



*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:**

Noble and dignified expression, characterised by solemnity, wisdom and power.

**CHARACTERISTICS:**

Possesses in a marked degree every point and characteristic of those dogs which hunt together by scent (Sagaces). Very powerful, standing over more ground than is usual with hounds of other breeds. Skin relatively loose.

**TEMPERAMENT:**

Affectionate, neither quarrelsome with companions nor with other dogs. Somewhat reserved and sensitive.

**HEAD AND SKULL:**

Head narrow in proportion to length and long in proportion to body, tapering slightly from temples to muzzle, thus when viewed from above and in front, having appearance of being flattened at sides and of being nearly equal in width throughout entire length. In profile upper outline of skull is nearly in same plane as that of foreface. Length from end of nose to stop not less than that from stop to back of occipital protuberance. Entire length of head from posterior part of occipital protuberance to end of muzzle 30 cms (12 ins) or more in dogs and 28 cms (11 ins) or more in bitches. Skull is long and narrow, with occipital peak pronounced. Brows not prominent. Sufficient stop. Foreface long, deep and of even width throughout, with square outlines when seen in profile. Head furnished with only a small amount of loose skin. Nostrils large and open. In front, lips fall squarely making a right angle with upper line of foreface.

**EYES:**

Medium size, dark brown or hazel, neither sunken nor prominent, the lids being oval in shape and meeting the cornea - front window of the eye - perfectly without any irregularity in their contour. Eyes should be free from any interference from the eyelashes. Any obvious signs of eye irritation must be heavily penalised. The eyesight of the hound should be unimpeded.

**EARS:**

Thin and soft to the touch, long, set on low and falling in graceful folds, lower parts curling inwards and backwards.

**MOUTH:**

Jaws strong with a perfect, regular and complete scissor bite i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws.

**NECK:**

Long.

**FOREQUARTERS:**

Shoulders muscular and well sloped. Forelegs straight, large, round in bone with elbows well set in. Pasterns strong.

**BODY:**

Ribs well sprung, chest well let down between forelegs forming a deep keel. Back and loins strong, the latter deep and slightly arched.

**HINDQUARTERS:**

Thighs and second thighs very muscular. Hocks well let down, bent and squarely set.

**FEET:**

Strong and well knuckled up.

**TAIL:**

Stern. Long, thick, tapering to a point, set high with moderate amount of hair underneath. Carried scimitar-fashion but not curled over back or corkscrew any time. When moving carried high.

**GAIT/MOVEMENT:**

Elastic, swinging free.

**COAT:**

Smooth, short and weatherproof.

**COLOUR:**

Black and tan, liver and tan and red. Darker colours sometimes interspersed with lighter or badger-coloured hair and sometimes flecked with white. Small amount of white permissible on chest, feet and tip of tail.

**SIZE:**

Height of adult Dogs: 66 cm (26 in) Bitches: 61 cm (24 in). Dogs usually vary from 63 - 69 cm (25 - 27 in) Bitches from 58 - 63 cm (23 - 25 in).

Mean average weight of adult Dogs in fair condition 41 kg (90 lb) Bitches 36 kg (80 lb). Dogs attain the weight of 50 kg (110 lb)

Bitches 45.5 kg (100 lb).

Hounds of the maximum height and weight preferred, providing that quality, proportion and balance combine.

**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 the health and welfare of the dog and on the dogs ability to perform its traditional work.

**NOTE:**

- Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.
- Only clinically and functionally healthy dogs with breed typical conformation should be used for breeding.



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Most recent changes to this Standard has an effective date of 01/01/2020