



GROUP II: HOUNDS

PETIT BASSET GRIFFON VENDEEN

RECOGNIZED: 1985

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.

ORIGIN & PURPOSE

Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen is one of four ancient rough-coated French hounds; an overall good hunting dog.

GENERAL APPEARANCE

A well-balanced, short-legged, compact hound, rough-coated, with an alert outlook and a lively bearing. *Characteristics:* Strong active hound, capable of a day's hunting, with a good voice, freely used.

TEMPERAMENT

Happy, extrovert, independent, yet willing to please.

SIZE

Height at the withers: Dogs and bitches, 34 to 38 cm (13.5 to 15 in)

COAT

Rough, long without exaggeration, and harsh to the touch with thick undercoat, never silky or woolly. Hounds should be shown untrimmed.

COLOUR

White and any combination of lemon, orange, tricolour or grizzle markings.

HEAD

Head medium in length, not too wide, the **skull** is oval in shape when viewed from the front, well cut away under the eyes, stop clearly defined. The occipital bone well developed. **Muzzle** slightly shorter than from stop to occipital point. Under jaw should be strong and well developed. **Nose** should be black, large with wide nostrils. **Eyes** surmounted by long eyebrows standing forward, but not to obscure the eyes. Lips covered with long hair, forming a beard and mustache. **Teeth:** Scissors bite preferred; level bite accepted. **Eyes:** Large, dark, almond shape, showing no white, with a friendly intelligent expression. The red of the lower eyelid should not show (haw). **Ears:** Supple, narrow and fine, covered with long hair folding inwards, ending in an oval shape, when pulled forward reaching to the end of the nose. Ears are set on low, in line with the outer corner of the eye.

NECK

Long and strong, slightly arched, without throatiness, carrying the head proudly.

FOREQUARTERS

Shoulders clean and sloping, **elbows** close to the body. The **forelegs** straight, a slight crook acceptable. Heavy boned, **pasterns** strong and slightly sloping. Knuckling over is unacceptable.

BODY

Chest deep with prominent sternum, **ribs** moderately rounded extending well back. **Back** of medium length, level **topline** with slight arching over strong **loins**.

HINDQUARTERS

Strong and muscular with good bend of **stifle**. Well defined second thigh. **Hocks** short. **Feet**: Hard, well padded. Nails short and strong.

TAIL

Of medium length, set on high, strong at the base, tapering gradually to the tip, well-furnished with hair, carried proudly like the blade of a sabre (gaily).

GAIT

The movement should be free at all paces, with great drive. Front action straight and reaching well forward, hocks should turn neither in nor out.

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.

Major Faults

- A dog or bitch measuring more than 1 cm (0.4 in) either way.