

## **Judge Carol Moore**

### **How long have you been judging the breed? How many times a year do you judge German Shepherds?**

Roughly 12+ years. Since I had accompanied my husband, Bob, when he judged the GSDC of Hawaii Specialty in 1993, they kindly asked me to judge my very assignment there. I currently seem to judge about once a year.

### **Are you an active breeder of German Shepherd Dogs?**

I still breed on a limited basis. One really good litter a year is enough for me these days. Cathy, my daughter usually has one litter. That gives us plenty of upcoming pups to play with and watch.

**Do you have a kennel name ?** SCHARO When we started, we wanted to combine Bob & Carol and call ourselves BOCAR. But that was in use. So we combined part of my maiden name with Robert and came Scharo.

### **How long have you been in the breed?**

We have owned German Shepherds for 40 years. We purchased our first from the Verheim Kennels, outside of Mannheim, Germany in the spring of 1968. Bob was a fresh 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt, and his 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant made us wait till a good litter was born at the local Kennel Club. That way we were able to purchase a top dog with "pink" papers. And Ranger was wonderful. He caused us to fall in love with the breed. When and how did you get started? After leaving Germany and Korea behind, we ended up at Ft. Hood, Texas. Ranger was 5 by then and we had started thinking we would like to have a puppy from him. So we turned to the club, The Fun-tier Kennel Club. Yeah, don't you just know it – we got involved. We put a CD on Ranger; put him with a handler for shows; bought a "show" bitch; bred a litter; went to every show we could get to and studied shoulder. Bob became match chairman for the club's second "A" match which produced its acceptance by AKC to hold its first show. All in 2 years.

### **Do you judge both all-breeds and specialties. If so, which do you prefer ?**

I do judge all breeds, which are important, because I think you reach most new people there. It is important for breeder judges to have a presence at all breed shows to put up truly correct specimens of the breed, not just all round good dogs. As most judges, my preference is specialty shows. Standing in the center of a big outdoor ring watching our beautiful breed gait around is a total high.

### **Do you have a color preference?**

No, I have bred all colors, Black & tan, bi-colors, sables, and blacks. What really counts is the framework under the coat.

### **Do you find it harder to judge solid blacks ?**

Definitely NOT If so, why? I actually think that structure and movement is easier to see on blacks. Sometimes the color pattern of a black & tan, or some sables, can fool the eye as to correct layback of shoulder. With a solid color, it is just there to see. We bought a black dog we saw in open at the National in Albany. He finished easily, taking about half his points in specialty shows and half his points at all breed shows. A good dog is a good dog, regardless of color.

### **When judging the dog, do you also judge the handler? Please elaborate if possible.**

A good handler presents the dog so well that you never notice the handler. That is how it should be. Would I put a dog up simply because of who is handling it? NEVER

### **What importance do you place on missing teeth?**

Missing pre-molars are a less serious fault than any fault of gait. Missing molars must be penalized because it is a heredity fault. If you observe breeds where missing teeth are not

penalized, you see today way too many holes in the mouth. Dogs do need teeth to eat. Our breed currently has good dentition and we need to protect this status.

**Please discuss temperament in the ring today. Has it improved? Declined? Please explain.**

I think the loose lead temperament test has forced temperament in the ring to improve. When I judged Diablo Valley GSDC back in 1998 I had 4 or 5 very nice specimens of the breed, all shown by top handlers that I could not consider. And I let the handlers know why. Today I seldom see questionable temperament in the ring, especially shy temperament.

**Do you prefer a dog to be shown on a loose lead?**

In a specialty show, I must see the dog go loose on the individual. And if the decision gets close, I may demand it later in the class. I believe a dog with correct movement will look even better going loose and that more faults will become visible. In all breed shows, the dogs going loose always look better. The rings are so small that a dog that is pulling hard appears to scramble in order to make the turns.

**How would you rate the following in sequence of importance? (On a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the best).**

**Coming/Going:** 8

**Sidegait:** 10

**Temperament:** 10

**Teeth:** 7

**Coat:** 7

**Pasterns, hocks, feet:** 8

**Pigment:** 5

**Structure:** 10

**Shoulder/Reach:** 10

**Attitude:** 8

**And I would like to add: TYPE 10**

**In your opinion should double handling be allowed?**

Yes. Some dogs do not have the attitude to go. Some have not figured it all out yet. But it should always be subtle. German shepherds are not stupid – you do not need you to bang on their food pan to make them up their ears up.

**Do you feel more emphasis should be put on the total package, and less on movement?**

You must never judge on “faults” I look each dog, both moving and standing, to see if it is pleasing to me; i.e. how it meets the standard. Those are the ones that go up front. Then I arrange by side gait. I agree with “Lamar” First you must have Temperament, then Type, then Movement.

**Do you have a pet peeve about anything owners or handlers do concerning the showing of dogs?**

I want handlers to be in control of their dogs at all times. No running over less experienced handlers; no dog attacking another dog.

**Do you have any suggestions for owners or handlers regarding anything they should NEVER do when showing under you?**

Don't ignore my directions. For example, if I want a dog to go loose, I mean it. You can go back to fast later.

**Do you have any suggestions for owners or handlers regarding anything they should ALWAYS do when showing under you?**

Be polite to each other in the ring. This is about presenting your dog, not ruining the presentation of another dog.

**Do you have any advice for people who are relatively new to showing and/or breeding?**

When you go to the show, WATCH THE SHOW! See what wins and try to figure out why. If possible, sit with experienced exhibitors and LISTEN while you watch. Ask intelligent questions, but a few at a time. Go to the after show parties and LISTEN.

**Any final comments?**

I think this is a sport of Passion. We love our dogs passionately. We want to win passionately. Judges must also have a passion for what they do. But they also have a responsibility to the breed: to know the standard; to judge by the standard; to leave politics out of the ring. The judge will never please everyone. But the judge should leave the ring happy, believing passionately that he found the best specimens of the breed on that day.