
GROUP VII

HERDING DOGS

- Australian Cattle Dog
- Australian Kelpie
- Australian Shepherd
- Australian Stumpy Tail Cattle Dog
- Bearded Collie
- Belgian Shepherd Dog
- Berger Picard
- Berger des Pyrenees
- Bouvier des Flandres
- Briard
- Collie (Rough & Smooth)
- Finnish Lapphund
- German Shepherd Dog
- Iceland Sheepdog
- Mudi
- Norwegian Buhund
- Old English Sheepdog
- Polish Lowland Sheepdog
- Portuguese Sheepdog
- Puli
- Schapendoes
- Shetland Sheepdog
- Spanish Water Dog
- Swedish Vallhund
- Welsh Corgi (Cardigan)
- Welsh Corgi (Pembroke)

Listed Breeds

- Beauceron
- Border Collie
- Lancashire Heeler
- Miniature American Shepherd
- Tatra Sheepdog

Australian Cattle Dog



Origin and Purpose

The Australian Cattle Dog was developed to assist with the development of the cattle industry in early Australian conditions. The principal requirement was a strong biting dog capable of mustering and moving wild cattle. The long distances to be travelled made it essential that such a dog possess great stamina. Although there is still some disagreement as to the actual breeds used, it is generally thought that the Cattle Dog developed chiefly from cross breeding a Dingo and the Blue Merle Collie.

General Appearance

The general appearance is that of a sturdy, compact, symmetrically-built working dog. With the ability and willingness to carry out any task, however strenuous, its combination of substance, power, balance, and hard muscular condition to be such that it must convey the impression of great agility, strength, and endurance.

Temperament

The utility purpose is assistance in the control of cattle, in both wide open and confined areas. Ever alert, extremely intelligent, watchful, courageous, and trustworthy. With an implicit devotion to duty, making it an ideal dog, its loyalty and protective instincts make self-appointed guardians to the stockman, his herd, his property, whilst suspicious of strangers, must be amenable to handling in the show ring.

Size

The desirable height at the withers to be within the following:

- (a) Dogs, 18-20 inches (45-51 cm).
- (b) Bitches, 17-19 inches (43-48 cm).

Dogs or bitches over or under these specified sizes are undesirable. Dogs over 20-1/2 inches (52 cm) or under 17-1/2 inches (44 cm) and bitches over 19-1/2 inches (50 cm) or under 16-1/2 inches (42 cm) are disqualified. Desirable weight: 33-50 lb. (15-23 kg).

Coat and Colour

The weather-resisting outer coat is moderately short, straight, and of medium texture, with short, dense undercoat. Behind the quarter, the coat is longer, forming a mild feathering. The tail is furnished sufficiently

to form a good brush. The head, forelegs, and hind legs, from hock to ground, are coated with short hair. The Australian Cattle Dog should be shown in natural state. The coat is not clipped or trimmed.

There are two recognized colours in the breed:

Blue

The colour should be blue or blue mottled with or without other markings. The permissible markings are black, blue, or tan markings on the head, evenly distributed for preference, the forelegs tan midway up the legs, the hindquarters tan on the inside of the hind legs and inside of the thighs, showing down the front of stifles and broadening out to the outside of the hind legs from hock to toes. Tan undercoat is permissible on the body providing it does not show through the blue outer coat.

Red

The colour should be of good even red speckle all over, including the undercoat (not white or cream), with or without darker red markings on the head. Even head markings are desirable. Solid red or solid black markings on the body are not desirable.

Head

A blunt wedge-shaped head, in balance with other proportions of the dog, and in keeping with its general conformation, is broad of skull, and only slightly curved between the ears, flattening to a slight but definite stop. The cheeks are muscular, but not coarse or prominent. The underjaw is strong, deep and well developed. The foreface is broad and well filled in under the eye, tapering gradually to a medium length; a deep powerful muzzle. The nose is black irrespective of the colour of the dog. The lips are tight and clean. The teeth should be sound, strong and regularly spaced, gripping with a scissorlike action, the lower incisors close behind and just touching the upper. Undershot or overshot jaw should be disqualified. The eyes to be oval shaped and of medium size, neither prominent nor sunken, and must express alertness and intelligence. A warning or suspicious glint characteristic. Eye colour is brown with a very dark pupil. Yellow eye is disqualified. The ears should be of moderate size, preferably small rather than large, broad at the base, muscular, pricked, and moderately pointed (not spoon or bat ears). Ears are set wide apart on the skull, inclined outwards, sensitive in their use and firmly erect. The inside of the ear should be fairly well furnished with hair.

Neck

The neck is of exceptional strength, muscular and of medium length, about 1/3 the length of the body, broadening to blend into the body and free from throatiness.

Forequarters

The shoulders are broad of blade, sloping, muscular and at the point of the withers should be well laid back. The upper arm is well angulated to the shoulders. The lower arm should have strong round bone, extending to the feet. They should be perfectly straight viewed from the front. The pasterns should have no weakness between the feet and lower arm and should show a slight angle with the lower arm when regarded from the side. The feet should be round, toes short, strong, well arched and held close together. The pads are hard and deep and the nails must be short and strong (cat paws). Dewclaws are found on the front feet only and may be removed.

Body

The length of the body from point of the breastbone in a straight line to the buttocks is greater than the height of the withers as 10 is to 9. The topline is level, back strong, with ribs well sprung and ribbed back, (not barrel chested). The chest is deep and muscular and moderately broad. The loins are broad, deep and muscular with deep flanks and showing strength joining the fore and hindquarters. The croup is slightly sloping, broad, strong and muscular. The abdomen does not cut up into the flank.

Hindquarters

The line from the point of the hip to the point of buttock is rather long and sloping. The upper thigh is long, broad and well developed. The lower thigh is long and well muscled. The hocks are strong and well let down and when viewed from behind the hind legs from hocks to the feet are straight and placed neither close nor too wide apart. They should have a moderate bend of stifle.

Tail

The set of the tail is low. Following the slope of the croup, and at rest, the tail should hang in a slight curve of a length to reach approximately to the hock. During normal movement it may be raised, but a gay tail should be severely penalized. The tail is never docked.

Gait

Soundness is of paramount importance. The action is true, free, supple and tireless. The movement of the shoulders and forelegs, with the powerful thrust of the hindquarters, should be in unison. Capability of quick, sudden movement is essential.

Faults

Any tendency to grossness or weediness is a serious fault. Ears: ears other than pricked. Colour: solid red or black markings on the body. Tail: gay tail is a fault. Other: stiltiness, loaded or slack shoulders, straight shoulders, weakness of elbows, pasterns or feet, straight stifles, cow or bow hocks must be regarded as serious faults.

Disqualifications

- (a) Mouth: overshot or undershot jaw.
- (b) Eye: yellow eye. Size: bitches over 19-1/2 inches (50 cm) or under 16-1/2 inches (42 cm) and dogs over 20-1/2 inches (52 cm) or under 17-1/2 inches (44 cm).

Australian Kelpie



General Appearance

The general appearance shall be that of a lithe, active dog of great quality, showing hard muscular condition combined with great suppleness of limb and conveying the capability of untiring work. It must be free from any suggestion of weediness.

Temperament

The Kelpie is extremely alert, eager and highly intelligent, with a mild, tractable disposition and an almost inexhaustible energy, with marked loyalty and devotion to duty. It has a natural instinct and aptitude in the working of sheep, both in open country and in the yard. Any defect of structure or temperament foreign to a working dog must be regarded as uncharacteristic.

Size

Height: Dogs 46-51 cm (approx. 18-20 inches) at withers
Bitches 43-48 cm (approx. 17-19 inches) at withers

Coat & Colour

Coat

The coat is a double coat with a short dense undercoat. The outercoat is close, each hair straight, hard, and lying flat, so that it is rain-resisting. Under the body, to behind the legs, the coat is longer and forms near the thigh a mild form of breeching. On the head (including the inside of the ears), to the front of the legs and feet, the hair is short. Along the neck it is longer and thicker forming a ruff. The tail should be furnished with a good brush. A coat either too long or too short is a fault. As an average, the hairs on the body should be from 2 to 3 cm (approx. 0.75 – 1.25 inches) in length.

Colour

Black, black and tan, red, red and tan, fawn, chocolate, and smoke blue.

Head

Head: is in proportion to the size of the dog, the skull slightly rounded, and broad between the ears. **Forehead:** running in a straight profile towards a pronounced stop. **Cheeks:** are neither coarse nor prominent, but round to the foreface, which is cleanly chiseled and defined. **Muzzle:** preferably slightly shorter in length than the skull. **Lips:** tight

and clean and free from looseness. **Nose:** colouring conforms to that of the body coat. The overall shape and contours produce a rather fox-like expression, which is softened by the almond-shaped eyes. **Eyes:** are almond shaped, of medium size, clearly defined at the corners, and show an intelligent and eager expression. The colour of the eyes to be brown, harmonizing with the colour of the coat. In the case of blue dogs a lighter coloured eye is permissible. **Ears:** are pricked and running to a fine point at the tips, the leather fine but strong at the base, set wide apart on the skull and inclining outwards, slightly curved on the outer edge and of moderate size. The inside of the ears is well furnished with hair. **Teeth:** should be sound, strong and evenly spaced, the lower incisors just behind but touching the upper that is a scissor bite.

Neck

The neck is of moderate length, strong, slightly arched, gradually moulding into the shoulders, free from throatiness and showing a fair amount of ruff.

Forequarters

Shoulders: should be clean, muscular, well sloping with the shoulder blades close set at the withers. **Upper arm:** should be at a right angle with the shoulder blade. **Elbows:** neither in nor out. **Forelegs:** should be muscular with strong but refined bone, straight and parallel when viewed from the front. When viewed from the side, the pasterns should show a slight slope to ensure flexibility of movement and the ability to turn quickly.

Body

The ribs are well sprung and the chest must be deep rather than wide, with a firm level topline, strong and well-muscled loins and good depth of flank. The length of the dog from the forechest in a straight line to the buttocks, is greater than the height at the withers as 10 is to 9.

Hindquarters

Hindquarters should show breadth and strength, with the croup rather long and sloping, the stifles well turned and the hocks fairly well let down. When viewed from behind, the hind legs, from the hocks to the feet, are straight and placed parallel, neither close nor too wide apart. **Feet:** should be round, strong, deep in pads, with close knit, well arched toes and strong short nails.

Tail

The tail during rest should hang in a very slight curve. During movement or excitement it may be raised, but under no circumstances should the tail be carried past a vertical line drawn through the root. It should be furnished with a good brush. Set on position to blend with sloping croup, and it should reach approximately to the hock.

Gait

To produce the almost limitless stamina demanded of a working sheepdog in wide open spaces the Kelpie must be perfectly sound, both in construction and movement. Any tendency to cow hocks, bow hocks, stiltiness, loose shoulders or restricted movement weaving or plaiting is a serious fault. Movement should be free and tireless and the dog must have the ability to turn suddenly at speed. When trotting the feet tend to come closer together at ground level as speed increases but when the dog comes to rest it stands four square.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree.

Note:

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

Australian Shepherd



General Appearance

The Australian Shepherd is a well-balanced dog of medium size and bone. He is attentive and animated, showing strength and stamina combined with unusual agility. Slightly longer than tall, he has a coat of moderate length and coarseness with colouring that offers variety and individuality in each specimen. An identifying characteristic is his natural or docked bobtail. In each sex, masculinity or femininity is well defined.

Character

The Australian Shepherd is intelligent, primarily a working dog of strong herding and guarding instincts. He is an exceptional companion. He is versatile and easily trained, performing his assigned tasks with great style and enthusiasm. He is reserved with strangers but does not exhibit shyness. Although an aggressive, authoritative worker, viciousness toward people or animals is intolerable.

Head

Clean-cut, strong, dry and in proportion to the body. The **topskull** is flat to slightly rounded, its length and width each equal to the length of the muzzle which is in balance and proportioned to the rest of the head. The **muzzle** tapers slightly to a rounded tip. The stop is moderate but well defined. **Teeth:** A full complement of strong, white teeth meet in a scissors bite. An even bite is a fault. Teeth broken or missing by accident are not penalized. Disqualification: Undershot bites; overshot bites exceeding 1/8 inches (.32 cm). **Eyes:** Very expressive, showing attentiveness and intelligence. Clear, almond-shaped, and of moderate size, set a little obliquely, neither prominent nor sunken, with pupils dark, well-defined and perfectly positioned. Colour is brown, blue, amber, or any variation or combination including flecks and marbling. **Ears:** Set on high at the side of the head, triangular and slightly rounded at the tip, of moderate size with length measured by bringing the tip of the ear around to the inside corner of the eye. The ears, at full attention, break slightly forward and over from one-quarter (1/4) to one-half (1/2) above the base. Prick ears and hound-type ears are severe faults.

Neck and Body

The neck is firm, clean and in proportion to the body. It is of medium length and slightly arched at the crest, setting well into the shoulders. The body is firm and muscular. The topline appears level at a natural

four-square stance. The chest is deep and strong with ribs well-sprung. The loin is strong and broad when viewed from the top. The bottom line carries well back with a moderate tuck-up. The croup is moderately sloping, the ideal being 30 degrees from the horizontal. The tail is straight, not to exceed 4 inches (10.2 cm), natural bobtail or docked.

Forequarters

The shoulder blades (scapula) are long and flat, close set at the withers, approximately two fingers width at a natural stance and are well laid back at an angle approximating forty-five (45) degrees to the ground. The upper arm (humerus) is attached at an approximate right angle to the shoulder line with forelegs dropping straight, perpendicular to the ground. The elbow joint is equidistant from the ground to the withers. The legs are straight and powerful. Pasterns are short, thick and strong, but still flexible, showing a slight angle when viewed from the side. Feet are oval shaped, compact, with close-knit, well-arched toes. Pads are thick and resilient; nails short and strong. Dewclaws may be removed.

Hindquarters

Width of hindquarters approximately equal to the width of the forequarters at the shoulders. The angulation of the pelvis and the upper thigh (femur) corresponds to the angulation of the shoulder blade and upper arm, forming an approximate right angle. Stifles are clearly defined, hock joints moderately bent. The metatarsi are short, perpendicular to the ground and parallel to each other when viewed from the rear. Feet are oval shaped, compact, with close-knit, well-arched toes. Pads are thick and resilient; nails short and strong. Rear dewclaws are removed.

Coat

Of medium texture, straight to slightly wavy, weather resistant, of moderate length with an undercoat. The quality of undercoat varies with climate. Hair is short and smooth on the head, outside of ears, front of forelegs and below the hocks. Backs of forelegs are moderately feathered; breeches are moderately full. There is a moderate mane and frill, more pronounced in dogs than bitches. Non-typical coats are severe faults.

Colour

All colours are strong, clear and rich. The recognized colours are blue merle, red (liver) merle, solid black and solid red (liver) all with or

without white markings and/or tan (copper) points with no order of preference. The blue merle and black have black pigmentation on nose, lips and eye-rims; the red (liver) merle and red (liver) have liver pigmentation on nose, lips and eye-rims. Butterfly nose should not be faulted under one year of age. On all colours, the areas surrounding the ears and eyes are dominated by colour other than white. The hairline of a white collar does not exceed the point of the withers.

Gait

Smooth, free and easy; exhibiting agility and movement with a well-balanced, ground-covering stride. Fore and hind legs move straight and parallel with the center line of the body; as speed increases, the feet, both front and rear, converge toward the center line of gravity of the dog, while topline remains firm and level.

Size

Preferred height at the withers for males is 20-23 inches (50.8-58.4 cm); that for females is 18-21 inches (45.7-53.3 cm), however, quality is not to be sacrificed in favor of size.

Other Disqualifications

- Monorchidism and cryptorchidism.
- Other than recognized colours.
- White body splashes.
- Dudley nose.
- Undershot bite; overshot bites exceeding 1/8 inches

Australian Stumpy Tail Cattle Dog



General Appearance

Shall be that of a well proportioned working dog, rather square in profile with a hard-bitten, rugged appearance, and sufficient substance to convey the impression of the ability to endure long periods of arduous work under whatsoever conditions may prevail.

Temperament

The “Stumpy” possesses a natural aptitude in the working and control of cattle, and a loyal, courageous and devoted disposition. It is ever alert, watchful and obedient, though suspicious of strangers. At all times it must be amenable to handling in the Show ring.

Size

Dogs: 18-20 inches (46-51 cm) at withers and Bitches: 17-19 inches (43-48 cm) at withers.

Dogs or bitches over or under these specified sizes are undesirable.

Coat & Colour

Coat: The outer coat is moderately short, straight, dense and of medium harsh texture. The undercoat is short, dense and soft. The coat around the neck is longer forming mild ruff. The hair on the head, legs and feet, is short.

Colour:

Blue: The dog should be blue or blue mottled, whole coloured. The head may have black markings. Black markings on the body are permissible.

Red Speckle: The colour should be a good even red speckle aft over, including the undercoat (not white or cream), with or without darker, red markings on the head. Red patches on the body are permissible.

Head

Head & Skull: the skull is broad between the ears and flat, narrowing slightly to the eyes with a slight but definite stop. **Cheeks:** are muscular without coarseness. The foreface is of moderate length, well filled up under the eye, the deep powerful jaws tapering to a blunt strong muzzle. **Nose:** black, irrespective of the colour of the dog. **Eyes:** the eyes should be oval in shape, of moderate size, neither full nor

prominent, with alert and intelligent yet suspicious expression, and of dark brown colour. **Ears:** the ears are moderately small, pricked and almost pointed. Set on high yet well apart. Leather moderately thick. Inside the ear should be well furnished with hair. **Mouth:** the teeth are strong, sound and regularly spaced. The lower incisors close behind and just touching the upper. Not to be undershot or overshot.

Neck

The neck is of exceptional strength, sinuous, muscular and of medium length, broadening to blend into the body, free from throatiness.

Forequarters

The shoulders are clean, muscular and sloping with elbows parallel to the body. The forelegs are well boned and muscular. Viewed from any angle they are perfectly straight.

Body

The length of the body from the point of the breast-bone to the buttocks should be equal to the height of the withers. The back is level, broad and strong with deep and muscular loins, the well sprung ribs tapering, to a deep moderately broad.

Hindquarters

The hindquarters are broad, powerful and muscular, with well developed thighs, stifles moderately turned. Hocks are strong, moderately let down with sufficient bend. When viewed from behind the hind legs from hock to feet are straight, and placed neither close not too wide apart. The feet should be round, strong, deep in pads with well arched toes, closely knit. Nails strong and of dark colour.

Tail

The tail is undocked, of a natural length not exceeding four inches, set on high but not carried much above the level of the back.

Gait

Soundness is of paramount importance. The action is true, free, supple and tireless, the movement of the shoulders and forelegs in unison with the powerful thrust of the hindquarters. Capability of quick and sudden movement is essential. Stiltiness, cow or bow hocks, loaded or slack shoulders or straight shoulder placement, weakness at elbows, pasterns or feet, must be regarded as serious faults.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree.

Note:

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

Bearded Collie



Origin and Purpose

One of the oldest of the British herding breeds, the Bearded Collie has for centuries been the Scottish hill shepherd's dog, used to hunt and gather free-ranging sheep on the Highlands. The breed was also popular as a cattle drover. Both jobs required a hardy constitution and intelligence, initiative, strength, stamina, and speed.

General Appearance

This is a lean active dog, longer than it is high in an approximate proportion of 5:4, measured from point of chest to point of buttock. Bitches may be slightly longer. The dog, though strongly made, should show plenty of daylight under the body and should not look too heavy. A bright, inquiring expression is a distinctive feature of the breed.

Characteristics and Temperament

The Bearded Collie must be alert and self-confident, and should be lively and active. The temperament should be that of a steady, intelligent working dog and must show no signs of nervousness or aggression.

Size

Ideal height at the shoulder: dogs, 21-22 inches (53-56 cm); bitches, 20-21 inches (51-53 cm). Overall quality and proportions should be considered before size but excessive variation from the ideal height should be discouraged.

Coat

The coat must be double with the undercoat soft, furry and close. The outer coat should be flat, harsh and strong, shaggy, free from woolliness and curl though a slight wave is permissible. The length and density of the hair should be sufficient to provide a protective coat and to enhance the shape of the dog, but not enough to obscure the natural lines of the body. The adult coat may break along the spine, but must not be artificially parted. The coat must not be trimmed in any way. On the head, the bridge of the nose should be sparsely covered with hair which should be slightly longer on the sides just to cover the lips. From the cheeks, the lower lips and under the chin, the coat increases in length towards the chest, forming the typical beard.

Colour

Bearded Collies are born dark, pure black, brown, blue or fawn, with or without white markings. The base colours mature to any shade of black, grey, blue, brown, or fawn, with the coat usually having a mixture of many shades at once and individual hairs showing bands of light and dark. Grey hairs may be lightly interspersed with all colours. Where white occurs, it should only appear on the foreface, as a blaze on the skull, on the tip of the tail, on the chest, legs and feet and, if round the collar, the roots of the white hair should not extend behind the shoulder. White should not appear above the hocks on the outside of the hind legs. Slight tan markings are acceptable on the eyebrows, inside the ears, on the cheeks, under the root of the tail, and on the legs where white joins the main colour.

Head

The head should be in proportion to the size of the dog. The **skull** is broad and flat, the distance between stop and occiput being equal to the width between the orifices of the ears. The **muzzle** is strong and equal in length to the distance between the stop and the occiput, the whole effect being that of a dog with strength of muzzle and plenty of brain room. The stop should be moderate. The **nose** is large and square. Pigmentation of nose leather, lips, and eye rims follows coat colour at birth and should be of a solid colour without spots or patches. The **eyes** should be set widely apart and are large, soft and affectionate, but not protruding. The eyebrows are arched up and forward but are not so long as to obscure the eyes. Eyes should tone with coat in colour. Born blues and fawn will have lighter eyes with all shades of coat than born blacks or browns. The ears are of medium size and drooping. When the dog is alert, the ears lift at the base, level with, but not above, the top of the skull, increasing the apparent breadth of the skull. The **teeth** are large and white, the incisors of the lower jaw fitting tightly behind those of the upper jaw. However, a level bite is acceptable. A full set of forty-two teeth is desirable.

Neck

The neck must be of a fair length, muscular, and slightly arched.

Forequarters

The shoulders should slope well back, a line drawn through the centre of the shoulder blade should form a right angle (90 degrees) with the humerus. The shoulder blades at the withers should only be separated

by the vertebrae but must slope outwards from there sufficiently to accommodate the desired spring of rib. The legs are straight and vertical, with good bone, and covered with shaggy hair all-round. The pasterns should be flexible without weakness.

Body

The length of the back should come from the length of the rib cage and not that of the loin. The ribs are well sprung but angled back, making the rib cage appear flat, and the chest is deep, giving plenty of heart and lung room. The back must be level and the loins should be strong. The level back blends smoothly into the curve of the rump and must not fall away in croup.

Hindquarters

The hindquarters are well muscled with good second thighs, well-bent stifles and low hocks. Below the hock, the leg falls at a right angle to the ground and, in normal stance, will be just behind a line vertically below the point of the buttock. The distance between the hocks should approximate the distance from hock to ground.

Feet

The feet are oval in shape with the soles well padded. The toes are arched and close together, well covered with hair including between the pads.

Tail

The tail is set low, without kink or twist, and is long enough for the end of the bone to reach at least the point of the hock. It is carried low with an upward swirl at the tip while standing. When the dog is excited or in motion the tail may be extended or raised, but must not be carried forward over the back.

Gait

Seen from the side, a correctly moving dog appears to flow across the ground with the minimum of effort. Movement should be supple, smooth, and long-reaching, with good driving power in the hindquarters and feet lifted just enough to clear the ground. The forelegs should track smoothly and straight. Each hind leg should move in line with the foreleg on the same side. The back should remain level and firm.

Belgian Shepherd Dog



Origin and Purpose

The Belgian Shepherd Dog has an ancestry which is common to many of the herding dogs used throughout the modern world. His type is a result of the rugged Belgian climate and the requirements of the Belgian shepherd for a bright, strong, and agile dog. In addition to sheep herding, the Belgian Shepherd Dog has been widely used for police and war work and is noted for his intelligence and alertness in obedience work.

General Appearance

The first impression of the Belgian Shepherd Dog should be that of a well-balanced square dog, elegant in appearance, with an exceedingly proud carriage of head and neck. He should be a strong, agile, well-muscled animal who is alert and full of life. His whole conformation should give the impression of depth and solidity without bulkiness. The dog should be somewhat more impressive and grand than the bitch. The bitch should have a distinctively feminine look.

Like many European breeds, different coat colours, textures, and lengths were preferred by the original fanciers. Today, however, only four distinct coat types are recognized and have become the distinguishing characteristics of the four varieties of Belgian Shepherd Dog. The long-haired Groenendael and Tervuren, the short-haired Malinois, and the rough-haired Laeken variety differ in coat colour, length and texture but are unmistakably the same breed.

Temperament

The Belgian Shepherd Dog should reflect the qualities of intelligence, courage, alertness, and devotion to his master. To his inherent aptitude as guardian of flocks should be added protectiveness of the person and property of his master. He should be watchful, attentive, and always in motion when not under command. In his relationship with humans, he should be observant and vigilant with strangers but not apprehensive. He should not show fear or shyness. He should not show viciousness by unwarranted or unprovoked attack. With those he knows well, he is most affectionate, friendly, zealous of their attention, and very possessive.

Size

Males should be 24-26 inches (61-66 cm) in height and females 22-24 inches (61-66 cm) measured at the withers. The length, measured from the front of the forechest to the rear projection of the pelvis, should equal the height. Bitches may be slightly longer. Bone structure should be moderately heavy in proportion to height so that he is well balanced throughout and neither spindly and leggy nor cumbersome and bulky.

Coat and Colour

Coat length, colour, and texture is the one distinguishing feature between the different varieties of the Belgian Shepherd Dog.

(a) Long-haired

The guard hairs of the coat must be long, well fitting, straight and abundant. The texture should be a medium harshness. The undercoat should be extremely dense, commensurate, however, with climatic conditions. The hair is shorter on the head, outside of the ears, and lower part of the legs. The opening of the ear is protected by tufts of hair. There should be long and abundant hair forming a collarette around the neck; forming a fringe along the back of the forearm; forming the breeches in the hindquarters and forming a nicely plumed tail. Two colour types are found in the long-haired variety:

- (i) The dog should be completely black or be black with white limited as follows: small to moderate patch on forechest, between the pads of the feet, on tips of hind toes, and frost on the chin and muzzle. White on the tips of the front toes is allowable but is a fault. The black, long-haired variety is known as GROENENDAEL.
- (ii) The dog should be either rich fawn to russet mahogany or distinctly grey, each with a black overlay. The coat is characteristically double pigmented, wherein the tip of each hair is blackened. On mature males, this blackening is especially pronounced on the shoulders, back, and rib section. The chest colour is a mixture of black and grey. The face has a black mask and the ears are mostly black. The underparts of the dog, tail, and breeches are light beige or grey. A small white patch is permitted on the chest but should not extend into the neck or breast. Frost on the chin or muzzle is normal. Too light a colour or too black a colour is a serious fault. This variety is known as the TERVUREN.

(b) **Short-haired**

The coat should be comparatively short and straight with a dense undercoat. It is very short on the head, the ears and lower legs. The hair is somewhat longer around the neck where it forms a collarette and on the tail and back of the thighs. The colour should be from a rich fawn to mahogany with a black overlay. There should be a black mask and black ears. The underparts of the body, tail, and breeches are lighter fawn. A small white patch on the chest is permissible as is white on the tips of the toes. A washed-out fawn colour is undesirable. This variety is known as the MALINOIS.

(c) **Rough-haired**

The coat should have a rough or dry texture and appear unkempt. The undercoat is thick and woolly. The coat is of medium length on all parts of the body except the head where the hair on the skull is short while the hair on the muzzle is slightly longer forming a beard or whiskers. The coat should be light fawn to red brown in colour. Grey is acceptable as well. Blackening may appear on the muzzle, ears, and tail. The underparts of the dog, tail, and breeches are light beige or grey. The tail should not form a plume. A small amount of white is permitted on the chest and the tips of the toes. This variety is known as the LAEKEN.

Head

Should be clean-cut and strong with size in proportion to the body. **Skull** should be flattened on top rather than rounded. The width should be approximately the same as, but not wider than the length. The stop should be moderate. **Muzzle** should be moderately pointed, avoiding any tendency to snipiness, and approximately equal in length to that of the top skull. **Nose** should be black without spots or discoloured areas. **Mouth:** the jaw should be strong and powerful. The lips should be tight and black with no pink showing on the outside. There should be a full complement of strong, white, evenly-set teeth. There should be either an even or a scissors bite. An overshot or undershot bite is a serious fault. **Eyes** should be dark brown, medium sized, slightly almond shaped and should not protrude. **Ears** should be triangular in shape, stiff, erect, and in proportion in size to the head. The base of the ear should not come below the centre of the eye.

Neck

Should be round and rather outstretched, tapered from head to body and well muscled with tight skin.

Body**Forequarters**

Chest should be deep but not broad. The lowest point should reach the elbow of the front leg and should form a smooth ascending curve to the abdomen. Shoulder should be long and oblique, laid flat against the body and should form a sharp angle (approximately 90 degrees) with the upper arm. Legs should be straight, strong and parallel to each other. The bone should be oval rather than round. The length should be in proportion to the size of the dog. Pasterns should be of medium length and should be strong and very slightly sloped.

Back

Should be level, straight and firm from withers to hip. The withers should be slightly higher than and slope into the back.

Loin

The loin section viewed from above should be relatively short, broad, and strong, and should blend smoothly into the back. The abdomen should be moderately developed and should be neither tucked up nor paunchy.

Hindquarters

Croup should be medium long with a gradual slope. Thighs should be broad and heavily muscled. The upper and lower thigh bones form a relatively sharp angle at the stifle joint. Hocks: the angle at the hock is relatively sharp although the angulation is not extreme. Metatarsus should be of medium length, strong, and slightly sloped. Dewclaws, if any, may be removed.

Tail

Should be strong at the base and the bone should reach the hock. At rest, it should be held low and in action it should be raised with a slight curl which is strongest toward the tip. It should not curl over the dog's back or form a hook.

Feet

The front feet should be round (cat-footed). The rear feet should be slightly elongated. Toes on both front and back feet should be curved

and close together. They should be well padded. Nails should be strong and black except that they may be white to match white toe tips.

Gait

Should be smooth, free and easy, seemingly never tiring and exhibiting facility of movement rather than a hard driving action. He should single track on a fast gait – i.e., the legs, both front and rear, converge toward the centre line of the body. The backline should remain firm and level, parallel to the line of motion, with no crabbing. He should show a marked tendency to move in a circle rather than a straight line.

Faults

Any deviation from these specifications is a fault. In determining whether a fault is minor, serious, or major, these two factors should be used as a guide:

- (a) The extent to which it deviates from the standard.
- (b) The extent to which such deviation would actually affect the working ability of the dog.

Disqualifications

- (a) Viciousness.
- (b) Excessive shyness.
- (c) Any colour or colour combination not allowed in the standard.
- (d) Ears hanging (as on a hound).
- (e) Tail cropped or stump.
- (f) Males under 23 inches (58 cm) or over 27 inches (69 cm) in height. Females under 21 inches (53 cm) or over 25 inches (64 cm) in height.

Berger Picard (Picardy Sheepdog)



General Appearance

Sturdy looking dog, medium sized, with a hardy but elegant shape, robust, strong and well built, with an intelligent, alert and lively look. This dog is characterized by his appearance which is similar to that of the Griffon.

Height

Between 60 and 65 cm. for the male, between 55 and 60 cm for the female.

Faults

Up to 2 cm over the limit.

Head

Must be proportioned to overall size without being massive. Very slight stop, equidistant from tip of nose to top of skull, **skull** rather large but not exaggeratedly so. Hair approximately 4 cm long. Eyebrows well defined without hiding the eyes. **Fault:** Stop too pronounced or insufficient. Coat too short or too long. Eyebrows absent or too pronounced. **Forehead:** Viewed from the front it must not be flat but rather slightly arched with a slight depression in the center of the frontal sinus. **Fault:** Not sufficiently arched or too arched, depression too accentuated. **Cheeks:** Must be neither too strong nor too flat, must be fairly round. Behind the cheeks, the hair is of the same length as that of the body. **Fault:** Cheeks too full or too flaccid or not muscular enough. **Muzzle:** Strong, not too long, must not be pointed. The nose is always black, lips are dry and tight, back of nose is straight. Slight mustache and beard. **Fault:** Muzzle too long, narrow or too strong, pointed or too square, closed nose, measly spotted nose, commissures of the lips coarse, fleshy lower lip, hooked bridge, absence of mustache or beard. (It is important to remember that the hair on the head must be approximately 4 cm long and that both mustache and beard must be clearly visible.) **Jaws:** Strong, tightly closed with no superior or inferior prognathism. **Fault:** Slight prognathism, 2 missing premolars, no CAC or reserve. Four premolars, none excellent, caries (according to their severity), broken or cut teeth. **Ears:** Medium size, with a large base, the base being set rather high on the head reminding one of sheep's ears, always naturally held straight, tips slightly rounded, a slight divergence in the way they are held is tolerated. Length: 10 cm.

Never more than 12 cm for a male of maximum size. **Fault:** Ears too large or resembling those of the Belgian Sheepdog, set too low or set too close together on the head. **Eyes:** Medium size, not prominent, dark coloured, neither light nor particoloured, more or less dark according to the colour of the coat (but in any case, never lighter than hazel). **Fault:** Everything that does not correspond to the description. **Expression:** The expression must be neither vicious nor suspicious.

Neck

Strong and muscular, of a good length, upright when in action and reachy at the shoulder, carrying the head proudly.

Faults

Long skinny neck, short thick neck, neck that emerges abruptly from the shoulders, flabby skin.

Body

Brisket deep without exaggeration, must not descend lower than the elbows, the perimeter of the thoracic cage, taken from immediately behind the elbows, must be superior to 1/5 of the height at the withers, the length of the body must be slightly superior to the height at the withers, the back must be straight, the loins solid, ribs well arched in their upper third then flattening out gradually towards the sternum, belly slightly tucked in, haunches melting progressively into the buttocks, the bony structure apparent but without exaggeration.

Faults

According to the severity of the defect, body too heavy or too light, too long, too leggy or too low to the ground, rib cage too flat or too curved, bouvier-shaped body, haunches too straight or too tapered.

Tail

Hairy, with hair the same length as that of the body. At rest, the tail must reach the tip of the hocks and hang straight with a slight curve at the end. In action, the tail may be held higher but must never be held over the back.

Faults

Rat-tail, tail too hairy, too short, carried sideways, poorly carried.

Forequarter

Shoulders long and slanted imparting much ease to the movements, muscular without being heavy, the legs are upright, timber is dry, joints

are well marked without seeming malformed, pasterns are slightly sloped from back to front giving suppleness to the limb and facilitating quick stops.

Faults

Shoulders too long (Greyhound like) or too straight (Bouvier like), spindly or heavy, too far apart or impeding movement, timber too slight or too heavy, joints weak or seeming knotty, pastern too straight, or too slanted and pushing the foot too far forward.

Hindquarters

The thighs are long and muscular. The upper portion of the thigh is fairly long, the knee-joint is strong, the hindquarters must not be too straight nor too far behind, not too close nor too open. There must be no disharmony between the thigh and the haunches, all must merge together in a pleasant curve. Solid legs support the hindquarters strongly but lissomly, timber is pronounced but not exaggerated. The hocks are moderately angulated, neither too open nor too closed, not too high, a good angulation of the heel is absolutely essential for our sheepdog. Hind cannons strong and dry, perpendicular to the ground when standing, all limbs solidly upright when seen from all sides.

Faults

According to the severity of the defect.

Feet

Rounded and short, well closed, arched, nails short, strong and dark coloured. No dewclaws or extra fingers, a dog with dewclaws is not disqualified but rather faulted. Firm sole, showing a certain suppleness; being a plantar cushion, the sole must be capable of absorbing part of the impact.

Faults

According to the severity of the defect

Coat

Harsh, semi-long, not curly, not lying flat, must be harsh and crunchy to the touch. The length of the hair must be 5 to 6 cm over the whole of the body including the tail. Undercoat fine and dense.

Faults

Hair or coat shorter than 4-1/2 cm, not sufficiently harsh, with a tendency to be curly or flat.

Colours

Grey, greyish-black, grey with blackish tinge, blue-grey, reddish-grey, light or dark fawn, or a mixture of all these tinges. There must be no large white spot, a light white spot is tolerated on the chest and on the tips of the feet.

Disqualifications

- (a) Height under the minimum limit, even for puppy class; more than 2 cm above the maximum limit.
- (b) Head: lack of type, disproportion, without furnishings or covered with too much hair.
- (c) Forehead: flat or domed skull, receding forehead or forehead sloping over the eyes.
- (d) Muzzle: Disproportionate to the skull, drooping flews, nose any colour but black, lack of pigmentation in the mucous membranes (gums).
- (e) Loss of more than four teeth, pronounced prognathism.
- (f) Ears badly carried.
- (g) Particoloured, slanted or dissimilar eyes, eye colour too light.
- (h) Wild expression, evasive look.
- (i) Body: any excessive deviation from the standard.
- (j) Tail carried always over the back, carried low because of surgery (nicking), rudimentary tail or no tail at all.
- (k) Forequarters: any excessive deviation from the standard.
- (l) Hindquarters unsound (faulty, defective) overall.
- (m) Double dewclaws on every limb.
- (n) Coat: hair shorter than 4 cm or longer than 6 cm, curly or very flat, soft or woolly.
- (o) Coat colour: black, white, harlequin or piebald tinges, too much white on the chest, totally white feet, white in the coat in any other areas than those indicated.

Berger Des Pyrenees (Pyrenean Shepherd Dog)

Origin and Purpose



ROUGH-FACED VARIETY

Coming from humble beginnings as working farm dogs in the isolated farms of the French Pyrenees Mountains, it was practically unknown to the official dog scene until the early 20th century. Its type varies considerably from one valley to the next, its shape and coat can be very different, but its character and behaviour never vary.

SMOOTH-FACED VARIETY

This variety of Berger des Pyrenees was principally found in the foothills of the French Pyrenees Mountains where it was much appreciated by horse-dealers and cattle-drovers.

The two varieties, Smooth-Faced and Rough-Faced (including both demi-long and long-haired coat types) are born in the same litters.

General Appearance

Dog displaying a maximum of excitable energy in a minimum of size and weight.

Temperament

A courageous and resourceful little dog showing initiative and total devotion to its master. It is headstrong by nature and firm control is usually needed to channel its energy and bring out the best of its intelligence liveliness. His always alert expression, cunning and wary looks, together with great liveliness are giving this dog a personal stamp that is not to be compared with any other. Sometimes wary of strangers.

Size

ROUGH-FACED VARIETY

Height at withers :

Males - 42- 48 cm. (16.5" -19 in.)

Females - 40 - 46 cm. (15.5" – 18 in.)

A tolerance of + or - 2 cm (1") is allowed for perfectly typed specimens.

SMOOTH-FACED VARIETY

Height at withers :

Males - 40-54 cm. (15.5" – 21 in.)

Females - 40-52 cm. (15.5" – 20.5 in.)

Coat & Colour

Coat

ROUGH-FACED VARIETY

The body hair is long, or demi-long, but always dense, almost flat or slightly wavy, thicker and more woolly on the croup and the upper thighs, the texture somewhere between goat's hair and sheep's wool. In some dogs the mixture of coarse and woolly hair can produce sorts of strands or cords called "cadenettes" found on the chest and the forelegs at elbow level; and sometimes matted or felted hair called "matelotes" which overlap like tiles on the hindquarters. The muzzle has shorter and less dense hair. On the end of the muzzle, and sometimes along the whole muzzle, it is laid flat and naturally grows from front to back. On the sides as well as on the cheeks, the hair is longer and brushed up in a "blown back look" from front to back. Eyes must be clearly visible and not covered by hair.

SMOOTH-FACED VARIETY

On the body the hair is demi-long or less than demi-long. It reaches its longest length on the neck and withers (6-7 cm) and on the median line of the back (4-5 cm). Slight feathering on the front legs and "culottes" or breeches on the hind end. On the muzzle and skull the hair is short and fine, hence the name "smooth-face".

Colour

Fawn, lighter or darker, sometimes overlaid with black hairs. Gray, lighter or darker. Brindle, lighter or darker. Black. Blue merle, fawn merle and brindle merle. Sometimes with white markings on the head, chest and limbs. Solid colours are preferred.

Head

CRANIAL REGION:

Skull: The head is triangular in shape. Overall the skull is moderately developed but remains the dominating part of the head. Almost flat with a slightly marked furrow, nicely rounded on the sides. The occipital bone should be little pronounced. The muzzle to blend gently and in a slight slope with the skull. Stop not visible. On the whole, the head should remind one of the brown bear. **Stop:** Scarcely discernible.

FACIAL REGION

Nose: Black. **Muzzle:** should be straight, shorter than the length of the skull with skull remaining the dominating part of the head. The muzzle narrow without exaggeration and wedge shaped. The **lips**

should not be very fleshy and cover the lower jaw without any hint of a flew. The mucous membranes of the lips and palate to be black or heavily marked with black. **Eyes:** The very expressive eyes should be surrounded by thin eye lids and black rims. They are well-opened, almond-shaped, of dark brown colour, neither protruding nor deep set. Merle dogs and slate gray dogs are allowed a blue eye or eyes showing a partial depigmentation of the iris (these features being almost always typical with this colour).

ROUGH-FACED VARIETY

Muzzle is slightly shorter than the length of the skull and appears noticeably shorter because of the longer hair on the face.

SMOOTH-FACED VARIETY

Muzzle is longer than that of the Rough-Faced Variety and this is emphasized by the distinctive smooth face.

Jaws/Teeth: Complete dentition. Large canines. Scissor bite (upper incisors covering lower incisors without loss of contact). Pincer bite (edge to edge) is tolerated. **Ears:** Both cropped and uncropped are equally acceptable. Natural uncropped ears are short, triangular, fine, wide at the base and ending in a point. The uncropped ear will stand semi-erect with the top third or half falling forward, or falling to the side in the case of a rose ear. An uncropped ear which stands upright is undesirable. The cropped ear has the top third of the ear removed, cut straight across, and standing erect. Ideally the ears should be symmetrical and very mobile.

Neck

Rather long, fairly well muscled, blending nicely with the shoulders.

Forequarters

Forelegs: upright, lean, sinewy, well-fringed. **Upper Arm:** Oblique and moderately long. **Forearm:** Straight. **Carpus** (carpal joint): Noticeable wrist joint. **Metacarpus** (pasterns): Slightly oblique seen from the side. **Dewclaws:** Single dewclaws.

ROUGH-FACED VARIETY

- **Shoulder:** is rather long and angulation moderately oblique. The points of the shoulder blades project over the line of the back.

- **Foreleg** lean and covered in long or demi-long hair.
- **Feet** fairly flat, of a definite oval shape. Dark pads. Small hard nails covered by hair which is also found under the foot, between the pads.

SMOOTH-FACED VARIETY

- **Shoulder:** Angulations are more open in the Smooth-faced variety.
- **Forelegs** covered in short hair with a light fringe of hair on the back of the legs, and breeches on the back of the hind legs.
- **Feet** are tighter and more arched than that of the Rough-faced variety.

Body

The bone structure is strong without heaviness, muscle is lean. **Skin:** Should be thin, often spotted with pigment, whatever the colour of the coat. **Topline:** Well-supported. **Withers:** Prominent. **Loin:** Short and slightly arched. **Croup:** Rather short and sloping. **Chest:** Moderately developed and reaching to the elbow. The ribs are slightly sprung. **Flank:** Not very deep.

ROUGH-FACED VARIETY

- **Back:** Rather long and strong. Length of body is noticeably longer than its height.
- **Loins:** Short, slightly arched but appears more arched because coat is often thicker on hindquarters and croup.

SMOOTH-FACED VARIETY

- **Back:** Well sustained. Shorter in body length than that of the Rough-faced. Almost square in appearance.
- **Loin:** Short with less of an arch than the Rough-faced variety.

Hindquarters

Well developed, muscled but short upper thigh. Hocks lean, low set, **Metatarsus** (Rear pastern): Perpendicular to the ground or very slightly oblique from back to front. **Dewclaws:** Single or double dewclaws are acceptable on the hind legs, as is their absence. **Hind Feet:** Dark pads. Small hard nails covered by hair which is also found under the foot and between the pads. Hind foot attachment to metatarsus is sometimes slightly askew (toes out slightly). This unique adaptive feature for working on steep mountainous terrain is especially common with dogs born and reared in the mountains.

ROUGH-FACED VARIETY

- Rather closed angulation.
- **Upper Thigh:** Not very long, moderately oblique, strong, well-defined muscle.
- **Stifle** (knee): Well-angulated and parallel to the body.
- **Lower Thigh:** Rather long and oblique.
- **Hocks:** Lean, set low, well angulated. Hocks are sometimes a little close mainly in dogs born and bred in the mountains.
- **Feet** fairly flat, of a definite oval shape.

SMOOTH-FACED VARIETY

- Rather open angulation.
- **Upper Thigh:** Not very long, slightly oblique.
- **Stifle** (knee): Moderately angulated and parallel to the body.
- **Hocks:** Lean, set higher than the Rough-faced variety. Hocks are sometimes a little close, mainly in dogs born and bred in the mountains.
- **Feet** are tighter and more arched than that of the Rough-faced variety.

Tail

A naturally long tail, or a natural bob-tail, or a docked tail are all equally acceptable. A naturally long tail is well fringed and not very long. It should follow the line of the croup and should not be curled on the top of the back. Set on rather low with a hook at the tip.

Gait

Because of his overall construction the Berger des Pyrénées displays a rather restricted pace. Ambling is not penalized but it should be considered that this is foremost a gait used by dogs while working with sheep in order to keep up with their reactions, or in the evening when they are getting tired after a full day's work. Ambling is therefore not justified in the show ring. The Berger des Pyrénées moves mostly at a trot. The latter should be clean and strong. At a slow trot the head is carried somewhat high, at a fast outreaching trot the head is level with the topline. The feet should never be lifted much off the ground. All the movements to be fluid, close to the ground. A correct gait that is pleasing to the eye is the result of good shoulder and rear angulations.

Because of its construction the Smooth-faced variety has a shorter stride than the Rough-faced variety.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog. The faults and disqualifications are the same for the Rough-faced and Smooth-faced variety except for those describing coat and proportions.

- **General Appearance:** Coarse appearance, lack of liveliness, loaded in muscles, common expression, unsound movement, short or mincing gait.
- **Head:** Skull pointed and oblong in shape; head too short, too long, or too narrow. Marked Stop. Muzzle square, too long or rectangular shaped. Hair exaggeratedly developed, especially when falling over the eyes. Lack of pigmentation.
- **Eyes:** Eyes too small, too round, too light; lack of expression. Unpigmented eyelids.
- **Ears:** Set too low and badly carried.
- **Neck:** Badly set on, coarse, weak, short or too long.
- **Shoulders:** Shoulders too straight or too short.
- **Body:** Coarseness, straight topline. Too short in length in the Rough-Faced variety. Too long in length in the Smooth-Faced variety.
- **Forequarters:** Double dewclaws. Unsoundness.
- **Hindquarters:** Straight hocks; joints lacking in springiness.
- **Feet:** Too heavy coated feet showing an unsightly under part. Fleshy toes. Cat-feet. Long and light coloured nails. Insufficiently coated feet.
- **Tail:** Bad tail carriage or missing hook.

- **Coat:** Excessive growth of hair on the head, especially if it is covering the eyes. Hair too abundant on muzzle creating a moustache and without a “blown back look”. Open and tight curls. Frizziness.
- **Colour:** White covering more than one third of the coat. Black with tan points.

Disqualifications

- Any size above or under the limits set by the present standard.
- Nose of any colour other than black.
- Blue eyes with any coat other than a merle.
- Over and undershot bite mouths.
- Naturally upright standing ears.

N.B. Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.

Bouvier des Flandres



Origin and Purpose

The Bouvier des Flandres, as the name indicates originated in Flandres – both France and Belgium, as there are no boundaries separating these two countries.

In the beginning, the Bouvier was used to herd cattle; for draught and butter churning. Modernization has changed farm equipment. Now the Bouvier is used as guard for home or farm, for defense work or police work. His great physical and moral aptitudes, his excellent nose, initiative and intelligence make him an excellent tracker and gamekeeper's aid.

General Appearance – General Characteristics

Cobby, short bodied and thickset on powerful and muscular limbs; gives the impression of power, without clumsiness as a whole. The fire in his eyes denotes intelligence, energy and audacity. He is calm, rational and prudently bold.

Temperament

Bouvier is even-tempered, never shy and not overly aggressive. He is calm, rational and prudently bold, never 'pretty' in attitude or behavior. With those he knows well he is outgoing and almost boisterous. Shy dogs that back away under normal situations and overly aggressive dogs that show aggression without reason should be severely penalized.

Size

Dogs 24-1/2 inches to 27-1/2 inches (62.2 to 69.8 cm) at the withers. Bitches 23-1/2 inches to 26-1/2 inches (59.7 to 67.3 cm) at the withers. Slightly larger or smaller size should not be faulted if other factors are of good to excellent quality. However, the average size is most desirable. Weight – approximately 77 to 100 pounds for dogs, 60 to 85 pounds for bitches.

Coat

The coat is very full. The top coat plus the dense undercoat make a perfect wrap adapted to abrupt climatic changes characteristic of the breed's country of origin. It must be rough to the touch, harsh and dry neither too long nor too short (about 2-1/2 inches/6.3 cm), slightly tousled without ever being woolly or curly. On the head the coat is shorter

and almost shaven on the outside of the ear, but the inside is protected by fairly long hair. On the top of the back, the coat is harsh and dry; it becomes shorter on the lower legs, while still harsh. A flat coat is to be avoided since it indicates a lack of undercoat. Soft, woolly, silky, or too long or too short a coat are considered faults. Undercoat – wadding made of fine and coarse hairs grows under the overcoat and forms with it a waterproof mantle. Lack of undercoat is a fault.

Colours

The coat of the Bouvier des Flandres is fawn or grey often brindle or dark grey, or black. Light-coloured coats (white, cream) and washed-out colours or chocolate brown with white spots are not desirable. A white star on the chest is allowed.

Head

Massive, appearing more so because of his beard and mustache, it is well proportioned to his body and size. To feel, it is finely chiseled. **Skull** well developed and flat, longer than its width. The top lines of the skull and muzzle are parallel. The proportions of the skull to the muzzle are 3 to 2. Stop is barely perceptible, more apparent than real because of the raised eyebrows. **Muzzle** wide, powerful, bony, straight in upper profile, diminishing toward the nose but never pointed. The muzzle is shorter than the skull – in proportion of 2 to 3 and the circumference just below the eyes is about equal to the length of the head. Cheeks flat and dry. **Nose** – This is the continuation of the muzzle, it is slightly convex at its extremity – must be well opened nostrils. Spotted, pink, brown or butterfly are faults. **Mouth** – Jaws should be powerful and of equal length; teeth strong, white and healthy. The upper incisors must meet the lower ones like the blades of scissors. Overshot or undershot are faults. **Mustache and Beard** – Fully dry, shorter and harsher on top of muzzle. The upper lip has a mustache and the chin has a full, harsh beard which gives the gruff expression so characteristic of the breed. **Eyes** – Bold and energetic, neither prominent nor sunken. In shape slightly oval on a horizontal plane. The colour should be as dark as possible in keeping with the colour of the coat. Light in colour or haggard in expression should be severely faulted. **Eyelids** – Black without a trace of deficient pigmentation. No haw should be visible. **Eyebrows** – These are made of upstanding hair which accentuate the arch of the eyebrows without ever hiding the eyes. **Ears** – Cropped in a triangle, they are carried well up; attached high and very mobile. It is recommended that the size and shape should match the size of the head. Uncropped ears are allowed.

Forearms

Seen from the profile or front they remain straight, parallel to each other, perpendicular to the ground. They should be well muscled and of powerful bony structure. **Elbows** – Close to the body and parallel. Elbows out or too close are faults. In action they must remain parallel to median line of the body. **Carpus** – (Knee) in plumb with forearms, except for accessory carpus at back. Strong and heavy bone. **Pastern** – (Metacarpal) of strong bony structure, very slightly inclined forwards. **Feet** – Short, round and compact. The toes should be close and well arched. **Nails** – strong and black, Thick and hard soles.

Body or Trunk

Powerful, cobby and short. The length of the point of the shoulder to ischium should be about equal to the height at the withers. The ischium is the rear point of the rump. The chest should reach to level of elbows and never be cylindrical, though the ribs are well sprung. The depth, i.e., the distance between the sternum and the last rib must be great – about 7/10th of the height at the wither. The first ribs are slightly curved; the others are well sprung and well inclined to the rear giving the desired depth of the chest. Flat, too long or overly rounded and short ribs must be greatly penalized. **Flank** – The flank between the last rib and the haunch must be very short, especially in males. There is very little tuck-up. **Back** – Short, wide, muscled and firm – showing no weakness but remaining flexible. Long body or sway-back are faults. **Loin** – Short, wide and well muscled – must remain flexible but without weakness. **Croup or Rump** – Must follow as closely as possible the horizontal line of the back and follow (merge) smoothly into the curve of the rump. It should be wide without excess in the male, more developed (wider) in the female. A descending (steeply tilted) croup is a serious fault.

Hindquarters

Thighs – Wide and well muscled. The direction will be parallel to the median plane of the body. The femurs will be neither too straight nor too inclined. The buttock will be well let down with good, firm breeches. The kneecap or patella, is situated on an imaginary line from the iliac crest to the ground. **Legs** – Moderately long, neither too straight nor too inclined. Powerful and pronounced musculation is demanded. Rear legs must move in the same plane as front legs. No dewclaws. **Hocks** – Rather close to the ground, broad, well muscled and stretched. Seen from back they will be straight and parallel in the

“stand” position. In action they remain parallel. **Feet** – Round, strong toes; close and arched. Strong, black nails and thick, hard soles.

Tail

To be docked to 2nd or 3rd vertebrae. The tail should be an extension of the spine and carried high during movement. Some Bouviers are born with short tails and should not be faulted for this.

Gait

The Bouvier des Flandres as a whole must be harmoniously proportioned to permit a gait free, proud and bold. The walk and trot are habitual gaits, though hambling and pacing are also employed. A Bouvier will single track at a trot.

Note:

A male animal should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.

The foregoing description is that of the ideal Bouvier des Flandres. Any deviation from the above-described dog must be penalized to the extent of the deviation, keeping in mind the original purpose of the breed.

Briard



Origin & Purpose

An ancient French herding dog, which was also utilized as a cart dog, war sentinel and medic dog. His abilities at finding wounded soldiers gave rise to the saying that “if a Briard passed a wounded soldier by, he was too near death to save”. The Briard is still employed as a herding dog in his native country today.

General Appearance

A hardy dog, of vigorous movement. The Briard offers an image of great beauty and strength without heaviness or clumsiness. Well supported by powerful and muscular legs, the breed is an alert, supple and well-proportioned working dog. Dogs should look masculine and bitches feminine.

Temperament

The Briard possesses a balanced temperament that is neither aggressive nor timid. He forms a tight bond with his owners and is sometimes aloof with strangers. He has a strong protective instinct towards family and property.

Size

61 cm to 68.5 cm for males. 56 cm to 65 cm for females. The length of the body should be slightly greater (3-5 cm) than the height at the withers. The length of the Briard is measured from the point of the shoulder to the point of the buttocks. The Briard should not be cobby, nor square. Puppies under the age of one (1) year may be below the minimum. Disqualification for adult males under 61cm or over 68.5cm and for adult bitches under 56cm and over 65cm-measurements taken at the withers.

Coat & Colour

Coat: Texture: Coarse, long and dry; slightly wavy, with a light undercoat. The coat texture is likened to that of a coarse-haired goat’s coat. In the adult Briard the coat should be at least 7 cm in length at the shoulder.

Colour: Permissible colours: Black, tawny, charbonné and grey. Uniformity is preferred in all permissible colours. Where there are two or more colours, they must blend so as not to form a demarcation

line. In the tawny colours, the colour must be rich, neither pale nor washed out. A black mask may or may not be present. In Charbonné, (a tawny dog with light charcoaling on shoulders, neck and/or back), the charcoaling overlay should not form a heavy mantle of black over tawny and the charcoaling should appear to mix in with the tawny shades. In Greys, the colour may appear as uniform slate grey with black points at the ears, muzzle and tail, or as grey blending through the black coat. A bi-colour (or black and tan pattern), a coat where there is a clear demarcation of a heavy black or grey overlaying tawny, is not acceptable. It is permissible to have a white spot 2.5 cm or less on the forechest. In blacks there may be scattered white “guard” hairs scattered throughout the coat. Too many glints of reddish coat in a black must be faulted. Coats that are extremely washed out as to appear nearly white are disqualified, as are bi-colours.

Head

Head: The head is comprised of two rectangles, one larger (skull) than the other (muzzle). The two rectangles meet in a well defined stop midway between the occiput and the tip of the nose. The head is furnished with hair forming a beard, moustache and eyebrows lightly veiling the eyes. The planes of the skull and muzzle must be parallel. The length of the skull and muzzle are approximately the same, so that viewing the head from the side, it appears as two equal length rectangles with one, the muzzle being slightly lower than the rectangle of the skull. The overall length of the head, measured from the occiput to the tip of the nose is approximately 40% of the dog’s height at the withers. **Forehead:** Flat, slightly rounded at the edges and broad. **Muzzle:** Nasal bridges straight and flat. There should be no pendulous flews, nor should the muzzle appear snipey or narrow. **Teeth:** Teeth strong, white. Scissors bite preferred. **Nose:** Always square and black; nostrils strong and open. The nose should be large. **Eyes:** Horizontal, well open, quite large, not slanting, of dark color, with an intelligent and calm expression. The rims of the eyelids, regardless of the colour of the coat should have very black pigmentation. Eyes of any colour other than black or brown are disqualified. **Ears:** Set high. Must be carried erect, if cropped. If uncropped, rather short and not positioned flat against the head. There is no preference towards cropped or uncropped ears. The length of the uncropped ear must be equal to or slightly less than one half the length of the head, smooth and covered with long hair. When alert the uncropped ears should lift slightly giving a square look to the skull. The cropped ears when alert, tend to move

toward each other over the head, with the opening facing forward. Ears should be set on the skull above the eyeline.

Neck

Muscular and well clearing the shoulders.

Forequarters

Shoulders are well muscled, legs have strong bone and are vertical. Pasterns are slightly inclined. The shoulder should have a good layback. The ideal is 45 degrees of angulation. Forequarter faults are: legs not vertical, loose shoulders, weakness in pasterns, or straight shoulders.

Body

Chest: Wide (the width of the hand between the two elbows), deep and well let down to the elbows. The chest is ovate in shape. There should be a forechest present. Dogs with too narrow a chest, lacking depth, lacking a forechest, with ribs too flat or barrel-chested, should be faulted. Back: Straight and level. The topline should show no sign of dips nor roaching. Croup: Very slightly rounded and inclined approximately 30 degrees. Croups which are too steep or too straight or those which are definitely higher than the withers must be faulted.

Hindquarters

Hindquarters: The rear thighs should be well muscled, the leg bones strong and parallel. The stifle should be well angulated. The pasterns should be slightly inclined. Hindquarter faults are: lack of stifle angulation, weakness in rear pasterns. Hocks: Well-angled with the leg nearing the vertical below the hock joint. The hock is moderately let down with the upper bone joining the lower in a 135 degree angle. Cow-hocks and hocks that turn outward should be faulted. When moving the hock should flex open allowing the toes to point to the rear. Sickie hocks, are a severe fault that contributes to an inelegant gait. Feet: Strong, round in shape. The pads of the feet are rounded and hard. The toes are tightly closed, and slightly arched. The nails are always black. The rear feet may turn out slightly to allow for double dewclaws in action, as long as the hock joint remains vertically straight. Foot faults: long, flat or splayed. Toeing in or out in front. Pads without elasticity or that are flat or soft. Any nail colour other than black is disqualified.

Double Dewclaws: Double dewclaws on both back feet. Each double dewclaw must be made up of two bony parts, one in each toe with a

nail (the commonly found existence of more than one nail per toe is permitted). They should be placed as near to the ground as possible, assuring a better setting of the foot. Dewclaws may be side by side, without separation as long as each toe in each dewclaw has a bony part. It is permissible to have a missing nail. As long as there are two proper dewclaws, missing nails should not be penalized. There is no penalty for more than two toes in a set of dewclaws. Double dewclaws occasionally appear on the front legs as well. There is no penalty for this. Faults: placed too high (mid-way to the hock). Disqualifications: Single dewclaws; Empty dewclaws; No dewclaws. Lack of two bones, one in each double dewclaw, even if nails are present.

Tail

Whole, well furnished with hair, forming a hook (crochet) at the tip. The tip of the tail should meet the point of the hock, not exceeding more than 5 cm beyond. In repose, the tail hangs straight down until it reaches the crook, viewed as the letter “J” from the right side of the dog. The crook does not deviate side to side, but remains in line with the tail. In action, the tail is not to be carried over the level of the topline. Faults: not reaching the hock, no crochet, tip tightly curled rather than forming a “J” (when viewed from the dog’s right side), carried above the topline.

Gait

A well-built Briard is the image of a powerful dog with a light and supple movement, appearing to glide, moving as if he doesn’t even touch the ground. This movement is known as “quicksilver”. The dog is able to execute sudden turns and stops as a good herding dog must do to accomplish his work. He possesses good reach and drive with legs converging towards a single track as speed increases. The front and rear feet meet, but do not overlap steps at a trotting gait. Faults: Inelegance, clumsy gait. Sickie hocks, hackney fronts. Habitual pacing.

Faults

Any deviation from the stated ideal is a fault. The seriousness of the fault is equal to the degree of deviation from the ideal.

- Forequarter: legs not vertical, loose shoulders, weakness in pasterns, or straight shoulders
- Chest: Dogs with too narrow a chest, lacking depth, lacking a forechest, with ribs too flat or barrel-chested, should be faulted.

- Croup: Croups which are too steep or too straight or those which are definitely higher than the withers must be faulted.
- Hindquarter: lack of stifle angulation, weakness in rear pasterns.
- Hocks: Cow-hocks and hocks that turn outward should be faulted. Sickie hocks, are a severe fault that contributes to an inelegant gait.
- Foot: long, flat or splayed. Toeing in or out in front. Pads without elasticity or that are flat or soft.
- Dew Claws: placed too high (mid-way to the hock).
- Tail: not reaching the hock, no crochet, tip tightly curled rather than forming a “J” (when viewed from the dog’s right side), carried above the topline.
- Gait: Inelegant, clumsy gait. Sickie hocks, hackney fronts. Habitual pacing.

Disqualifications

- Adult males under 61 cm or over 68.5 cm. Adult females under 56 cm or over 65 cm – measurements taken at the withers.
- Adults with less than 7 cm length of coat at the shoulder.
- White, chestnut, or mahogany brown, and bi-colours. Extremely washed out tawny as to appear nearly white. Spotted coat. White blaze. White spot on chest exceeding 2.5 cm in diameter.
- Nose any colour other than black.
- Eye colour other than black or brown.
- Any artifice to make cropped ears stand erect.
- Cut or docked tail. Any trace of an operation to rectify tail carriage.
- Nail colour other than black.
- Single dewclaws; Empty dewclaws; No dewclaws. Lack of two bones, one in each double dewclaw, even if nails are present.

Collie (Rough & Smooth)



Origin and Purpose

Both breeds of Collie originated in the British Isles. The Rough Collie was originally used as a herding dog, while the Smooth Collie was the drover's dog.

General Appearance

The Collie is a lithe, strong, responsive, active dog, carrying no useless timber, standing naturally straight and firm. The deep moderately wide chest shows strength, the sloping shoulders and well-bent hocks indicate speed and grace and the face shows high intelligence. The Collie presents an impressive, proud picture of true balance, each part being in harmonious proportion to every other part and to the whole. Except for the technical description that is essential to this Standard and without which no Standard for the guidance of breeders and judges is adequate, it could be stated simply that no part of the Collie ever seems to be out of proportion to any other part. Timidity, frailness, sullenness, viciousness, lack of animation, cumbersome appearance, and lack of overall balance impair the general character.

Size

Dogs are from 24-26 inches (60-67 cm) at the shoulder and weigh from 60-75 lb. (27-34 kg). Bitches are from 22-24 inches (55-61 cm) at the shoulder, weighing from 50-65 lb. (22-30 kg). An undersized or an oversized Collie is penalized according to the extent to which the dog appears to be undersized or oversized.

Coat

There are two varieties of coat allowed. They are:

(a) Rough

The well-fitting, proper textured coat is the crowning glory of the Rough variety of Collie. It is abundant except on the head and legs. The outer coat is straight and harsh to the touch. A soft, open outer coat or a curly outer coat regardless of quantity, is penalized. The undercoat, however, is soft, furry and so close together that it is difficult to see the skin when parted. The coat is very abundant on the mane and frill. The face or mask is smooth. The forelegs are smooth and well feathered to the back of the pasterns. The

hind legs are smooth below the hock joints. Any feathering below the hock joints are trimmed for the show ring. The hair on the tail is very profuse and on the hips it is long and bushy. The texture, quantity, and the extent to which the coat “fits the dog” are important points.

(b) **Smooth**

The coat is short, hard, dense and flat. The texture is strong, and the soft furry undercoat is abundant.

Coat Colour

There is no preference among the five recognized colours allowed in the show ring. They are:

(a) **Sable and White**

Includes all shades of brown ranging from lemon yellow through orange and red to dark mahogany, with or without darker shadings in the coat, always with white markings.

(b) **Tricolour**

Predominantly black with tan markings over the eyes, on the cheeks and sides of the muzzle, and under the tail. Tan may also appear on the legs and feet, usually between the black and white areas of colour. White markings always present.

(c) **Blue Merle and White**

A colour pattern similar to the tricolour except that the black areas of colour are replaced by a grey mottled colour, ranging from a clear, silvery blue to a darker matte grey, with black merling or spotting distributed throughout.

(d) **Sable Merle and White**

Similar to the sable and white, but usually of a lighter sable colouring with darker sable mottling or spotting through the coat, often with grey tipping on the ears, and always with white markings.

(e) **White**

A basically white collie with a coloured head and ideally no more than twenty (20) percent colour on the body. The secondary colour may be any of the allowed colours or colour combinations.

White markings

Allowed white markings are as follows: on the neck, throat, chest, forelegs and feet, rear legs and feet, belly and tail tip. A blaze may appear on the foreface or back skull or both. In white factored dogs, a white spot or spots may appear on the body. The extent of the markings is immaterial unless the white areas detract from the desired expression and overall beauty of the dog.

Other colours for registration purposes

Double Merle

Eyes

In sable and white and tricolour collies, dark brown eyes are preferred and they must match each other in colour. Light coloured eyes are to be penalized according to the extent that they detract from the “sweet” expression so important in the breed.

In blue merles and sable merles either or both eyes may be merle or china in colour, or dark brown with flecks of blue, though dark brown is preferred.

In whites, eye colour confirms with that specified for the secondary coat colour.

Foreface

The foreface is chiseled to form a receptacle for the eyes and they are necessarily placed obliquely to give them the required forward outlook. They are almond shaped, of medium size and never properly appear to be large or prominent. The eye does not show a yellow ring or a sufficiently prominent haw to affect the dogs expression. The eyes have a clear, bright appearance, expressing intelligent inquisitiveness, particularly when the ears are drawn up and the dog is on the alert. A large, round, full eye seriously detracts from the desired “sweet” expression.

Nose, Eye Rims, Lip Colouration

All coat colour designations should show dark pigment in those areas. The nose should be solid black in colour.

Head

The head properties are of great importance. When considered in proportion to the size of the dog, the head is inclined to lightness and

never appears massive. A heavy-headed dog lacks the necessary bright, alert, full-of-sense look that contributes so greatly to expression.

Both in front and profile view, the head bears a general resemblance to a well-blunted wedge, being smooth and clean in outline and nicely balanced in proportion. On the sides, it tapers gradually and smoothly from the ears to the nose, without being flared out in back skull (cheeky) or pinched in muzzle (snipey). In profile view, the top of the back skull and the top of the muzzle lie in two approximately parallel, straight planes of equal length, divided by a very slight but perceptible stop or break.

There is a very slight prominence of the eyebrows. The back skull is flat, without receding either laterally or backward and the occipital bone is not highly peaked. The proper width of back skull necessarily depends upon the combined length of skull and muzzle and the width of the back skull is less than its length. Thus the correct width varies with the individual and is dependent upon the extent to which it is supported by length of muzzle. A midpoint between the inside corners of the eyes (which is the centre of the correctly placed stop) is the centre of balance in length of head.

Teeth

The teeth are of good size, meeting in a scissors bite.

Ears

The ears are in proportion to the size of the head and, if they are carried properly and unquestionably “break” naturally, are seldom too small. Large ears usually cannot be lifted correctly off the head and even if lifted, they will be out of proportion to the size of the head. When in repose the ears are folded length-wise and thrown back into the frill. On the alert, they are drawn well up on the back skull and are carried about three-quarters erect, with about one-fourth of the ear tipping or “breaking” forward.

Expression

Expression is one of the more important points in considering the relative value of Collies. “Expression,” like the term “Character,” is difficult to define in words. It is not a fixed point as in colour, weight, or height and it is something the uninitiated can properly understand only by optical illustration. In general, however, it may be said to be the

combined product of the shape and balance of the skull and muzzle, the placement, size, shape, and colour of the eyes, and the position, size and carriage of the ears. An expression that shows sullenness or which is suggestive of any other breed is entirely foreign. The Collie cannot be judged properly until its expression has been carefully evaluated.

Neck

The neck is firm, clean, muscular, sinewy. It is fairly long, is carried upright with a slight arch at the nape and imparts a proud, upstanding appearance.

Forequarters

The forelegs are straight and muscular, with a fair amount of bone considering the size of the dog. A cumbersome appearance is undesirable. The forearm is moderately fleshy and the pasterns are flexible, but without weakness.

Body

The back is strong and level, supported by powerful hips and thighs and the croup is sloped to give a well-rounded finish. The body is firm, hard and muscular, a trifle long in proportion to the height. The ribs are well rounded behind the well-sloped shoulders and the chest is deep, extending to the elbows. The loin is powerful and slightly arched.

Hindquarters

The hindlegs are less fleshy than the forelegs, are muscular at the thighs, very sinewy and the hocks and stifles are well bent. The comparatively small feet are approximately oval in shape. The soles are well padded and tough and the toes are well arched and close together. When the Collie is not in motion, the legs and feet are judged by allowing the dog to come to a natural stop in a standing position so that both the forelegs and the hind legs are placed well apart, with the feet extending straight forward. Excessive “posing” is undesirable.

Tail

The tail is moderately long, the bone reaching to the hock joint or below. It is carried low when the dog is quiet, the end having an upward twist or “swirl”. When gaited or when the dog is excited, it is carried gaily, but not over the back.

Gait

Gait is sound. When the dog is moved at a slow trot towards an observer, its straight front legs track comparatively close together at the ground. The front legs are not out at the elbows, do not “cross over,” neither does the dog move with a choppy, pacing, or rolling gait. When viewed from the rear, the hind legs are straight, tracking comparatively close together at the ground. Viewed from the side, the reasonably long, “reaching” stride is smooth and even, keeping the back line firm and level.

As the speed of the gait is increased, the Collie single tracks, bringing the front legs inward in a straight line from the shoulder toward the centre line of the body and the hind legs inward in a straight line from the hip toward the centre line of the body. The gait suggests effortless speed combined with the dog’s herding heritage, requiring it to be capable of changing its direction of travel almost instantaneously.

Faults

A soft, open outer coat or a curly outer coat, regardless of quantity, is penalized. Because of the importance of the head characteristics, prominent head faults are severely penalized. Overshot or undershot jaws are undesirable, the latter being more severely penalized. Eye faults are heavily penalized. A dog with prick ears or low ears cannot show true expression and is penalized accordingly. Both narrow and wide placement of the forelegs are penalized. Noticeably fat dogs or dogs in poor flesh or with skin diseases or with no undercoat, are out of condition are moderately penalized accordingly. A dog which moves cow-hocked, or a dog with straight stifles, should be penalized.

Smooth Variety

The Smooth variety of Collie is judged by the same standard as the Rough variety, except that the references to the quantity and distribution of the coat are not applicable to the Smooth variety, which has a short, hard, dense, flat coat of good texture, with an abundance of undercoat.

Finnish Lapphund



Origin & Purpose

The Finnish Lapphund traces its origin back to the dogs kept by the Lapp people used as reindeer herders and watchdogs in Finnish Scandinavia and in the northern parts of Russia. Over the years, as reindeer herding subsided, the dogs were effectively used on Sheep and Cattle. The breed name was changed from Lapponian Herder to Lapphund in 1967 and again changed in 1993 to Finnish Lapphund. Today the breed is very popular in the whole of Finland, mainly as a house and hobby dog.

General Appearance

Smaller than medium sized, its conformation is strong for its size, slightly longer than the height at the withers. Long and thick coated with pricked ears.

Important Proportions – The depth of the body is slightly less than half of the height at the withers. The muzzle is slightly shorter than the skull. The skull is slightly longer than broad, the depth is the same as the breadth.

Temperament

Keen, calm and willing to learn. Friendly and Faithful.

Size

Ideal height for males at the withers – 49 cm (19 inches)

Ideal height for females at the withers – 44 cm (17 inches)

With a tolerance of +/- 3 cm (just over 1 inch)

Type is more important than size

Coat & Colour

Coat

Skin – Tight overall without wrinkles. Hair – Profuse, the males especially have an abundant mane. The outer coat is long, straight and harsh. On the head and on the front of the legs, the coat is shorter. There must be a soft and dense undercoat.

Colour

All colours are permitted. The basic colour must be dominant. Colours other than the basic colour can occur on head, neck, chest, underside of the body, on legs and tail

Head

Head and Skull: strong in outline, rather broad. **Skull:** Broad, slightly convex. The forehead is rather domed. The frontal furrow is clearly defined. **Stop:** Clearly defined. **Nose:** Preferably black, yet harmonizing with the coat colour. **Muzzle:** Strong, broad and straight; viewed from above and in profile, evenly tapering, but only slightly. **Lips:** Tight. **Cheeks:** The zygomatic arches are clearly marked (defined). **Eyes:** Dark brown in colour, yet harmonizing with the coat colour. Oval shaped. The expression is soft and friendly. **Ears:** Medium sized. Carried erect or semi-erect, set rather far apart. Triangular in shape, rather broad at the base. Very mobile. **Mouth:** The jaws are strong. Scissor bite.

Neck

Medium in length, strong and covered with profuse hair

Forequarters

Powerful with strong bones. Viewed from the front straight and parallel. Shoulders: Slightly oblique. Upper Arm: As long as the shoulder blade. The angle between shoulder and upper arm is rather open. Elbows: Placed slightly lower than the lower edge of the ribcage, pointing straight backwards. Forearm: Rather strong, vertical. Carpus (Wrist): Flexible. Pastern: Of medium length, slightly sloping.

Body

Withers: Muscular and broad, only slightly marked (not prominent). Back: Strong and straight. Loins: Short and muscular. Croup: Of medium length, well developed, sloping only slightly. Chest: Deep, rather long, reaching almost to the elbows, not very broad. The ribs are slightly arched; the forechest clearly visible but not too pronounced. Underline: Slightly tucked up

Hindquarters

Strong boned, powerful. Viewed from behind, straight and parallel. The angulation is clearly marked but not too strongly. Upper Thigh: Of medium length, rather broad with well developed muscles. Stifles: Pointed forward, the angulation is clearly marked (well angulated).

Hock Joint: Moderately low set; the angulation is clearly marked but not too strongly. (Moderate angulation). Metatarsus (Rear Pastern): Rather short, strong and vertical. Feet: Well arched, oval rather than round, covered with dense hair. The pads are elastic with the sides covered with dense hair.

Tail

Set rather high, medium in length, covered with profuse and long hair. In movement the tail is curved over the back or side; at rest it may hang down.

Gait

Effortless. Changes easily from trot to gallop, which is the most natural style of movement. The legs move parallel. Agile and fast when working.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree

- Males not masculine and females not feminine
- Light head, insufficient stop
- Dropped ears
- Tail carriage continuously lower than the topline
- Over angulated or too straight rear angulation
- Lack of under coat. Flat coat. Curly outer coat
- Basic colour indistinct

Disqualification

- Over or undershot mouth
- Kinky tail

Note:

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

German Shepherd Dog



General Appearance

The first impression of a good German Shepherd Dog is that of a strong, agile, well-muscled animal, alert and full of life. It should both be and appear to be well balanced, with harmonious development of the forequarter and hindquarter. The dog should appear to the eye, and actually be, longer than tall, deep bodied, and present an outline of smooth curves rather than corners. It should look substantial and not spindly, giving the impression both at rest and in motion of muscular fitness and nimbleness without any look of clumsiness or soft living.

The Shepherd should be stamped with a look of quality and nobility, difficult to define but unmistakable when present. The good German Shepherd Dog never looks common.

Secondary sex characteristics should be strongly marked, and every animal should give a definite impression of masculinity or femininity, according to its sex. Dogs should be definitely masculine in appearance and deportment; bitches, unmistakably feminine, without weakness of structure or apparent softness of temperament.

The condition of the dog should be that of an athlete in good condition, the muscles and flesh firm and the coat lustrous.

Temperament

The breed has a distinct personality marked by a direct and fearless, but not hostile, expression, and self-confidence and a certain aloofness which does not lend itself to immediate and indiscriminate friendships. The Shepherd Dog is not one that fawns upon every new acquaintance. At the same time, it should be approachable, quietly standing its ground and showing confidence and a willingness to meet overtures without itself making them. It should be poised, but when the occasion demands, eager and alert, both fit and willing to serve in any capacity as companion, watch dog, blind leader, herding dog or guardian; whichever the circumstances may demand.

The Shepherd Dog must not be timid, shrinking behind its master or handler, nervous, looking about or upward with anxious expression or showing nervous reactions to strange sounds or sights, or lackadaisical, sluggish, or manifestly disinterested in what goes on about him. Lack

of confidence under any surroundings is not typical of good character. Cases of extreme timidity and nervous unbalance sometimes give the dog an apparent, but totally unreal, courage and it becomes a “fear biter,” snapping not for any justifiable reason but because it is apprehensive of the approach of a stranger. This is a serious fault subject to heavy penalty.

Size

The ideal height for dogs is 25 inches (64 cm), and for bitches, 23 inches (58 cm) at the shoulder. This height is established by taking a perpendicular line from the top of the shoulder blade to the ground with the coat parted or so pushed down that this measurement will show the only actual height of the frame or structure of the dog. The working value of dogs above or below the indicated height is proportionately lessened, although variations of an inch (3 cm) above or below the ideal height are acceptable, while greater variations must be considered as faults. Weights of dogs of desirable size in proper flesh and condition average between 75 and 85 lb. (34 and 39 kg); and of bitches, between 60 and 70 lb. (27 and 32 kg).

Coat

The Shepherd is normally a dog with a double coat, the amount of undercoat varying with the season of the year and the proportion of the time the dog spends out of doors. It should, however, always be present to a sufficient degree to keep out water, to insulate against temperature extremes, and as a protection against insects. The outer coat should be as dense as possible, hair straight, harsh and lying close to the body. A slightly wavy outer coat, often of wiry texture, is equally permissible. The head, including the inner ear, foreface, and legs and paws are covered with short hair, and the neck with longer and thicker hair. The rear of forelegs and hind legs has somewhat longer hair extending to the pastern and hock respectively. Faults in coat include complete lack of any undercoat, soft, silky or too long outer coat and curly or open coat.

Colour

The German Shepherd Dog differs widely in colour. Generally speaking, strong, rich colours are to be preferred, with definite pigmentation, and without appearance of a washed-out colour. White dogs are to be disqualified.

Head

Clean-cut and strong, the head of the Shepherd is characterized by nobility. It should seem in proportion to the body and should not be clumsy, although a degree of coarseness of head, especially in dogs, is less of a fault than over-refinement. A round or domey skull is a fault. The **muzzle** is long and strong with the lips firmly fitted, and its topline is usually parallel with an imaginary elongation of the line of the forehead. Seen from the front, the forehead is only moderately arched and the skull slopes into the long wedge-shaped muzzle without abrupt stop. Jaws are strongly developed. Weak and too narrow underjaws, snipey muzzles, and no stop are faults. **Teeth:** The strong teeth, 42 in number (20 upper and 22 lower) are strongly developed and meet in a scissors grip in which part of the inner surface of the upper teeth meets and engages part of the outer surface of the lower teeth. This type of bite gives a more powerful grip than one in which the edges of the teeth meet directly, and is subject to less wear. The dog is overshot when the lower teeth fail to engage the inner surfaces of the upper teeth. This is a serious fault. The reverse condition – an undershot jaw – is a very serious fault. While missing premolars are frequently observed, complete dentition is decidedly to be preferred. So-called distemper teeth and discoloured teeth are faults whose seriousness varies with the degree of departure from the desired white, sound colouring. Teeth broken by accident should not be severely penalized but worn teeth, especially the incisors, are often indicative of the lack of a proper scissors bite, although some allowance should be made for age. **Eyes** of medium size, almond shaped, set a little obliquely and not protruding. The colour as dark as possible. Eyes of lighter colour are sometimes found and are not a serious fault if they harmonize with the general colouration, but a dark brown eye is always to be preferred. The expression should be keen, intelligent, and composed. The **ears** should be moderately pointed, open towards the front, and are carried erect when at attention, the ideal carriage being one in which the centre lines of the ears, viewed from the front, are parallel to each other and perpendicular to the ground. Puppies usually do not permanently raise their ears until the fourth or sixth month, and sometimes not until later. Cropped and hanging ears are to be discarded. The well-placed and well-carried ear of a size in proportion to the skull materially adds to the general appearance of the Shepherd. Neither too large nor too small ears are desirable. Too much stress, however, should not be laid on perfection of carriage if the ears are fully erect.

Neck

The neck is strong and muscular, clean-cut and relatively long, proportionate in size to the head and without loose folds of skin. When the dog is at attention or excited, the head is raised and the neck carried high, otherwise typical carriage of the head is forward rather than up and but little higher than the top of the shoulder, particularly in motion.

Body

The whole structure of the body gives an impression of depth and solidity without bulkiness. Forechest, commencing at the prosternum, should be well filled and carried well down between the legs with no sense of hollowness. Chest should be deep and capacious with ample room for lungs and heart. Well carried forward, with the prosternum, or process of the breastbone, showing ahead of the shoulder when the dog is viewed from the side. Ribs should be well sprung and long, neither barrel shaped nor too flat, and carried down to a breastbone which reaches to the elbow. Correct ribbing allows the elbow to move back freely when the dog is at a trot, while too round a rib causes interference and throws the elbow out. Ribbing should be carried well back so that loin and flank are relatively short. Abdomen firmly held and not paunchy. The bottom line of the Shepherd is only moderately tucked up in flank, never like that of a Greyhound.

Legs

The bone of the legs should be straight, oval rather than round or flat, and free from sponginess. Its development should be in proportion to the size of the dog and contribute to the overall impression of substance without grossness. Crooked leg bones and any malformation such as, for example, that caused by rickets, should be penalized. Pastern should be of medium length, strong and springy. Much more spring of pastern is desirable in the Shepherd Dog than in any other breeds, as it contributes to the ease and elasticity of the trotting gait. The upright terrier pastern is definitely undesirable.

Metatarsus (the so-called "hock"): short, clean, sharply defined, and of great strength. This is the fulcrum upon which much of the forward movement of the dog depends. Cow-hocks are a decided fault, but before penalizing for Cow-hocks, it should be definitely determined, with the animal in motion, that the dog has this fault, since many dogs with exceptionally good hindquarter angulation occasionally stand so as to give the appearance of cow-hockedness which is not actually present.

Feet

Rather short, compact, with toes well arched, pads thick and hard, nails short and strong. The feet are important to the working qualities of the dog. The ideal foot is extremely strong with good gripping power and plenty of depth of pad. The so-called cat-foot, or terrier foot, is not desirable. The thin, spread or hare-foot is, however, still more undesirable.

Topline

The withers should be higher than, and sloping into, the level back to enable a proper attachment of the shoulder blades. The back should be straight and very strongly developed without sag or roach, the section from the wither to the croup being relatively short. (The desirable long proportion of the Shepherd Dog is not derived from a long back but from overall length with relation to height, which is achieved by breadth of forequarter and hindquarter viewed from the side.) Loin: viewed from the top, broad and strong, blending smoothly into the back without undue length between the last rib and the thigh, when viewed from the side. Croup should be long and gradually sloping. Too level or flat a croup prevents proper functioning of the hindquarter, which must be able to reach well under the body. A steep croup also limits the action of the hindquarter.

Structure

A German Shepherd is a trotting dog and his structure has been developed to best meet the requirements of his work in herding. That is to say, a long, effortless trot which shall cover the maximum amount of ground with the minimum number of steps, consistent with the size of the animal. The proper body proportion, firmness of back and muscles and the proper angulation of the forequarters and hindquarters serve this end. They enable the dog to propel itself forward by a long step of the hindquarter and to compensate for this stride by a long step of the forequarter. The high withers, the firm back, the strong loin, the properly formed croup, even the tail as balance and rudder, all contribute to this same end.

Proportion

The German Shepherd Dog is properly longer than tall with the most desirable proportion as 10 is to 8-1/2. We have seen how the height is ascertained; the length is established by a dog standing naturally and four-square, measured on a horizontal line from the point of the prosternum, or breastbone, to the rear edge of the pelvis, the ischium tuberosity, commonly called the sitting bone.

Angulation

Forequarter: the shoulder blade should be long, laid on flat against the body with its rounded upper end in a vertical line above the elbow, and sloping well forward to the point where it joins the upper arm. The withers should be high, with shoulder blades meeting closely at the top, and the upper arm set on at an angle approaching as nearly as possible a right angle. Such an angulation permits the maximum forward extension of the foreleg without binding or effort. Shoulder faults include too steep or straight a position of either blade or upper arm, too short a blade or upper arm, lack of sufficient angle between these two members, looseness through lack of firm ligamentation, and loaded shoulder with prominent pads of flesh or muscles on the outer side. Construction in which the whole shoulder assembly is pushed too far forward also restricts the stride and is faulty.

Hindquarters

The angulation of the hindquarter also consists ideally of a series of sharp angles as far as the relation of the bones to each other is concerned, and the thigh bone should parallel the shoulder blade while the stifle bone parallels the upper arm. The whole assembly of the thigh, viewed from the side, should be broad, with both thigh and stifle well muscled and of proportionate length, forming as nearly as possible a right angle. The metatarsus (the unit between the hock joint and the foot commonly and erroneously called the hock) is strong, clean and short, the hock joint clean-cut and sharply defined.

Tail

Bushy, with the last vertebra extended at least to the hock joint, and usually below. Set smoothly into the croup and low rather than high, at rest the tail hangs in a slight curve like a sabre. A slight hook – sometimes carried to one side – is faulty only to the extent that it mars general appearance. When the dog is excited or in motion, the curve is accentuated and the tail raised, but it should never be lifted beyond a line at right angles with the line of the back. Docked tails, or those which have been operated upon to prevent curling, disqualify. Tails too short, or with clumpy end due to the ankylosis or the growing together of the vertebrae, are serious faults.

Gait

General Impression: The gait of the German Shepherd Dog is outreaching, elastic, seemingly without effort, smooth and rhythmic. At a walk it covers a great deal of ground, with long step of both hind leg and

foreleg. At a trot, the dog covers still more ground and moves powerfully but easily with a beautiful co-ordination of back and limbs so that, in the best examples, the gait appears to be the steady motion of a well-lubricated machine. The feet travel close to the ground, and neither fore nor hind feet should lift high on either forward reach or backward push. The hindquarter delivers, through the back, a powerful forward thrust which slightly lifts the whole animal and drives the body forward. Reaching far under, and passing the imprint left by the front foot, the strong arched hind foot takes hold of the ground; then hock, stifle, and upper thigh come into play and sweep back, the stroke of the hind leg finishing with the foot still close to the ground in a smooth follow-through. The overreach of the hindquarter usually necessitates one hind foot passing outside and the other hind foot passing inside the track of the forefeet and such action is not faulty unless the locomotion is crabwise with the dog's body sideways out of the normal straight line. In order to achieve ideal movement of this kind, there must be full muscular co-ordination throughout the structure with the action of muscles and ligaments positive, regular and accurate.

Back Transmission

The typical smooth, flowing gait of the Shepherd Dog cannot be maintained without great strength and firmness (which does not mean stiffness) of back. The whole effort of the hindquarter is transmitted to the forequarter through the muscular and bony structure of the loin, back, and withers. At full trot, the back must remain firm and level without sway, roll, whip or roach. To compensate for the forward motion imparted by the hindquarter, the shoulder should open to its full extent – the desirability of good shoulder angulation now becomes apparent – and the forelegs should reach out in a stride balancing that of the hindquarter. A steep shoulder will cause the dog either to stumble or to raise the forelegs very high in an effort to co-ordinate with the hindquarter, which is impossible when shoulder structure is faulty. A serious gait fault results when a dog moves too low in front, presenting an unlevel topline with the wither lower than the hips. The Shepherd Dog does not track on widely separated parallel lines as does the terrier, but brings the feet inward toward the middle line of the body when at trot in order to maintain balance. For this reason a dog viewed from the front or rear when in motion will often seem to travel close. This is not a fault if the feet do not strike or cross, or if the knees or shoulders are not thrown out, but the feet and hocks should be parallel even if close together. The excellence of gait must also be evaluated by viewing from the side the effortless, properly coordinated covering of ground.

Summary

It should never be forgotten that the ideal Shepherd is a working animal which must have an incorruptible character combined with body and gait suitable for the arduous work which constitutes its primary purpose. All its qualities should be weighed in respect to their contribution to such work, and while no compromise should be permitted with regard to its working potentiality, the dog must nevertheless possess a high degree of beauty and nobility.

Evaluation of Faults

Note: Faults are important in the order of their group, as per group headings, irrespective of their position in each group.

Very Serious Faults

Major faults of temperament; undershot lower jaw.

Serious Faults

Faults of balance and proportion; poor gait, viewed either from front, rear or side; marked deficiency of substance (bone or body); bitchy male dogs; faulty backs; too level or too short croup; long and weak loin; very bad feet; ring tails; tails much too short; rickety condition; more than four missing premolars or any other missing teeth, unless due to accident; lack of nobility; badly washed-out colour; badly overshot bite.

Faults

Doggy bitches; poorly carried ears; too-fine in head; weak muzzles; improper muscular condition; faulty coat, other than temporary condition; badly affected teeth.

Minor Faults

Too coarse head; hooked tails; too light, round or protruding eyes; discoloured teeth; condition of coat, due to season or keeping.

Disqualifications

Albino characteristics; cropped ears; hanging ears (as in a hound); docked tails; male dogs having one or both testicles undescended (monorchids or cryptorchids); white dogs.

Iceland Sheepdog



Origin & Purpose

The Iceland Sheepdog is Iceland's only native dog. It was brought to Iceland with the first Viking settlers (AD 874 – 930). The Iceland Sheepdog and its method of working adapted to the local terrain, farming methods and the hard struggle for survival of the Icelandic people over the centuries, making it indispensable in the rounding up of livestock on the farms. The Iceland sheepdog's popularity has increased over the last few decades and, despite the fact the breed is still very small in numbers, it is no longer considered to be in danger of extinction.

General Appearance

The Iceland Sheepdog is a Nordic herding Spitz, slightly under medium sized with prick ears and a curled tail. Seen from the side the dog is rectangular; the length of the body from the point of shoulder to point of buttock is greater than the height at withers. The depth of the chest is equal to the length of the foreleg. The expression is gentle, intelligent and happy. A confident and lively bearing is typical for this dog. There are two types of coat, long and short both thick and extremely weatherproof. There is a marked difference in appearance between the sexes.

Temperament

The Iceland Sheepdog is a hardy and agile herding dog which barks, making it extremely useful for herding or driving livestock in the pastures, in the mountains or finding lost sheep. The Icelandic Sheepdog is by nature very alert and will always give visitors an enthusiastic welcome without being aggressive. Hunting instincts are not strong. The Iceland Sheepdog is cheerful, friendly, inquisitive, playful and unafraid.

Size

Ideal height is:

Dogs: 18 inches (46 cm) and Bitches: 16 inches (42 cm).

Coat & Colour

Coat: Double coat, thick and extremely weatherproof.

There are two variants

Short haired

The outer coat of medium length, fairly coarse, with a thick, soft undercoat. The hair is shorter on the face, top of head, ears and front of legs, longer on the neck, chest and back of thighs. The tail is bushy and the hair length is in proportion to the coat.

Longer-haired

The outer coat is longer than the above, fairly coarse, with a thick, soft undercoat. The hair is shorter on the face, top of head, ears and front of legs, longer behind the ears, on the neck, chest, behind the forelegs and back of thighs. The tail is very bushy and the hair length is in proportion to the coat.

Colour: Several colours are permitted but a single colour should always be predominant. The predominant colours are:

- Various shades of tan, ranging from cream to reddish brown.
- Chocolate brown.
- Grey.
- Black.

White always accompanies the predominant colour. The most common white markings, which are often irregular, are a blaze or a part of the face, collar, chest, socks of varying length and tip of tail. Lighter shading often occurs on the underside of the dog from throat to tip of tail. On tan and grey dogs a black mask, black tips to the outer hairs and even occasional black hairs often occur. Black (tricolour) dogs have a black coat, white markings as mentioned above and traditional markings in any of the various tan colours on the cheeks, over the eyes (eyebrows) and on the legs. Patches of the above colours on a white background (pied) are permitted. White should not be totally predominant.

Head

Strongly built with close fitting skin. Skull slightly longer than muzzle. Triangular when seen from above or the side. **Skull:** somewhat domed. **Stop:** clearly defined though neither steep nor high. **Nose:** black, dark brown in chocolate brown and some cream dogs. **Muzzle:** well-developed, nasal bridge straight. Muzzle slightly shorter than skull. Tapering evenly towards the nose to form a blunt triangle when seen from both above

and from the side. **Lips:** black, close fitting, dark brown in chocolate brown and some cream dogs. **Cheeks:** Flat. **Bite:** scissor bite. Complete dentition. **Eyes:** of medium size and almond shaped. Dark brown. Slightly lighter in chocolate brown and some cream dogs. The eye-rims are black. Dark brown in chocolate brown and some cream dogs. **Ears:** erect and of medium size. Triangular with firm edges and slightly rounded tips. Very mobile, reacting sensitively to sounds and showing the dog's mood.

Neck

Moderately long and muscular with no loose skin. Slightly arched and carried high.

Forequarters

When seen from the front the forelegs are straight, parallel and strong. Normal angulation. Shoulders: oblique and muscular. Dewclaws: may be double. Forefeet: slightly oval toes well-arched and tight with well-developed pads.

Body

Rectangular and strong. The length in correct proportion to height and in harmony with general appearance. Level, muscular and strong. Loins: broad and muscular. Croup: moderately short and wide, slightly sloping and well muscled. Chest: long, deep and well sprung. Belly: only a slight tuck up.

Hindquarters

When seen from behind the hindlegs are straight, parallel and strong. Normal angulation. Thighs: broad and well muscled. Dewclaws: well-developed double dewclaws are desirable. Hindfeet: same as forefeet.

Tail

High set, curled over and touching the back.

Gait

Displays agility and endurance with good driving action covering the ground effortlessly.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree.

- A solid black mantle or saddle on any of the various tan coloured dogs.

Serious Faults

- Lack of dewclaws.
- Yellow eyes.
- Round protruding eyes.

Note:

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

Mudi



Origin & Purpose

The breed came into being during the 18th to the 19th century from cross breeding Hungarian herding dogs with various prick eared German herding dogs. Because of his courageous disposition he is very popular with the shepherds for the use in herding large and difficult livestock. He is even used for the battue of wild boar. Excellent guard and companion dog. A dog used for searching out drugs. Watch and alarm dog. Excellent agility dog, lovable house pet. Because of his relatively short coat and his excellent adaptability, it is no problem to keep him in the house.

General Appearance

Medium sized herding dog with a wedge shaped head. Prick ears. Body topline is distinctly sloping towards the rear. The head and the limbs are covered by short, smooth coat. The other parts of the body have a somewhat longer, very wavy to slightly curly coat. There are different variations of colour.

Important Proportions

- The body length is approximately equal to the height at the withers.
- The depth of the brisket is slightly less than half of the height at the withers
- The length of the muzzle is slightly less than half of the total length of the head.

Temperament

The Mudi is extremely able to learn, of lively temperament, courageous, watchful, keen to work, alert and adaptable.

Size

Height at withers

Dogs 41-47 cm (16-18 inches); Ideal height 43-45 cm (16.9-17.8 inches)
Bitches 38-44 cm (15-17 inches); Ideal height 40-42 cm (15.7-16.5 inches)

Weight:

Dogs 11-13 kg (24-29 lbs)
Bitches 8-11 kg (18-24 lbs)

Coat & Colour

Coat

Hair: Head and front of limbs are covered by short, straight and smooth hair. On other parts of the body, the coat is uniformly very wavy or slightly curled. It is dense and always shiny, about 3 to 7 cm (1.18 to 2.75 inches) long. At some spots, cow-licks and ridges are formed. The coat is longest on the back of the forearms and the upper thighs, where it forms pronounced featherings. Skin: Tight, without wrinkles.

Colour

- Fawn
- Black
- Blue-merle (i.e. black speckled, striped, -brindle or -spotted on lighter or darker bluish-grey primary colour.
- Ash colour
- Brown

Only slightly extensive white markings are tolerated but not desired. A white patch on the chest, less than 5 cm (1.97 inches) in diameter, and small white markings on the toes are tolerated but not desired.

- White

Head

The most striking part of the Mudi is undoubtedly his head. To the observer it should give the impression of an alert, always energetic, cheerful and intelligent animal without any trace of timidity or aggressiveness. The head is wedge shaped, tapering towards the nose.

Skull: Skull and forehead are slightly domed. Occiput not pronounced. Superciliary ridges only slightly developed. **Stop:** Barely pronounced.

Nose: Narrow, rounded at front with moderately wide nostrils. In the colours black, white, fawn and blue-merle, the nose is always black; in the other colours the nose harmonizes with the coat colour; e.g. the nose in a brown dog is brown and grey in grey dog. Brown (liver brown) coloured dogs have a brown nose and brown eyerims. **Muzzle:**

Moderately strong. Bridge or nose straight. **Lips:** Tight-fitting to the teeth. Corner of mouth slightly jagged. The lip pigment corresponds with the pigment of the noseleather. **Jaws/Teeth:** Complete scissor bite according to the dentition formula. Regular teeth of medium size.

Eyes: Narrow, slightly pointed at inner and outer corners, set slightly

oblique, thus has a “dare devil” expression. The eyes should be as dark as possible. Only in blue-merle dogs, wall (white or blue) eyes are not faulty. Rims of lids are tight, close-fitting to the eyeball and evenly pigmented. **Ears:** High set prick ears which are of a reverse V-shape and covered with abundant hair reaching beyond the edges of the external ears. The response of the ears to stimulation is very lively. The dog can turn the ears independently of each other like a radar screen. Ears are approximately 10 to 15 percent longer than their width at the base.

Neck

The slightly high set neck forms and angle of 50 to 55 degrees to the horizontal. It is of medium length, barely arched and well muscled. Without dewlap or pronounced neck ruff. In male dogs there can be a barely developed mane; this must, however, never be noticeable.

Forequarters

Shoulders: The shoulder blade is moderately sloping and well muscled. The forechest is cured, the point of the sternum only slightly protruding. **Upper Arm:** Of medium length. At 45 degree with the horizontal. **Elbows:** Close-fitting to the body. **Carpal joint:** Firm, dry. **Pastern:** Steep. **Forefeet:** Round and well knit toes. Little hair between and under the toes. **Pad springy.** Nails slate grey and hard.

Body

Topline: Clearly sloping towards croup. **Withers:** Pronounced, long and muscular. **Back:** Straight, short. **Loins:** Of medium length. Firmly coupled. **Croup:** Short, very slightly sloping, of medium breadth, muscular. **Chest:** Forechest slightly curved. Ribs somewhat broad and rather flat. **Underline:** Slightly tucked-up.

Hindquarters

The hind legs are a little overstretched beyond the rear. **Upper thigh:** Long, well muscled. **Metatarsus:** Short and steep. **Hind feet:** Like front feet. Dewclaws may be removed.

Tail

Set on at medium height. In repose, hanging, with lower third raised almost to horizontal. When alert and during active movement, the tail is carried in sickle shape, higher than the topline. Docking of tail is undesirable but is not regarded as a fault. If the tail is docked, two or three of the tail vertebrae must be visibly left.

Dogs born without or with a natural stump tail are rare; this is not regarded as a fault. The tail is abundantly coated; the hair on the underside can even be 10 to 12 cm (3.9 to 4.7 inches) long.

Gait

The Mudi's characteristic movements are mincing steps.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points must be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree.

Disqualification

- Aggressive or overly shy
- Flesh coloured, liver brown or spotted nose in black, white, blue-merle, fawn or ash coloured dogs. Flesh coloured or spotted nose in brown dogs
- One or more missing teeth (incisors, canines, premolars 2-4, molars 1-2). More than two missing PM1. The M3 are disregarded.
- Overshot or undershot mouth, wry mouth. Gap of more than 2 mm between upper and lower incisors.
- Yellow eyes in black dogs
- Drop ears
- Short, smooth, flat coat on the body; long hair on the head. Coat tending towards matting.
- Wolf grey colour, black and tan with yellow to brown markings
- Height at the withers below 38 cm (15 inches) or over 47 cm (18 inches).

Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified.

Note:

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

Norwegian Buhund



General Appearance

The Norwegian Buhund is a typical Spitz dog of under middle size, lightly built, with a short, compact body, fairly smooth-lying coat, erect, pointed ears, tail carried curled over the back, and with a courageous, energetic character.

Origin

Norway

Head

Size in proportion to the body, wedge-shaped, lean, not too heavy. **Skull** almost flat; the stop is well defined but should not be too pronounced. **Muzzle** is rather short, tapering evenly towards the nose, which is black; bridge is straight; lips tightly closed. The male and female sex must be clearly defined. **Eyes:** Colour as dark as possible, harmonizing with the colour of the coat. **Ears:** Pointed; size and shape in harmony with the head; height somewhat greater than width at the base; carried strongly erect. **Mouth:** Scissors Bite.

Neck

Lean, comparatively short, good carriage.

Forelegs

Moderately angulated at the shoulder, harmonizing with type; well set elbows, legs are straight, lean and with good bone, not coarse although this is preferred to too fine. Feet are oval in shape and compact.

Body

Deep chest with well sprung ribs; strong, straight back and loins. Arch of coupling should harmonize with type. Length of body equal to height at the withers.

Hindquarters

Moderate angulation; powerful; good muscle and bone; oval, compact feet; dewclaws may be removed.

Tail

Well furred, set high, tightly curled, not carried too much on one side.

Coat**Outer coat**

Thick, rich and hard, but rather smooth-lying.

Undercoat

Soft, dense, woolly. On head and front of legs the coat is comparatively short, on neck and chest it is longer.

Colours**Wheaten (Biscuit)**

Ranging from light to yellowish red, with or without dark tipped hairs; mask permitted but should otherwise be self coloured.

Black

Preferably self coloured, but white blaze, and white markings on chest, narrow ring on neck and white on legs are permissible. The white markings should not, however, disturb the overall impression.

Size

Height at the withers: Males: 17-18.5 inches (43-47 cm).
Bitches: 16-18 inches (41-45 cm).

Weight

Males: 31-40 lbs. (14-18 kg).
Bitches: 26-35 lbs. (12-16 kg).

Faults

Too fine, too coarse, nervous, liver coloured nose, light eyes, not strongly erect ears, anything but scissors bite, poorly curled tail, wavy or too long coat, any colour but the ones mentioned above.

Note:

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

Old English Sheepdog



General Appearance

A strong, compact-looking dog of great symmetry, practically the same in measurement from shoulder to stern as in height, absolutely free from legginess or weaseliness, very elastic in his gallop, but in walking or trotting he has a characteristic ambling or pacing movement, and his bark should be loud, with a peculiar “pot-casse” ring in it. Taking him all round, he is a profusely, but not excessively coated, thick-set, muscular, able-bodied dog with a most intelligent expression, free from all Poodle or Deerhound character. Soundness should be considered of greatest importance.

Size

Twenty-two inches (56 cm) and upwards for dogs and slightly less for bitches. Type, character, and symmetry are of the greatest importance and are on no account to be sacrificed to size alone.

Coat and Colour

Coat profuse, but not so excessive as to give the impression of the dog being over fat, and of a good hard texture; not straight, but shaggy and free from curl. Quality and texture of coat to be considered above mere profuseness. Softness or flatness of coat to be considered a fault. The undercoat should be a waterproof pile, when not removed by grooming or season. Colour any shade of grey, grizzle, blue or blue-merled with or without white markings or in reverse. Any shade of brown or fawn to be considered distinctly objectionable and not to be encouraged.

Head

Skull: Capacious and rather squarely formed, giving plenty of room for brain power. The parts over the eyes should be well arched and the whole well covered with hair. **Muzzle:** Fairly long, strong, square, and truncated. The stop should be well defined to avoid a Deerhound face. (The attention of judges is particularly called to the above properties, as a long, narrow head is a deformity.) **Nose:** Always black, large and capacious. **Mouth:** Teeth strong and large, evenly placed and level in opposition. **Eyes** vary according to the colour of the dog. Very dark preferred, but in the glaucous or blue dogs a pearl, walleye, or china eye is considered typical. (A light eye is most objectionable.) **Ears:** Medium sized, and carried flat to side of head, coated moderately.

Neck

The neck should be fairly long, arched gracefully and well coated with hair.

Forequarters

The shoulders sloping and narrow at the points. The forelegs should be dead straight, with plenty of bone, removing the body a medium height from the ground, without approaching legginess, and well coated all around.

Body

The dog stands lower at the shoulder than at the loin. Rather short and very compact, ribs well sprung and brisket deep and capacious. Slab-sidedness highly undesirable. The loin should be very stout and gently arched.

Hindquarters

Should be round and muscular with well-let-down hocks, and the hams densely coated with a thick, long jacket in excess of any other part. Feet small, round, toes well arched, and pads thick and hard.

Tail

Traditionally known as the Bob Tail, the tail is docked close to the body. If undocked the tail is well coated with hair the same texture as the body coat. It is set low following the well-rounded croup and it is carried low. When excited or happy the tail will rise but should not curl over the back.

Faults

Softness or flatness of coat to be considered a fault. Any shade of brown or fawn to be considered distinctly objectionable and not to be encouraged. A long, narrow head is a deformity. A light eye is most objectionable. Slab-sidedness highly undesirable.

Scale of Points

Skull.....	5
Eyes.....	5
Ears.....	5
Teeth	5
Nose.....	5
Jaw	5
Foreface	5
Neck and shoulders	5
Body and loins	10
Hindquarters	10
Legs.....	10
Coat (texture, quality and condition).....	15
General appearance and movement.....	15

TOTAL	100
--------------	------------

Polish Lowland Sheepdog



Origin & Purpose

The Polish Lowland Sheepdog is a herding dog native to Poland bred from the ancient Puli and long-coated herding dogs of the Huns. Easy to handle, he works like a sheepdog and guard dog. Moved to urban city life, he is very good companion dog.

General Appearance

The Polish Lowland sheepdog is a dog of medium size, compact, strong, muscular, with a thick long coat. His well groomed coat gives an attractive and interesting appearance

Temperament

Of a lively but tempered disposition, vigilant, agile, intelligent, perceptive and gifted with a good memory. Resistant to unfavourable climatic conditions.

Size

Height at the withers: Males: 18-20 inches (45-50 cm) Females: 16-18 inches (42 – 47 cm)

The dog must retain the type of a working dog; consequently his size must not go down below the standard; he must neither be too weak nor delicate.

Important Proportions

The proportion of height at withers to length of body is 9:10. The ratio length of muzzle to length of skull is 1:1; yet the muzzle can be a little shorter.

Coat & Colour

Skin: tight fitting, without any folds.

Hair: the whole body covered with coarse hair, dense, thick, and profuse; soft undercoat. Straight or slightly wavy hair is acceptable. The hairs falling from the forehead cover the eyes in a characteristic manner.

Colour: All colours and patches are acceptable.

Head

Medium dimension, proportional, not too heavy. The thick fur on the forehead, the cheeks and the chin give the head a look of being heavier than it really is. **Skull:** not excessively broad, slightly rounded. Frontal furrow and occipital protuberance noticeable. **Stop:** well accentuated. **Nose:** as dark as possible in relation to the colour of the coat with large nostrils. **Muzzle:** strong, blunt. Nasal bridge straight. **Lips:** fitting well; their edges are of the same colour as the nose. **Jaw/Teeth:** strong jaws. Teeth strong, with scissor or pincer bite. **Eyes:** medium size, oval, not protruding, hazel colour, with lively and piercing look. The rims of the eyelids are dark. **Ears:** hanging, set rather high, of medium size, heart-shaped, wide at base; the fore edge is close against the cheeks; very mobile.

Neck

Of medium length, strong, muscled, without dewlap, carried rather horizontally.

Forequarters

Seen in profile and from the front: Vertical and straight. Stance well balanced due to a strong skeleton (bone structure). Shoulders: broad, of medium length, oblique, clean cut, very muscular. Pastern: slightly slanting in relation to the forearm. Forefeet: oval, tight toes, slightly arched pads really hard. Nails short, as dark as possible.

Body

Outline: rather rectangular than square. Withers: well accentuated. Back: flat, well muscled. Loin: broad, well fused. Croup: short, slightly truncated. Chest: deep, of medium width; ribs quite well sprung, neither flat nor barrel-shaped. Underline and Belly: outlining an elegant curve towards the hindquarters part.

Hindquarters

Seen from behind: vertical, well angulated. Thigh: broad, well muscled. Hock: well developed. Hind feet: compact, oval shape.

Tail

Short tail or stumpy-tail, very shortly docked tail. Undocked quite long and very hairy tail. At rest the tail is hanging; if the dog is alert, the tail is gaily curved over the back, never curled or lying on the back. Undocked tail of medium length, carried in different manners.

Gait

Easy and ground covering. Walk or trot smooth (without much vertical displacement). The dog often ambles when he walks slowly.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree.

Note:

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

Portuguese Sheepdog (Cão da Serra de Aires)

Origin & Purpose



Some experts believe that today's Portuguese Sheepdog is descended from a pair of Briards imported by the Count de Castro Cuimoraes in the early 20th century.

No reliable evidence can be found to suggest a relevant descent. He appears similar to the Berger des Pyrenees of France and the Calatan Sheepdog of Spain.

An all purpose dog of herding and droving abilities, the breed doubles as a guardian as it works its clutches. These dogs are reliable and clever and make great working dogs.

General Appearance

Medium size dog, fairly long body, shaggy herder. He has monkey-like attitudes and looks, which is why in his native region, he is called "monkey dog". Efficiently built herder known for its quickness and cleverness.

Temperament

Intelligent and very lively, hardy and prudent, very devoted to the shepherd and flock entrusted to him, avoids strangers and guards at night.

Size

Height at withers:	Males:	45 to 55 cm. (18-22 inches)
	Bitches:	42 to 52 cm. (16-20 inches)

Weight:	12 to 18 kg. (26-40 lbs)
---------	--------------------------

Coat & Colour

Skin: The internal and external mucous membranes preferably pigmented; skin does not fit too tightly. **Hair:** Very long, smooth or slightly wavy, forming long beards, moustache and eyebrows, but not covering the eyes.

Colour: The colours are yellow, chestnut, grey, fawn and wolf grey, with shadings from light to ordinary and dark, and black, more or less marked with tan with or without mixed white hairs, but never with white patches, except a small patch on the chest; hair very long on the head, body and legs, including between the toes. Hair of medium

thickness and of goat like texture; dense and evenly distributed all over the body; there is no undercoat or wool.

Head

Strong, broad, neither long nor globular. **Skull:** Slightly longer than wide; convex on the two axes, but more so laterally; the superciliary ridges are not prominent; the medial furrow is pronounced up to the half of the forehead; skull between set-on of ears almost flat, occipital protuberance visible. **Stop:** Well defined; the upper longitudinal cranial-facial axes are divergent. **Nose:** Well detached, slightly raised, with large nostrils; cylindrical and almost vertically truncated; black is preferable or otherwise darker than the coat. **Muzzle:** Almost cylindrical, straight in profile or slightly hollowed; short, measuring about two thirds of the length of the skull; width in proportion to length and shape. **Lips:** Tight, not overlapping; thin, firm, almost straight. **Teeth:** Normally developed; in perfect opposition with white and solid teeth. **Eyes:** Lively expression, intelligent and docile; set level with the head; preferably of a dark colour; rounded, medium size and horizontal; eyelids black pigmented or always darker than the coat colour. **Ears:** Set high; hanging and without folds, when they are not cropped, and straight when they are cropped; triangular, medium length, fine and smooth.

Neck

Harmoniously attached to head and body, straight and slightly rising; of regular size; without dewlap.

Forequarters

Strong, evenly separated; vertical seen from the front and sides. Shoulder and upperarm: Strong, medium length; well muscled; angle of the shoulder straight. Forearm: Vertical and well muscled. Pastern joint: Lean and no prominent. Pastern: Of even size; medium length, not very sloping from top to bottom and back to front. Feet: Round, not flat, toes long and tight, very well knuckled up; nails long, strong and black or darker than the colour of the coat; pads thick and tough.

Body

Topline: Not much sloping, underline of the body tucked up. Back: Straight or slightly hollow and long. Loins: Short and rounded; wide and curved, well muscled and well joined to the back and the croup. Croup: Of medium length and width; slightly slanting. Forechest: Prominent, descending backward and downwards; ample. Chest: Well

let down; of medium width and depth. Ribs: Lightly sprung, with oval ribcage; sloping front to back. Underline and Belly: Regularly voluminous; slightly rising.

Hindquarters

Strong, regularly separated; in vertical position from the back in profile. Upper thigh: Of medium length and width; well muscled. Lower thigh: Slightly inclined, long, well muscled. Hock joint: Set rather lower than high; of normal width, strong and lean, angle of the hock well open. Metatarsal: Of even thickness, but strong; medium length, not very sloping from top to bottom and front to back; single or double dewclaws are allowed. Feet: Round, not flat; toes long and tight, well knuckled up; nails long, strong and black or darker than the colour of the coat; the pads are thick and tough.

Tail

High set, pointed, tapering towards the base, touching the hocks; when relaxed carried between the legs, more or less arched or curved at the tip; in action spreads out a little curved and fans out or rolls up.

Gait

Light and flowing, predominantly the trot; the gallop when work demands it, energetic.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree.

- Nose pointed.
- Lips overlapping or pendulous.
- Stop poorly defined.
- Eyes light, small, not round or slanting.
- Ears folded.
- Body : Hollow back or too sloping, underline too much tucked up.
- Croup : Horizontal or too sloping.
- Tail : Low set, short or rolled over on the back when in repose.
- Nails white.
- Coat soft or white patch on the chest.

Disqualification

- Head: Narrow and long.
- Muzzle: convex
- Jaws: bad fit
- Skull: flat, globular or narrow.
- Ears: low set.
- Tail: docked or naturally tailless.
- Hair: Not long enough, curled and looped, white on the extremities of the legs or pied.
- Size: Dwarfism.

Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified.

Scale of Points

General appearance.....	20
Head.....	15
Eyes.....	10
Ears.....	5
Body.....	10
Legs.....	10
Tail.....	10
Coat.....	10
Gait.....	5

TOTAL **100**

N.B.: Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.

Puli



Origin and Purpose

The Puli is a medium-sized Hungarian sheepdog of Asiatic origin, and has been prized for centuries for his ability to do the strenuous work of herding the flocks of sheep, and sometimes cattle, swine, and horses, on the great plains, or Puszta, of Hungary. It follows that he must be sturdy, richly muscled, and alert, and exhibit great courage and stamina to perform his tasks. The correct mental image of the Puli should be that of a true working dog, and it is appropriate to think of him as one of the basic sheepdogs of the world.

General Appearance

The most striking breed characteristic is the unusual but typical corded coat, the result of many years of natural development, adapted to outdoor living and extreme climates. There is nothing artificial in this coat; it is a unique and ancient style fitting the dog for his work. It is difficult to make an assessment of the body purely on a visual examination, for the whole dog should be covered with the profuse coat. The Puli does not impress by a beautiful clean-cut shape, but by his distinctive shaggy appearance. The head appears to be round because of the long hair overshadowing the eyes, and the rump may appear to be higher due to the fullness of the tail coat. The body should be square, measured from the top of the withers to the ground, and from the foremost point of the forechest to the rear point of the pelvis, but the heavy coat may create a rectangular appearance. Beneath the coat, the Puli is wiry, muscular, and fine-boned, but never light or shelly.

Temperament

Lively, nimble, and intelligent, the Puli is by nature affectionate, and a devoted and home-loving companion, sensibly suspicious of strangers and therefore an excellent guard. He has a certain aloofness which does not lend itself to immediate and indiscriminate friendship, but extreme timidity and shyness are serious faults.

Size

Height at the top of the withers – males, ideal 16-18 inches (40-46 cm); females, ideal 14-16 inches (35-41 cm). Weight – males, 28-33 lb. (13-15 kg), females, 22-28 lb. (10-13 kg).

Coat and Colour

Characteristic of the breed is its dense weather-resisting double coat. The undercoat is soft, dense, and fine, and it interweaves with the topcoat, which is long, and wavy or curly, and is of a fairly coarse texture. The ideal proportions of a topcoat and undercoat create the desired cords, which consist of uniform, tightly interwoven hair. These cords are less inclined to mat together. The cords may vary from wide flat strands, to narrow flat strands, to small round cords, and these variations are all correct, provided that the coat shows the tendency to form cords. This tendency should be noticeable even in the puppy coat, the hair forming into bunches. Both puppies and young dogs will have coats of a softer texture than mature dogs, but in Pulik of all ages the tendency to cord must always be present in the coat. Cording is generally complete all over the body by the age of two years, although variations will occur. The coat should be long all over the body, the length depending on the age of the dog, and is generally longest on the hindquarters and shortest on the head and paws. With age the coat can become quite long, even reaching to the ground; however, only enough length to properly evaluate quality and texture is considered necessary so as not to penalize the working specimen or younger dog. An excess of topcoat and a sparse undercoat result in an open coat which will not cord, while too much undercoat and a sparse topcoat result in excessive matting and felting. Such coats are objectionable. A brushed-out coat is highly objectionable, as is a neglected coat.

Accepted colours are:

- Black;
- Reddish-black;
- Grey-reddish-black;
- White - This should be a pure white with no hint of cream or yellow hair.
- The black, reddish-black, grey-reddish-black and white Pulis should give the overall impression of a solid colour.
- All shades of grey from silver to charcoal. The greys are mostly a mixture of black and white hair, and may be of varying shades on the same dog.
- Fawn. The fawns should have a distinct black mask, and usually also have black ear tips and tail tip. They may have black and/

or white hairs interspersed throughout the coat. In Hungary this colour is called “maszkos fakó” which translates to “masked faded” or “masked pale” as the fawn colouring will often lighten to a cream shade, or sometimes fades to grey as the dog ages, with the black mask and often the ear tips and tail tip retaining the black colouring. A solid-coloured fawn dog with no black mask is unacceptable.

A white spot on the chest of not more than 2 inches (5 cm) in diameter is permissible, and a few scattered white hairs in between the pads may be tolerated. The skin should be blue, blue-grey, or slate-grey.

Head

From the front, the head should appear round, from the side almost elliptical. Disregarding the hair, the head should be rather small and fine. The **skull** should be smooth, moderately wide, and slightly domed, with the stop clearly defined but not abrupt. The **muzzle** should be straight and rather short, about one-third of the total length of the head, and should never be snipey, but bluntly rounded, ending in a relatively large nose. The upper and lower jaws should be well developed to accommodate a full set of teeth. The **teeth** should be large regular, and strong, with a scissors bite, the lower incisors touching the inside of the upper incisors. A level bite, the upper and lower incisors meeting edge to edge, is acceptable. The flews should fit tightly to the set of teeth, and the roof of the mouth should be uniformly dark, or variegated with deeply pigmented spots on a dark base. The arches of the eye sockets should be well defined. The **eyes** should be medium sized, slightly slanted with eyelids tight, and should be dark brown in colour. Their expression should be lively and intelligent. The **ears** should be set medium-high, pendant, and V-shaped, measuring about half the length of the head, reaching to the inner corner of the eye when pulled forward. Movement of the ears is practically imperceptible. Nose, flews, and eyelids should always be black. Head, neck, and ears should be covered with long hair which blends in with the body, not showing noticeably separate features.

Neck

Should be set at an angle of 45 degrees to the horizontal, of medium length, tight and muscular, and slightly arched. It should seem to merge with the body because of the long hair.

Forequarters

The shoulder blade and the upper arm should be about the same length, forming an angle of 90 degrees at the shoulder joint. The shoulder blade should be well laid back. Elbows set close to the chest. The forelegs should be muscular, and, viewed from any angle, they should be vertical. Fore pasterns should be slightly sloping. Feet should be round and tight, with a full and springy pad, dark grey in colour. Nails should be strong, and black or slate-grey. Dewclaws, if they occur, may be removed from both fore and hind legs.

Body

The withers should be slightly higher than the level of the back, which should be of medium length, tight and straight. The loin should be short, broad, and tucked up. Rump slightly sloping towards the root of the tail, but this is not obvious because of the tail curling over the back. Chest should be medium-broad and deep, with well-sprung ribs reaching well back. The depth of the chest from the top of the withers to the brisket should be about 45 per cent of the dog's height.

Hindquarters

The pelvis should form an angle of 90 degrees to the femur, approximately the angle at the shoulder joint and resulting in structural balance. The stifle should be well bent, but not excessively, with hocks well developed and short.

Tail

Should be of medium length, and should curl quickly well up over the back and touch the body, falling to one side or the other or curling on the midline of the back. The tail should not be noticeable because of the long hair on it mixing indistinguishably with the hair on the rump.

Gait

The gait of the Puli is short-striding, very quick and typical, in harmony with its lively disposition. It should never be heavy, lethargic, or lumbering. The legs should swing straight forward with no twisting in or out of the elbows, pasterns or hocks, and the feet should not interfere or cross. When at a full trot, the Puli covers ground smoothly and efficiently with good reach and drive, the feet naturally tending to converge towards a median line of travel beneath the body in order to keep the body in balance and offset pitching from side to side. The tendency to converge should never be confused with moving close,

where the lower part of the legs moves parallel. The Puli should be capable of great speed and agility, and shows the unique quality of being a bundle of springs, able to leap straight up from a standstill, or to change direction suddenly in mid-air.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing should be considered a fault, the seriousness of the fault depending upon its degree.

Disqualifications

- (a) Particolours. Large markings of any colour other than a white spot on the chest of not more than 2 inches (5 cm) in diameter.
- (b) Males under 13 inches or over 20 inches (33 and 51 cm). Females under 12 inches or over 19 inches (30 and 48 cm) respectively.
- (c) Colours other than those mentioned as acceptable.
- (d) Coats showing no tendency to form cords.

Schapendoes



Origin & Purpose

At the turn of the century, the Nederlandse Schapendoes was well known in the Netherlands particularly in the northern province of Drenthe where he worked large flocks of sheep. The shepherds valued him for the tireless pleasure he took in his work and for his intelligence. He belongs to the wide-ranging group of longhaired herding breeds which have densely coated heads. He is related to the Bearded Collie, the Puli, the Owczarek Nizinny, the Bobtail, the Briard, the Bergamasker and the German Schafspudel. The canine authority, P.M.C. Toepoel, was responsible for preserving this breed. After the savages of the Second World War, he used the few remaining Schapendoes to resurrect the breed. The Breed Club for Nederlandse Schapendoes was founded in the year 1947 and in 1952 the breed was provisionally recognized by the Raad van Beheer. In 1954 the standard was set up and a Stud Book started. Definite recognition followed in the year 1971.

The Nederlandse Schapendoes is a herding dog which was used for herding flocks of sheep and is still used in the same capacity today. As pasture for sheep is situated mainly in quiet, lonely areas of the country, it is necessary for the Schapendoes to be equipped with great endurance, mobility and speed.

General Appearance

The Nederlandse Schapendoes is a lightly built, long coated dog with a height at withers of 16 to 20 inches (40 to 50 cm). His movement is effortless and springy. He is remarkable jumper.

Temperament

The Schapendoes is a normally and harmonically constructed herding dog with an attentive and courageous character. He is intelligent, watchful, jolly, lively, friendly and high spirited. Towards people familiar to him, he develops great affection and loyalty.

Size

Height at withers for dogs: 17 to 20 inches (43 to 50 cm) and for bitches: 16 to 18 inches (40 to 47 cm).

Coat & Colour

Coat: The Schapendoes has a thick coat with sufficient undercoat. The coat is long, a good 2.7 inches (7 cm) or more in the region of the hindquarters. It is not smooth, but lightly waved. Definitely curly, frizzy hair is not permitted. The hairs grow very densely together; they are fine and dry, but above all, never silky. The coat, where it is long, is inclined to stand off in tufts, giving the Schapendoes a large girth, especially at the rear. The Schapendoes has a tremendous top knot, moustache and beard.

Colour: All colours are permitted. Preference is given to blue-grey to black.

Head

The abundant growth of hair gives the head the appearance of looking bigger and, in particular, broader. **Skull:** almost flat with a moderate frontal furrow and strongly defined superciliary arches. It is fairly broad in proportion to its length, the width is slightly greater than the distance between the stop and the occiput. **Stop:** clearly defined but not steep. **Nose:** the bridge of the nose is placed a little lower than the line of the skull. **Muzzle:** is shorter than the distance between the stop and the occiput. The foreface tapers hardly, remains deep and ends broadly, being only slightly rounded at its end. Seen from the side, with jaw closed, the lower jaw must be clearly visible. **Teeth:** normally developed scissor bite. **Cheeks:** the zygomatic arches are strongly prominent. **Eyes:** the eyes are fairly large, round and set into the socket in a normal position. They are placed more to the front than the side of the head. Their colour is brown; they should not give the impression of being black. The white of the eye should only be visible when the dog looks hard to one side. The expression is open minded, honest and lively. Shape, colour and expression are very characteristic for the breed. **Ears:** these are set on fairly high and are neither large nor fleshy. They hang free, but not close to the head. They are amply feathered and mobile, but should not protrude beyond the outline of the skull.

Neck

The head is carried high on a strong, clean neck.

Forequarters

The front legs are straight and lightly boned. Good angulation of the front legs should emphasize the fore-chest. **Pasterns:** Springy.

Body

The Schapendoes is slightly longer than high. The skeleton is fine boned, pliable and elastic. Topline: curved over a strong muscular loin. Chest: deep. Ribs: are moderately to well sprung; they reach far back. Lower loin and belly: not too tucked up.

Hindquarters

Pelvis: in a well slanted position. Hocks: moderately angulated, well muscled. Metatarsus: short. Feet: the feet are fairly large and elastic, broad and oval in shape. The toes are tightly bunched. The pads are thick and springy, with – plentiful hair between them. Dewclaws are permitted.

Tail

The tail is long, well coated and feathered. The manner and way in which the dog carries his tail is characteristic of the breed. In repose it hangs downwards. When trotting, the tail is carried fairly high and swings slightly curved from one side to the other. When galloping, it is stretched out straight. When jumping, the tail definitely serves as a rudder. When the dog is alert, the tail may sometimes be raised high. It should, however, never be carried stiffly over the back.

Gait

In his work, the Schapendoes gallops rather than trots, so his movement must be light footed and springy without excessive use of energy. He must be able to jump well and turn swiftly.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree.

Disqualification

No Schapendoes which behaves nervously and/or aggressively in the ring will be placed or classified.

Note:

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

Shetland Sheepdog



Origin and Purpose

The Shetland Sheepdog, like the Collie, traces to the Border Collie of Scotland which, transported to the Shetland Islands and crossed with small, intelligent, long-haired breeds, was reduced to miniature proportions. Subsequently, crosses were made from time to time with Collies. This breed now bears the same relationship in size and general appearance to the Rough Collie as the Shetland Pony does to some of the larger breeds of horses. Although the resemblance between the Shetland Sheepdog and the Rough Collie is marked, there are differences which may be noted.

General Appearance

The Shetland Sheepdog is a small, alert, rough-coated, long-haired working dog. He must be sound, agile and sturdy. The outline should be so symmetrical that no part appears out of proportion to the whole. Dogs should appear masculine, bitches feminine.

Temperament

The Shetland Sheepdog is intensely loyal, affectionate, and responsive to his owner. However, he may be reserved towards strangers but not to the point of showing fear or cringing in the ring.

Size

The Shetland Sheepdog should stand between 13 and 16 inches (33-40.6 cm) at the shoulder.

Note:

Height is determined by a line perpendicular to the ground from the top of the shoulder blades, the dog standing naturally, with forelegs parallel to line of measurement.

Coat and Colour

The coat should be double, the outer coat consisting of long, straight, harsh hair; the undercoat short, furry, and so dense as to give the entire coat its “stand-off” quality. The hair on face, tips of ears and feet should be smooth. Mane and frill should be abundant, and particularly impressive in males. The forelegs well feathered, the hind legs heavily so, but smooth below the hock joint. Hair on tail profuse.

Note:

Excess hair on ears, feet, and on hocks may be trimmed for the show ring. Colour black, blue merle, and sable (ranging from golden through mahogany); marked with varying amounts of white and/or tan.

Head

The head should be refined and its shape, when viewed from top or side, be a long, blunt wedge tapering slightly from ears to nose, which must be black. Top of **skull** should be flat, showing no prominence at nuchal crest (the top of the occiput). Cheeks should be flat and should merge smoothly into a well-rounded muzzle. Skull and **muzzle** should be of equal length, balance point being the inner corner of eye. In profile, the topline of skull should parallel the topline of muzzle, but on a higher plane, due to the presence of a slight but definite stop. Jaws clean and powerful. The deep, well-developed underjaw, rounded at chin, should extend to base of nostril. Lips tight. Upper and lower lips must meet and fit smoothly together all the way around. **Teeth** level and evenly spaced. Scissors bite. **Eyes** medium size with dark, almond-shaped rims, set somewhat obliquely in skull. Colour must be dark, with blue or merle eyes permissible in blue merles only. **Ears** small and flexible, placed high, carried three-fourths erect, with tips breaking forward. When in repose the ears fold lengthwise and are thrown back into the frill. Contours and chiseling of the head, the shape, set and use of ears, the placement, shape and colour of the eyes, combine to produce expression. Normally the expression should be alert, gentle, intelligent and questioning. Towards strangers the eyes should show watchfulness and reserve, but no fear.

Neck

Neck should be muscular, arched, and of sufficient length to carry the head proudly.

Forequarters

From the withers, the shoulder blades should slope at a 45 degree angle forward and downward to the shoulder joint. At the withers they are separated only by the vertebra, but they must slope outward sufficiently to accommodate the desired spring of rib. The upper arm should join the shoulder blade as nearly as possible at a right angle. Elbow joint should be equidistant from the ground or from the withers. Forelegs straight viewed from all angles, muscular and clean, and of strong bone. Pasterns very strong, sinewy and flexible. Dewclaws may be removed.

Body

In overall appearance, the body should appear moderately long as measured from shoulder joint to ischium (rearmost extremity of the pelvic bone), but much of this length is actually due to the proper angulation and breadth of the shoulder and hindquarter, as the back itself should be comparatively short. Back should be level and strongly muscled. Chest should be deep, the brisket reaching to point of elbow. The ribs should be well sprung, but flattened at their lower half to allow free play of the foreleg and shoulder. There should be a slight arch at the loins, and the croup should slope gradually to the rear. The hip bone (pelvis) should be set at a 30 degree angle to the spine. Abdomen moderately tucked up.

Hindquarters

The thigh should be broad and muscular. The thighbone should be set into the pelvis at a right angle corresponding to the angle of the shoulder blade and upper arm. Stifle bones join the thighbone and should be distinctly angled at the stifle joint. The overall length of the stifle should at least equal the length of the thighbone, and preferably should slightly exceed it. Hock joint should be clean-cut, angular, sinewy, with good bone and strong ligamentation. The hock (metatarsus) should be short and straight, viewed from all angles. Dewclaws may be removed. Feet should be oval and compact with the toes well arched and fitting tightly together. Pads deep and tough, nails hard and strong.

Tail

The tail should be sufficiently long so that when it is laid along the back edge of the hind legs the last vertebra will reach the hock joint. Carriage of tail at rest is straight down or in a slight upward curve. When the dog is alert, the tail is normally lifted, but it should not be curved forward over the back.

Gait

The trotting gait of the Shetland Sheepdog should denote effortless speed and smoothness. There should be no jerkiness, nor stiff, stilted, up-and-down movement. The drive should be from the rear, true and straight, dependent upon correct angulation, musculation, and ligamentation of the entire hindquarter, thus allowing the dog to reach well under his body with his hind foot and propel himself forward. Reach of stride of the foreleg is dependent upon correct angulation,

musculature and ligamentation of the forequarters, together with correct width of chest and construction of rib cage. The foot should be lifted only enough to clear the ground as the leg swings forward. Viewed from the front, both forelegs and hind legs should move forward almost perpendicular to ground at the walk, slanting a little inward at a slow trot, until at a swift trot the feet are brought so far inward towards centre line of body that the tracks left show two parallel lines of footprints actually touching a centre line at their inner edges. There should be no crossing of the feet or throwing of the weight from side to side.

Faults

Shyness, timidity, or nervousness. Stubbornness, snappiness, or ill temper. Coat short or flat, in whole or in part; wavy curly, soft or silky. Lack of undercoat. Smooth-coated specimens. Rustiness in a black or a blue coat. Washed out or degenerate colours, such as pale sable and faded blue. Self-colour in the case of blue merle, that is, without any merling or mottling and generally appearing as a faded or dilute tricolour. Conspicuous white body spots. Specimens with more than 50 per cent white shall be so severely penalized as to effectively eliminate them from competition. Two-angled head. Too prominent stop, or no stop. Overfill below, between or above eyes. Prominent nuchal crest. Domed skull. Prominent cheekbones. Snipey muzzle. Short, receding, or shallow underjaw, lacking breadth and depth. Overshot or undershot, missing or crooked teeth. Teeth visible when mouth is closed. Light, round, large or too small eyes. Prominent haws. Ears set too low. Hound, prick, bat, twisted ears. Leather too thick or too thin. Too short and thick a neck. Insufficient angulation between shoulder and upper arm. Upper arm too short. Lack of outward slope of shoulders. Loose shoulders. Turning in or out of elbows. Crooked legs. Light bone. Back too long, too short, swayed or roached. Barrel ribs. Slab-sides. Chest narrow and/or too shallow. Croup higher than withers. Croup too straight or too steep. Narrow thighs. Cow-hocks. Hocks turning out. Poorly defined hock joint. Feet turning in or out. Splay feet. Hare feet. Cat feet. Tail too short, twisted at end. Stiff, short steps, with a choppy, jerky movement. Mincing steps, with a hopping up and down, or a balancing of weight from side to side (often erroneously admired as a “dancing gait” but permissible in young puppies). Lifting of front feet in hackney like action, resulting in loss of speed and energy. Pacing gait.

Disqualifications

Cryptorchidism in adults over 12 months of age. A Shetland Sheepdog under 33 cm or over 40.6 cm (13"-16") that has been excused at three shows for this reason. Brindle colour.

Scale of Points**General Appearance**

Symmetry.....	10
Temperament	10
Coat	5..... 25

Head

Skull and stop.....	5
Muzzle	5
Eyes, ears, and expression.....	10..... 20

Body

Neck and back.....	5
Chest, ribs and brisket	10
Loin, croup, and tail	5..... 20

Forequarters

Shoulder	10
Forelegs and feet	5..... 15

Hindquarters

Hip, thigh, and stifle.....	10
Hocks and feet	5..... 15

Gait

Smoothness and lack of waste motion when trotting.....	5..... 5
---	----------

TOTAL**100**

Spanish Water Dog (Perro de agua español)

Origin & Purpose



The Spanish Water Dog is an ancient and rustic multi-purpose dog of the Iberian Peninsula. Intelligent and versatile, traditionally the breed's duties included that of a shepherd dog, hunting dog, and assistant to fishermen.

General Appearance

The Spanish Water Dog is a rustic, well-muscled, robust, medium-sized dog of moderate proportions. Slightly longer than tall, he is a sturdy, compact, dog with a distinctive curly coat that can form cords. He is always to be shown in a natural rustic coat. Preferred gait is a trot. Gender differentiation should be apparent.

Temperament

Loyal and highly intelligent, and possessing a strong working drive, the Spanish Water Dog is a versatile and biddable breed with a strong desire to please. Alert and attentive, he is very vigilant of the environment, protective of his owner, family and property. May appear aloof or suspicious of strangers, which should not be penalized in the ring. He should not be shy, or aggressive.

Size

Slightly longer than tall, 9:8 when measured from point of shoulder to ischial tuberosity, and height of withers to the ground. Solidly built, he should be robust and muscular with moderate bone, neither coarse nor refined.

Height at withers:

Dogs: 17 1/2 - 19 1/2 inches (44 to 50 cm)

Bitches: 15 1/2 - 18 inches (40 to 46 cm)

Weight should be in proportion to height creating a dog of sturdy (but not cumbersome), medium build.

Coat

A defining feature of this breed, the coat should appear very rustic with a distinctive woolly texture that will show strong curl when short. When long, the coat may form cords, roughly cylindrical (never flat) in shape with the curl of the coat evident in natural kinks along the cord length, as well as within the body of the cord. Cords will have a tapered, hook-like curl at the tips.

Curls may be tight or loose, and thickness of coat will vary between dogs. Texture may vary on different parts of the body, but the mature coat should never be silky or wavy. Maintaining the rustic nature of the breed is highly valued. While no preference is given to dogs being presented in short or long coat, there should be no evidence of aesthetic grooming or trimming. Ideally, coat length should not exceed 6" or 15 cm (extended), and should not be less than 1" or 2 cm (extended) so that the quality of coat texture and curl can be determined. The length of coat is to be the same over the entire body. Sculpting and/or shaping, as well as cords with blunt ends indicating significant scissoring, will be penalized severely. Minimal hygienic trimming is allowed, but should not be noticeable on presentation. The coat is never to be brushed or combed. The coat of immature dogs (up to 15 months of age) is typically softer in texture, and may have considerably less curl than that of an adult dog.

Colour:

Acceptable colours are any solid colour in various shades of black, brown, beige or white, or bicolour with any of the above colours and white as the second colour. The nose is of the same color or slightly darker than the darkest color of the coat. Beige or white dogs may have either black or brown pigment. Skin can be pigmented brown or black, or without pigment according to the colour of the coat. Albinism, tri-colour, tan-point, brindles, or bi-colour where the second colour is not white are not accepted.

Head

The head is to be in balance with the body, and should appear neither fine nor coarse. The top skull is broad and flat with good breadth of back skull; occiput is not prominent. Planes of the skull and muzzle are parallel; ratio of cranium to muzzle is 3:2. The stop is apparent but not abrupt.

The muzzle is strong, wide at the base, tapering slightly to the tip, but is never snipey. The lower jaw is strong. Teeth are strong with full dentition. Scissor bite is preferred, level bite is acceptable. The nose has well defined nostrils. Lips are well fitting with well-defined labial corners and pigmented as the nose. Cheeks are well filled below the eyes.

The dropped ear is triangular and slightly rounded at the tip, set just above eye level. The tips should not reach past the inside corner of the eye.

Expression is alert and attentive. Eyes are slightly oblique, and vary in shades of brown from hazel to dark chestnut, with the color harmonizing with the coat..

Neck

Of moderate length, the neck should be tight, muscular, and strong, setting well into the shoulders.

Forequarters

From the front, the forelegs are straight, parallel, and strong, with moderate bone. Brisket is of moderate depth and fill. Elbows are close to the chest and neither turn in nor out. Shoulders are well muscled and oblique with moderate angulation (in balance with rear), and molding smoothly into the contours of the body. Pasterns are short and slightly sloping. Feet are round and compact; toes are tight and well arched.

Body

Length of body to height at withers is 9:8 measured from point of shoulder to the ischial tuberosity. The body should appear robust and strong, with the chest oval in shape and having good spring of rib. Broad and well let down, the chest reaches to the elbows. The depth of chest from withers to elbow, elbow to ground is 1:1.

The back is strong and level to a slightly sloping croup, and appears solid, even in movement. Loin length is moderate; the length of body comes from the length of the ribcage, not from the loin. The underline shows a slight tuck up. Skin is supple and adheres closely to the body.

Hindquarters

Viewed from behind, the hind legs are straight and parallel. Thighs are strong and well muscled. Angulation is moderate (in balance with forequarters). Hocks are well let down; the rear pastern is short and perpendicular to the ground. Feet are as in front.

Tail

The tail is set smoothly into the croup, neither high nor low. The tail may be docked per tradition, left full, or exhibit a naturally occurring bobtail (from no tail to partial tail). All tail lengths are equally acceptable.

Gait

Movement is energetic and athletic, able to travel over varied terrain. At a full trot, the Spanish Water Dog covers ground smoothly and efficiently. Reach and drive should demonstrate both strength and economy of movement. The feet move towards the center line as speed increases.

Fault

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree.

Serious Faults:

- Brushed coat
- Aesthetic scissoring to sculpt the coat
- Blunt cord ends on a corded dog
- Flat cords
- Saddleback
- Narrow Chest
- Deviation in height of more than ½ inch (1 cm) from standard either way

Disqualification

- Smooth or wavy coat (except in immature dogs as above)
- Albinism, brindle, bi-colour where the second colour is not white, tan points, tricolour
- Light blue eyes
- Undershot or overshot jaw
- Aggressiveness or extreme shyness

Swedish Vallhund



Origin & Purpose

The Swedish Vallhund is considered to be one of the genuine Swedish breeds even if it is not quite clear how it is related to the Welsh Corgi. It is hard to say if the Vikings brought dogs of this spitztype to Sweden from England. Modern cynological research points to that the breed was developed in Sweden.

The honor of making the Swedish Vallhund recognized and registered as a Swedish breed goes to Count Björn von Rosen. In the beginning of the 1940's he noticed the existence of these dogs. By making an inventory of the existing dogs in the county of Västergötland and especially around the city of Vara he found a small but evenly typed group of dogs. They were the start of a serious breeding program that was mainly in the hands of the headmaster K.G. Zettersten. He succeeded in breeding for an even type without losing the herding instinct.

General Appearance

A small powerful, fearless, short-legged dog. Appearance and expression denote a watchful, alert and energetic dog.

Temperament

The breed is watchful, energetic, fearless and alert.

Size and Proportion

The relation between height and length of body should be about 2:3

Height: Dogs 13 inches (33 cm)
Bitches 12 inches (31 cm)

**A variation of 1.5 cm above or below these heights is permitted*

Weight: Between 20-31 lbs. (9-14 kg).

Coat

Hair: medium length, harsh, close and tight topcoat, undercoat soft and dense. The coat should be short on foreparts of the legs, slightly longer on neck, chest and backparts of the hindlegs.

Colour

Desirable colours are grey, greyish brown, greyish yellow or reddish brown with darker hairs on back, neck and sides of the body. Lighter hair in the same shade of colour as mentioned above can be seen on muzzle, throat, chest, belly, buttocks, feet and hocks. Lighter markings on shoulders, so called harness markings, desirable.

White is permitted to a small extent as a narrow blaze, neckspot or slight necklace. White markings are permitted on fore- and hindlegs and on the chest.

Head

Cranial region: head should be rather long and clean cut with an almost flat skull. It should, when viewed from above, form an even wedge from skull to tip of nose. Well defined stop. Facial region: **Nose** pigmentation jet black. The **muzzle**, when viewed from the side, should look rather square. The muzzle should be slightly shorter than the skull. **Lips** tightly closed. **Teeth** perfect and regular scissor bite with even and well developed teeth. **Eyes** medium size, oval in shape and dark brown. **Ears** medium size, pointed, pricked and ear leather should be hard from base to tip, smooth haired and mobile. Set on not too low.

Neck

Neck should be long and strongly muscled with good reach.

Body

Topline: back should be level, well muscled with short, strong loin. Croup should be broad and slightly sloping. Chest should be long with good depth. Well sprung ribs. When viewed from the front, the chest should be oval, from side elliptical. It should reach two-fifths of the length of the fore legs and, when viewed from the side, the lowest point of the chest is immediately behind the back part of the foreleg. Underline: belly slightly tucked up.

Forequarters

Shoulders should be long and well laid back. Upperarms should be slightly shorter than the shoulders and be set at a distinct angle. Upperarm lies close to ribs, but is still very mobile. Forelegs should, when viewed from the front, be slightly bent, just enough to give them free action against the lower part of the chest. Pasterns should be elastic. Legs should be well boned.

Hindquarters

Hindlegs should be well angulated at stifle and hock. The thighs strongly muscled. Seen from behind the legs should be parallel. Lower thigh slightly longer than the distance from hock to ground.

Feet

Medium sized, short, oval, pointing straight forward with strong pads and well knuckled up.

Tail

Two types of tail: long tail and natural bobtail. When the dog is alert, the tail is raised but not more than in a right angle to the back.

Gait

Sound with good drive.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness of the fault should be in exact proportion to its degree.

Note:

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

Welsh Corgi (Cardigan)



Origin and Purpose

The Cardigan Welsh Corgi originated in the hill country of Cardiganshire in western Wales. The time of origin is uncertain, but perhaps a thousand years ago. The breed was originally a general-purpose farm dog, frequently used for driving cattle.

General Appearance

Sturdy, mobile, and capable of endurance. Overall silhouette long in proportion to height, terminating in a fox-like brush, set in line with the body. Alert expression.

Temperament

Alert, active, and intelligent, with steady temperament.

Size

Height as near as possible to 12 inches (30 cm) at the shoulder. Weight in proportion to size, with overall balance as prime consideration.

Coat

Short or medium of hard texture. Weatherproof with good undercoat. Preferably straight.

Colour

Any colour, with or without white markings, but white should not predominate.

Head

Skull: Head foxy in shape and appearance, skull wide and flat between the ears, tapering towards the eyes, above which it should be slightly domed. Moderate amount of stop. Length of foreface in proportion to skull as 3 is to 5, tapering moderately towards the nose, which should be black, slightly projecting and in no sense blunt. Underjaw clean-cut, strong but without prominence. **Eyes:** Medium size, clear, giving a kindly, alert but watchful expression. Rather widely set with corners clearly defined. Eyes preferably dark, or to blend with the coat, rims dark. One or both eyes pale blue, blue or blue flecked, permissible only in blue merles. **Ears:** Erect, proportionately rather large to the size of the dog. Tips slightly rounded, moderately wide at the base and set about 3-1/2 inches (9 cm) apart. Carried so that the tips are slightly

wide of a straight line drawn from the tip of the nose through the centre of the eyes, and set well back so that they can be laid flat along the neck. **Mouth:** Teeth strong, with a perfect regular and complete scissors bite, i.e., the upper teeth closely overlapping the lower teeth and set square to the jaw. Pincer bite permissible. The **teeth** should be evenly arranged and not crowded in relation to one another.

Neck

Muscular, well developed and in proportion to the dog's build, fitting into well-sloped shoulders.

Forequarters

Shoulders well laid and angulated at approximately 90 degrees to the upper arm; muscular, elbows close to sides. Strong bone carried down to feet. Legs short but body well clear of the ground, forearms slightly bowed to mould round the chest. Feet turned only slightly outwards.

Body

Chest moderately broad with prominent breast bone. Body fairly long and strong with deep brisket, well sprung ribs and clearly defined waist. Topline level.

Hindquarters

Strong, well angulated and aligned, with muscular thighs and second thighs, strong bone carried down to feet, legs short; when standing, hocks should be vertical viewed from the side and rear.

Feet

Round, tight, rather large and well padded. All dewclaws may be removed.

Tail

Like a fox's brush set in line with the body and moderately long (to touch or nearly touch the ground). Carried low when standing but may be lifted a little above the body when moving, but not curled over the back.

Gait

The gait should be free, smooth, and appear effortless. In forequarters, there should be good forward reach, without exaggerated lift, and with good follow-through. The elbows should work close to the body, neither loose nor tight. Viewed from in front, the forefeet should approach a

single track at a brisk trot. In hindquarters there should be good forward reach and moderate rear extension, giving the appearance of a powerful driving action. The stifles must bend, giving appearance that the hocks are lifted, not swung from the hip. From the rear, tendency towards single tracking is preferred. At a trot, the topline should remain relatively level, without pronounced bobbing in front or rear.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault is regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree.

Note:

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

Welsh Corgi (Pembroke)



Origin and Purpose

Some dog historians theorize that the Pembroke Welsh Corgi originated from the Swedish Vallhund (brought into the country by the Vikings) and the Welsh Herd dog.

The fox-like head of the Pembroke, they claim, was accented by cross breeding to members of the Spitz family of dogs. Flemish weavers settled in the Welsh county of Pembrokeshire in the 12th century and brought the Schipperke and Pomeranian into the country. It is also thought that the Lancashire Heeler, a small black and tan cattle dog similar to the Corgi, could share in the breed's ancestry. It has been written that the small dogs with prick ears and pointed muzzles depicted on the famous statue of Anubis, the Egyptian God of the Setting Sun, were direct ancestors of the Welsh Corgi.

Whatever his background, the final product exerted enormous appeal. Welsh people say the sturdy little Corgi has watched over their cattle and guarded their homesteads for many centuries. It is reported that every farm in the country had at least two Pembroke Corgis.

It is believed that the name "Corgi" comes from the word "cur" meaning "to watch over" and, it is significant that the Welsh pronunciation of the word is Currgi.

Royal patronage brought the breed international fame. In 1933, King George VI, then Duke of York, purchased a Pembroke Corgi puppy from Thelma Gray, Rozavel Kennels, for his daughters. Queen Elizabeth's keen interest in the breed continues to this day.

General Appearance

Low-set, strong, sturdily built, alert and active, giving an impression of substance and stamina in a small space. Outlook bold but kindly, expression intelligent and workmanlike. "Dogs should appear masculine and bitches feminine."

Temperament

Never shy nor vicious.

Size

Moderately long and low; well balanced. The distance from the withers to the base of tail should be approximately 40 percent greater than the distance from the withers to the ground. Height (from ground to highest point on withers) should be 10-12 inches (25 – 30 cm). Weight, in show condition, the preferred size dog of correct bone and substance will weigh approximately 27 pounds, with bitches approximately 25 pounds.

Coat and Colour

The outer coat is to be of self-colours in red, sable, fawn, black and tan, all with or without white markings on legs, chest, neck (either in part or as a collar), muzzle, underparts or as a narrow blaze on the head or foreface. The coat should be of medium length; short, thick, weather resistant undercoat with a coarser, longer outer coat, with slightly thicker and longer ruff around the neck, chest and underparts, and somewhat fuller and long on rear hindquarters. The coat should be straight. The Corgi should be shown in its natural condition with no trimming permitted except to tidy the feet.

Head

Foxy in appearance, but not snipey. **Skull** to be fairly wide and flat between the ears. Moderate amount of stop. Length of foreface to be in proportion to the skull as 3 is to 5. The line of the muzzle should be parallel to the line of skull when viewed from the side. There should be chiseling below the eyes with no fullness or cheekiness. **Muzzle** slightly tapered. **Nose** black and fully pigmented. **Mouth** scissor bite. **Eyes** well set, oval, medium in size. Dark brown in harmony with the coat colour. Eye rims dark, black preferred. Yellow, bluish or black eyes are most undesirable. **Ears** erect, firm, of medium size, tapering to a rounded point. A line drawn from the tip of the nose through the eye to the ear tips and across, should form an appropriate equilateral triangle.

Neck

Fairly long and of sufficient length to provide overall balance.

Forequarters

Shoulders blades long and well laid back along the rib cage. **Upper arm** nearly equal in length to shoulder blades, and moulded around chest. The distance between the wrists should be less than between the shoulder joints, so that the front does not appear absolutely straight.

Elbows fitting closely to sides, neither loose nor tied. **Lower arm** – ample bone carried down into the feet, elbows parallel to the body, well set back to allow a line perpendicular to the ground to be drawn from the tip of the shoulder blade through the elbow. Legs short. **Pasterns** – firm and nearly straight when viewed from the side.

Feet

Oval with two centre toes slightly in advance of the two outer ones. Toes strong, well arched and tight, pads strong and thick, nails short.

Body

- (a) Top-line firm, level.
- (b) Chest-deep, well let down between forelegs, moderate forechest Rib cage should be well sprung, slightly egg-shaped and moderately long.

Hindquarters

- (a) Hipbone well fitting and strong.
- (b) Upper thigh well muscled.
- (c) Lower thigh, strong and flexible, slightly tapering.
- (d) Hocks – short, parallel, and when viewed from the side are perpendicular to the ground, ample bone carried right down to the feet.
- (e) Stifle bend – moderate.
- (f) Feet – as above for forequarters.

Tail

Short as possible.

Gait

Free and smooth, elbows fitting closely to the sides, neither loose nor tied. Forelegs should reach well forward, without too much lift, in unison with the driving action of the hind legs. Viewed from the front, legs do not move in exact parallel planes, but incline slightly inward to compensate for shortness of leg and width of chest. Hind legs should reach and drive, with no tendency to swing out, cross over or interfere with each other.

Major Faults

Oversized or undersized. Excessively shy or vicious. Overshot or undershot. Whitelies, body colour white with red or dark markings. Mismarks – self colours with any area of white on back between withers and tail, on sides above a line between elbows and stifle or on ears. Black and white markings with no tan present. Bluish-coloured portions of the coat have a distinct bluish or smokey cast. This colouring is associated with extremely light or blue eyes and liver or grey eye rims, nose and lip pigment.

Fluffies

A coat of extreme length and soft texture, with exaggerated feathering on ears, chest, legs and feet, under parts and hindquarters. No trimming acceptable.

The foregoing description is that of the ideal Pembroke Welsh Corgi. Any deviation from the above described dog must be penalized to the extent of the deviation, keeping in mind the original purpose of the breed.

LISTED BREEDS
GROUP VII
HERDING DOGS

- Beauceron
- Border Collie
- Lancashire Heeler
- Miniature American Shepherd
- Tatra Sheepdog

Beauceron



Origin & Purpose

The Beauceron, also called Beauce shepherd (Berger de Beauce) or “Red stockings” (Bas Rouge) is an old breed of herding dog from France. The breed was developed by sheep and cattle farmers and was built to withstand the demands of long days of work in all types and extremes of temperatures and terrain, subsisting on little food. He was not only expected to be a herding dog, but also a guardian of the flock and the home.

General Appearance

The Beauceron is a large and powerful dog with a solid bone structure, rustic, well chiseled and muscled without bulkiness. The tail is always long, slightly feathered, forming a “j” in its shape. The coat is smooth and short on the head and legs, short, thick and firm on the body, with a good undercoat.

Temperament

The Beauceron is an alert and energetic dog with a frank and unwavering look. He shows no fear and no aggression and should be confident. He is intelligent, easily trained, faithful, calm and lives to please its masters. He also possesses an excellent memory.

Size

The Beauceron is medium in all its proportions. The length of the body from the point of the shoulder to the point of the buttock should be slightly greater than the height at the withers. 1 to 1.5 cm (0.39 to 0.59 inches) greater for males, and 1.5 to 2 cm (0.59 to .079 inches) for the bitches.

Dogs are larger and heavier than the bitches, and should be distinctly masculine. Bitches should be feminine looking, but without weakness in structure or substance.

The dogs optimum height is 67 cm (26.38 inches), but with an acceptable range of 65 – 70 cm (25.6 – 27.56 inches).

The bitches optimum height is 65 cm (25.6 inches), with an acceptable range of 61 – 68 cm (24 – 26.77 inches).

Coat & Colour

Coat: short and smooth on the head and the lower legs; on the body, it should be coarse, dense and lying flat, 3 to 4 cm in length; the buttocks and the underside of the tail are lightly but obligatory fringed. The undercoat is short, fine, dense and downy, preferably mouse grey, very close and can't be seen through the top coat.

Colour:

Black & Tan (black with tan markings: "red stockings". The black is pure black and the tan, red squirrel coloured. The tan markings are distributed as follows: spots over the eyes. On the sides of the muzzle, diminishing gradually on the cheeks, never reaching under the ear. On the chest, preferably two spots. Under the neck. Under the tail. On the legs, disappearing progressively while rising, without covering in any case more than 1/3 of the leg and rising slightly higher on the inside.

Harlequin (blue-mottled with tan markings): grey, black and tan, the coat being black and grey in equal parts, the spots well distributed, with sometimes a predominance of black. The tan markings are the same as for the black and tan. A faint spot on the chest is tolerated, but shall be no larger than 5 cm² (1 square inch).

Head

The head is well chiseled with harmonious lines. Seen in profile, the top lines of skull and muzzle lie roughly in parallel planes. **Skull:** flat or slightly rounded from one side to the other. The median groove is only slightly marked, the occipital protuberance can be seen on the summit of the skull. **Stop:** The stop is only slightly pronounced and is equidistant from the occiput and the end of the muzzle. **Nose:** Proportionate to the muzzle, well developed, never split and always black. **Muzzle:** neither narrow nor pointed. **Lips:** firm and always well pigmented. The upper lip should overlap the lower without any looseness. At their juncture, the lips form very slightly but firm flews. **Jaws & Teeth:** Strong teeth with a scissor bite. **Eyes:** horizontal, slightly oval in shape. The iris should be dark brown, and in any case, never lighter than dark hazel even if the tan is light coloured. For the harlequin variety, walleyes are admitted. **Ears:** set high. They are carried upright if cropped, neither convergent nor divergent, pointing slightly forward. The well carried ear is one whose middle falls on an imaginary line in prolongation of the sides of the neck. Uncropped ears

are half-pricked or drop-ears. They shouldn't be plastered against the cheeks. They are flat and rather short. The length of the uncropped ear should be half the length of the head.

Neck

Muscular, of good length, united harmoniously with the shoulders.

Forequarters

Upright and parallel when viewed from the front and in profile. Shoulder: sloping and moderately long. Forearm: muscular. Feet: large, round and compact. The nails are always black. The pads are hard but nevertheless resilient.

Body

Topline: the back is straight and strong. The loin is short, broad and muscular. The croup is well muscled and slightly sloped in the direction of the attachment of the tail. Withers: well defined. Chest: the girth of the chest is greater than the height at the withers by more than one fifth. The chest is well let down to the point of the elbow. It is wide, deep and long.

Hindquarter

Upright and parallel when viewed from behind and in profile. Thigh: wide and muscular. Hock Joint: substantial, not too close to the ground, the point situated roughly at $\frac{1}{4}$ the height at the withers, forming a well open angle with the second thigh. Metatarsals (rear pasterns): vertical, slightly further back than the point of the buttock. Feet: large, round and compact. Dewclaws: by tradition, shepherds are much attached to the conservation of double dewclaw. The dewclaws form well separate "thumbs" with nails, placed rather close to the foot.

Tail

Whole, carried low, it reaches at least to the point of the hock, without deviating, and forming a slight hook in the form of a "J". In action, the tail can be carried higher, becoming an extension of the topline.

Gait

Supple and free. The limbs move well in line. The Beauceron should have an extended trot with long reaching movement.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault, and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded, should be in exact proportion to its degree.

Disqualification

- Aggressive or overly shy
- Size outside the standard limits
- Too light-boned
- Eyes too light, or walleyes (except for harlequins)
- Split nose, or a colour other than black, with unpigmented areas
- Overshot or undershot with loss of contact, absence of 3 or more teeth (the first premolars not counting)
- Uncropped ears totally upright and rigid
- Rear feet turned excessively to the exterior
- Simple dewclaws or absence of dewclaws in hind legs
- Shortened tail or tail carried over the back
- Coat: colour and texture other than those defined by the standard. Complete absence of tan markings. Shaggy coat. Well defined, quite visible white spot on chest. For the harlequin variety: too much grey, back on one side and grey on the other, head entirely grey (absence of black)

Border Collie



General Appearance

Well proportioned, smooth outline showing quality, gracefulness and perfect balance, combined with sufficient substance to give impression of endurance. Any tendency to coarseness or weediness undesirable.

Characteristic: Tenacious, hardworking sheepdog, or great tractability.

Temperament

Keen, alert, responsive and intelligent. Neither nervous nor aggressive

Size

Ideal Height

Dogs – 21 inches (53 cm)

Bitches – slightly less

Coat & Colour

Coat: Two varieties: 1) Moderately long. 2) Smooth. In both, topcoat dense and medium textured, undercoat soft and dense giving good weather resistance. In moderately long coated variety, abundant coat forms mane, breeching and brush. On face, ears, forelegs (except for feather), hindlegs from hock to ground, hair should be short and smooth.

Colour: Variety of colours permissible. White should never predominate.

Head

Skull: fairly broad, occiput not pronounced. **Cheeks** not full or rounded. **Muzzle** tapering to nose, moderately short and strong. Skull and foreface approximately equal in length. **Stop** very distinct. **Nose** black, except in brown or chocolate colour when it may be brown. In blues, nose should be slate colour. Nostrils well developed. **Eyes:** Set wide apart, oval shaped, or moderate size, brown in colour except in merles where one or both or part of one or both may be blue. Expression mild, keen alert and intelligent. **Ears:** Medium sized and texture, well set apart. Carried erect or semi-erect and sensitive in use. **Mouth:** Teeth and jaws strong with a perfect, regular complete scissor bite, (i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws).

Neck

Of good length, strong and muscular, slightly arched and broadening to shoulders.

Forequarters

Front legs parallel when viewed from front, pasterns slightly sloping when viewed from side. Bone strong, but not heavy. Shoulders well laid back, elbows close to body.

Body

Athletic in appearance, ribs well sprung, chest deep and rather broad, loins deep and muscular, but not tucked up. Body slightly longer than height at shoulder.

Hindquarters

Broad, muscular, in profile sloping gracefully to set on of tail. Thighs long, deep and muscular with well turned stifles and string, well let down hocks. From hock to ground, hindlegs well boned and parallel when viewed from rear. Feet: oval in shape, pads deep, strong and sound, toes arched and close together. Nails short and strong.

Tail

Moderately long, the bone reaching at least to hock, set on low, well furnished and with an upward swirl towards the end, completing graceful contour and balance of dog. Tail may be raised in excitement, never carried over back.

Gait

Free, smooth and tireless, with minimum lift of feet, conveying impression of ability to move with great stealth and speed.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded be in exact proportion to its degree.

Note:

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

Lancashire Heeler



Origin & Purpose

Works cattle but has terrier instincts when rabbiting and ratting.

General Appearance

Small, powerful, sturdily built, alert energetic worker.

Temperament

Courageous, happy, affectionate to owner.

Size

Ideal height at shoulder:

Dogs: 30 cm (12 inches)

Bitches: 25 cm (10 inches)

Coat & Colour

Coat: Fine undercoat is covered throughout by weather resistant, short, thick, hard, flat topcoat. Topcoat slightly longer on neck. Undercoat should not show through topcoat nor allow any longer hair at the mane to stand off. Long or excessively wavy coat highly undesirable.

Colour: Black and tan or liver tan with pigment to tone with coat colour, with rich tan spots on cheeks and often above eyes. Rich tan on muzzle and chest and from knees downwards, inside hind legs and under tail. A distinct black or liver mark (thumb mark), according to coat colour, immediately above front feet is desirable. Richness of tan may fade with age. White to be discouraged. A small white spot on forehead, although permissible is undesirable.

Head

Head: In proportion to body. **Skull:** flat and wide between ears, tapering towards eyes which are set wide apart. Moderate stop equidistant between nose and occiput. Tapering continues toward nose. Skull and muzzle to be on parallel planes. **Eyes:** Almond-shaped medium size, dark colour except in liver where they may be lighter to match coat colour. **Ears:** showing alert lift, or erect. Drop ears showing no lift undesirable. **Mouth:** Lips firm. Scissor bite-jaws strong with a perfect regular and complete scissor bite, i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws. Under or overshot to be discouraged.

Neck

Moderate length, well laid into shoulders.

Forequarters

Well laid shoulder, elbows firm against ribs. Amply boned. Pasterns allow feet to turn slightly outwards, but not enough to cause weakness or affect freedom of movement.

Body

Well sprung ribbing, extending well back with close coupling. Firm, level topline, never dipping at withers or falling at croup. Approximately 2.5 cm (1 inch) longer than height at withers. (Measured from withers to set on of tail).

Hindquarters

Muscular, with well turned stifles, hocks well let down. From rear should be parallel, when moving or standing. Never bandy or cowhocked. Feet: small, firm and well padded.

Tail

Set on high, left natural. Carried over back in a slight curve when alert, but not forming a complete ring.

Gait

Smart and brisk, Natural, free movement.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog.

Note:

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

Miniature American Shepherd



Origin & Purpose

The Miniature American Shepherd is a small size herding dog that originated in the United States. Exceptional agility combined with strength and stamina allows for working over a variety of terrain. This highly versatile, energetic dog makes an excellent athlete with superior intelligence and a willingness to please those to whom he is devoted. He is both a loyal companion and a biddable worker, which is evident in his watchful expression.

General Appearance

He is slightly longer than tall with bone that is moderated and in proportion to body size and height without extremes. Movement is smooth, easy and balanced. The double coat of medium length and coarseness may be solid in colour or merled, with or without white and/or tan (copper) markings. He traditionally has a docked or natural bobtail.

Temperament

The Miniature American Shepherd is intelligent, primarily a working dog of strong herding and guardian instincts. An exceptional companion, he is versatile and easily trained, performing his assigned tasks with great style and enthusiasm. Although reserved with strangers, he does not exhibit shyness. He is a resilient and persistent worker, who adjusts his demeanor and arousal appropriately to the task at hand. With his family he is protective, good natured, devoted and loyal.

Size

Size: Height for dogs is 14 inches (35.5 cm) up to and including 18 inches (45.7 cm) at the top of the withers. Height for bitches is 13 inches (33 cm) up to and including 17 inches (43.2 cm) at the top of the withers. The minimum heights set forth in this breed standard shall not apply to dogs or bitches under six months of age.

Proportion: Measuring from the point of the shoulder to the point of the buttocks and from the highest point of the shoulder blade to the ground, he is slightly longer than tall.

Substance: Solidly built with moderate bone in proportion to body height and size. Structure in the dog reflects masculinity without coarseness. Bitches appear feminine without being slight of bone.

Coat

Moderation is the overall impression of the coat. Hair is of medium texture, straight to wavy, weather resistant, and of medium length. The undercoat varies in quantity with variations in climate. Hair is short and smooth on the head and front of the legs. The backs of forelegs and breeches are moderately feathered. There is a moderate mane and frill, more pronounced in dogs than in bitches. Hair may be trimmed on the ears, feet, back of hocks, pasterns, and tail, otherwise he is to be shown in a natural coat. Untrimmed whiskers are preferred.

Colour

The colouring offers variety and individuality. With no order of preference, the recognized colours are black, blue merle, red (liver) and red merle. The merle will exhibit in any amount, marbling, flecks or blotches. Undercoats may be somewhat lighter in colour than the topcoat. Asymmetrical markings are not to be faulted. Tan markings are not required but when present are acceptable in any or all of the following areas: around the eyes, on the feet, legs, chest, muzzle, underside of neck, face, underside of ear, underline of body, under the base of the tail and the breeches. Tan markings vary in shades from creamy beige to dark rust, with no preference. Blending with the base colour or merle pattern may be present on the face, legs, feet, and breeches. White markings are not required but when present do not dominate. Tickling may be present in white markings. White on the head does not predominate, and the eyes are fully surrounded by colour and pigment. Red merles and reds have red (liver) pigmentation on the eye rims. Blue merles and blacks have black pigmentation on the eye rims. Ears fully covered by colour are preferred. White markings may be in any combination and are restricted to: the muzzle, cheeks, crown, blaze on head, the neck in a partial or full collar, chest, belly, front legs, hind legs up to the hock and may extend in a thin outline of the stifle. A small amount of white extending from the underline may be visible from the side, not to exceed one inch above the elbow. The hairline of a white collar does not exceed the withers at the skin. If a natural undocked tail is present, the tip of the tail may have white.

Head

The head is clean-cut, dry, and in proportion to the body. Expression: alert, attentive and intelligent. May express a reserved look and/or be watchful of strangers. Eyes: are set obliquely, almond shaped, neither protruding nor sunken and in proportion to the head. Acceptable in all coat colours, one or both eyes may be brown, blue, hazel, amber or any colour combination thereof, including flecks and marbling. The eye rims of the reds and red merles have full red (liver) pigmentation. The eye rims of the blacks and blue merles have full black pigmentation. Ears: are triangular, of moderate size, set high on the head. At full attention they break forward and over, or to the side as a rose ear. Skull: the crown is flat to slightly round and may show a slight occipital protuberance. The width and the length of the crown are equal. Stop: is moderate but defined. Muzzle: is of medium width and depth and tapers gradually to a rounded tip without appearing heavy, square, snippy, or loose. Length is equal to the length of the crown. Planes: viewed from the side, the muzzle and the top line of the crown are slightly oblique to each other, with the front of the crown on a slight angle downward toward the nose. Nose: Red merles and reds have red (liver) pigmentation on the nose leather. Blue merles and blacks have black pigmentation on the nose leather. Fully pigmented noses are preferred. Bite: a full complement of teeth meet in a scissor bite. Teeth broken, missing or discoloured by accident are not penalized.

Neck

The neck is firm, clean and in proportion to the body. It is of medium length and slightly arched at the crest, fitting well into the shoulders.

Forequarters

The forequarters are well conditioned and balanced with the hindquarters. Shoulders: shoulder blades (scapula) are long, flat, fairly close set at the withers, and well laid back. Upper arm (humerus): is equal in length to the should blade and meets the shoulder blade at an approximate right angle. The forelegs drop straight and perpendicular to the ground. The elbow joint is equidistant from the ground to the withers. Viewed from the side, the elbow should be directly under the withers. The elbows should be close to the ribs without looseness. Legs: are straight and strong. The bone is oval rather than round. Pasterns: short, thick and strong, but still flexible, showing a slight angle when viewed from the side. Feet: Oval shaped, compact, with close-knit, well arched toes. Pads are thick and resilient; nails are short and strong. The nails may be any colour combination.

Body

The overall structure gives an impression of depth and strength without bulkiness. Topline: the back is firm and level from the withers to the hip joint when standing or moving. Loin: is strong and broad when viewed from the top. Croup: is moderately sloped. Body: is firm and well-conditioned. Chest and Ribs: the chest is full and deep, reaching to the elbow, with well sprung ribs. Underline: shows a moderate tuck-up.

Hindquarters

Width of hindquarters is approximately equal to the width of the forequarters at the shoulders. Angulation: the angulation of the pelvis and upper thigh (femur) mirrors the angulation of the should blade and upper arm, forming an approximate right angle. Stifles: are clearly defined. Hocks: are short, perpendicular to the ground and parallel to each other when viewed from the rear. Feet: are oval, compact, with close knit, well arched toes. Pads are thick and resilient; nails are short and strong. The nails may be any colour combination.

Tail

A docked tail is straight, not to exceed 3 inches (7.6 cm). The undocked tail when at rest may hang in a slight curve. When excited or in motion the tail may be carried raised with the curved accentuated.

Gait

Smooth, free and easy; exhibiting agility of movement with a well-balanced, ground-covering stride. Fore and hind legs move straight and parallel with the centre line of the body; as speed increases, the feet, both front and rear, converge toward the centre line of gravity of the dog, while the back remains firm and level. When travelling at a trot the head is carried in a natural position with neck, extended forward and head nearly level or slightly above the topline. He must be agile and able to turn direction or alter gait instantly.

Faults

- Noses that are less than fully pigmented

Severe Faults

- o Prick ears and ears that hang with no lift
- o 25% to 50% un-pigmented nose leather
- o Non-typical coats
- o What markings covering 25% of an ear

Disqualification

Size

- Under 14 inches (35.5 cm) and over 18 inches (45.37 cm) for dogs
 - Under 13 inches (33 cm) and over 17 inches (43.2 cm) for bitches
- (Minimum heights set forth in this breed standards shall not apply to dogs or bitches under six months of age)

Nose

- Over 50% un-pigmented nose leather

Bite

- Undershot or overshot

Colour

- Other than recognized colours
- White body splashes, which means any conspicuous, isolated spot or patch of white on the area between withers and tail, on back, or sides between elbows and back of hindquarters.

Tatra Sheepdog



Origin & Purpose

The Tatra Sheepdog also known as the Owczarek Podhalanski, or Polish Mountain Sheepdog, or simply, Tatra is an indigenous mountain worker of Poland. The Tatra is probably related to the flock guardian breeds of Czechoslovakia and Hungary.

Herder and watchdog. Its imposing attitude and beautiful appearance make it a good companion dog.

General Appearance

Of strong and compact build giving the impression of stamina and mobility.

Important Proportions

Rectangular in shape, the length of the body of males being a little shorter than that of bitches.

Temperament

Temperament calm, intelligent and alert.

Size

Height at withers

Males: 65-70 cm (25-27 inches)

Bitches: 60-65 cm (24-25 inches)

Coat & Colour

Coat

Hair: On head, muzzle, and front part of forelegs and on the hindlegs from the hock downward the hair is short and dense. The neck and the body are covered with long, thick, straight or slightly wavy hair, hard to the touch. Undercoat profuse. On the neck a rich ruff; the thighs are covered with profuse, long hair; on the tail hair also profuse, forming a flag.

Colour

Uniformly white; little cream coloured patches are undesirable.

Head

Lean, in good proportion to the body, carried at medium height both in movement and standing. Skull: Seen in profile slightly rounded; the frontal groove is shallow. Stop: Distinctly marked, but without abrupt break. Nose: Black, of medium size, with the nostrils wide open. Muzzle: Strong, gradually tapering; its length is slightly greater or equal to the length of the skull. The nasal bridge is broad. Lips: Desirably taut and well fitting; the edges of the lips should be dark. Teeth: Strong, regularly set. Scissor bite, pincer bite accepted. Eyes: Medium size, expressive, set slightly slanting; the iris is dark brown; the eyelid rims are dark. Ears: Set on at the height of the external angle of the eyes or a little higher, medium length, rather thick, triangular, well furnished with hair; the front edge of the ear is in slight touch with the head; auricle mobile.

Neck

Of medium length, muscular, without any dewlap, with a profuse mane; the upper line of the neck is higher than the topline of the body.

Forequarters

Forelegs muscular, with plenty of bone, but not too heavy; seen from front straight and parallel. Shoulder-blade: Slightly sloping, well adapted to the body. Pastern: Slightly sloping forward. Feet: Compact, oval in shape like a relatively big fist. With hairs between the toes. Pads strong, hard and dark; nails strong, blunt and dark.

Body

Long and massive. Withers: Distinctly marked, broad. Back: Level, broad. Loins: Broad, well coupled. Croup: Oblique, slightly sloping. Chest: Deep. Ribs: Oblique, rather flat. Belly: Slightly tucked up.

Hindquarters

Viewed from the rear hind legs vertical; seen from the side slightly set backwards, moderately angulated. Hock: Seen from the side vertical. Feet: Like the forefeet.

Tail

Set on not too high, carried below the topline; when excited carried above the topline, but not curved; hanging, it reaches the hock; the tip of the tail may be slightly curved.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree.

- Frontal furrow distinctly marked.
- Poor pigmentation of nose, eyerims and lips.
- Light eye (called “bar eye”).
- Entropion.
- Ears set high, directed backwards or cropped.
- Neck carried horizontal.
- Croup overbuilt.
- Tail carried constantly above the topline.
- Lack of hair between the toes.
- Lack of ruff, lack of feathering on the legs.

Disqualification

- Aggressive or overly shy.
- Stop too shallow.
- Pointed muzzle.
- Several missing teeth.
- Over- or undershot mouth.
- Ectropion.
- Hair curly or silky.
- Lack of undercoat.
- Coat with coloured patches.
- Nervous character.

Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified.

Note:

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

