



**FCI Standard No 345**  
**Jack Russell Terrier**  
Standard Provided by ABIDS

**CLASSIFICATION F.C.I.:**

Group 3.....Terriers.

Section 2.....Small Terriers.

With working trial.

FCI-Standard N° 345 / 08. 06. 2001 / GB

COUNTRY OF DEVELOPMENT: Australia.

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE ORIGINAL VALID STANDARD: 25.10.2000.

UTILIZATION: A good working Terrier with ability to go to ground. An excellent companion dog.

**ORIGIN:** England.

**BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY:** The Jack Russell Terrier originated in England in the 1800's due to the efforts of the Reverend John Russell. He developed a strain of Fox Terriers to suit his needs for a dog to run with his foxhounds and go to ground to bolt the fox and other quarry from their dens. Two varieties evolved with basically similar Standards except for differences, mainly in height and proportions. The taller, more squarely built dog is now known as the Parson Russell Terrier and the shorter, slightly longer proportioned dog, is known as the Jack Russell Terrier.

**GENERAL APPEARANCE:** A strong, active, lithe working Terrier of great character with flexible body of medium length. His smart movement matches his keen expression. Tail docking is optional and the coat may be smooth, rough or broken.

**IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS:**

The overall dog is longer than high.

The depth of the body from the withers to the brisket should equal the length of foreleg from elbows to the ground.

The girth behind the elbows should be about 40 to 43 cm.

**BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT:** A lively, alert and active Terrier with a keen, intelligent expression. Bold and fearless, friendly but quietly confident.

**HEAD**

**CRANIAL REGION:**

**Skull:** The skull should be flat and of moderate width gradually decreasing in width to the eyes and tapering to a wide muzzle.

**Stop:** Well defined but not over pronounced.

**FACIAL REGION:**

**Nose:** Black.

**Muzzle:** The length from the stop to the nose should be slightly shorter than from the stop to the occiput.

**Lips:** Tight-fitting and pigmented black.

**Jaws/Teeth:** Very strong, deep, wide and powerful. Strong teeth closing to a scissor bite.

**Eyes:** Small dark and with keen expression. MUST not be prominent and eyelids should fit closely. The eyelid rims should be pigmented black. Almond shape.

**Ears:** Button or dropped of good texture and great mobility.

**Cheeks:** The cheek muscles should be well developed.

**NECK:** Strong and clean allowing head to be carried with poise.

**BODY:**

**General:** Rectangular.

**Back:** Level. The length from the withers to the root of tail slightly greater than the height from the withers to the ground.

**Loin:** The loins should be short, strong and deeply muscled.

**Chest:** Chest deep rather than wide, with good clearance from the ground, enabling the brisket to be located at the height midway between the ground and the withers. Ribs should be well sprung from the spine, flattening on the sides so that the girth behind the elbows can be spanned by two hands - about 40 cm to 43 cm.

**Sternum:** Point of sternum clearly in front of the point of shoulder.

**TAIL:** May droop at rest. When moving should be erect and if docked the tip should be on the same level as ears.

## **LIMBS**

### **FOREQUARTERS:**

**Shoulders:** Well sloped back and not heavily loaded with muscle.

**Upper arm:** Of sufficient length and angulation to ensure elbows are set under the body.

**Forelegs:** Straight in bone from the elbows to the toes whether viewed from the front or the side.

**HINDQUARTERS:** Strong and muscular, balanced in proportion to the shoulder.

**Stifles:** Well angulated.

**Hock joints:** Low set.

**Rear pastern(Metatarsus):** Parallel when viewed from behind while in free standing position.

**FEET:** Round, hard, padded, not large, toes moderately arched, turned neither in nor out.

**GAIT / MOVEMENT:** True, free and springy.

## **COAT**

**HAIR:** May be smooth, broken or rough. Must be weatherproof. Coats should not be altered (stripped out) to appear smooth or broken.

**COLOR:** White MUST predominate with black or tan markings. The tan markings can be from the lightest tan to the richest tan (chestnut).

## **SIZE AND WEIGHT:**

**Ideal Height:** 25 cm (10 ins) to 30 cm (12 ins).

**Weight:** Being the equivalent of 1 kg to each 5 cm in height, i.e. a 25 cm high dog should weigh approximately 5 kg and a 30 cm high dog should weigh 6 kg.

***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. However, the following weaknesses should be particularly penalized:*

*Lack of true Terrier characteristics.*

*Lack of balance, i.e. over exaggeration of any points.*

*Sluggish or unsound movement.*

*Faulty mouth.*

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