

## **GORDON SETTER**

GROUP: Sporting

### **SIZE:**

Males, 24 to 27 inches at withers; females, 23 to 26 inches. Males, 55 to 80 pounds; females, 45 to 70 pounds. Dogs that appear to be over or under the prescribed weight limits are to be judged on the basis of conformation and condition. Extremely thin or fat dogs are discouraged on the basis that under or overweight hampers the true working ability of the Gordon Setter. The weight-to-height ratio makes the Gordon Setter heavier than other Setters. Proportion should be as follows: the distance from forechest to back of thigh is approximately equal the height from the ground to the withers. The Gordon Setter has plenty of bone and substance.

### **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. Feathering, which starts near the root of the tail, is slightly waved or straight, having a triangular appearance, growing uniformly shorter toward the end.

### **COLOR:**

Deep, shining coal black, with no signs of rustiness, with tan markings, either of rich chestnut or mahogany color; black penciling allowed on toes and also black streak under jaw. Tan should be lustrous. Borderline between black and tan colors should be clearly defined. Tan markings should be located as follows:

1. Two clear spots over the eyes not over three-quarters of an inch in diameter;
2. On the sides of the muzzle, the tan should not reach above the base of the nose, resembling 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 outside of the hind legs from the hock to the toes
6. On the forelegs from the carpus, or a little above downward to the toes;
7. Around the vent.

A white spot on the chest is allowed, but the smaller the better.

### **HEAD:**

Head is deep rather than broad, but definitely broader than the muzzle.

Skull: Slightly rounded and broadest between ears; clearly defined stop; length from stop to occiput should be slightly longer than from stop to the nose.

Muzzle: Muzzle should be nearly parallel lines and not pointed as seen from the side or above; flews are not pendulous, but clearly indicated lips.

Eyes: Dark brown and of fair size, not too deep nor too prominent, but sufficiently under the brows to show a keen and intelligent expression.

Ears: Set low on head and lying close to it, of medium size, and thin.

Nose: Black, with open nostrils, big, and broad.

Teeth & bite: A full complement of strong, white teeth meet in an even bite; not overshot or undershot.

### **NECK:**

Long, lean, and arched to the head; lack of throatiness.

### **BODY:**

Short from shoulder to hips.

Topline: Moderately sloping.

Chest: Deep and not too broad in front; well-sprung ribs, leaving plenty of lung room; chest reaches to elbows; pronounced forechest is in evidence.

Loin: Short and broad and not arched.

Croup: Nearly flat with only a slight slope to the tailhead.

#### FOREQUARTERS:

Shoulders should slope well back, with wide flat bone and fairly close at withers; not too thick, which interferes with good movement. Big, flat boned and straight forelegs, with strong, upright well-feathered pasterns; elbows well let down and showing well under the body giving freedom of action.

#### HINDQUARTERS:

Pelvis should extend to the horizontal. Hind legs from hip to hock should be long, broad and muscular; hock to heel short and strong with stifles well bent; hocks straight and parallel.

Feet: Oval and close knit, well-arched toes, with plenty of hair between; full toe pads and deep heel cushions. Dewclaws removed.

Tail: Short and not reaching below the hocks, carried horizontal or nearly so, not docked, thick at the root and finishing in a fine point; placement of tail is important for correct carriage (When pointing game, the higher and straighter the better. This is referred to as "good style."); when angle of tail bends too sharply at the first coccygeal bone, the tail will be carried too gaily or will droop. The tail placement is judged in relationship to the structure of the croup.

#### MOVEMENT:

Action of the Gordon Setter is a bold, strong, driving, free-swinging gait. The head is carried up and the tail flags constantly while the dog is in motion. When viewed from the front, the forefeet move up and down in straight lines so that the shoulder, elbow and pastern joints are approximately in line with each other. When viewed from the rear, the hock, stifle, and hip joints are approximately in line. The feet are thrown neither in nor out. The overall appearance of the moving dog is one of smooth-flowing, well-balanced rhythm, in which the action is pleasing to the eye, and is effortless, economical and harmonious.

#### TEMPERAMENT:

Alert, joyful, good natured, interested and aggressive; fearless and willing, intelligent and capable; loyal and affectionate, and strong-minded enough to stand the rigors of training.

**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:*

**Viciousness or extreme shyness.**

**Predominately tan, red or buff dogs which do not have the typical pattern of markings of a Gordon Setter.**