GROUP V: TOYS

# JAPANESE CHIN

RECOGNIZED: 1910

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.*

**GENERAL APPEARANCE**

That of a lively, high-bred little dog with smart, dainty appearance, compact carriage and profuse coat.

**SIZE**

Ideal height is 20.25 to 28 cm (8 to 11 in), measured at the highest point of the withers. The height equals the body length, measured from the point of the shoulder to the ischium. Ideal weight is 1.75 to 4 kg (4 to 8.75 lb).

**COAT**

Coat profuse, long, straight, rather silky. It should be absolutely free from wave or curl, and not lie too flat, but have a tendency to stand out, especially at the neck, so as to give a thick mane or ruff, which with profuse feathering on thighs and tail gives a very showy appearance.

**COLOUR**

The dogs should be either black and white or red and white. Never black and white with tan points. Tan is defined to include cream to mahogany – i.e., tricolour. The term red includes all shades of sable, lemon and orange, but the brighter and clearer the red the better. The white should be clear white, and the colour, whether black or red, should be evenly distributed patches over the body, cheek and ears. A solid white coat with no markings; or a single marking on the face (clown face) are very serious faults. Among the allowed colours there shall be no preference when judging.

**HEAD**

Should be large for the size of the dog, with broad skull, rounded in front. ***Nose:*** Very short in the muzzle part. The end or nose proper should be wide, with open nostrils, and must be the colour of the dog's markings – i.e., black in black-marked dogs, and red or deep flesh colour in red or lemon-marked dogs. It shall be a disqualification for a black-and-white Japanese Chin to have a nose any other colour than black. ***Eyes:*** Large in size, round in shape, dark in colour, lustrous, soft in expression and set wide apart due to plenty of width across the skull. The eyes should not appear to be protruding, bulging or strained. White showing at the inner corner of each eye is a distinctive breed characteristic that gives the dog a "look of astonishment." On no account, should the breed's distinctive trait, the "look of astonishment" be lost. The amount of white at the inner corner may be up to, but should not exceed, one-third of the total eye surface with one-third being ideal providing overall softness of expression is maintained. More than one-third white at the inner corner is an incorrect "walleye." In adults, the eyes should face forward, not outward toward the side of the skull. Allowance should be made for puppies and young dogs whose skull size and shape may not yet have matured, resulting in an eye position that is not as forward as in the mature dog. Pigment overlaying the white portion of an eye should not be penalized if a proper degree of white is visible in the inner corner of the other eye. ***Ears:*** Small and V-shaped, nicely feathered, set wide apart and high on the head and carried slightly forward. ***Bite:*** The jaw is wide, with sufficient breadth for six lower incisors in a straight line. Width of underjaw is essential to create proper cushion of muzzle, softness of facial

expression and perfect circular symmetry with the broad top skull. A dog with missing teeth should not be penalized, if the jaw is sufficiently wide. A scissors, level or slightly undershot bite is equally acceptable, providing softness of expression is maintained and the lips meet to cover the teeth. A narrow underjaw is a serious fault because it contributes to an incorrect, inverted triangular head shape, and lacks balance with the broad top skull. An overshot mouth, a wry lower jaw, teeth showing or tongue showing are serious faults. The Japanese Chin is very sensitive to oral examination. Judges shall defer to the exhibitor for presentation of the bite. If the exhibitor does not automatically show the bite, or does not do so to the judge's satisfaction, the judge may gently lift the corner of the upper lip to view the lower incisors and the placement of the lower jaw in relation to the upper jaw. Under no circumstances should a judge pry a Chin's mouth open or run a finger across the dog's teeth.

**NECK**
Should be short and moderately thick.

**FOREQUARTERS**
The bones of the legs should be small, giving them a slender appearance, and they should be well feathered.

**BODY**
Should be squarely and compactly built, wide in chest, cobby in shape. The length of the dog's body should be about its height.

**HINDQUARTERS**
Feet small and shaped somewhat long; the dog stands up on its toes somewhat. If feathered, the tufts should never increase in width of the foot, but only its length a trifle.

**TAIL**
Must be well twisted to either right or left from root and carried up over back and flow on opposite side; it should be profusely covered with long hair (ring tails not desirable).

**GAIT**
These dogs should be essentially stylish in movement, lifting the feet high when in action, carrying the tail (which is heavily feathered, proudly curved or plumed) 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.

**DISQUALIFICATIONS**
- In black and whites, a nose any other colour than black
- Any colour, or combination of colours, not listed as allowed

**SCALE OF POINTS**

| | |
|---|---|
| Head and neck | 10 |
| Eyes | 10 |
| Ears | 5 |
| Muzzle | 10 |
| Nose | 5 |
| Body | 15 |
| Tail | 10 |
| Feet and legs | 5 |
| Coat and markings | 15 |
| Action | 5 |
| Size | 10 |
| **TOTAL** | **100** |