

Dear Deutsch-Kurzhaar family,

There is good news to report. After Hubertus Krieger had withdrawn the Club Schleswig-Holstein's commitment to host the Dr. Kleemann Zuchtausleseprüfung 2024 at the Annual General Meeting 2023, the clubs Althümmling and Weser-Ems spontaneously offered to step in. That is something to be grateful for. In the meantime, the chairman of the Northwest club, Günter Wienöbst, has agreed to take on the task in coordination with Althümmling and Weser-Ems. I think it is simply fantastic when clubs join forces and are prepared to master challenges together. A heartfelt thank you in particular for the fact that the Northwest Club does not impose any nominal number restriction.

Of course, we are concerned about the possible change in the Animal Welfare Act regarding docking. The animal welfare officer of the JGHV has worked out a proposal, which de facto strongly affects our previous procedure. We have allied ourselves with all affected breeds and as the DK breed representation have sent a letter to the Committee for Nutrition and Agriculture in the German Bundestag voicing our concerns. Any support for the cause is welcome.

We suffer from not having enough conformation judges. Why do we suffer from that? Because, for example, the tooth and bite control at the breed tests are increasingly carried out by performance judges. We, and here I mean especially many handlers, are not aware that the "dentition without defects" determined by the performance judge has no breeding relevance. This has recently led to annoyance and disagreement. During the last 7 years we have had a decrease of over 40 conformation judges. Look around in your clubs to determine who is willing and suitable to go through the training. We need you. Efforts to block access to and/or completion of the training are counterproductive and not at all helpful.

Together we can look forward to the upcoming highlights of the year. Rudi Fisch will host the World Union VGP the end of September, to which the Danube states are invited. He has the best suitable venues and can build on his organizational experience. We wish all participants and country teams success and some time for professional and personal exchange.

From October 12 onward, the Kurzhaar world will meet in Surwold for the Dr. Kleemann Zuchtausleseprüfung. Because of the special circumstances, the test is low in entries, but by no means less valuable. Hermann-Josef Schomakers and Willi Werner Immken have suitable hunting grounds and game. Andreas Thomschke, as the test director, has checked the conditions.

From October 20, the Deutsch Kurzhaar Group North America (DKGNA) will organize the North American Kurzhaar Prüfung (NAKP) for the first time. The

young club strives to give handlers and breeders the opportunity to compete across clubs. I wish the handlers good luck as a reward for their hard work. I wish all of us valuable encounters and new insights at the tests, which will help us make sound decisions in our breeding planning.

The Deutsch-Kurzhaar should remain what it is, a noble, powerful hunting dog with **passion**, with which we will master the future hunting and breeding requirements excellently.

Waidmannsheil on all paths and encounters,

Yours,  
Michael Hammerer, President