



General Appearance : The head is of the specific “braccoid” type (Prism shaped head, ears pointing downward, muzzle as wide at the base as at the end, concave forehead, long and floating lips, the upper lip falling below the lower jaw with fairly marked St-Hubert like characteristics. It must emphasize, as a whole, a very great nobility. Its massive and powerful characteristic should not give an impression of excessive heaviness. It must always be in harmony with the body.

Head:

Skull Region - Skull is long and broad, the upper part bending in the shape of a basket handle. Pronounced occiput; axes of skull and muzzle slightly divergent. Not too many folds on the forehead, but marks on the eyes.

Stop - Very pronounced stop.

Facial region:

Muzzle - Longer than skull dimension. Wide and square, foreface straight or slightly aquiline (bent forward - Roman nose)

Nose - Completely black well developed, flexible. Wide open nostrils.

Lips - Very developed, never floating. Upper lips covering the lower jaw closely; corner of the lips slightly open.

Cheeks - Lean, zygomatic arches not prominent. Thick, loose skin; well defined folds starting at a line under and at the back of the eye, to the start of the dewlap.

Jaws - Powerful, tightly closed.

Teeth - Strong, complete and regularly set with scissors bite, i.e. the back sides of the upper incisors are in close contact with the front face of the lower incisors; teeth squarely implanted into the jaws, pincer (level) bite accepted; absence of one or two premolars (PM1 or PM2) tolerated. The Molars M3 are not taken into consideration.

Eyes, eyelids, expression - Dark or lighter brown corresponding to the color of the coat, slightly oval, medium size, soft expression; rims of eyelids well pigmented. The lower eyelids are slightly falling, showing a slightly apparent conjunctive red.

Ears - Set on below the eye level and towards the back of skull, never attached in their greatest width; in length, reaching at least to the tip of the nose; ear conch not prominent; leathers narrow, drooping, folded and twisted at their tips, supple and covered with fine hair. Ears widen toward the middle and narrow in the lower part. They are heavy, curly and slightly folded.

Neck - Long, broad, powerful, proportional to the length of the body. At rest, it is held at a 45° to horizontal. The neckline breaks away clearly off the fore-quarter.

Dewlap - At the neck, the skin is loose and forms well defined dewlaps.

Body

Top Line - All together, the neck, back, rump and tail should form a harmonious and firm outline.

Shoulder - Normally set, without breaking the harmony of the top line.

Back - Not too long, proportional to the height. Broad, powerful, compact, straight, flexible without flabbiness.

Loin - Vigorous, broad, solid, muscular and supple.

Rump - Slightly inclined, elongated; back merging smoothly with the rump; not higher than the withers.

Tail - (Stern) Set in prolongation of the rump, it is strong and of medium length, elegant tapered at its extremity which forms a slight upward curve; at rest or in slow gaits, it hangs naturally without a distinctive curve; when the dog is more attentive or is moving faster, it is carried higher than the back line, but never falling over the back or curled up; well covered with hair without any coarse hair underneath (brush tail).

Breast - The breast piece must be open well and in direct relationship to the width of the chest.

Chest - Deeper than wide, well let down and reaching at least the point of the elbow, thoracic cage carried well back, with slightly sprung ribs. Its depth is approximately 2/3 of the total body length.

In summary, the chest must be high, broad, a little convex and long without altering the general harmony of the subject.

Underline - Belly (abdomen) slightly tucked up towards hindquarters. From the sternum towards the hind quarters in a gracious and harmonious curve, without break. The sides are full. The belly should not be descending nor slim nor narrow.

Legs

Forelimbs

Overall picture - Seen on a whole the forelegs are very muscular, large bone structure, without heaviness; seen in profile, forelegs vertical; seen from the front, straight and parallel; forefeet pointing straight ahead.

Shoulders - Shoulder blades long and oblique, muscled and well attached to the chest wall. Ideal angle of the scapularhumeral is at the most 50° off the horizontal plane.

Upper Arm - A little longer than the shoulder blade oblique close to the body and muscular without heaviness.

Elbows - Naturally placed against the thoracic wall.

Forearm - Seen in profile, the arm is vertical, large in bone and muscular.

Carpal Joint (wrist) - Broad, robust, strongly fastened tendons.

Pasterns (metacarpus) - Relatively short; seen from front, in a vertical line of the forearm; seen in a profile, slightly inclined.

Feet - Of roundish shape; toes tight; pads rough and hard; nails solid and colored according to color of coat. Toes tightly set together and well arched.

Posture - The front legs sit squarely on the ground. As seen from the front and from the back, they are vertical and parallel.

Hindquarters

Overall picture - The back legs are very muscular and large in bone. More powerful than the forequarters, they must show a harmonious relation to the forequarters; in the body axis, neither out or in.

Upper Thighs - Long, oblique, strongly muscled, without being over done, large in bone. Angle of coxal-femoral articulation: about 110 degrees.

Stifles - Neither turned in or out. Angle of the femoral tibial articulation about 120 degrees.

Lower thighs - Relatively long compared to the thigh. Long, lean, muscles and tendons apparent

Hock (metatarsals) - The tip of the hock (calcaneum) is quite visible. The angle must be open in such way that the shank is vertical from the tip of the hock to the ground line. The hock must show an average arc, neither too strong nor too small. No dewclaws.

Size

Height - Female: not less than 47 cm and not more than 57 cm (19 to 22 inches)

Male: not less than 49 cm and not more than 59 cm (19.5 to 23 inches)

Important Ratio Proportions

Length of body: height at withers 1.13 (maximum):1

Size: depth of chest 2:1

Length of skull: length of muzzle 1:1.1

Total Height 2.0

Chest height 1.0

Height - ground to bottom of chest 1.0

Chest (depth) - Approximately 1/3 of the total length of the body

Faults: Any departure from the foregoing points constitutes a fault. It shall be penalized according to its seriousness and importance.

General appearance lacking distinction.

Too heavy or sickly.

Too large or too weak in bone.

Not enough muscles.

Lack of harmony between the various body parts.

Disproportion between body length, chest depth and body height.

Neck too short or too long. Not enough power in neck.

Thoracic cage not let down enough not enough spring of ribs or barrel shaped.

Breast too narrow or too large.

Back arches or sags.

Rump too sloping or too short. Higher than the withers. Staircase-like.

Belly dropping below underline, or too narrow.

Hollow sides.

Shoulder too upright, upper arm too short.

Insufficient angulation of hindquarters. Cow hock. Front / back legs not pointed properly.

Poor angulation.

Elbows turning in or out.

Metacarpus angle: too straight or too highly pitched.

Presence of dew-claws on the back legs.

Thin legs.

Stern badly set, carried too high, deviated, curved, coarse or feathered.

Entirely black coat, or single colored tan coat.

Coat harsh or shaggy.

Too narrow, too wide or too flat back skull.

No distinct stop.

Muzzle too short or too long, too narrow or pointed.

Foreface dishd.

Lips not covering the mandible (lower jaw).

Corner of the lips not well defined.

Too many skin folds on cranium or not enough in the neck area. Not enough dewlap.

Color of eye too light or not proportional to coat color.

Too much or not enough conjunctive red.

Light color pigmentation at edge of eyelids.

Ears too flat, too light, too short, or set too high, or too wide.

Absence of teeth other than the two premolars (PM1 or PM2).

Teeth badly set in jaw.

Movement: jerky, paces too short, ambling.

DISQUALIFYING FAULTS

Lack of type.

Size either over or under that fixed by the standard.

Nose entirely depigmented.

Overshot or undershot jaw.

Ectropion or entropion (even surgically corrected).

Rolled or ring tail, kink tail, tail with vertebral deformity.

Very timid or very aggressive behavior.

For the males: monorchid or cryptorchid.

Walleye.

Eyes of different colors.

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