



*A Breed Standard is the guideline which describes the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed and ensures that the breed is fit for function with soundness essential. Breeders and judges should at all times be mindful of features which could be detrimental in any way to the health, welfare or soundness of this breed.*

#### **GENERAL APPEARANCE**

Active, compact, short coupled and essentially well balanced, leonine in appearance, proud, dignified bearing; well-knit frame; tail carried well over back. Should always be able to move freely and must not have so much coat as to impede activity or cause distress in hot weather.

#### **CHARACTERISTICS**

Quiet dog; good guard; bluish-black tongue; its distinctive short-striding gait allows it to move freely, never lumbering and with excellent endurance.

#### **TEMPERAMENT**

Independent, loyal, yet aloof.

#### **HEAD & SKULL**

Skull flat, broad; stop not pronounced, well filled out under eyes. Muzzle moderate in length, broad from eyes to end (not pointed at end like a fox). Nose, large and wide in all cases, black with exception of cream and near white in which case a light coloured nose permissible, and in blues and fawns a self-coloured nose.(but black preferable in all cases).

#### **EYES**

Dark, oval shaped, medium sized and clean. A matching coloured eye permissible in blues and fawns. Clean eye, free from entropion, never being penalised for sake of mere size.

## **EARS**

Small, thick, slightly rounded at tip, carried stiffly and wide apart but tilting well forward over eyes and slightly towards each other, giving peculiar characteristic scowling expression of the breed. Scowl never to be achieved by loose wrinkled skin of head.

## **MOUTH**

Teeth strong and level, jaws strong, with a perfect, regular and complete scissor bite, i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws. A solid black mouth including the roof and flews with a bluish black tongue is ideal. However some dilution may be evident in the gums of blues and fawns and this dilution may be more pronounced in creams and whites.

## **NECK**

Strong, full, not short, set well on shoulders and slightly arched. Of sufficient length to carry the head proudly above the topline.

## **FOREQUARTERS**

Shoulders muscular and sloping. Elbows equidistant between withers and ground. Forelegs perfectly straight, with good bone.

## **BODY**

Chest broad and deep. Ribs well sprung but not barrelled. The distance from withers to elbow is equal to the distance from elbow to ground. Back short, level and strong. Loins powerful.

## **HINDQUARTERS**

In profile the foot is directly under the hip joint. Well-developed first and second thigh with only slight bend of stifle. Hocks well let down. From hocks downwards to appear straight, hocks never flexing forward.

## **FEET**

Small, round, cat like, standing well up on toes.

## **TAIL**

Set high, carried well over back.

## **GAIT/MOVEMENT**

Relatively short striding, hind feet not lifting high, appearing to skim the ground in pendulum like action when seen in profile. Forelegs and hindlegs moving parallel to each other and straight forward. Dogs should always be able to move freely and soundly without any sign of distress.

## **COAT**

Either rough or smooth. Any artificial shortening of the coat which alters the natural outline or expression should be penalised with the exception of feet which may be

tidied.

Rough: profuse, abundant, dense, straight and stand-off, but not excessive in length. Outer coat coarse, with soft woolly undercoat. Especially thick round neck forming mane or ruff and with good culottes or breechings on back of thighs.

Smooth: short, double coat, dense, straight, upstanding, not flat, plush-like in texture.

### **COLOUR**

Whole coloured black, red, blue, fawn, cream or white, frequently shaded but not in patches or parti coloured (underpart of tail and back of thighs frequently of a lighter colour).

### **SIZE**

Dogs: 48–56cm (19–22 in) at shoulder Bitches: 46–51 cm (18–20 in) at shoulder

### **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 on health and welfare of the dog and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

### **NOTE**

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



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FCI Standard No. 205 (Group 5)

Fedco 12/2015

Fedco 12/2017

Most recent changes to this Standard has an effective date of 01/01/2018

## **QUALIFICATIONS FOR ADVANCED REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE, Fedco 12/99.**

**Before submitting any application the following requirements must have been fulfilled:**

1. Must be on the Kennel Union Breed Register
2. Be positively identified by microchip
3. Be over twenty four (24) months of age
4. Be a Kennel Union Breed (conformation) Champion
5. The registered name of the dog must contain an Affix (Kennel name)
6. The dog has been x-rayed for Hip Dysplasia aged twelve (12) months or older and been issued with an acceptable Certificate, incorporating its KUSA Registered name and

number together with positive identification details, confirming it has hips graded A1 and A2 and B1

7. A certificate issued by a registered Veterinarian incorporating the KUSA Registered Name and number together with positive identification details confirming there is no luxation of the patella's or clinical signs thereof

8. A certificate issued by a registered Veterinarian, incorporating the KUSA Registered Name and number, together with positive identification details confirming that there are no signs of entropion or that any surgical procedure has been carried out on them.

9. In the case of male dogs a Certificate is issued by a registered Veterinarian, incorporating the KUSA Registered Name and number together with positive identification details confirming that it has both testicles fully descended into the scrotum.

Amendment to ARC, Fedco Dec 2016 effective 01.04.17-

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