog's tail relative to the ground holds important clues about their emotional state. Essentially, the higher the tail, the more assertive the dog. Dogs with their tails pointing down to the ground or even tucked between their legs are feeling fear and stress. Dogs with their tails held up like a flag are feeling confident, perhaps even aggressive. Relaxed dogs hold their tails in a neutral position, but neutral depends on the breed. Some breeds, like Chow Chows, have tails that naturally curl over their backs whereas breeds like the Italian Greyhound have a very low neutral tail position. If you get to know your dog's neutral tail position, you will more quickly recognize when their emotions have shifted.



## Raised Hackles

When a dog's hackles are raised, it means the hair along their back is standing up. Technically called piloerection, the fur can fluff up across the shoulders or down the back and all the way to the tail. This is a definite sign that the dog is aroused, but not necessarily in a negative way. The dog might be upset or stressed but could also be excited or intensely interested in something. It's often an involuntary reaction, like goosebumps in people.

## Posture

A dog's weight distribution can tell a lot about mood and intention. Consider a cowering dog that is hunched toward the ground. That's a sign of fear or stress. The dog may be trying to get away from something and the posture makes the dog appear smaller. In other words, it says, "I mean no harm." The extreme of this posture is a dog that rolls onto their back exposing the belly. This may look like a dog soliciting a belly rub, and in a relaxed dog, it often is. But it can actually be a sign of considerable stress and anxiety. The dog may even urinate a little in appeasement.

The opposite posture is a dog with his or her weight shifted forward. This dog is trying to get closer to something. This might simply indicate the dog's interest. But it could also indicate offensive intentions, particularly paired with other aggressive body language cues like a twitching tail held high. In this case, the dog is trying to appear larger.

An easy-to-read aspect of dog body language is the play bow. This is when dogs place their chest on the ground with their rump in the air. As the name implies, it's used to initiate play with other dogs and even with people.

A less easily understood signal is the paw raise. In the pointing breeds like the English Setter, the paw raise is part of pointing behavior where the dog indicates nearby prey. But outside of this context, a raised paw often indicates a dog is uncertain about a situation or perhaps feels a bit insecure.



## Facial Expressions

Dogs have similar facial features as people, but they don't use them in the same way. Consider yawning. People yawn when they're tired or bored, but dogs yawn when they're stressed. According to Turid Rugaas, author of *On Talking Terms With Dogs: Calming Signals*, dogs use yawning to calm themselves in tense situations and to calm others, including their owners. She suggests yawning at your dog to provide comfort at stressful moments like a vet visit. But don't be surprised if your dog yawns back. Just as yawning is contagious in people, dogs can "catch" yawns too.

Lip-licking is another bit of dog body language that people often misinterpret. Just like people, dogs will lick their lips after a delicious meal, but they will also do it when they feel anxious. Sometimes the tongue flick is so quick it's tricky to notice. Your dog isn't signaling a desire to lick your face, but rather discomfort with a given situation.

The most confusing facial expression is smiling. Yes, some dogs smile, and if you're not familiar with the expression it can look terrifying. Usually, when dogs bare their teeth, it serves as a warning, as if they're saying, "Look at my weapons." It's hard to mistake the aggressive intention of a snarl, especially when it's paired with a menacing growl. The corners of the dog's lips form the shape of a C and the front teeth are fully displayed.

Smiling dogs also display their front teeth, but the meaning is the complete opposite. Also known as a submissive grin, this expression is often found on a happy dog with a loose and wiggly posture. The dog's overall attitude says, "Hello, I come in peace."



## Eyes

You can learn a lot about your dog's internal state by looking at the eyes. First, a dog's eyes can be soft or hard. Soft eyes have relaxed lids and sometimes look like the dog is squinting. They indicate the dog is calm or happy. The opposite is hard eyes where the eyes seem to go cold. These indicate a negative state of mind, and you'll know them when you see them. The dog might be guarding a toy or feeling aggressive. A hard stare, where the dog looks intently at something, especially for a long time, usually signals a threat.

Eye contact is an important signal for dogs. Just as the hard stare can be a precursor to aggression, looking away is meant to calm a situation. When dogs feel stressed, they will pointedly look away and avoid eye contact. People often interpret this as their dog ignoring them or being stubborn, but the dog is expressing discomfort.

The whites of the eyes are another key indicator. Known as "whale eye", when a dog shows the whites of the eyes, it's a signal they are feeling anxious or stressed in a situation. You might see them when you make your dog uncomfortable, like when you pat your dog on the head, or when they're afraid someone will steal a bone or toy.

## Deciphering Dog Body Language

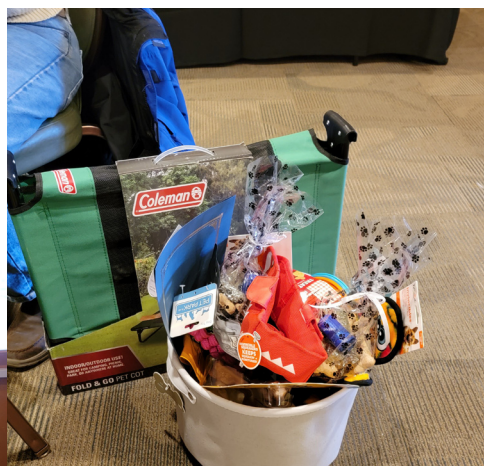
None of these dog body language signals act alone. They are all part of a package. So, when you read a dog's communication, look at every signal the dog is using from the tail height to the eye shape. Your dog is "talking" to you all the time. If you learn what your dog is saying, you will develop a deeper bond of trust and respect. Plus, your newfound understanding of your dog's emotional state will help you predict your dog's behavior and prevent problems before they occur.

# Awards Banquet



We had another great banquet planned by Ann Jeddelloh. President Bo Vujovich presided. There was a great raffle with lots of dog related prizes. One of the favorites was dubbed the butt hanger, a rack for leashes that could be hung from the tails of several dogs. Julie Swinland was honored for past achievements and efforts to help the club. She also gave out the Presidents Awards for 2021 presented to:

- Ann Jeddelloh- Board and Food committee
- Andrea Lane - Lead trainer
- Cynthia Curran-Tending
- Rhonda Meath-Agility and classes
- Ron Halling Training the trainers, Workshops, dog walks
- Mary Bente -Board and helping with events
- Carol Ouhl -VP, match, and helping at events
- Laura Meyer-Treasurer and raffle queen
- Laurie Schray- Head of food committee and trophy donations
- Linda Koestler-secretary, webmaster
- David Mielke Herding, D Course designer
- Mike Metz.- Board, Specialty Chair, Google Docs, PayPal etc.



The "Big Kahuna" basket, part of the raffle. Sheila Metz one this big prize.



Music by Tom Erickson



Over 40 people were registered for the banquet this year.



The Peggy Douglas Award given to our club by the GSDCA. It is engraved with the statement; Presented to the GSDC of Minneapolis and St. Paul. For special achievements to promote the total dog, encouraging new membership and juniors, with training performance classes, matches, educational programs and fund raising activities. 2021.





## STUDY FINDS

# Early Spay-Neuter Surgeries in German Shepherd Dogs Increase Risk of Joint Problems

For the past three decades, there has been a trend toward early spaying and neutering of dogs for reasons such as avoiding unwanted breeding and reducing some diseases such as mammary and prostate cancers. Some people believe that spaying and neutering helps to avoid behavioral problems. The impact has been dramatic, with an estimated 85 percent of dogs in the U.S.<sup>1</sup> currently being spayed or neutered.

Breeders have an important role in helping puppy buyers determine at what age to neuter or spay their dog. They may require puppy buyers to neuter or spay their dog to avoid indiscriminate breeding, thus their recommendation is key in helping owners decide when to spay or neuter their German Shepherd Dog.

A retrospective study evaluating the long-term effects of spay-neuter surgeries in German Shepherd Dogs, published in

2016 in the journal *Veterinary Medicine and Science*, may change breeders' views about the safest age to recommend the procedure. The study reported a significant increase in cranial cruciate ligament (CCL) tears, or ruptures, in male and female German Shepherd Dogs neutered before 1 year of age, and it also noted a significantly higher incidence of urinary incontinence in female German Shepherd Dogs spayed before 1 year of age.





"I used to recommend neutering my puppies before they reached sexual maturity or at least spaying females before their first estrous season," says Ginny Altman, of St. Paul, Minnesota, breeder of Rivaden German Shepherd Dogs since 1981. "Now, if the owner wants to neuter, I recommend waiting until the dog has matured and certainly waiting until they have quit growing, which is usually between 18 and 24 months of age."

Altman attributes her change in perspective to the recent study in German Shepherd Dogs. The American German Shepherd Dog Charitable Foundation helped to sponsor the research, which was funded by the AKC (American Kennel Club) [Canine Health Foundation](#).

The research was based on the veterinary records of 1,170 intact and neutered German Shepherd Dogs in the medical database at the University of California-Davis Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital. The report examined joint disorders and cancers previously associated with neutering that occurred in dogs from Jan. 1, 2000, to June 30, 2014.

The analysis involved a comparison of disease incidence in intact dogs with those neutered before 6 months of age, between 6 and 11 months of age, between 12 and 23 months of age, and from 24 months through 8 years of age. Three joint disorders, CCL, hip dysplasia and elbow dysplasia, and four cancers, osteosarcoma, lymphoma, hemangiosarcoma, and mast cell tumor, were followed through 8 years of age. Mammary cancer in females was followed through 11 years of age.

Lead investigator Benjamin L. Hart, DVM, PhD, DACVB, distinguished professor emeritus at the University of California-Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, says, "In general, larger dogs seem much more adversely affected with regard to joint disorders by spaying or neutering, but there also is breed and gender specificity. Thus, the risk-benefit ratio depends on the severity of the conditions affected by neutering, the conditions' overall prevalence in that breed, and the degree to which neutering affects the risk of those con-

ditions. One size does not fit all when it comes to deciding whether to neuter."

Dr. Hart, a clinical animal behaviorist, researches the behavioral effects of neutering or spaying in animals. An ongoing study of the health effects associated with spay and neuter surgery will provide analyses of a total of 31 breeds for which data has been compiled. When the work is completed later this year, the information will be available on an open-access website as a resource for breeders, owners, veterinarians, and researchers.

"Thus far, our findings have not associated an increase in diseases due to spaying or neutering in small breeds, and in the other breeds, disease risk was dependent on gender and whether spay or neuter surgery was performed before or after 1 year of age," says Dr. Hart. "There is much misconception related to the impact neutering has on an animal and whether the age of neutering makes a difference. We knew we needed the research to be breed-specific rather than generalizing across breeds."

In one of their publications, Dr. Hart's team compared the long-term health effects of [neutering in Labrador Retrievers and Golden Retrievers](#) and found that neutering before 6 months of age doubled the incidence of one or more joint disorders in Labradors, and increased the risk in Goldens by four to five times. Spaying female Goldens through 8 years of age increased the rate of at least one cancer by three to four times that of intact females.

### Increased Incidence of CCL Rupture

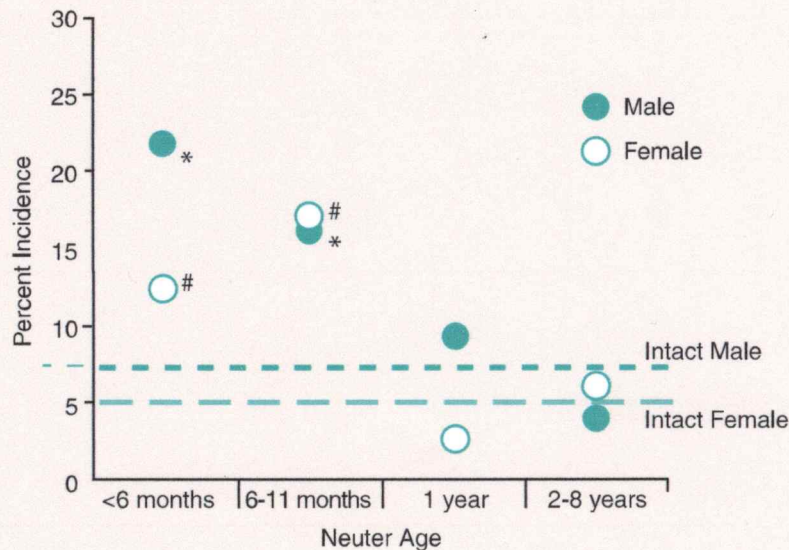
The decision whether to neuter or spay a dog often relates to the dog's purpose. A German Shepherd Dog being campaigned at dog shows is not eligible for neutering or spaying because conformation involves judging dogs for their breeding potential. Dogs that compete in herding trials, obedience or rally, agility, tracking, and Schutzhund may be neutered or spayed, as these performance events are exempt from the breeding purpose that governs dog shows. However, owners may wish to avoid increasing the risk of a joint

**"Dogs of either sex neutered after 1 year of age did not have significantly more joint disorders compared to intact dogs."**

Benjamin L. Hart, DVM, PhD, DACVB, Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the University of California-Davis School of Veterinary Medicine



### Neutering of German Shepherd Dogs: Associated Joint Disorders



Incidence of at least one joint disorder in male and female German Shepherd Dogs related to the age when neutered or spayed. The horizontal lines show the occurrences in intact males and females. Note that the main joint disorder associated with early neutering or spaying was cranial cruciate ligament rupture. *Vet Med Sci.* 2016;2(3):191-199.

\* Significant differences compared to intact dogs

# While neutering at less than 6 months of age and 6 to 11 months of age did not reach significance, when cases for the two early neuter periods were combined, the result was significantly higher than that of intact females

disorder such as hip dysplasia or CCL, as this could interfere with performance.

People who buy German Shepherd Dogs for companions may want to neuter or spay their dog to help prevent unwanted litters, to avoid bitches coming into season, and to lessen aggression and roaming tendencies in males, though Dr. Hart says evidence shows that neutering males after 1 year is as effective in controlling aggression as neutering before 6 months of age.

Neutering or spaying German Shepherd Dogs training for police or military work is optional. However, it is important that these dogs be healthy and fit to do their jobs, and neutering or spaying before 6 months of age could increase the risk of a debilitating joint disorder such as hip dysplasia or CCL.

Among all German Shepherd Dogs studied, hip dysplasia, a frequent disease in the breed, is doubled in risk to 7 to 8 percent by early spaying or neutering. However, CCL occurs in less than 1 percent of intact dogs but is increased in risk to 8 to 12 percent with early spay-neuter surgeries, resulting in this disease

being the main joint disorder impacted by early neutering in German Shepherd Dogs.

As the most common joint disorder in spayed or neutered dogs, CCL rupture also can shorten a dog's working career, is expensive to treat and requires weeks of rehabilitation. A critical stabilizer of the stifle (knee) joint, the CCL functions as a rope as it stabilizes the femur (thighbone) to the tibia (shinbone), preventing the stifle bone from shifting during activity. Without the normal CCL stabilization, a dog's movement is compromised and painful osteoarthritis develops.

In intact male German Shepherd Dogs, 6.6 percent were diagnosed with at least one joint disorder. The main joint disorder reported was hip dysplasia, which results from a loose connection between the pelvis socket, or acetabulum, and the thighbone ball, or femur head, which creates laxity in the hip joint. Degenerative joint disease, or osteoarthritis, commonly accompany this disease, causing pain and disability.

Male German Shepherd Dogs neutered before 6 months of age had an incidence rate of 20.8 percent of developing one

joint disorder — three times greater than in intact males. In dogs neutered from 6 to 11 months of age, the incidence was 16.4 percent — two times greater than in intact males. Although CCL rupture occurred in less than 1 percent of intact males, in dogs neutered before 6 months of age and from 6 to 11 months of age, the rate increased significantly to 12.5 percent and 8.3 percent, respectively.

Similarly, intact female German Shepherd Dogs showed an incidence rate of 5.1 percent of having at least one joint disorder. In contrast, those spayed before 6 months of age had an incidence rate of 12.5 percent — more than double that of intact females. In those spayed between 6 to 11 months of age, the rate was almost 17 percent — three times higher than in intact females. CCL, which was diagnosed in less than 1 percent of intact females, occurred in 4.6 percent of females spayed before 6 months of age and in 8.3 percent spayed between 6 and 11 months of age.

Because joint disorders can be related to body weight, the researchers also looked at whether the increased weight of neutered dogs could be responsible for CCL rupture, but they did not find a connection. Using a body condition score (BCS) based on a scale of 1 to 9, with 5 being ideal, they compared the body condition of neutered males with CCL ruptures to neutered males without CCL ruptures and found that the median BCS for both was 5. The median BCS for spayed females with CCL ruptures was 5.75 compared to spayed females without CCL ruptures having a BCS of 5.

"We think that early neutering prevents the gonadal hormone secretion that normally stimulates closure of long-bone growth plates as a dog approaches maturity," Dr. Hart explains. "The bones grow slightly longer than normal, which, in turn, disrupts joint alignment enough to lead to clinically apparent joint problems in some dogs."

Elbow dysplasia was virtually nonexistent in intact and neutered German Shepherd Dogs. This condition is caused by growth disturbances in the elbow joint due to a misalignment of growth between



the two bones in the foreleg between the radius (elbow) and ulna (wrist).

A noteworthy finding was that “dogs of either sex neutered after 1 year of age did not have significantly more joint disorders compared to intact dogs,” Dr. Hart says.

### Risks Related to Urinary Incontinence & Cancer

Urinary incontinence is a disorder mainly affecting elderly female dogs in which they involuntarily pass urine. It is mostly diagnosed in neutered large-breed dogs. As expected, the condition was not reported in intact female German Shepherd Dogs, yet 7 percent of females spayed before 1 year of age were incontinent in their elderly years.

Fortunately, of the cancers followed in German Shepherd Dogs through age 8, there were few reports regardless whether a dog was intact or neutered. The research team cautioned that cancer rates could increase at later ages, though they did not study this.

Mammary cancer was tracked through 11 years of age because this type of cancer characteristically occurs later in life. About 4 to 5 percent of intact females and those spayed from 2 through 8 years were diagnosed with mammary cancer in contrast to no cases diagnosed in females spayed before 6 months of age.

Spaying has been attributed to helping to reduce the risk of mammary cancer, though a 2012 [published study](#) found neutering provided no apparent protection against mammary cancer. Dr. Hart notes that the protective factor could be breed specific. Regardless, in German Shepherd Dogs, the incidence of mammary cancer is fairly low.

### A Proactive Preventive Approach

Given the results of this study showing the increased incidence of CCL rupture and urinary incontinence in German Shepherd Dogs that had early spay-neuter surgeries, breeders should consider the pros and cons before deciding the best age to recommend that puppy buyers spay or neuter their dogs. The purpose of a dog also should be consid-

ered in determining what is best for a companion dog, a working police dog, or a show or sporting competitor could be different.

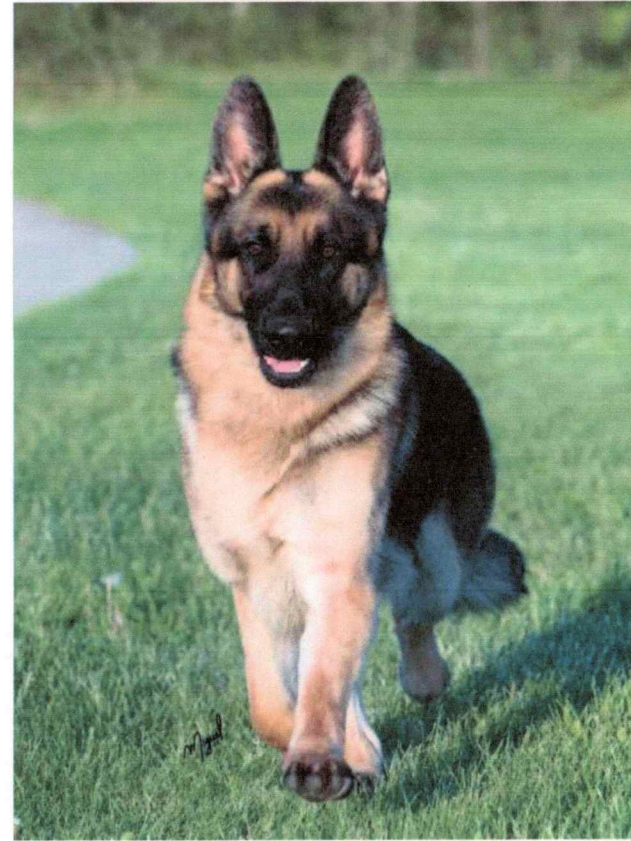
A German Shepherd Dog that is neutered or spayed before 1 year of age and has a CCL rupture could be out of commission for months for surgery and rehabilitation. Urinary incontinence is an inconvenient disorder for owners to deal with because it requires frequent cleaning of urine from floors and bedding. It also is attributed to dogs being relinquished to shelters.

The most important finding in German Shepherd Dogs is that there is no advantage of neutering or spaying before 12 months of age. “I advise owners of German Shepherd Dog puppies to be in no hurry to neuter a male or spay a female,” Dr. Hart says. “I always tell them to wait until their dog is at least a year old before neutering.”

Altman believes that Dr. Hart’s research will help make it easier to convince breeders and owners that early neutering is not the healthy choice for German Shepherd Dogs it was once thought to be. “This study has been eye-opening for our breed,” she says. “Waiting until a dog is 1-year-old to be neutered or spayed is a simple way to help prevent the risk of these disorders.” ■

<sup>1</sup> Percentage of Dogs That Are Spayed or Neutered. APPA National Pet Owners Survey. American Pet Products Association: Greenwich, CT. 2017-2018:78.

Purina appreciates the support of the American German Shepherd Dog Charitable Foundation (AGSDCF), particularly Ginny Altman, current vice president and health liaison of the Foundation, and a past president and former chair of the Health and Genetics Committee of the German Shepherd Dog Club of America, in helping to identify topics for the *Purina Pro Plan German Shepherd Dog Update* newsletter. The AGSDCF board of directors also contributes to helping to identify topics.



Reprinted from Purina ProPlan German Shepherd Dog Update



# Braggs



Andie getting her PT  
with Amber Danielowski



Send your brags to  
[blackforestgsd@msn.com](mailto:blackforestgsd@msn.com) to be  
included in the Shep-O-Gram.



**The GSDC of Minneapolis & St. Paul**  
is offering a **Herding Tending Clinic**  
Presented by **Julie Degen**

When: May 14<sup>th</sup> – May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Where: Swans Farm/Stanchfield MN  
Sign up online by April 30<sup>th</sup>



*GSDCMSP member preference ends March 4<sup>th</sup>, sign up soon*  
*Registration is now open at the following link*

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Working spots are full but auditing is available. \$25 for one day \$35 for both days. Auditors get the benefit of learning from Julie Degen, nationally known tending trainer. Auditors **CANNOT** bring dogs. The dates are May 14 and 15. Watch for the next Tending Clinic and sign up early! Contact Cynthia Curran for information, and to register for auditing. [cyncurran@gmail.com](mailto:cyncurran@gmail.com)



# Upcoming Socialization and Obedience Workshops

**Check out GSDCMSP's Socialization/Obedience Workshop on FaceBook for current information on the next Socialization/Obedience Workshop and training tips and videos.**

**Please watch announcements for dates and times.  
Next Workshop is at the Animal Inn**

April Saturday 23rd  
May Sunday 22nd



We've made some changes to our structure over the last year that seem to help a lot more people get enjoyment and results for what we do. The Mini-session is for dogs that may not be quite ready to move right into a class setting will be a staple as we move on. This class runs 9:30-9:50 and helps dogs that are super shy to super aggressive and everything in between. Then the lecture.

At 10 am is the Lecture. How to successfully navigate the imprinting stages of a GSD and problem solving. The most common comment after a workshop is "I never knew there were so many people having the same issues as me". If we don't get to spend enough time on your issue we work one on one with you between the morning session and afternoon sessions. Following the lecture we adjourn for a potty break and reconvene in the ring. It's recommended to have an extra 20.00 on hand in case you choose to purchase a training collar that really works. (Our cost)

The 11 am Hands-on training. Here, we employ the training techniques talked about in the lecture while teaching you to communicate with your dog. We teach you the "marker" system that through demonstrated performance has proven to be one of the best training techniques for our highly intelligent breed. You'll leave feeling confident you know how to raise your pup through it's imprinting stages and in doing so have a GSD that people admire.

12ish, lunch. Due to COVID we are not able to do our Potluck lunches. If staying for the day you can purchase lunch from the American Legion and enjoy your meal under the roof of the picnic area on one of the many tables.

The 12:30 Afternoon Activity Class is different each month and is well thought out to present owners with activities functional to our breed according to the seasons. this month we'll focus on: heeling techniques while out meeting and greeting strange dogs and humans. This includes dogs that lunge and carry on when seeing another dog as well as building your shy or nervous dog's confidence. We'll be teaching you how to utilize dominance over obedience to overcome territorial issues and meeting/living with other animals.

Group Walk-usually a week later we'll blind copy the attendees on our email list the time and location of our Group Walk. These fortify what you have learned and while walking you see your dog meld into that day's "pack". If you peek at our webpage you'll see FOX did a news story with 38 GSD's that showed up. We also had a special walk with 55 dogs. The walk however is restricted to those that have attended a morning session. This is so everyone is familiar with the techniques needed to have a trouble free walk. Prices remain the same, 30.00, (cash), for either the morning or afternoon session, (must have attended a morning session prior to the Afternoon Activity class). It's an extra 15.00 to bring a second dog from your household or to stay for the afternoon session after attending the morning session. The location is Veteran's Park, Veteran's Park is located on the South side of Apple Valley American Legion Post 177614521 Granada Drive, Apple Valley, MN 55124 All of our information can be viewed at either our website or our Facebook pages @Thanks and hope to see you!

**Our trainers, Andrea and Becca will be taking over the upcoming workshops.ahead of time. There may be changes in the schedule coming up.**

## **Tips From Ron**

**There are How-To videos on topics such as Drop on Recall, stand for Exam, and dealing with an attacking dog, on Socialization/Obedience Workshop page on FaceBook at <https://www.facebook.com/GermanShepherdtrainers/>.**



## The German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis and St. Paul MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Applicant Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the name(s) of any other dog clubs you belong to: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of German Shepherds you own: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of litters bred in the last two years: \_\_\_\_\_

### PLEASE INDICATE (X) THE AREAS IN WHICH YOU MAY BE INTERESTED:

Obedience: ☐ Rally: ☐ Conformation: ☐ Agility: ☐ Herding: ☐ Breeding: ☐ Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

I would be interested in helping with the following activities:

Specialty Shows & Trials: ☐ Fun Matches: ☐ Programs: ☐ Sheep-O-Grass: ☐ Training: ☐  
Hospitality: ☐ Fundraising: ☐ Fun Day: ☐ State Fair: ☐

### PLEASE INDICATE HOW YOU HEARD ABOUT THE CLUB:

Breeder: ☐ Club Member: ☐ Facebook: ☐ Training: ☐ Rescue: ☐ State Fair: ☐ Friend: ☐  
Show/Trial: ☐ Fun Day: ☐ Socialization/Obedience Workshop: ☐ Vet: ☐

I HEREBY MAKE APPLICATION TO THE ABOVE CLUB AND AGREE TO BE GOVERNED BY ITS BY-LAWS.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER PROPOSED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

This application must be accompanied by a check for one year's dues and signed by a current club member sponsor. Dues are \$25 for a single membership or \$30 for a couple. Please make checks payable to the GSDC of Mpls. & St. Paul. Return this application at a training class or club meeting or mail with check to:

Please Note: At the next Membership Meeting following the date applied, the applicant will be announced in the Minutes, whereas any Club members that may object to membership have 30 days to raise their concern. If no concerns are raised, the applicant receives Membership status as stated in the Bylaws which are on the website at [www.gsdcapla.org](http://www.gsdcapla.org). Dues shall be assessed on a yearly basis from October 1 through September 30. Membership dues for applicants that become members between July of a given year and the December Membership Meeting date of that year will be waived for the following year.

Please direct any questions to \_\_\_\_\_

### To be completed by Membership Chair:

Date Dues Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Check: ☐ Cash: ☐ Club cash box: ☐ Online: ☐ Mailed with Application: ☐

Applicant's name added to membership list: ☐



## German Shepherd Dog Club of America, Inc. Application for Membership

There are two types of membership: **Regular Members:** Minimum age of 18 years. Must be in good standing with AKC. Applicant (and renewing members) agrees to abide by the GSDCA by-laws and the Rules and Regulations of the American Kennel Club. Two endorsements by current members must be provided by new applicants. Applicant's name will be published in the *German Shepherd Dog Review*. Provided no objections have been filed within 30 days of publication in the *Review*, applicant will be notified that he/she is eligible for all privileges including the right to vote. **Junior Members:** Must be 10 years of age and not more than 18 years of age and shall subscribe to the same criteria as Regular Membership with the exception of the requirement to pay dues. Junior members cannot vote, hold office, or serve on committees other than junior committees.

To apply and pay **ONLINE** with a credit card, please go to [gsdca.org/join-the-gsdcaapply-online](http://gsdca.org/join-the-gsdcaapply-online).  
You can **MAIL** this form to Laura Gilbert, 557 Dunning Lane, Chesapeake, VA 23322

### Circle Your Desired Membership Type:

Membership Category	Delivery	One year	Three year	Five year
Single	Online only	\$45	\$130	\$215
Single	Print & online	\$75	\$215	\$355
Family	Online only	\$70	\$200	\$335
Family	Print & online	\$115	\$325	\$545
		Additional delivery charges		
		Delivery in poly wrap: \$5.00		
		1st Class delivery: \$36.00		
		Outside United States: \$24.00		

### Membership Information (please print)

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ (Juniors Only)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

For **FAMILY Memberships**, provide **2nd member information**. (Family membership is defined as 2 people living in the same household -- principal & one other person).

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

What activities do you enjoy with your GSD? (Circle all that apply) Agility ☐ Conformation ☐ Herding ☐  
House Pet ☐ Obedience ☐ Rally ☐ Schutzhund/Working Dog Sport ☐ Tracking ☐ Other ☐

### Endorser 1 Printed

Name & Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Endorser 2 Printed Name & Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant/Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Check out the AKC.org website for articles on training.

### GSDCMSP Class Schedule

Register online. <http://gsdcmisp.org/training.html>

Ring 1

.....Various classes, starting at 6:00

Ring 2 Look at web site to get updated schedule

Training Director:

Terry Berg



German Shepherd Dog Club of  
Minneapolis & St. Paul

## GSDC of Mpls & St. Paul Annual Specialty Shows Dakota County Fairgrounds June 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> 2022

- Friday(6/3): – Butch Stiefferman
  - 4-6 Puppy
  - Conformation
  - Junior Showmanship
  - Temperament Test
- Saturday(6/4): AM - Joe Beccia
  - 4-6 Puppy
  - Conformation
  - Junior Showmanship (Mary Murphy)
- Saturday(6/4): PM – John Bemont
  - Conformation
  - Junior Showmanship
- Sunday (6/5): – Donna Conod
  - 4-6 Puppy
  - Conformation
  - Junior Showmanship (Pat Jung)

SOGGY by Julie Swinland

