

## **BORDER TERRIER**

GROUP: Terrier.

### **SIZE:**

At withers height is slightly greater than the distance from the withers to the tail. Weight 13-15 ½ pounds for males, 11 ½ to 14 pounds for bitches are appropriate weights for Border Terriers in hardworking condition.

### **COAT:**

Short, dense undercoat covered with a very wiry, somewhat broken topcoat, which lies close with no tendency to curl or wave. The Border Terrier is to be exhibited in as close to natural a state as possible. Acceptable trimming includes tidying up the head, neck, and feet. The hide should be very thick while remaining loose fitting.

### **COLOR:**

Acceptable colors are red, grizzle, blue and tan, or wheaten. A small amount of white is allowed on the chest. A dark muzzle is preferred.

### **HEAD:**

Similar to that of an otter. The skull is moderately broad and flat, with plenty of width between the eyes and between the ears. The stop is slight, moderately broad curve, not a pronounced indentation. The cheeks are slightly full.

Muzzle: A dark muzzle is characteristic and desirable. A few short whiskers are natural.

Eyes: Dark hazel; moderate in size, neither pronounced or small and beady. Full of fire and intelligence.

***Faults: Prominent eyes. Small, beady eyes***

Ears: Small, v-shaped and of moderate thickness. Not set high, but rather to the side somewhat, dropping forward close to the cheeks. ***Faults: Ears that break above the level of the skull.***

Nose: Black and of good size.

Bite: A full complement of strong, white, rather large teeth meet in a scissors bite..

### **NECK:**

Clean, muscular, only long enough to give a well-balanced appearance, gradually widening at the shoulder.

### **BODY:**

Deep and fairly narrow. It is of sufficient length to avoid lack of agility and range. The deep ribs are carried well back. They are not oversprung in view of the desired depth and narrowness of the body. A man's hand should be able to span the body of the Border Terrier, when placed behind the shoulder blades. The loin is strong. Topline: Strong but laterally supple. There should be no suggestion of a dip behind the shoulder. The underline is fairly straight.

### **FOREQUARTERS:**

Well-laid back shoulders are of good length. The shoulder blades converge to the withers gradually from the brisket, which is not excessively deep or narrow. Forelegs are straight and not too heavy in bone. They should be placed slightly wider than those of a Fox Terrier. Feet are small and compact and toes should point forward and be moderately arched with thick pads.

### **HINDQUARTERS:**

Muscular and racy, long thighs nicely molded. Stifles are well bent with hocks well let down. Feet same as front feet.

Tail: Moderately short, thick at the base, then tapering to the end. Should not be set on too high, not carried over the back. May be carried gaily when at attention and dropped when the dog is at ease. **Faults: Tail set on too high or carried over the back.**

MOVEMENT:

Straight and rhythmical both before and behind. Should exhibit good length of stride and flexing of the stifle and hock. Gait is free and agile and quick in response to the handler

TEMPERAMENT:

Ideally exemplifies that of a terrier. By nature, the Border Terrier is affectionate and good tempered. He is easily trained. In the field he has great staying power and is driving in attack.

**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.**

**Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid**

**Albinism**