

AMERICAN WATER SPANIEL

Group: Sporting

SIZE:

Height ranges from 15 to 18 inches. Males, 28 to 45 pounds; females, 25 to 40 pounds.

COAT:

The coat should be closely curled or have marcel effect and should be of sufficient density (and texture) to be protection against the elements.

Faults: Coat too straight, soft, coarse, fine or tightly kinked.

COLOR:

Solid liver or dark chocolate. A little white on toes or chest is permissible

HEAD:

Skull: Rather broad and full, moderate in length. Stop moderately defined. Forehead covered with short smooth hair and without tuft or topknot.

Muzzle: Of medium length and square, with no inclination towards snipiness.

Teeth: A full complement of strong, straight, well shaped, white teeth meet in a bite that tends to be neither undershot nor overshot.

Eyes: Well set apart, and somewhat round in shape. Color, hazel or brown, or of dark color to harmonize with the coat. Yellow (lemon) eyes are a disqualification.

Nose: Sufficiently wide and with well-developed nostrils to insure good scenting power.

Ears: Long, wide and lobular, set slightly above the level of the eye. Leather extending to end of nose and well-covered with close curls.

NECK :

Round and of medium length, strong and muscular, free of throatiness, set to carry head with dignity; arched, but not accentuated.

BODY:

General outline gives the impression of a symmetrical relationship of parts. Body is well-developed, sturdily constructed, but not too compactly coupled. Brisket deep, but not excessively broad. Well-sprung ribs. Strong loins slightly arched, without a tucked-up appearance.

FRONT AND REAR QUARTERS:

Shoulders are sloping, muscular and clean.

FORELEGS -- Medium length, powerful, well boned and reasonably straight.. Pasterns should be strong with no suggestion of weakness. The toes are closely grouped and webbed. Feet size should be relative to the size of the dog. Front dewclaws are permissible.

HIND LEGS – Muscular, with suitably bent stifles and strong, well let down hocks that are rounded, not sharp or pointed in shape.

Feet: in proportion with size of dog. Toes closely coupled and well-padded.

Tail: of moderate length, slightly curved in a rocker shape. Carried below the level of the back, tapered and covered with hair to tip. Action is lively.

Faults: Rat or shaved tailed.

MOVEMENT:

Well-balanced, with matching front reach and rear drive. No tendency for legs to cross over or interfere with one another. Hind legs move nearly parallel to front legs when viewed from behind.

Any departure from this standard should be considered a fault, and the final score should reflect the seriousness of the deviation from the standard.

Disqualifications

Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.

Viciousness or extreme shyness.

Yellow eyes.

Albinism.