

## 2018 Herding Breed Notes from The AKC program.

- **Australian Cattle Dog ( ACD)**
  - Origin - In 1840, George Elliott in Queensland, was experimenting with Dingo-blue merle collie crosses He produced some excellent workers. Cattle men were impressed with the working ability of these dogs and purchased pups as they came along. Two brothers, Jack and Harry Bagust of Canterbury in Sydney, purchased some of these dogs and set about improving them. Their 1<sup>st</sup> step was to cross a bitch with a fine imported Dalmatian dog. This cross changed the merle to red or blue speckled.
  - Height: 18-20 inches (male), 17-19 inches (female)
  - Weight: 35-50 pounds
  - Teeth - scissor-bite. The lower incisors close behind and just touching the upper as the dog is required to move difficult cattle by heeling or biting.
  - Feet should be round and toes short, strong, well arched and held closer together.
  - Tail set is, moderately low. During excitement the tail may raise, but under no circumstances should any part of the tail be carried past a vertical line through the root of the tail. The tail should carry a good brush.
  - Coat: Smooth, a double coat with a short dense undercoat.
    - Outer-coat is close, each hair straight, hard and lying flat, so that it is rain-resisting.
    - As an average, the hairs on the body should be from 1 - 1½ inches in length.
    - The color should be blue or red-speckle, blue mottled or blue specked with or without markings of Black, Blue or tan. Black markings on the body are not desirable.

- **Australian Shepherd (Aussie)**

- Origin; References to "Australian Shepherd" can be found back as the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century through the farms and ranches of the American West. While the Australian Shepherd is indisputably an American breed, it may have acquired its Australian name because there were various collie-type imports from Australia, some of them accompanying Basque shepherds, who made a significant contribution to the intelligence and character of the breed.
- Height 20-23 inches (male), 18-21 inches (females)
- Weight 55-70 pounds (male), 35-55 pounds (female)
- Coat: Double-coat of medium texture, straight to wavy, weather resistant and of medium length. Hair is short on head, ears, front forelegs and below the hocks. Backs of legs and Britches are moderately feathered. Moderate mane and frill.
- Color: Blue merle, black, red merle, red. All with or without white markings and/or tan (copper) points. White collar, blaze on head.
- Tail is docked or natural bobbed, not to exceed 4 inches.
- Teeth - scissor bite or may meet in a level bite.
- Feet are oval, compact with close knit, well arched toes.
- Rear dewclaws must be removed. Front dewclaws may be removed.

- **Bearded Collie** (Beardie)

- Origin - Also known as the Collie, the Mountain Collie or the Hairy Mou'ed Collie.
- The current theory is that, like most shaggy-haired herding dogs, The Bearded Collie descends from the Magyar Komondor and other herding dogs of Central Europe. As the breed did not die, it is a tribute to their ability as workers and the devotion of the Peebleshire shepherds and drovers to the breed. Beardies work with little direction from the butchers and drovers who find them very valuable in moving troublesome cattle.
- The shepherds and drovers have valued Beardies to such an extent that they have been more reluctant to sell any puppies (especially bitches) unless they could be sure the puppies would actually be worked. This is a natural and unspoiled breed.
- Also known as the. Collie, the Mountain Collie or the Hairy Mou'ed Collie.
- Born to herd sheep.
- Height 21-22 inches (male), 20-21 inches (female)
- Weight 45-55 pounds
- Body is longer than it is high.
- Coat: Double-coat with the undercoat soft, furry and close. The outercoat is flat, harsh, strong and shaggy. Free from wooliness and curl, although a slight wave is permissible. A heavy shed once a year. Shaggy means he will require regular grooming to keep him from matting.
- Coat falls naturally to either side but must never be artificially parted.
- This is a natural and unspoiled breed. Shown in a natural stance.
- Coat color: all are born with back, blue, brown or fawn, with or without markings. With maturity, the coat will become lighter.
- Feet are oval with well-padded soles. The toes are arched and close together, covered with hair including between the pads.
- Teeth - Full dentition is desirable and meets in a scissors bite.

- **Beauceron**

- Origin - The largest of the French sheepdogs.
- An old and distinct French breed or herding dog, developed solely in France with no foreign crosses. Dogs were bred and selected for their aptitude to herd and guard large flocks of sheep as well as for their structure and endurance. He is a thinking, problem solving companion. They were used to move herds of 200 -300 head, traveling up to 50 miles per day without showing signs of exhaustion.
- The French army also used the Beauceron to run messages, pick up trails, detect mines and support the commando activity.
- The French writer Colette labeled the Beauceron the "Country Gentleman".
- Height 25.5 -27.5 inches (male), 24-26.5 inches (female)
- Weight 70-110 pounds
- Coat: outer coat is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch, coarse, dense and lying close to the body. It is short and smooth on the head, ears and lower legs. Somewhat longer around the neck. Tail and back of thighs are lightly fringed.
- The undercoat is short, fine, dense and downy, mouse gray in color and does not show through the outer coat.
- He is shown in the natural condition with no trimming.
- Coat Color: Black and Tan. The black is very pure; the tan markings are squirrel red.
- Feet are large, round and compact with black nails
- Dewclaws - Double dewclaws on rear legs form well separated "thumbs" placed rather close to the foot.

- **Belgian Malinois (Mals)**

- Origin - In the late 1800's many European countries were working to develop animals that would have a national or regional identity. The Belgian Malinois is one of four types of Belgian Shepherding dogs registered in Belgium and France as the Chien de Berger Belge.
- All Belgian dogs were registered as one breed in 1911 with AKC. In 1965, they were divided into 4 separate breeds.
- The Malinois is historically a herding dog and protector of farm and family.
- Height 24-26 inches (male), 22-24 inches (female)
- Weight 60-80 pounds (male), 40-60 pounds (female)
- Coat: Should be comparatively short, straight, hard enough to be weather resistant, with a dense undercoat. Very short on the head, ears, and lower legs. Hair is somewhat longer around the neck where it forms a collarette.
- Coat color: Basic coloring of the underparts of the body, tail and breeches are lighter fawn is a rich fawn to mahogany, with black tips on the hairs giving an overlay appearance. The mask and ears are black. The tips of the toes may be white, and a small white spot on the breastbone is permitted.
- The body is a well-balanced, square dog. He stands squarely on all 4 feet.
- A breed hallmark is a proud carriage of the head
- Bite meets in scissor bite or level bite.
- Front dewclaws may be removed. Rear dewclaws (if any) should be removed.
- Front feet are round, cat foot. Rear feet may be slightly longer, with toes curved close.
- Belgian Malinois single tracks at a fast gate. The breed shows a marked tendency to move in a circle rather than a straight line.

- **Belgian Sheepdog**

- Origin - Known as the *Groenendael*, or *Chien de Berger Beige* in most parts of the world. It can be traced back to the late 1800's. During World War I, they distinguished themselves on the battlefields, serving as message carriers, ambulance dogs. Belgian Shepherds of the 1800's needed a fast, responsive dog who could control flocks and protect the home. The Belgian Sheepdog could do it all. They were large enough to be protectors, small and agile enough to do any task asked of them.
- Height 24-26 inches (male), 22-24 inches (female)
- Weight 55-75 pounds (male), 45-60 pounds (female)
- A well-balanced dog, square in appearance.
- Coat: The guard hairs of the coat must be long, well fitting, straight and abundant. They should not be silky or wiry. A texture should be a medium harshness. The undercoat should be extremely dense. The hair is shorter on the head, outside of the ears, and lower part of the legs. The coat requires lots of brushing to avoid mats and minimize shedding.
- The opening of the ear is protected by tufts of hair. Long abundant hair, like for a collarette around the neck; fringe of hair down the back of the forearm; long abundant hair on the hindquarters as breeches; abundant hair on the tail.
- Coat color is Black or Black with a small to moderate patch of white or strip on the forechest and between the pads of feet, on the tips of the hind toes, chin and muzzle. White tip on front toes is a fault. Any other color is a disqualification.
- Ears are triangular in shape, stiff and erect
- Dewclaws, if any, should be removed.
- He tends to single track on a fast gait.

- **Belgian Tervuren** (Tervs, Tervuren)

- Origin - One of four Belgian herders so similar that once they were recognized as a single breed. The big difference is coat type:
  - The Tervuren's have longhair, "blackened" fawn or red.
  - The Belgian Sheepdog has long hair and is black.
  - The Malinois has short hair.
  - The Laekenois is wirehaired.
- Height 24-26 inches (male), 22-24 inches (female)
- Weight 55-75 pounds (male), 45-60 pounds (female)
- Coat: The Guard hairs must be long, close-fitting, straight and abundant, Texture is of medium harshness, not silky or wiry. Wavy or curly hair is a fault. The undercoat is very dense, depending on climate conditions. The hair is short on the head, outside the ears and on the front part of the legs. The opening of the ear is protected by tufts of hair.
- There is long and abundant hair like a collarette around the neck, particularly of males. Fringes of long hair down the back of the forearm; especially long and abundant hair trimming the breeches; long, heavy and abundant hair on the tail. Tail is not carried above the backline nor turned to one side.
- Shown as a natural dog. Dewclaws may be removed on front, but dewclaws are removed from the rear.
- Coat Color: The body is a rich fawn to russet mahogany with black overlay is preferred. The coat is characteristically double pigmented whereby the tips of fawn hairs are blackened. Face has a black mask and the ears are mostly black.
- He becomes a darker color with age.
- Scissors bite or a level bite; broken or discolored teeth should not be penalized, but missing teeth are a fault. Four missing teeth are a serious fault.
- His natural tendency is to move in a circle, rather than a straight line.

- **Bergamasco**

- Origin: A very ancient Alpine breed around 2,000 years ago. Believed to have originated in Persia. They were hardy, vigorous shepherding dogs working with their nomadic masters, tending and herding flocks of sheep in the harsh mountain climates from Persia to Europe. It is certain of these nomads ultimately settled in the Italian Alps and remained there; their dogs became what is known as the Bergamasco. He was developed to problem-solve on its own.
- Height 22.5 inches (male), 22 inches (female)
- Weight 70-84 Pounds (male), 57-71 pounds (female)
- Coat: The coat is made up of 3 types of hair; Undercoat, "goat hair", and outer coat. It is oily to the touch and forms a waterproof layer against the skin.
- "Goat Hair": is long, straight, and rough in texture. The outer coat is woolly and somewhat finer in texture than the "goat hair". The "goat hair" and outer coat are not distributed evenly over the dog and it is this pattern of distribution that is responsible for the formation of the characteristic flocks (strands) of hair weaved together creating flat layers of felted hair.
- The coat from the withers down to the midpoint of the body is mostly "goat hair" which forms a smooth saddle in that region.
- On the back of the body and the legs, the woolly outer coat is abundant and mingles with the reduced quantity of "goat hair" in that region to form the flocks. The flocks are larger at the base than the end, flat, irregular shape, and may sometimes open in a fan -shape. The hair on the legs also hangs in flocks rather than feathering. The flocks are NEVER combed out. Or The hair on the head is mostly "goat hair" but is somewhat less rough in texture and hangs over the eyes.
- The matted coat is an important part of the Bergamasco which takes several years. No brushing is required. He does not shed or throw a coat, and the dog would lose its ability to thermos regulate its body heat and cold.
- It is not recommended to shave a Bergamasco as the re-growing process can be a mess of mat'
- Coat Color: Solid gray or graduations of gray (including merle) up to and including solid black, provided it is not shiny or lustrous. Solid white is not allowed but white markings are acceptable. If they cover no more than 1/5 of the body.

- **Berger Picard** (bare Shay pee CARR) (Picard)
  - Origin - Also known as the Picardy Shepherd, and is one of the oldest French herding breeds, among the many pasture dogs developed by the French shepherds over the centuries. This rustic herder was reputedly brought to northern France by the central-European Celts who invaded Gaul in prehistory. All agree that the Picard is breed of antiquity, with close family ties to such French herders as the Briard and Beauceron. The breeds visibility was boosted when a Berger Picard played the title role in the 2005 movie "Because of Winn Dixie"
  - He is a lanky herding dog of strong bone and sturdy build. The Picard's spent centuries as a take-charge independent problem-solvers, so early socialization and positive training are necessary to cope with their stubborn streak.
  - Height 23.5 -25.5 (males), 21.5 - 23.5 inches (females)
  - Weight 50-70 pounds
  - Coat: A very distinctive coat, harsh and crisp to the touch, neither flat nor curly, often with a slight wave. Ideal length is 2-3 inches. Undercoat is soft short and dense. The coat accents on the head and neck which give the Picard its distinct look, known as "Griffonage", includes rough eyebrows moderate beard and moustache, and a slight ruff on the front and sides of the neck, framing the head, all of moderate length Coat length over 4 inches in any location should be penalized. The shaggy, rough coat is distinctive, and should never be wooly, soft or so profuse that it hides the outline of the dog.
  - Ears are erect standing 4-5 inches high, with a strong tail that tapers to a distinctive J-hook.
  - The Picard is shown in its rustic, rough, natural coat which is not to be sculpted, shaped, or scissored. Truly a low maintenance breed. The rough coat does not mat or require special care.
  - Front dewclaws may be removed or left on. There should be none on the rear.
  - Coat Color: Fawn or brindle. Disqualification is a solid black or white, pied, spotted or harlequin. Entirely white foot or white "bib" on chest.

- **Border Collie**

- Origin - He originated in the Border country between Scotland and England where the shepherd's breeding selection was based on biddable stock sense and the ability to work long days on rugged terrain. As fetching the stock with wide sweeping outruns, a result developed the unique working style of gathering and the stock is then controlled with an intense gaze known as "the eye". The word "collie" is a Scotch word used to describe sheepdogs.
- Border Collies have all kinds of jobs including "goose master". A Florida company trains Border Collies to keep geese away from high-traffic areas.
- Height: 19-22 inches (male), 18-21 inches (female)
- Weight: 30-35 pounds (male), 27-42 pounds (female)
- Coat: Two varieties permissible, both having close-fitting, dense, weather resistant double coats with the top coat either straight or slightly wavy and coarser in texture than the undercoat which is soft, short and dense. The rough variety coat may vary in length without being excessive. Proper texture is more important than length. Forelegs, haunches, chest and underside are feathered and coat on face, ears, feet, fronts of legs is short and smooth.
- The smooth variety is short over entire body, is usually coarser in texture than the rough variety and may have light feathering on forelegs, haunches, chest and ruff. Dogs should be presented naturally, without excessive trimming or sculpting. Whiskers are untrimmed.
- Coat color: Appears in all colors and/or combination of colors and markings.
- Teeth meet in a scissor bite.
- Oval eyes are set wide apart and brown in color, except in merles where one or both eyes may be blue.
- Medium sized ears are set well apart, either carried erect or semi-erect.
- Front dewclaws may be removed, Rear dewclaws should be removed.
- Border Collies need room to exercise and a job to do, he is a "workaholic"; they are not recommended for apartment living.

- **Bouvier des Flandres** (Bouvier)

- Developed as a general-purpose farm dog in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century in Belgium as a cattle herder and general farmer's helper, including cart pulling. He has been also used as an ambulance and messenger dog.
- Height 24.5 -27.5 (males), 23.5 - 26.5 inches (female)
- Weight 69-90 pounds
- A square, powerfully built, compact, short-coupled, rough-coated dog of notably rugged appearance.
- Coat: A tousled, double coat capable of withstanding the hardest work in the most inclement weather. The outer hairs are rough and harsh, with the undercoat being fine, soft and dense. May be trimmed slightly only to accent the body line. Topcoat must be harsh to the touch, dry, trimmed if necessary to a length of about 2.5 inches. Ears are rough coated. Undercoat is a dense mass of fine, close hair, thicker in winter. Mustache and beard are very thick, with the hair being shorter and rougher on the upper side of the muzzle. The upper lip with its heavy mustache and the chin with its heavy and rough beard gives that gruff expression so characteristic of the breeds.
- Eyebrows erect hairs accentuation the shape of the eyes without ever veiling them.
- Coat color: from fawn to black, passing through salt and pepper, gray and brindle. A small white star on the chest is allowed. Chocolate, brown, white, or parti-color are to be penalized.
- Ears are placed high and are alert. If cropped, they are to be a triangular contour and in proportion with the head.
- Teeth are in a scissors bite.
- Tail is to be docked, leaving 2 or 3 vertebrae. Dogs born tailless should not be penalized.
- Dewclaws in front may be removed. Dewclaws in rear must be removed.
- While moving at a fast trot, the properly built Bouvier will tend to single-track.

- **Briard**

- Origin - An old breed, used for guarding and herding stock in France back to the 8th century. He was an "all rounder", a farm dog that had multiple tasks to accomplish.
- The Briard was most commonly used as a farm dog in the more crowded farming valleys of France, where row crops were grown. Sheep were allowed to graze the grass strips between crops and Briards were responsible for keeping the sheep moving along these strips and preventing the sheep from eating the crops. The Briard moved the sheep daily from the farm to the graze areas and back again at night. He was also used to move large flocks of sheep in areas of France that had wide grazing pastures and mountain pastures in summer. The Briards were usually worked beside one or two other breeds to keep the sheep from straying and herd the sheep to the proper areas. At night, they were alert and vigilant watchdogs, protecting the shepherds and flocks from wolves and thieves.
- Working style is a loose-eyed, upright breed with a natural tendency to gather/fetch, bringing the stock to the handler. Upright means that they prefer to sit or stand rather than lie down while stopping. Some will bump and shoulder the stock. Most will turn stock from the head rather than the heels
- Quiet workers, seldom barking. They exhibit a natural "power" and sheep move readily away from them.
- Briards are used in boundary/tending situations and are quick learners of this technique. He is a thinking dog, independent and somewhat methodical.
- His movement has been described as "quicksilver", permitting him to make abrupt turns, springing starts and sudden stops required of the shepherding dog.
- His gait is supple and light, almost like that of a large feline. The gait gives the impression that the dog glides along without touching the ground.
- He is above all a trotter and single-tracking.
- Height 23-27 inches (male), 22-25.5 inches (female)
- Weight 75-100 pounds (male) , 50-65 pounds (female)

(Briard)

- Coat: The Briard's outer coat is coarse, hard and dry (making a dry rasping sound between the fingers) It lies down flat, falling naturally in long, slightly waving locks. On the shoulders, the length of hair is generally 6 inches. The head is well covered with hair which lies down, forming a natural part in the center. The undercoat is fine and tight on the body. The eyebrows do not lie flat but, instead, arch up and out in a curve that lightly veils the eyes. Dirt and water do not readily cling to the coat.
- Ears when cropped should be carried upright and parallel.
- Nose is square rather than round, always black with nostrils wide open.
- Teeth are in a scissor bite.
- Tail is uncut, well feathered, forming a crook at the extremity, carried low with a crook at the end.
- Dewclaws in forelegs may or may not be removed. Two dewclaws are required on each rear leg, placed low on the leg, giving a wide base to the foot.
- Coat Color: All uniform colors are permitted except white. The colors are black, various shades of gray and various shades of tawny.

- **Canaan Dog** (Canaan)

- Origin - The Canaan Dog is the national dog of Israel. In 1934, Dr. Menzel, immigrated to Palestine. She was asked to develop a service dog organization for guarding the isolated Hebrew settlements impaired efficiency from the adverse climatic conditions. She turned to the pariah dogs (semi-wild or feral dogs) she found living in the area. She concluded that this was a true native breed of dog ideally adapted to the conditions of this difficult land. She named the breed the "Canaan Dog", after the Land of Canaan. As in times past, the Canaan Dog can be found today guarding Bedouin camps and flocks. These dogs are in great demand as home guard dogs. The Israel Defense Forces continue to rely on him for guard and patrol work.
- Height: 20-24 inches (male), 19-23 inches (female)
- Weight: 45 -55 pounds (males), 35 - 45 pounds (females)
- He is a square dog of medium size, he has a wedged shaped head when viewed from above.
- Eyes are dark, almond shaped, slightly slanted.
- Ears are erect, medium to large. Ear motion contributes to expression and clearly defines the mood of the dog.
- Teeth are a scissor bite.
- Loin is well tucked-up.
- Front dewclaws may be removed; rear dewclaws must be removed.
- Feet are cat-like with hard pads.
- Coat: A double coat. The outer coat is straight, harsh, flat lying. Outer coat of medium length on body, shorter on front part of the legs and head: longer on ruff, tail, top of withers and back of thigh. A thick brush tail tapering to a pointed tip. The undercoat is soft and short with density varying with the climate. He is an extremely clean by nature.
- Coat Color: There are two color patterns
  - 1) Predominantly white with mask and with or without additional patches of color (large body patches are desirable).
  - 2) Solid colored with or without white trim.

(Canaan Dog)

- Color may range from black through all shades of brown (sandy to red or liver)
- Disqualifications are gray and/or brindle: All white.
- The gait is a brisk and tireless trot covering more ground than expected. In this trot the rear paw steps into the footprints of their front paw.
- He is agile, graceful and able to change speed and direction instantly.
- Highly territorial and very vocal.

- **Cardigan Welsh Corgi** (Cardigan)
  - Origin - This breed is descended from the Teckel family of dogs which also produced the Dachshund. He is believed to have been in existence in Wales for over 3,000 years. This early dog was a transitional form between the Teckel and the Spitz families. It was brought in aboriginal form by the Celtic tribes who migrated to Wales from central Europe. The Cardigan's original work was to go before his master's cattle herd and clear the way by chasing off potential predators as well as trespassing herds, proving an area for grazing. Later, he began to act as a herder, working behind as a "drover", driving cattle from the Welsh farms to the English markets. During the Viking invasion of 1,000 years ago, and the influx of Flemish weavers, a Spitz-type dog was introduced into some areas of Wales. Being a heeler by nature.
  - Height 10.5-12.5 inches (male + female)
  - Weight 30-38 pounds (male), 25-34 pounds (female)
  - He is low set with moderately heavy bone and deep chest, moderately broad with a prominent breast bone and deep brisket.
  - Coat: Medium length but dense as it is double. Outer hairs slightly harsh in texture: never wiry, curly or silky. Lies relatively smooth and is weather resistant. The insulating undercoat is short, soft and thick. A correct coat has short hair on ears, head, the legs; medium hair on body; and slightly longer, thicker hair in ruff, on the backs of the thighs to form "pants", and on the underside of the tail. He has a shedding coat.
  - Coat color: All shades of red, sable and brindle. Black with or without tan or brindle points. Blue merle (black and gray: marbled) with or without tan or brindle points.
  - Dewclaws are removed on both front and rear legs.
  - Scissor bite preferred.
  - Erect ears

- **Collie**

- Origin -The word "Collie" has been spelled many ways: Coll, Colley, Coally and Coaly., the most accepted is "Coll"- the Anglo-Saxon word for black. In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the Collie's natural home was in the highlands of Scotland, where it had been used for centuries as sheepdog.
- Height 24-26 inches (male), 22-24 inches (female)
- Weight 60-75 pounds (male), 50-65 pounds (female)
- Coat: Rough and Smooth
  - Rough: The well-fitting, proper textured coat is the crowning glory of the rough Collie. It is abundant except on the head and legs. The outer coat is straight and harsh to the touch. The undercoat is soft, furry and so close together that is difficult to see the skin when the hair is parted. The coat is very abundant on the mane and frill. The face or mask is smooth. The forelegs are smooth below the hock joints. Hair on the tail is very profuse and on the hips is long and bushy.
  - Smooth: Is judged by the same standard as the Rough variety except that the references to the quantity and distribution of the coat are not applicable to the Smooth variety, which has a short, hard, dense, flat coat of good texture, with an abundance of undercoat.
- Coat color: there are 4 recognized colors-
  - 1) Sable and White
  - 2) Tri-color
  - 3) Blue merle - with mottled or "marbles" color predominanty blue-grey and black with white markings
  - 4) White - predominately white, preferably with sable, tri-color or blue merle markings.
  - A blaze may appear on the foreface or back of skull or both.
  - In some instances, Collies have been known to have a sensitivity to certain drugs, such as Ivermectin (for heartworm control)
  - Scissor bite.
  - He has a flat skull, arched eyebrows, a slight stop and rounded muzzle with almond shaped eyes.

- **Entlebucher Mountain Dog** (Entle)

- Origin - Known also as the Entlebucher Sennehund or Entlebucher Cattle Dog. He is the smallest of the 4 Swiss Mountain Dogs. The Swiss Mountain dogs are descended from the Molossus type dogs brought by the Romans as they passed through Helvetia over 2,000 years ago. The Entlebucher was used as a cattle herding dog bringing dairy cows in from the mountain pastures. The larger breeds were used as flock guardians and cart-pullers to transport milk and cheese to market. Originating from Entlebuch, a valley in the district of the Cantons Lucerne and Berne.
- Height 17-21 inches (male), 16-20 inches (female)
- Weight 45 - 65 pounds
- A medium-sized, compact, strongly muscled, elongated dog with ample bone.
- Coat - Double coat, wavy or soft coat tolerated but not preferred. Topcoat is short, close fitting, harsh and shiny. Undercoat is dense and of varying color
- Coat Color - Tricolor. Basic color must be black with tan and white markings.
- Markings include a white distinct small blaze, which runs without interruption from top of head over bridge of nose, and it can wholly or partially cover the muzzle. An inverted white cross on the chest is desirable. A white tip on a full-length tail and white on all four feet.
- Eyes must be brown, darker preferred almond shape, with well fitted, black pigmented rims.
- Ears are firm with a well-developed ear-cartilage, flaps are pendulous, triangle, rounded at the tips. When alert, they are slightly raised at set-on and turned forward.
- Scissor bite preferred.
- A natural tail or docked tail is equally acceptable.
- Front dewclaws may be removed; rear dewclaws must be removed.

- **Finnish Lapphund**

(Lappy)

- Origin -The original Finnish Lapphunds were the helper dogs of a tribe of semi-nomadic people in the Sami, in Lapland (the northern region of Finland, Sweden and in part Russia). Archeological digs in Lapland have unearth remains estimated as old as 7,000 years. Over hundreds of years the original nomadic Sami culture evolved into a more sedentary existence, which revolved around the keeping of reindeer herds. Therefore, the hunter/protector dogs of a nomadic tribe into herding dogs needed to help maintain the reindeer.
- The Finnish Lapphund is a medium size d breed that combines the look of the northern type dog with the temperament of the herding dog. Being developed to live and work outside, north of the Arctic Circle,
- Height 19.5 inches (male), 17.5 inches (female)
- Weight 44 - 46 pounds
- Coat - is thick and profuse, but shorter on the head and the fronts of the legs. The outer coat is straight and long, and very harsh and water-repellent. The undercoat is soft, very dense and plentiful so that it makes the outer coat stand erect. The males in particular, should carry a profuse mane.
- The tail is set on rather high and is favored in a profuse coat. A mobile tail is desired. The tail may have a "J" hook in the end, but never a kink tail.
- Front dewclaws are normally present but may be removed. Rear dewclaws may be present, but are not desirable. Removal is acceptable.
- Coat color - All colors are permitted, but the primary color must cover the body. A color which consists of different colors on a single hair shaft (sable, wolf-sable, or domino) is considered a single color. Secondary colors are allowed on the head, neck, chest, underside of the body, legs and tail.
- The stop is well defined, with an easily distinguishable frontal furrow.
- Ears are set rather far apart just off the top of the head. They may be erect or semi-erect (tipped).
- Bite is scissors.

(Lappy)

- Pigmentation of the nose leather, the eye rims, and the lips are preferably black.
- Feet are well arched, oval with toes slightly spread, to act as a snowshoe. They are covered with a thick coat of hair, including between the pads.
- When herding the reindeer, the dogs are extremely active and noisy. They must be constantly on the watch, as a reindeer may turn and try to trample them at any moment. As a result, the breed has a very strong "startle reflex" as well as being extremely agile and alert.

## German Shepherd Dog (German Shepherd)

- Origin - In search of a versatile working dog who was able to adapt to many situations, the German Shepherd Dog was developed in Frankfurt, Germany. Originally developed to herd sheep.
  - Height 24-26 inches (male), 22-24 inches (female)
  - Weight 75 - 95 pounds
  - Coat - The ideal dog has a double coat of medium length. The outer coat should be as dense as possible, hair straight, harsh and lying close to the body. The head, including the inner ear and foreface, and the legs and paws are covered with short hair and the neck with longer and thicker hair. The rear of the forelegs and hind legs has somewhat longer hair extending to the pastern and hock. The tail is bushy.
  - They do shed twice a year.
  - Front dewclaws may be removed, but they are normally left on. The rear dewclaws, if any, should be removed.
  - Feet are short, compact with toes well arched, pads thick and firm, nails short and dark.
  - Ears are moderately pointed, open to the front, and carried erect when at attention.
  - Scissor bite
  - Coat color - varies in color, and most colors are permissible. Strong rich colors are preferred. A white dog must be disqualified.
  - The German Shepherd Dog is a trotting dog.

- Icelandic Sheepdog

- Origin - They are Iceland's only native dog that came to the island with the first Viking settlers (AD874-930). He is a typical Nordic Spitz, having pricked ears and curled tail. He is a hardy and agile herding dog which barks, making it extremely useful for herding or driving livestock in the pastures, in the mountains or finding stray sheep.
- Height 18 inches (male) 16.5 inches (female)
- Weight 20 - 35 pounds
- Coat - Double Coat, thick and weatherproof. There are two types of coat:
  - Short-haired - The outer coat of medium length, fairly coarse, with a thick, soft undercoat. The tail is bushy and the hair length is in proportion to the coat.
  - Long-haired - The outer coat is longer than Short-haired, fairly coarse, with a thick, soft undercoat. The tail is very bushy and the hair length is in proportion to the coat.
  - In both types, the hair is shorter on the face, top of the head, ears and front of the legs; and longer on the neck, chest, and back of the thighs. Presentation is to be in the natural, unaltered condition. The tail is high set, curled over and touching the back.
  - Front dewclaws are required and may be double. Rear dewclaws are required, having well-developed double dewclaws are desirable.
  - Coat color - Several colors are permitted but a single color should always be predominant. Ranging from various shades of tan, cream to reddish brown, chocolate brown, gray and black. White always accompanies the predominant color. The most common white markings, which are often irregular, are a blaze on a part of the face, collar, chest, socks of varying lengths and tip of tail.
  - Scissor bite.
  - Ears are erect and medium size. Triangular with firm edges and slightly rounded tips. Very mobile ears.

- Origin - The Miniature American Shepherd was developed in California during the late 1960's with the breeding of small, unregistered dogs that were thought to be Australian Shepherds. These dogs were bred with a goal of maintaining their small size, active character and intelligence. They were first called the Miniature Australian Shepherd. This breed has been used for herding smaller stock such as sheep and goats.
- Height - 14-18 inches (male), 13-17 inches (female)
- Weight 20 - 40 pounds
- Coat - Moderation is the overall impression of the coat. Hair is of medium texture, straight to wavy, weather resistant, and of medium length. Undercoat varies in quantity with the climate. Hair is short and smooth on the head and front of legs. The backs of forelegs and breeches are moderately feathered. There is a moderate mane and frill. Hair may be trimmed on the ears, feet, back of hocks, pasterns and tail. Otherwise he is to be shown in a natural coat. Untrimmed whiskers are preferred.
- Scissor bite. Teeth broken, missing or discolored by accident are not penalized.
- The underline shows a moderate tuck-up.
- Tail - Docked or natural bobtail is preferred. A docked tail is straight, not to exceed 3 inches.
- Feet are oval shaped, compact, with close-knit, well arched toes.
- Front and rear dewclaws should be removed.
- Coat color - Coloring offers variety and individuality. The recognized colors are black, blue merle, red (liver) and red merle. The merle will exhibit in any amount, marbling, flecks or blotches. Undercoats may be somewhat lighter in color than the topcoat. Markings - tan, white ticking white markings, are not required, but acceptable.

- **Norwegian Buhund** (Buhund)

- Origin - An ancient Nordic Spitz breed that traveled with the Vikings over land and sea. between AD 900n+ 1300, to various settlements in Iceland and Britain and contributed to the formation of many other herding breeds. Meanwhile in Norway, he was not highly valued and was regarded as a common farmer's dog.
- Also known as Norsk Buhund or Norwegian Sheepdog.
- He is a compact, medium sized and squarely built, ideal for herding sheep and other livestock in the mountains of Norway and elsewhere. The Buhund is typically sent out alone to fetch the sheep home for the night or to bring in the cows for their twice a day milking.
- Height 17-18.5 inches (male), 16-17.5 inches (female) disqualifying more than a  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch under or 1 inch over.
- Weight 31-40 pounds (male), 26-35 pounds (female)
- Coat - Outer coat is thick and hard, but rather smooth lying. The undercoat is soft and dense. The coat on the head and front of the legs is comparatively short. The coat on the neck, chest and back of thighs is longer.
- Scissor bite, with complete dentation.
- Eyes are oval shape and dark as possible, black eye rims.
- Feet are oval in shape with lightly closed toes.
- Coat Color -
  - Wheaten, any shade from pale cream to bright orange, with or without dark tipped hairs. As little white as possible; black mask acceptable.
  - Black, preferably with as little white as possible. Areas where white is permissible; a narrow white ring around the neck, a narrow blaze on the face, a small patch of white hairs on the chest, white feet and tip of the tail.

- **Old English Sheepdog (OES)**

- Origin - Of the British Isles, the "Bob-tail" was most likely developed in the west of England, in the counties of Devon and the Duchy of Cornwall. To country roads, from pasture to town markets primarily as drovers who moved cattle over dusty country roads were employed. In some pastures once a year the shepherds would shear them and use the clippings to make yarn for clothing. pastures,
- Height 22 inches and up (male), 21 inches and up (female)
- Stands lower at the withers than at the loin.
- Weight 60 - 100 pounds
- Coat - Profuse, but not so excessive as to give the impression of the dog being overly fat, and of a good hard texture; not straight, but shaggy and free from curl. The undercoat is a waterproof pile when not removed by grooming or season. Ears coated moderately. The whole skull well covered with hair. The neck well coated with hair. The forelegs well coated all around. The hams densely coated with a thick, long jacket in excess of any other part. Neither the natural outline nor the natural texture of the coat may be changed by any artificial means except that the feet and rear may be trimmed for cleanliness.
- He is well muscled with plenty of bone.
- Ears are medium sized and carried flat to the side of the head.
- Bite is level or tight scissors.
- Tail is docked close to the body, when not naturally bob tailed.
- Feet are small and round, toes well arched, pads thick and hard, feet pointing straight ahead.
- A marked characteristic on the Old English Sheepdog is his gait, which is much like a shuffle of a bear for their nimbleness and are famous for their nimbleness of a foot. They may amble or pace at slower speeds.
- His bark is loud with a distinctive "pot-casse" ring in it.
- Coat Color - Any shade of gray, grizzle, blue or blue merle with or without white markings or in reverse.

- **Pembroke Welsh Corgi** (Pembroke)

- Origin - In 1107, Henry I of Britain invited a community of the master Flemish weavers to relocate their kingdoms to live and work in southwestern Wales. This included the dogs they bred to herd the cattle. These sturdy, short-legged herders were the foundation for the breed we now know as the Pembroke Welsh Corgi. A separate breed from the Cardigan Welsh Corgi, with noticeable difference of the ears and tails between the two breeds.
  - Pembroke's ears are pointed and erect.
  - Cardigans ears are rounded.
  - The Cardigan tail is much longer than the short Pembroke tail.
  - The Pembroke Welsh Corgi is the youngest of the two Corgi breeds.
- Height 10-12 inches
- Weight not exceeding 30 pounds (male), not exceeding 28 pounds (female)
- Low-set, strong, sturdily built and active.
- Head should level bite is acceptable. be foxy in shape and appearance.
- Scissor bite
- Ears, erect and firm and tapering to a round point, Ears are mobile.
- Eyes are oval, medium in size, not round or protruding, or deep set. Brown in variations of brown, eye rims dark, preferably black.
- Coat - Medium length; short, thick, weather-resistant undercoat with a coarser, longer outer coat. Over-all length varies, with slightly thicker and longer ruff around the neck, chest, and on the shoulders. The body coat lies flat. Hair is slightly longer on back of forelegs and underparts and somewhat fuller and longer on rear of hindquarters. The coat is preferably straight, but some waviness is permitted. It is a shedding coat.
- Tail is docked as short as possible without being indented. Occasionally a puppy is born with a natural dock, which if sufficiently short, is acceptable. A tail up to 2 inches in length is allowed.
- Coat color - The outer coat is to be of self-colors in red, sable, fawn. Black and tan with or without markings.

## Polish Lowland Sheepdog (PON)

- Origin - The Polish Lowland Sheepdog, or PON (Polish Owczarek Nizinny), is partly descended from the Puli. Early in the history of Poland, other blood was crossed with the Puli, most likely the Huns herding dog. The cross-breeding took place some-time before the 16<sup>th</sup> century.
- Height 18-20 inches (male), 17-19 inches (female)
- Weight 30 - 35 pounds
- Coat- It is double-coated. The entire body is covered with a long, dense, shaggy, thick coat that is reasonably straight. The outer coat should be crisp with a water-resistant texture. The under-coat is soft and dense. Different coat colors will have different textures with the black coat having little or no coarse outer-coat and less undercoat. Characteristically, long hanging hair covers the eyes. A slight wavy coat is acceptable. He must be shown naturally with an "unkept" but lean appearance. Only the hair between the pads may be trimmed.
- Docked or naturally bobbed tail.
- Eyes are of medium size, oval and brown in color.
- Ears are heart-shaped, drop and set moderately high.
- Scissors or level bite.
- Tail is short, set low and no longer than 2 vertebrae. Tails are naturally short or docked.
- Feet are oval and tight with the front feet larger than the rear feet. Toes are arched.
- Coat Colors: All coat colors are acceptable. The most common colors are white with either black, gray or sandy patches and gray with white or chocolate. Most puppies are born darker in color than they will appear as adults.
- He needs dominant master and consistent training from the time he is very young.

- **Puli** Pronounced Poo-lee, plural is Pulik
- Origin - He has been an integral part of the lives of the Hungarian shepherds for more than 1,000 years. He is used to multitasked work guarding property, herd sheep and to act as a drover. Bred into the breed are protective instincts and the ability to make decisions.
- He is a slow maturing to about 2 or 3 years old. Early socialization is very important. He is very agile and likes to climb over and under things. They love to be in high places so they can see what is going on.
- Height 17 inches (male), 16 inches (female) an inch over/under is acceptable
- Weight 25 - 35 pounds
- The dense, weather resistant coat is profuse on all parts of the body. The outer coat is wavy or curly, but never silky. The undercoat is soft, wooly and dense. The coat clumps together easily, and if allowed to develop naturally, will form cords on the adult. The cords are wooly, varying in shape and thickness, either flat or round, depending on the texture of the coat and balance of undercoat to outer coat. A fully corded coat takes about 5 years to reach the ground. He can be maintained in a brushed, uncorded coat, weekly brushing will be required.
- A scissor bite.
- Tail is carried over, and blends into the backline.
- Front and rear dewclaws, if any, may be removed.
- A Puli is typically, a lively, acrobatic dog; light, quick, agile and able to change directions instantly.
- Coat Color: Only the solid colors of rusty black, black, all shades of gray, and white are acceptable. However, on the chest a white spot of not more than 2 inches is permissible. The fully pigmented skin has a bluish or gray cast whatever the coat color.

- Pumi

- Origin - Our present day Pumi (Pumik - plural) is the result of centuries of selection by shepherd. There was a need for a fast, spirited, decisive dog, capable of completing a task independently; one who is perfectly capable of assessing the given situation and to make decisions- correctly.
- In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Hungarians identified 3 distinct herding breeds based on phenotype. 1) The Puli was first, being prevalent on the eastern Hungarian plains. 2) The Pumi, found more in the hilly country of western Hungary, and 3) the Mudi from southern Hungary. The Pumi was considered a regional variation to the Puli and the two names were used interchangeably for centuries.
- The Pumi had to drive their livestock every day over narrow roads, strips of land, and if possible, had to avoid causing damage to adjacent properties. Here the dogs didn't have the opportunity for outruns in wide arcs, because there was no room. Often, they had to go ahead between the livestock's feet to their front to turn or to stop the flock. The Puli had to be able to protect a cornfield immediately on the side of the from the flock, specifically it had to "patrol" - move back and forth between the sheep and the cornfield to prevent the animals from going into the crop.
- Height 16-18.5 inches (male), 15-17.5 inches (female)
- Weight 27-29 pounds (male), 22-24 pounds (female)
- Square in shape
- Coat; The coat is a combination of wavy and curly hair, forming corkscrews or curls all over the body, and is never smooth or corded. The coat consists of an even mixture of harsh hair and softer undercoat. The coat stands out from the body approximately 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  - 3 inches and is prepared by using a combination of stripping and trimming. The eyes and the foreface are free of long hair. The hair on the underside of the tail ranges from  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch at its shortest to 3-5 inches and has little undercoat. The coat is allowed to dry naturally in order to achieve the characteristic corkscrews and curl in the coat. It must never appear fluffed and the ears are mobile and alert.

(Pumi)

- Ears are set on high, of medium size and carried 2/3 erect with the tips pointing somewhat towards the sides. They are covered with hair, enhancing their whimsical expression. The ears are mobile and alert.
- Occiput is not apparent.
- Scissor bite.
- Tail is set high, arching over the back forming a full circle from the base to tip, sitting on top of the topline. Docking is not permitted nor is a naturally short tail (stump)
- Feet are tight, and round with well-knit toes - a cat foot, with well cushioned pads.
- Rear dewclaws, if any, may be removed.
- Coat color; Black, white, or any shades of gray. Shades of fawn from pale cream to red, with some black or gray shading is desirable. The grays are born black. The overall appearance of a solid color is maintained. A white mark on the chest less than 1 inch at the longest dimension is permissible. Skin pigmentation is dark.

- **Pyrenean Shepherd** (Pyr Shep)

- Origin - Its origins lost in the mists of time, the Pyrenean Shepherd has resided in the Pyrenees Mountains of Southern France since early time. An important factor in developing and maintain breed type across the centuries was that the pastoral industry relied on two breeds. The Great Pyrenees guarded the flocks against predation by bears, wolves and lynxes, whereas the Pyrenean Shepherd was used solely as the dogs did not need to defend themselves, small size was valued for herding and not for protection. Smaller dogs are quicker and more sure-footed on the windy crags. They also need less food, allowing the shepherd to keep more sure-footed on the windy crags. This allowed selection to concentrate on maintaining a high degree of herding instinct and soundness.
- Height:
  - Rough-Faced 15.5-18.5 inches (male),15-18 inches (female)
  - Smooth-Faced 15.5-21 inches(male) 15.5 t- 20.5 inches (female)
- Weight-20-25 pounds. An absolute minimum of weight is required -
  - just enough flesh to cover bones; the ribs should be readily felt.
- Coat quality is more important than abundance.
- 1) Rough-faced - long or demi-long hair is almost flat or slightly wavy. Semi-long dogs have culottes on the rump, while the long-haired dogs are often more heavily furnished with woolier hair that may cord, especially on the elbows, croup, and thighs, but never on the head. The texture is harsh, being halfway between the hair of a goat and the wool of a sheep. The undercoat is minimal. The hair on the end of the muzzle and the chin must be naturally short and it lengthens as the muzzle widens towards the skull. The longer hair on the sides of the muzzle and cheeks is swept back giving a windblown look. The eyes must be ready visible, not veiled by hair.
- Coat: 2) Smoothed-faced - The muzzle is covered with short, fine hairs. The hair becomes somewhat longer on the sides of the head, blending into a modest ruff. The hair on the body is fine and soft, attaining a maximum length of no more than 3 inches for the ruff and culottes, 2 inches along the
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## (Pyr Shep)

- back. The fronts of the legs are covered with short fine hairs; there is often some furnishing on the elbows and thighs.
- No ribbon shall be awarded to a dog whose coat has been scissored, especially the face, except for neatening the feet.
- Tail - May be docked, a natural bob or a naturally long. All are equally acceptable.
- Eyes are almond-shape, open and very expressive. They are dark brown in color. Partially or completely blue eyes acceptable only in merles. Eye rims are black no matter what color the coat.
- Ears - Both cropped and uncropped ears are equally acceptable. Traditionally cropped straight across and stand erect. of the leather falling either straight forward, or to the side in the case of a rose ear. Natural ears are semi-prick with 1/3<sup>rd</sup> to 1/2 of the leather falling either straight forward, or to the side in the case of a rose ear.
- Teeth - Complete dentition is preferred. A scissor bite is strongly preferred. An even bite is admissible.
- Single dewclaws on the front legs, not to be removed.
- Rear dewclaws - double dewclaws, single dewclaws, or lack of dewclaws in the rear are all acceptable.
- Feet are oval shaped. The foot of the Smooth-faced dog appears a little shorter and more cupped than in the Rough-faced dog.
- The topline is firm and strong. The tops of the rather long shoulder blades clearly project above the line of the back. The back is level. The loin is slightly arched and is slightly higher than the top of the shoulder blades.
- Gait - The trot - our little shepherd's favorite gait - must be vigorous and solid. At a jot trot, the head is carried rather high. As the stride lengthens the head lowers to become level with the backline. It is a very flowing gait. The feet barely leave the ground. He "shaves the earth"
- Coat color: Various shades of fawn tan to copper, with or without a mixture of black hairs. A little white is acceptable on the chest, head, and feet.

- **Shetland Sheepdog** (Sheltie)

- Origin - The Shetland Sheepdogs were originally bred on the rocky Shetland Islands, The United Kingdom's northern most point and where food can be scarce. They were employed by farmers to herd sheep, ponies, and poultry. There is a reason why the Sheltie was bred smaller than his close cousin, the rough-coated Collie. Thanks to their compact size, the Sheltie eats less than the Collie and other large herding dogs. This is important in the harsh, cold climate of the breed. The Sheltie was used to drive the small sheep into enclosures when needed and also to drive them out of the resident's vegetable garden, and to protect the young lambs from birds of prey by barking and leaping
- Height 13 - 16 inches
- Weight 15-25 pounds
- His outline should be so symmetrical that no part appears out of proportion to the whole.
- Coat; Coat should be double, the outer coat consisting of long straight harsh hair; the undercoat is short, furry and so dense as to give the entire coat its "standoff" quality. Hair on the face, tips of the ears and feet should be smooth. Mane and frill should be abundant. The forelegs well feathered, but smooth below the hock joint on the rear legs. Hair on the tail is profuse.
- Ears are small and flexible, placed high, carried 3/4ths erect, with tips breaking forward.
- Top of skull should be flat, showing no prominence of the occiput.
- Scissors bite
- Tail should be sufficiently long so that when it is laid along the back edge of the hind legs the last vertebra will reach the hock joint.
- Front dewclaws may be removed; rear dewclaws should be removed.
- Coat Color: Black, blue merle, and sable (ranging from golden through mahogany); marked with varying amounts of white and/or tan. Specimens with more than 50 percent white shall be severely penalized.

- **Spanish Water Dog (SWD)**

- Origin - The versatile Spanish Water Dog is essentially an Andalusian breed. Andalusia is a hilly, rocky, arid land in the south of Spain. He was primarily used to herd flocks of goats, sheep and other livestock. In the north of Spain, he was used as an assistant to fisherman, retrieving overboard equipment, stunned fish, and swimming lines.
- The Spanish Water Dog has been a fixture of the Iberian Peninsula's lakes and meadows. A rustic breed that is slightly longer than tall.
- Height 17.5 -19.3/4 inches (male), 15 3/4 - 18 inches (female)
- Weight 40 - 49 Pounds (male), 31-40 pounds (female)
- Coat: A single coat, and always curly and of a wooly texture. It is never brushed or combed and is shown in natural curls or in rustic cords with tapered tips. The entire body, including the head, should be well covered with hair. In full coat the hair will cover the eyes. Clipped subjects are allowed, the clipping always complete and even, never to become an "aesthetic" grooming. Minimal hygienic trimming is allowed but should not be noticeable on presentation.
- The tail is set smoothly into the croup, it is neither high nor low. Traditionally docked (to maintain cleanliness when working with livestock) between the 2<sup>nd</sup> +4<sup>th</sup> vertebra, some are born with a naturally bobbed tail. The tail can range from almost no tail to almost a full tail.
- Front dewclaws may be removed. Rear dewclaws if present are to be removed.
- Feet are round and compact. Toes are tight and well arched.
- Ears are drooping and triangular in shape with slightly rounded tips.
- Teeth have a full dentition, scissor bite preferred, but a level bite is accepted.
- Traditionally, the Spanish Water Dog was sheared one time per year (with the sheep), the same length all over.

- **Swedish Vallhund (SV)**

- Origin -This dog is a very old Spitz-type breed known since the time of Vikings. For centuries the (SV) has been kept as a farm dog and used for herding cattle and eventually sheep. "Vallhund" is Swedish or herding dog. Many people refer to this enthusiastic, energetic breed as a "big dog in a small body". He is longer-legged and less stocky than the Corgi. Being low to the ground allows the SV to nip at the cattle's heels and avoid getting kicked.
- Height 12.5 -13.5 inches (male), 11.5 - 12.5 in: topcoat is close and tight.
- Weight 22 - 35 pounds
- Coat: A close fitting hard coat of medium length hair. Undercoat is soft and dense. Hair is short on the head and the foreparts of the legs and slightly longer on the neck, chest and back parts of the hind legs. Dogs are to be shown in an untrimmed, natural state. The double coat and the characteristic "harness markings" are essential features of this breed.
- Tails may be natural (long, stub or bob) or docked. May be shown natural or docked. Toes are tightly knit and well knuckled.
- Front and rear dewclaws may be removed.
- Feet are medium size, short, oval, pointing straight forward.
- Coat Color: A sable pattern seen in colors of grey through red and combinations of these colors in various shades. Lighter harness markings are essential. Although a dark muzzle is acceptable, a well-defined mask with lighter hair around the eyes, on the muzzle and under the throat, giving a distinct contrast to the head color. White is permitted as a narrow blaze, neck spot, slight necklace and white markings on the legs and chest. White is excess of 1/3 of the dog's total color is a very serious fault.