



GROUP II: HOUNDS

BEAGLE

RECOGNIZED: 1889

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 miniature Foxhound, solid and big for his inches, with the wear-and-tear look of the hound that can last in the chase and follow his quarry to the death.

SIZE

There shall be two varieties:

33 cm (13 in) – which shall be for hounds not exceeding 33 cm (13 in) in height

38 cm (15 in) – which shall be for hounds over 33 cm (13 in) but not exceeding 38 cm (15 in) in height

COAT

A close, hard, hound coat of medium length.

COLOUR

Any true hound colour.

HEAD

The **skull** should be fairly long, slightly domed at occiput, with cranium broad and full. **Muzzle** of medium length, straight and square-cut; the **stop** moderately defined. Nostrils large and open. **Jaws** level. **Lips** free from flews. **Eyes** large, set well apart, soft and hound-like; **expression** gentle and pleading; of a brown or hazel colour. **Ears** set on moderately low, long, reaching when drawn out nearly, if not quite, to the end of the nose; fine in texture, fairly broad – with almost entire absence of erectile power – setting close to the head, with the forward edge slightly in-turning to the cheek, rounded at tip.

NECK

Neck rising free and light from the shoulders, strong in substance yet not loaded, of medium length. The throat clean and free from folds of skin; a slight wrinkle below the angle of the jaw, however, may be allowable.

FOREQUARTERS

Shoulders sloping – clean, muscular, not heavy or loaded – conveying the idea of freedom of action with activity and strength. **Forelegs** straight, with plenty of bone in proportion to size of the hound. **Pasterns** short and straight. **Feet** close, round, and firm. Pad full and hard.

BODY

Back short, muscular, and strong. **Chest** deep and broad, but not broad enough to interfere with the free play of the shoulders. **Loin** broad and slightly arched, and the **ribs** well sprung, giving abundance of lung room.

HINDQUARTERS

Hips and **thighs** strong and well muscled, giving abundance of propelling power. **Stifles** strong and well let down. **Hocks** firm, symmetrical, and moderately bent. **Feet** close and firm.

TAIL

Set moderately high; carried gaily, but not turned forward over the back; with slight curve; short as compared with size of the hound; with brush.

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 short, thin coat, or of a soft quality
- A very flat skull, narrow across the top; excess of dome, eyes small, sharp and terrier-like, or prominent and protruding; muzzle long, snipey or cut away decidedly below the eyes, or very short
- Roman-nosed, or upturned, giving a dish-faced expression
- Ears short, set on high or with a tendency to rise above the point of origin
- A thick, short, cloddy neck carried on a line with the top of the shoulders
- Throat showing dewlap and folds of skin to a degree termed "throatiness"
- Straight, upright shoulders
- Out at elbows
- Knees knuckled over forward or bent backward
- Forelegs crooked or Dachshund-like
- Feet long, open or spreading
- Very long, swayed or roached back
- Chest disproportionately wide or with lack of depth
- Flat, narrow loins
- Flat ribs
- Cow hocks or straight hocks
- Lack of muscle and propelling power
- Open feet
- A long tail
- Teapot curve or inclined forward from the root
- Rat tail with absence of brush

DISQUALIFICATIONS

- Any hound measuring more than 38 cm (15 in) shall be disqualified.

SCALE OF POINTS

Head

Skull	5	
Ears	10	
Eyes.....	5	
Muzzle.....	5	25

Body

Neck.....	5	
Chest and shoulders	15	
Back, loin and ribs.....	15	35

Running Gear

Forelegs.....	10	
Hips, thighs and hind legs.....	10	
Feet.....	10	30
Coat.....	5	
Stern.....	5	10

TOTAL **100**

Pack of Beagles

Score of Points for Judging

Hounds

General levelness of pack.....	40	
Individual merit of hounds.....	30	70
Manners.....	20	
Appointments	10	30

TOTAL **100**

Levelness of Pack

The first thing in a pack to be considered is that they present a unified appearance. The hounds must be as near to the same height, weight, conformation and colour as possible.

Individual Merit of the Hounds

Is the individual bench-show quality of the hounds. A very level and sporty pack can be gotten together and not a single hound be a good Beagle. This is to be avoided.

Manners

The hounds must all work gaily and cheerfully, with flags up – obeying all commands cheerfully. They should be broken to heel up, kennel up, follow promptly and stand. Cringing, sulking, lying down to be avoided. Also, a pack must not work as though in terror of master and whips. In Beagle packs, it is recommended that the whip be used as little as possible.

Appointments

Master and whips should be dressed alike, the master or huntsman to carry horn – the whips and master to carry light thong whips. One whip should carry extra couplings on shoulder strap.

Recommendations for Show Livery

- Black velvet cap, white stock, green coat, white breeches or knickerbockers, green or black stockings, white spats, black or dark brown shoes. Vest and gloves optional.
- Ladies should turn out exactly the same except for a white skirt instead of white breeches.

