

# **Accredited Breeders Coalition**

**An educational program to support the development of ethical and responsible Deutsch-Drahthaar owners and breeders**

**Presented by**

**VDD-Group North America**

**Brandt Hardy, Chairman**

**Lynn Whiteley, Breed Warden**

**Seminar Manual**

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# **Foreword to the Accredited Breeders Coalition**

## **An educational program to support the development of ethical and responsible Deutsch-Drahthaar owners and breeders**

As stated in the subtitle, this is an educational program sponsored by VDD-GNA for all our members including existing and future breeders. It is our belief that as a breed club the more informed and educated our members are the brighter our future is as we all work together to develop the breed we love, the Deutsch-Drahthaar.

Organizationally, we have long been focused on getting our JGHV testing "right" so that our performance scores are consistent across the US. Accurate and consistent testing is foundational to making the critical initial comparative assessment of the multiple breeding factors. This has been a huge challenge but we are reaching that goal. Testing should only be a part of the analysis when making breeding decisions.

Observation of hunting behavior of potential breeding dogs is equal to or possibly more significant in the overall assessment process. We must keep both testing and actual observed hunting skills in a balanced focus. The Deutsch-Drahthaar would be well served if we would turn more effort towards an open, cooperative, and collective effort in order to breed the best hunting dogs that we can. It is our intent to offer this program to contribute towards that goal.

This program is intentionally flexible. You can complete the program online or by way of "in person" seminars at the chapter level. It is important for any and all chapters to adapt this material to meet the needs at the local levels. This program is highly adaptive to the future evolution of beneficial materials. Going into the future we can add additional sections to address new trends within VDD, canine research topics, and/or critical canine health updates. Your chapter breed warden is your point person to get enrolled. The chapter breed wardens will enroll you, keep a list of your completed sections, and forward you the Part V Take Home Test so you can complete your program. Upon completion, your chapter breed warden will forward your info on to the GNA Breed Warden for recognition.

This is a project that started four years ago. Within a volunteer organization like VDD-GNA, an effort like this project has many generous and talented hands involved. Conceptually, early discussions about this project included Cal Bambrough, Bryon Beaton, Ed Carney, Dr. Martin Coffman, Larry Houck, Dr. Gene and Lona Kluck, Lynda Krull, Forrest Moore, Linda Reeves and Michael Schell in addition to Lynn Whiteley and myself.

Everyone had great ideas that added to the "gumbo" that was developing. Lynda Krull made the original suggestion for the name- ABC. Different parties contributed

from their areas of specialty such as veterinary care from Drs. Kluck and Coffman. We are grateful to Fred Turjan and Mike Schell for their contributions as breeders. Mark Heuer, Paul Trout, and Nancy Bohs led the fine-tuning efforts growing out of the GNA Board of Directors ABC Seminar working groups project that took place at the 2014 VDD-GNA Annual Meeting in Milwaukee. Mark Heuer additionally refined the test questions and answers that originally Dr. Martin Coffman submitted for consideration.

The seminar manual has gone through several stages of revision. After the initial wave of contributed data the first seminar was offered in conjunction with the 2011 Armbruster in Shreveport, LA. It was quickly evident that we had too much info that needed to be efficiently streamlined without losing the critical content. This work continued through several content revisions and eventually a final working draft was turned over to the editors for final review. We are grateful to Faith Wood, Sean Hicks, and Mark Heuer for their fine editing of the seminar manual.

We are deeply indebted to all of these GNA members who skillfully and generously gave of their special gifts and talents to this project all out of their love for the Deutsch- Drahthaar. Our hope is that this program will educate and enrich each member to be more devoted to the cooperative effort necessary to breed the best to the best so that we may continue to breed the best hunting dogs in North America, the Deutsch-Drahthaar.

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**Part I**

**VDD Breed Regulations**

**Contributor**

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# **Breeding Regulations of Verein Deutsch-Drahthaar e.V.**

**20th Revision (English)**

**Effective: 1 July, 2015**

## **Article 1**

### **Principle**

The Deutsch-Drahthaar is bred with the goal of providing hunters with a versatile pointing dog for sportsmanlike use in all areas of hunting, before and after the shot. "From Performance to Type" was and still is the motto of DD breeding.

The initiative in Deutsch-Drahthaar breeding comes from the Breeder. The Breeder is guaranteed freedom of breeding within the framework of this Breeding Regulation.

## **Article 2**

### **The Head Breedwarden of the VDD**

1. The duty of the Head Breedwarden is the cultivation, care, and advancement of DD breeding in the Verein Deutsch-Drahthaar, the Deutsch Drahthaar World Association, and the associated Deutsch Drahthaar Clubs and Groups abroad.
2. The Head Breedwarden is in charge of the Breeding Registry of the Verein Deutsch Drahthaar.

## **Article 3**

### **The Group Breedwardens**

1. In the Groups of the VDD, the Group Breedwarden sees to the promotion, care, and advancement of the DD breed. The Group Breedwarden advises the breeders of their responsibilities in breeding related matters, and sees that the Breeding Regulations are observed.
2. As appropriate for his duties, the Group Breedwarden must have knowledge and experience in the breeding of Deutsch-Drahthaar, the proper rearing and keeping of this breed of dog, and the associated legal conditions and requirements. He should be a Breed Judge in accordance with the Breed Judge Regulations (Zuchtrichterordnung) of VDD.
3. The Group Breedwarden is nominated by the Group Executive Committee to VDD through the Head Breedwarden, and confirmed by the Group Executive Committee, and the VDD Executive Committee.

On recommendation of the Group Breedwarden, and confirmation by the Group Executive Committee, qualified members of the group may be designated as Assistants to support the Group Breedwarden and act as his representative in accepting and forwarding litter reports for litter inspections, litter monitoring, and tattooing.

## **Article 4**

### **The Breeder**

1. The Breeder, in the context of this Regulation, is the owner of a mother bitch at the time of whelping if:
  - a) – he/she is a member of the VDD. An individual who has applied for membership and paid his/her first annual dues is granted equal status as a member if no identifiable obstacles stand in the way of membership.
  - b) – he/she maintains his/her own kennel, which is registered with the Breedbook Office (Article 6) and in which a DD litter is whelped and kept at least until the Litter Inspection of the litter. (Article 28)

A breeder can only be one natural person. Organizations cannot be recognized as breeders.

2. The breeder is obligated to meet all requirements of these Breeding Regulations. He must:

- a) – ensure the breed-appropriate accommodation and rearing of litters by establishing all conditions in accordance with legal requirements
- b) – facilitate access of the responsible Breedwarden or his agent to the kennel, on demand, for monitoring of the litter and litter inspection.
- c) – have tail docking performed by a veterinarian in accordance with legal requirements
- d) – have all puppies of the litter tattooed and/or chipped in the presence of the dam prior to leaving. Certain legal considerations have to be observed.
- e) – keep a kennel log on the breeding and whelping events in his/her kennel
- f) – Instruct the puppy buyers in breed-appropriate care, feeding and rearing of the puppies, and inform them of relevant animal protection regulations.

## **Article 5**

### **The Breeding Lease Contract**

1. The owner of a bitch that is certified for breeding (Article 9) can assign his/her breeding rights only on a case to case basis and only with a duly executed breeding lease contract to another person. In accordance with these Breeding Regulations, the assignee becomes the breeder for the time the Breeding Lease Contract (Zuchtvertrag) is in effect.
2. The Breeding Lease Contract is valid only when:
  - a) – the bitch is from the assignee’s own kennel,
  - b) – the necessity for such a lease can be adequately justified as regards the need for that breeding,
  - c) – the requirements and prerequisites of Article 4 have been met.
  - d) – the Breeding Lease Contract is authorized by the Head Breedwarden of the VDD.

Application for approval of a Breeding Lease Contract should be made prior to the stud service, and must be done in writing.

1. The Head Breedwarden of the VDD can authorize the Breeding lease contract only if verified and approved by the respective Group Breedwarden and if no part of the

VDD Constitution and the VDD Breeding Regulations prohibit such a lease to become effective.

## **Article 6**

### **Kennel Registration – Location of the Kennel**

1. Kennel registration is only issued to members of the VDD, and in accordance with Article 4 paragraph 1b, to only one natural person. For the purposes of this provision, members also include individuals who have applied for membership in the VDD. Kennel registration can also be issued to individuals who belong to member clubs of the world association, or associated clubs, or foreign groups.
2. Every DD breeder must maintain a kennel. The kennel name (Article 7) must be registered in the VDD Breeding Register. The physical location selected for the kennel must be such that the registered kennel owner (breeder) can be directly and legally responsible for his/her kennel and can have immediate influence on all happenings in his/her kennel. Any form of concealment and pretentious maintenance of a kennel not in compliance with these Breeding Regulations and especially the disguised leaving of the kennel name to another person is forbidden.
3. The DD Kennel registration is permanent.
4. The kennel owner can transfer, or also bequeath, kennel registration to another person. The new kennel owner must fulfill the requirements of Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article. The transfer takes effect when the Head Breedwarden has approved it by his signature. Article 32 is to be applied.

## **Article 7**

### **The Kennel Name**

The dog's surname is the kennel name. Application must be made for the kennel name no later than registration of the first litter (Article 22) with the Breedbook Office through the relevant Group Breedwarden. The application should include three proposed names in order of preference.

The kennel name must differ by at least two letters from existing kennel names, and also must not otherwise be overly similar to the names of existing registered kennels.

The kennel name granted is registered by the Breedbook Office for the DD breed, and is granted to the breeder for strictly personal use only.

All litters in the kennel of a breeder shall be entered in the VDD Breedbook under the granted kennel name unless these Breeding Regulations preclude doing so.

## **Article 8**

### **First Name of Pups Whelped in the Kennel of Their Breeder**

All pups from the same litter whelped in the kennel of the breeder will be named with first names starting with the same letter. The first name must be such that the sex of the pup can be readily identified by this name. The names within a litter must differ by at least two letters. Names of puppies in the first litter must start with the letter "A". The initial letter of the given names for each subsequent litter must continue in alphabetical order.

If a breeder is on the second or third alphabet in breeding, the given names of the pups must be followed by II or III.

## **Article 9**

### **Permission and Suitability of Dogs for Breeding**

1. The established suitability of the dog for breeding forms the basis for Breed Certification before the breeding act.

In principle, suitability for breeding is established on the occasion of a VDD Breed Show by the Formwert-Judging Group as per § 5 of the VDD Breed Show Regulations. It is confirmed on the Ahnentafel by the Breedwarden of the Group where the Breed Show takes place. If the Breedwarden is not a Breed Judge according the VDD Breed Judge Regulations, the Breed Suitability is confirmed by a responsible Breed Judge.

If a dog should enter a second Breed Show, a waiting period of at least three months is required.

Confirmation of Breed Certification – without evaluation at a Breed Show – must be authorized by the Head Breedwarden of VDD.

2. A dog is suitable for breeding when it;
  - a) – has none of the faults listed in Article 14 that exclude from breeding
  - b) – has passed the toughness evaluation. (HN)
  - c) – HD-frei & determined in accordance with Article 25, par. 1a.
  - d) – As of (01.01.2012) OCD-frei in accordance with Article 25, par. 1b.
  - e) – has passed one of the following breed tests or association tests: VJP, HZP or Hegewald type breed test, VGP, VSwP or a comparable ability test or performance test.

In all cases, a minimum achievement of the “sufficient” predicate in the ability categories of Tracking and Independent Search in Water with dense cover must be demonstrated, and proof of no gunsensitivity and no game shyness in field and water are required

This proof may also be determined from parts of Association Tests that were not passed otherwise.

3. The results from the tests for Gun sensitivity and Game Shyness, as well as the finding of other temperament deficiencies from all Association Tests, as well as all VDD events, at which at least three Association Judges were functioning, must be considered even if the tests were failed or not successfully completed.
4. The results of breeding tests that have been carried out abroad, will be taken into account, as long as these tests are conducted in accordance to the provisions of the VDD and the regulations of the JGHV, and have been organized by groups of VDD or associated groups of VDD

## **Article 10**

### **Ahnentafel Identification of Dogs Qualified for Breeding**

1. The front page of the Ahnentafel of Deutsch-Drahthaar qualified for breeding will be stamped Zuchttauglich (Certified for Breeding) only after evaluation (Article 9).

2. The affixed stamp must contain the date and signature of the respective Breedwarden, or an appointed responsible Breed Judge in accordance with Article 9 par. 1.
3. If the requirements for Breed Certification change, it will not affect the dogs that have already been Certified for Breeding, and had their Ahnentafel stamped as Certified for Breeding (Zuchttauglich) unless (Article 16) applies.

## **Article 11**

### **Age of Deutsch-Drahthaar for Breeding**

1. Brood bitches must not be used for breeding before they have reached a minimum breeding age of 15 months, and they must not be used after their eighth year. (8<sup>th</sup> Birthday)
2. Stud dogs should not be used for breeding after their ninth year. (9<sup>th</sup> Birthday)
3. In both cases, the effective date is the date of mating.
4. Exceptions for exceeding the breeding age on the grounds of special breeding interest for the Club may, upon suggestion of the Group Breedwarden, be approved by the Head Breedwarden.

## **Article 12**

### **Number of Stud Services**

1. The stud dog is authorized six (6) successful stud services within a breeding year. Stud services are assigned to the breeding year in which the litter is whelped.
2. The Breeding year is the Calendar Year.
3. Upon the first violation of section 1 above, a penalty of the going rate for a stud fee is to be paid to the Breedbook Office and the seventh stud service to be counted for the following breeding year. The Head Breedwarden of the VDD has the authorization for this situation.

## Article 13

### Utilization of Foreign DD Dogs for Breeding

#### Utilization of Dogs from Other Breeds

1. DD dogs that are registered in a foreign Breedbook can be permitted to breed if all requirements of the Verein Deutsch-Drahthaar Breeding Rules are met.
2. In the case of Deutsch-Drahthaar dogs bred abroad who have no VDD pedigree [Ahnentafel], a "Leistungsbuch Deutsch-Drahthaar" [DD work record book] can be issued by the VDD Breedbook Office. The hunting ability and performance tests are recorded therein. A prerequisite for this is unimpeachable proof of identity by tattoo or microchip, plus demonstrated documentation of descent over at least 4 generations and a kennel name that is recognized by and registered with the VDD.
3. Dogs and their descendants that are denied Breed Certification in Germany due to breeding faults, and then used for breeding in other countries, cannot be registered into the VDD Breed Leistungsbuch. [DD work record book]
4. Details on the breeding use of foreign DD dogs are governed by special implementation regulations established by the VDD Executive Board.
5. Breeding to other breeds or varieties is not permitted.
6. Only those dogs that are either registered in the VDD Breed Book, or are eligible for the registration may be used for breeding in a VDD registered kennel. The parents of dogs used for breeding must have qualified for breeding under VDD requirements. This regulation shall likewise apply to stud dogs.
7. DD Groups outside of Germany with Ahnentafeln issued by the German Breed Registry, are considered to be the origin of the breed.
8. In DD groups outside of Germany, dogs may not be registered with another Breed Registry in the same country of the respective DD group.

9. Deutsch-Drahthaar that are registered in the VDD Breed Book will be banned from breeding for life if they have been used for breeding outside the Breeding Regulations.

## **Article 14**

### **Dogs Disqualified for Breeding and Matings Not Permissible**

1. Dogs are excluded from Breeding for the following:
  - a) – With breeding relevant diseases, i.e., epilepsy-like seizures, skeletal diseases i.e., HD, OCD, ED and Bleeding Disorders. Which hereditary diseases and to which degree a hereditary disease will be a breeding disqualification is determined by the VDD Membership Meeting.
  - b) – with insufficient conformation and coat. (Disqualified)
  - c) – with teeth deficiencies (Vorbiss (Overbite), Rückbiss (Under bite), Kreuzbiss (Cross bite), Fangzahnstand (narrow positioned fang teeth), missing teeth other than P1)
  - d) - with Entropium, Ektropium, or open eyelids;
  - e) – with malformed or deficient sexual organs;
  - f) – with natural bobbed or crooked tail;
  - g) with mental deficiencies (gun shy, game shy, strong gun sensitive, gun sensitive, light gun-sensitive, too aggressive, very nervous, fear biter) . Dogs with these disqualifying characteristics remain excluded from the breeding program even if they present themselves at a later date with normal mental reactions and normal signs to gunfire. The results from all associated tests for the dog are to be submitted and checked for temperament problems in Article 9 par. 3, and taken into account during a check for breeding qualification.
  - h) with color anomalies: black (even with a chest patch), white or yellow dogs, and yellow roan, dead leaf color or Brand. Dogs with large pure white spots (tennis ball size or larger) with the exception of the dogs in Scandinavia (predominantly white with Brown head) are not for breed approval. Dogs with light nose leather (pigment defect)
  - i) with different (variegated) eye color or glass eye (walleye).

j) Also excluded from breeding are dogs in which defects that exclude from breeding have been surgically treated or otherwise corrected.

2. Mating of Schwarzschiimmel Drahthaar to another Schwarzschiimmel or to a solid brown DD (including those with white markings) is prohibited. The pedigrees of pups whelped from such mating will be stamped "Zuchtverbot" (Not for Breeding) Article 33, Section 1c applies. The first violation will result in a monetary penalty. Repeated violations could result in applying § 19 of the VDD Bylaws.
3. Grade 1. – Incest Breedings: (Parents X Children / Full Brother X Sister / Half Brother X Sister matings) require prior permission of the VDD Head Breedwarden.

## **Article 15**

### **Marking the Ahnentafel of Dogs with Breeding Disqualifying Faults That Have Been Corrected**

The owner of a dog is responsible for ensuring that all corrections of physical defects are noted on the dog's Ahnentafel.

## **Article 16**

### **Rescinding a Previously Determined Suitability for Breeding**

1. If defects that exclude the dog from breeding are discovered after suitability for breeding has been determined, the stamped imprint "Zuchttauglich" [Certified for Breeding] on the Pedigree (Ahnentafel) must be crossed out with an appropriate annotation. The prohibition from breeding applies as of the date of determination.
2. The person with authority of disposition over the dog must make the pedigree available to the relevant Breedwarden without delay for marking.
3. If the marking of the pedigree cannot be accomplished within one month of the request, it is the responsibility of the Head Breedwarden to publish the name and ZB number of the dog, and the defect that prohibits the use of the dog for breeding, in the official publication of the VDD. (DD-Blätter)

## **Article 17**

### **Pups from Parents Not Meeting the Breeding Requirements**

#### **And Pups From Matings Not Permissible**

1. The Pedigrees (Ahnentafeln) of puppies whose parents did not meet the breeding requirements (Article 9) or of parents with defects which disqualify from breeding (Article 14 par. 1) or of parents who were not permitted to mate (Article 14, par. 2), shall be stamped "ZUCHTVERBOT" (not permitted for breeding).
2. The effect of "Zuchtverbot", or prohibition from breeding, is that the dog in question cannot be used for breeding. If the dog is used for breeding despite this, triple fees shall be charged. In addition, in the case of one-time negligence, a fine may be levied as referred to in Article 34. In the case of a repeat offense, § 19 of the Bylaws of VDD e.V. will apply.
3. In the event that breeding suitability as required by Article 9 is proven for both parents after the prohibition to breed has been assigned, only the Head Breedwarden shall have the authority to remove the prohibition to breed, if so requested by the breeder, with such removal to be for the entire litter. No fees shall be due for the issuance of new pedigrees (Ahnentafeln). In the event that new Pedigrees are issued, the old Pedigrees shall be returned and destroyed, and no reimbursement shall be due.

## **Article 18**

### **Breeding Prohibition (special ruling)**

1. After consulting with the Breedwarden of the relevant group, the Head Breedwarden can impose a "Breeding Ban" (Zuchtsperre) on a dog that has already been bred if pups from several litters exhibit degenerative characteristics or temperament defects and experience makes it possible to trace these traits back to the ancestor. The owner of the dog must be notified of the decision on the breeding ban by registered mail.

2. In the event that the registered letter is undeliverable, Article 16, Paragraph 3 applies accordingly.
3. The dog upon which the Breeding Ban has been imposed can no longer be used for breeding.
4. The Breeding Bitch can no longer be used for breeding after delivery by Cesarean Section has been performed two times.
5. Willful or negligent violations of Paragraph 3 shall be treated as violations of these Breeding Regulations that damage the breed (Article 34).

## **Article 19**

### **Extra Ordinary Presentation of Dogs**

1. As a preventative precaution, the Head Breedwarden of VDD can request the owner of a DD to present the dog at a specified time for special evaluation. In determining the location and evaluator for the special evaluation, the Head Breedwarden of the VDD must take into consideration as much as possible the personal circumstances of the dog's owner.

A DNA test may be demanded to ensure identity and parental descent.

2. If the owner of the dog does not comply with the request for presentation [of the dog] or the demand for a DNA test, and fails to provide a timely and sufficient reason, the Head Breedwarden can impose a "Breeding Prohibition" (Article 18), effective immediately, on the dog in question. Costs which the owner of the dog caused in a culpable manner must be reimbursed by the dog's owner.

## **Article 20**

### **The Stud Certificate**

1. The owner of the stud dog is required to complete the form "Stud Service Certificate" after the stud service is rendered. He can retain the stud Service certificate in his possession until the owner of the bitch serviced by his dog notifies him of the whelping of the litter.
2. The Stud Service Certificate (Deckbescheinigung) is a legal document.
2. Owners of stud dogs who are not members of the VDD must comply with the VDD Breeding Regulations.
3. The owner of the stud dog can demand appropriate compensation for mating service. The breeder must render this compensation to the owner of the stud dog no later than the whelping report. If the compensation does not take the form of money, the time period for rendering compensation shall comply with the applicable agreement.
4. The owner of the stud dog must forward the Stud Service Certificate to the breeder within one week of receipt of the stud fee. If the compensation does not take the form of money, the Stud Service Certificate must be forwarded to the breeder within one week of the whelping report.
5. Agreements outside of these provisions are irrelevant for all procedural areas of these Breeding Regulations.

## **Article 21**

### **Procedures for the Protection of the Brood Bitch**

1. For Bitches one litter is allowed in a Breeding Year. (January 1 – December )
3. If the conditions of section 1 above are violated, a protection period (Schonfrist) of 15 months automatically takes effect.
3. In addition, in the case of first-time negligent violations of the conditions of sections 1 or 2, a fine in the amount of twice the going price of a puppy must be paid to the Studbook Office. In all subsequent violations, § 19 of the Bylaws of VDD e.V. will apply. Responsibility for the actions to be taken reside with the Head Breedwarden.

## Article 22

### Litter Registration

1. Every DD litter whelped must be reported for registration with the Breedbook Office of the VDD by the breeder through the respective Group Breedwarden by completion of the litter registration form. (Wurfmeldung) Pedigrees (Ahnentafeln) for the pups are automatically issued when a litter is registered.
2. The pups must be listed on the litter registration form in the following order: dogs (males) listed first, then bitches (females).
3. To be submitted by the breeder with the litter registration form are the following additional documents: Stud Service Certificate (Deckbescheinigung) (Article 20) and if applicable Breeding Lease Contract (Zuchtvertrag) (Article 5) and the application for Kennel Registration (Article 6) if needed. Always to be submitted with the litter registration forms is the original Pedigree (Ahnentafel) of the bitch. The original Pedigree (Ahnentafel) or a photocopy of the stud's pedigree is to be submitted only once, when he is used for stud service for the first time.

## Article 23

### Time Limitation for Litter Registration

The complete set of forms for the registration of the litter must be received by the respective Group Breedwarden within three (3) weeks after the date of whelping. If this time is exceeded, Article 33, Paragraph 1 is applicable.

## Article 24

### The Ahnentafel of the Pups

1. The Ahnentafel is a legal document. The dog and the Ahnentafel form one unit.

2. Ahnentafel are issued by the Breedbook Office when requested by the breeder (Article 22) only after complete whelping documents have been submitted and the appropriate fees have been paid.
3. For dogs bred abroad in accordance with VDD breeding guidelines, a supplement to the foreign pedigree can be issued and attached to the foreign pedigree. Details are governed by a special implementation ordinance (see also Article 13).

## **Article 25**

### **Affixation of Stamp “HD-frei”, “OCD-frei”, and “ED-frei”**

1. The Ahnentafeln of DD dogs that have been evaluated by a VDD-approved evaluation agency as
  - HD-frei
  - OCD-frei
  - ED-frei

Are stamped on the front of the Ahnentafel with the corresponding stamp provided.

- a) “HD-frei”
- b) “OCD-frei”
- c) “ED-frei”

2. The Group Breedwarden is appointed to affix the stamp “HD-frei”, “OCD-frei”, and “ED-frei” to the Ahnentafel after examining and verifying the evaluation rating on the Evaluation Certificates.

## **Article 26**

### **Conditions Preventing the Issue of Ahnentafel**

1. The Head Breedwarden of the VDD has the authority to make the issue of Ahnentafeln dependent on the submittal of a x-ray or veterinarian evaluation, if there is any doubt about the qualification for breeding (Article 9) of a DD.

2. The Head Breedwarden of the VDD has the authority to approve or disapprove the issue of Ahnentafeln for one litter if the required set of litter registration forms cannot be submitted after consulting the Breedwarden of the respective VDD Group of which the applicant is a member. He can only grant the application if:
  - a) – the Breeder was guiltlessly hindered in the registration of the litter.
  - b) – the heritage of the pup's parents can be proven or verified for at least as many generations as appear on the pedigree,
  - c) – the whereabouts of all litter mates can be proven, and
  - d) – It is to be expected that the progeny in question is of benefit to the DD breed.

### **Article 27**

## **Change of Ownership**

1. Every change of ownership must be entered on the backside of the Ahnentafel, containing the name and address of the new owner.
2. The Ahnentafel must be transferred with the dog to the new owner.

### **Article 28**

## **Litter Inspection, Tattooing and Chipping**

1. In approximately the seventh to eighth week of life, the entire litter, which is to say all puppies and the brood bitch, are inspected by the Breedwarden of the relevant DD-Group, or by his representative. No puppy may be transferred prior to this time.
2. At this time the puppies, if allowed, are tattooed and the assigned Breedbook number is imprinted in the right ear and the bottom right corner of the Ahnentafel with the tattooing device.

3. If it has not already been done, the puppies are chipped using the chips allotted by the Breedbook Office.
4. All the puppies in the VDD Breedbook must be tattooed and/or chipped.
5. Abnormalities in the puppies, brood bitch, and/or the keeping and accommodation of the litter must be recorded in writing on an internal club litter inspection form (Wurfabnahmebogen), to the Head Breedwarden or the Breedbook Office.

Particular attention must be paid to the question of whether breed-appropriate keeping and accommodation are taking place and whether the provisions of the animal protection laws are being observed.

6. The breeder is responsible for the costs of tattooing, chipping, and litter inspection.
7. Claims for damages that could arise from findings at litter inspection or as consequences of tattooing or chipping are precluded.
8. Ahnentafeln of puppies with chip or tattoo may only be issued after blood samples of the puppies have been sent off to the VDD e.V. blood bank, per request of the Zuchtbuchamt.

## **Article 29**

### **Breed Shows**

Individual details regarding the organization and conduct of breed shows are governed by the Breed Show Regulations of the VDD.

## Article 30

### Breeding Register

Dogs that seem especially suitable for breeding are entered in the Breeding Register (Zuchtregister). To be eligible, dogs must meet all of the requirements for breeding, (Article 9) have a beard, be at least 15 months of age, HD-frei and OCD-frei, receive a minimum rating of “good” in both conformation and coat at a breed show, and have passed at least a HZP or VGP. The dog must also have received a minimum performance rating of at least “good” in the categories of tracking and independent search in water with dense cover.

Dogs that have demonstrated manner of hunting to be “stumm” (silent) or “waidlaut”, (loud without presence of game) as well as dogs with temperament faults such as frightened or restless, cannot be included in the Breeding Register even when these faults do not disqualify the dog from breeding.

A dog is considered silent (stumm) if it was certified “st” at an association test and has not demonstrated itself to hunt loud on scent or sight, either before or after that time.

## Article 31

### Performance Breeding

The Ahnentafeln of puppies will be marked on the front with the notation “*aus auf Form und Leistung geprüften Eltern*” when both parents:

- a) – have successfully completed a VJP and a HZP.
- b) – have successfully completed a VGP.
- c) – are registered in the Breeding Register (Article 30) of the VDD.
- d) – are evaluated and marked loud.

## Article 32

### Regular Fees

The Breedbook Office shall levy fees for kennel registration, transfer of kennel registration, pedigrees, pedigree supplements or work record books (Leistungsbuch), and for changes in Ahnentafeln, Ahnentafel supplements or work record books; these fees, and reimbursement for expenses or a flat rate for expenses, must be received by the Breedbook Office before final resolution of the request. The requestor is liable for the costs.

## Article 33

### Double and Triple Fees

1. Fees shall be doubled:

- when the Breedwarden for the respective VDD group has not received the complete litter registration forms within three weeks from the date of whelping.

2. Fees shall be tripled:

a) – for the Ahnentafeln of pups whose parent or parents have not met the breeding requirements under (Article 9)

b) – if in an isolated case of negligence a dog not qualified for breeding (Article 17, section 2) was used for breeding.

c) – for all matings not permissible. (Article 14, section 2)

Increased fees may be imposed only once per occurrence, even though multiple conditions resulting in double or triple fees may apply. The fees must be received by the Breedbook Office before the application can be completed. The applicant is responsible for the fees.

## **Article 34**

### **Violations Against the Breeding Regulations**

1- Noncompliance with the provisions of articles 12, 14, 18, or 21 is described there with a fine being levied by the Head Breedwarden. The amount of the fines are equal to the high going rate of the Stud Dog mating fee, and double going rate of puppy prices.

2- Grossly negligent or repeated violations, as well as culpable violations of these Breeding Regulations can be punished:

- a) - with a fine
- b) - with a time-limited breeding ban for the breeder
- c) - with other restrictions on the breeder
- d) - with disciplinary measures in accordance with § 19 of the VDD Bylaws.

The Executive Committee of the VDD has jurisdiction.

3- The costs incurred during the examination procedure must be reimbursed.

## **Article 35**

### **Complaints**

Complaints against the conduct of responsible persons will be decided upon by the Executive Committee of the VDD in the first instance, and if applicable by the collective Board of Directors of the VDD in the final appeal. A complaint against actions taken in accordance with these Breeding Regulations has no postponing or delaying effect.

## **Article 36**

### **Exceptions**

1. The research (test) kennel of the VDD, "vom Drahthaar", is exempted from these regulations. The directions of the Verein Deutsch-Drahthaar e.V. regarding the "Maintenance of a Research (Test) Kennel" are applicable.
2. For the DD in foreign countries, the Executive Committee upon proposal from the Head Breedwarden can approve exceptions to these Breeding Regulations.

# VDD Genetic Testing and DNA Storage Program

At the 2015 VDD General meeting in Fulda Germany, a change was passed that added a new paragraph (8) to Article 28 of the VDD Breeding Regulations. The new Breeding Regulations took effect on July 1, 2015

## 8. **Ahnentafeln of puppies with chip or tattoo may only be issued after blood samples of the puppies have been sent off to the VDD e.V. blood bank, per request of the Zuchtbuchamt.**

This means that affective July 1, 2015 all VDD litters must have blood samples submitted to the VDD Blood Bank before the Ahnentafeln can be given to the Breeder. The VDD Blood Bank in Germany is at Hannover and is run by Prof. Dr. Ottmar Distl. VDD has entered into a 5 year contract with Dr. Distl to run this program, after which time it will be evaluated. Since sending blood samples to Germany is very problematic, VDD and Dr. Distl have set up a deal with a genetic lab in the US to receive and store the samples from North America. The name of this lab is GeneSeek and they are located in Lincoln Nebraska.

Prior to this regulation, breeders would typically send the Litter Registration paperwork to the GNA Breedwarden within the 3 weeks required. The Paperwork was sent to VDD in Germany by mail, and we would receive the Ahnentafeln and microchips, or sometimes just the ZB numbers when the puppies were 6 + weeks old. This timeline wouldn't work with the added requirements to be met, and still get the puppies to their new owners in a timely manner. In order for GNA breeders to comply with this new regulation, we have set up some protocols and changes that make it possible for things to be done in a timely manner to enable us to meet the timelines we are faced with. Please follow the timeline below to make it possible to get everything moving on time. Please use these instructions for both the Breeder and Veterinarian.

Make arrangements with the owner of the stud dog to be sure to have the Stud Dog Certificate in your possession when the litter is whelped.



Send the Litter Registration Paperwork to the GNA Breedwarden as soon as possible, following the Litter Registration Instructions. This includes the payment for registration. If puppies die before tattooing, there will be a refund for those fees. Litter Registrations received later will possibly result in a delay in getting puppies to their owners. Contact your Chapter Breedwarden to make arrangements for someone to tattoo the litter.



At approximately 6 weeks of age the puppies can be tattooed and chipped. (1) For now the most common protocol will be having the puppies tattooed at approximately 6 weeks of age. Then after a few days when the tattoo ink has flaked off and the tattoo is readable, the breeder takes them to the vet where the Blood Draw will take place. The veterinarian will identify each puppy by tattoo number in the ear. (2) Another possible protocol is to have the Tattoo Assistant both tattoo and implant the chips in the puppies. Veterinarians seem to prefer identifying puppies by microchip than by days old tattoo numbers. (3) Another possible protocol is for the Veterinarian to first implant the microchips and do the blood draw at the same visit. Then later the Tattoo Assistant can tattoo and inspect the litter, verifying identity of each puppy with a chip reader.

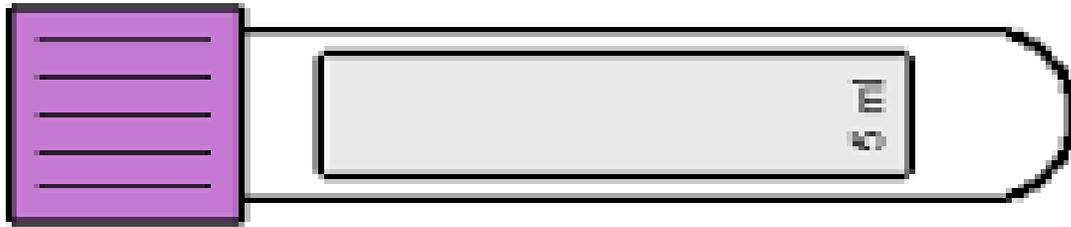
For the time being most litters will follow protocol (1) because there are just a few Tattoo Assistants at this time that have the training and equipment required for protocol's (2) and (3). Your Chapter Breedwarden can advise you on this. I think as time goes on we will move towards doing most litters following protocol (3).

In all cases it is essential for the Breeder to take the initiative to be certain that the correct puppy it tattooed or chipped using the correct ZB number. The Ahnentafel with the name, color, and sex must correspond to a puppy with that same color and sex. We can't be switching names in midstream unless the color and sex are the same.



After the tattooing and Blood Draw has been completed, the Breeder must send the Blood Draw Form as per the instructions on the **"Instructions for completing Paperwork and Shipping Samples"** page. Only then can the Group Breedwarden send the Ahnentafeln for the litter to the Breeder.

# EDTA Tube Labeling



Standard EDTA Purple top tube with 3 ml blood drawn from puppy



Apply this puppy specific label provided by VDD to the EDTA Tube  
Dog = Male Bitch = Female



Also apply one of the 6 Barcode labels provided with the microchip.  
The last 6 digits of the 15 digit Barcode Number is the ZB-Nr. of the dog

# Instructions for completing Paperwork and Shipping Samples

After the blood samples are collected and labeled (see “**EDTA Tube Labeling**” page) follow these instructions for completing and shipping the samples.

Two Verification Sheets are provided to the veterinarian by the breeder. One comes from VDD and is on the left below. There will be 2 copies of this form. After the samples are collected, the veterinarian signs, dates, and applies the practice stamp. He/she can either complete both forms, or complete one and make a copy. One of these forms is included in the package to GeneSeek. The other is to be sent to the GNA Breedwarden by the breeder.

The other form on the right below is from GNA and is to help identify the purpose of these samples to GeneSeek. This form is to be included in the package to GeneSeek.

**Breed (Dog): Deutsch Drahthaar**

Group: Nordamerika  
 Breed Warden: Lynn S. Whiteley E-Mail: [yddonabre@gmail.com](mailto:yddonabre@gmail.com)

Kennel: vom Drahthaar Litter registration number: 20180126

Breeder: John L. Doe, 4250 Kent St, Anytown, MD, 10765 / USA  
 Phone No: 001-485-271-5214 Cell: 001-485-489-2144  
 E-Mail: [ldoe32@gmail.com](mailto:ldoe32@gmail.com)

Whelped on: 13.04.2018  
 Mother: / Anna vom Birdfinder 411872 HD-frei, OCD-frei, ED-frei  
 Father: / Basko vom Boarhunter 413225 HD-frei, OCD-frei, ED-frei

ZB-Nr.	Males	Females	Color
433661	1	Andy	Brsch
433662	2	Amos	Brsch
433663	3	Archie	Brsch
433664	4	Argo	Schwesch
433665	5	Annie	Brsch
433666	6	Amy	Brsch
433667	7	Abby	Schwesch

**Verification by Veterinarian**

I verified the puppies identities by chip or tattoo number. Blood was drawn and samples placed in purple top tubes – EDTA as instructed. Samples were shipped to:

Stamp

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of collection Vet Signature Practice Stamp

**One copy of this form goes to GeneSeek with the Samples and one copy is to be sent immediately by the Breeder to the GNA Breedwarden, either by mail or Emailed as a pdf file.**

VDD Group North America 26  
 Genetic Blood Storage for the Deutsch Drahthaar Breed  
 Litter ID # 20180126

**If there are questions about these samples contact Tim Mitchell**

ZB-Nr.	Dogs Name	Kennel
433661	Andy	vom Drahthaar
433662	Amos	vom Drahthaar
433663	Archie	vom Drahthaar
433664	Argo	vom Drahthaar
433665	Annie	vom Drahthaar
433666	Amy	vom Drahthaar
433667	Abby	vom Drahthaar

**This form goes to GeneSeek with the samples**

The samples are collected and shipped by the veterinary clinic, which will have them in their possession until they are shipped to GeneSeek. GeneSeek recommends to ship the samples at the first part of the week (Mon – Wed), to avoid the possibility of them sitting somewhere over a weekend. They recommend sending them frozen with cold-paks. Next day or 2 day shipping is recommended in hot weather. Priority mail would save money in the cooler months.

Send samples with verification sheets to:

**GeneSeek Inc.  
 Attn: Samples  
 4131 N 48th St  
 Lincoln, NE 68504**

# VDD GNA

## Litter Registration

These are the items that are needed to complete the litter registration. To avoid delays, please use this sheet as a checklist before sending the Litter Registration.

- Litter Registration Form (Wurfmeldung)** The German/English Wurfmeldung fillable pdf files (Both 1 & 2) must be completed and printed on good quality paper. Incomplete paperwork will be returned to the breeder. It **MUST** be signed in 2 places on the back of form (Wurfmeldung) as the Owner of the Bitch/Breeder. **Be sure to check the box on whether this litter was or was not delivered by C-Section.**  
When listing the names of the puppies, list males first, and then females. Keep colors together within the male and female listings. Remember that the names must differ by at least two letters, and not otherwise be too similar. This means for example that you cannot have a Dux and Dax, or a Dina and Dana in the same litter. If you are going through the alphabet for the second, third, or fourth time, the roman numerals II, III, or IV must follow all puppy names respectively. The names must also be "Gender Specific", in the opinion of the Germans. The correct color of the puppies must be entered for each puppy. The color scheme "Braun m.Brfl is now referred to as Braun m. Abz.
- Stud Service Certification (Deckbescheinigung)** This German/English Stud Certificate fillable pdf file form **MUST** be completed, printed on good quality paper, and signed in 2 places by the owner of the stud dog. It then must also be signed by the Breeder. If the stud dog owner is the breeder, don't put a dash on the line where it asks for the amount of the stud fee. If you own the stud dog enter a zero for the amount of the stud fee.
- Kennel Registration Form** (If needed) If you don't yet have a kennel registered with VDD, you will need to complete this form. It asks for three choices of a kennel name, your first choice and two alternates. Complete and sign the green English/German "Antrag auf Zwingerschutz"
- Ahnentafel** 1) You must include the original Ahnentafel of the bitch with every litter that she produces. (It is strongly recommended that you make a good copy of both sides of the bitches Ahnentafel and keep it in your records) 2) The stud dog's original Ahnentafel or a good quality copy of both sides must be included only with the first litter that he produces. Make sure that the copy was made after the Ahnentafel was stamped. "Zuchttauglich & HD-frei and OCD-frei" (If applicable)
- Fees** \$40 per puppy on litters whelped April 1, 2012 or later. If you are registering your kennel at the time of your first litter there is an additional \$100 fee for that. Make checks payable to VDD/GNA.

Send everything listed above to the GNA Breedwarden immediately after the litter is whelped. **The Breeding Regulations state that the Litter Registration must be received by the GNA GROUP BREEDWARDEN within 3 weeks, but waiting this long will make it impossible to get things back in time. Send them as soon as possible. DO NOT SEND THIS TO THE CHAPTER BREEDWARDEN. Do not use a delivery service that requires the recipient's signature as this may cause a delay in receiving it.** There is an automatic penalty of double fees if the complete litter registration is received later than three weeks from the whelping date.

The microchips and Numbers should be available at around the time the puppies are six weeks old, so that Tattooing, Chipping, and Blood Draw can take place. I would advise breeders not to promise puppies to buyers traveling long distances before they are 8 weeks of age. In accordance with the Breed Regulations Article 28 Section 5, it is the responsibility of the breeder to pay the expenses of the Tattoo Agent that performs this service. Please take care of this as soon as the inspection and tattooing are completed so the Tattoo Agent doesn't have to ask for it.

If you have any questions, please call or email me or your chapter Breedwarden. It is much better to ask questions, than to have things delayed because you didn't understand something.

GNA Breedwarden  
Lynn S. Whiteley  
5839 S. 6700 W.  
Hooper, UT 84315  
Ph. 801 985-5958  
[vddgnabw@gmail.com](mailto:vddgnabw@gmail.com)

## **Part II**

### **Care of the Breeding Female and Newborn Puppies**

#### **Contributors**

**Martin Coffman, DVM and Gene Kluck, DVM**

**Lynn Whiteley, VDD-GNA Breed Warden**

## **Part II: Canine Reproduction and Common Diseases**

### **41 Key Facts as a Breeder You Should Know:**

#### **Glossary of Key Terms**

- It's a good idea to learn the lingo, so here is a glossary of terms:
  - **Estrus ~ stage when a bitch is receptive to breeding.**
  - **Estrogen ~ hormone is responsible for many of the outward/physical indications of the heat cycle such as flagging and interest from stud dogs**
  - **Luteinizing hormone (LH) ~ hormone that causes follicles to be released from the ovaries**
  - **Ovulation ~ the release of a mature oocyte from a follicle**
  - **Proestrus ~ stage when the body prepares for estrus. Indications are bleeding/discharge, elevated estrogen levels,**
  - **and gradual cornifying of vaginal cells**
  - **Progesterone ~ hormone responsible for maintaining reproductive organs and pregnancy**
  - **1 - studies have shown that stud dogs will show interest in estrogenized spayed bitches but even greater arousal when**
  - **progesterone is also present.**
- 1) The first stage of "heat" is called proestrus and is noted by bleeding from the vulva. This is not the same as human menstrual bleeding.
  - 2) Proestrus normally lasts about 9 days but can vary from 3 to 14 days.
  - 3) The hormone of ovulation is Lutenizing Hormone. While your veterinarian can readily check LH levels, the spike in LH is often only a few hours long and can be easily missed.
  - 4) Progesterone, another hormone of reproduction, gradually increases and is, therefore, easier to monitor than just LH but several blood draws may be required to pinpoint the day your female ovulates and her eggs can be fertilized by the male. This is the most common way of "timing" a mating; progesterone testing.

- 5) Dog sperm can live in the uterus for up to 7 days. So, it is better to breed early than late.
- 6) Four things to watch for in pregnant female dogs are: complete lack of appetite for 48 hours; increased water consumption/urination; weakness or a wobbly gait, and discharge from the vulva of any kind. Any of these four signs suggest a visit your veterinarian.
- 7) All breeding female dogs should be either checked for internal parasites prior to breeding or dewormed with fenbendazol for five straight days prior to breeding.
- 8) 99% of all female dogs worldwide whelp 63 days from the day of ovulation. This is not the same as 63 days from the mating.
- 9) A green discharge from the vagina prior to whelping is a serious sign and professional help should be sought.
- 10) Female dogs normally drop their temperature 12 hours before whelping but the drop is transient. Checking the temp four times daily is required if one is going to use this tool.
- 11) After beginning hard labor, a female dog should produce a puppy within 4hours and average one pup per hour after that.
- 12) Intermittent straining in labor for >4 hours or hard labor pains for >1 hour or > than 2 hours since last pup suggests a call to your vet.
- 13) If a female has live puppies that are nursing an injection of oxytocin as a “clean out shot” is not normally needed because the nursing stimulates oxytocin production anyway.
- 14) Emergency C-sections (after the female has been in labor for an extended period) results in about 13% puppy mortality (death) whereas elective C-sections have no difference in puppy loss than a normal birth.
- 15) Tails and declaws should be docked/removed by Day 3 of a puppy’s life.
- 16) After whelping a litter, female dogs may have normal discharge from their vagina for up to 3 weeks.

- 17) Six Red Flags on new born puppies: continual crying, very red bellies, very blue bellies, dam pushing them away, lying in a corner, and weighing <80% of their littermates.
- 18) If bottle feeding or tube feeding is required in orphan puppies, a typical DD puppy can hold about 10cc of milk per feeding at one week of age.
- 19) Mastitis (infection of the mammary gland) is noted by a hard, swollen, warm to the touch teat area and can be serious.
- 20) Puppies should be offered moistened food at about 3 weeks of age.
- 21) DD puppies should be fed a "large breed puppy" food until they are 10 months of age but this doesn't need to start until they are 3 months old.
- 22) Puppies should be dewormed with a product like Pyrantel every week from Day 21 until Day 42.
- 23) If a young, healthy female DD is to be bred to a proven male and can be bred multiple times, breeding timing need not be done.
- 24) A true "tie" between the male and female is not necessary for pregnancy to occur and the length of the "tie" has nothing to do with litter size.
- 25) A female dog can become pregnant and carry puppies from more than one sire in a litter, e.g. their female mates to a certain male and then she is accidentally mated to another male after returning home.
- 26) The human pregnancy test does not work on dogs.
- 27) It is safe to X-ray a female dog to see if she's pregnant. The amount of radiation is small and by the time the puppies will show up on an X-ray, they are no longer susceptible to birth defects from X-rays.
- 28) The most common cause of a "miss" or a small litter is a poorly timed mating.
- 29) There is only one drug used for pregnancy termination immediately after an unwanted mating (estrogen) but it has several reproductive side effects and is not recommended for valuable DD females.
- 30) Puppies can be safely aborted later in pregnancy.

- 31) A prolapsed uterus is a serious emergency and is determined by a large, red, meat-like protrusion from the vulva, normally after whelping.
- 32) Subinvolution of the placental sites (SIPS) can occur, normally after a female's first litter, and can be discovered by a semi-bloody discharge longer than 3 weeks after whelping with no other signs of illness.
- 33) The average weight of a newborn DD puppy is between 12oz. and 17 oz.
- 34) The normal temperature of a newborn DD puppy is 96° F +/- 1.5°s. The temperature should increase to about 98.6°F to 100°F by Day 7 and reach normal adult levels (101.5°F) by Day 42.
- 35) Eyelids separate in DD puppies about Day 14.
- 36) DD puppies should be able to support their weight on their forelegs by Day 10.
- 37) Eclampsia (low blood calcium) can occur with large litters and females that are heavy milk producers. The signs are excessive panting, wobbly gait, and even seizures. Eclampsia is generally considered an emergency.
- 38) Canine Brucellosis can be contracted by breeding or it can also be caused by mere exposure to the urine of an infected dog.
- 39) Since abortion is the main sign of Canine Brucellosis, some owners think only the female needs to be tested. Stud dogs should be tested at least annually in our breed.
- 40) The optimal ambient temperature near a newborn litter of puppies is about 80°F.
- 41) Female dogs "cycle" on average every 7 months.

## Genetic Problems that affect the Deutsch-Drahthaar

There are a number of genetic diseases that affect the DD to some degree. In the table below are the ones that are known to occur, and do or could affect the Breeding Suitability of DD.

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Name of Disorder</b>	<b>Testing Required</b>	<b>DQ'd from Breeding if Clinically Affected</b>	<b>Type of Test</b>	<b>% of DD Affected</b>
HD	Hip Dysplasia	Yes	Yes	Orthopedic Evaluation	**4.46% of Dogs Evaluated
OCD	Osteochondro sis	Yes	Yes	Orthopedic Evaluation	**3.41% of Dogs Evaluated
ED	Elbow Dysplasia	No but Recommended	Yes	Orthopedic Evaluation	**1.16% of Dogs Evaluated
vWD	von Willebrands Disease	*No but Recommended	Yes	DNA	Unknown but relatively low
CH-B	Canine Hemophilia B	No	Yes	DNA	Unknown but very rare
CMO	Craniomandibular Osteopathy	No	Yes	Presently no Test for DD	Unknown but extremely rare

\*If all possible lines of inheritance in the pedigree lead to dogs documented to be vWD-frei by DNA, testing isn't necessary, however it is recommended that all foundation dogs used to start a breeding program be tested to establish a DNA standard of vWD-frei.

\*\*These statistics are for dogs evaluated. Actual occurrence in the breed could be higher.

Overall the DD is a healthy dog. The long-term benefit of outcross heterozygous breeding promotes the absence of profound disease patterns. Other diseases to be aware of are Hypothyroidism, Atopic Dermatitis (allergies), and Epilepsy. Again, the Deutsch-Drahthaar is a very robust and healthy breed. Awareness is critical in order to address any and all possible genetic problems, before making an unwise breeding decision that could extend the disease into another generation.

**Part III**  
**Breeder Ethics and Mentoring**

**Contributors**

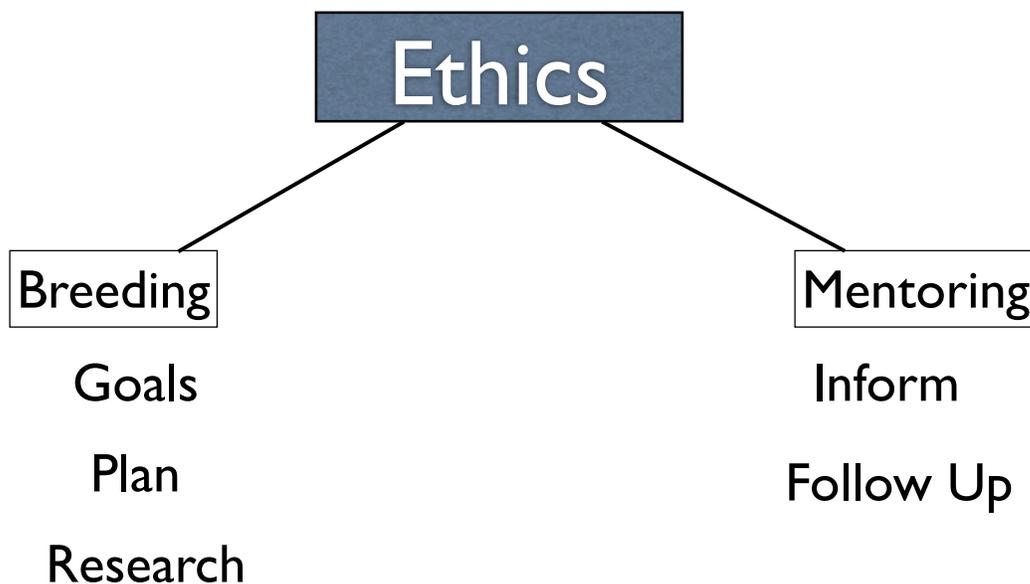
**Brandt Hardy VDD-GNA Chairman**  
**Lynn Whiteley VDD-GNA Breed Warden**  
**Fred Turjan and Mike Schell**

## Part III: Breeder Ethics and Mentoring

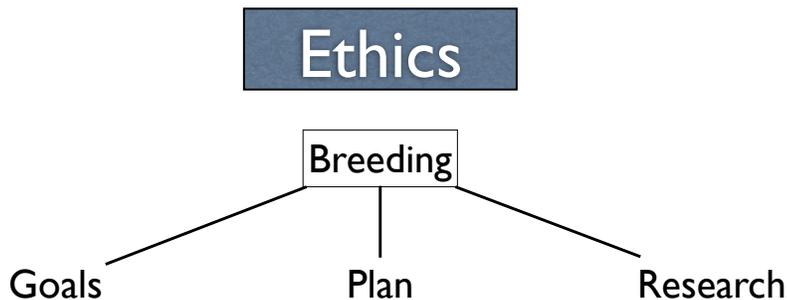
**Breeding** is an idealistic endeavor. Our breed derives from combinations of four different breeds, which only complicates breeding decisions (and outcomes) even more. It is even more of an idealistic process when the level of breed passion is so high and there is such an intricate partnership that is required between the hunter and DD. To this end, an **Ethical Breeder** has many telling choices in front of him to demonstrate what is most important in their own value system.

For the **Ethical Breeder** it cannot be about money, convenience, status, or any lesser motivation, but solely the breed, the **Deutsch-Drahthaar**. It is critical for the Ethical Breeder to thoroughly develop their **Goals**, take time to organize their **Plan**, and be constantly committed to do the necessary **Research** prior to making any actual breeding decisions.

**Mentoring** is a grossly underutilized partnership between associates of different levels of knowledge and experience within VDD-GNA. The ABC program strongly encourages the aspiring breeder to cultivate a mentoring relationship with an experienced, successful breeder. We continue to have a large number of enthusiastic first time DD owners who want to breed their dogs. While enthusiasm is encouraged it must be tempered with solid reflection on the consideration of **Goals**, **Plans**, and **Research**. The first time handler/owner often doesn't even know the right questions to be asking as they consider their options to begin breeding. This is the intersection point for successful mentoring.



## Developing Breeding GOALS

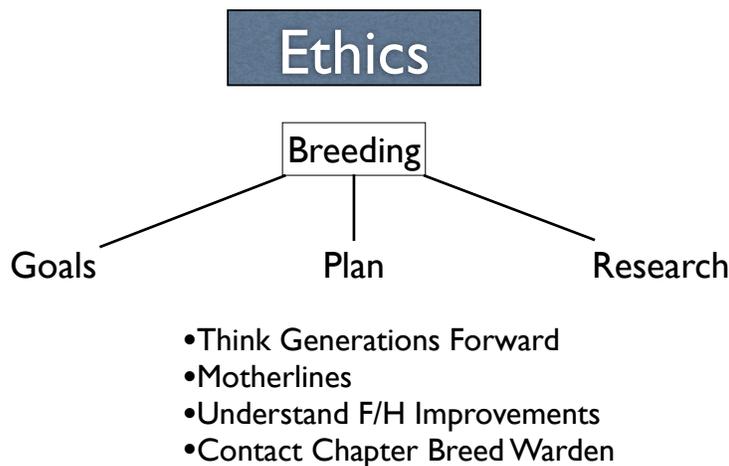


- Short/Long Term
- +/- of your DD
- Develop relationships with other breeders
- Kennel Blindness

What are your **Goals**, not just for your “A” litter but also for your “Z” litter? Ethical breeding requires taking both the short and long view. It is clear that in developing your **Goals**, it is a good time to consider what other breeders have done well and not so well. It is critical to learn from both success and failure in the breeding process. Not all breeding decisions work out as planned or hoped for. In order to advance the breed, all outcomes are important. The wise breeder is constantly surveying his puppy buyers for input on the socialization and development of their puppies. Every person has a part and an important role in the long-term development of the DD. It is important to communicate with other owners and breeders to develop a “big picture” of the dogs you might be considering to breed to in the future.

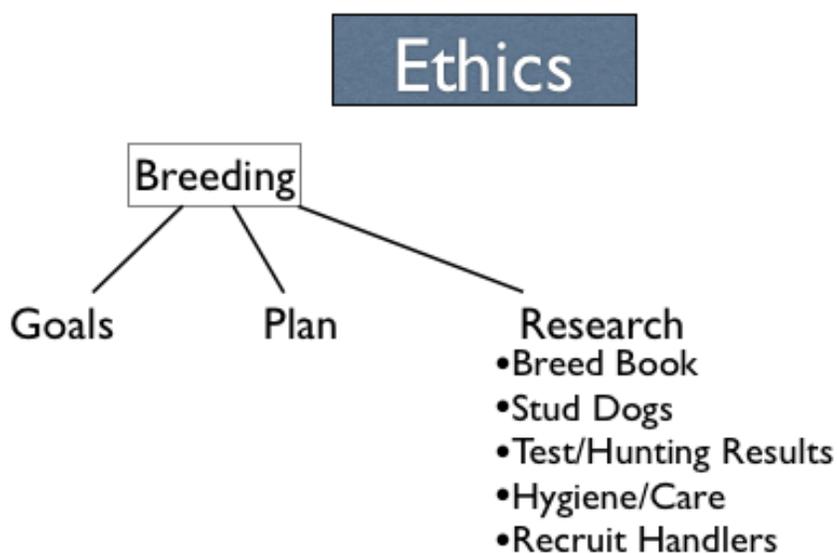
It is often most difficult to accurately assess your own breeding dogs. We love our dog and develop an attachment that causes us to minimize or overlook faults and shortcomings. Training, testing, hunting, and home life behavior is all part of getting a complete view or assessment of what we bring to the whelping box with a particular dog. Kennel blindness can derail a breeding program before it even gets off the ground. Fight hard against this natural human tendency.

## PLAN for Success



It is critical to develop and execute a **Plan** for breeding. This **Plan** should be both broad enough to consider the many breeding variables with the DD and detailed enough to ensure that you are participating, in a meaningful way, in the advancement of the breed. All breeding decisions require serious and honest self-evaluation of your results. This goes well beyond beauty or test scores. Our task is set at a high bar-**we are charged to advance the breed that we love**. We either strategically **Plan** to succeed or expect failure in our outcomes.

## RESEARCH is Never Ending



To be ethical, we must be constantly aware of the inter-relationships that we share with all DD breeders as we create the future DD. Ethical breeders work openly, honestly, and cooperatively with each other for the betterment of the breed. Form and Hair, health issues, breed faults, temperament, and the outcomes of prior breedings are just a few of the many things that should be considered in the **Research** process. Where do you get pertinent information as you do your research?

Actual hunting experience with the potential Dam or Sire is the best first level of research. Beyond that there are significant resources that are available primarily in the Breed Books and Breed Show Summaries. Never underestimate others who have first hand knowledge of the dogs. It is also critical if the Dam or Sire has produced puppies to research their offspring. The individual dog is important to consider but the productivity of the litter is probably a more valuable consideration. Also the overall health of the litter must always be taken into consideration as well. For the ethical breeder **Research** is never ending!

## **Contemporary Ethical Breeding Concerns Facing VDD-GNA**

There are several critical issues that concern and effect the future development of the Deutsch-Drahthaar breed in the US. As a member of the ABC DD community it is paramount that you are both informed and support the protection of the breed. This is again a responsibility of the **Ethical Breeder**.

### **The “Instant Breeder”**

The ABC began partly in response to an observed trend of individuals purchasing finished DDs, breeding their bitch, applying for a kennel registration and then applying for VDD membership. They know nothing of the VDD or JGHV systems. They have never run a DD through training much less a test. It is also my opinion that they don't respect the system at all. They are simply interested in immediately beginning a breeding program because they think they can throw together two good dogs and breed the next wonder dog. To say that they were deficient and in over their head is an understatement.

There is currently a mindset that the DD is different, unique, and trendy. This wrong perception generates heightened interest with some “wannabes”. If greed, or even just making some extra money, is your motivation, you should be classified as an unethical breeder. The goal is to improve the breed one mating at a time, not increasing your bank account. The VDD breeding system is about small-scale thoughtful hunters with intimate knowledge of their breedable dogs producing better hunting dogs from one generation to the next. This is not like other breeds that do large-scale breeding with aggressive culling. In the DD bigger is not the pathway to better.

These “Instant Breeders” create a mass of confusion and problems for GNA leadership, on a national and chapter level, as well as for their puppy buyers. Unfortunately these people are both often unwilling and unable to support their puppy buyers and create a terrible black eye for GNA. The chapter level response has been mostly successful, but it is a real drain on manpower and resources. It is unethical. The Executive Committee is strongly opposed to the “Instant Breeder” and will at every opportunity block their ability to gain membership.

### **Dual Registration of Kennels or Kennel Operations**

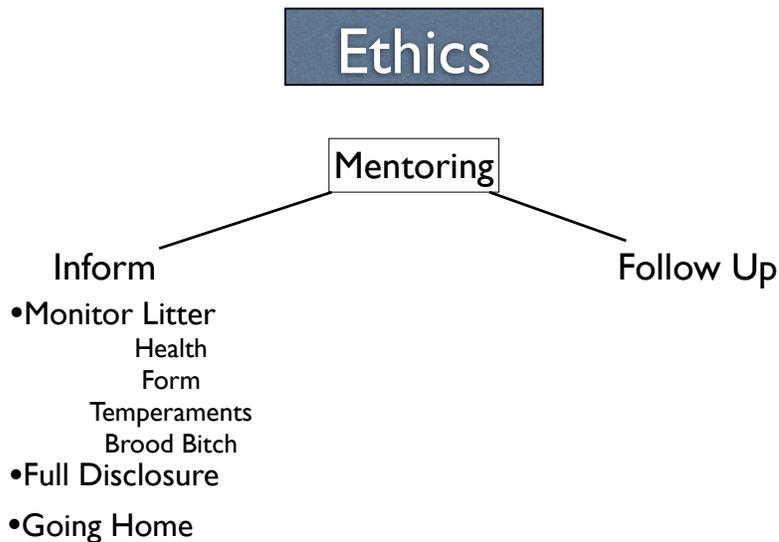
Our DDs can be cross-registered in 6 or 7 other breeding registries in the US! This is a problem unique to VDD-registered dogs in many countries outside of Germany. The intentional action to register a DD and breed a DD outside of the VDD system is most unethical. This action will not be supported under any circumstances. No one else has the concerned welfare or any compatible sense of responsibility to protect, promote and preserve the Deutsch-Drahthaar world wide like **each VDD member** has. The **Ethical** DD Breeder shares corporately in this task and responsibility to never have dual registration of kennel or kennel operation. No other registry has compatible breeding values, expectations, or restrictions as we do within the VDD system. It is a widely held belief that this Breed standards and regulations combined with the JGHV testing system is what sets our Drahthaars apart in the hunting field, forest, or marsh. VDD along with the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors of VDD-GNA are strongly opposed to the dual registration of kennels or kennel operations.

Another consideration for the **Ethical Breeder** is the dual registered DD. Many people enjoy training and testing with other versatile and specialty dog groups. Some of these other groups are in existence because they are opposed to the values and priorities of VDD. It should be with great caution that any VDD-GNA member goes forward to register their DD outside of VDD. This is the slippery slope that easily can lead to the exploration of breeding alternatives. Please realize that if you go down that road it would lead to your VDD membership not being renewed. The problem starts right here with the dual registration of your DD.

### **Withholding Factual Information about Your DD**

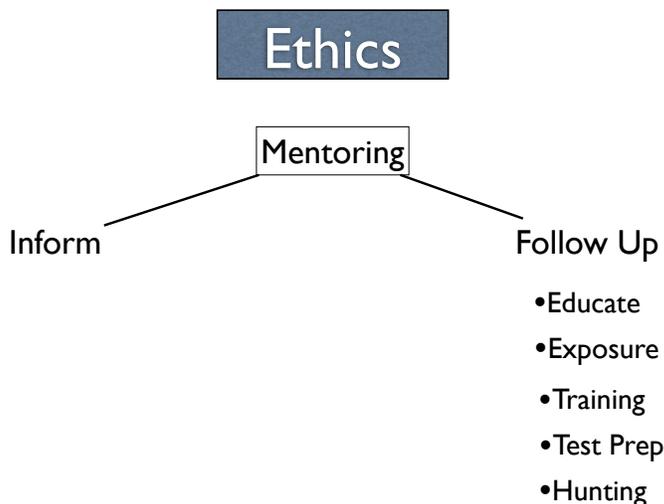
To be able to make the best breeding decisions, breeders need timely and factual information. It is imperative to make the process of evaluating your breeding program, your litters, and your individual dog as open, fair and honest as possible. Any lack of full disclosure is hurtful to the breed and often leads to reproducing undesired outcomes with many different litters. This is a set back that is avoidable. Realize that there is no room for gossip or hearsay reports about any dogs. That can have as much or more damage. The **Ethical Breeder** attempts to minimize kennel blindness and encourages feedback on their breeding decisions. Outcomes, regardless of success or failure, are critical details needed to advance the breed.

## Mentors INFORM



Successful mentoring will provide a novice person considering starting the process of breeding DDs with an overflow of information, knowledge, and first-hand experience. This first-hand experience could include how and why certain decisions are made. It can also include the whelping and care of a litter. We encourage our first-time puppy buyers to attend a test before they run, why don't we encourage our potential breeders to do the same with a Breeder/Mentor? This type of experience for a first-time potential breeder would be invaluable. Ideally they could experience the process with their **Mentor** from stud selection to following up with the new puppy buyers.

## Mentors FOLLOW UP



**Mentors** who invest in the new breeder can be an important resource/support as things occur through the unfolding of the process of the breeding, whelping, and working with new puppy buyers. It would be another set of eyes to evaluate the temperament, training, testing, and F/H outcomes of the litter as well. This type of **Mentor** relationship is built on trust and maintained by parties who share a high level of mutual respect. The momentum is always to move forward in order to advance the breed. **Ethical Breeders** will always support the growth and development of new breeders in order to support the expansion of the gene pool and the potential improvement of the **Deutsch-Drahthaar**.

**L. Michael Schell  
vom Jagdkönig**

**Breeder Ethics**

**Focus: Be Idealistic when breeding Drahthaars.**

**1. Breeder Ethics:**

A. Mother dog selection:

1. Mothers should possess a confident and friendly character, have natural hunting ability, be genetically clean and physically free of disorder. You should be willing to complete all the DNA tests available. Nothing else is as important as choosing and breeding only the right female.
2. Vaccinations and wormings should be given for the optimal health of the mother and her pups. Are the mother dog's vaccinations current so she can pass on good immunity levels to her pups?

B. Stud Dog selection:

1. Same as for female.
2. Do not breed for convenience.
3. Ask yourself: if all the pups are just like the father will all the owners be happy with their pup?
4. What are you bettering within your line with this litter and this breeding to this male?
5. Is the male confident and friendly? If not, search more and go to another male that is confident and friendly to breed your female. The search for the right stud dog should be done well before your female comes into heat.

C. Genetic familiarity

1. A person new to the breed and to breeding would do well to study the history of the Drahthaar. What breeds make it up? This will affect the motherline you choose to breed.
2. Increase your possibility for a successful litter: Rather than breeding an unknown quantity, be sure to meet and hunt with the dogs parents that you'll be buying and/or breeding. This will help you determine if the personalities of the parent dogs are what you hope to have. It could demonstrate a protective demeanor around the car or home that you may or may not want in your dog. Do as much research as possible on the dog's pedigree. For instance, knowing simple information such as the type of form and coats a dog's forbears

possessed can be vitally important to how your litter will turn out. Also understand that just because a dog has great scores and a wonderful personality, that doesn't mean its parents and grandparents did. By doing as much research and even meeting and hunting with a dog's parents and grandparents, you can begin to form a better picture of what the puppies will be like.

3. Consider the source: If someone tells you that a dog is a great hunting dog, please consider the person's perspective. Do they primarily hunt upland game, waterfowl or boar? Do they consider certain hunting traits that the dog has as necessary in order to consider it breed worthy? Do you hunt upland game, waterfowl or boar? The type of hunting for which the dog was intended will not only affect the kind of hunting it does; it will also affect the dog's character, level of aggression and the types of reactions they have to different stimuli.

#### D. Puppy Care:

1. This is very time consuming and stressful, especially if you are not set up right. Take the time to make sure everything is ready for the pups arrival. Do not confine the puppies with their mother in your basement for eight weeks with no outside exercise area and expect your pups to do well in their new homes. Do not confine the puppies off the ground on small mesh wire that the puppies will have to step on their poop to push the poop through the wire.
2. Exposure to humans should start the first day of life.
3. Look up and use the military Super Dog Training or some other program of exposure and conditioning.
4. Are you ready to cull if necessary? You might need to cull for weakness or deformities. If you want a good mother dog that enjoys her pups do not overload her with too many pups her first litter.
5. Are you ready to keep, care for, and develop a couple of pups that cannot be sold? The possibility always exists that you won't be able to sell all of the pups by the time they're eight weeks old.
6. Wormings and vaccinations should be given at regular and recommended intervals so the pups are healthy and ready to go to their new homes, healthy and clean.
7. Trim their toenails so the mother's teats do not get scratched up. This is not only for the physical health of the pups and their mother, but it is also so the pups get used to having it done.
8. Provide a raised shelf for the mother dog to get away from her pups after the 2<sup>nd</sup> week.
9. Clean the pups' ears so they get used to behaving while it is getting done.

10. Provide the litter and the mother a place to go outside to go to the bathroom and exercise. The pups will house break themselves if you provide them the proper facilities. From the 3<sup>rd</sup> week on a large, outside exercise area that has the stools picked up regularly is a great addition to raising your pups.

## **2. The Ethics of Mentoring Puppy Buyers, Customer Ethics:**

A. Be HONEST with puppy buyers. If a puppy's bite is not correct, if only one testicle has come down, if it won't have a beard, if one puppy seems especially possessive or aggressive, etc- let the puppy buyer know. If everyone is informed in this process, and has the opportunity to make their own decision, the buyers will be much happier with their puppy and the breeder will have a satisfied customer.

B. Dealing with deposits. Notify your customers once the breeding has taken place, then again once you know she is pregnant or not. Notify them once the litter is born and again after tail docking. After the tails are docked call your puppy buyers and set the date for picking up the pups after the pups have turned eight weeks old **and not before**, so that the pups can get tattooed and inspected.

C. Have a list of reading material for the puppy buyers so they can get their homes and lives set up for the day they bring their new puppy home.

D. Know or become familiar with the VDD system. Know how to get a dog conditioned and trained for hunting and for demonstrating their abilities at the VDD tests. This will make it so you can assist the new owners of your pups.

E. Be supportive and honest to those that inquire information and share the knowledge to build a clean, productive, and contributing line of Drahthaars.

# Breeder Education

## Fred Turjan

### vom Fuchsfluesschen

As VDD breeders we have a responsibility to provide an in-depth informational program that teaches new owners about the VDD, engages them in club activities, and welcomes them to the organization and the wonderful world of the Deutsch-Drahthaar.

Breeding the Deutsch-Drahthaar is not about selling puppies. It is not about convenience, money, or about wanting your kids to have puppies to play with. It is a responsibility to the breed. It is a commitment on your part to try and produce better dogs through knowledgeable breeding decisions. It is a commitment to your owners and developing a relationship with them that will last for years. Helping owners become involved requires a very good understanding of the JGHV testing system and the VDD breeding regulations.

Handling and owning one dog through the HZP level does not equal experience. Everyone will tell you that they own the greatest hunting dog when in reality it is probably just an average DD. Should this dog really be bred? This question should be taken very seriously before putting two dogs together to mate. The dedication of VDD over the last 110 years has produced a great product and as breeders it is our responsibility to continue on with that greatness and the future of the Deutsch-Drahthaar depends on us!

As a breeder you must:

- 1.** Have the time to commit to owners after the sale of your pups. This includes helping owners in person, over the phone, and email. Participating in VDD functions and being involved in local training days, tests and group activities will help strengthen your presence as a breeder and add to your dog knowledge.
- 2.** Be able to instruct owners on proper exposure and training of the puppies you sell. Without actual handling experience and involvement, it is nearly impossible to give owners details on specific testing subjects and requirements within the JGHV testing system.

**3.** Be able to help owners complete all of the paperwork for proper test entry and breeding certification. Personal experience is crucial in completing the required forms, as they can be intimidating and confusing for the uneducated.

**4.** Have a solid knowledge of puppy health and behaviors. Keeping you handlers notified of vaccinations and general health of their puppies. Tracking any health or behavior issues with each litter to better determine future litters. It is critical to continue researching and educating yourself on issues that might arise in a litter.

**5.** Determine who you will sell puppies to. Addressing inquiries to determine who will be the best owners for your puppies.

Are they willing to:

Test their puppies?

Provide feedback on behaviors and health?

Get involved in the VDD?

Support the breed?

**6.** Make it fun! To keep your owners coming back for more, you must have fun. Even though we work very hard and take things seriously, if it becomes a chore that you or your owners no longer enjoy, you will lose them. Have fun while at the same time getting the job done.

**7.** Lead by example. You have to be enthusiastic yourself to foster enthusiasm in your handlers. Just like laughter, enthusiasm is contagious and caught, not taught!

Without a firm ongoing relationship with our owners, we cannot determine and understand what we have already produced from our kennels and what we will produce in the future.

These are 2 guides I have listed on my website:

A REPUTABLE BREEDER is one who:

Will be knowledgeable about the breed, true temperament and type, genetic diseases, and care.

Will question you carefully about why you have chosen the breed and how you intend to hunt and care for the dog.

Will allow you to visit their kennel and maintain clean healthy facilities. Will offer puppies that are healthy and lively.

Will be willing to assist you in the future with any questions or concerns you may have about your puppy.

Will be actively involved in the training and testing of their dogs.

Encourages an open line of communication with puppy buyers and is glad to offer advice on raising, training and testing the pup in accordance with the VDD.

Checks their dogs for hereditary defects and does not breed dogs with such disorders.

Will ask you as many questions as you ask of them. What type of hunting you do? How many days per year do you hunt? Where do you hunt? What is your previous dog experience? What breeds have you owned? Where will the dog live? These are just a few. Don't be offended. Just answer honestly. We want to know if you are the right person to own one of our pups.

Will question if you are committed to train and test the dog in the VDD.

Explains why testing in the VDD is a vital foundation for the continuation of the breed.

Does not use hard-sell techniques.

## Questions to ask the breeder:

Print out this page and keep it by the phone when you make your calls.

1. Is the breeder a member of the Verein Deutsch-Drahthaar? If not, they are not producing Deutsch-Drahthaars. Many AKC breeders try to pass off GWPs and Deutsch-Drahthaars as the same breed.
2. How long has the breeder been breeding Deutsch-Drahthaars?
3. How often does the breeder breed?
4. Is the breeder knowledgeable about the Deutsch-Drahthaar? Is he or she involved in the VDD and training and testing of their dogs?
5. Is the breeder willing to provide you with references and telephone numbers of other people who have purchased puppies from them?
6. What different types of hunting does the breeder do with their dogs? Where? How often?
7. On what basis was the sire chosen? Convenience and location should never be the primary reason for selecting a stud. (See "Our Philosophy" page)
8. What size of dog and type of coat does the breeder expect from the litter?
9. How does the breeder hope to improve the breed with this particular breeding?
10. What are the negative aspects or traits possessed by the parents or grandparents that may be passed onto the puppies of this litter?
11. What temperament and traits does the breeder strive for?
12. Does the breeder have the puppy's sire and dam available for you to meet? If the sire is unavailable can you call his owner or people who have his puppies to ask about temperament or health problems? You should also be provided with pictures.

13. Will the breeder be available to answer any question throughout the life of the dog? Is the breeder someone you would feel comfortable asking any type of question? Is the breeder knowledgeable about raising puppies, critical neonatal periods, and proper socialization techniques?
14. Will the breeder allow you to come and visit, and do they have clean healthy facilities?
15. Has the breeder evaluated the puppies' temperaments? Did the breeder inquire as to your lifestyle? Most breeders know the puppies better than anyone else and should be able to place them according to the information you have given them.
16. Did the breeder provide the puppies with their first shots, tattoos and have they been wormed & checked by a vet prior to going home with you?
17. Does the breeder ask you as many questions as you ask the breeder? Don't be offended. Just answer honestly. A breeder should want to know if you are the right person to own one of their puppies.
18. What guarantees does the breeder offer? Are they willing to put a guarantee in writing?
19. What are the breeder's expectations of prospective puppy buyers? Will the breeder sell puppies only to hunting households?
20. Do you feel comfortable with the breeder, after all you are entering into a decade long relationship? Are you feeling intimidated or pressured? If so, keep looking!

## **Part IV**

# **The Introduction to JGHV and History of the VDD and VDD-GNA**

**Contributor**  
**Brandt Hardy**

## Part IV

### History of the JGHV and the VDD

#### History of the Jagdgebrauchshundverband e. V. (JGHV)

Taken from the Intro to the JGHV seminar (2015)

Special credit given to

JGHV Honorary President Heinrich Uhde, Uwe Tabel, Jan Knoop,

Hans-Heinrich Hemme, and Thomas Markert

### Introduction

The sole testing system that the Deutsch-Drahthaar **breed club (VDD)** operates under is inexorably tied into the **testing organization (JGHV)**. These are two stand-alone organizations that work cooperatively on common goals and hunting dog interests in Germany and around the world. VDD-GNA was the first International sponsored breed club group of the JGHV system in North America. If the JGHV testing system was not operating in the USA and Canada, the Drahthaar could not be active in its current state of operation.

#### 2.1 Before the founding

The history of the Versatile hunting dog system is, even if in a particular version, part of the history of the hunt. The development of the system of the hunting dog may in part be subject to its own laws, but cannot be divorced from the actual practice of the hunt, which gives it its particular character and the demands to which it must adjust.

There were some clubs in Germany dealing with hunting dogs even before the revolution in 1848. As a result of the revolution, the citizens assumed some of the privileges of the hitherto ruling class and the rights of the citizen extended to the area of the hunt and, naturally, to the area of the hunting dog as well. The institutions related to the hunt and hunting dogs were dissolved and the knowledgeable people slowly lost their employment and their income. Disorder spread over the total complex of the hunt and thereby over hunting dog matters as well.

The "Committee of Delegates" [Delegiertenkommission](DC) was created in 1879. Delegates of at first five, and later on significantly more, clubs were involved. The DC established the characteristics of the breeds for hunting dogs and later also for non-hunting dogs.

## **2.2 Founding and Growth**

That led to a separation in the year **1899** to the **Founding** of the Association of the Clubs for the Testing of Versatile Dogs for the Hunt [Verbandes der Vereine für Prüfung von Gebrauchshunden zur Jagd], later the Jagdgebrauchshundverband. This development was significantly influenced by men like Diezel, Riesenthal, Oberländer (Carl Rehfuß) and especially Hegewald (Sigismund Freiherr von Zedlitz und Neukirch). It is due to them that the hunting dog system remembered its roots and found the way to organizational structures that are effective and remain until today.

A unified organization of the German dog system was decreed in 1933 under an authoritarian leadership, the Imperial Association of the German Dog System [Reichsverband für das Deutsche Hundewesen](RDH). The association had been turned into the specialist society for the hunting dog system within RDH ("Fachschaft für das Jagdhundewesen im RDH"). In 1937 Friedrich Ostermann, later president and honorary president, pursued the separation of the association from the RDH. From that time the association carries the title "Jagdgebrauchshundverband"(JGHV).

In 1949 after the war-imposed involuntary pause the JGHV resumed its activities with delegates of dog hunting clubs from the three zones in the West participating. This gave renewed impetus for continuing further development until the re-unification in 1990.

The system of the Versatile hunting dog in the former DDR (Eastern Zone) had been organized only through breed clubs for specific breeds. At first the breed clubs were organized as part of the Association of Small Gardeners and Breeders of Small Animals [Verband der Kleingärtner und Kleintierzüchter](VKSK), later within the Society for Sport and Technology [Gesellschaft für Sport and Technik] (GST) and still later the Ministry of Agriculture and Forest Industry [Ministerium für Land- und Forstwirtschaft] with a central Breed Book Office.

## **2.3 Reunification**

After the events towards the end of 1989 the "Jagdhundeverband der DDR" was created in May of 1990 in Motzen near Berlin. This "JHV" strove from the very beginning for a fusion with the JGHV and for the goal of the JGHV being recognized in the future as the sole leading umbrella organization encompassing the total Versatile hunting dog system within Germany. The way to this was found in a common agreement. During the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the JGHV in the year 1991 both associations were joined, so that since 24 March 1991 the unity inside Germany in the area of Versatile hunting dog system was restored.

## **2.4 Relationship of JGHV/VDH**

The German Kennel Club [Verband für das Deutsche Hundewesen e. V.] (VDH) was created after the war as a second large cytological leading umbrella organization. The VDH was accepted in 1951 into the "Federation Cynologique Internationale" (FCI), the world organization. In accordance with the constitution of the FCI only one top organization of a state or land may represent the dog-related system therein.

The areas of jurisdiction are well defined. Of particular importance for the JGHV is the statement that the VDH does not arrange for hunt-related tests and does not intend to enter this field. The total complex of testing hunting dogs therefore lies under the sovereignty of the JGHV. New breed clubs may undertake to be incorporated into the JGHV only if they are a member of the VDH or at least have applied for a membership. A clear-cut indication that one is dealing with a “recognized” hunting dog derives from the three emblems under which, in this context, the important federations appear: The JGHV, the VDH, and the FCI.



FCI

VDH

JGHV

## 2.5 International Associations of Breed Clubs

The interests of the breed clubs associated with the JGHV run sometimes across the boundaries of states. As a consequence, especially during an era of globalization, international associations were established.

The oldest of these associations is the Internationale Schweisshundverband (ISHV), which had been founded in 1930. More recently, other worldwide associations arose, so in 1991 the Welterband Deutsch-Kurzhaar, 1992 the Deutsch-Drahthaar Weltverband, 1993 the Internationale Verband für Deutsche Jagdterrier, 1995 the Weltunion Teckel, 1996 the Internationale Verband Deutscher Wachtelhunde became active on the International scene.

## 2.6 Evolution of the Testing System

The history of the testing system begins already before the founding of the JGHV in the year 1899. The “Club for the Testing of Versatile Dogs for Hunting” [Verein zur Prüfung von Gebrauchshunden zur Jagd] was founded by Oberländer and others in 1891 and it ran the first VGP in October of 1892. This test has been adopted by the JGHV and is being continued currently. Already in 1893 the first Deutsch-Kurzhaar Derby was carried out, a breed test for Deutsch Kurzhaar that takes place in the spring. The “Solms”, the fall breed test of the DK Club, originated in the years 1906/1908. Against the background of these tests, JGHV adopted the Test Regulations for the Young Dog Test (VJP) in the year 1911. The Association Fall Breed Test (HZP) followed as a test of the association in the year 1929. Individual breed clubs had already held such tests before (e.g., the first DD Hegewald in 1920).

There was still a sharpness test [Schaerfeprüfung] until the year 1933, which was prohibited by the animal protection law of November 1933. These years are also to be thanked for the creation of the “Utility test” [Brauchbarkeitsprüfung], for which corresponding guidelines were issued in 1936 by the Master of all Hunters in Germany [Reichsjägermeister]- they are thus not an invention of the present era.

The Verbandsschweussprüfung (VSwP) was introduced in 1961, building on the experiences gathered during the enhanced (made more difficult) blood tracking tests [Schweissprüfungen] that were carried out until then. Since 2003 there is also an association trackshoe test [Verbandsfährtenschuhprüfung] that equals the VSwP with the exception of the manner in which the tracks are laid.

A series of “supplemental tests” [Ergänzungsprüfungen] as confirmation of performance were defined in 1982: The Armbruster-Haltabzeichen (AH), the Härtenachweis (proof of hardiness), the Lautjägerstrich(/) (loud hunting), the Verlorensuchen auf natürlicher Wundspur (Vbr)(search for lost game on a natural wounded game track) and the Bringtreueprüfung (Btr)(dependability/reliability of retrieving). The breed clubs draw attention to the multifaceted further signs of performance.

A general association performance test in which all breeds and types of assembled under the roof of the JGHV may participate was introduced in the year 1997 as “Association Test after the Shot” [Verbandsprüfung nach dem Schuss](VPS).

Some of the association tests are organized by the individual breed clubs as central events, whereby these tests are given the name of highly deserving hunting cynologists in their memory. The most well known amongst them are the “Hegewald Breed Test” (Hegewald Zuchtprüfung) and “International Ambruster” of the VDD, the “Edgar-Heynes” test of the Pudelpointer club, the “vom Walde” of the Large Münsterländer club, the “Major-Herbert” of the Weimaraner club, the “Dr.-Hebert-Lacker” of the Deutsche Jagdterrier club, the already mentioned “Solms” as also the “Dr.-Kleemann” of the Deutsch-Kurzhaar club and the “Schorlemer” of the Deutsch Langhaar club.

## **2.7 DGStB**

The results of all these tests are recorded and documented in the Gebrauchshundstammbuch (DGStB) [Versatile Dog Record Book] as a performance registry. It is a unique institution in the world. There is not such an extensive and complete record of the performance achieved during tests for any other animal species. The copyright to the DGStB went into the hands of the JGHV after a number of changes of the publisher. Today the volume published yearly contains the results of all tests that are run in accordance with the test regulations of the JGHV and of the breed clubs associated with the JGHV. Moreover, it contains a statistical summary of the breed tests of the Continental pointing dogs as well as the minutes of the Annual General Meeting, the texts of the test regulations, the names of recipients of awards and a section of pictures. The DGStB is maintained by a specially appointed Stammbuchkeeper.

## **2.8 Awarding of Honors**

The JGHV gives awards in various forms and for various reasons. The so-called “Sperlingshund” is reproduced on them, as it is also reproduced on the DGStB and moreover on all written matters as the logo of the JGHV. The image of the DK stud dog carrying a fox as a symbol for the German Versatile Hunting Dog Association arose from an idea of Hegewald. The origin of the “Sperling Dog” is a sketch by the painter of dogs Professor Sperling; it was used in 1926 as a template for the creation of a bronze statuette.

Since 1981 the image is protected by the German Patents Office in Munich as a medal for meritorious service to the Association [JGHV] and in the meantime as a common emblem in all countries belonging to the European Union.

## **2.9 Opening of the JGHV for all Hunting Dogs**

Until the years after World War II the JGHV was in essence an association for pointing dogs; the tests reflected this and the breed clubs belonging to the JGHV came from the camp of the pointing dog. Towards the end of the fifties initiatives were taken to also gather the specialist hunting dog clubs under the roof of the JGHV. The goal was achieved in the year 1952. As was announced during the 1952 Association Day, in addition to all the breeds for pointing dogs, other specialty groups such as the blood tracking dogs, driving dogs and earth dogs were now united within the JGHV. Hunt-oriented performance breeding was voluntarily united nationally and internationally. Based on a unanimous decision the DGStB was from then on to be carried in two sections, namely for tests of pointing dogs and for blood tracking, driving and earth dogs. Corresponding to this division the term “Dogs of Section V” [Hunde der Abteilung V] became firmly established within the language used for the specialized hunting dog clubs.

A general modernization of the Constitution [Satzung] of the JGHV was initiated in 1992. Since then the breeds of dogs that were previously represented in section V have been integrated into the overall system of tests via the framework requirements. The judges of the Section V breeds were incorporated into the general Association Judge System.

## **3. Structures of the Jagdgebrauchshundverband (JGHV)**

### **3.1 Member Clubs**

Originally the JGHV arose from combining testing and breeding clubs. From the very beginning the goal was and still is to place verifiably qualified Versatile hunting dogs at the disposal of the hunter by means of breeding, training, and testing.

In the meantime the composition of the JGHV has become more diverse by the incorporation of clubs and associations that are not strictly concerned with hunt-cynological aspects. At present (2005) the JGHV is comprised of 106 testing clubs, 39 breed clubs, and 103 sub organizations of larger breed clubs, 42 hunt-oriented unions (Land- and country- based groups, hunting clubs) and 4 (associated) clubs from foreign countries.

JGHV currently has 180,000 active club members in Germany and International countries like VDD-GNA in the USA. The JGHV annual membership meeting is the third Sunday of March in Fulda, Germany. For more information please go to the JGHV website @ [www.jghv.de](http://www.jghv.de).

### **3.2 Constitution and Regulations**

3.2.1 The **Constitution** of the JGHV is the “legal framework” in which its life occurs.

Special attention is drawn at this point to the rules concerning membership, the organs and their composition, the carrying out of the tasks of the Association and the regulations concerning Association Tests (§23). The last one is of special importance in our context. (See section 4- “The Testing System of the Jagdgebrauchshundverbandes”).

3.2.1.1 The **organs** of the JGHV are the

The Annual General Meeting, which as a rule takes place once a year, above all selects the members of the organs and institutions listed below for given periods, decides on the Constitution and the Regulations and votes on submissions to the meeting, whereby the votes are in proportion to the share of hunters in the member clubs.

Business Executive, consisting of the President, the Vice President, the Director of Testing and two Members “at Large”.

Expanded Executive, (§ 9 of the Constitution determines the key for its composition and its assignments)

Discipline Committee (see Regulations on Disciplinary Matters) and the

Stammbuch Committee (responsible for questions concerning tests and test regulations)

3.2.1.2 In addition, there is the **Association Court** ( see Regulations for the Association Court), an institute of the Association.

3.2.1.3 The President, with the agreement of the Executive, appoints the **Keeper of the Stammbuch** whose prime responsibility is the maintenance of the German Versatile Dog Record Book [Deutsche Gebrauchshundstammbuch] (DGStB), as well as the **Business Manager** who looks after the continuing activities of the JGHV and is in charge of the List of Judges of the JGHV.

3.2.1.4 Particular entities are the **Land Associations** that may constitute themselves as an institution of the JGHV by combining the JGHV-member clubs within the boundaries of their “Land” [state/province] (in accordance with § 10 of the Constitution).

3.2.2 The **Regulations** of JGHV provide details on the tasks to be performed in accordance with the Constitution and their execution. These are, among others:

the **Procedure to Accept New Members**

the **Regulation on Membership Fees**

the **Regulation on Granting Awards**

the **Regulation for the Association Judging system,**

Which in our context is of particular importance (see section 5 “The Judging System of the Jagdgebrauchshundverband”)

the Regulation for the **DGStB**, its **Organization and Makeup**

the **Regulation on Discipline** and

the **Regulation on the Association Court**

Of particular significance are the **Association Test Regulations**, which are addressed in more detail in section 4 “The Testing System of the Jagdgebrauchshundverband”.

### **3.3 Cooperation by the JGHV**

Externally the JGHV maintains close links to the “German Federation for the Protection of the Hunt” [Deutscher Jagdschutzverband e.V.] (DJV) and the hunting associations of the various Lands (state/provinces) [Landesjagdverbänden]. For example, there has been an effort under way for a number of years to come up with a “Utility Test” that will be binding inside all Lands of the German Federal Republic. The distinctive features of the Versatile hunting dog system warrants an autonomous organization in spite of some partial common interests.

The cooperation with the “Verband für das Deutsche Hundewesen” (VDH) and the “Federation Cynologique Internationale” (FCI) has already been dealt with in section 2, “The History of the Jagdgebrauchshundverband”.

## **4. System of Testing**

### **4.1 Evolutions and Purpose of the Testing System**

The evolution of the testing system has already been described in section 2.6. The goal of the entire testing system is the demonstration of the dogs suitable for the hunt and thereby satisfying a legal mandate. In addition, information essential for breeding is also obtained. The results of testing are not to be overlooked in their effect on market value [of a dog].

### **4.2 Types of Tests and Tests Regulations**

Generally a distinction is to be made between

**Breed-=Aptitude Tests** and  
**Utility-= Performance Tests**

Beyond these-inside and outside of this framework-there are a multitude of tests for selection with respect to breeding by the various breed clubs.

#### **4.2.1 Breed Tests**

(Limited mostly with respect to age) serve to establish the value of the inherited aptitudes. These ought to have been elicited as much as possible at the time of the test. Breed tests are run mostly in the spring and/or the fall. During spring tests only aptitudes are evaluated; during fall tests subjects of training that must not be lacking for being useable for hunting are also considered. Faults of character and deficiencies of body are established.

#### **4.2.2 Utility Tests**

(Master Tests) serve to determine fully trained hunting dogs for the benefit of the hunting fraternity. The results exert a clear influence on the overall breeding events.

### **4.3 Test Regulations, Competency and Decision-Making**

#### **4.3.1 Generally Binding Tests and Symbols of Performance of the Association:**

The Regulations for the Association Blood Tracking Test, Association Blood Trackshoe Test, Association Test after the Shot, Proof of Loud Hunter (LN), Proof of Hardness (HN), Armbruster Halt Award (AH), Proof of Retrieving Lost Game (VBR) and Proof of Retrieving Reliability (BTR) have been adopted by the Annual General Meeting of the JGHV.

#### **4.3.2 Common Breed and Utility Tests for Pointing Dogs**

(Association Youth Test [Verbandsjugendprüfung- VJP], Fall Breed Test [Herbstzuchtprüfung- HZP], and Association Utility Test [Verbandsgebrauchsprüfung- VGP]). The Test Regulations are decided by the pointing dog breed clubs and by the clubs that carry out these tests at least every two years during the Annual General Meeting of the JGHV.

#### **4.3.3 Other Tests of the Breed Clubs**

The regulations for these tests are adopted by the breed clubs on their own. (VDD does not have any additional specialty tests.)

### **4.4 Use of Judges**

**4.4.1** As a matter of principle only Association Judges may be employed or active in all tests and performance awards within the scope of the Association. They must appear in the JGHV List of Judges that is in force at the time. They can test only within the limit of their competency in specific topics. The number of and assignments for Association Judges acting within a judging group are stated in the relevant test regulations. This also applies for documenting performance awards.

**4.4.2 For Judging during Association Blood Tracking Tests and Associations Blood Trackshoe Tests** a special qualification is required. This is marked with the notation Sw in the List of Judges.

### **4.5 General Guidelines**

#### **4.5.1 General Guidelines**

are adopted by the Annual General Meeting of the JGHV and are valid for all tests and performance awards.

#### **4.5.2 The Following Guidelines are currently in Force**

Handling with hunter's certificate [license]

Repeating of tests, for every type of test only one repetition is permitted

Association Test Water

Appeal Procedures

Prohibition of Activity as Judge in the case of Bias

Rules for being admitted for Association Testing

These guidelines are – as are also any permissible exceptions – contained in the relevant regulations for the tests.

#### **4.6 Reporting**

4.6.1 A report is to be submitted to the Stammbuch Office for every test and performance award within a specified time period. All details may be gleaned from the test regulations. Breed clubs for other than pointing dogs forward their test results to the Stammbuch Office in one package.

4.6.2 These reports provide the most important data for the Deutsche Gebrauchshundstammbuch [German Versatile Dog Record Book/ DGStB].

## **A Brief History of the VDD and VDD-Group North America**

### **The Early Development of the Deutsch-Drahthaar:**

The Deutsch-Drahthaar was created in Germany in the late 19th century by a small group of dedicated breeders who set out to develop a versatile hunting dog that would satisfy all aspects of German hunting in field, forest, and water. This group of breeders succeeded in creating a versatile hunting dog that took its traits from the best dogs of the existing coarse hair breeds, cross bred with the shorthair blood. These ancestors included the Stichelhaar, Pudelpointer, Griffon, and the Deutsch-Kurzhaar. These are the four mother lines of our breed, which continue to today's whelp.

### **Brief Breed Standard and Contemporary Issues:**

The Deutsch-Drahthaar is a mid-sized, substantial dog. The height at shoulder varies from around 61 to 68 cm for males, and 57 to 64 cm for females. The coat is generally wiry, and tightly fit with a thick under wool. This coat was developed to provide optimal protection from external influences such as moisture, cold and heat, as well as thorns, brush and insects. The extended "eyebrows" and the typical beard give the DD his characteristic appearance. The breed has a variety of colorations. They are: brown and white or black and white ticked usually with some solid patches, and solid brown with or without a white chest patch.

Many breeders of the German Wirehaired Pointer (GWP) errantly refer to their breed as Drahthaar. In addition to significant differences in breed standard, the Wirehair has been bred without regulation or restriction since the late 1950s, but especially without the performance testing that proves the ability of the Drahthaar. After years of unrestricted breeding and no versatile performance standards the German Wirehaired Pointer has evolved into a distinctly separate breed.

Today's DD is the versatile dog most frequently used by the German hunting establishment, and is rapidly gaining popularity around the world. That is not by chance. The Deutsch-Drahthaar is designed to be a passionate, hard-working dog. They are noted for their endurance and willingness to obey, as well as the ability to concentrate on the work at hand. After persistently independently searching the field with a sensitive nose, the DD shows the game by pointing, so that the hunter comes to a calm shot. Shot birds are hunted down and retrieved to the master. In particular, DD's exhibit the characteristic of a retriever of lost game. They do this by their inbred capacity to track and pursue (and even dispatch) wounded game persistently and uncompromisingly in some of the most difficult conditions. This saves the game from unnecessary suffering. The German hunting system cares

passionately what happens after the shot. Their endurance, swimming ability and heavy coat also make them well suited to waterfowl hunting in the most adverse conditions.

While the Deutsch-Drahthaar is a superb hunting companion, they are also well suited as a family dog. DD's are normally gentle and friendly with children and other dogs, and are known to become protective of their "family" and home. Their intelligence and calm manner help them in adjusting to various living conditions. VDD Breeding Regulations specify that DD's who show unwarranted aggressiveness toward people or other dogs are to be removed from the breeding program, so these traits do not get passed on.

As with all genuine versatile hunting/working dogs, the DD needs exercise, legitimate specialty training, and consistent guidance. These are deeply instinctive pack oriented animals. They look for a leader. Only when given sufficient training and activity does he seem content. These dogs are not pets and never should be sold to non-hunting homes.

### **Brief History of the VDD:**

A group of breeders founded the Verein Deutsch-Drahthaar (VDD) in May 1902. The driving force behind the Deutsch-Drahthaar, Freiherr Sigismund of Zedlitz and Neukirch, demanded that the primary breeding goal of the hunting dog be versatile performance ability. His thoughts became the principle of the VDD breeding program: "through performance to standard". This principle is still upheld today, with registered breeders following a tradition of required performance and physical evaluation for all of the dogs used in the breeding program.

Verein Deutsch-Drahthaar is a breed organization dedicated to the development, breeding and continuous improvement of the versatile hunting Drahthaar. Its organizational objectives are achieved by means of stringent breeding regulations, practical field tests, and high standards of conduct. The VDD presently has over 11,000 members divided among thirty-five groups in many countries, including Canada and the United States, as the only member groups outside of Germany. Accordingly, this organization is one of the largest, most powerful breed organizations in Europe and is gaining a larger presence around the world.

In many ways the VDD is a group of survivors. Consider how this young organization enthusiastically started only to have WWI fought in Europe then followed by another more devastating WWII less than 20 years after the first. The breed almost did not make it through WWII and the divided Germany afterwards. It took devoted disciplined individuals working cooperatively to keep the remnants of the breed together and for organized planned breedings to renew and refresh the breed.

## **Hegewald and Armbruster:**

Every different breed club within the JGHV has an International Zuchtprüfung-fall test with a breed show-to introduce the new young best of the breed as the new year breeding plans are being considered. The VDD is the only breed club that supports two International test, the Hegewald in Germany and the Armbruster in the USA. The Armbruster is the only JGHV approved International test hosted annually in a breed club group outside of Germany. The Armbruster is also therefore the only International test annually sponsored and managed by a single group within a breed club. This is an important and recognized place for GNA within the International versatile dog movement. The Armbruster began in 2002 with the first test held at Aberdeen, South Dakota hosted by the Great Plains Chapter. All GNA chapters have hosted the Armbruster at least once as it rotates to a new site each year.

### **Hegewald started 1920**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Winner</b>
1920	Lübbenau	Pan vom Galgenberg
1921	Dutenhofen	Tanna II vom Müllerhof
1922	Magdeburg	Stropp von der Voßkuhle
1923	Leipzig	Freischütz vom Waldbruch
1924	Dutenhofen	Benn II vom Hünenwall
1925	Altlandsberg	Treff Bigge
1926	Waldriel	Regent II Auenheim
1927	Celle	Tipp Auenheim
1928	Aschaffenburg	Mars vom Höhscheid
1929	Dutenhofen	Arco von der Wildnis
1930	Halle/Saale	Flatt vom Lauchatal
1931	Güstrow	Benno vom Saarforst
1932	Magdeburg	Klaus II von Halna
1933	Lenzen	Teja vom Saarforst
1934	Freiburg i.B.	Bub vom Walsheim
1935	Breslau	Firn von Emmental
1936	Hildesheim	Asta vom Grederhof
1937	Magdeburg	Rolf vom Sachsenhof
1938	Breslau	Arco von der Farm
1939 - 1948	keine Hegewald	Kriegs- und Nachkriegszeit
1949	Hamm	Mentor II vom Geyerstein
1950	Dinkelsbühl	Edda von der Uitschenburg
1951	Hamm	Baron vom Schwingetal
1952	Peine	Elli von der Wulfesstrut
1953	Düren	Panther vom Ostpreußenland

1954	Gießen	Itta von der Röntgenstadt
1955	Dinkelsbühl	Elch vom Hamstrup
1956	Peine	Axel vom Lindenhof
1957	Alzey	Treff vom Sachsenhof
1958	Bremen	Carl a.d. Brinke
1959	Erlangen	Astor von der Stellheide
1960	Alzey	Cent von den Treuen
1961	Rhynern	Dieter vom Klünkenhof
1962	Kitzingen	Dorn vom Valkenhus
1963	keine Hegewald	keine Hegewald
1964	Kehl	Hatz von der Prinzenburg
1965	Gießen	Antje vom Beckbusch
1966	Grevenbroich	Benn von der Haselriede
1967	Peine	Alf von dem Scheelenhorst
1968	Straubing	Gall von der Prims
1969	Vechta	Dix von der Rehwiese
1970	Hamm	Ero von der Mönchheide
1971	Weiden	Hussa vom Teufelsacker
1972	Butzbach	Frigga von Niederzier
1973	keine Hegewald	keine Hegewald
1974	Heiligenhafen	Dixi von der Heinrichsbürg
1975	Landau	Dax von der Nordsaar
1976	Weinheim	Arno von Arenritt
1977	Mönchengladbach	Harro von der Quitteburg
1978	Bremen	Darko vom Donaueck
1979	keine Hegewald	keine Hegewald
1980	Bosen	Quirl vom Richthof
1981	Hollabrunn	Cora vom Bonesend
1982	Schifferstadt	Nick vom Donaueck
1983	Hamm	Ello van de Jaagrag
1984	Wiesmoor	Eiko vom Herrensitz
1985	Straubing	Yago II vom Donaueck
1986	Husum	Basko vom Spanger Forst
1987	Seefeld-Kadolz	Cisko vom Donaueck
1988	Soester-Börde	Heiko vom Lohwied
1989	Nettetal	Quitte von der Wupperaue
1990	Holdorf	Axel Bavaria
1991	Wesel	Ira II vom Donaueck
1992	Neustadt/Aisch	Gauner vom Spanger Forst
1993	Magdeburg	Zitta II vom Richthof
1994	Hollabrunn	Wera vom Zenngrund
1995	Husum	Dux vom Oechtringer Forst
1996	Ried/ Innkreis	Buteo vom Plenterwald
1997	Straubing	Vroni vom Donaueck
1998	keine Hegewald	keine Hegewald
1999	Neustadt/Aisch	Lux vom Liether Moor

2000	Moers	Quilla vom Stadtgraben
2001	Ulm	Fenja von der Wildrosenhecke
2002	Wesel	Alma vom Erthal
2003	Oelde	Eiko vom Klostergraben
2004	Grömitz	Aysha vom Wildgarten
2005	Freising	Cliff von der Rassobrücke
2006	Gesecke	Vella vom Liether Moor
2007	Meldorf	Ondra von der Dachswiese
2008	Grefrath	Asra vom Eleonorenwald
2009	Neustadt/Aisch	Kelly von der Ostalb
2010	Billerbeck	Kliff II vom Rödelberg
2011	Hollabrunn	Pauline vom Grubsberg
2012	Gesecke	Frieda II v.d. Dachswiese
2013	Großefehn/Ulbargen	Gebby vom Jura-Grund
2014	Riesenbeck	Resi v.Wathercourl
2015	Wesel	Senta II v. Spanger-Forst

### **Modern Movements within the VDD:**

The intense spread of the Deutsch-Drahthaar internationally has been occurring over the last 10-15 years. Federation Cynologique Internationale (World Canine Organization) or better known as FCI, is the “AKC of Europe”. Countries around the world that are non-FCI countries have allowed for the development of a movement of **Associated Groups** within VDD. Associate Groups have been formed in Australia, New Zealand and Turkey. These groups operate cooperatively as a VDD member group in everyway but do not have voting privileges.

Another affiliated VDD organization is the **Deutsch-Drahthaar-Weltverband e. V. (Deutsch-Drahthaar World Association)**. Unfortunately DD breed clubs from other countries were not able to become member Groups within VDD because they were already affiliated with the Federation Cynologique Internationale (World Canine Organization, or FCI), which does not allow its members to belong to more than one umbrella organization. Yet it became increasingly important to VDD to have a formal relationship with these clubs so that the standard for breeding the DD would be maintained. In 1992 — with the approval of FCI -VDD established the Deutsch-Drahthaar-Weltverband e. V. (Deutsch-Drahthaar World Association, or WV-DD) as a way to merge all of the DD Breed Clubs around the world. Today DD clubs from countries such as Argentina, Austria, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Italy, Norway, Russia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, and The Netherlands are affiliated with VDD through the WV-DD.  
(Taken from VDD-Group Canada website)

### **About VDD-GNA (Group 26):**

Group North America (GNA) was formed in August 1971, by a small group of dedicated sportsmen and women. GNA was the first International endeavor undertaken by the VDD. It was essential that GNA was to become a full voting member Group of the VDD. There were initially 15 members and 5 kennels. The growth was slow and by the mid-90's GNA had about 400 members. Breeders were beginning to develop across the country and the need for the Chapter system was evident by the late 90's. Currently GNA has eight very active chapters and approximately 1250 members. There are currently 238 registered breeders in GNA as of the fall of 2015.

### **Breeders/Testing Programs:**

To insure the continued quest for improvement of performance, regulations were established which require that all Drahthaars used for breeding must first meet certain field performance standards. This evaluation of performance is conducted at special field tests designed by the JGHV to demonstrate inherited and trained qualities.

The testing program of Group North America adheres to all VDD and JGHV Test Regulations. To evaluate hunting ability, VDD/GNA sponsors Spring Natural Ability Tests (VJP), Fall Breed Tests (HZP), Fall Utility Tests (VGP), and Coat and Conformation evaluations (Breed Shows). All breed shows are strictly the responsibility of the breed club (VDD) and not the JGHV. The JGHV is focused solely on the performance evaluations of the hunting dogs. For the purpose of breeding hunting dogs that are valued highly for versatility, the breed tests evaluate inherited and trained ability, rather than establishing the superiority of one dog over another. To enter a dog in these tests, an owner must be a member of a JGHV affiliated breed club, such as VDD-GNA, another JGHV approved breed club, or a JGV testing club.

Testing of the dogs' inherited natural ability begins with the Natural Ability Test (VJP) when the dog is approximately one year old and essentially untrained (i.e. the dog has not been trained to retrieve to hand, although it should have been exposed to furred and feathered game and demonstrated to the handler its ability to track furred game and search for and point feathered game). This "Puppy" Test is designed to evaluate the young Drahthaar's inherited abilities in five different categories (track, nose, search, point, and cooperation).

Fall breed Tests (HZP) are conducted each fall for the Drahthaar whelped prior to October 1st of the previous year. The HZP for the retrieving trained dog, again allows evaluation of the five qualities listed above, and adds five demanding retrieving tasks. Desire, obedience, and cooperation are also important aspects of the evaluation.

The VJP and the HZP are considered Breed Tests since these are the qualifiers for the Deutsch Drahthaar to be certified for breeding.

The ultimate field test for the fully trained Drahthaar is the Utility Test (VGP). This test allows evaluation in 26 categories, and 18 different hunting situations. This test is a comprehensive two-day evaluation of the dog's performance. Obedience is emphasized in the VGP plus natural ability is again evaluated. Handlers of the Deutsch-Drahthaar are encouraged to strive toward the successful completion of the VGP prior to beginning a breeding program. This will give you additional experience training and handling your dog in the JGHV system. You will be better able to evaluate your breeding stock and also assist your puppy buyers as they develop and train the next generation of Drahthaar.

All judges are certified JGHV judges that work at any GNA sanctioned event. They have successfully trained, handled and passed a dog through all tests, and have served as an apprentice judge in a minimum of two VJP's, two HZP's, and two VGP's prior to being licensed by the JGHV.

### **Pedigree / Ahnentafel:**

The green ahnentafel is a German legal document of property ownership. It must be treated with proper care and order as is outlined in the breed regulations. It must always be transported with the drahthaar after a sale. Only one person can own an individual drahthaar. There is no joint dog ownership as in other breeds. There is a tremendous amount of information to be gleaned from the paperwork. There will be dam and sire information as well as testing outcomes. It is organized with the front pertaining to the breeder and individual whelped dog along with the back that reflects the dog's history.

JGHV uses one or more of the following symbols prior to a dog's name to record certain Performance Awards included on the ahnentafel.

/ Hardness Certification {Hartenachweis}

\ Loud Hunter Designation {Lautjagerstrich}

- Dead Game Bayer {Totverbeller}

| Dead Game Guide {Totverweiser}

### **Specific Test Scores, Awards and Certifications:**

HD-frei = Certified free of Hip Displasia a hip joint ailment. All dogs must be certified HD-frei before being approved for breeding (Newer pedigrees show HD-frei A or B because the requirement has been in effect long enough that all certified dogs are HD-frei and more detail is necessary in making breeding decisions)

OCD-frei = Certified free of Osteochondrosis, a shoulder ailment. All dogs must be certified OCD-frei before being approved for breeding.

ED-frei = Certified free of Elbow Dysplasia Not a required test but dogs known to have ED are disqualified from breeding. Owners can voluntarily have their dogs certified as ED-frei.

VJP Spring "puppy" Natural ability test score (Dogs born in the first 9 months of the previous year, or the last 3 months of the year before that)

HZP Fall breed test score (Dogs born in the first 9 months of the previous year, or the last 3 months of the year before that)

VGP Utility Hunting Dog Test (Dogs cannot test in the year they are born)

A.H. Armbruster Halt Award {Armbruster-Haltabzeichen}

Vbr Passed {bestanden} the Retrieve of Cripple on a Natural Track {Verlorenbringerpr\_fung}

Btr Passed the Retrieving Reliability Test {Bringtreuepr\_fung}

Sw Passed an Association 20 or 40 hour Blood Tracking Test {Verbandsschweiflpr\_fung}

The "I", "II", "III" after a test score indicates a Prize 1, 2 or 3

### **Conclusion:**

Many folks who see the forest, field, and water work abilities of the VDD Drahtaar for the first time are amazed, but this should be expected when you consider the discipline, care and dedication, which has gone into its 100 plus years development.

**Our motto: From Performance to Type**