

# **CHINESE CRESTED DOG**

RECOGNIZED: 1992

Effective: January 2011

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 small, active and graceful dog; medium to fine boned, smooth hairless body, with hair on feet, head and tail only or covered with a soft veil of hair. *Characteristics:* Two distinct types of this breed: Deer type, racy and fine boned; and Cobby type, heavier in body and bone.

#### **TEMPERAMENT**

Happy, never vicious.

## **SIZE**

Ideal height at the withers: Dogs, 28 to 33 cm (11 to 13 in); bitches, 22.75 to 30.5 cm (9 to 12 in)

Weight: Varies considerably, but should not be over 5.5 kg (12 lb)

### COAT

No large patches of hair anywhere on body. Skin fine grained. Smooth, warm to the touch. In Powder Puffs, coat consists of an undercoat with soft veil of long hair, well-coated feature.

## **COLOUR**

Any colour or combination of colours.

## **HEAD**

Slightly rounded and elongated skull. *Cheeks* cleanly chiselled, lean and flat, tapering into muzzle. *Stop* slightly pronounced but not extreme. Head smooth, without excess wrinkles. Distance from base of skull to stop equal to distance from stop to tip of nose. *Muzzle* tapering slightly but never pointed, lean without flews. *Nose* a prominent feature, narrow in keeping with muzzle. Any colour nose acceptable. Head presenting graceful appearance, with alert expression. Lips tight and thin; ideally, crest beginning at stop tapering off down neck. Crest itself may flow to any length, a long and flowing crest preferred, but sparse acceptable. *Eyes:* So dark as to appear black. Little or no white showing. Medium size. Set wide apart. *Ears:* Set low; highest point of base of ear level with outside corner of eye. Large and erect, with or without fringe, except in Powder Puffs where drop ears are permissible. *Mouth:* In both varieties: lips are tight with a regular scissors bite – i.e., the upper teeth closely overlapping to the lower teeth and set square to the jaws is preferred, a level bite is acceptable. An undershot bite is considered a fault. In the hairless variety, irregular shaped canines, or missing canines, incisors, premolars or molars is to be expected and not to be penalized. In the Powderpuff variety, lack of full dentition is considered a fault.

#### **NECK**

Lean, free from throatiness, long and sloping gracefully into strong shoulders. When moving, carried high and slightly arched.

## **FOREQUARTERS**

**Shoulders:** Clean, narrow and well laid back. **Legs:** Long and slender, set well under body. **Elbows** held close to body. **Pasterns:** Fine, strong, nearly vertical. **Toes** turned neither in nor out.

#### **BODY**

Medium to long. Supple. *Chest:* Rather broad and deep, not barrel ribbed. Breast bone not prominent. *Brisket:* Extending to elbows; moderate tuck-up.

#### **HINDQUARTERS**

Rump well-rounded and muscular, *loins* taut, *stifles* firm and long, sweeping smoothly into the well let-down hock. Angulation of the rear limb must be such as to produce a level back. *Hind legs* set wide apart.

**Feet:** Extreme hare-foot, narrow and very long, with unique elongation of small bones between joints, especially in forefeet, which almost appear to possess an extra joint. Nails any colour, moderately long. Socks ideally confined to toes, but not extending above top of pastern. Feet turning neither in nor out.

#### **TAIL**

Set high, carried up or out when in motion. Long and tapering, fairly straight, not curled or twisted to either side, falling naturally when at rest. Plume long and flowing, confined to lower thirds of tail. Sparse plume acceptable.

#### **GAIT**

Long, flowing and elegant with good reach and plenty of drive.

## **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.

**Note:** Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.