GROUP II: HOUNDS

HANOVERIAN SCENTHOUND

RECOGNIZED: N/A

Effective: January 1, 2027

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

German blood tracking for searching for wounded big game, known as a “Scenthound”. In accordance with his hunting requirements as a highly specialized hunting dog for the tracking of wounded game, the Hanoverian Scenthound has to display all by the FCI-recognized breed club’s required hunting abilities, endurance, potential the working trials and be useful for the more difficult tracking of game.

GENERAL APPEARANCE

Medium size, well-proportioned and powerful. Well-set strongly muscled fore and hind limbs qualify him for tireless work. The body, slightly longer than tall and a little raised at the rear, is supported by rather short limbs proportioned so as not to hinder the work of the nose to the ground and are characteristic of the type. The broad, deep chest provides ample room for the lungs and enables long, strenuous chases. The slightly wrinkled forehead and the clear dark eyes produce the serious expression typical of the Hannoverscher Schweißhund. Also typical for the breed is the red primary colour of the coat, which can vary from a pale fawn colour to a dark brindle, appearing almost black.

TEMPERAMENT

Calm and assured temperament, at the same time sensitive with his handler, reserved towards strangers. High capabilities of concentration in any tracking work.

SIZE

Height at the withers: Dogs, 50 to 55 cm (19.75 to 21.75 in); bitches, 48 to 53 cm (19 to 21 in)
Weight: Dogs, 30 to 40 kg (66.25 to 88.25 lb); bitches, 25 to 35 kg (55 to 77 lb)
No departure from above permitted in either dogs or bitches.

COAT

Hair: Short, thick, coarse to harsh; somewhat longer and coarser on the rear edges of the upper thighs only. Coat on tail is dense and coarse, a little longer and coarser on the underside. ***Skin:*** Thick, rather loose, mostly wrinkled on the head, and occasionally at the throat, too.

COLOUR

Light to dark deer red, more or less intensely brindled, with or without mask. Small white patches on forechest to be tolerated.

HEAD

Forehead slightly wrinkled. ***Skull:*** Broad, increasing in width towards the rear, flatly rounded. Occiput barely pronounced. Seen from the side, superciliary ridges clearly defined. ***Stop:*** Furrow pronounced groove especially in males. ***Eyes:*** Slightly almond-shaped, deep-set eyes, the eyelids fit the shape of the eyeball or slightly in a "V"

shape, dark-brown iris. Free of ectropion or entropion. ***Ears:*** Of medium length. Set on high and broad, smooth, hanging close to the head without twist. Bluntly rounded at the tips. ***Nose:*** Broad, mostly black, rarely dark brown. Nose large, broad, nostrils well opened. Bridge of nose slightly arched or almost straight; more arched in males. Gradually narrowing towards forehead. *Important proportion:* Length of bridge of nose to length of head: 0.5 to 1. ***Muzzle:*** Strong, deep, in line with its function to facilitate the flow of odour; length of snout approximately equal to length of skull. Mandible strong. ***Lips:*** Broad and pendulous, well rounded. ***Jaws/teeth:*** Jaws normally developed, very strong, straight, providing all teeth with sufficient room. Complete dentition. Scissors bite. ***Cheeks:*** Strongly muscled and very strong.

NECK

Long and strong, gradually widening towards chest. Skin on throat full and loose, slight dewlap permissible.

FOREQUARTERS

Strong bones. Seen from the side, vertically set under the body and straight. Seen from the front, straight, often standing close. Well in proportion to the body. ***Shoulder:*** Shoulder blade flat and close to the body, strongly muscled, well laid back. ***Upper arm:*** Long. ***Elbow:*** Close to the body and well set back, close to the body. ***Forearm:*** Straight, well-muscled. ***Carpus (wrist):*** Broad, almost straight. ***Metacarpus (pastern):*** Slightly angled, never totally steep. ***Forefeet:*** Strong, round; toes well arched, well knit; pads large and tough; strong nails.

BODY

Important proportion: Length of body to height at withers: 1.4 to 1. ***Topline:*** Long, often slightly overbuilt. ***Withers:*** With normal rise. Base of neck strong. ***Back:*** Strong. ***Loins:*** Broad and pliable with slight arch. ***Croup:*** Broad and long, sloping slightly towards the tail. ***Chest:*** Deep and spacious, deep rather than broad. *Important proportion:* Depth of chest to height at withers: 0.5 to 1. ***Underline/belly:*** In a gradually rising line slightly tucked up.

HINDQUARTERS

Seen from the side, position under the body or slightly standing back. Seen from behind, straight. ***Pelvis:*** Broad and capacious. ***Thigh:*** Strongly muscled. ***Stifle (knee):*** With an angle of more than 120°. ***Lower thigh:*** Straight and lean. ***Hock joint:*** Broad and strong. ***Metatarsus (rear pastern):*** Almost vertical to the ground. ***Hind feet:*** Rounded, well-knit toes.

TAIL

High set-on, medium length and barrow curved. Strong at set-on, gradually tapering towards the tip.

GAIT

Able to move in all gaits, full of drive, flexible, ground covering when galloping. Preferred gaits at work are the walk or the gallop.

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.

- Square build
- Fine bones
- Undershot or overshot bite
- Ectropion, entropion
- Twisted or small ears
- Hindquarters strongly overbuilt
- Swayback or roach back
- Barrel-shaped rib cage
- Strongly curved or thin tail

- Steep or loose shoulders
- Strongly cow-hocked or bandy-legged
- Splayed feet, hare-feet

DISQUALIFICATIONS

- Aggressive or overly shy
- Not recognized coat colour
- Incorrect bites
- Missing teeth
- Tail kinked and/or knotted vertebrae