

Versatility Awards Program German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta

The Versatility awards program was implemented by the German Shepherd Dog Club of Atlanta for two reasons: as an *educational tool* for members to *promote the health, soundness, and welfare of German Shepherd Dogs*; and as a *recognition program for dogs and owners who have contributed to the breed in the arenas of performance, conformation, and social responsibility*. Eleven different categories have been identified in which points can be earned. There are *six levels of awards*, to recognize and reward dogs and owners from a beginning level to those who have achieved the pinnacle of success in one or several of the targeted areas. The categories and point-earning achievements in each are listed below. Certificates are awarded for *Versatility Started (VS)*; plaques or special awards of increasing size (which may include a photo if the owner submits one in advance) are awarded for the higher levels, which include *Versatility Intermediate (VI)*, *Versatility Advanced (VA)*, *Versatility Excellent (VX)*, *Versatility Master (VM)*, and *Versatility Super (SV)*.

Versatility Started (VS) requires five points from at least 3 different categories, with at least one point coming from an AKC performance category. The award is a certificate.

Versatility Intermediate (VI) requires 10 points from at least 4 different categories, including at least 2 AKC performance categories. A small plaque (with a 4"x6" photo if provided in advance by the owner) will be awarded.

Versatility Advanced (VA) requires 11 points from at least 5 different categories, including at least 2 AKC performance categories; one point must be earned by winning a point at either the CDX, RA, TDX, OA, HI or a WD2 level. A small plaque (with a 4"x6" photo if provided in advance by the owner) will be awarded.

Versatility Excellent (VX) requires 12 points from at least 6 different categories, including at least 2 AKC performance categories; one point must be earned by winning the top level in an AKC performance category. A large plaque will be awarded (same criteria as noted above; photo is 5"x7".)

Versatility Master (VM) – requires 18 total points from at least 6 different categories; at least 10 of the points must be from 3 of the 6 AKC performance categories; the dog must have achieved the top level in at least 2 of those performance categories. A large plaque will be awarded; same criteria as above; photo is 8"x10".

Versatility Super (SV) requires 20 points from at least 8 different categories, and points must be earned in all 6 AKC performance categories; at least two points must be earned by achieving the top level in two different AKC performance categories. A special award will be presented; same criteria as above.

Non-AKC titles are limited to one point per category. For example, a dog with both a Canadian and a Mexican championship could claim only one point for his "foreign country championship."

There are 11 categories. One point is awarded for each accomplishment or award listed. The first 6 categories are the AKC performance categories. The dog must have passed the test or accomplishment listed in order to be awarded a point. C.E.R.F. certification must be renewed annually for the point to be counted in successive years. *The program is designed to make versatility awards at some level accessible to all dogs and all owners.* For example, if a dog does not have the health credentials and/or conformation or performance achievements to be a breeding prospect, the dog can still earn a point in the "Breedability" category by being spayed or neutered, in recognition of the owner's responsible decision not to breed that dog. A dog whose hips or elbows do not certify, but whose owner has chosen to have the OFA results posted on the OFA's database, may earn a point for each OFA public database listing. Dogs who do certify earn extra points for those certifications.

The Versatility Awards year runs from June 1 to May 31; thus, all titles and certificates must have been earned no later than May 31 of the year in which the Versatility Awards are presented, at the Annual Awards Banquet in July. *All Versatility Awards information must be submitted by regular mail to Versatility Chairperson at the mailing address below, no later than June 15 of the applicable awards year. Information received after that deadline will not be considered.* Written documentation is required for all earned points. If you wish to receive a photo plaque for an eligible dog, you must specify whether the photo will be vertical or horizontal, and you must provide the photograph you wish to use.

To be eligible for a plaque, a member must meet one of the following requirements: attend 5 club meetings in the current awards year (meetings may be any combination of club and/or board meetings); participate in a club training class as instructor or assistant; actively serve on a committee during the awards year; or be a life member as defined in the club's bylaws. Members not meeting requirements for plaques will be awarded certificates.

You must send copies (non-returnable) of all titles, certifications, etc., as proof that your dog has earned points for those categories. More information about the performance titles can be found at the web site of the American Kennel Club, akc.org. *Any questions of eligibility shall be resolved by the Board. Versatility chairperson is Joye Evans; her contact information is 770-438-2285 (home); 404-264-2164 (work), e-mail charbargs@aol.com, address 3600 Mill Creek Lane, Marietta, GA 30060. Please feel free to contact the Versatility Chairperson with any questions.*

OWNER'S NAME: _____ PET'S NAME _____

Plaque (if applicable) _____ horizontal plain _____ w/picture _____

vertical plain _____

w/picture _____

VERSATILITY CATEGORIES

<p>1 OBEDIENCE a) CGC b) CD c) CDX d) UD e) UDX f) OTCH g) Obedience Victor/Victrix</p>	<p>2 AKC RALLY a) RN b) RA c) RE d) RAE* *1 point for each level</p>	<p>3 TRACKING a) TD b) TDX c) VST d) CT</p>	<p>4 HERDING a) HAC/HIC b) HT c) PT d) HS* e) HI* f) HX* g) HC h) Herding Victor/Victrix *1 point for each course/ livestock type</p>	<p>5 AGILITY a) NA/NAP* b) NAJ/NJP* c) NF/NFP* d) OA/OAP* e) OAJ/OJP* f) OF/OF* g) AX/AXP* h) AXJ/AJP* i) XF/XFP* j) MX/MXP* k) MXJ/MJP* l) MXF/MXFP* m) PAX</p>	<p>5 AGILITY (con't) n) MACH* o) FTC*/FTCP* p) Agility Victor/Victrix *1 point for each title or level</p>	<p>6 WORKING DOG SPORT a) TT b) WD1 c) WD2 d) WD3 <i>added to Performance 7/2008</i></p>
<p>7 HEALTH a) Hip status published on open OFA or SV database b) Elbow status published on open OFA or SV database c) Thyroid status published on open OFA database d) Cardiac status published on open OFA database e) Negative for von Willebrand's disease f) Normal TLI (pancreatic function) (5-35) g) Tattooed, microchipped, or DNA on file with AKC or SV h) 10 years or older i) Preliminary normal OFA hips j) Preliminary hip status published k) Preliminary normal OFA elbows l) Prelim. elbow status published</p>	<p>8 CONFORMATION/ BREEDABILITY a) AKC Show Ribbon b) AKC Champion c) Select or Best in Show d) Grand Victor/Victrix e) ROM (Register of Merit) f) Futurity Victor/Victrix g) Maturity Victor/Victrix h) Spayed or Neutered i) Hips rated Fair, Good, or Excellent by OFA or SV j) Elbows rated normal by OFA or SV k) Thyroid normal, per OFA l) CERF – eyes normal, per OFA, for current year m) Cardiac normal per OFA n) KKL Breed survey o) WDA/USCA Show Ribbon p) WDA V rating q) WDA VA rating r) North Amer. Sieger/Siegerin <i>m) added 2006</i></p>	<p>9 SCHUTZHUND a) BH b) SCH I c) SCH II d) SCH III e) FH 1 f) FH 2 g) AD</p>	<p>10 WORKING/ACTIVE DUTY a) Arson detection dog b) Bomb detection dog c) Drug detection dog e) Police dog f) Guide dog g) Service/Assistance dog h) Search & Rescue dog</p>	<p>11 RESPONSIBLE OWNERSHIP a) Emergency Buddy System papers on file with club b) Temperament Tested or Certified c) Registered Therapy Dog d) Rescued Dog (ILP or breed) e) Other (Hero Dog, etc.) f) Goodwill Ambassador Dog (at least 3 visits, verified in writing by event officials, to seminars, clinics, schools, etc.) g) R.E.A.D. (Reading Education Assistance Dog) certification</p>	<p>12 OTHER CANINE ACTIVITIES/AWARDS a) Scent Hurdle Team b) Flyball Team c) *Foreign/Other Championship d) *Other Obedience title e) *Other Agility title f) *Other Herding title g) *Other protection or working dog sport title (IPO I, II, III) h) *Other Rally title *Limited to 1 point per listed title</p>	<p>11 RESPONSIBLE OWNERSHIP a) Emergency Buddy System papers on file with club b) Temperament Tested or Certified c) Registered Therapy Dog d) Rescued Dog (ILP or breed) e) Other (Hero Dog, etc.) f) Goodwill Ambassador Dog (at least 3 visits, verified in writing by event officials, to seminars, clinics, schools, etc.) g) R.E.A.D. (Reading Education Assistance Dog) certification</p>

Circle all that apply and attach a copy of all titles/certificates earned and forward form and attachments to
Versatility Chairperson no later than June 15, 2010 but preferably before.