

Judge Morton Goldfarb, M.D. FACS

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

AKC Judge 1978

Full SV Judge(judge in Germany and all countries) 1981-I am the only one in North America. I judge here and abroad several times a year as I still a practicing Surgeon and limit my assignments.

Are you an active breeder of German Shepherd Dogs? Do you have a kennel name ?

I breed sparingly and have a litter every several years but breed our stud dog Ch. Esko von West-Germanien Sch 111 KK1 German V1 frequently.

Kennel name –Beechbrook

How long have you been in the breed? When and how did you get started?

First Shepherd in 1963-I have had purebred dogs since childhood.

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

I judge primarily Speciality Shows but will do All-Breed shows occasionally. I prefer to judge Speciality.

Do you have a color preference?

No color preference as long as the color is proper.

Do you find it harder to judge solid blacks ? If so, why?

Not harder to judge solid blacks.

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

We say in German “richter hunde”-- judge dogs not owners or handlers.

What importance do you place on missing teeth?

Teeth are very important as they mirror the head and jaw development.

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

Temperament is good today, but remember we are breeding good temperament on recessive genes.

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

I like to see the animals move for a period of time on a loose leash but after I see their movement loose then a tight leash is fine. I only need to see a few steps loose to determine the gait.

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

Coming/Going: 10

Sidegait: 10

Temperament: 10+++

Teeth: 10

Coat: 10

Pasterns, hocks, feet: 10

Pigment: 10

Structure: 10

Shoulder/Reach: 10

Attitude: 10

Rate the importance-- all are 10---but temperament is 10+++

You omitted the very important hindquarter action, which is the power behind the motion; It too is 10+++.

In your opinion should double handling be allowed? Please explain.

Double handling is not of concern to me as I am too busy judging the dogs.

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

As I mentioned above all aspects of the GSD are crucial and a Judge should judge all not just sidegait.

Do you have a pet peeve about anything owners or handlers do concerning the showing of dogs? (Do you have any suggestions for owners or handlers regarding anything they should NEVER do when showing under you?)

All I ask of handlers and owners is that they are good sportsmen.

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

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

We all learn daily and "novices" should seek those who they know and respect to get advice then weigh that advice and make their own decisions.

Any final comments?

Judging the GSD is part subjective but mostly objective, if the Judge knows a proper animal. A winner one day and next to last the next day in the same competition with the animal performing the same reeks of incompetence on one of the Judges!

I would love to see all of your responses.