



GROUP I: SPORTING DOGS

SPANIEL (WELSH SPRINGER)

RECOGNIZED: 1949

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 symmetrical, compact, strong, merry, very active dog; not stilty, obviously built for endurance and activity.

SIZE

Approximate height at the withers: Dogs, 48.25 cm (19 in); bitches, 45.75 cm (18 in)

Weight: Should be 15.75 to 20.5 kg (35 to 45 lb).

COAT

Straight or flat and thick, of a silky texture, never wiry or wavy. A curly coat is most objectionable.

COLOUR

Rich red and white only.

HEAD

A short, chubby head is objectionable. **Skull:** Proportionate, of moderate length, slightly domed, clearly defined stop, well chiselled below the eyes. **Muzzle:** Medium length, straight, fairly square; the nostrils well developed, and either flesh coloured, liver, or black acceptable. Jaw strong, neither undershot nor overshot. **Eyes:** Hazel, or dark, medium size, not prominent, nor sunken, nor showing haw. **Ears:** Set moderately low and hanging close to the cheeks, comparatively small and gradually narrowing towards the tip, covered with nice Setter-like feathering. While the length of feathering on the ears is of little consequence, the leather must be small.

NECK

Long and muscular, clean in throat, neatly set into long and sloping shoulders.

FOREQUARTERS

Forelegs: Medium length, straight, well boned, moderately feathered.

BODY

Not long; strong and muscular with deep brisket, well sprung ribs; length of body should be proportionate to length of leg and very well balanced; with muscular loin slightly arched and well coupled up.

HINDQUARTERS

Strong and muscular, wide and fully developed with thick and muscular second thighs. **Hind legs:** Hocks well let down; **stifles** moderately bent (neither twisted in nor out), moderately feathered. **Feet:** Round with thick pads, firm and cat-like, not too large or spreading.

TAIL

Well set on and low, never carried above the level of the back, lightly feathered and with lively action.

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.

- Coarse skull
- Light bone
- Curly coat
- Loaded or poorly angulated shoulders
- Stilted movement