

# Constitution of The WUSV

2009 Version

Founded 1968

Place of Jurisdiction Augsburg - Place of Business Augsburg



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### I. General Provisions

#### Section 1

Name, Place of Business, Sphere of Action and Year of Business

(1) The Association has the name: „Weltunion der Schäferhundvereine (WUSV), e.V.“; abbreviated WUSV. It shall be entered into the Register of Associations of the Amtsgericht [Local Court] Augsburg.

(2) The place of business of the Association is Augsburg.

(3) The sphere of action of the Association is worldwide.

(4) The year of business is the year of calendar.

(5) The official languages of the Association are German and English.

#### Section 2

##### Neutrality

(1) The Association is neutral in political and ideological respect.

#### Section 3

##### Object and Function

(1) The object and function of the WUSV is the world-wide implementation of the object and function of the SV in terms of the uniform breeding and training of German Shepherd dogs.

(2) The Association is a non-profit organisation; it shall not pursue its own commercial interests as a first priority.

(3) WUSV's funds may only be used for the purposes provided for by its constitution.

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### Section 4

#### Competences and Statutory Basis

(1) The bases of the activities of the Associations result from section 3 of the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure.

(2) Furthermore, the WUSV organizes its own field of business by the regulations of the SV to the extent they have cynological relevance. In particular these are:

a) Regulations For The Selection For Breeding Purposes

b) Regulations For The Breed Show

c) Examination Regulations

d) Regulations For Judges

e) Regulations For Herding

f) Breeding Regulations

These Regulations have an effect similar to the Constitution.

(3) The Members' Meeting can entrust the bodies of the Association with further duties. For more important areas its organization shall be put down in regulations.

(4) The co-operation with other world canine organisations should be regulated by means of written co-operation agreements. The Board of Directors of the WUSV is empowered to enter into such agreements.

### Section 5

vacant

### II. Membership

#### Section 6

##### Types of memberships

(1) The following memberships are possible:

1. Introductory membership

2. Trial membership

3. Full membership

#### Section 7

##### Members

(1) Members can be and shall be all associations and clubs, which are responsible for German Shepherd Dogs in their respective countries. This applies especially to associations and clubs, which are already recognised by the respective canine breeding parent authority. The provisions which are in force in the respective countries as laid down by the Kennel Club responsible do not stand in the way of acceptance insofar as these do not contain provisions in contradiction of the statutes and orders of the WUSV. Only non-profit clubs may become members in the WUSV.

(2) The aim of the WUSV is membership of only one specific Shepherd Dog Club in each

country. If in any country there are several Shepherd Dog associations, then as far as possible, unification of these should be the aim.

#### Section 8

##### Obtaining Membership

(1) A requirement for enrolment is a written application in German with the office of the Association. With the application the applicant shall state that he/she recognizes the Constitution of the WUSV and all applicable regulations. A processing fee is to be charged, the amount of which is to be established by the WUSV's Managing Board.

(2) The Members' Meeting decides on granting membership. For the enrolment there shall be a majority of 2/3 of the valid votes cast.

A trial membership exists where the taking up of membership is either for a limited period and/or is subject to specific conditions (Section 8 (4)).

An introductory membership exists where a trial membership is intended and an introduction and induction into the WUSV is given first by a delegate.

(3) For enrolment for membership excluded are:

- a) Natural persons;
- b) Kennel Clubs and associations for all breeds which are members of cynological organisations which are in a state of disagreement or competition regarding the respective recognised umbrella association with respect to SV.

(4) On the recommendation of the Managing Board, the acceptance of new members can be stipulated for a fixed term or subject to other certain conditions. If the conditions are not met, a renewal of the membership or definitive acceptance can only take place upon request of the Managing Board.

#### Section 9

##### Termination of Membership

(1) Membership within the WUSV is terminated by:

- a) Winding-up of the member association;
- b) Withdrawal;
- c) Exclusion;
- d) Striking off the member roll;
- e) Winding-up of the WUSV;

(2) With the date of effectiveness of the termination all rights of the member end. That does

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not affect liabilities due by the end of membership, especially the settlement of delayed contributions.

(3) Withdrawal can only be declared by the end of the year of calendar. The statement on the withdrawal shall be made in writing by registered mail served upon the office of the WUSV and has to be received by September 30th of each year at the latest. In case this set term is not complied with, membership and payment of contributions shall be continued for the following year. Statements of withdrawal of several member associations within one letter are inadmissible and invalid. The WUSV is entitled to accept any notice of termination without complying with terms.

(4) The exclusion of a member association is governed by section 26.

(5) Member associations can be struck off the member roll, in case settlements of the contribution or other claims of the Association in accordance with section 10, subsection 5 and 6 are refused.

#### Section 10

##### Financing and Payment of Contributions

(1) The WUSV finances its business activities from the contributions of the member associations and from fees for services of all kinds.

(2) The members associations shall pay the following annual fees.

The annual fees for individual member associations are composed as follows:

All associations (introductory members, trial members and full members) shall pay a base rate, the amount of which shall be suggested by the Managing Board and established by a simple majority at a Members' Meeting.

In addition, each member association is to pay a per-head amount for each of its members, the amount of which shall be suggested by the Managing Board and established by a simple majority at a Members' Meeting. The pro-head amount shall be calculated according to the current number of members of each association. The WUSV office is to be informed of these figures as at 01.01 each year.

Introductory members shall pay a fixed sum, the amount of which is to be set down in the Rules of Procedure.

(3) The above-mentioned annual fees have to be settled in advance by January 31st of each year at the latest.

(4) In addition to the annual contribution, member associations are due to pay a one-time admission fee. The amount of the admission fee is resolved following the suggestion of the Managing Board by the Members' Meeting. In addition to the annual fees, new member associations shall also pay a one-off lump sum of € 520.

If necessary, a costs contribution not exceeding € 300 may be charged, and shall be determined by WUSV's Managing Board.

(5) In case of a failure to settle the claims due of the Association within the due period of time, arising fees will be added by the office of the Association.

(6) Upon refusal of payment, there will be a second reminder with a term of grace of six weeks. In case there still is a failure to settle the amounts due including arising fees, payment of the contribution is to be regarded as refused.

The obligation to settle remains unaffected. Still existing claims shall be decided in court. The place of business of the WUSV is the place of jurisdiction and performance for all contributions and other claims of the WUSV.

#### Section 11

##### Rights of the member associations

(1) All member associations have the same rights. Exceptions to that are ruled by the Constitution. There are no titles as to the assets of the association. This also applies where membership has been terminated due to the above provisions. Exceptions to that are ruled by the Constitution.

(2) Full and trial members are entitled to take part in the Members' Meetings, in the resolutions and to execute the right to vote as provided for within the Constitution, make motions for resolutions, unless there are hindering provisions of the Constitution. Introductory members are likewise entitled to take part in Members' Meetings but do not have any rights to make motions or to vote.

(3) Each member of the Members' Meeting can

make suggestions as to the offices of the WUSV and is eligible for any office of the WUSV, unless there are hindering provisions of the Constitution.

(4) Each member association is entitled to the use of all institutions created by the WUSV.

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#### Section 12

Duties of the member associations

(1) The member associations are obligated to:

1. comply with the constitutions, regulations and terms of execution in the version in operation and accept decisions and resolutions of the bodies of the WUSV;

This particularly is effected by:

a) recognizing the racial features of the German Shepherd as stipulated by the SV;

b) recognizing the Breeding Book for German Shepherds and the Book of Selection for Breeding Purposes of the SV as mother country of the breed as well as the Breeding Books and Books of Selection for Breeding Purposes of those countries and member associations which pursue the breeding of the German Shepherd based on the provisions of the SV and are WUSV members; The mutual recognition in any case comprises all Breeding Books and Books of Selection for Breeding Purposes which are recognized by the SV. This irrespective of the recognition by cynological organisations which do not belong to the FCI; the creation of a common Breeding Book accepted by the cynological world organisations is aspired as long-term objective;

c) control of breeding, raising, owning and training on the basis of the regulations of the SV;

d) setting up and carrying out activities for the selection for breeding purposes in accordance with the Regulations For The Selection For Breeding Purposes of the SV;

e) holding of breeding events on the basis of the Regulations of the SV;

f) holding of own and support of recognized training activities including herding;

g) holding of own and support of recognized youth activities;

h) training and admission of expert judges and masters for the selection for breeding in accordance with the Regulations For Judges of the SV and the WUSV;

i) setting up and carrying out tattooing and micro-chipping;

j) effecting the WUSV world championship in accordance with the Examination Regulations of the SV, which must be carried out each year by another member association.

2. settle all payments due on time;

3. inform the Managing Board at the office about changes in their place of their business of the member association;

4. make public complaints and accusations towards member associations of the association only in accordance with the spirit of comradeship and not out of the WUSV and

only to the Managing Board or within the Members' Meeting.

5. Member Clubs of the WUSV have the obligation to manage all the friends and fans of the German Shepherd Dog within their national field of activity and to allow them access to all possible activities carried out by the Club.

6. This also includes the representation of interests of Shepherd Dog lovers both under the terms of WUSV membership and also under the terms of the respective national canine association.

7. Member Clubs of the WUSV have the duty to provide WUSV-Observers all relevant information and assistance that are necessary for the WUSV-Observers to fulfill his/her responsibilities.

#### III. Bodies of the Association and their Duties

##### Section 13

Bodies of the Association

The bodies of the association are:

1. the Members' Meeting;
2. the Managing Board;
3. the General Secretary.

##### Section 14

The Members' Meeting

(1) Once a year the WUSV holds a General Members' Meeting. For carrying out the Meeting, the place and point of time of the Federal Breeding Championship [i.G.: Bundessiegerzuchtschau] of the SV shall be chosen.

(2) The Members' Meeting is a delegation meeting. It is composed of:

a) the members who have a voting right;

aa) the Managing Board;

ab) the President, i.e. the Chairman of the full and trial member associations or his/her representative;

b) the members who do not have a voting right;

ba) the Secretary;

bb) the auditors, unless they are members with voting rights in accordance with section 2, letter ab);

bc) the delegates of the introductory member associations.

(3) Public figures and personalities from science and of friendly organizations can be invited to take part at a Members' Meeting and for presenting seminar papers and messages of greeting by the Managing Board.

(4) The chairman of the Meeting decides on the guests taking part.

##### Section 15

Competences of The Members' Meeting

(1) The Members' Meeting is competent for all matters regarding the WUSV, unless other bodies are constitutionally entrusted with these matters.

(2) In particular, the Members' Meeting is competent for the following matters of the Association:

a) accepting the report of activities of the Managing Board and the Secretary;

b) auditing the accounts rendered, the cash and inventories;

c) discharging the Managing Board;

d) the approval of the business plan compiled by the Managing Board;

e) resolving and amending the Constitution and regulations;

f) taking decisions as to financial matters of special importance;

- g) the election of members of the Managing Board;
  - h) electing two auditors and two vice-auditors;
  - i) dismissal from office of members of the Managing Board for important grounds;
  - j) enrolling new member associations in accordance with section 8, subsection (2);
  - k) the procedural provisions under section 26 (2) und (3);
  - l) in all other important matters of the WUSV.
- (3) The costs of the Members' Meeting are settled as follows:
- a) the costs for the Managing Board, the Secretary and the auditors as well as the WUSV office are to the account of the WUSV in accordance with the Rules of Procedure. The WUSV only settles these costs to the extent they are not present as delegates at the same time;
  - b) the costs for delegates are to the account of the member associations.

#### Section 16

##### Convening of the Members' Meeting

- (1) Convening shall be effected in writing by the Managing Board complying with a term of at least six weeks containing information about the agenda. For setting the term the mailing date is effective.
- (2) Requests have to be put forward by March 31st of the year of calendar at the latest to the office of the Association. Requests have to be given reasons for.
- (3) Delegates to the Members' Meeting are entitled to make request as per section 14, subsection (2) a) and ba).
- (4) Urgent requests can also be put forward by the Delegates to the Members' Meeting as per section 14, subsection (2) a).

#### Section 17

##### Passing Resolutions and Competence to Pass Resolutions of the Members' Meeting

- (1) The Members' Meeting is run by the chairman or the vice-chairman in accordance with the General Rules of Procedure of the SV.
- (2) The Meeting is competent to pass a resolution if at least 1/5th of the member associations is present.
- (3) The discussion of the agenda is to be recorded on a sound carrier. These tapes have to be kept until the opposition period for the minutes has expired or if oppositions have been made, until the next meeting, and are at the disposal of the delegates of the corresponding Members' Meeting for checking cases of doubt.
- (4) For putting-down the minutes of the Meeting the Rules of Procedure of the SV have to be complied with.
- (5) Full and trial members have one vote. In addition, each of these associations has an extra vote per 1,000 members. The number of members on 01.01. in the current calendar year determines the number of votes.
- (6) For decisions on the resolution on and amendment of constitutions and regulations in accordance with section 15, d) and financial matters of special importance, the SV, as founding association of the race, is entitled to a veto.

#### Section 18

##### Further Convening's of the Members' Meeting

- (1) Exceeding the provisions of section 14 for the Members' Meeting, the Managing Board can convene for a Members' Meeting if need be.

The Managing Board is entitled to add further 5

points to the agenda of Members' Meetings convened for by member associations.  
(2) Furthermore a Members' Meeting shall only be convened for, if justified by important questions, elections or amendments of the Constitution.

(3) For the composition, convening, agenda and carrying out, the provisions of sections 14 through 17 of the Constitution are applicable.

#### Section 19

##### The Managing Board

(1) The composition of the Managing Board  
The Managing Board is composed of four members:

1. the President
  2. the President's representative
  3. two further Members of the Board.
- (2) Representatives within the meaning of section 26 Buergerliches Gesetzbuch [German Civil Code] are all four Members of the Managing Board. Each two Members of the Managing Board together have the position of a statutory representative.
- (3) The Managing Board is authorized to make up Rules of Procedure.

#### Section 20

##### Competences of the Managing Board

- (1) The Managing Board is entrusted with managing the businesses of the WUSV and the completion of the tasks it is charged with by the Members' Meeting.
  - (2) In particular, the Managing Board is in charge of:
    - a) the representation of the WUSV in all legal and other important matters;
    - b) the supervision of managing tasks and doing business of the office;
    - c) the administration of the assets of the Association;
    - d) decisions on the capital of the Association.
- In the individual case, the Managing Board can independently take decisions up to a value of €50,000 each. Internally higher decisions are subject to the consent of the Members' Meeting.
- Exempted from the above internal limitations are:
- a) the payment of current administrative costs, all expenses shown within the corresponding economic plan and the support of events;
  - e) the management of all breeding, training, selection, championship and examination matters;
  - f) the sending of WUSV-Observers to national and/or international events organized by member clubs. These include shows, breed surveys and trials. The responsibilities of the WUSV-Observers will be specified by the Board and will be published.

#### Section 21

##### Election and Term of Office of the Managing Board

(1) The President of the SV is President of the WUSV. The SV can also name another Member of the Managing Board of the SV for the office of the President.

(2) The Members of the Managing Board are elected from the circle of the members of the member associations of the WUSV by the Members' Meeting in accordance with section 19, subsection 1, fig. 2.

(3) The election of the Members of the Managing

Board as per section 19, subsection 1, fig. 2, is carried out at the regular Members' Meeting within the last year of the term of office for a period of four years. A re-election is allowed. The Managing Board remains in office until the new election.

(4) In case a Member of the Managing Board withdraws from office during his/her term of office, a supplementary election has to be carried out at the next Members' Meeting for an election for the remaining period of office of the Member of the Managing Board in question. Until said supplementary election has been effected, the Managing Board is entitled to appoint temporarily a Member eligible to vote of the Members' Meeting as a supplement for the withdrawing Member of the Managing Board.

#### Section 22

##### Meetings and Resolutions of the Managing Board

(1) The Managing Board takes resolutions within meetings, convened for by the President or in case of his/her prevention from attending, by at least two Members of the Managing Board.

(2) The Managing Board is competent to pass a resolution, if more than half of the Members of the Managing Board are present. Upon taking resolutions, the majority of the valid votes cast decide; in case of a balance of votes, the vote of the chairman decides, in case of his/her absence, the vote of the vice-chairman decides.

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(3) In addition to voting in Managing Board Meetings, the Managing Board can take resolutions in a procedure in writing, in case no Member of the Managing Board opposes.

#### Section 23

##### General Manager/Main Place of Business

(1) The place of business is the place of the office of the SV. As a rule the General Secretary of the WUSV is the Head General Manager of the SV, in case of his/her prevention his/her representative. The WUSV Managing Board can also designate another General Secretary proposed by the President. All business has to be conducted subject to the constitutions, the resolutions of the Members' Association and of the Managing Board.

(2) Staff costs arising from the business activities for the WUSV at the main office of the SV are to the account of the WUSV.

(3) The General Secretary is in charge of handling the whole business activities, carrying-out of resolutions and rules for execution [sic] as well as of the publishing of decisions and news of the Association. For this area he represents the Managing Board in and out of court and has the position of a special representative within the meaning of section 30 Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch [German Civil Code]. The General Secretary can be charged with further tasks.

(4) The General Secretary takes part in all meetings of the Managing Board, the Central Commission and the Members' Meetings on a consulting basis.

#### Section 24

##### Rendering Accounts and Auditing

(1) The office is in charge of all current financial business. It is subjected to the constitutions, instructions and resolutions of the Managing Board and the Members' Meeting.

(2) The office makes the annual financial state-

ment in co-operation with the Managing Board.

(3) At the end of a business year, within three months thereupon at the latest, the annual financial statement has to be made. The annual financial statement has to be checked by an officially sworn-in and authorized auditor by referring to accounting. The authorized auditor has to make-up a report on the annual financial statement, the income and expenses as well as the state of assets and to explain all important items of accounting. The report has to bear a final remark of the authorized auditor. Said remark has to show whether the annual financial statement and the accounting have been made properly or whether there have been any objections. On this basis, the two members of the WUSV elected as accounting auditors have to hand in their statements as to whether they agree to the expenses and the use of the income of the presented annual financial statement or whether they have any objections to report on upon carried-out auditing.

(4) The annual financial statement in form of a consolidated balance sheet plus loss and profit accounting with the remark of approval of the official auditor and the statement of the two accounting auditors has to be presented and explained by the Chairman of the Members' Meeting. At that occasion, a report on the state of the assets of the Association shall be made.

(5) The Members' Meeting approves of the annual financial statement. The election of an official auditor and two accounting auditors is made for the current year of business by the Members' Meeting. The auditors have to be elected from the circle of Members of the Members' Meeting. At the election of the official auditor and the accounting auditors the Members of the Managing Board have no vote.

#### Section 25

##### Central Commission

The Managing Board is assisted by a Commission (Central Commission) consisting of maximum twelve persons appointed by the Managing Board. The Managing Board is responsible for the individual appointments, the determination of the scope of activities and assigned competences for the Commission as well as its respective statutes. The Commission Member appointments are of two years' duration and end after this time without explicit dismissal. Reappointment is possible. The appointment of members to the Commission shall be oriented on the one hand to the respective task assignments and on the other hand on the international character of the WUSV. The Commission Members are not entitled to reimbursement for expenses incurred.

#### IV. Jurisdiction of the Association

#### Section 26

##### Disciplinary Measures, Notice

(1) In order to guarantee for it's efforts and for the keeping its internal and external order, the WUSV takes measures against member associations, who culpably violate the constitutions, regulations and aims of the WUSV.

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(2) The decisions on the measures to be taken are made by the Members' Meeting upon request of a member association or the Managing Board. Reasons are to be given for such requests.

(3) As measures there are:

- a) reprimand while warning of withdrawal of membership by a simple majority decision of the Members' Meeting;
- b) withdrawal of membership for a limited period of time by a majority of 2/3rd of valid votes cast by the Members' Meeting;
- c) final withdrawal of membership by a majority of 2/3rd of valid votes cast by the Members' Meeting.

(4) Prior to the decision, the corresponding member association has to be granted hearing in accordance with the law with a period of six weeks. The statement has to be presented prior to taking a decision. Oral statements before the Members' Meeting are possible.

(5) Decisions of the Members' Meeting as per section 26, subsection (3) are final.

Section 27

Vacant

#### V. Other Provisions

Section 28

Offices, Reimbursement of Expenses, Warranty, Salaries of Employees

- (1) All offices performed with the WUSV are honorary positions.
- (2) Expenses arising from activities for the Association are reimbursed.
- (3) Persons in office or authorized persons only are liable for damage with the WUSV, which arise in the course of their business, where they have wilfully acted in breach of a criminal law or wilfully acted to the disadvantage of the person suffering the damage.  
Persons in office or authorized persons will be reimbursed for claims for damages of third parties for damage they caused in the course of their office, unless the person in office or person authorized acted wilfully in breach of a criminal law or wilfully acted to the disadvantage of the person suffering the damage.
- (4) Members of the Managing Board are entitled to a reasonable reimbursement of their expenses for their work. The amount depends on the rates in operation for the managing board of the SV.
- (5) The salaries of the employees of the Association and the amount of the expenses to be reimbursed are decided for by the Managing Board.

Section 29

Changes of the Constitutions and Regulations

- (1) Changes of constitutions and regulations are to be made by resolution of the Members' Meeting by a 2/3rd majority of the valid votes cast. Taking resolutions is made within the Members' Meeting. As founding association of the race, the SV is entitled to veto. A voting in writing is excluded.
- (2) Changes of the Constitution become effective upon their entry into the Register of Associations.
- (3) Changes of regulations, which are part of said Constitution or have the same effects, will become effective by resolution. Other resolutions become effective upon being made within the Members' Meeting.
- (4) Constitutions and regulations of the SV which are a part of said Constitution or have constitutional effect, cannot be changed by a resolution of the Members' Meeting of the WUSV. These changes are to the entire competence of the members' meeting of the SV and will become effective for the WUSV upon entry into the Registry of Associations.

(5) The change of the object of the Association can only be resolved in a unanimous vote of the Members' Meeting.

Section 30

Winding-up of the Association

(1) The winding-up of the Association can only be resolved by the Members' Meeting, which has been convened on this issue. The Meeting has to be convened at least three months in advance. For the resolution on the winding-up of the Association the presence of 2/3rd of the Members of the Members' Meeting is necessary. In case a convened Members' Meeting is not competent to pass a resolution, a further Members' Meeting has to be convened prior to the end of a period of six months past the last meeting day. The second Members' Meeting may only take place four months at earliest and twelve months at the latest past that date.

(2) The again convened Members' Meeting is competent to take a resolution regardless the number of the members present. This has to be drawn attention to in the letter of convenience.

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(3) Consultations and resolutions of all member associations shall be made prior to the Members' Meeting.

(4) The Members' Meeting resolves the winding up the a majority of 2/3 of all valid votes cast.

(5) In case there is a winding-up of the Association or in case its actual object is eliminated, the assets of the Association will be given to the Federal Republic of Germany, who will use it subject to the tax-privileged purposes of said Constitution.

The acceptance of said Constitution has been resolved by the WUSV Members' Meeting on September 15th, 2008. Registered under VR Au 2404 on Februar 6th, 2009.