



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

Free moving, active, balanced and of great substance in small compass. General outline oblong, not square.

CHARACTERISTICS

Sturdy, game and workmanlike.

TEMPERAMENT

Alert and fearless but of friendly disposition.

HEAD & SKULL

Skull slightly domed and wide between ears. Cheek bones not prominent. Punishing square jaw, powerful and long. Nose black.

EYES

Dark, well set, round, of medium size. Dark, pigmented eye rims preferred but unpigmented tolerated.

EARS

Medium sized, slightly rounded at tip and carried at side of cheek.

MOUTH

Teeth level and strong with canines fitting well into each other and long for size of dog. Jaws strong with regular scissor bite, i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws.

NECK

Fairly long, thick and muscular on well laid shoulders.

FOREQUARTERS

Forelegs short, strong and as straight as possible consistent with chest being well let down. Point of shoulder in line with point of elbow which should be close to side of chest.

BODY

Medium in length, level and flexible with ribs well sprung. Chest broad and deep, well let down between forelegs.

HINDQUARTERS

Notably powerful for size of dog. Thighs deep and muscular with well bent stifle. Hocks strong, well bent and parallel to each other.

FEET

Round and cat like with thick pads. Feet pointing directly forward.

TAIL

Previously customarily docked.

Docked: Medium length. Thick with a rounded tip. Set in line with back and carried erect. Quarters should protrude beyond set of tail.

Undocked: Medium length of tail to give a general balance to the dog. Thick at root and tapering towards tip. Ideally carried erect. But not excessively over the back, and with no curl or twist. Quarters should protrude beyond set of tail.

[*refer note below]

GAIT / MOVEMENT

Brisk and vigorous with plenty of drive.

COAT

Long, hard and wiry topcoat with weather resistant undercoat.

COLOUR

All white or white with lemon, brown, blue or badger pied markings on head and ears. Much black and heavy ticking undesirable.

SIZE

Height should not exceed 31 cm (12 in) at shoulder. Ideal weight: Dogs: approx. 9 kg (20 lb); Bitches: approx. 8 kg (18 lb). General conformation, overall balance, type and substance are main criteria.

FAULTS

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault 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.

***Regardless of the provisions of the current KUSA-adopted standard, docked and formerly docked breeds may be shown at all FCI- and KUSA-licensed shows in South Africa, whether their tails are docked, or natural. Under no circumstances are judges**

permitted to discriminate against exhibits on the grounds of docked, or natural tails and equal consideration for awards must be given to either. (Fedco 12/2017 amended/DR 01/2017)



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Fedco 06/2016 & 06/2017

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

[Click here to download the PDF version of the official KUSA breed standard.](#)

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