

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE!

Affected clubs of the WUSV have secured an important legal success in litigation against the VDH, the representative for Germany in the FCI. The Dortmund District Court has granted the petition of the affected WUSV members to prohibit the VDH, by way of an ex parte preliminary injunction, from sanctioning or threatening to sanction the SV, directly or indirectly for releasing its judges. The court ordered that VDH may not exclude or threaten to exclude WUSV members, not affiliated with FCI, from obtaining SV judges for national and international events.

The background to the legal action is the question of who is allowed to obtain FCI judges for legitimate and necessary cynological activity outside of the FCI sphere of operation. VDH-FCI are accused of abusing their dominant position in the relevant market by threatening sanctions against organizations and judges to prevent them from participating in events organized by non-FCI affiliated WUSV clubs. The injunctive proceedings serve the purpose of enabling us to hold our events with SV judges immediately.

Our law firm, Gleiss Lutz, conducted the proceedings on behalf of affected WUSV clubs, before Dortmund District Court, thereby securing the immediate preliminary injunction. This matter will also be referred for action to the European Commission for a review of FCI-VDH abuse of its regulatory powers. It is another essential step to set a permanent lawful foundation for the operation of the cynological market. We will not rest or waver in our efforts to protect our World Union and our beloved breed.

All clubs that wish to engage SV judges should now submit their requests through standard procedures.

Vadim Plotsker

United Schutzhund Clubs of America - President
United Schutzhund Clubs of America - Performance Judge #49