

# German Shorthaired Pointer

## Rescue Service



## Adoption Policy

The GSP Rescue service offers an adoption service, where a person gives up and signs over all rights to a dog and then assumes the full responsibility for its welfare. In so doing, transfers all rights and responsibilities to the rescue service.

Unlike fostering or guardianship or other systems designed for the temporary care of the dog, adoption is intended to effect a permanent change in ownership. It is impossible to achieve adoption through less formal means, notably by maintaining direct contact with the new adopters. In fact, ownership is retained by the rescue service and adopters sign a contract confirming that they will allow the German Shorthaired Pointer Rescue to check on the circumstances and condition of the dog. Repossess the dog can occur, if in the opinion of GSP Rescue, the terms of the ten point agreement are not being reasonably adhered to.

Giving up a dog for adoption is an emotional wrench and can occur for many reasons, it is rarely the fault of the owner, more likely an unavoidable change in circumstances force owners to consider the welfare of the dog.

Illness or infirmity, personal circumstances or relationship change, bereavement or finances or changes in commitments, all contribute to a responsible decision to make changes for the best welfare of the dog. This must be remembered and we should support this.

Mediation for the original owner via GSP Rescue is offered as reassurance of the dogs' wellbeing in its new environment. Progress reports and supporting pictures are sometimes passed to the original owners as reassurance. Of course responsible owners having given up a dog are interested in the welfare of what was part of their own family.

Direct communication and any interaction are not permitted with new adopters. Confidentiality is assured because any comments or criticism would undermine the transition to a new life. These rights are given up at the point of release to GSP Rescue Services, who will monitor health, growth and progress.

All dogs released to GSP Rescue Services are spayed or neutered; this prevents people seeking dogs for breeding or selling on for profit. Dogs given up cannot be reclaimed.