

## **CANE CORSO**

GROUP: Working

### SIZE:

Height at withers, 25 to 28 inches for males; 23 to 26 inches for females; allowance of one inch either way. Weight for males, 92 to 110 pounds; females proportionately lighter.

### IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS:

Length of head reaches 36% of the height at withers; dog is somewhat longer than high.

### COAT:

Short but not smooth, shiny, very thick with a light undercoat; average length of one inch, but approximately 1¼ inches on withers, rump, back margin of thighs, and on the tail, but should not have fringes; muzzle hair is very short, smooth, adherent, and not more than one-half inch in length.

### COLOR:

Black, lead gray, slate, light fawn (yellowish), stag red, brindle; black mask is present in fawn colored dogs; small white patch on chest, on feet tips, and on the nose bridge is acceptable.

### Head:

Large, short and broad; total length should be slightly less than two-fifths of the height of dog at withers.

### Skull:

Wide, cheekbone arch is equal to or greater in width than its length; convex in front becoming fairly flat behind the forehead as far as the occiput; visible medio-frontal furrow; marked stop.

### Eyes:

Medium sized, oval, looking slightly forward, slightly protruding; close fitting eyelids; iris of eyes as dark as possible, depending on coat color; keen attentive expression.

### Ears:

Triangular and drooping, set on high above the cheekbone arch; almost always cropped in the shape of an equilateral triangle; cropping not necessary and natural ears should not be penalized.

### Muzzle:

Noticeably shorter than the skull; strong, extremely square with a flat front face and parallel nearly as wide as long lateral surfaces; profile of nasal bridge is straight.

### Lips:

Black pigmentation; upper lips hang moderately and cover the mandible so that the lower profile of muzzle is determined by the lips.

### Nose:

Black and large with ample, open nostrils on the same line as the nasal bridge..

### Bite & Jaw:

Slightly undershot, but level and scissors bite acceptable; very large jaw, thick and curved.

### Body:

Somewhat longer than height at withers; sturdily built, but not squat.

### Neck:

Strong, fairly thin, muscular, as long as the head; slightly arched.

### Topline:

Straight, very muscular and firm.

### Chest:

Well developed in three dimensions; reaches to the elbow.

Croup:

Long, wide, slightly inclined.

Loins:

Short and solid.

Shoulders:

Long, oblique, and very muscular.

Legs:

Forelegs: Strong upper arm with straight, very strong forearm; elastic carpal joint and pasterns. Hindlegs: long, wide, posteriorly convex upper thigh; thin and strong lower thigh; moderately angulated hocks; thick and narrow metatarsals; fairly thick and close fitting skin on hindquarters.

Feet:

Cat feet; round shape with very curved and gathered tow; lean hard soles; strong nails, curved and pigmented. Hind feet slightly less compact than forefeet.

Tail:

Fairly high set on; very thick at the root; docked at fourth vertebra; carried high in action, but never curled or erect.

MOVEMENT:

Gait consists of long steps, stretched trot, some steps of gallop, but with inclination to stretched trot.

TEMPERAMENT:

Guardian of property, family, and livestock; extremely agile and responsive; easily trained; often suspicious of strangers and unfriendly with other dogs.

*Serious faults:*

**Accentuated parallelism or very marked converging of the axes of the muzzle and the skull; converging side lines of the muzzle.**

**Pronounced and disturbing undershot mouth.**

**Partial nose pigmentation.**

**Ring-tail or tail in vertical position.**

**Over or undersize.**

**Continuously ambling movement.**

**Any departure from the standard as written should be considered a fault, and the points taken from the dog's score should be in direct proportion to the seriousness of the deviation from the requirements listed in the standard.**

*Disqualifications:*

**Viciousness or extreme shyness.**

**Axes of the muzzle and the skull diverging.**

**Overshot mouth.**

**Bridge of nose resolutely hollow, ram's nose.**

**Total lack of nose pigmentation.**

**Partial and bilateral lack of eye pigmentation; Waal eye, bilateral strabismus (squinting).**

**Tailless, short tail (artificial or congenital).**

**Semi-long, smooth, or fringed hair.**

**All colors not indicated in the standard; white patches too large.**

**Monorchidism.**

**Cryptorchidism (unless neutered).**

**Albinism.**