

SKYE TERRIER

GROUP: Terrier

SIZE:

Ideally, males should be 10 inches at withers; females, 9 ½ inches. Based on ideal height, a 10-inch dog should be 20 inches measured from chest bone over tail at rump. A slightly higher or lower dog of either sex is acceptable, but males under 9 inches and females under 8 ½ inches or less are to be penalized. Ideal proportion is ratio of body length to shoulder height of 2 to 1. Both males and females should have substantial bone, be solidly built, full of strength and quality without being coarse.

COAT:

Double-coated with short, close, soft and wooly undercoat with hard, straight and flat outer coat 5 ½ inches long or longer; body coat parts from head to tail, hanging straight down each side of body; head hair may be shorter than body hair and veils the forehead and eyes, forming a beard and apron; long feathering on ears falls straight down from the tips and outer edges, surrounding the ears like a fringe and outlining their shape; ends of the hair should mingle with the coat of the neck; well-feathered tail.

COLOR:

Coat must be of one overall color at the skin but may be of varying shades of same color in the full coat. Acceptable colors include black, blue, dark or light gray, silver, platinum, fawn, and cream, all with dark points, with no other distinctive markings; shade of head should be near that of the body; must be no trace of pattern, design or clear-cut color variations, except that white not exceeding 2 inches in diameter may exist on the chest. *Puppy coat* in dogs under 18 months of age may be very different in color from the adult, and wide color variations may occur as it is growing; yet, no traces of patterns, designs or clear-cut color variations are permissible except for the black band encircling the body coat of a cream-colored dog, and the occasional white on the chest.

HEAD:

Long and powerful, but strength is considered more important than extreme length.

Skull and muzzle: Moderately wide at back, tapering gradually to a strong, moderately full, dark and strong muzzle; slight stop; muzzle is moderately full as opposed to snipy; jaws powerful and absolutely true.

Eyes: Preferably dark brown, medium in size, close-set and characteristically alight with life and intelligence.

Ears: Gracefully feathered and symmetrical, carried either prick or dropped; prick ears are medium in size, placed high on skull, and slightly wider apart at the peak than at the skull; drop ears are slightly larger in size and set lower, hanging flat against skull.

Nose: Black. ***Disqualifications: Dudley, flesh-colored or brown nose.***

Bite: Full complement of strong, white teeth; scissor bite.

NECK:

Long and gracefully arched, carried high and proudly.

BODY:

Long and low; sides appearing flat due to the straight falling and profuse coat.

Topline: Level.

Chest: Deep with oval-shaped ribs.

FOREQUARTERS:

Well laid-back shoulders with shoulder blades tightly placed at withers; short, muscular legs as straight as the chest and soundness will permit (not meaning "Terrier straight"); forearms curve slightly around chest; elbows fitting closely to sides, being neither loose nor tied.

HINDQUARTERS:

Strong, full, well developed and well angulated; short, muscular legs, straight when viewed from behind.

Feet: Large hare-feet preferably pointing forward with thick pads, strong, black nails; dewclaws removed.

Tail: Well-feathered, long tail; upper section is pendulous and follows line of the rump when hanging; lower section is thrown back in a moderate arc, but does not twist or curl; when raised, the tail is level with line of the back, but may be carried high when the dog is excited or angry; should never be constantly carried above the level of the back, nor should it hang limp.

MOVEMENT:

Free, active and effortless, presenting a fluid picture; legs proceed straight forward when traveling; viewed from front, forelegs for a continuation of the straight line of the front with feet being the same distance apart as the elbows; forelegs move well forward without too much lift; hind legs also travel straight forward furnishing the principal propelling power.

TEMPERAMENT:

Typically working terrier, capable of overtaking game and going to ground, displaying stamina, courage, strength and agility; friendly, fearless, good-tempered, loyal and canny, but cautious and reserved with strangers.

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.

Dudley, flesh-colored or brown nose.

Overshot bite or undershot bite.

Albinism