

Cesky Terrier

Origin

The Cesky Terrier is the result of the selective breeding of various short legged terriers including the cross of Sealyham and Scottish Terriers with the aim to develop a light, short legged hunting terrier, with practical drop ears, easy to groom well pigmented coat, and easy to train. In 1949 Frantisek Horak a geneticist from Czechoslovakia started to improve the new breed originally named the Bohemian Terrier, by setting its breed characteristics. In 1959 these dogs were shown for the first time, and the breed was officially recognized by the FCI in 1963. The change in name to Cesky Terrier followed shortly thereafter. Originally bred to hunt small game and vermin, the breed has a reputation of being a good working terrier. Now more often seen competing at terrier den trials rather than hunting in forests, the Cesky Terrier also makes an excellent house pet and gets on well with children.

General Appearance

Short legged, well coated, robust and well muscled hunting Terrier with drop ears and with a natural low set on and carried tail. In profile, oblong yet balanced with a rise over the loin. The outline of a Cesky Terrier being such that one can visually trace an unbroken, uninterrupted line down from the occiput over the slightly arched neck, down the withers, across the back and up over the loins down to the end of a natural hanging tail. A soft coated terrier he sports a beard and a fall of hair over the eyes with well furnished legs and shorter top coat blended into longer coat on his sides. Weak construction of this agile and go to ground hunting terrier is a serious fault.

Temperament

Balanced disposition, non-aggressive, pleasant and cheerful companion, easy to train; somewhat reserved towards strangers; of calm and kind disposition. Excessive shyness or aggressive disposition not to be tolerated.

Size

Height at withers between 25-32 cm., (9.75 to 12.5 inches). Ideal size for a dog is 29 cm (11.50 inches), and 27cm (10.50 inches) for a bitch. The weight must not be less than 6 kg (13.2 lbs.) and not more than 10 kg (22.5 lbs).

Coat & Colour

Texture: hair long, fine but firm, slightly wavy with a silky gloss, any other type of coat that is coarse, harsh, curly or cotton wool in type is not acceptable. The Cesky Terrier is groomed by shaping and trimming the coat with scissors (clipping). and through clipping, and is never hand stripped due to the nature of the non-shedding coat type. At the forefront of the head the hair is not to be clipped but trimmed and shaped thus forming the fall over the eyes and the beard. On the legs, under the chest and the belly the hair should not be clipped either but only slightly trimmed and shaped. In show condition the hair at the upper side of the neck, on the shoulders and on the back should be at a length of 1- 1.5 cm (5/8 inch); it should be shorter on the sides of the body and on the tail; and quite short on the ears, cheeks, at the lower side of the neck, on elbows, thighs and round the vent. The transition between the short clipped and shaped and unclipped areas of the coat should be blended and pleasing to the eye and never abrupt.

Colour: the Cesky Terrier has two varieties of coat colour: grey-blue (puppies are born black) and light-coffee-brown (puppies are born chocolate brown), the coat regardless of which colour must be clear of brindle or stripes by two years of age. A brindled or striped coat would not be seen in competition after that age. In both colour varieties yellow, grey or white markings are permitted on the head (beard, cheeks), neck, chest, belly, the limbs and round the vent. White collar or tail tip is permissible. A white blaze on the head however, is not permissible, nor may the dog have more than 20% white markings on its' body overall. The basic colour must always be predominant. Skin firm, thick, without wrinkles or dewlap. Coat and skin always well pigmented.

Head

Shaped like a long, blunt, not too broad wedge, in good proportion to the overall length of the dog, the plane of the forehead forming a distinctive breaking with the bridge of the nose. **Skull:** not too broad between the ears and tapering moderately towards the supraorbital ridges. Occipital protuberance easy to palpate. Frontal furrow only slightly marked. Length of the skull is 21 cm, (8.25 inches) for males and 20 cm (7.75 inches) for females. Width of the skull is 10 cm (4inches) for males and 9 cm (3.50 inches) for females. A weak or snipey foreface is considered a fault. **Stop:** not accentuated but apparent. **Nose:** dark and well developed. It should be black on Terriers with a grey-blue coat; and liver-coloured on light-coffee brown Terriers. Nasal bridge straight. Lack

of nasal pigmentation (snow nose) is a fault. **Jaws/Teeth:** Strong jaws. Scissors or level bite; complete dentition only acceptable. Teeth strong, regularly aligned and set square to the jaw, lower canines clasp the outer surface of the upper gum just in front of the upper canines. Given the purpose of the breed weakly developed teeth are a fault. **Lips:** relatively thick, fitting neatly. **Checks:** cheek bones not too prominent. **Eyes:** of medium size, slightly deep set, with tight eyelids, with a friendly yet keen expression; well covered by the overhanging fall of hair starting from the eyebrows. Eye colour is brown or dark brown in grey-blue coated dogs; light brown in light-coffee brown dogs. Eyes too big or protruding are a fault. Eyelids black in grey-blue dogs; liver-colour in light-coffee-brown dogs. **Ears:** of medium size, dropping in such a way as to well cover the orifice. Set on rather high and falling flat along the cheeks. Shaped like a triangle, with the shorter side of the triangle at the fold of the ear. Large heavy hanging hound-like ears or very small thin ears are a fault.

Neck

Medium long, quite strong, carried on a slant. The skin at the throat is somewhat loose but without forming a dewlap.

Forequarters

The forelegs should be straight, well boned and parallel. Crooked or bent forelegs are a fault. Shoulders muscular. Given the need to go to ground an over developed front is a fault. Elbows somewhat loose, yet neither turned in nor out. Forefeet large; well arched toes and strong nails. Pads well developed and thick.

Body

Oblong. Upper line not straight because loins and rump are always moderately arched. Withers not very pronounced; neck set on rather high. Back strong, of medium length. Either a very long back as well as a very short back is to be considered a fault. Loins relatively long, muscular, broad and slightly rounded. Croup strongly developed, muscular, pelvis moderately slanting. Hip bones often slightly higher than the withers. Chest more cylindrical than deep; shallow chest construction, not broad nor deep chested, being able to go to ground, ribs well sprung. Belly ample and slightly tucked up. Flanks well filled.

Hindquarters

Hind legs strong, parallel, well angulated, muscular, and strongly developed. Lower thigh short. Hock joint set relatively high. Hind feet smaller than the forefeet.

Tail

The ideal length is 18-20 cm (7-7.75 inches); relatively strong and low set. At rest hanging downward or with a slight bend at the tip; when moving when alert, the tail is carried sabre shape horizontally or higher but a tail carried over the back and curled, (a gay or squirrel tail) reflects that the tail is not correctly set on and therefore incorrect for the breed.

Gait

Free, enduring, vigorous, with drive. Gallop rather slow but lasting. The forelegs extend in a straight forward line. Irregular, jerky spasmodic movement to be penalized.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault, the seriousness of which is in exact proportion to its degree.