



GROUP I: SPORTING DOGS

WEIMARANER

RECOGNIZED: 1949

Effective: January 2008

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.

ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The Weimaraner is known to be of a very old breed type with early evidence dating back to the 13th-century art and literature. The breed was standardized to its modern form at the court of the Grand Duke of Weimar in Germany from where it got its name. The 1800s saw the Weimaraner developed into one of the prized continental hunting breeds that excelled in various types of game and hunting traits including tracking, searching, pointing, retrieving and indicating the location of downed large game. Unique to the Weimaraner was the retention of its need for kind handling and human companionship.

As big game grew scarce due to encroaching civilization and with the introduction of guns to bird hunting, emphasis was placed on breeding in more pointing instincts.

Germany recognized the Weimaraner as a breed in 1896 and in the first part of the 20th century, despite opposition from the German breed club, a few individuals came to North America and eventually the breed was recognized in Canada.

The Weimaraner is now used on small furred and feathered game in its country of origin and almost exclusively on birds throughout North America. Today's Weimaraner has retained its stamina, its hunting versatility, and its need for human bonding.

GENERAL APPEARANCE

A medium-sized grey dog with light eyes, he should present a picture of a great driving power, stamina, alertness and balance. Above all, the dog should indicate ability to work hard in the field.

TEMPERAMENT

The dog should display a temperament that is keen, fearless, friendly, protective and obedient.

SIZE

Height at the withers: Dogs, 63.5 to 68.5 cm (25 to 27 in); bitches, 58.5 to 63.5 cm (23 to 25 in)
Deviation of 2.5 cm (1 in) over and under this height is allowed but should be penalized.

COAT

The coat comes in two varieties:

Short-hair variety: Short, smooth and sleek coat.

Long-hair variety: Topcoat is flat and smooth or slightly wavy. Length on flanks 2.5 to 5 cm (1 to 2 in), slightly longer under neck and on forechest, belly, ears and tail. Moderate feathering on legs, chest and underside.

COLOUR

In shades of mouse grey to silver grey, usually blending to a lighter shade on the head and ears. Small white mark allowable on the chest, but not on any other part of the body. White spots that have resulted from injuries shall not be penalized.

HEAD

Moderately long and aristocratic, with moderate stop and slight median line extending back over the forehead. Rather prominent occipital bone and trumpets set well back, beginning at the back of the eye sockets. Measurement from tip of nose to stop to equal that from stop to occipital bone. The flews should be moderately deep, enclosing a powerful jaw. **Foreface** perfectly straight, delicate at the nostrils. Skin tightly drawn. Expression kind, keen, intelligent. **Nose:** Grey. **Teeth:** Well set, strong and even; well developed and proportionate to jaw with correct scissors bite, the upper teeth protruding slightly over the lower teeth but not more than 1.5 mm (0.0625 in). Complete dentition is greatly desired. Lips and gums pinkish flesh shades. **Eyes:** In shade of light amber, grey or blue grey, set well enough apart to indicate good disposition and intelligence. When dilated under excitement, the eyes may appear almost black. **Ears:** Long and lobular, slightly folded and set high. The ear when drawn snugly alongside the jaw should end approximately 5 cm (2 in) from the point of the nose.

NECK

Neck clean-cut and moderately long.

FOREQUARTERS

Shoulder: Well laid on and snug. **Forelegs:** Straight and strong with the measurement from the elbow to the ground approximately equaling the distance from the elbow to the top of the withers. Dewclaws allowable only on forelegs; they're optional.

BODY

The **back** should be moderate in length, set in straight line, strong and should slope slightly from the withers. The **chest** should be well developed and deep. **Ribs** well sprung and long. The **brisket** should drop to the elbow. Abdomen firmly held; moderately tucked-up flank.

HINDQUARTERS

Well-angulated stifles and straight hocks. Musculature well developed. **Feet:** Firm and compact, webbed, toes well arched, pads closed and thick, nails short and grey or amber in colour.

TAIL

Should have a tendency to be light rather than heavy and should be carried in a manner expressing confidence and sound temperament.

Short-hair variety may be undocked or docked to measure approximately 15.25 cm (6 in) at maturity. Long-hair variety should be undocked and well covered with hair, on top as well as underneath, with good plume.

GAIT

The walk is rather awkward. The trot should be effort-less, ground-covering, and should indicate smooth coordination. When seen from the rear, the hind feet should parallel the front feet.

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.

Very serious:

- Deviation in height of more than 2.5 cm (1 in), over and under, from the standard
- White, other than a spot on chest
- Eyes any other colour than grey, blue-grey or light amber
- Dogs exhibiting strong fear

Serious:

- Poor gait
- Very poor feet
- Cow hocks
- Faulty back, either roach or sway
- Badly overshot or undershot jaw
- Snipey muzzle
- Short ears
- Yellow in white marking
- A long-hair with excessive coat or a coat that is curly, woolly, silky or fluffy
- Any grooming of the long-hair coat with the exception of neatening of ears and feet

Faults:

- Doggy bitches
- Bitchy dogs
- Improper muscular condition
- Badly affected teeth
- More than four missing teeth
- Back too long or too short
- Faulty coat
- Neck too short, thick or throaty
- Low tail set
- Elbows in or out, feet east and west

Minor:

- Short-haired tail docked too short or too long
- Long-haired tail docked
- Pink nose

DISQUALIFICATIONS

- A distinctly blue or black coat

