

## 2019 Sporting Group Study Guide

### American Water Spaniel

Height: 15-18 inches

Weight: 30-45 pounds (male), 25-40 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 10-14 years



Origin: -Upper Midwest of US (Great Lake Region)

-descendant of the Irish Water Spaniel, Curly Coated Retriever, and the (now extinct), English Water Spaniel

Temperament: an upbeat, outdoorsy athlete who loves to hunt and swim. They are known to be happy, eager, and charming, though aloof with strangers and a bit stubborn.

#### Characteristics:

- muscular midsize **gundog** not flashy in looks or performance
- a merry, intelligent, and versatile spaniel suited to a variety of dog sports. As hunters, they combine the working traits of spaniels and retrievers
- all in one hunting companion possessing an excellent nose, expert at retrieving waterfowl
- adept on land as well with retrieving game birds such as quail, grouse, and pheasant
- webbed toed to help them to "swim like a seal"
- bite: scissors or level
- ears: lobular and long
- tail: rocker-shaped tail used as a rudder to facilitate swimming.

#### Coat:

- waterproof dense luscious brown coat that is either tightly curled or marcel (uniform waves).
- important to have undercoat to provide sufficient density to be of protection against weather, water or punishing cover, yet not too coarse or too soft. The throat, neck and rear of the dog well-covered with hair. The ear well-covered with hair on both sides with ear canal evident upon inspection. Forehead covered with short smooth hair and without topknot. Tail covered with hair to tip with moderate feathering. Legs have moderate feathering with waves or curls to harmonize with coat of dog. Coat may be trimmed to present a well-groomed appearance; the ears may be shaved; but neither is required.

### **(American Water Spaniel Continued)**

Color: Color either solid liver, brown or dark chocolate. A little white on toes and chest permissible

Job:

-Bred to work the icy waters and marshy banks of the Great Lakes region; to retrieve from a skiff or canoes

-when this breed is underactive, they can be barky and destructive

Fun Facts:     -Less than 3,000 in existence  
                      -State dog of Wisconsin

Disqualifications: Yellow eyes

## **Boykin Spaniel**

Height: 15.5-18 inches (male), 14-16.5 inches (female)

Weight: 30-40 pounds (male), 25-35 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 10-15 years



**Origin:** developed in South Carolina named after a founding resident Lemuel Whitaker Boykin  
-Chesapeake Bay Retriever, cocker, English Spaniel, and American Spaniel

**Temperament:** Friendly, eager, lovable (“They are very, very sweet dogs to have around the family,” a longtime owner says, “but an absolute tiger in the field.”)

### **Characteristics:**

- hallmark is its beautiful solid-brown coat ranging from rich liver to luscious chocolate
- All-around hunting dog with unbridled energy in the field, ability to work on land or lake, and a sweet gentle manner at home.
- medium in size, with emphasis placed on his hunting abilities, characterized by flushing and retrieving, with moderate speed and agility. His pendulous ears, intelligent expression, sturdy build and friendly wagging tail proclaim him part of the spaniel family.
- bite: scissors or level
- feet are round and webbed
- tail is docked 3-5 inches
- body is slightly longer than high
- Ears have thin leather

**Coat:** Boykin Spaniel has an undercoat and overcoat

- The coat can range from flat to slightly wavy, with medium length, on the outer coat. The undercoat is short and dense.
- The ears, chest, legs and belly are equipped with light fringe or feathering
- The Boykin Spaniel color is solid - rich liver, brown or dark chocolate. A small amount of white on chest or toes is permitted. No other white markings are allowed

### **Job:**

- known for hunting abilities, characterized by flushing and retrieving, with moderate speed and agility.
- a superb turkey dog and waterfowl retriever.

### **Fun Facts:**

- State dog of South Carolina

## **Brittany**

Height: 17.5-20.5 inches

Weight: 30-40 pounds

Life Expectancy: 12-14 years



**Origin:** - Western most region of France named after the French province it originated from

**Temperament:** - bright, fun-loving, upbeat. A happy, alert dog, neither mean nor shy.

### **Characteristics:**

- A compact, closely knit **bird dog** of medium size, a square and leggy dog having the appearance, as well as the agility, of a great ground coverer.
- Smaller than setters, but leggier than spaniels.
- Strong, vigorous, energetic and quick of movement.
- Ruggedness, without clumsiness, is a characteristic of the breed. He can be tailless or has a tail docked to approximately four inches.
- Substance - Not too light in bone, yet never heavy-boned and cumbersome.
- The bite is a true scissors
- The tail is tailless or docked to 4 inches

**Coat:** Dense, flat or wavy, never curly. Texture neither wiry nor silky. Ears should carry little fringe. The front and hind legs should have some feathering, but too little is definitely preferable to too much. Dogs with long or profuse feathering or furnishings shall be so severely penalized as to effectively eliminate them from competition. Skin - Fine and fairly loose. A loose skin rolls with briars and sticks, thus diminishing punctures or tearing. A skin so loose as to form pouches is undesirable.

### **Color:**

Orange and white or liver and white in either clear or roan patterns. Some ticking is desirable. The orange or liver is found in the standard parti-color or piebald patterns. Washed out colors are not desirable. Tri-colors are allowed but not preferred. A tri-color is a liver and white dog with classic orange markings on eyebrows, muzzle and cheeks, inside the ears and under the tail, freckles on the lower legs are orange. Anything exceeding the limits of these markings shall be severely penalized.

**Fun Fact:** -first known as the Brittany Spaniel shortened in 1982 to Brittany

**Disqualifications:** Any Brittany measuring under 17½ inches or over 20½ inches. A black nose. Black in the coat.

## **Chesapeake Bay Retriever**



Height: 23-26 inches (male), 21-24 inches (female)  
Weight: 65-80 pounds (male), 55-70 pounds (female)  
Life Expectancy: 10-13 years

**Origin:** The Chesapeake Bay Retriever was developed in the US along the Chesapeake Bay to hunt waterfowl under the most adverse weather and water conditions, often having to break ice during the course of many strenuous multiple retrieves.

-genetic mix of Newfoundland, Irish Water Spaniel, and hound

**Temperament:** Affectionate, bright, sensitive. The Chesapeake Bay Retriever is valued for its bright and happy disposition, intelligence, quiet good sense, and affectionate protective nature.

### **Characteristics:**

-Also known as the Chessie

-The Chessie is a **water dog; retriever** famous for his waterproof coat.

-The distinctive breed trait is a wavy coat that is oily to the touch.

-The breed's characteristics are specifically suited to enable the Chesapeake to function with ease, efficiency and endurance in the icy rugged conditions of the Chesapeake Bay.

Chesapeake's skull is broad and round with a medium stop.

-The jaws should be of sufficient length and strength to carry large game birds (such as ducks and geese) with an easy, tender hold.

-The double coat consists of a short, harsh, wavy outer coat and a dense, fine, wooly undercoat containing an abundance of natural oil and is ideally suited for the icy rugged conditions of weather the Chesapeake

-Chessies are solid-colored, either chocolatey brown, sedge, or deadgrass, with keen yellow-amber eyes that nicely complement the coat.

-Equally proficient on land and in the water

-Size and substance should not be excessive as this is a working retriever of an active nature.

-Eyes are to be medium large, very clear, of yellowish or amber color and wide apart. Ears are to be small, set well up on the head, hanging loosely, and of medium leather. Skull is broad.

-Bite is scissors but level is acceptable.

-Feet are a hare foot and webbed.

## **(Chesapeake Bay Retriever Continued)**

### **Coat:**

- Coat should be thick and short, nowhere over 1½ inches long, with a dense fine wooly undercoat.
- The texture of the Chesapeake's coat is very important, as the Chesapeake is used for hunting under all sorts of adverse weather conditions, often working in ice and snow. The oil in the harsh outer coat and wooly undercoat is of extreme value in preventing the cold water from reaching the Chesapeake's skin and aids in quick drying. A Chesapeake's coat should resist the water in the same way that a duck's feathers do. When the Chesapeake leaves the water and shakes, the coat should not hold water at all, being merely moist.

### **Color:**

- The color of the Chesapeake Bay Retriever must be as nearly that of its working surroundings as possible.
- Any color of brown, sedge or deadgrass is acceptable, self-colored Chesapeakes being preferred. One color is not to be preferred over another.
- A white spot on the breast, belly, toes, or back of the feet (immediately above the large pad) is permissible, but the smaller the spot the better, solid colored preferred.

### **Fun Facts:**

- When the Chessie was first being established in 1884, it had colorful Regional names including Red Chester and Brown Winchester
- The Chessies sturdy build makes them highly valued as K9 field in search-and-rescue work, and drug-and-bomb detection.

### **Disqualifications:**

1. Specimens lacking in breed characteristics.
2. Teeth overshot or undershot.
3. Dewclaws on the hind legs.
4. Coat curly or with a tendency to curl all over the body.
5. Feathering on the tail or legs over 1¾ inches long.
6. Black colored.
7. White on any part of the body except breast, belly, toes, or back of feet.

## **Clumber Spaniel**

Height: 18-20 inches (male), 17-19 inches (female)

Weight: 70-85 pounds (male), 55-70 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 10-12 years



### **Origin:**

The history of the Clumber Spaniel remains uncertain. Some believe that this breed originated in France during the 18th Century and was later brought across to England, where it was quite possibly further developed. The name 'Clumber' originates from the Duke of Newcastle's Clumber Park in Nottinghamshire. The Duke of Newcastle and his gamekeeper perfected a burly spaniel named for the duke's vast estate, Clumber Park.

### **Temperament:**

Mellow, Amusing, Gentlemanly. The Clumber Spaniel is a gentle, loyal and affectionate dog. He possesses an intrinsic desire to please. An intelligent and independent thinker, he displays determination and a strong sense of purpose while at work. He is the largest of all land spaniels.

### **Characteristics:**

- The Clumber Spaniel is a long, low, substantial with heavy brow, a **gundog good** in dense woods.
- Game bird hunters
- His heavy brow, deep chest, straight forelegs, powerful hindquarters, massive bone and good feet all give him the power and endurance to move through dense underbrush in pursuit of game.
- His white coat enables him to be seen by the hunter as he works within gun range.
- His stature is dignified, his expression pensive, but at the same time he shows great enthusiasm for work and play.
- A dignified and mellow hunting companion of kings, the Clumber Spaniel is the largest of the AKC flushing spaniels. Ears are triangular, broad on top with thick ear leather.
- Tail may be docked or left natural and well feathered.

### **Coat:**

- The body coat is dense, straight and flat.
- It is of good weather resistant texture, which is soft to the touch, not harsh.
- Ears are slightly feathered with straight hair. Feathering on the legs and belly is moderate. - Clumber has a good neck frill and on no condition should his throat be shaved.
- The hair on the feet should be trimmed neatly to show their natural outline and for utility in the field.

### **(Clumber Spaniel continued)**

#### **Color:**

- The Clumber is primarily a white dog with lemon color or orange color markings.
- Markings are frequently seen on one or both ears and the face. Facial markings include color around one or both eyes, freckling on the muzzle and a spot on top of the head.
- A head with lemon/orange markings and an all-white head are of equal value.
- Freckles on the legs and/or a spot near the root of the tail are also frequently seen and acceptable. The body should have as few markings as possible.

#### **Fun Facts:**

- The Clumber is considered one of the earliest spaniels developed for special uses
- Clumbers love swimming and fetching, and are sturdy childhood playmates.



## **Cocker Spaniel**

Height: 14.5-15.5 inches (male), 13.5-14.5 inches (female)

Weight: 25-30 pounds (male), 20-25 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 10-14 years



### **Origin:**

The modern Cocker Spaniel is descended from the Spaniel family, a large group that dates to antiquity. The word *spaniel* means "Spanish dog," and it's generally believed that they indeed originated in Spain. By the 1800s, Spaniels were divided into two groups: toys (primarily companions) and large hunting dogs. Hunting dogs were further divided into land and water spaniels. The Cocker Spaniel was named so for his excellence in the field hunting woodcock.

### **Temperament:**

Gentle, Smart, Happy: The merry and frolicsome Cocker Spaniel, with his big, dreamy eyes and impish personality, is one of the world's best-loved breeds. They were developed as hunting dogs, but Cockers gained their wide popularity as all-around companions.

### **Characteristics:**

- Cockers have big, dark eyes with sweet expression
- long, lush ears that practically demand to be touched—no wonder the Cocker spent years as America's most popular breed.
- The Cocker is the AKC's smallest of the spaniel family, standing about 14 to 15 inches.
- The well-balanced body is sturdy and solid, and these quick, durable **gundogs: aka hunting dogs**, move with a smooth, easy gait.
- a cleanly chiseled and refined head, with the overall dog in complete balance and of ideal size
- He stands well up at the shoulder on straight forelegs with a topline sloping slightly toward strong, moderately bent, muscular quarters. He is a dog capable of considerable speed, combined with great endurance..
- Cockers are eager playmates for kids and are easily trained as companions and athletes. They are big enough to be sporty, but compact enough to be portable.
- A Cocker in full coat rewards extra grooming time by being the prettiest dog on the block.
- He is a dog capable of considerable speed, combined with great endurance.
- Above all, he must be free and merry, sound, well balanced throughout and in action show a keen inclination to work.
- Tail is docked; but always in motion when working (a merry tail).
- Bite is scissors.
- He is slightly longer than tall.
- Ears are lobular, long of fine leather and well feathered.

## **(Cocker Spaniel continued)**

### **Coat:**

- The texture is most important. The coat is silky, flat or slightly wavy and of a texture which permits easy care. Excessive coat or curly or cottony textured coat shall be severely penalized.
- On the head, short and fine; on the body, medium length, with enough undercoating to give protection.
- The ears, chest, abdomen and legs are well feathered, but not so excessively as to hide the Cocker Spaniel's true lines and movement or affect his appearance and function as a moderately coated sporting dog.

### **Colors:**

- Black Variety-Solid color black to include black with tan points. The black should be jet; shadings of brown or liver in the coat are not desirable. A small amount of white on the chest and/or throat is allowed; white in any other location shall disqualify.
- Any Solid Color Other than Black (**ASCOB**)-Any solid color other than black, ranging from lightest cream to darkest red, including brown and brown with tan points. The color shall be of a uniform shade, but lighter color of the feathering is permissible. A small amount of white on the chest and/or throat is allowed; white in any other location shall disqualify.
- Parti-Color Variety-Two or more solid, well broken colors, one of which must be white; black and white, red and white (the red may range from lightest cream to darkest red), brown and white, and roans, to include any such color combination with tan points.
- It is preferable that the tan markings be located in the same pattern as for the tan points in the Black and ASCOB varieties.
- Roans are classified as parti-colors and may be of any of the usual roaning patterns. Primary color which is ninety percent (90%) or more shall disqualify
- Acceptable color: Black; Black and white; Black white and tan; brown; brown and tan; brown and white; brown white and tan; buff; buff and white; red; red and white; silver; blue roan; blue roan and tan; cream; golden; red roan; sable; sable and white
- Acceptable markings: Merle; roan; ticked; white markings

### **Fun Facts:**

- The Cocker Spaniel is one of the most popular breeds of American purebred dogs
- A black Cocker named Brucie helped popularize the breed by twice winning Westminster's Best in Show, in 1940 and 1941
- By 1950, the Cocker spaniel became the most popular breed of the decade
- Disney's Lady and the Tramp continued to popularize the Cocker Spaniel
- When Richard Nixon was Vice President, he owned a Cocker Spaniel named Checkers
- 19<sup>th</sup> President Rutherford B Hayes had a Cocker Spaniel named Dot
- Harry Truman (33<sup>rd</sup> President) had a Cocker Spaniel named Feller

## **Curly-Coated Retriever**

Height: 25-27 inches (male), 23-25 inches (female)

Weight: 60-95 pounds

Life Expectancy: 10-12 years



**Origin: England**

### **Temperament:**

- confident, proud, wickedly smart
- Self-confident, steadfast and proud, this active, intelligent dog is a charming and gentle family companion and a determined, durable hunter.

### **Characteristics:**

- This smartly upstanding, multi-purpose hunting **water dog retriever** is recognized by most canine historians as one of the oldest of the retrieving breeds.
- Prized for innate field ability, courage and indomitable perseverance, a correctly built and tempered Curly will work as long as there is work to be done, retrieving both fur and feather in the heaviest of cover and the iciest of waters.
- To work all day, a Curly must be balanced and sound, strong and robust, and quick and agile. -
- Outline, carriage and attitude all combine for a grace and elegance somewhat uncommon among the other retriever breeds, providing the unique, upstanding quality desired in the breed.
- In outline, the Curly is moderately angulated front and rear and, when comparing height to length, gives the impression of being higher on leg than the other retriever breeds.
- In carriage, the Curly is an erect, alert, self-confident dog.
- In motion, all parts blend into a smooth, powerful, harmonious symmetry.
- Scissors bite.
- Feet are round and compact.

### **Coat:**

The coat is a distinguishing characteristic and quite different from that of any other breed. The body coat is a thick mass of small, tight, crisp curls, lying close to the skin, resilient, water resistant, and of sufficient density to provide protection against weather, water and punishing cover.

- Curls also extend up the entire neck to the occiput, down the thigh and back leg to at least the hock, and over the entire tail.

### **(Curly Coated Retriever continued)**

- Elsewhere, the coat is short, smooth and straight, including on the forehead, face, front of forelegs, and feet,
- A patch of uncurled hair behind the withers or bald patches anywhere on the body, including bald strips down the back of the legs or a triangular bald patch on the throat, should be severely penalized.
- A looser, more open curl is acceptable on the ears. Sparse, silky, fuzzy or very harsh, dry or brittle hair is a fault.
- Trimming-Feathering may be trimmed from the ears, belly, backs of forelegs, thighs, pasterns, hocks, and feet.
- On the curly tail, feathering should be removed. Short trimming of the coat on the ear is permitted but shearing of the body coat is undesirable.

**Colors:** Liver and black; A prominent white patch is undesirable but a few white hairs are allowable in an otherwise good dog.

### **Fun Facts:**

- Curly is one of the oldest of the retriever type breeds

## **English Cocker Spaniel**

Height: 16-17 inches (male), 15-16 inches (female)

Weight: 28-34 pounds (male), 26-32 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 12-14 years



**Origin:** England

### **Temperament:**

Energetic, Merry, Responsive: The English Cocker is merry and affectionate, of equable disposition, neither sluggish nor hyperactive, a willing worker and a faithful and engaging companion.

### **Characteristics:**

- The English Cocker Spaniel (EC) is an active, merry sporting/**hunting** dog, standing well up at the withers and compactly built.
- The EC is alive with energy; EC gait is powerful and frictionless, capable both of covering ground effortlessly and penetrating dense cover to flush and retrieve game.
- The EC enthusiasm in the field and the incessant action of his tail while at work indicate how much they enjoy the hunting for which they were bred.
- EC head is strong, yet free from coarseness, softly contoured, without sharp angles. Taken as a whole, the parts combine to produce the expression distinctive of the breed. Expression-Soft, melting, yet dignified, alert, and intelligent.
- Eyes-The eyes are essential to the desired expression. They are medium in size, full and slightly oval; set wide apart; lids tight. Haws are inconspicuous; may be pigmented or unpigmented. Eye color dark brown, except in livers and liver parti-colors where hazel is permitted, but the darker the hazel the better.
- Ears-Set low, lying close to the head; leather fine, extending to the nose, well covered with long, silky, straight or slightly wavy hair.
- EC is a dog of balance, both standing and moving, without exaggeration in any part, the whole worth more than the sum of its parts.
- Scissors bite; a level bite is not preferred.
- Tail docked and in constant motion while in action.
- Round, firm, catlike, toes arched and tight; pads thick.

## **(English Cocker Spaniel continued)**

### **Coat:**

- On head, short and fine; of medium length on body; flat or slightly wavy; silky in texture.
- The English Cocker is well-feathered, but not so profusely as to interfere with field work. Trimming is permitted to remove overabundant hair and to enhance the dog's true lines. It should be done so as to appear as natural as possible.

### **Color:**

Various. Parti-colors are either clearly marked, ticked or roaned, the white appearing in combination with black, liver or shades of red. In parti-colors it is preferable that solid markings be broken on the body and more or less evenly distributed; absence of body markings is acceptable.

- Solid colors are black, liver or shades of red. White feet on a solid are undesirable; a little white on throat is acceptable; but in neither case do these white markings make the dog a parti-color.
- Tan markings, clearly defined and of rich shade, may appear in conjunction with black, livers and parti-color combinations of those colors.
- Black and tans and liver and tans are considered solid colors.

### **Allowed colors and Markings**

Black; black & tan; black & white; black, white & tan; blue roan; blue roan & tan; golden; lemon roan; liver; liver & tan; liver & white; liver roan; liver roan & tan; liver, white & roan; Orange and white; orange roan; red; red roan; lemon & white; red & white; sable; sable & white; sable & tan

Markings : tan markings; ticked; white markings

### **Fun Facts:**

After the official breed separation in England; The distinction between the English Cocker Spaniel and Springer Spaniel was one of height only. Otherwise, the Cocker Spaniel and Springer Spaniel developed side by side in the same litters

## **English Springer Spaniel**

Height: 20 inches (male), 19 inches (female)

Weight: 50 pounds (male), 40 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 12-14 years



**Origin:** England : During the long history of Britain's land spaniels, dogs described as "cockers" or "springers" were often born in the same litter. It would take many generations of careful, purposeful breeding before such sporting spaniels as the English Springer Spaniel, English Cocker Spaniel, and Field Spaniel could be sorted into the distinct breeds we know today.

### **Temperament:**

The typical Springer is friendly, eager to please, quick to learn and willing to obey. Such traits are conducive to tractability, which is essential for appropriate handler control in the field. In the show ring, he should exhibit poise and attentiveness and permit himself to be examined by the judge without resentment or cringing. Aggression toward people and aggression toward other dogs is not in keeping with sporting dog character and purpose and is not acceptable. Excessive timidity, with due allowance for puppies and novice exhibits, is to be equally penalized.

### **Characteristics:**

- The English Springer Spaniel is a medium-sized sporting dog, with a compact body and a docked tail.
- His coat is moderately long, with feathering on his legs, ears, chest and brisket.
- His pendulous ears that are long and wide with thin leather, soft gentle expression, sturdy build and friendly wagging tail proclaim him unmistakably a member of the ancient family of Spaniels.
- He is above all a well-proportioned dog, free from exaggeration, nicely balanced in every part. His carriage is proud and upstanding, body deep, legs strong and muscular, with enough length to carry him with ease.
- The English Springer Spaniel suggests power, endurance and agility.
- The English Springer Spaniel is endowed with style, symmetry, balance and enthusiasm, and is every inch a sporting dog of distinct spaniel character, combining beauty and utility.
- Bred to work closely with humans, Springers are highly trainable people-pleasers. They crave company and are miserable when neglected.
- The bite is close scissors.
- Round or slightly oval feet.

## **(English Springer Spaniel continued)**

- The stop is divided by a groove, or fluting between the eyes with a dish-faced profile, giving the dog a Roman Nose.
- Tail is docked and in constant motion while the dog is in action.
- Polite dogs, Springers are good with kids and their fellow mammals. They are eager to join in any family activity. Long walks, games of chase and fetch, and swimming are favorite pastimes of these rugged spaniels.

### **Coat:**

The Springer has an outer coat and an undercoat. On the body, the outer coat is of medium length, flat or wavy, and is easily distinguishable from the undercoat, which is short, soft and dense. The quantity of undercoat is affected by climate and season. When in combination, outer coat and undercoat serve to make the dog substantially waterproof, weatherproof and thornproof. On ears, chest, legs and belly the Springer is nicely furnished with a fringe of feathering of moderate length and heaviness. On the head, front of the forelegs, and below the hock joints on the front of the hind legs, the hair is short and fine. The coat has the clean, glossy, “live” appearance indicative of good health. It is legitimate to trim about the head, ears, neck and feet, to remove dead undercoat, and to thin and shorten excess feathering as required to enhance a smart, functional appearance.

### **Colors:**

All the following combinations of colors and markings are equally acceptable:

- (1) Black or liver with white markings or predominantly white with black or liver markings;
- (2) Blue or liver roan;
- (3) Tricolor: black and white or liver and white with tan markings, usually found on eyebrows, cheeks, inside of ears and under the tail. Any white portion of the coat may be flecked with ticking.

Off colors such as lemon, red or orange are not to place.

### **Fun Facts:**

The English Springer’s job is to detect game birds in high grass or bramble, flush or “spring” the birds from their cover, then point and retrieve the downed bird. Breed literature tells us that Springers will work relentlessly all day in the field and then, in the words of one historian, “retire to the easy companionship of family, hearth, and home after a good day’s hunt.”

-41<sup>st</sup> President George H W Bush owned a female English Springer Spaniel named Millie.

-43<sup>rd</sup> President George W Bush owned a female English Springer Spaniel named Spot who was born to Millie (President George H W Bush’s dog)



## **English Setter**

Height: 25-27 inches (male), 23-25 inches (female)

Weight: 65-80 pounds (male), 45-55 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 12 years



**Origin:** England; They were originally bred on estates of English country gentlemen, who crossed old spaniel and pointer breeds to create hunting dogs who would sit quietly, or “set,” when they located game birds.

**Temperament:** Gentle, affectionate, friendly, without shyness, fear or viciousness.

### **Characteristics:**

- English Setters are elegant but solid dogs of beauty and charm. An elegant, substantial and symmetrical **gun dog** suggesting the ideal blend of strength, stamina, grace, and style.
- The word “belton,” unique to the breed, describes the speckled coat patterns of colors that sound good enough to eat: liver, lemon, and orange among them.
- Flat-coated with feathering of good length.
- Gaiting freely and smoothly with long forward reach, strong rear drive and firm topline.
- Overall appearance, balance, gait, and purpose to be given more emphasis than any component part.
- A graceful neck carries a long, oval-shaped head proudly, and dark brown eyes convey a soft expression. A long lean head with a well defined stop.
- The merry English Setter is known as the gentleman of the dog world but is game and boisterous at play.
- A close scissors bite preferred.
- Feet face directly forward, toes closely set, strong and well arched.

### **Coat:**

- Flat without curl or wooliness.
- Feathering on ears, chest, abdomen, underside of thighs, back of all legs and on the tail of good length but not so excessive as to hide true lines and movement or to affect the dog’s appearance or function as a sporting dog.
- Tail is a smooth continuation with a fringe on the topline, tapering to a fine point; feathering is STRAIGHT

## **(English Setter continued)**

### **Colors:**

Markings-white ground color with intermingling of darker hairs resulting in belton markings varying in degree from clear distinct flecking to roan shading, but flecked all over preferred.

Head and ear patches acceptable, heavy patches of color on the body undesirable.

Color-orange belton, blue belton (white with black markings), tricolor (blue belton with tan on muzzle, over the eyes and on the legs), lemon belton, liver belton.

### **Fun Facts:**

The breed's popularity grew in Britain, and later America, as the development of reliable hunting rifles gave rise to breeds known as "gundogs"

## **Field Spaniel**

Height: 18 inches (male), 17 inches (female)

Weight: 35-50 pounds

Life Expectancy: 12-13 years



**Origin:** England

### **Temperament:**

Unusually docile, sensitive, fun-loving, independent and intelligent, with a great affinity for human companionship. They may be somewhat reserved in initial meetings. Any display of shyness, fear, or aggression is to be severely penalized.

### **Characteristics:**

- Field Spaniels bear a family resemblance to Cocker, Springer, and Sussex spaniels.
- Field Spaniels have a distinctive glossy coat is either black, some shade of liver, or combinations of the two.
- They stand 17 or 18 inches at the shoulder and should present the picture of well-balanced, moderately proportioned hunting companions.
- The long, feathery ears frame a facial expression conveying a grave, gentle intelligence.
- Field Spaniels are sweet, sensitive souls with just enough independence to make life interesting. They are trustworthy with kids, tolerant of their fellow mammals, and responsive to training. The U.S. breed standard calls these tranquil house dogs “unusually docile,” but they are nonetheless playful and enjoy a good backyard romp.
- Field Spaniels are built for activity and endurance in a heavy cover and water.
- Used to find, flush, and retrieve both fur and feather.
- They have a noble carriage; a proud but docile attitude; is sound and free moving.
- Symmetry, gait, attitude and purpose are more important than any one part.
- Tails Are preferably docked, but natural tails are allowed.
- A scissors or level bite acceptable.
- Feet are webbed.
- Ears are pendulous and leather is moderately heavy.

### **Coat:**

Single; moderately long; flat or slightly wavy; silky; and glossy; dense and water-repellent. Moderate setter-like feathering adorns the chest, underbody, backs of the legs, buttocks, and

**(Field Spaniel continued)**

may also be present on the second thigh and underside of the tail. Pasterns have clean outlines to the ground. There is short, soft hair between the toes. Overabundance of coat, or cottony texture, impractical for field work should be penalized.

**Color:**

Black, liver, golden liver or shades thereof, in any intensity (dark or light); either self-colored or bi-colored. Bi-colored dogs must be roaned and/or ticked in white areas. Tan points are acceptable on the aforementioned colors and are the same as any normally tan pointed breed. White is allowed on the throat, chest, and/or brisket, and may be clear, ticked, or roaned on a self-color dog.

**Fun Facts:**

Field Spaniel is known for its level-headedness and perseverance

## **Flat Coated Retriever**

Height: 23-24.5 inches (male), 22-23.5 inches (female)

Weight: 60-70 pounds

Life Expectancy: 8-10 years



**Origin:** England

**Temperament:** Cheerful, optimistic, good humored, responsive, loving member of the family, a versatile working dog, multi-talented, sensible, bright and tractable.

### **Characteristics:**

- The Flat-Coated Retriever's eponymous flat-lying coat comes in lustrous solid black or solid liver, with feathering at the legs and tail.
- A distinctive breed hallmark is the long head—unique among retrievers—which projects a smart and kindly expression.
- A Flat-Coat will stand as tall as a Labrador Retriever, but in silhouette they present a leaner, more elegant look.
- This highly energetic breed requires lots of outdoorsy exercise.
- The distinctive and most important features of the Flat-Coat are the silhouette (both moving and standing), smooth effortless movement, head type, coat and character. In silhouette the Flat-Coat has a long, strong, clean, "one piece" head, which is unique to the breed. Free from exaggeration of stop or cheek, the head is set well into a moderately long neck which flows smoothly into well laid back shoulders.
- A level topline combined with a deep, long rib cage tapering to a moderate tuck-up create the impression of a blunted triangle.
- The brisket is well developed and the fore-chest forms a prominent prow.
- This utilitarian retriever is well balanced, strong, but elegant; never cobby, short legged or rangy.
- The coat is thick and flat lying, and the legs and tail are well feathered.
- A proud carriage, responsive attitude, waving tail and overall look of functional strength, quality, style and symmetry complete the picture of the typical Flat-Coat.
- A scissors bite but a level bite is preferred.
- Oval or round feet.
- Ears are small and thickly feathered.

## **(Flat Coated Retriever continued)**

### **Coat:**

- Coat is of moderate length density and fullness, with a high luster.
- The ideal coat is straight and flat lying. A slight waviness is permissible but the coat is not curly, wooly, short, silky or fluffy.
- The Flat-Coat is a working retriever and the coat must provide protection from all types of weather, water and ground cover. This requires a coat of sufficient texture, length and fullness to allow for adequate insulation.
- When the dog is in full coat the ears, front, chest, back of forelegs, thighs and underside of tail are thickly feathered without being bushy, stringy or silky. Mane of longer heavier coat on the neck extending over the withers and shoulders is considered typical, especially in the male dog, and can cause the neck to appear thicker and the withers higher, sometimes causing the appearance of a dip behind the withers. Since the Flat-Coat is a hunting retriever, the feathering is not excessively long.

### **Colors:**

Solid black and solid liver

### **Fun Facts:**

- Dogdom's champion tail-waggers, Flat-Coats are among the happiest of all breeds.
- They mature slowly; some owners say that they never grow up at all, retaining a puppyish taste for rambunctious mischief into old age.
- In the mid 1800's, Flat coats were once the most popular retriever breeds
- Flat Coats were called Gamekeeper's Dog because of its widespread use on the sprawling estates of the English Gentry.

**Disqualification:** Yellow, cream or any color other than black or liver

## **German Shorthaired Pointer (GSP)**

Height: 23-25 inches (male), 21-23 inches (female)

Weight: 55-70 pounds (male), 45-60 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 10-12 years



**Origin:** Germany

**Temperament:** Friendly, smart, willing to please

### **Characteristics:**

- Known as the GSP which are hunters and all-purpose gundogs
- GSP are built to work long days in the field or at the lake
- GSPs are known for power, speed, agility, and endurance.
- “Noble” and “aristocratic” are words often used to describe the overall look.
- The German Shorthaired Pointer is a versatile hunter, an all-purpose gun dog capable of high performance in field and water.
- The overall picture which is created in the observer's eye is that of an aristocratic, well balanced, symmetrical animal with conformation indicating power, endurance and agility and a look of intelligence and animation.
- The dog is neither unduly small nor conspicuously large. It gives the impression of medium size, but is like the proper hunter, "with a short back, but standing over plenty of ground."
- Symmetry and field quality are most essential.
- Grace of outline, clean-cut head, sloping shoulders, deep chest, powerful back, strong quarters, good bone composition, adequate muscle, well carried tail and taut coat produce a look of nobility and indicate a heritage of purposefully conducted breeding.
- Tail is docked to 40% of its length.
- A true scissors bite.
- Feet are close knit, compact and round to spoon round

### **Coat:**

- The hair is short and thick and feels tough to the hand; it is somewhat longer on the underside of the tail and the back edges of the haunches.
- The hair is softer, thinner and shorter on the ears and the head. Any dog with long hair in the body coat is to be severely penalized.

## **(German Shorthaired Pointer continued)**

### **Color:**

The coat may be of solid liver or a combination of liver and white such as liver and white ticked, liver patched and white ticked, or liver roan.

**Disqualifications:** China or wall eyes. Flesh colored nose. Extreme overshot or undershot. A dog with any area of black, red, orange, lemon, or tan, or a dog solid white.

### **Fun Facts:**

- The GSP has been hunted with success on a variety of quarry: gamebirds, possum, rabbit, raccoon, and even deer.
- GSP has webbed feet and is sleek but sturdy in construction the
- GSP burnishes his résumé as one of dogdom's finest swimmers.
- Emblematic of the breed's eager versatility was Marvin, a GSP from North Carolina, who in late 2013 achieved his 75th AKC title.



## **German Wirehaired Pointer (GWP)**

Height: 24-26 inches (male), minimum 22 inches (female)

Weight: 50-70 pounds

Life Expectancy: 14-16 years



**Origin:** Germany

**Temperament:** Affectionate, eager, and enthusiastic. Of sound, reliable temperament, the German Wirehaired Pointer is at times aloof

### **Characteristics:**

- His most well-known characteristics are his wire-like coat that is also weather resistant, and his beard and eyebrows.
- GWPs are a bit taller and heavier than their close relative, the German Shorthaired Pointer.
- GWPs are balanced, well-muscled, resilient, agile, and generally built to beat the bushes all day long without tiring.
- The harsh wire coat protects against thorny underbrush and foul weather, and the shaggy beard and eyebrows complete an intelligent, worldly expression.
- GWPs are bright and eager, but their independent, inquisitive nature might frustrate novice owners. A good fit for those looking for a loving companion who enjoys sports and togetherness.
- Tail is docked to about 2/5'ths of original length.
- A true scissors bite.
- Feet are round in toeline and webbed.

### **Coat:**

- The functional wiry coat is the breed's most distinctive feature. A dog must have a correct coat to be of correct type.
- The coat is weather resistant and, to some extent, water-repellent.
- The undercoat is dense enough in winter to insulate against the cold but is so thin in summer as to be almost invisible. The distinctive outer coat is straight, harsh, wiry and flat lying, and is from one to two inches in length.
- The outer coat is long enough to protect against the punishment of rough cover, but not so long as to hide the outline of the dog.
- On the lower legs the coat is shorter and between the toes it is of softer texture.

## German Wirehaired Pointer (GWP) continued

- On the skull the coat is naturally short and close fitting.
- Over the shoulders and around the tail it is very dense and heavy.
- The tail is nicely coated, particularly on the underside, but devoid of feather.
- Eyebrows are of strong, straight hair. Beard and whiskers are medium length.
- The hairs in the liver patches of a liver and white dog may be shorter than the white hairs.
- A short smooth coat, a soft woolly coat, or an excessively long coat is to be severely penalized.
- While maintaining a harsh, wiry texture, the puppy coat may be shorter than that of an adult coat.

**Color:** The coat is liver and white, usually either liver and white spotted, liver roan, liver and white spotted with ticking and roaning or solid liver. The head is liver, sometimes with a white blaze. The ears are liver. Any black in the coat is to be severely penalized.

### **Fun Facts:**

- “The need for running in the great outdoors is a must!” says one veteran owner. “This breed will not be happy to be on the couch all day.”
- The name German Wirehaired Pointer is the English translation of the German breed name, Deutsch-Drahthaar.

## **Golden Retriever**

Height: 23-24 inches (male), 21.5-22.5 inches (female)

Weight: 65-75 pounds (male), 55-65 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 10-12 years



**Origin:** Scotland : Scottish gundog

Genetic mix of Yellow Retriever, Tweed Water Spaniel, Irish Setter, and Bloodhound

**Temperature:** friendly, intelligent, devoted

### **Characteristics:**

-The Golden Retriever is a sturdy, muscular dog of medium size, famous for the dense, lustrous coat of gold that gives the breed its name.

-Primarily a hunting dog.

-The broad head, with its friendly and intelligent eyes, short ears, and straight muzzle, is a breed hallmark.

-In motion, Goldens move with a smooth, powerful gait, and the feathery tail is carried, as breed fanciers say, with a “merry action.”

-Goldens are outgoing, trustworthy, and eager-to-please family dogs, and relatively easy to train.

-They take a joyous and playful approach to life and maintain this puppyish behavior into adulthood. These energetic, powerful gundogs enjoy outdoor play.

-Primarily a hunting dog. Goldens are built to retrieve waterfowl for hours on end, swimming and fetching are natural pastimes using soft mouth techniques.

- The bite is scissors.

- The tail is carried with merry action, but never curled over the back. Or between the legs.

### **Coat:**

Dense and water-repellent with good undercoat.

Outer coat firm and resilient, neither coarse nor silky, lying close to body; may be straight or wavy.

Untrimmed natural ruff; moderate feathering on back of forelegs and on underbody; heavier feathering on front of neck, back of thighs and underside of tail.

Coat on head, paws, and front of legs is short and even.

### **(Golden Retriever continued)**

**Color:** Rich, lustrous golden of various shades. Feathering may be lighter than rest of coat. With the exception of graying or whitening of face or body due to age, any white marking, other than a few white hairs on the chest, should be penalized according to its extent. Allowable light shadings are not to be confused with white markings. Predominant body color which is either extremely pale or extremely dark is undesirable. Any noticeable area of black or other off-color hair is a serious fault.

### **Fun Facts:**

The most important name in the early history of the Golden Retriever is Dudley Marjoribanks, the first Lord Tweedmouth, who developed the breed in the Scottish Highlands during the reign of Victoria. For the 50 years between 1840 and 1890, Tweedmouth kept scrupulous records of breedings effected to create an ideal gundog for use at his Guisachan estate in the Highlands, Inverness-shire, Scotland. Tweedmouth wanted a dog suited to the rainy climate and rugged terrain of the area, so he crossed his “Yellow Retriever” with a breed that is now extinct, the Tweed Water Spaniel. Irish Setter and Bloodhound were also added to the mix.

“Through several generations of clever breeding,” an admiring historian wrote, “Tweedmouth created a consistent line of exceptional working retrievers.” With a little more refinement after Tweedmouth’s time, the Golden Retriever came forth as an enduring gift to dogkind from a hunt-happy aristocrat.

-The Golden was first seen at a British dog show in 1908, and good specimens of the breed began arriving in America, by way of Canada, at about the same time. Sport hunters appreciated the breed’s utility, show fanciers were enthralled by their beauty and dash, and all were impressed by the Golden’s sweet, sensible temperament.

-The Golden was popular from the beginning of its American history, but the breed’s popularity really took off in the 1970s, the era of President Gerald Ford and his beautiful Golden named Liberty.

## **Gordon Setter**

Height: 24-27 inches (male), 23-26 inches (female)

Weight: 55-80 pounds (male), 45-70 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 12-13 years



**Origin:** Scotland

**Temperament:** affectionate, confident, bold, fearless and willing, intelligent and capable. He is loyal and affectionate, and strong-minded enough to stand the rigors of training.

### **Characteristics:**

- The Gordon Setter, known as the black avenger of the Highlands, is a substantial bird dog named for a Scottish aristocrat.
- Primarily a hunting dog with the three "B's) Beauty, Brains, and Birdsense.
- Originally bred to assist in retrieving both waterfowl and upland game.
- The Gordon Setter is a good-sized, sturdily built, black and tan dog
- The stunning coat is a glistening black, with tan markings and long hair on the ears, belly, legs, chest, and tail. Straight or slightly waved coat are correct
- Tan spots above the bright brown eyes point up a wise and willing expression.
- Gordons are well muscled, with plenty of bone and substance, but active, upstanding and stylish, appearing capable of doing a full day's work in the field.
- Gordons have a strong, rather short back, with well sprung ribs and a short tail.
- The head is fairly heavy and finely chiseled.
- Gordons bearing is intelligent, noble, and dignified, showing no signs of shyness or viciousness.
- He suggests strength and stamina rather than extreme speed.
- Symmetry and quality are most essential.
- A dog well balanced in all points is preferable to one with outstanding good qualities and defects.
- A smooth, free movement, with high head carriage, is typical.
- Like other Scots breeds, from the compact Scottish Terrier to the majestic Scottish Deerhound, Gordons were built to withstand their homeland's tough terrain and foul weather.
- They have a scissor bite.
- Approximately square in shape.
- Catlike feet.
- Tail flags constantly while in motion.

## **(Gordon Setter continued)**

### **Coat:**

- Soft and shining, straight or slightly waved, but not curly, with long hair on ears, under stomach and on chest, on back of the fore and hind legs, and on the tail.
- The feather which starts near the root of the tail is slightly waved or straight, having a triangular appearance, growing shorter uniformly toward the end

### **Colors:**

Black with tan markings, either of rich chestnut or mahogany color. Black penciling is allowed on the toes. The borderline between black and tan colors is clearly defined. There are not any tan hairs mixed in the black. The tan markings are located as follows: (1) Two clear spots over the eyes and not over three-quarters of an inch in diameter; (2) On the sides of the muzzle. The tan does not reach to the top of the muzzle, but resembles a stripe around the end of the muzzle from one side to the other; (3) On the throat; (4) Two large clear spots on the chest; (5) On the inside of the hind legs showing down the front of the stifle and broadening out to the outside of the hind legs from the hock to the toes. It must not completely eliminate the black on the back of the hind legs; (6) On the forelegs from the carpus, or a little above, downward to the toes; (7) Around the vent; (8) A white spot on the chest is allowed, but the smaller the better.

### **Fun Fact:**

- Gordons are the largest and most substantial of setters—a big male might stand 27 inches at the shoulder and weigh 80 pounds.
- the tail "flags" constantly while the dog is in motion
- Generations of Scots huntsmen bred hounds and "collys" into setter lines, thus producing a large, rugged **bird-dog** suited to working in difficult conditions. Alexander, Fourth Duke of Gordon (d. 1827), the master of Castle Gordon on the craggy Scottish Highlands, maintained a keen interest in these dogs. By the early 1800s the duke's kennel was producing setters recognizable as the breed that today bears his name.
- the Gordon Setter, was built to flush and retrieve game on rocky, punishing terrain and is therefore a heavier-bodied dog than the Irish Setter moving at a more deliberate pace.

**Disqualification** - Predominantly tan, red or buff dogs are ineligible for showing and undesirable for breeding

## **Irish Red and White Setter**

Height: 24.5-26 inches (male), 22.5-24 inches (female)

Weight: 42-60 pounds (male), 35-50 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 11-15 years



**Origin:** Ireland

**Temperament:** Courageous, spirited, determined: They display a kindly, friendly attitude, behind which is discernible determination, courage and high spirit.

### **Characteristics:**

- The rollicking Irish Red and White Setter is an athletic medium to large sized **bird dog** bred primarily to hunt.
- Bred primarily for the field.
- Irish Red and Whites are a bit shorter and stockier than their cousins the Irish Setter
- Sportsmen thrill at the sight of a noble Red and White frozen on point, motionless as a statue.
- powerful, solid, and sinewy, with enough stamina and bird sense to get the job done any day of the week and twice on Sunday.
- The stunning coat—vivid red “islands” floating on a sea of pearl white—has a practical function: It enables hunters to spot their dog at a distance.
- The handsome face projects a keen but kindly expression.
- A scissor bite is ideal but a level bite is acceptable.
- Close knit toes with plenty of feathering between the toes.

### **Coat:**

- Long silky fine hair called "Feathering" is present on the back of the fore and hind legs and on the outer ear flap, also a reasonable amount is on the flank extending onto the chest and throat forming a fringe.
- All feathering is straight, flat and not overly profuse.
- The tail is well feathered. On the head, front of legs and other parts of the body the hair is short, flat and free from curl but a slight wave is permissible.

## **(Irish Red and White Setter continued)**

### **Color:**

- The base color is white with solid red patches (clear islands of red color); both colors show the maximum of life and bloom.
- Flecking but not roaning is permitted around the face and feet and up the foreleg as far as the elbow and up the hind leg as far as the hock.
- Roaning, flecking and mottling on any other part of the body is most objectionable and is to be heavily penalized.

### **Fun Facts:**

- Before there was the all-red Irish Setter we know and love, there was the Red and White—a fixture of Ireland’s hills and bogs since at least the 1600s. In those days setters would sneak up on game birds by crawling on their bellies, then freeze in a “setting” position and indicate with their tail until a hunter threw a net over the birds. Nets eventually gave way to firearms, and the best setter lines adapted their crouching style of hunting to the new technology.



## **Irish Setter**

Height: 27 inches (male), 25 inches (female)

Weight: 70 pounds (male), 60 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 12-15 years



**Origin:** Ireland

**Temperament:** Active, outgoing, sweet-natured and stable personality.

The Irish Setter's lovable personality has endeared the breed to sportsmen and pet owners for more than 200 years. Irish are outgoing dogs who enjoy making friends.

### **Characteristics:**

The Irish Setter is an active, aristocratic **bird dog**, rich red in color, substantial yet elegant in build.

- The Irish has a straight, fine, glossy coat, longer on ears, chest, tail and back of legs.
- In the field, the Irish Setter is a swift-moving hunter; at home, a sweet natured, trainable companion.
- The Irish is famed for a brilliant coat of mahogany or chestnut. Long, sinewy legs and powerful rear drive help to place the Irish among the swiftest of all sporting dogs.
- A setter is a type of dog bred to locate gamebirds by using their keen sense of smell.
- The setter shows a hunter he's found birds by "setting" down on his belly.
- Before the invention of firearms, setters worked in tandem with trained falcons and hunters using nets.
- Today, Irish Setters are gundogs, that is, they work with a hunter toting a rifle.
- The bite is scissors.
- Slightly longer than tall.
- Feet are rather small, very firm with toes arched and close.
- Ears are thin leather and hanging.

### **Coat:**

- Short and fine on head and forelegs. On all other parts of moderate length and flat.
- Feathering long and silky on ears; on back of forelegs and thighs long and fine,
- Pleasing fringe of hair on belly and brisket extending onto the chest.
- Fringe on tail moderately long and tapering.
- All coat and feathering as straight and free as possible from curl or wave.
- The Irish Setter is trimmed for the show ring to emphasize the lean head and clean neck. The top third of the ears and the throat nearly to the breastbone are trimmed.
- Excess feathering is removed to show the natural outline of the foot.

### **(Irish Setter continued)**

-All trimming is done to preserve the natural appearance of the dog.

**Color:** Mahogany or rich chestnut red with no black. A small amount of white on chest, throat or toes, or a narrow centered streak on skull is not to be penalized.

### **Fun Facts:**

-Irish huntsmen of the 1800s bred their sleek, rangy “Red Setters” to move freely and swiftly, the better to cover ground in the wide, flat countryside of the Emerald Isle. By way of contrast, the Irish Setter’s kinsman from Scotland, the Gordon Setter, was built to flush and retrieve game on rocky, punishing terrain and is therefore a heavier-bodied dog that moves at a more deliberate pace.

- Eleven Irish have won the Sporting Group competition at the Westminster Kennel Club show over the years.

-The most famous Irish Setter of all time, however, was fictional, the title character of Jim Kjelgaard’s 1945 novel “Big Red.”

-President Richard Nixon’s Irish Setter, King Timahoe, was named for a small town in Ireland that was the homeland of the president’s ancestors.

**Irish Water Spaniel:**

Height: 22-24 inches (male), 21-23 inches (female)

Weight: 55-68 pounds (male), 45-58 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 12-13 years



**Origin:** Ireland

**Temperament:** Playful, hard-working, brave: Very alert, inquisitive and active. Stable in temperament with an endearing sense of humor. May be reserved with strangers but never aggressive or shy.

**Characteristics:**

- The Irish Water Spaniel is the tallest of the AKC's spaniels
- The Irish Water Spaniel is instantly recognizable by its crisply curled, liver-colored contrasted by a smooth face and tapering "rat tail."
- The Irish Water Spaniel has a waterproof/ water-repellant coat
- Among the champion swimmers of dogdom
- The alert and inquisitive IWS is hardworking and brave in the field, and playfully affectionate at home
- A cleanly chiseled head crowned with a topknot of long, loose curls.
- The IWS moves with a smooth ground-covering gait, enabling him to put in a long day's work in the field.
- The Irish Water Spaniel is a smart, upstanding, strongly built moderate gundog bred for all types of shooting, especially for water-fowling.
- Great intelligence is combined with rugged endurance and a bold, dashing eagerness of temperament.
- Scissor or level bite.
- Feet are large, somewhat spreading, well clothed with hair and thick pads.
- Ears are long, lobular and hanging.

**Coat:** Proper coat is of vital importance to protect the dog while working. The coat on the face is short and smooth framed by the distinctive topknot and ears of long, loose curls. The coat on the throat is smooth forming a V-shaped patch from the back of the lower jaw behind the beard to the breastbone. The remainder of the neck, body and base of the tail are covered with dense, tight, crisp curls. The remainder of the coat on the tail is short and smooth coated. Forelegs are covered down to the feet with curls or waves all around.

### **(Irish Water Spaniel continued)**

The hind legs are also abundantly covered with curls or waves except that the hair is short and smooth on the front of the legs below the hocks. Feet are well clothed with hair. Dogs may be shown in natural coat or trimmed. However, no dog should be groomed or trimmed so excessively as to obscure the curl or texture of the coat.

**Color:** Rich liver to dark liver with a purplish tinge, sometimes called puce liver. No white hair or markings except for the graying of age.

### **Fun Facts:**

- By at least the late Middle Ages rat-tailed spaniels were working the waterways of southern Ireland. And curly-coated Irish water dogs fitting the general description of the IWS appear in Renaissance writings. But the IWS as we know it began in the 1830s, when sportsman Justin McCarthy set the breed's type with his famous dog Boatswain. Since McCarthy's day, the IWS has gained a reputation on both sides of the Atlantic as an incomparable retriever of waterfowl.
- Irish Water Setters in the late 1100s were known as Shannon Spaniels, Rat-Tail Spaniels, or Whip-Tail Spaniels
- Irish Water Spaniels are often called the "clown of the spaniel family" possibly due to the peak of curls between the eyes
- Irish Water Spaniels are the tallest of the spaniels
- The Irish Water Spaniel's coat is naturally water-repellant

## Labrador Retriever

Height: 22.5-24.5 inches (male), 21.5-23.5 inches (female)

Weight: 65-80 pounds (male), 55-70 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 10-12 years



**Origin:** Newfoundland (Canadian Island) and refined and standardized in England

The breed began its steady climb to supreme popularity in the early 1800s, when Labs were spotted by English nobles visiting Canada. These sporting earls and lords returned to England with fine specimens of “Labrador dogs.” (Exactly how these dogs of Newfoundland became associated with Labrador is unclear, but the name stuck.) During the latter half of the 19th century, British breeders refined and standardized the breed.

**Temperament:** Friendly, active, outgoing: The ideal disposition is one of a kindly, outgoing, tractable nature; eager to please and non-aggressive towards man or animal. The Labrador has much that appeals to people; his gentle ways, intelligence and adaptability make him an ideal dog.

### **Characteristics:**

- The Labrador Retriever is a strongly built, medium-sized, short-coupled, dog possessing a sound, athletic, well-balanced conformation that enables it to function as a retrieving

#### **Gun-dog**

- Labs have the substance and soundness to hunt waterfowl or upland game for long hours under difficult conditions as well as the temperament to be a family companion.

- Physical features and mental characteristics should denote a dog bred to perform as an efficient Retriever of game with a stable temperament suitable for a variety of pursuits beyond the hunting environment.

- The most distinguishing characteristics of the Labrador Retriever are its short, dense, weather resistant coat; an “otter” tail, thick at the base; a clean-cut head with broad back skull and moderate stop; powerful jaws; and its “kind,” friendly eyes, expressing character, intelligence and good temperament.

- The Lab is an enthusiastic athlete that requires lots of exercise, like swimming and marathon games of fetch, to keep physically and mentally fit.

- He has a scissor bite, but a level bite is acceptable.

- This dog is short-coupled, being equal or slightly longer.

- Feet are strong, well-arched toes and well developed pads.

- Hanging ears.

## **(Labrador Retriever continued)**

### **Coat:**

- The coat is a distinctive feature of the Labrador Retriever. It should be short, straight and very dense, giving a fairly hard feeling to the hand.
- The Labrador should have a soft, weather-resistant undercoat that provides protection from water, cold and all types of ground cover.
- A slight wave down the back is permissible. Woolly coats, soft silky coats, and sparse slick coats are not typical of the breed, and should be severely penalized in the show ring.

### **Color:**

- The Labrador Retriever coat colors are black, yellow and chocolate. Any other color or a combination of colors is a disqualification. A small white spot on the chest is permissible, but not desirable. White hairs from aging or scarring are not to be misinterpreted as brindling. -  
Black: Blacks are all black. A black with brindle markings or a black with tan markings is a disqualification.
- Yellow: Yellows may range in color from fox-red to light cream, with variations in shading on the ears, back, and underparts of the dog.
- Chocolate: Chocolates can vary in shade from light to dark chocolate. Chocolate with brindle or tan markings is a disqualification.

### **Fun Facts:**

- The Lab's thick, tapering tail—an "otter tail," it's called— serves as a powerful rudder, constantly moving back and forth as the dog swims and aids the dog in turning.
- Labs are one of the prime breeds selected as guide and rescue dogs
- The pedigree's two most influential Labs are "Peter of Faskally" and "Flapper" which go back as far as 1878
- The Labrador did not come from Labrador but from Newfoundland

## **Lagotto Romagnolo**

Height: 17-19 inches (male), 16-18 inches (female)

Weight: 28.5-35 pounds (male), 24-31 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 15-17 years



### **Origin:** Italy

Lagotti go back to at least Renaissance Italy, where they were bred as waterfowl retrievers working the marshlands of Ravenna. ("Lago" is Italian for "lake.") Scissors, scissors or level bite.

**Temperament:** Affectionate, keen, undemanding : very attached to his owner and easy to train. He is also a very good companion and an excellent watch-dog.

### **Characteristics:**

- The Lagotto Romagnolo is a small to medium-sized dog, well proportioned, powerfully built, of a rustic appearance, with a dense, curly coat of woolly texture. The dog should give the impression that he has the strength and endurance to work all day in difficult and challenging terrain
- The Lagotto Romagnolo is known for woolly curls that cover the body head to tail, crowned by a lavish beard, eyebrows, and whiskers.
- Lagotti is a square body and stands under 20 inches and weigh no more than 35 pounds. But don't be fooled by their teddy-bear looks—these are rugged workers of true strength and endurance. The breed's trademark curls feel and behave more like human hair than fur.
- Bite is a reverse bite..
- Feet are slightly rounded, compact, well arched toes with well developed webbing.
- Ears are hanging.

### **Coat:**

- Hair - of woolly texture, never twisted to form thin cords, semi-rough on the surface, with tight, ring shaped curls, with visible undercoat.
- Curls must be evenly distributed all over the body and tail, except on the head, where the curls are not as tight forming abundant eyebrows, whiskers and beard.
- Even the cheeks are covered with thick hair.
- The topcoat and specially the undercoat are water-proof. The clipped coat must not be longer than a maximum of 1½ to 2 inches in a curled state (not brushed out) and it should be uniform with the silhouette of the dog.

### **(Lagotto Romagnolo continued)**

- Only on the head the coat can be longer than 1½ inches, but not so long as to cover the eyes. --
- The edges of the ears should be clipped to the leather, though the surface of the ear flap should show wavy hair
- The hair should never be clipped so short (except as noted above) that curls and texture of the coat cannot be assessed.
- The correct clip is un-pretentious and contributes to accentuate the natural, rustic look typical of the breed.
- The correct coat is never luxurious and shiny.
- Excessively groomed dogs (sculpted or blown out so that the curl may not be assessed) should be so severely penalized as to eliminate from competition.

**Color:** Off-white solid color, white with brown or orange patches, brown roan, brown (in different shades) with or without white, orange with or without white. Some dogs have a brown to dark brown mask. Tan markings (in different shades) allowed. The colors have a tendency to fade to a more diluted shade as the dog ages, sometimes to such an extent that the brown areas can appear as a silvery/gray roan. All the above colors are equally desirable including faded or diluted colors.

### **Fun Facts:**

- The Lagotto Romagnolo is known as Italy's adorable "truffle dog"
- The Lagotto has a natural gift for searching and a very good nose has made the breed very efficient in finding and rooting out truffles (a dainty and pricey delicacy.
- Italians have a word for it: "carino." In English, we say "cute."
- The Lagotto Romagnolo (plural: Lagotti Romagnoli)
- The Lagotto Romagnolo is also known as the Romagna Water Dog and believed to be the founding breed from which all water dogs descend.

### **Disqualification:**

- Corded coat
- Black coat, black patches or black pigmentation are to be disqualified.



## **Nederlandse Kooikerhondje** (Koi-ker-hond-yuh)

Height: Dogs 16", Females 15"

Weight: 20 - 30 lbs

Life Expectancy: 12-15 years



### **Origin:** Netherlands

The Nederlandse Kooikerhondje is a very old breed, appearing in paintings by the Dutch masters back into the late Middle Ages. The breed was used in the “Eendenkooi” the manmade duck-trapping pond systems, beginning prior to the invention of gunpowder. These “Duck Decoys” – as they were called in English – are not to be confused with carved wooden faux ducks, but were instead hand-dug ponds ranging from 3 to 10 acres in size. The breed was also associated with the founder of the Dutch Monarchy, Prince William of Oranje, whose “Kooiker” Kuntz was credited with saving the Prince’s life when assassins sought to kill him.

**Temperament:** Friendly, Alert, Quick: The breed is faithful, easy-going and friendly in the home. Outdoors he is a true sporting dog being keen, swift, tough, attentive and energetic. With sufficient perseverance and stamina, he enjoys working and does so with a cheerful character.

### **Characteristics:**

- The Kooikerhondje (Koi-ker-hond-yuh)—the “little white and orange dog with a big heart” —
- The Kooikerhondje is a sporty, eye-catching fellow with a silky all-weather coat of white with red patches. They are instantly recognizable thanks to their large, black-tipped ears and the richly feathered tail they wag proudly.
- The Nederlandse Kooikerhondje is a harmoniously built orange-red parti-colored small sporting dog of almost square body proportions. He moves with his head held high; in action, the well-feathered waving tail is carried level with, or above the topline.
- The ears may have black hair at the tips, the so-called earrings.
- The Nederlandse Kooikerhondje is presented with a natural, untrimmed coat.
- The breed has the sturdy bone structure expected of a serious hunter, but the overall picture is that of a harmoniously built dog of smooth, flowing contours and springy gait.
- He has a scissor bite.
- Feet are oval, compact, with toes pointing forward.

(Nederlandse Kooikerhondje continued)

**Coat:**

- Hair - Of medium length, close lying. May be slightly wavy or straight, but never curly or open. -
- Soft, but with enough texture to be weather resistant.
- Functional undercoat.
- Front legs should have moderate feathering reaching to the pastern joints. Hind legs should have fairly long feathered breeches.
- No feathering below the hock joints.
- The coat on the head, the front part of the legs and the feet should be short.
- Sufficiently feathered on the underside of the tail.
- Longer hair on throat and fore-chest.
- Also has a beard, eyebrows and whiskers.
- Earrings (long feathered black hair tips) are highly desirable.

**Color:** Distinct patches of clear orange-red on pure white are ideal. A few small spots on the legs or muzzle are acceptable. Chest, belly, and the majority of the legs and tail should be white. Orange red color should predominate on the head and torso and may be present as a mantle or blanket, but is less desirable than distinct patches.

- Some black hair intermingling with the orange-red color and a slight form of ticking are acceptable, but less desirable.
  - A black tail ring where the color changes from orange-red to white on the tail is permitted.
- Coloring on the head: A clearly visible white blaze running down to the nose.
- There should be coloring on the cheeks, ideally ending at the corners of the mouth, and around the eyes. A blaze that is too narrow or too wide or only partly colored cheeks is less desirable.

**Fun Facts:**

- The Nederlandse Kooikerhondje is believed to be an ancestor of the Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever
- The first recorded litter in the US was in 1999
- The Nederlandse Kooikerhondje was recognized in AKC in 2018
- The Nederlandse Kooikerhondje is the only sporting group breed that works in front of its game
- The Kooikerhondje is also known as the Dutch Decoy Spaniel.

**Disqualification**

- Color that is black and white or tri-color.
- 1½ inches under the ideal height after 1 year of age or 1½ inches above the ideal height at any age.

## **Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever**

Height: 18-21 inches (male), 17-20 inches (female)

Weight: 35-50 pounds

Life Expectancy: 12-14 years



**Origin:** Canada

**Temperament:** Affectionate, Intelligent, Outgoing

### **Characteristics:**

- The little **gundog** with the big name is the smallest AKC retriever, standing ideally 18 or 19 inches at the shoulder.
- The Toller's trademark is a coat of stunning crimson, ranging from golden red to a dark coppery color, with white markings.
- Strong and agile, Tollers are medium dogs: medium in size, bone, and coat length.
- The almond-shaped eyes project an alert expression.
- Tollers are upbeat athletes who require outlets for their boundless vigor: hunting, hiking, camping, and, of course, swimming (for which they are ideally suited, down to their webbed, slightly oval feet).
- Tollers are smart, handsome, affectionate companions, but these red tornadoes can be recommended only to those with enough time and energy to keep them usefully occupied.
- The Toller's attitude and bearing suggest strength with a high degree of agility. He is alert, determined, and quick, with a keen desire to work and please.
- Many Tollers have a slightly sad or worried expression when they are not working. The moment the slightest indication is given that retrieving is required, they set themselves for springy action with an expression of intense concentration and excitement.
- The heavily feathered tail is held high in constant motion while working.
- He has a tight scissor bite.
- Drop ears, triangular in shape with rounded tips.
- Eye rims must be self-colored or black.

## **(Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever continued)**

### **Coat:**

- The Toller was bred to retrieve from icy waters and must have a water-repellent double coat of medium length and softness, and a soft dense undercoat.
- The coat may have a slight wave on the back, but is otherwise straight. Some winter coats may form a long loose curl at the throat.
- Featherings are soft and moderate in length. The hair on the muzzle is short and fine.
- Seasonal shedding is to be expected.
- Overcoated specimens are not appropriate for a working dog and should be faulted.
- While neatening of the feet, ears, and hocks for the show ring is permitted, the Toller should always appear natural, never barbered.
- Whiskers must be present.
- The tail is long, luxuriant and well feathered.

### **Color:**

- Color is any shade of red, ranging from a golden red through dark coppery red, with lighter featherings on the underside of the tail, pantaloons, and body. Even the lighter shades of golden red are deeply pigmented and rich in color.
- Markings - the Toller has usually at least one of the following white markings - tip of tail, feet (not extending above the pasterns), chest and blaze. A dog of otherwise high quality is not to be penalized for lack of white.

### **Fun Facts:**

- The Nova Scotia Tolling Duck Retriever is fashioned after the MicMac Indian Dog
- Tolling refers to the old hunting style of drawing ducks and waterfowl toward the hunter in the style of a fox
- The Nova Scotia Tolling Duck Retriever is known as “decoy dog”
- This breed was also known as the “Yarmouth Toller” and “Little River Duck Dog”
- The dog’s feathery tail and red coat all scream “I’m a fox!” to the gullible ducks. The birds are enticed into gunshot range. The Toller is then sent out to retrieve the downed game and gently return it to his human partner’s hand.
- The breed name comes from a Middle English word, “tollen,” meaning “to lure” or “summon”
- The only other breed that uses this “foxy technique” is the Kooikerhondje.

### **Disqualifications:**

- Brown coat, black areas in coat, or buff. Buff is bleached, faded, or silvery. Buff may also appear as faded brown with or without silver tips.
- White on the shoulders, around the ears, back of neck, or across the flanks.

## **Pointer**

Height: 25-28 inches (male), 23-26 inches (female)

Weight: 55-75 pounds (male), 45-65 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 12-17 years



**Origin:** England

**Temperament:** Loyal, hardworking, even-tempered

### **Characteristics:**

- Pointers point game birds, and they have been pointing for centuries.
- The Pointer is bred primarily for sport afield
- The ideal specimen gives the immediate impression of compact power and agile grace;
- The Pointer should have a head noble, proudly carried;
- The Pointer's expression is intelligent and alert;
- The muscular body bespeaking both staying power and dash. Here is an animal whose every movement shows him to be a wide-awake, hard-driving **hunting dog** possessing stamina, courage, and the desire to go.
- Even or scissors bite.
- The foot is oval, with long, closely-set arched toes, well padded.
- Ears hang naturally.
- Tail is heavier at the root, tapering to a fine point without curl.

**Coat:** Short, dense, smooth with a sheen.

### **Color:**

- Liver, lemon, black, orange; either in combination with white or solid-colored. A good Pointer cannot be a bad color.
- In the darker colors, the nose should be black or brown; in the lighter shades it may be lighter or flesh-colored.

### **Fun Facts:**

- Pointers seem to begin displaying the pointing instinct at around 2 months of age. They freeze on point.
- Often considered the "Cadillac" of bird dogs. They find game birds by catching the scent in the air, rather than the ground, but do not flush or kill their quarry
- The Pointer was the first dog used to stand game.

## **Spinone Italiano**

Height: 23-27 inches (male), 22-25 inches (female)

Weight: In direct proportion to size and structure of a dog in working condition.

Life Expectancy: 10-12 years



**Origin:** Italy : The name Spinone refers to “pino,” the thorny undergrowth found in Italy’s Piedmont region. It was there that all-weather, all-purpose Spinoni were first bred to work alongside human huntsmen on the hilly terrain of Alpine Italy.

**Temperament:** Sociable, docile, affectionate and patient.

### **Characteristics:**

- The Spinone Italiano (plural: Spinoni Italiani) is a squarely and solidly built **all-around hunter**. ---
- Spinoni are muscular and powerful, built more for endurance than speed.
- The Spinone’s strengths as hunter’s companions include intelligence, a great nose, the ability to retrieve on land or lake, and the stamina to work all day and eagerly ask for more.
- The dense coat has a natural, unclipped look and comes in various colors and patterns.
- The face conveys the breed’s abundant Old World charm.
- The Spinone’s soft, sweetly expressive eyes are set off by shaggy eyebrows and a tufted beard
- The Spinone has a distinctive profile and soft, almost-human expression.
- The Spinone has a robust build that makes him resistant to fatigue and able to work on almost any terrain
- The Spinone has big feet and a two-piece topline give the dog stability on rough ground.
- The Spinone covers ground efficiently, combining a purposeful, easy trot with an intermittent gallop.
- A harsh, **single coat and thick skin** enable the Spinone to negotiate underbrush and endure cold water that would punish any dog not so naturally armored.
- This versatile pointer is a proficient swimmer and an excellent retriever by nature.
- The Spinone is patient, methodical and cooperative in the field, and has a gentle demeanor.
- Ears are pendulous, carried close to the body and have erectile power; the leather is fine.
- He has a square build with a scissors or level bite.

## **(Spinone Italiano continued)**

### **Coat:**

- A Spinone must have a correct, harsh, single coat to be of correct type.
- The Spinone has no undercoat.
- The Spinone's ideal coat length is 1½ to 2½ inches on the body.
- The hair is shorter on the head, ears, and along the top of the muzzle and front sides of legs and feet.
- The hair on the backsides of the legs forms a rough brush, but there are never any fringes.
- The eyes and lips are framed by long, stiff hair forming eyebrows, mustache and beard.
- The coat is coarse, dense and rather flat.
- The Spinone is exhibited in a natural state, in accordance with his function as a field dog.

### **Color:**

- The accepted colors are: Solid white, white and orange; orange roan with or without orange markings; white with brown markings, and brown roan with or without brown markings.
- The most desired color of brown is a chestnut, "monk's habit" brown, however, other shades of brown are acceptable.

### **Fun Facts:**

- The Spinone is known for its superior nose and ultra-soft mouth
- The Spinone is also known as the Italian Coursehaired Pointer

### **Disqualification:**

- Any black in the coat, tri-color in any combination, tan points or any color other than accepted colors.
- Walleye (an eye with a whitish iris; a blue eye, fisheye, pearl eye.)
- Any pigment other than described or total depigmentation of the nose.
- Overshot or undershot bite.
- Any black pigmentation.

## **Sussex Spaniel**

Height: 13-15 inches

Weight: 35-45 pounds

Life Expectancy: 13-15 years



**Origin:** Sussex (Southern England)

Sometime in the 1700s, sportsmen in the English county of Sussex developed a spaniel whose short legs and burly torso were perfectly suited to hunting feathered game while plowing through the region's heavy clay soil, dense underbrush, and thick hedgerows. Because the dog was built so low and the cover was so high, Sussex developed a language of barks and babbling to mark their location to human huntsmen. And to this day, Sussex tend to be more vocal than other spaniels.

**Temperament:** Friendly, merry, even-tempered

Despite its somber and serious expression, the breed is friendly and has a cheerful and tractable disposition.

### **Characteristics:**

- Sussex are long, low-built **bird dogs** of great strength and endurance
- The Sussex Spaniel presents a rectangular outline as the breed is longer in body than it is tall
- The Sussex has short legs, massive build, long body, and habit of giving tongue when on scent which made the breed ideally suited to penetrating the dense undergrowth and flushing game within range of the gun.
- The Sussex has strength, maneuverability, and desire
- The Sussex Spaniel presents a long and low, rectangular and rather massive appearance coupled with free movements and nice tail action.
- The low set tail is docked 5-7 inches.
- The Sussex has a somber and serious expression.
- The Sussex has a rich golden liver color which is unique to the breed.
- To briefly describe a Sussex – The 4 L' are: Long, Low, Liver, and Lively.

### **Coat:**

- The body coat is abundant, flat or slightly waved, with no tendency to curl.
- The legs are moderately well-feathered, but clean below the hocks.
- The ears are furnished with soft, wavy hair.
- The neck has a well-marked frill in the coat.
- Ears are thick, fairly large and lobe shaped.
- The tail is thickly covered with moderately long feather.



### **( Sussex Spaniel continued)**

-No trimming is acceptable except to shape foot feather, or to remove feather between the pads or between the hock and the feet.

-The scissors bite is preferred.

-The feather between the toes must be left in sufficient length to cover the nails.

(Sussex Spaniel continued)

**Color:** Rich golden liver is the only acceptable color and is a certain sign of the purity of the breed. Dark liver or puce is a major fault. White on the chest is a minor fault. White on any other part of the body is a major fault.

### **Fun Facts:**

-The Sussex Spaniel was among the first ten breeds to be recognized and admitted to the Stud Book when the American Kennel Club was formed in 1884, but it has existed as a distinct breed for much longer. As its name implies, it derives its origin from the county of Sussex, England, and it was used there since the eighteenth century as a field dog.

- Sussex tend to be more vocal than other spaniels using barks and babbling to communicate with their human huntsman.

-Sussex were one of the first ten breeds recognized and admitted to the stud book when the AKC was formed in 1884.

NO DISQUALIFICATIONS.

## **Vizsla**

Height: 22-24 inches (male), 21-23 inches (female)

Weight: 55-60 pounds (male), 44-55 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 12-14 years



**Origin:** Hungary

**Temperament:** Affectionate, Gentle, Energetic

A natural hunter endowed with a good nose and above-average ability to take training. Lively, gentle-mannered, demonstrably affectionate and sensitive though fearless with a well developed protective instinct.

### **Characteristics:**

- The Vizsla is a versatile, a medium-sized, short-coated, red-coated (golden-rust in color) **gundog** built for long days in the field.
- Vizslas are the picture of a lean, light-footed hunter's companion.
- The long, silky ears frame a facial expression that is sensitive and loving around the house and intense when at work.
- As a hunter expected to work closely with humans, Vizslas form a tight bond with their owners and hate to be left alone.
- Vizslas are robust but rather lightly built
- Vizsla was bred to work in field, forest and water.
- Vizslas are agile and energetic.
- Vizslas are a versatile dog of power, drive and endurance in the field yet a tractable and affectionate companion in the home.
- Field conditioned coats, as well as brawny or sinewy muscular condition and honorable scars indicating a working and hunting dog are never to be penalized in the Vizsla.
- The requisite instincts and abilities to maintain a "dual dog" are always to be fostered and appreciated, never deprecated.
- Bite is scissors.
- Feet are cat-like, round and compact with toes close; nails are short and brown, with thick pads.
- Ears are thin, silky and long with rounded leather ended proportionally.
- Tail is thicker at the root and docked 1/3 off. A docked tail is preferred.

## **(Vizsla continued)**

### **Coat:**

-Short, smooth, dense and close-lying, without woolly undercoat.  
A distinctly long coat is a disqualification.

### **Color:**

-Golden rust in varying shades.  
-Lighter shadings over the sides of the neck and shoulders giving the appearance of a "saddle" are common.  
-Solid dark mahogany and pale yellow are faulty.  
-White on the forechest, preferably as small as possible, and white on the toes are permissible.  
-Solid white extending above the toes or white anywhere else on the dog except the forechest is a disqualification.  
-When viewing the dog from the front, white markings on the forechest must be confined to an area from the top of the sternum to a point between the elbows when the dog is standing naturally.  
-White extending on the shoulders or neck is a disqualification.  
-White due to aging or scarring must not be faulted.  
-The Vizsla is self-colored, with the color of the eyes, eye-rims, lips, nose, toenails and pads of feet blending with the color of the coat.

### **Fun Facts:**

-The Vizsla is also called the Hungarian Pointer  
-Vizsla is essentially a pointer with the characteristics of a pointer and retriever.

### **Disqualifications:**

Partially or completely black nose.  
Solid white extending above the toes or white anywhere else on the dog except the forechest.  
White extending on the shoulders or neck.  
A distinctly long coat.  
Any male over 25½ inches, or under 20½ inches and any female over 24½ inches or under 19½ inches at the highest point over the shoulder blades.

## **Weimaraner**

Height: 25-27 inches (male), 23-25 inches (female)

Weight: 70-90 pounds (male), 55-75 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 10-13 years



**Origin:** Germany

**Temperament:** Friendly, fearless, obedient

### **Characteristics:**

- The Weimaraner, Germany's sleek and swift "Gray Ghost," is beloved by hunters and pet owners alike for their friendliness, obedience, and beauty.
- A properly bred Weimaraner will be solid gray colored, with maybe a small white spot on the chest.
- The Weimaraner face, with its amber or blue-gray eyes framed by long velvety ears, is amiable and intelligent.
- Overall, the Weimaraner presents a picture of streamlined grace, speed, stamina, alertness and balance.
- A medium-sized gray dog, with fine aristocratic features.
- Above all, the dog's conformation must indicate the ability to work with great speed and endurance in the field.
- The upper teeth protrude slightly over the lower teeth but not more than 1/16th inch.
- The feet are firm, compact, webbed toes, well arched pads, closed and thick nails, short and gray or amber in color.
- The tail is docked, so at maturity it should be about 6 inches long.

### **Coat and Color:**

- Short, smooth and sleek, solid color, in shades of mouse-gray to silver-gray, usually blending to lighter shades on the head and ears. A small white marking on the chest is permitted, but should be penalized on any other portion of the body.

### **Fun Facts:**

- Dwight D. Eisenhower (34th U.S. President) had a Weimaraner named Heidi who lived in the White House with the First Family
  - Artist William Wegman is famous for using Weimaraners in his including video segments which appeared regularly on the children's show Sesame Street.
- The Weimaraner is a "Velcro" dog.

**(Weimaraner continued)**

**Disqualifications:**

- Deviation in height of more than one inch from standard either way.
- A distinctly long coat.
- A distinctly blue or black coat.

## **Welsh Springer Spaniel**

Height: 18-19 inches (male), 17-18 inches (female)

Weight: 40-55 pounds (male), 35-50 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 12-15 years



**Origin:** England

**Temperament:** Happy, Reserved, Upbeat

The Welsh Springer Spaniel is an active dog displaying a loyal and affectionate disposition.

Although reserved with strangers, he is not timid, shy nor unfriendly. To this day he remains a devoted family member and hunting companion.

### **Characteristics:**

- The Welsh Springer Spaniel is a vigorous, medium-sized **bird dog** of happy disposition, known for versatility in the field, companionability at home, and dashing good looks anywhere.
- The Welsh Springer Spaniel is known as the Welshie and is among Britain's oldest sporting breeds.
- The Welsh Springer Spaniel is an attractive dog of handy size, exhibiting substance without coarseness.
- The Welsh Springer Spaniel is compact, not leggy, obviously built for hard work and endurance.
- The Welsh Springer Spaniel gives the impression of length due to obliquely angled forequarters and well developed hindquarters.
- Welsh Springer Spaniel is a hunting dog which should be shown in hard muscled working condition.
- The Welsh Springer Spaniel's coat should not be so excessive as to hinder his work as an active flushing spaniel, but should be thick enough to protect him from heavy cover and weather.
- A scissor bite is preferred.
- He has round, tight, well arched toes and thick pads.
- The ears are comparatively small, the leather does not reach the nose. They are shaped like a - vine leaf and are lightly feathered.
- The tail is an extension of the topline; generally docked and displays a lively action.
- Rectangular in shape.

## **(Welsh Springer Spaniel continued)**

### **Coat:**

- The coat is naturally straight flat and soft to the touch, never wiry or wavy.
- It is sufficiently dense to be waterproof, thornproof, and weatherproof.
- The back of the forelegs, the hind legs above the hocks, chest and underside of the body are moderately feathered.
- The ears and tail are lightly feathered.
- The coat that is so excessive as to be a hindrance in the field is to be discouraged. Obvious barbering is to be avoided as well.

**Color:** The color is rich red and white only. Any pattern is acceptable and any white area may be flecked with red ticking

### **Fun Facts:**

- Welshies are the oldest of Britain's spaniels, descendants of the original spaniels of the Iberian Peninsula (the word spaniel is derived from "Spaniard").
- The History of Welsh Springer Spaniels date as far back as 7000 BC.
- The Welsh Springer Spaniel and the English Springer Spaniel are completely different breeds and do not represent "varieties" of the Springer Spaniel.
- He derives his name from his hunting style and not his relationship to other breeds.

## **Wirehaired Pointing Griffon**

Height: 22-24 inches (male), 20-22 inches (female)

Weight: 50-70 pounds (male), 35-50 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 12-15 years



**Origin:** Netherlands, Germany, France

**Temperament:** Friendly, Devoted, Trainable

### **Characteristics:**

- The Wirehaired Pointing Griffon is renowned with the nickname of the “supreme **gundog**,”
- The Wirehaired Pointing Griffon is known for the coarse and harsh low-shedding coat, never curly or woolly, with a thick undercoat of fine hair, giving an unkempt appearance
- Wirehaired Pointing Griffon, called “Griffs”, are medium-sized, all-purpose gundogs
- Griffs are known for an extremely harsh and bristly coat that gives them a natural, unkempt appearance.
- Griffs preferred color is steel gray with brown markings.
- Griffs have a lavish mustache and eyebrows frame large, rounded eyes that gleam with a keen intelligence.
- Griffs are the very picture of an honest, hardworking sporting dog, whose handsome looks are the result of a noble and unaffected ruggedness rather than fussy grooming.
- Griffs have movement showing an easy catlike gracefulness.
- The Wirehaired Pointing Griffon excels equally as a pointer in the field, or a retriever in the water.
- They have a scissors bite. Feet are round, firm, with tightly toes, thick pads and webbed.
- Ears are medium size, lying flat and close to the head.
- A preferred tail is docked by  $\frac{1}{4}$  of its natural length. Natural tails are not penalized.



## **(Wirehaired Pointing Griffon continued)**

### **Coat:**

- The coat is one of the distinguishing features of the breed.
- It is a double coat.
- The outer coat is medium length, straight and wiry, never curly or woolly.
- The harsh texture provides protection in rough cover.
- The obligatory undercoat consists of a fine, thick down, which provides insulation as well as water resistance. The undercoat is more or less abundant, depending upon the season, climate, and hormone cycle of the dog. It is usually lighter in color.
- The head is furnished with a prominent mustache and eyebrows.
- These required features are extensions of the undercoat, which gives the Griffon a somewhat untidy appearance.
- The hair covering the ears is fairly short and soft, mixed with longer harsh hair from the coat. --
- The overall feel is much less wiry than the body.
- The legs, both front and rear, are covered with denser, shorter, and less coarse hair.
- The coat on the tail is the same as the body; any type of plume is prohibited.
- The breed should be exhibited in full body coat, not stripped short in pattern.
- Trimming and stripping are only allowed around the ears, top of head, cheeks and feet.

### **Color:**

- Preferably steel gray with brown markings, frequently chestnut brown, or roan, white and brown; white and orange also acceptable.
- A uniformly brown coat, all white coat, or white and orange are less desirable.
- A black coat disqualifies.

### **Fun Facts:**

- The Griffon has earned the nickname of "supreme gundog"
- The Griffon is an excellent swimmer and retriever
- Although Dutch in origin, it is regarded as a French breed since its major development took place in France.

**Disqualifications:** Nose any color other than brown. Black coat.

## **Wirehaired Vizsla**

Height: 23-25 inches (male), 21.5-23 inches (female)

Weight: 55-65 pounds (male), 45-55 pounds (female)

Life Expectancy: 12-14 years



**Origin:** Hungary

**Temperament:** Gentle, Loyal, Trainable

### **Characteristics:**

- Wirehaired Vizslas (WVs) are close relatives of Vizslas but a distinctly separate breed. The key distinguishing feature is coat type. Unlike the sleek Vizsla, WVs have a dense wiry coat, with a shaggy beard and eyebrows setting off a bright, lively expression.
- Both Vizsla breeds are classified as medium-sized, but an ideal WV will stand a shade taller and be a bit heavier and sturdier than his smooth-coat cousin, the Vizsla..
- The Wirehaired Vizsla and the Vizsla share the same striking red coloring (golden-rust), with a nose and eyes that smartly complement the coat.
- The WVs movement is powerful yet graceful with far reaching drive enabling the breed to hunt in all elements and cover any terrain encountered by the walking hunter.
- The WVs breed possesses an excellent nose for hunting and tracking feather and fur on land and in water, as well as a natural point and retrieve.
- The Wirehaired Vizsla's most distinguishing features are its weather resistant dense wire coat and its facial furnishings, specifically its beard and eyebrows. Natural appearance is essential to breed type, therefore the Wirehaired Vizsla is to be shown with limited stripping and should not be penalized for being shown in working condition: sinewy, well-muscled with honorable scars.
- The tail is thick at its base then tapers and carries a dense coat.
- The bite is a scissor bite.
- The feet are cat-like, but slightly oval and always parallel.
- The ears are moderate in length hanging close to the cheeks, ending in a rounded V shape.

(Wirehaired Vizsla continued)

**Coat:**

- The Wirehaired Vizsla's coat makes this breed unique. Close lying, a length of approximately 1 inch, the dense wiry coat should not hide the outline of the body.
- Functionally the coat should protect against weather and injury with a dense undercoat and wiry outer coat.
- The lower legs and underside of the chest and belly are covered with shorter, softer, thinner coat.
- Coat on the head and ears is close fitting and shorter.
- Pronounced eyebrows highlight the stop. Expression is enhanced not only by eyebrows, but also by a strong, harsh beard, approximately 1 inch in length, formed from both sides of the muzzle.
- On both sides of the neck the coat forms V shaped brushes. Lacking undercoat or coat brushes on the back of the front legs should be penalized, as is any deviation in coat texture or excessive length of the coat.
- The Wirehaired Vizsla should be exhibited almost in his natural state, nothing more in the way of stripping being needed than a tidying up. A clipped coat is faulty.

**Color:**

- Golden rust in varying shades. Red, brown or yellow colors are faulty.
- The ears may be slightly darker than the body; otherwise the coat color is uniform.
- White on the forechest or throat, not more than 2 inches in diameter, as well as white on the toes is permissible and common.
- Solid white extending above the toes or white anywhere else on the dog except the forechest and throat is a disqualification.
- White due to aging or scars from hunting is not to be faulted.
- The Wirehaired Vizsla is self-colored, with the color of the eyes, eye-rims, lips, nose and toenails blending with the color of the coat.

**Fun Facts:**

- Hungarian hunters and falconers wanted a dog with the same drive and versatility of their beloved Vizslas, but with a sturdier frame and a denser coat, the better to work on punishing terrain and in cold weather. They achieved this by judicious crosses of Vizslas and German Wirehaired Pointers

**Disqualifications:** Dogs over 12 months of age measuring over 26 inches, or under 22 inches and bitches over 12 months of age over 24 inches or under 20½ inches. Partial or completely black nose. Under or overshot bite. More than two missing teeth. Rear dewclaws. White extending above the toes or white anywhere else on the dog except the forechest and throat. More than 2 inches of white in any direction on the forechest and throat.