

DV Körung – Rules and regulations (as of January 2018)



Purpose of the Körung

The purpose of the Körung is

- a) to determine Dobermanns which are exceptionally suitable for breeding,;
- b) to support a unified breed standard;
- c) to improve the breeding of working dogs.

Requirements

- Valid pedigree of the dog (DV or FCI member club)
- Minimum age: 2 years
- Maximum age: allowable breeding age
- ZTP under a DV Judge (Starter-ZTP not acceptable)
- Conformation ratings of V (Excellent) or SG (Very Good) at two different shows under two different judges, starting with youth class
- Minimum requirement: VPG 1 or IPO 1
- AD (endurance test) under a DV Judge
- vWD (von Willebrands) DNA test result (free or carrier); vWD affected dogs cannot participate.
- Only for ZVA Körung (Körung for Life): confirmation of at least one litter for females or one successful breeding for males
- The owner of the dog must be a member of the DV or an IDC member club.
- Dobermanns from foreign countries may participate if they fulfill the requirements.
- With the entry, the owner of the dog accepts the rules and regulations of the Körung as well as all other relevant regulations (VDH, FCI and Animal Protection Laws).
- The person entering the dog certifies that he/she is not aware of any faults of the dog (concerning breeding or working) which can be determined via thorough examination, in particular infertility, partial infertility, brain, nerve and eye diseases.
- Eye examination by a veterinarian of the DOK Dortmunder Kreis (member of ECVO European College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists)

After the Körung, a blood sample will be taken of each dog for a DNA profile of parentage unless a profile by the DV e.V. already exists. The owner of the dog will be responsible for the fee for the DNA profile, which will be due on the day of the Körung.

If the identity of the dog cannot be confirmed after the analysis of the blood sample, the result of the Körung will be null and void. The responsible judges (Judges of the Körung) will decide on the penalty.

Organization of the Körung

A Körung is centrally organized by the DV e.V. and given to a Landesgruppe (regional level of the DV). The organizer is the parent club (DV). If at all possible, the location of the Körung should alternate between northern and southern Germany. In general, there is one Körung per year. The fee is 70,- € for DV members and 90,- € for participants from foreign countries (IDC members).

Applications for the organization of the Körung must be submitted by the Landesgruppen to the main office of the DV in Munich. All applications of member clubs will be considered and must be sent to the main office. The Körcommission (officiating judges) decides on the location and the date of the Körung. The location and the date (possibly 2 days depending on the number of entries) as well as the entry deadline will be published in the UD (Unser Dobermann, official DV club magazine). At the same time, the name and contact information of the Event Chairman will be announced. Entries can be made to the Event Chairman or the main office. The entry deadline is three (3) weeks prior to the event. The fee is due at the time of entry. After the deadline, copies of all submitted documents must be sent to the main office for verification purposes.

Only dogs with complete documents will be accepted. No exceptions! The original documents must be submitted to the Event Chairman at least eight (8) days prior to the event.

The following documents must be submitted:

1. Valid pedigree with complete information on current owner
2. DV membership card (or IDC member club card)
3. Verification of at least VPG 1 or IPO 1). For DV trials, the score book is sufficient. For trials in other clubs, the score book in combination with the VDH certificate must be submitted. For trials in foreign countries, the score book in combination with verification by the responsible club must be submitted.
4. Proof of endurance test (AD - Ausdauerprüfung) under a DV Judge.
5. ZTP certificate (no Starter-ZTP!)
6. Conformation ratings of V (Excellent) or SG (Very Good) at two different shows under two different judges, starting with youth class
7. Eye examination by a veterinarian of the DOK Dortmunder Kreis (member of ECVO European College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists)
8. vWD (von Willebrands) DNA test result (free or carrier); vWD affected dogs cannot participate.
9. Proof of valid liability insurance of the dog
10. Only for ZVA Körung (Körung for Life): confirmation of at least one litter for females or one successful breeding for males

The Körung will only take place if a minimum of 15 dogs are entered by the deadline (a maximum of 30 dogs per day).

The Event Chairman is responsible for the proper planning of the Körung. He/She must verify the documents, is responsible for the logistics of the event, the trial field, the accommodation of dogs and handlers at the field as well as all necessary equipment. The trial field must be a fenced-in area of appropriate size with proper accommodation for bad weather conditions. A test dog must be available.

The Event Chairman is also responsible for verifying that the event is insured and that all participants are covered or have their own liability insurance (e.g., dog handlers, helpers, judges, the group, etc.).

Duration of the Ankörung (successful Körung)

The first 'Ankörung' for males is valid for two (2) years. After two years, males must be presented for the ZVA Körung. Females can enter again after two (2) years, but must be back for evaluation after three (3) years. If the dog is not presented for the ZVA Körung, the dog is no longer "gekört" (rating of Körung will be taken away).

The ZVA Körung is valid for the period during which a dog can be bred.

If a dog is ill or has an injury and therefore cannot be presented for the ZVA Körung, the dog must participate the following year. The owner must provide a veterinary certificate describing the illness or injury to the Judges of the Körung. The Judges may demand a certificate by a veterinary clinic. All rights associated with the Ankörung will be suspended for the time being.

If a dog fails the first Körung, the wait time is at least six (6) months before the dog can be presented again. If the dog fails the second Körung, too, the dog cannot be presented again. In addition, it is not possible to repeat the ZVA Körung.

The members of the Körcommission are appointed by the DV Executive Committee (Präsidium).

The Körcommission is in charge of the Körung: two (2) breed judges (Körmeister) and one (1) performance judge (Leistungsrichter). Under special conditions, only one breed judge and one performance judge will be sufficient. The breed judge is responsible for the Körung. All three (two) judges select the helper(s) for the protection phase.

Guidelines and regulations

At the beginning of the Körung, the handler and his/her dog greet the Körmeister. The Event Chairman confirms that he/she has verified the identity and prerequisites for participation. Then the temperament test starts.

The temperament test is conducted by the Körmeister or an assistant in different ways, similar to the trial regulations of the ZTP. Under no circumstances must the dogs be agitated. Dogs with temperament problems will be disqualified.

Then the conformation rating is done according to the standard, following the judges sheet. The dog must accept being examined and measured by a stranger. Dogs which do not accept this examination will be held back (for 6 months) or completely disqualified (if presented for a Zweitkörung or ZVA).

Next two gun shots will be fired: At a distance of 15-20 m one shot each will be fired when leading the dog and during the down position (6 and 9 mm starter pistol respectively). Gun shy dogs will be disqualified.

Attack and courage test

Attack

With the dog out of sight, the helper hides in the blind designated by the Judge. Upon instruction by the Judge, the handler with his/her dog on leash walks about 20 paces towards the blind until the indicated starting point. With the dog in the basic position, the handler takes off the leash and heels the dog towards the blind (about 30-40 paces). Upon a signal from the Performance Judge, the helper steps out of the blind and silently makes a frontal attack on the dog. Without a command or signal from the handler, the dog must immediately defend itself by biting the sleeve vigorously. The dog may only bite the helper's sleeve. The helper puts pressure on the dog by first threatening with stick-hits and driving the dog, then two stick-hits applied to the shoulders and the area of the withers. The dog must be unimpressed during the pressure phase and show a full, hard and steady grip.

On the Performance Judge's signal, the helper stands still. The dog must release the sleeve correctly. The handler may give the dog one verbal command to release on his own at the appropriate time. If the dog does not release after this first permissible command, the Performance Judge will instruct the handler to give up to two additional commands. If the dog does not out after the third command (one permissible and two additional commands), the team is to be disqualified. If the handler gives the dog a command to stay with the helper after releasing the sleeve, the test is stopped as well.

Courage test / attack on the dog out of motion

It is permissible to put the dog on leash while walking the dog to the starting point of the next exercise. The handler is sent with his/her dog to a marked spot at a distance of about 100 paces on the center line. With the dog in the basic position off leash, the handler waits for further instructions from the Judge. The dog may be held by the collar.

On a signal from the judge, the helper steps out of the blind towards the centerline, runs towards the handler and the dog making a frontal attack while yelling and making strong threatening motions. Once the helper has approached the handler-dog team to a distance of about 70-80 paces, the handler releases the dog **upon receiving a signal from the judge, with the verbal command "Stell" or "Voran"**. The dog is to engage without hesitation and must prevent the attack with high dominance and by means of an energetic and strong grip. The dog may only grip the protective sleeve of the helper. During the pressure phase, the dog must be unimpressed and demonstrate a full, hard and steady grip. No stick hits will be applied, but the helper threatens the dog with the stick.

During this exercise, the handler may not move from his/her position. On a signal from the Judge, the helper stops the attack. After the helper has stopped the attack and is standing still, the dog must release immediately on command. If the dog does not release after the first permissible command, the handler may give up to two additional commands upon receiving a signal from the Judge. If the dog does not release after these three commands (one permissible and two additional commands), the team is to be disqualified. If the handler gives the dog a command to stay with the helper after outing the sleeve, the test is stopped as well.

Ratings

The following ratings are used: **IA, IB, IIA, IIB**

Dogs in Körklasse I and II are recommended for breeding.

As far as their conformation and temperament is concerned, these dogs are far superior to the average of the breed. In practice, this means that only dogs with a conformation rating of 'excellent' can be in Körklasse I. The ratings of A and B refer to the results of the evaluation of the temperament.

Dogs in Körklasse II are also recommended for breeding. Generally, dogs with a conformation rating of 'very good' are in this Körklasse. The ratings of A and B are equivalent to the ratings in Körklasse I.

The decision of the Körcommission is final. No appeal can be made.

Abkörung

The Main Breed Warden (Hauptzuchtwart) in agreement with the DV Executive Committee (Präsidium) may take away the title 'angekört' for dogs which have successfully passed the Körung, but whose progeny shows numerous genetic faults or if after the Körung the dog shows certain faults or defects that are relevant for breeding or working and that were unknown at the time of entry to the Körung (cp. Requirements).

No participant or interested party has the right to receive the title 'angekört' or 'abgekört' for his/her dog. There shall be no right to make a claim for any damages incurred that are associated with decisions concerning Körung or Abkörung.

With the publication of these rules and regulations [via UD (DV club magazine), Internet (DV Homepage), postal delivery, etc.] all previous rules and regulations become invalid.

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