

WHIPPET

GROUP: Hound

SIZE:

At withers, males 19 to 22 inches; females 18 to 21 inches. PROPORTION, SUBSTANCE: Length from forechest to buttocks equal to or slightly greater than height at withers; moderate bone throughout.

COAT:

Short, close, smooth, and firm in texture; old scars and injuries as the result of work or accident should not be considered. **Disqualification: Any coat other than that stated herein.**

COLOR:

Color is inconsequential.

HEAD:

Keen, intelligent expression.

Eyes: Large and dark; both must be same color; fully pigmented eyelids desirable. **Faults: Yellow or light eyes. Disqualifications: Blue or wall eyes.**

Ears: Rose ears are characteristic of breed; small and firm in texture; thrown back and folded along neck at rest, but fold should remain when dog is at attention. **Serious fault: Erect ears.**

Muzzle: Long and powerful, denoting great strength of bite, without coarseness. **Serious fault: Lack of underjaw.**

Nose: Black.

Bite: Full complement of strong, white teeth meet in scissors bite; teeth of upper jaw fit closely over teeth of lower jaw. **Disqualifications: Undershot bite; overshot bite one-quarter inch or more.**

NECK:

Long, clean, and muscular, well arched with no suggestion of throatiness, widening gracefully into top of shoulder. **Faults: Short thick neck; ewe neck.**

BODY:

Broad, firm and well-muscled back having length over the loin; backline runs smoothly from withers with graceful natural arch, not too accentuated, beginning over the loin and carrying through over the croup; the arch is continuous without flatness; definite tuck-up of underline. **Faults: Dip behind shoulder blades; wheelback; flat back; steep or flat croup.**

Brisket: Very deep, reaching as nearly as possible to point of the elbow.

Ribs: Well sprung but with no suggestion of barrel shape; space between forelegs is filled in so that there is no appearance of a hollow between them.

FOREQUARTERS:

Well laid back, long shoulder blades have flat muscles allowing for moderate space between shoulder blades at peak of withers; straight forelegs give appearance of strength and substance of bone; upper arm equal to shoulder blade, allowing elbows to fall directly under withers; points of elbows point straight back and are neither in nor out; strong, flexible pasterns are slightly bent. Dewclaws should be removed. **Serious faults: Steep shoulder; short upper arm; heavily muscled or loaded shoulder; very narrow shoulder; bowed legs; tied-in elbows; legs lacking substance; legs set so far under the body to create an exaggerated forechest; weak or upright pasterns.**

HINDQUARTERS:

Long and powerful; thighs broad and muscular, stifles well bent; muscles are long and flat and carry well down toward hock; hocks well let down and close to ground; dewclaws must be removed. ***Serious faults:* Sickle hocks; cowhocks.**

Feet: Hard, thick pads; both hare and cat feet are acceptable, but hare feet preferred; long, close toes are well arched; strong nails are naturally short or of moderate length. ***Serious faults:* Splayed feet; soft feet without thick, hard pads.**

Tail: Long, tapering tail reaches to hip bone when drawn through between hind legs; tail carried low, with only a gentle, upward curve when dog is in motion; not carried higher than top of back.

MOVEMENT:

Low, free moving and smooth; reach in forequarters; forelegs move forward close to ground providing a long, low reach; strong drive in hindquarters with hind legs having strong propelling power; great freedom of action, viewed from side; viewed from front or rear while gaiting, legs turn neither in nor out, nor do the feet cross over or interfere with each other. ***Serious faults:* Lack of reach or drive; hackney gait; crossing over; moving too close.**

TEMPERAMENT:

Amiable, friendly, gentle, but capable of great intensity during sporting pursuits.

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.

Undershot, overshot one-quarter inch or more.

Any coat other than short, close, smooth and firm in texture.

Blue or wall eyes.

Albinism.