

LHASA APSO

GROUP: Non-sporting

SIZE:

9-11 in., with 10 to 11 inches preferable for males; females slightly smaller. Weight should be in proportion to height.

COAT:

Straight, hard coat should be heavy, very dense, and of good length; head furnishings very heavy with good fall over eyes, good whiskers, and a beard; legs, forequarters, hindquarters and neck heavily furnished.

Faults: Woolly coat; silky coat.

COLOR:

All colors equally acceptable with or without dark tips on ears and beard.

HEAD:

Narrow skull falling away behind the eyes in a marked degree; not flat, but neither domed nor apple-shaped; straight foreface of fair length; length, measured from the tip of the nose to the eyes, is approximately one-third the total length of the head, measured from the nose to the back of the skull.

Eyes: Dark brown, oval; medium-size, neither very large and full nor very small and sunken.

Ears: Heavily feathered, pendant type hanging close to head.

Muzzle: Medium length. **Fault: Square muzzle.**

Nose: Black; viewed from front, nose is level with, or very slightly below, the lower eye rims.

Bite: Level or very slightly undershot. **Serious Fault: Overshot bite**

NECK:

Strong, well arched.

BODY:

Longer, measured from the point of the shoulders to the point of the buttocks, than height, measured from withers to ground; strong loin. Level topline; Chest well ribbed up; ribs slightly curved to extend well back along the body **but not below the elbows**

FOREQUARTERS:

Well developed; viewed from front, forelegs are straight and parallel, elbows well under the body; straight and firm pasterns; viewed from side, there is a slight deviation from the perpendicular; upper arm allows for desired chest width and depth; dewclaws permitted, but preferably removed.

HINDQUARTERS:

Well developed and in balance with forequarters; well developed thighs; viewed from rear, hocks are strong and rear pasterns are straight and parallel; viewed from side, legs are perpendicular to the ground and not stretched out beyond the rump; stifle is moderately bent; **dewclaws removed.**

Feet: Round, cat-like with firm pads and well feathered; hair between pads may be trimmed; black nails, but light paws and nails permitted in light or parti-colored dogs.

Tail: Well feathered and carried well over back in a screw; may be a kink at the end. **Serious fault: Low tail carriage.**

MOVEMENT:

Smooth flowing gait, with graceful movements; good reach of forelegs balanced by a strong drive from the rear.

TEMPERAMENT:

Active and assertive, but cautious of strangers.

Serious faults:

Overshot bite.

Square muzzle.

Low tail carriage.

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.

Albinism.