



GROUP II: HOUNDS

FOXHOUND (AMERICAN)

RECOGNIZED: 1892

Effective: January 2004

The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.

SIZE

Dogs should not be under 56 cm (22 in) or over 63.5 cm (25 in). Bitches should not be under 53.25 cm (21 in) or over 61 cm (24 in) measured across the back at the point of the withers, the hound standing in a natural position with his feet well under him.

COAT

A close, hard, hound coat of medium length.

COLOUR

Any colour.

HEAD

Skull should be fairly long, slightly domed at occiput, with cranium broad and full. **Muzzle** of fair length, straight and square cut, the stop moderately defined. **Eyes** large, set well apart, soft and hound-like, expression gentle and pleading; of a brown or hazel colour. **Ears** set on moderately low, long, reaching when drawn out nearly, if not quite, to the tip of the nose; fine in texture, fairly broad, with almost entire absence of erectile power, setting close to the head with the forward edge slightly in-turning to the cheek, round at tip.

NECK

Neck rising free and light from the shoulders, strong in substance yet not loaded, of medium length. The throat clean and free from folds of skin, a slight wrinkle below the angle of the jaw, however, is allowable.

FOREQUARTERS

Shoulders sloping – clean, muscular, not heavy or loaded – conveying the idea of freedom of action with activity and strength. **Forelegs** straight, with fair amount of bone. **Pasterns** short and straight. **Feet** fox-like. Pad full and hard. Well-arched toes. Strong nails.

BODY

Back moderately long, muscular and strong. **Chest** should be deep for lung space, narrower in proportion to depth than the English hound: 71 cm (28 in) (girth) in a 58.5 cm (23 in) hound being good. Well-sprung **ribs** – back ribs should extend well back – an 8 cm (3 in) flank allowing springiness. **Loins** broad and slightly arched.

HINDQUARTERS

Hips and thighs, strong and muscled, giving abundance of propelling power. **Stifles** strong and well let down. **Hocks** firm, symmetrical and moderately bent. **Feet** close and firm.

TAIL

Set moderately high; carried gaily, but not turned forward over the back; with slight curve; with very slight brush.

FAULTS

Any departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed’s purpose.

- A short thin coat or of a soft quality
- A very flat skull, narrow across the top; excess of dome; eyes small, sharp, and terrier-like, or prominent and protruding; muzzle long and snikey, cut away decidedly below the eyes, or very short
- Roman-nosed, or upturned, giving a dish-faced expression
- Ears short, set on high, or with a tendency to rise above the point of origin
- A thick, short cloddy neck carried on a line with the top of the shoulders
- Throat showing dewlap and folds of skin to a degree termed throatiness
- Straight, upright shoulders, or out at elbow
- Knees knuckled over forward, or bent backward
- Forelegs crooked
- Feet long, open or spreading
- Very long, swayed or roached back
- Chest disproportionately wide or with lack of depth
- Flat ribs
- Flat, narrow loins
- Cow hocks or straight hocks
- Lack of muscle and propelling power
- Open feet
- A long tail
- Teapot curve or inclined forward from the root
- Rat tail, entire absence of brush

SCALE OF POINTS

Head

Skull	5	
Ears	5	
Eyes.....	5	
Muzzle.....	5	20

Body

Neck.....	5	
Chest and shoulders	15	
Back, loins and ribs.....	15	35

Running Gear

Forelegs.....	10	
Hips, thighs and hind legs.....	10	
Feet.....	15	35

Coat and Tail

Coat.....	5	
Tail.....	5	10

TOTAL	100	100
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