



## GROUP VI: NON-SPORTING DOGS

# JAPANESE SPITZ

RECOGNIZED: 1992

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.*

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

Covered with profuse clear white long hair, with pointed muzzle, triangular pricked ears feathering tail over back. The conformation tough and flexible, and both forequarters and hindquarters well proportioned. An overall appearance noble and in harmony with balance and beauty. The ideal ratio of height at withers to length of body is 10:11.

### TEMPERAMENT

The temperament is intelligent, cheerful and courageous. Keen in sense and very alert.

### SIZE

**Height:** Dogs, 30 cm (11.75 in); bitches slightly smaller. There is a tolerance of 3 cm (1.25 in) shorter or taller.

### COAT

The outer straight and standoff. Undercoat short, soft and dense. On face, ears, front of forearms and from hind feet to hocks are short-haired, and body covered with abundant long hair. Neck, shoulders, forechest covered with mane and frill. The tail has profuse feathering.

### COLOUR

White.

### HEAD

Moderately sized in harmony with body and without coarseness. The **skull** moderately broad and round, and rear part broadest. The stop defined, cheeks rounded, but forehead not too raised. The **muzzle** pointed, not thick, not too long, and well balanced with skull. The lips tight and preferably black. The **nose** small, round and black. The **teeth** white and strong with scissors bite. **Eyes:** Moderately large, almond-shaped, set slightly oblique, and not too apart, dark in colour. Black eye rims desirable. **Ears:** Set on high, small, triangular, pricked, facing forward, and distance between ears moderately narrow. **Neck:** Moderately long; muscular.

### FOREQUARTERS

The shoulders well sloping, and forearms straight. The elbows set close to the body, and pasterns slightly inclining.

### BODY

The withers high, back straight and short. The loins broad, and croup slightly arched. The chest wide and deep, ribs well sprung. The belly moderately drawn up.

### HINDQUARTERS

The hind legs are muscular, and joints of stifle and hock moderately bent. The rear pasterns vertical, and hind legs parallel when viewed from behind.

**FEET**

Small, round tightly closed and cat-feet. The pads thick and dark in colour. The nails hard and black or dark colour desirable.

**TAIL**

Set on high, moderately long, carried over back.

**GAIT**

Light and active. The smooth movement desirable.

**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 traditional purpose.

**Major Faults**

- Monorchid, cryptorchid
- Not pricked ears
- Not curled tail
- Extremely overshot or undershot

**Minor Faults**

- Too short coat

**Note:** Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.