



GROUP I: SPORTING DOGS

RETRIEVER (CURLY-COATED)

RECOGNIZED: 1913

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

A strong, smart, upstanding dog, showing activity, endurance and intelligence.

COAT

Coat should be one mass of crisp curls all over; a slightly more open coat not to be severely penalized. A prominent white patch on breast is undesirable, but a few white hairs allowed in an otherwise good dog.

COLOUR

Black or liver.

HEAD

Long and well proportioned, skull not too flat. **Jaws:** Long and strong but not inclined to snipiness. **Nose:** Black, in the black-coated variety, with wide nostrils. **Teeth:** Strong and level. **Eyes:** Black or brown, but not yellow, rather large but not too prominent. **Ears:** Rather small, set on low, lying close to the head, and covered with short curls.

FOREQUARTERS

Shoulders should be very deep, muscular, and obliquely placed. **Legs** should be of moderate length, **forelegs** straight and set well under the body.

BODY

Chest: Not too wide, but decidedly deep. **Body:** Rather short, muscular, and well ribbed up. **Loin:** Powerful, deep, and firm to the grasp.

HINDQUARTERS

Quarters strong and muscular, hocks low to the ground with moderate bend to stifle and hock. **Feet:** Round and compact with well-arched toes.

TAIL

Should be moderately short, carried fairly straight and covered with curls, slightly tapering towards the point.

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.

- A saddle back or patch of uncurled hair behind the shoulder should be penalized.

