



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

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## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# AUSTRALIAN CATTLE DOG

RECOGNIZED: 1979

Effective: January 2004

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

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

**Desirable height at the withers:** Dogs, 45.75 to 50.75 cm (18 to 20 in); bitches, 43.25 to 48.25 cm (17 to 19 in)

Dogs or bitches over or under these specified sizes are undesirable. Dogs over 52 cm (20.5 in) or under 44.5 cm (17.5 in) and bitches over 49.5 cm (19.5 in) or under 42 cm (16.5 in) are disqualified.

**Desirable weight:** 15 to 22.75 kg (33 to 50 lb)

### COAT

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.

### COLOUR

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 scissor-like 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 one-third 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 departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

- Any tendency to grossness or weediness is a serious fault.
- 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**

- Mouth: Overshot or undershot jaw
- Yellow eye
- Size: Dogs over 52 cm (20.5 in) or under 44.5 cm (17.5 in) and bitches over 49.5 cm (19.5 in) or under 42 cm (16.5 in)





## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# AUSTRALIAN KELPIE

RECOGNIZED: 2020

Effective: January 2021

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

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 at the withers:** Dogs, approximately 46 to 51 cm (18 to 20 in); bitches, approximately 43 to 48 cm (17 to 19 in)

### 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 approximately 2 to 3 cm (0.75 to 1.25 in) in length.

### COLOUR

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

### HEAD

The 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 scissors 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 aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

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



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD

RECOGNIZED: 1991

Effective: January 2004

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

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.

### TEMPERAMENT

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.

### SIZE

**Height at the withers:** Dogs, 50.75 to 58.5 cm (20 to 23 in); bitches, 45.75 to 53.25 cm (18 to 21 in). However, quality is not to be sacrificed in favour of size.

### 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. Atypical 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.

### HEAD

Clean-cut, strong, dry and in proportion to the body. The **top skull** 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 3.25 mm (0.125 in). **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 to one-half above the base. Prick ears and hound-type ears are severe faults.

#### **NECK**

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.

#### **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 45° 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.

#### **BODY**

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.

#### **TAIL**

The tail may be docked, bobtailed or naturally long.

#### **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 may be removed.

#### **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 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 topline remains firm and level.

#### **FAULTS**

Any departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

#### **DISQUALIFICATIONS**

- Monorchidism and cryptorchidism
- Other than recognized colours
- White body splashes
- Dudley nose
- Undershot bite; overshot bites exceeding 3.25 mm (0.125 in)



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# AUSTRALIAN STUMPY TAIL CATTLE DOG

RECOGNIZED: 2006

Effective: January 2007

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

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

**Height at the withers:** Dogs, 46 to 51 cm (18 to 20 in); bitches: 43 to 48 cm (17 to 19 in)

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

### 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

**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 breastbone 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 10 cm (4 in), 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 aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

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



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# BEARDED COLLIE

RECOGNIZED: 1971

Effective: January 2004

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

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.

### 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

**Height at the withers:** Dogs, 53.25 to 56 cm (21 to 22 in); bitches, 50.75 to 53.25 cm (20 to 21 in).

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. 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. 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.

## 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°) 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.

## FAULTS

Any departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# BELGIAN SHEPHERD DOG

RECOGNIZED: 1923

Effective: July 2023

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The Belgian Shepherd Dog's ancestry is common to many of the herding dogs used throughout the 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 being a loyal companion and active family dog, the Belgian Shepherd is a versatile breed that excels in a range of work including herding, search and rescue, police and military service, as well as performance sports such as utility trials (IGP/Schutzhund, Ring programs), agility, obedience, tracking and many non-traditional events.

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

The first impression of the Belgian Shepherd Dog is of a well-balanced square dog, elegant in appearance, with an exceedingly proud carriage of head and neck. He is a strong, agile, well-muscled animal, alert and full of life. His whole conformation gives the impression of depth and solidity without bulkiness. Dogs appear unquestionably masculine; the bitch has a distinctively feminine look. Dogs and bitches are to be judged with equal consideration.

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

### TEMPERAMENT

The Belgian Shepherd Dog reflects the qualities of intelligence, courage, alertness and devotion. In addition to his inherent aptitude as guardian of flocks he is protective of the person and property of his owner and possesses a strong sense of family. He is watchful, attentive and always in motion when not under command. In his relationship with humans, he is 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

**Height at the withers:** Dogs, 61 to 66 cm (24 to 26 in); bitches, 56 to 61 cm (22 to 24 in)

The length, measured from the front of the forechest to the rear projection of the pelvis, is equal to the height. Bitches may be slightly longer. Bone structure is moderately heavy in proportion to height so that they are well balanced throughout and neither spindly and leggy nor cumbersome and bulky.

### COAT AND COLOUR

Coat length, colour and texture are the distinguishing features between the different varieties of the Belgian Shepherd Dog.

**Long-haired:** The guard hairs of the coat are long, well fitting, straight and abundant. The texture is a medium harshness. The undercoat is 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 is long and abundant hair forming a collarette around the neck, a fringe along the back of the foreleg, breeches in the hindquarters, and a nicely plumed tail. The two long-haired varieties are differentiated by colour:

- The dog is completely black or black with white limited as noted below. The black, long-haired variety is known as the *Groenendael*.
- The dog is 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 body, tail and breeches are light beige or grey. Any white is limited as noted below. A washed-out fawn colour is a fault, as is excessive blackening. This variety is known as the *Tervueren*.

**Short-haired:** The coat is comparatively short and straight with a dense undercoat. The coat is very short on the head, ears and lower legs and somewhat longer around the neck where it forms a collarette and on the tail and back of the thighs. The colour is rich fawn to mahogany with a black overlay, black mask and black ears. The underparts of the body, tail and breeches are lighter fawn. Any white is limited as noted below. A washed-out fawn colour is a fault. This variety is known as the *Malinois*.

**Rough-haired:** The coat has a rough or dry texture and appears 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 tail does not form a plume. The coat is 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. Any white is limited as noted below. This variety is known as the *Laekenois*.

For all varieties, any white is limited as follows: a small to moderate patch on the forechest, not to extend more than 7.5 cm (3 in) above the prosternum, and not to reach the point of either shoulder. White is also allowed between the pads of the feet and on the tips of the toes. Frosting on the chin and muzzle is normal.

## HEAD

Head is well-chiselled, long without exaggeration, and exhibits parallel planes whereby the topline of the muzzle is parallel to the topline of the skull when viewed from the side. **Skull** is flattened on top rather than rounded. The width is approximately the same as, but not wider than the length. The stop is moderate. **Muzzle** is moderately pointed, avoiding any tendency to snipiness, and approximately equal in length to the top skull. **Nose** is black without spots or discoloured areas. **Mouth:** The jaw is strong and powerful. The lips are tight and black with no pink showing on the outside. There is a full complement of strong, white, evenly set teeth that meet in either an even or a scissors bite. An overshot or undershot bite is a serious fault. **Eyes** are dark brown, medium-sized, slightly almond-shaped and do not protrude. **Ears** are rather small, triangular in shape, stiff, erect and high set.

## NECK

Neck is well-muscled, long and slightly arched.

## FOREQUARTERS

**Shoulder** is long and oblique, laid flat against the body and forms a sharp angle (approximately 90°) with the upper arm, which is equal in length to the shoulder blade. **Legs** are straight, strong and parallel to each other. The bone is oval rather than round. The length is in proportion to the size of the dog. **Pasterns** are of medium length, strong and very slightly sloped.

## **BODY**

**Chest** is deep but not broad. The lowest point reaches the elbow of the front leg and forms a smooth ascending curve to the abdomen. **Back** is level, straight and firm from withers to hip. The withers are slightly higher than and blend into the back. **Loin:** When viewed from above is relatively short, broad and strong, and blends smoothly into the back. The **abdomen** is moderately developed and is neither tucked up nor paunchy.

## **HINDQUARTERS**

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

## **FEET**

Feet are round in the front (cat-footed) and slightly elongated in the rear. Toes on both the front and back feet are curved and close together. The feet are well padded. Nails are strong and black except that they may be white to match white toe tips.

## **TAIL**

Tail is strong at the base and the bone reaches the hock. At rest, the tail is held low. In action it is carried at or below the level of the back, with a slight curl that is strongest toward the tip. It does not curl over the dog's back or form a hook.

## **GAIT**

Gait is smooth, free and tireless, demonstrating ease of movement rather than a hard-driving action. He single-tracks on a fast gait – i.e., the legs, both front and rear, converge toward the centre line of the body. The backline remains firm and level, parallel to the line of motion, with no crabbing. There is 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:

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

## **DISQUALIFICATIONS**

- Viciousness
- Excessive shyness
- Any colour or coat type and colour combination not allowed in the standard
- Ears hanging
- Tail docked or stump
- Dogs under 58.5 cm (23 in) or over 68.5 cm (27 in) in height. Bitches under 53.25 cm (21 in) or over 63.5 cm (25 in) in height.





## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# BERGER DES PYRENEES

RECOGNIZED: 1992

Effective: January 2018

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

**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 (*Pyrenean Shepherd Dog*) 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 the withers:** Dogs, 42 to 48 cm (16.5 to 19 in); bitches, 40 to 46 cm (15.75 to 18 in)

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

#### **Smooth-Faced Variety**

**Height at the withers:** Dogs, 40 to 54 cm (15.75 to 21.25 in); bitches, 40 to 52 cm (15.75 to 20.5 in)

### 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 to 7 cm (2.25 to 2.75 in) and on the median line of the back 4 to 5 cm (1.5 to 2 in). 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. Grey, 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

**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. **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. **Muzzle (Rough-Faced variety)** is slightly shorter than the length of the skull and appears noticeably shorter because of the longer hair on the face. **Muzzle (Short-Faced variety)** is longer than that of the Rough-Faced Variety and this is emphasized by the distinctive smooth face. 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-grey dogs are allowed a blue eye or eyes showing a partial depigmentation of the iris (these features being almost always typical with this colour). **Jaws/teeth:** Complete dentition. Large canines. Scissors 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 that 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 bobtail, 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 Pyrenees 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 Pyrenees 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 pigment.
- 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
- Mouth: Over and undershot bite
- Naturally upright standing ears

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



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# BERGER PICARD

RECOGNIZED: 1992

Effective: January 2022

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The Berger Picard (*Picardy Sheepdog*) has very ancient origins. It is believed to have been developed in Europe by the Celts around 400 BC. It is not certain that the Berger Picard originates strictly from the Picardie region in Northern France. It is possible that it was more widely spread as harsh-coated sheep and cattle dogs were typical throughout northwestern Europe. The modern-day Berger Picard was bred by the farmers of the Picardie region, as hard-working farm dogs, sheep guardians and herders, as well as cattle drovers. The diversity of their job required versatility and intelligence, a keen sense of initiative and loyalty, as well as strength, speed and endurance to work long days in the fields.

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Berger Picard is a medium-sized dog. It is solid, hardy, well muscled and well built without ever being heavy. Slightly longer than tall, with distinctive erect natural ears, wiry coat of moderate length, rough eyebrows, moderate moustache and beard, and a tail reaching to the hock and ending in a “J” shape. Movement is free and easy, efficient and tireless to allow them to work all day. Bone should be sturdy and strong, but not so massive as to interfere with free, efficient, light-footed movement. Its lively and alert expression is characterized by its rugged appearance. This is a rustic, working shepherd’s dog, without exaggeration or refinement.

### TEMPERAMENT

The Berger Picard is even tempered, lively, alert, observant and confident; may be aloof with strangers, but should not be timid or nervous. It should be both obedient and fearless. These qualities enable it to easily accomplish its work, which consists of driving and protecting flocks of sheep. It is also a very good guard for the home and an excellent family dog who enjoys close contact with children.

### SIZE

**Height at the withers:** Dogs, 60 to 65 cm (23.5 to 25.5 in); bitches, 55 to 60 cm (21.75 to 23.5 in)

**Important proportions:** The length of the body, from the point of the shoulder to the point of buttock, should be slightly more than the height at the withers (from 5% to 8%). Bitches may be slightly longer than dogs. The skull (from occiput to the stop) and muzzle (from the stop to the tip of the nose) are of equal length. The distance from the elbow to the ground is equal to half the height at the withers.

### COAT

The coat is wiry, semi-long, neither flat nor curly, often with a slight wave. It should feel harsh and crisp when touched. Ideal length is from 5 to 7 cm (2 to 2.75 in) over the entire body including the tail, except on the top of the head, where it can be as short as 4 cm (1.5 in). The coat accents on the head and neck, which give the Picard its distinctive look, known as “griffonage,” include rough eyebrows, moderate beard and moustache, and a slight ruff on the front and sides of the neck, framing the head, all of moderate length. The undercoat is fine and dense. The shaggy, rough coat of the Picard is distinctive, and should never be woolly, soft or so profuse that it hides the

outline of the dog. The Picard is shown in its rustic, rough, natural coat, which is not to be sculpted, shaped or scissored. Dogs whose coats have been altered by excessive grooming must be severely penalized.

## COLOUR

Fawn, fawn charbonné (fawn with charcoal), fawn or grey brindles. Fawn may be a clear or true fawn with no dark markings; the adult fawn charbonné must have most of its body covered with fawn hair. The double pigmentation hair, fawn at the root and more or less dark grey at the tip (fawn charbonné), is mainly found on the ears and tail. The charbonné tinge found on the ears and tail can be more or less pronounced. Some fawn charbonné hair may be found elsewhere in the Berger Picard's coat but their presence should be very discreet so as not to blur or wash out the overall fawn colour. Charbonné hair is tolerated on the forehead, muzzle, chin and neck of the Berger Picard from Baby Puppy to Senior Puppy classes but must disappear in adulthood to be found almost only on the ears and tail. Too much charbonné hair on the shoulders and thighs is not desired and should be slightly penalized if it is more pronounced than the fawn. Brindles may be any shade of base colour from almost black to light grey or fawn, with stripes or small patches of black, brown, red, grey or fawn distributed throughout. All allowed colours should be considered equally. A small white patch on the chest or tips of toes is allowed, but not ideal.

## HEAD

In proportion to the size of the dog, strong, without being massive; delicately chiselled, overall rectangular. Narrowing slightly from ears to the eyes, and again from eyes to nose when viewed from above, without giving the impression of being pointed. Viewed from the side, the muzzle and skull are in parallel planes separated by a slight, sloping stop, which is equidistant from the occiput and the tip of the nose. The type is stamped by the rugged aspect; distinct eyebrows along with beard and moustache. **Skull:** The forehead should not be flat but slightly convex with a slight depression in the centre of the frontal sinuses, blending smoothly into the muzzle. Coat on the top of the skull is naturally shorter and gradually becomes longer each side of skull and on cheeks, which makes the skull appear to be flat when viewed from the front. The hair above the eyes falls forward, forming rough eyebrows that are not trimmed, nor are they so thick or long as to obscure the eyes. **Cheeks:** Cheek muscles should be moderately strong and slightly rounded. **Muzzle:** Strong and not too long. Viewed from above, the muzzle tapers slightly from the stop to the nose, ending bluntly. In profile, the plane of the muzzle is straight, and parallel to the skull. The hair on the muzzle forms a distinct moustache and beard, which is not overly long or bushy. **Nose:** Well developed. Always black, well opened nostrils. **Lips:** Thin and tight-fitting, with dark pigment. **Bite/teeth:** A complete set of evenly spaced, white teeth set in powerful jaws. Scissors bite, in which part of the inner surface of the upper teeth meets and engages part of the outer surface of the lower teeth. Teeth broken by accident should not be penalized but worn teeth, especially the incisors, are often indicative of the lack of a proper scissors bite and should be penalized, although some allowance should be made for age. **Ears:** Moderately large, 10 to 12 cm (4 to 4.75 in) long, broad at the base, tapering to a slightly rounded tip, and set rather high on the skull. Always carried naturally erect and turned forward. Viewed from the front, carriage should be perpendicular to the head or turned slightly out from perpendicular, at the 11 and 1 o'clock position. Coat on the ears should be short to moderate in length, not obscuring the shape of the ears. **Eyes:** Horizontally set, of medium size, oval in shape, neither round nor prominent. Dark brown in colour (the colour can be more or less dark depending on that of the coat, but never lighter than hazel). Darker eye colour is preferred. Eye rims are tight-fitting and fully pigmented. **Expression:** Alert and observant, spirited, confident, pleasant.

## NECK

The neck is strong and muscled, of reasonable length, blending smoothly into the shoulders, to allow proud head carriage. Skin should fit cleanly without any dewlap. A slight ruff on the front and sides of the neck, framing the head. The correct length neck should be about the same length as the head, measured from occiput to nose.

## FOREQUARTERS

Shoulder blades are long and well laid back, covered by lean and strong muscle. The length of the upper arm balances the shoulder blade, placing the elbow well under and close in to the body. **Forelegs** are straight and

strong, without being bulky. Viewed from the front, legs are parallel to each other with toes pointing straight forward. **Pasterns** slope slightly forward into a compact, rounded foot with well-arched toes and strong, black nails. Pads are strong and supple.

## **BODY**

The bone structure is solid, without exaggeration, and the muscles are lean. **Topline:** Strong, level, descending very slightly from the withers to the croup. The back is straight, the loin is strong and the croup slopes slightly into the buttocks. **Chest:** Deep but without exaggeration, reaching the elbows but not beyond. Prominent prosternum blends smoothly into the sternum. The lowest point of the sternum is at the level of the elbow, and from that point, the sternum slopes gradually up towards the loin to give good depth and length to the ribcage. The correct chest perimeter measurement, taken immediately behind the elbows, is superior by one-fifth to the height at withers. **Ribs:** The ribs are well sprung from the spine for the upper third, then flattening as they approach the sternum, neither slab-sided nor barrel-shaped. **Underline/belly:** Belly slightly tucked up.

## **HINDQUARTERS**

The **upper thigh** is long and well muscled. Well-turned **stifle** with strong articulation. The angulation of the thigh and stifle balance the front assembly, providing powerful, tireless, and effortless movement. The **hock** is moderately bent, and the **rear pasterns** are parallel to each other and perpendicular to the ground. With a correctly angulated rear, the toes of the hind foot land just behind a perpendicular line dropped from the point of the rump. **Feet** are rounded with well-arched toes and strong black nails, as in front. There should be no dewclaws or supernumerary digits on the rear legs.

## **TAIL**

Naturally long. Strong at the base and tapering to the tip, flowing smoothly from the slightly sloping croup. At rest, it should reach the point of the hock joint and be slightly curved at the tip in a “J” shape without deviating toward the right or left. In action, it is carried as a natural extension of the topline. May be carried higher than the level of the topline, but never curled over the back. Coat is the same length and texture as the coat on the body.

## **GAIT**

Movement is fluid and effortless, easily covering a lot of ground with each smooth stride. Strong, supple, agile movement is essential for a working shepherd’s dog. Head carriage lowers to near the level of the topline when moving. Limbs move in parallel planes when gaiting slowly, converging slightly towards the centerline with increased speed.

## **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 that could interfere with the dog’s ability to function efficiently as a shepherd, guardian, and farmer’s helper or have an effect on the health and welfare of the dog should be considered more serious than deviations that are strictly cosmetic.

- Temperament: Aggressive or overly shy
- Size: Up to 2 cm (0.75 in) over or under the limit
- Coat:
  - A coat which has tendency to curl, or is too flat
  - Length less than 5 cm (2 in) or more than 7 cm (2.75 in), except on the head where 4 to 7 cm (1.5 to 2.75 in) is allowed.
  - Limp or woolly coat
  - Any alterations to the coat including, eyebrows, beard and moustache by sculpting, shaping or scissoring, other than a light stripping of the ears
- Type: Lack of type

- Colour: Reverse coat on fawn charbonné dogs (predominant charcoal colour rather than fawn) or with charcoal saddle marking
- Bite: Absence three or more missing molars or premolars (the PM1 are not taken into consideration). Reverse bite without loss of contact of the incisors. Abnormally worn-down incisors.
- Eyes very light in colour
- Tail curled over the back, excessively short or kinked.
- Limbs: Very irregular conformity of limbs; especially, faulty hindquarters, excessively turned-out feet, cow-hocked.

**DISQUALIFICATIONS**

- Heights under or over the following: Males under 58 cm (22.75 in) or over 67 cm (26.25 in); bitches under 53 cm (20.75 in) or over 62 cm (24.5 in)
- Colour: Solid black or white, harlequin or pied; white spreading too much over the forechest, completely white feet, white patches in the coat in any areas other than those indicated
- Bite: Overshot or undershot with loss of contact of incisors
- Eyes: Wall eyes or yellow eyes
- Ears: Not naturally erect
- Tail: Rudimentary or absent tail

**SCALE OF POINTS**

General appearance and conduct.....	20
Expression.....	5
Gait.....	25
Head, ears and coat.....	20
Shoulder, hindquarters, forequarters and angulation.....	20
Tail.....	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# BOUVIER DES FLANDRES

RECOGNIZED: 1955

Effective: January 2004

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

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 defence 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

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 behaviour. 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

**Height at the withers:** Dogs, 62.25 to 69.75 cm (24.5 to 27.5 in); bitches, 59.75 to 67.25 cm (23.5 to 26.5 in)

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:** Dogs, approximately 34 to 45.25 kg (77 to 100 lb); bitches, approximately 27.25 to 38.5 kg (60 to 85 lb)

### COAT

The coat is very full. The topcoat 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 6.25 cm [2.5 in]), 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.

## COLOUR

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 chiselled. **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 2:3 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 that 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.

## FOREQUARTERS

**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

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 seven-tenths 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 swayback are faults. **Loin:** Short, wide and well muscled – must remain flexible but without weakness. **Croup:** 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 bitch. 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 musculature 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**

Typically docked to second or third vertebrae. However, the tail may be undocked. In all cases, the tail should be an extension of the spine and carried high during movement. Some Bouviers are born tailless 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.

#### **FAULTS**

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.

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





## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

### BRIARD

RECOGNIZED: 1949

Effective: January 2008

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

#### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

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

**Height at the withers:** Dogs, 61 to 68.5 cm (24 to 27 in); bitches, 56 to 65 cm (22 to 25.5 in)

The length of the body should be slightly greater 3 to 5 cm (1.25 to 2 in) 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 year may be below the minimum. Disqualification for adult males under 61 cm (24 in) or over 68.5 cm (27 in) and for adult bitches under 56 cm (22 in) and over 65 cm (25.5 in).

#### 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 (2.75 in) 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 bicour (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 (1 in) or less on the forehead. 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 bicoures.

## 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 snikey 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 colour, 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° of angulation. **Faults:** 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°. Croups that are too steep or too straight or those that are definitely higher than the withers must be faulted.

## 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. **Faults:** 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° 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 (midway to the hock).

## **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 (2 in) 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:** Inelegant, clumsy gait, sickle 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 and the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed’s traditional purpose.

- 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 that 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. Sickle 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.
- Dewclaws: Placed too high (midway 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, sickle hocks, hackney fronts, habitual pacing.

## **DISQUALIFICATIONS**

- Adult males under 61 cm (24 in) or over 68.5 cm (27 in). Adult bitches under 56 cm (22 in) and over 65 cm (25.5 in). Measurements taken at the withers.
- Adults with less than 7 cm (2.75 in) length of coat at the shoulder
- White, chestnut or mahogany brown, and bicolours. Extremely washed-out tawny as to appear nearly white. Spotted coat. White blaze. White spot on chest exceeding 2.5 cm (1 in) 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.





## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

### COLLIE (ROUGH & SMOOTH)

RECOGNIZED: 1889

Effective: January 2004

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

#### ORIGIN & 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

**Height at the withers:** Dogs, 61 to 66 cm (24 to 26 in); bitches, 56 to 61 cm (22 to 24 in)

**Weight:** Dogs, 27.25 to 34 kg (60 to 75 lb); bitches, 22.75 to 29.5 kg (50 to 65 lb)

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:

**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.

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

## COLOUR

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

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**White:** A basically white collie with a coloured head and ideally no more than 20% 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 conforms with that specified for the secondary coat colour.

**Foreface:** The foreface is chiselled 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 dog’s 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 lengthwise 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** 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 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 **hind legs** 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**

Any departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

- A 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 that 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.



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# FINNISH LAPPHUND

RECOGNIZED: 2020

Effective: January 2021

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The 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

**Height at the withers:** Dogs, 49 cm (19.25 in); bitches, 44 cm (17.25 in), with a tolerance of +/- 3 cm (1.25 in)  
Type is more important than size.

### 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. Scissors 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 rib cage, 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 aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

- Males not masculine and bitches 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

## DISQUALIFICATIONS

- Over or undershot mouth
- Kinky tail

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



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG

RECOGNIZED: 1912

Effective: January 2004

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

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 German Shepherd Dog 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 that does not lend itself to immediate and indiscriminate friendships. The German 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 German 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 63.5 cm (25 in), and for bitches, 58.5 cm (23 in) 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 2.5 cm (1 in) 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 34 to 38.5 kg (75 to 85 lb); and of bitches, between 27.25 to 31.75 kg (60 to 70 lb).

### **COAT**

The German Shepherd Dog 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 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 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 Dog 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 8.5. 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**

**Forequarters:** 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 that 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 that 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 German 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 German Shepherd Dog 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**

Any departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose. **Note:** 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



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# ICELAND SHEEPDOG

RECOGNIZED: 2005

Effective: January 2007

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The 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 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:** Dogs, 46 cm (18 in); bitches, 42 cm (16.5 in)

### 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 and black. White always accompanies the predominant colour. The most common white markings, which are often irregular, are a blaze or apart 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:** Scissors 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 hind legs are straight, parallel and strong. Normal angulation. **Thighs:** Broad and well muscled. **Dewclaws:** Well-developed double dewclaws are desirable. **Hind feet:** 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 aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

- A 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.



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# MINIATURE AMERICAN SHEPHERD

RECOGNIZED: 2024

Effective: July 2018

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The 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 demeanour and arousal appropriately to the task at hand. With his family he is protective, good natured, devoted and loyal.

### SIZE

Height for dogs is 35.5 cm (14 in) up to and including 45.75 cm (18 in) at the top of the withers. Height for bitches is 33 cm (13 in) up to and including 43.25 cm (17 in) 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. Ticking 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 2.5 cm (1 in) 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, snipey 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 scissors 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/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 7.5 cm (3 in). The undocked tail when at rest may hang in a slight curve. A natural bobtail also permitted. 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

Any departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

- Noses that are less than fully pigmented

### Severe Faults

- Prick ears and ears that hang with no lift
- 25% to 50% unpigmented nose leather
- Atypical coats
- White markings covering 25% of an ear

## DISQUALIFICATIONS

- Under 35.5 cm (14 in) and over 45.75 cm (18 in) for dogs. Under 33 cm (13 in) and over 43.25 cm (17 in) for bitches. *Minimum heights set forth in this standard shall not apply to dogs or bitches under six months of age.*
- Over 50% unpigmented nose leather
- Undershot or overshot
- 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





## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# MUDI

RECOGNIZED: 2020

Effective: July 2026

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The 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 hunting of wild boar. Excellent guard and companion dog.

### 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.

### TEMPERAMENT

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

### SIZE

#### ***Height at the withers:***

Dogs, 41 to 47 cm (16.25 to 18.5 in); ideal height 43 to 45 cm (17 to 17.75 in)

Bitches, 38 to 44 cm (15 to 17.25 in); ideal height 40 to 42 cm (15.75 to 16.5 in)

### 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 (1.25 to 2.75 in) long. At some spots, cowlicks and ridges are formed. The coat is longest on the back of the forearms, the upper thighs and the underside of the tail, where it forms pronounced featherings. **Skin:** Tight, without wrinkles.

### COLOUR

White, fawn (from beige to red), black, ash (blue), brown, ash brown (diluted brown/Isabella) and Cifra (merle) – i.e., pigmented patterns of the above-mentioned colours diluted by the merle factor. Small-sized white markings are tolerated but not desired. A white patch on the chest, less than 5 cm (2 in) in diameter, and small white markings on the toes are tolerated but not desired.

## HEAD

The most breed typical part of the Mudi is undoubtedly the 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 evenly towards the nose. Important proportions (ratios): Length of head to height at withers is 4-4.5:10. Length of muzzle to length of head is 4:10. Width of head to length of head: 6:10. **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. Colour is black, except for liver (brown), ash liver and its merle varieties, nose colour is brown; for ash (blue grey) and its merle varieties, nose colour is blue; for fawn and white, black nose is favourable but blue and brown is accepted. **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 nose leather. **Jaws/teeth:** Complete scissors bite according to the dentition formula. Regular teeth of medium size. **Eyes:** Almond-shaped and set slightly oblique. The eyes should be as dark as possible. For merle colours, partially or solid blue eye colour is not a fault. 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. Important proportions: Length of ears to length of head is 4.5:10. Ears are approximately 10-15% longer than their width at the base.

## NECK

The slightly high-set neck forms an angle of 50° to 55° 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 curved, the point of the sternum only slightly protruding. **Upper arm:** Of medium length. At 45° 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

Important proportions: The Mudi is slightly (about 3-5%) longer than tall. The ratio of the brisket to the height at the withers is 3:10. The ratio of the width of the chest to the height at the withers is 3:10. **Topline:** Slightly sloping towards croup. **Withers:** Pronounced. **Back:** Straight, medium length. **Loins:** Short. Firmly coupled. **Croup:** Short, very slightly sloping, of medium breadth, muscular. **Chest:** Forechest slightly curved, reaching the elbows. Ribs somewhat broad and rather flat. **Underline:** Slightly tucked up.

## HINDQUARTERS

The hind legs are only slightly 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, above 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 15 cm (4 to 6 in) long.

## **GAIT**

The Mudi's characteristic movements are mincing steps, with a vigorous trot.

## **FAULTS**

Any departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

### **Serious Faults:**

- Deviation from the proportions and sizes recorded in the standard
- Toy characteristics (short head, round skull, strong stop, round eyes)

## **DISQUALIFICATIONS**

- Aggressive or overly shy
- Spotted or flesh-coloured nose leather (except for a small amount of spotting in merle colours)
- A bite other than a scissors bite. Absence of any other teeth, except up to four missing P1 and/or M3 is permissible.
- Yellow eyes in black dogs
- Drop ears
- Short, smooth, flat coat on the body; long hair on the head. Coat tending towards matting.
- Wire hair





## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# NORWEGIAN BUHUND

RECOGNIZED: 1993

Effective: January 2015

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN

Norway

### 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.

### SIZE

**Height at the withers:** Dogs, 43 to 47 cm (17 to 18.5 in); bitches: 41 to 45 cm (16.25 to 17.75 in)

**Weight:** Dogs, 14 to 18 kg (30.75 to 39.75 lb); bitches, 12 to 16 kg (26.5 to 35.25 lb)

### 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.

### 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.

**FAULTS**

Any departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

- 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.



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# OLD ENGLISH SHEEPDOG

RECOGNIZED: 1903

Effective: July 2020

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

A 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 “potcasse” 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

**Height:** Dog, 56 cm (22 in) and upwards; bitches, slightly less

Type, character, and symmetry are of the greatest importance and are on no account to be sacrificed to size alone.

### COAT

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

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 may be 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**

Any departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed’s traditional purpose.

- 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
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# POLISH LOWLAND SHEEPDOG

RECOGNIZED: 2006

Effective: January 2007

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The 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:** Dogs, 45 to 50 cm (17.75 to 19.75 in); bitches, 42 to 47 cm (16.5 to 18.5 in)

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

**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 scissors 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/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 aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

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



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# PORTUGUESE SHEEPDOG

RECOGNIZED: 2020

Effective: January 2021

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

Some experts believe that today's Portuguese Sheepdog (*Cão da Serra de Aires*) 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:** Dogs: 45 to 55 cm (17.75 to 21.75 in); bitches: 42 to 52 cm (16.5 to 20.5 in)

**Weight:** 12 to 18 kg (26.5 to 39.75 lb)

### COAT

**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. 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.

### 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.

### 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/upper arm:** Strong, medium length; well muscled; angle of the shoulder straight. **Forearm:** Vertical and well muscled. **Pastern joint:** Lean and not 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 rib cage; sloping front to back. **Underline/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 aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

- 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

**DISQUALIFICATIONS**

- 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

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

**SCALE OF POINTS**

General appearance .....	20
Head .....	15
Eyes.....	10
Ears .....	5
Body.....	10
Legs.....	10
Tail.....	10
Coat.....	10
Gait .....	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>





## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# PULI

RECOGNIZED: 1949

Effective: January 2017

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The 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 that does not lend itself to immediate and indiscriminate friendship, but extreme timidity and shyness are serious faults.

### SIZE

**Ideal height at the withers:** Dogs, 40.75 to 45.75 cm (16 to 18 in); bitches, 35.5 to 40.75 cm (14 to 16 in)

**Weight:** Dogs, 12.75 to 15 kg (28 to 33 lb); bitches, 10 to 12.75 kg (22 to 28 lb)

### COAT

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 Pulis 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.

## COLOUR

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 in (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° 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° 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% of the dog's height.

### **HINDQUARTERS**

The **pelvis** should form an angle of 90° 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 aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

### **DISQUALIFICATIONS**

- Particolours
- Large markings of any colour other than a white spot on the chest of not more than 2 in (5 cm) in diameter
- Dogs under 33 cm (13 in) or over 50.75 cm (20 in). Bitches under 30.5 cm (12 in) or over 48.25 cm (19 in).
- Colours other than those mentioned as acceptable
- Coats showing no tendency to form cords





## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# SCHAPENDOES

RECOGNIZED: 2005

Effective: January 2016

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

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 long-haired herding breeds that 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 WWII, 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 that 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 in (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:** Dogs, 43 to 50 cm (17 to 19.75 in); bitches, 40 to 47 cm (15.75 to 18.5 in)

### COAT

The Schapendoes has a thick coat with sufficient undercoat. The coat is long, a good 7 cm (2.75 in) 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 topknot, 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 scissors 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 forechest. **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/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 aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

## DISQUALIFICATIONS

- No Schapendoes that 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.



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# SHETLAND SHEEPDOG

RECOGNIZED: 1930

Effective: January 2015

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The 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 33 to 40.75 cm (13 to 16 in) 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

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 “standoff” 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 chiselling 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° 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° 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, musculature 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**

Any departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

- 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% 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 (13 in) or over 40.75 cm (16 in) 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
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**TOTAL** **100**



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# SPANISH WATER DOG

RECOGNIZED: 2020

Effective: January 2021

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The Spanish Water Dog (*Perro de agua español*) 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

**Height at the withers:** Dogs, 44 to 50 cm (17.25 to 19.75 in); bitches: 40 to 46 cm (15.75 to 18 in)

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

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.

### 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 15 cm (6 in) (extended) and should not be less than 2 cm (0.75 in) (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 bicour with any of the above colours and white as the second colour. The nose is of the same colour or slightly darker than the darkest colour 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, tricolour, tan-point, brindles or bicour 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. Scissors 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 colour 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 moulding 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 centre line as speed increases.

## **FAULTS**

Any departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

### **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 1 cm (0.4 in) from standard either way

### **DISQUALIFICATIONS**

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





## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# SWEDISH VALLHUND

RECOGNIZED: 1995

Effective: January 2007

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The 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 spitz type to Sweden from England. Modern cynological research points to that the breed was developed in Sweden.

The honour of making the Swedish Vallhund recognized and registered as a Swedish breed goes to Count Björn von Rosen. In the beginning of the 1940s, 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

**Height:** Dogs, 33 cm (13 in); bitches, 31 cm (12.25 in)

*\*A variation of 1.5 cm (0.5 in) above or below these heights is permitted.*

**Weight:** 9 to 14 kg (19.75 to 30.75 lb)

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

### COAT

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 back parts of the hind legs.

### 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, neck spot or slight necklace. White markings are permitted on forelegs, hind legs and on the chest.

### HEAD

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. **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 scissors 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 forelegs 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. **Upper arms** should be slightly shorter than the shoulders and be set at a distinct angle. Upper arm 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**

**Hind legs** 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 aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

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



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

### WELSH CORGI (CARDIGAN)

RECOGNIZED: 1939

Effective: January 2019

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

#### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The 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 30.5 cm (12 in) 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 9 cm (3.5 in) 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° 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 breastbone. 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 aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

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



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

### WELSH CORGI (PEMBROKE)

RECOGNIZED: 1938

Effective: January 2004

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

#### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

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 continued throughout her lifetime.

#### 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 25.5 to 30.5 cm (10 to 12 in). Weight, in show condition, the preferred size dog of correct bone and substance will weigh approximately 12.25 kg (27 lb), with bitches approximately 11.25 kg (25 lb).

#### COAT

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.

## 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.

## 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 chiselling below the eyes with no fullness or cheekiness. **Muzzle:** Slightly tapered. **Nose:** Black and fully pigmented. **Mouth:** Scissors 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

**Shoulder 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

**Topline:** Firm, level. **Chest:** Deep, well let down between forelegs. Moderate forechest. **Rib cage** should be well sprung, slightly egg-shaped and moderately long.

## HINDQUARTERS

**Hipbone:** Well fitting and strong. **Upper thigh:** Well muscled. **Lower thigh:** Strong and flexible, slightly tapering. **Hocks:** Short, parallel, and when viewed from the side are perpendicular to the ground, ample bone carried right down to the feet. **Stifle bend:** Moderate. **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.

## FAULTS

Any departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

## Major Faults

- Oversized or undersized
- Excessively shy or vicious
- Overshot or undershot
- Whielies, 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 smoky 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.





## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

### MISCELLANEOUS & OTHER BREEDS

- Appenzeller Sennenhund
- Beauceron
- Bergamasco Shepherd Dog
- Border Collie
- Lancashire Heeler
- Pumi
- Swedish Lapphund





## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# APPENZELLER SENNENHUND

RECOGNIZED: N/A

Effective: July 2023

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

In 1853, an Appenzeller Sennenhund was first described in the book *“Tierleben der Alpenwelt”* (Animal Life in the Alps) as a “high-pitch barking, short-haired, medium size, multicolour cattle dog of a quite even Spitz type, which can be found in certain regions and is used partly to guard the homestead, partly to herd cattle.”

The “Appenzeller Sennenhund Club” was founded in 1906. In 1914, Prof. Heim set up the first valid breed standard. The original breeding territory was the Appenzell region. Today the breed is distributed all over Switzerland and beyond its borders and bred in many European countries. Today it is a versatile working and family dog, used as a driving, watch, guard, house and farm dog.

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

Tricolour, medium-sized, almost squarely built dog, balanced in all parts. Muscular, very agile and deft, with a cheeky expression.

### TEMPERAMENT

Lively, high-spirited, self-assured, reliable and fearless. Slightly suspicious of strangers. A watchdog that cannot be bribed, and capable of learning.

### SIZE

**Ideal height at the withers:** Dogs, 52 to 56 cm (20.5 to 22 in); bitches, 50 to 54 cm (19.75 to 21.25 in). Both +/- 2 cm (0.75 in).

**Important proportions:** Height at withers to length of body is 9:10. Compact rather than long. Length of muzzle to length of skull is 4:5

### COAT

Double coat (moderately short, dense): Firm and fitting. Topcoat thick and shiny. Undercoat thick, black, brown or grey. It is undesirable for the undercoat to be visible through the topcoat. Slightly wavy coat only on withers and back just tolerated, but not desirable.

### COLOUR

Basic colour is black or Havana brown with reddish brown-and-white markings as symmetrical as possible. Small reddish brown spots over eyes. Reddish brown markings on cheeks, chest (left and right in the region of the shoulder joint) and on legs. The reddish brown on the latter must invariably be located between the black or Havana brown and the white.

#### **White markings:**

- Distinct white blaze that runs from the skull without break over the bridge of the nose and can reach totally or partially round the muzzle.

- White from chin, covering throat without break at chest
- White on all four feet
- White on tip of tail
- White spot on nape of neck or half collar tolerated.
- Thin white ring all around neck tolerated but not desirable.

## HEAD

Balanced size in relation to body. Slightly wedge-shaped. **Skull:** Skull fairly flat, broadest between the ears, tapering evenly towards the muzzle. Occiput barely pronounced. Frontal furrow moderately developed. **Stop:** Slightly marked. **Nose:** In black dogs, black, in Havana brown dogs, brown (as dark as possible). **Muzzle:** Medium strength, tapering evenly, but not snipy, with strong lower jaw. Nasal bridge straight. **Lips:** Clean and close-fitting, with black pigmentation in black dogs or with brown pigmentation (as dark as possible) in Havana brown dog. Corner of the mouth not visible. **Jaws/Teeth:** Strong, complete and regular scissors bite. Pincer bite tolerated. One missing PM1 or double PM1 (premolar 1) and missing M3 (molars) tolerated. **Cheeks:** Barely pronounced. **Eyes:** Rather small, almond-shaped, not protruding. Set slightly oblique towards the nose. Lively expression. Eye colour in black dogs is dark brown; in Havana brown dogs, eyes lighter brown, but as dark as possible. Eyelids close fitting. Eye rims black or brown (as dark as possible) corresponding to the colour of the coat. **Ears:** Broad, triangular shaped ears with slightly rounded tips, set on fairly high. In repose, they hang down flat and close to the cheeks. When alert, they raise at the base and turn forward so that the head and ears, seen from above, form a marked triangle.

## NECK

Rather short, strong and clean.

## FOREQUARTERS

Well muscled; seen from front forelegs straight and parallel; standing not too close. **Shoulder:** Shoulder blade long and sloping. **Upper arm:** Same length or only slightly shorter than shoulder blade. Angle with shoulder blade not too blunt. **Elbows:** Close fitting. **Forearm:** Straight, lean. **Pastern:** Seen from front in straight continuation of the forearm. Seen from the side, set at a very light angle. **Forefeet:** Short, arched, tight toes; solid pads.

## BODY

Compact, strong. **Back:** Moderately long, firm and straight. **Loins:** Short and well muscled. **Croup:** Relatively short, running in flat continuation of the topline. **Chest:** Broad, deep, reaching to the elbows, with definite forechest. Sternum reaching sufficiently far back. Rib cage round-oval in diameter. **Underline/belly:** Only slight tuck-up.

## HINDQUARTERS

Well muscled. Seen from rear, hind legs straight and parallel, standing not too close. The typical angulations result in relatively straight hindquarters. **Upper thigh:** Fairly long, forming a relatively small angle to the hip bone. **Lower thigh:** Equally long or only slightly shorter than the upper thigh. Lean and well muscled. **Hock joint:** Set relatively high. **Hock:** Set vertical and parallel, slightly longer than the front pastern, turning neither in nor out. Dewclaws may or may not be present. **Hind feet:** Short, arched, tight toes; solid pads.

## TAIL

Set on high, strong, of medium length, densely coated. Hair slightly longer on underside. In movement carried tightly curled over the croup, carried sideways or in centre. In repose, pendent tail in various shapes tolerated.

## GAIT

Good rear drive, well reaching stride in front. Seen from either front or rear, limbs move in a straight line when trotting.

## **FAULTS**

Any departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

- Lack of typical sex-specific appearance
- Too long or unbalanced in body
- Bone fine or too coarse
- Insufficient musculature
- Very heavy or very light in head
- Skull round
- Stop too defined
- Muzzle too long, too short, narrow or pointed; nasal bridge not straight
- Lips too developed
- Absence of teeth other than 2 PM1 (premolars 1)
- Cheeks too prominent
- Eyes round, protruding or light
- Ears too small, too large, standing off; set on too high or too low
- Swayback, roach back
- Croup overbuilt or falling away
- Belly tucked up
- Chest flat or barrel-shaped; lack of forechest; sternum too short
- Loosely rolled tail, its tip reaching at least the base of the tail
- Insufficient angulation of forequarters and hindquarters
- Down on pastern
- Feet longish oval (hare-feet), splay feet
- Undercoat visible through topcoat
- Faults in markings:
  - Black ticks on white
  - Broken blaze
  - Broad white collar around the whole neck
  - Divided white on chest
  - White reaching distinctly above pastern ("boots")
  - Absence of white on feet and tip of tail
- Over- or undersize regarding tolerance
- Insecure behaviour, absence of liveliness, slight sharpness

## **DISQUALIFICATIONS**

- Aggressive or overly shy
- Overshot or undershot mouth
- Entropion, ectropion
- Walleye
- Sickie tail (its tip not reaching the base of the tail), definitely pendent tail; kink tail.
- Other than double coat (moderately short, dense)
- Other than tricoloured coat
- Other than black or Havana brown main colour





## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# BEAUCERON

RECOGNIZED: N/A

Effective: January 2015

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The 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 chiselled 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 dogs optimum height is 67 cm (26.25 in), but with an acceptable range of 65 to 70 cm (25.5 to 27.5 in). The bitches optimum height is 65 cm (25.5 in), with an acceptable range of 61 to 68 cm (24 to 26.75 in).

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 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 (0.4 to 0.6 in) greater for dogs, and 1.5 to 2 cm (0.6 to .075 in) for the bitches.

### 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 (1.25 to 1.5 in) 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 topcoat.

### COLOUR

**Black and 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 one-third 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 cm<sup>2</sup> (1 in<sup>2</sup>).

## HEAD

The head is well chiselled 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 scissors 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.

## HINDQUARTERS

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 one-quarter 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 aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

## **DISQUALIFICATIONS**

- 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 three 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)





## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# BERGAMASCO SHEPHERD DOG

RECOGNIZED: N/A

Effective: January 2023

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The Bergamasco is an old breed of a herding dog widespread across the Italian Alpine and pre-Alpine regions; a particularly large number of the breed could be found in the valleys of the Bergamo region where sheep breeding was carried out on a large scale. The dog was essential in aiding shepherds driving herds during the seasonal movement between the pastures of the Alpine regions and plains of the Po Valley. The Bergamasco Shepherd Dog was primarily used for cattle and started working with sheep later as agricultural needs changed. The Bergamasco is a tending dog. The first dogs were registered with the Italian Stud Book in 1891 and the first Bergamasco Shepherd standard was drafted in Italy in 1958.

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Bergamasco Shepherd Dog is a medium-sized dog of rustic appearance with an abundant coat covering all parts of the body; powerfully constructed but very well proportioned. Conformation is that of a dog of medium proportions (mesomorphic) the body is square in outline, with well-balanced proportions in relation to size and the profiles of the head and body.

### TEMPERAMENT

The function of the Bergamasco Shepherd Dog is to drive and tend herds and livestock in general, a task for which it is well-suited. While they can be protective, they are not livestock guardians. The breed is alert, attentive, intelligent, patient and can be reserved with strangers. The breed is a vigilant guard and an excellent companion, known to establish a close relationship with people. The breed must never be aggressive or fearful, although a slight natural diffidence is mentioned as a somewhat typical characteristic of some sheepdogs.

### SIZE

**Ideal height at the withers:** Dogs, 60 cm (23.5 in); bitches, 56 cm (22 in)

Dogs or bitches 2 cm (0.75 in) over or under ideal height are to be severely faulted.

**Weight:** Dogs, 32 to 38 kg (70.5 to 83.75 lb); bitches, 26 to 32 kg (57.25 to 70.5 lb)

**Important proportions:** The length of the body from the point of the point of shoulder to point of buttocks is equal to the height at the withers (i.e., square). The length of the head is four-tenths of the height at the withers. The depth of chest must be 50% of the height at the withers.

### COAT

**Hair:** Very abundant and very long, varies depending on the region of the body. Rather harsh (similar to goat hair) with wavy flocks on the front part of the body, while from the middle of the chest region to the rear it is woolly and forms broad strands of varied length depending on the age of the dog; the woolly coat does not moult and traps the undercoat which is quite long and soft forming mats of felted hair which are very protective. The flocks start from the topline falling down the sides of the body. The hair on the head is less harsh and falls over the face.

The hair on the ears is slightly wavy and soft forming pointed fringes at the tip. The hair on the limbs must be evenly distributed all over with soft flocks on the forelegs and matted flock on the hind legs. The coat is soft in puppies and the flocks begin to form at 12 to 15 months. Their length depends on the age hence young dogs must not be penalized for a coat that has not yet lengthened.

In old dogs, too thick and long a coat that hampers normal movement and compromises the dog's welfare should be avoided. The coat should be cared for and kept clean; avoiding in particular matted flocks on the beard, muzzle and ears flaps.

**Skin:** Tight and fine all over the body, especially on the ears and forequarters. Neck without dewlap and head without wrinkles. Colour of the lip and eye rims must be black.

## COLOUR

Solid grey or with grey patches of all possible shades of grey. A solid black coat is allowed providing the black is really opaque. Tinges of Isabella and light fawn permitted at the lower part of flocks (as a result of discoloration of old hair, not as a base colour).

## HEAD

The head is covered with abundant hair, making it appear large. Head shape with parallel planes proportionate in relation to the body. The length of the muzzle equals that of the skull. The skin must not be thick but tight without wrinkles. **Skull:** Medium-sized with top of skull tending towards flat, the upper longitudinal planes of the skull and the muzzle are parallel. The width must be less than half the total length of the head. The frontal region is well developed lengthwise and widthwise. The brow arches are well defined. The median frontal furrow (metopic suture) is marked; the occipital crest is well defined and pronounced. **Stop:** The stop is sloping, but accentuated due to the marked bones of the nose and forehead, the frontal protuberances and the superciliary arches. **Nose:** In line with the muzzle with curved upper profile, wide open nostrils, moist and large. Viewed in profile it must not appear protruding. The colour of the nose leather is black. **Muzzle:** Tapers progressively towards the nose with lateral surfaces converging slightly, so that the muzzle itself is not pointed but truncated, hence the front face of the muzzle is rather flat. Its length is the same as that of the skull. The muzzle measured at the mid-point, the width is approximately half of the muzzle's length. The depth of the muzzle must not be less than half of the muzzle's length. The upper profile of the muzzle is straight and the lower jaw, not the lip, defines the lower part of the muzzle. Due to this conformation, the lip commissure is not pendulous. The commissure of the lip joins up with an imaginary vertical line drawn down from the outer corner of the eye. The lower profile of the jaw is almost straight. **Lips:** Thin and divided under the nose forming a long arc one third of a circle; they are slightly developed hence only just covering the teeth. The lip rims are well pigmented. **Jaws/teeth:** Upper and lower jaws well developed; the lower jaw broad. Teeth are white, complete in number and well developed; incisors in regular alignment. Scissors bite. **Cheeks:** Not very prominent. **Eyes:** Rather large; neither bulging nor sunken, iris of a darker or lighter shade of chestnut colour depending on the colour of the coat. They are set forward looking; expression is soft, serene and attentive. The shape of the rim of the eyelid is slightly oval and the angle of the eyelid towards the horizontal is only slightly oblique. The eyelids fit tightly over the eye, with black-pigmented rims; eyelashes are particularly long so that they can lift the hair falling from the forehead over the eyes. **Ears:** Semi-drop ears set high – i.e., the last two thirds of the ear leather is pendant. When the dog is alert, the ear lifts slightly at the base. Triangular shape. Length is between 11 to 13 cm (4.25 to 5 in), width 6.5 to 8 cm (2.5 to 3.75 in). The base is wide, extending at the back to the point where the head sets into the neck, while frontally reaching to the middle of the skull. The tip is slightly rounded.

## NECK

Upper profile is slightly convex. The neck is slightly shorter than the head. The skin is never loose, consequently always without dewlap. Hair must be thick.

## FOREQUARTERS

Legs are straight when viewed from the front and side and well proportioned in relation to the size of the dog. **Shoulder:** Strong and massive. Long and set obliquely. Muscles must always be well developed. **Upper arm:** Well muscled, strong in bone and well angulated. The angle formed by the scapula and upper arm ranges between 105° and 125°. **Elbow:** Set on a plane parallel to the median plane of the body. The point of the elbow is located on an imaginary vertical line lowered from the back end of the scapula. The angle between upper arm and forearm ranges from 150° to 155°. The hair hanging down from the elbows should be abundant, long and thick, tending to flocks. **Forearm:** Straight; at least as long as the upper arm. Well-developed muscles and bone. **Carpus (wrist):** In a straight line extending from the forearm; mobile and lean with the pisiform bone clearly protruding. **Metacarpus (pastern):** Lean and mobile. Seen from the front, must be placed on the same vertical plane as the forearm. Viewed in profile has a slight inclination from the back to the front. **Forefeet:** Oval-shaped, arched with tight toes. Strong nails, curved and well pigmented and of dark colour, hard pads.

## BODY

**Chest:** Must be broad and deep, reaching to the elbows. **Withers:** Prominent and long, well defined. **Back:** Straight, well-muscled and of good width. **Loin:** Slightly convex, firmly joining the back and the croup. Loin decidedly shorter than the back (measured from the loin to the withers). The width of the loin is nearly the same as its length; muscles of the whole region are well developed. **Croup:** Broad, strong, well muscled and slanting, with an inclination of approximately 30° below the horizontal. **Underline/belly:** The lower profile of the belly is only slightly tucked up. The hollowness in the flanks is minimal.

## HINDQUARTERS

Hindquarters in proportion to the size of the dog. Straight limbs seen from behind. **Thigh:** Long, broad, well muscled with a slightly convex rear profile. The coxo-femoral angle (between pelvis and upper thigh) ranges between 100° and 105°. **Stifle (knee):** Perfectly in line with the limb, neither turned in nor out. **Lower thigh:** Strong bone, lean muscles with marked leg groove. Inclination below the horizontal is about 55°. **Hock:** Joint well angulated. **Metatarsus (rear pastern):** Strong, perpendicular to the ground. **Hind feet:** Oval-shaped, arched with tight toes. Strong nails, curved and well pigmented, dark in colour, hard pads.

## TAIL

Set on the lower third of the croup, thick and strong at the root, it gradually tapers towards the tip. Covered with slightly wavy goat-like hair. Length of tail often reaches the hock when the dog is standing; preferably it should be shorter. At rest the tail is carried sabre fashion – i.e., pendant in the top two-thirds, with the end third slightly curved. In action the dog waves his tail flag-like laterally.

## GAIT

Free with long stride. The preferred gait is a rather extended trot, maintained for quite long periods. Due to his conformation, the dog can easily go into an ordinary gallop, which can be maintained for a relatively long period of time.

## FAULTS

Any departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

- Lack of sexual dimorphism (i.e., bitchy dogs or doggy bitches)
- Disproportionate head – small or too large
- Lack of type

**Severe Faults:**

- Head planes convergent or divergent
- Nose partially depigmented
- Eyes with heterochromia of the iris, bilateral or monolateral (part of the iris blue), bulging or sunken, oval and slanting eyes
- More than one missing tooth (except for PM1 and M3)
- Tail set too high or low, carried too high over the back or hanging loosely
- Coat with no differentiation between woolly and goat-like hair, soft all over, short on the forelegs and on the muzzle, sparse hair on the tail, too thick and long so as to compromise the function of the dog
- Colour other than permitted in the standard
- Gait that is ambling or pacing continually.
- Size that is over or under the margins indicated by the standard.

**DISQUALIFICATIONS**

- Aggressive or overly shy dogs
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities
- Muzzle (foreface) definitely convex (roman nose) or concave
- Total depigmentation of the nose, lips or eye rims
- Walleyed (mono or bilateral totally depigmented iris), small eye (microphthalmia) or cross-eyed
- Bite: Overshot by more than 0.75 cm (0.25 in) or undershot
- Tailless or stump tail; tail carried rolled over the back
- White coat colour on more than one-fifth the total body



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# BORDER COLLIE

RECOGNIZED: N/A

Effective: January 2015

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

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, 53 cm (21 in); bitches, slightly less

### 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), hind legs 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 scissors 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, hind legs 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 aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

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



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# LANCASHIRE HEELER

RECOGNIZED: N/A

Effective: July 2026

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN AND 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 the withers:** Dogs, 30 cm (12 in); bitches, 25 cm (10 in)

### COAT

Fine undercoat is covered throughout by a weather-resistant, short, thick, hard, flat topcoat. Topcoat slightly longer on neck. Undercoat should not show through 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 forechest, 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. Scissors bite, jaws strong with a perfect regular and complete scissors 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 in) 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 cow-hocked. **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 aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

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



## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# PUMI

RECOGNIZED: N/A

Effective: July 2024

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The Pumi came into being during the 17th to the 18th century in Hungary by crossbreeding the primitive Puli with imported German and French dogs of terrier type with prick ears. It has been recognized as an independent breed since the beginning of the 20th century. Suitable for herding larger types of animals. His scenting ability is well developed for hunting of rodents and vermin. Needs plenty of exercise. Is an excellent companion.

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Pumi is a cheerful, medium-sized herding dog of terrier type. His terrier character is most obvious in his head. The foreface is elongated and the upper third of the otherwise prick ears are bending forward. The conformation is square. Because of his constant alertness, his neck carriage is higher than normal. The wavy coat of medium length forms curls. The Pumi can have various colours but must always be of one solid colour.

### TEMPERAMENT

This rather lively herding dog has an active temperament. Extremely bold, a little suspicious towards strangers. As a result of his sensible behaviour, his liveliness and his expressiveness, he attracts attention always and everywhere. The Pumi is rather noisy. His whole appearance embodies thirst for action and because of his restlessness and activity, all parts of his body are constantly on the move. He is always active and ready for duty. A shy or phlegmatic behaviour are atypical of the breed.

### SIZE

**Height at the withers:** Dogs, 41 to 47 cm (16.25 to 18.5 in); ideal height, 43 to 45 cm (17 to 17.75 in)  
Bitches, 38 to 44 cm (15 to 17.25 in); ideal height, 40 to 42 cm (15.75 to 16.5 in)

**Weight:** Dogs, 10 to 15 kg (22 to 33 lb); ideal weight, 12 to 13 kg (26.5 to 28.75 lb)  
Bitches, 8 to 13 kg (17.75 to 28.75 lb); ideal weight, 10 to 11 kg (22 to 24.25 lb)

*Important Proportions:* The body length, measured from prosternum to buttock, is 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. The length of the neck is equal to the length of the head and is 45% of the height at the withers.

### COAT

The wavy, curly coat forms tufts and is never smooth or corded. The coat has an average length of 4 to 7 cm (1.5 to 2.75 in), growing to smaller or larger tufts; it is elastic, shaggy and dense. It consists of a strong, but not coarse, topcoat and a soft undercoat. The dense, wiry protective hairs of medium length on the ears grow upwards. The eyes and the foreface are free of long hair. The desired coat preparation is achieved by hand trimming. Smaller

corrections, done with scissors on head and legs, are permissible. Preparing the entire coat with scissors is not desirable.

## COLOUR

Grey in various shades (normally, the colour at birth is black, turning grey with time), black, fawn (fakó) in primary colours: red, yellow, cream (a trace of black or grey and a distinct mask are desirable) or pure white. A white mark on the chest less than 3 cm (1.25 in) in diameter and/or a white line on the toes are not faulty. The coat colour must always be intense and solid.

## HEAD

Relatively long and narrow. The shape of the head is characterised by the elongated muzzle. **Skull:** The top of the head is relatively broad and domed. The long forehead is only slightly domed and flat seen from the side. The superciliary ridges are moderately developed. Stop is barely perceptible, the forehead running an almost straight line between the eyebrows towards the bridge of the nose. Nose is narrow, bluntly cut off. Always black in all coat colours. **Muzzle:** The bridge of the nose is straight. The elongated facial region tapers towards the nose but is never pointed. Lips are tight-fitting to the teeth, dark pigmented. Strong jaws. The strong, well-developed teeth are white. Scissors bite. **Cheeks** are well muscled. **Eyes** are set moderately wide apart, slightly oblique. Medium-sized oval, dark brown, deep-set eyes. The expression is lively and intelligent. The eyelids are tight and close-fitting to the eyeballs and well pigmented. The upright **ears** are set on high, the upper third of the ears bending forward. The medium-sized, even ears show a reverse V-shape. The ears are mobile and alert, moving quickly in reaction to any stimulation.

## NECK

Of medium length, a little arched, well muscled, forming an angle of 50 to 55° to the horizontal. The skin at the throat is tight, dry, without folds.

## FOREQUARTERS

The front legs, placed under the forechest, support the body like pillars. They are vertical, parallel and not too wide apart. The **shoulder blade** is long and a little steep. Angle to the horizontal is approximately 55°. The points of the shoulder blades are placed vertically above the deepest point of the brisket. **Upper arm** is short and well muscled. The shoulder blade and the upper arm form an angle of 100 to 110°. **Elbows** are close-fitting to the body. Forearm is long and lean. **Pasterns** are very slightly sloped. Forefeet are rounded cat-feet with well-knit toes. The pads are springy. Nails are strong, black or slate grey.

## BODY

Well-developed muscles, dry, exceptionally taut and tough. The breed is particularly lean and of harmonious appearance. Skin is without folds, strongly pigmented. The areas of bare skin are black or slate grey. **Topline** is straight. Withers are pronounced, long, sloping towards rear. **Back** is short, straight and taut. **Loins** are short, firmly coupled, straight. Croup is short, slightly sloping, of medium breadth. The forechest is straight, not broad, rather deep. Ribs slightly arched, rather flat. The **brisket** is deep, long and reaches to the elbows. Underline and belly are tight, tucked up towards rear.

## HINDQUARTERS

The **hind legs** are very strong. Seen from the side, they are somewhat extended beyond the rear. Seen from behind, the legs are parallel, straight, standing neither too narrow nor too wide apart. Upper thigh is muscular, long, sloping to the rear. **Stifles** are on the same level as the elbows. Lower thigh is long, dry. The **hock** is lean with clean outlines. Metatarsus (rear pastern) is short, very slightly sloped. Hind feet like forefeet.

## **TAIL**

The high-set tail forms a wide circle above the croup. The hair on the underside of the tail is 7 to 12 cm (2.75 to 4.75 in) long, wiry standing apart, with little undercoat. A natural stumpy tail or tail docking are faults.

## **GAIT**

Quite lively and spirited. Stride short, energetic, dynamic and harmonious. The posture is bold and proud. The trot is light-footed and harmonious; the dog puts his hind feet exactly into the footprints of the forefeet.

## **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 proportions to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog.

- Round head
- Foreface shorter than 40% of the total length of head
- Strongly defined stop
- A natural stumpy tail or docked tail

## **DISQUALIFICATIONS**

- One or more missing of the following teeth: incisors, canines, premolars 2-4, molars 1-2, more than two missing premolar 1. The molars 3 are disregarded.
- Overshot or undershot mouth, wry mouth
- Upright/prick ears, hanging or carried asymmetrically
- Short smooth coat. Long, very matted, sticking out or dull coat
- Chocolate coloured, multiple-colour pattern or patches – e.g., black-and-tan pattern, piebald, particoloured
- Size deviating from the height limits: Dogs under 41 cm (16 in) or over 47 cm (18.5 in) at the withers; bitches under 38 cm (15 in) or over 44 cm (17.5 in) at the withers





## GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

# SWEDISH LAPPHUND

RECOGNIZED: N/A

Effective: January 2026

*The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.*

### ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The Swedish Lapphund has been known in the Nordic area for centuries. It is a Nordic Spitz used in the past for reindeer herding, hunting and as a watchdog by the nomadic Laplanders. Nowadays it is mainly kept as a versatile companion dog.

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

Typical Spitz dog of slightly less than medium size and with proud head carriage.

### TEMPERAMENT

Lively, alert, kind and affectionate. The Lapphund is very receptive, attentive and willing to work. Its abilities as a good herding dog made it very useful in the reindeer trade. It is very versatile, suitable for obedience training, agility, herding, tracking, etc. It is easy to train, full of endurance and toughness.

### SIZE

**Height at the withers:** Dogs, 48 cm (19 in); bitches, 43 cm (17 in). Allowance for +/- 3 cm (1.25 in).

### COAT

Profuse double coat. Hair standing straight out from body, undercoat dense and thick. Short hair on head and on front of legs. Longer hair on brisket, backside of legs and on tail. Bushy, long and dense on tail. Forming a ruff round the neck. The coat is weather resistant.

### COLOUR

Usually solid black; bronzing is typical as more or less "bear-brown" shades. White on chest, on feet and tip of tail is permissible.

### HEAD

**Skull:** Slightly longer than broad; forehead rounded and occiput not clearly defined. **Stop:** Very well marked. **Nose:** Preferably charcoal black, very dark or in harmony with coat colour. **Muzzle:** A little more than one-third the length of the head. Foreface strong, tapering evenly towards tip of nose. Nose bridge straight. **Lips:** Close-fitting. Palate and lips strongly pigmented. **Jaws/Teeth:** Scissors bite with evenly set and well-developed teeth. **Eyes:** Set well apart, almost horizontal, round, fairly big, but not protruding. Brown, preferably dark brown and full of expression. Rims strongly pigmented. **Ears:** Triangular, broad at base, small, pricked, tips slightly rounded. Set well apart and very mobile. Tipped ears are undesirable but not a disqualifying fault.

### NECK

Medium length, clean-cut and powerful.

## FOREQUARTERS

Forequarters should be sufficiently angulated at shoulders and elbows to provide good reach. **Shoulder:** Shoulder blade well laid back. **Elbow:** Fitting close to chest. **Forearm:** Straight, strong and parallel, standing and moving. **Metacarpus/Pastern:** Sufficiently slanting. **Forefeet:** Strong, oval, with tightly knit toes, hardy and elastic padding; well covered with fur also between pads. Nails and pads strongly pigmented.

## BODY

Rectangular body shape. Well put together, slightly longer than height at withers. **Back:** Level, strong, muscular and springy. **Loin:** Short and broad. **Croup:** Proportionally long and broad, slightly sloping and well-muscled. **Chest:** Rather deep reaching to elbow. Rib cage proportionally long and oval, with well-developed last ribs. Forechest well-developed; well-defined breastbone. **Underline and belly:** Belly slightly tucked up.

## HINDQUARTERS

Well angulated, but not exaggerated, in stifle and hock joint. **Thigh:** Muscular. **Hock joint:** Low set to give power of propulsion. **Metatarsus/Pastern:** Dewclaws permissible. **Hind feet:** As forefeet.

## TAIL

Rather high set, reaching to hock joint when extended. Carried curled over back when the dog is moving.

## GAIT

Light and springy, covering ground, parallel with drive.

## FAULTS

Any departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

## DISQUALIFICATIONS

- Aggressive or overly shy dogs
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities
- Lacking in any of the essential physical characteristics of breed type