

BRUSSELS GRIFFON

GROUP: Toy

SIZE:

Ideally eight to ten pounds; should not exceed 12 pounds. Height is in proportion to weight. Quality is not to be sacrificed in favor of size, and a smaller dog that is sturdy and well proportioned should not be penalized.

PROPORTION and SUBSTANCE: Square, as measured from point of shoulder to rearmost projection of upper thigh and from withers to ground; thickset, compact with good balance; well boned.

COAT:

Rough coat is wiry and dense, the harder and more wiry the better; head is covered with wiry hair that is slightly longer around the eyes, nose, cheeks and chin, forming a fringe; coat should not be so long as to give a shaggy appearance; rough coat is hand-stripped and should never appear unkempt; body coat should be of sufficient length to determine texture. The coat may be tidied for neatness of appearance, but coats prepared with /scissors and/or clippers should be severely penalized. **Smooth coat** is short, straight, tight and glossy, with no trace of wiry hair. **Serious faults: Woolly coat; silky hair anywhere on the coat of rough-coated dog; long rough coat giving shaggy appearance; traces of wiry hair in smooth-coated dog.**

COLOR:

Four coat colors in both rough- and smooth-coated dogs include Red, Belge, Black, and Black and Tan. **Red** is reddish brown with a little black at the whiskers and chin allowable; **Belge** is black and reddish brown mixed, usually with black mask and whiskers; **Black** must be solid with no white hairs except for "frost on muzzle of a mature dog, which is natural; **Black and Tan** is black with uniform reddish brown markings under the chin, on legs, above each eye, around edges of ears and around the vent. **Serious fault: White spot or blaze anywhere on coat.**

HEAD:

Round and large with domed forehead; deep stop; prominent chin, large with an upward sweep, and undershot; prominent, rather broad lower jaw with an upward sweep; noteworthy because of its almost human expression.

Eyes: Eyes set well apart, very large, black, prominent and well open; long and black eyelashes; eyelids edged with black.

Ears: Small ears set rather high; may be natural and carried semi-erect or cropped to a point.

Nose: Very black, extremely short nose; tip of nose being set back deeply between the eyes so as to form a lay-back; large nostrils. **Disqualifications: Dudley or butterfly nose.**

Bite: Full complement of strong, white teeth meet in undershot bite; lower incisors protrude over upper incisors. Neither teeth nor tongue should show when the mouth is closed. **Disqualification: Overshot bite; hanging tongue.**

NECK:

Medium length and gracefully arched.

BODY:

Thickset and short.

Topline: Back level and short.

Chest: Ribs well-sprung; broad and deep brisket.

FOREQUARTERS:

Well-muscled, medium length forelegs; set moderately wide apart and straight from the point of shoulders as viewed from front; short, strong pasterns.

HINDQUARTERS:

Hind legs set true; strong, well-muscled thighs; bent stifles; hocks well let down, turning neither in nor out.

Feet: Small, round, and compact, turned neither in nor out; well-arched toes; black pads and toenails preferred.

Tail: Set and held high; docked to about one-third.

MOVEMENT:

Straightforward gait with purposeful trot, showing moderate reach and drive, and maintaining a steady topline.

TEMPERAMENT:

Intelligent, alert and sensitive; full of self-importance.

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 nose

Butterfly nose

Handing tongue

Overshot jaw

Albinism