

## USA/SV A-Stamp/Elbow Evaluation Program

This program, offered by the SV in Germany, is available through USCA for German Shepherd Dogs residing in the United States. PLEASE PRINT THE PDFS BELOW THAT DISCUSS PROPER POSITIONING OF HIPS/ELBOWS TO BE SENT TO THE SV. THEY WILL REJECT IF THE FILMS ARE NOT TO THEIR SPECIFICATIONS.

### PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

- **DOGS MUST BE SEDATED DURING HIP XRAY PROCEDURE!**
- Only German Shepherd Dogs may apply for this program.
- On the day the x-ray is taken, the dog must be at least one year of age or older.
- Only German Shepherd Dogs with registration papers/pedigree(s) recognized by the SV Office can participate. That means either SV registration papers or a pedigree that was issued in a foreign country by an organization that is a member of the FCI.
- All German Shepherd Dogs x-rayed for this program must be visibly tattooed or microchipped.
- Once submitted, the x-rays become the property of the SV Office where they are kept on file. All original documents submitted for this program will be returned to the owner by the USA Office.

### **The following information MUST be exposed on the identification plate of the x-ray to process:**

- Complete registered name of the dog, as it appears on the registration papers/pedigree
- Registration number
- Tattoo and/or microchip number
- Date of birth
- Date the X-ray was taken
- Name of current owner
- Name of veterinarian, business address and/or hospital/clinic

*X-rays being submitted that have missing information, please contact the USCA Office for further instructions. X-rays that have been altered after exposure will not be accepted and returned to the owner.*

A letter (PRINT THE FORM AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE) from your veterinarian on his/her letterhead stating the following:

- Confirmation from the veterinarian that he/she verified the identity of the dog presented to them by means of the tattoo and/or microchip number, dog's full registered name, and registration number.
- Notation from the veterinarian stating that the dog WAS sedated for the x-ray procedure. According to new SV requirements dogs MUST be sedated for the hips x-rays.
- Authorization (signatures) from the owner/co-owner(s) that all information within the identification plate AND within the veterinarian's letter has met their approval to be forwarded onto the SV office in Germany for processing.

**If the above information is not provided along with the HD/ED x-rays, they can not be processed.**

### **Digital to Film Transfers:**

Please contact X-Ray Express for digital to film transfers:

X-Ray Express

1244 Karla Dr. Suite 210

Hurst, TX 76053

Voice: 817-545-5220 Fax: 817-545-6050

info@xrayexpress.net

<http://www.xrayexpress.net/animalServices.html>

**If applying for the "a" stamp, please submit the following to the USCA Office:**

- Proof of current GSSCC Membership (photo copy of card)
- Original x-ray(s)
- Original recognized registration papers including pedigree must reflect current owner

**Evaluation fee(s): Hips \$91.00, Elbows \$61.00 (USD)**

If you need further assistance, please contact the USCA Office

[USCAoffice@GermanShepherdDog.com](mailto:USCAoffice@GermanShepherdDog.com)

United Schutzhund Clubs of America  
Attn: Pam Niccum  
4407 Meramec Bottom Rd., Ste. J  
St. Louis, MO 63129

*Vet Name*  
*Name of Practice,*  
*Clinic or Hospital*  
*Address*  
*City, State ZIP*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Pam:

**The following dog was presented to our office for (please circle one or both) hip x-rays and / or elbow x-rays:**

Registered Name of Dog: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

AKC /SV / other Registration #: \_\_\_\_\_

Tattoo and/or Microchip: \_\_\_\_\_

1. I have personally verified the tattoo and/or microchip to confirm the identity of the dog.
2. The dog presented and identity verified was sedated during the x-rays      Yes      No  
***Please Note: Dogs must be sedated for the Hip X-Rays Only:***
3. The registered owner (and co-owner, if applicable) have confirmed that all the required information, within the x-ray identification plate and within this letter, has met the owner's (and co-owner, if applicable) approval, per their authorization signature(s) below.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Vet Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Owner's Name / Co-owner**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Vet Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Owner's Signature / Co-owner**

**Enclosed:**      Copy of USCA membership card  
                         Original AKC/SV/FCI pedigree





## Radiographic Procedure and Scoring of Elbow Dysplasia (ED) in the Dog

(Requirements for the IEWG standardized screening procedure, updated version 2011)

Mark Flückiger, Assoc. Prof., Dr.med.vet., Dip. ECVDI  
Dysplasia Committee, University of Zurich, Switzerland

### Radiographic technique

1. Minimal age for official scoring "sound" is 12 months. Some breed clubs have issued specific requirements. Earlier scoring "dysplastic" is possible in dogs with obvious primary lesions. **Dogs showing an elbow lameness should get radiographed at any age.**
2. Both elbows are radiographed.
3. Rare Earth screens with a speed of 200 or less are recommended in film-screen systems.
4. The elbow is placed directly on the cassette, no grid is needed.
5. The beam is collimated to improve image quality (does not apply in digital systems).
6. For the mediolateral projection the elbow is flexed (Fig. 1, 45-60° opening angle between humerus and radius), resulting in concentric superimposition of the humeral condyles. The medial coronoid process (MCP) itself is best identified on a mediolateral view with the limb extended and 15° supinated (Fig. 2, very important in GSD). Good results are achieved with a 50 – 60 kV-setting.
7. A craniocaudal 15° pronated view is strongly recommended to identify OC lesions (Fig.3, not so important in GSD because OCD is rare).
8. Radiographs are permanently marked with a) the date of the examination, b) the identity of the dog, c) the identity of the owner of the dog and d) the clinic making the study.

### Positioning elbow joint, radiographs

Figure 1

Mediolateral view, 45 ° flexed



Mediolateral view, 120 ° extended

Figure 2



Figure 3  
Cranio-15°lateral-caudomedial view