

FCI-Standard N° 161 / 24. 07. 2000 / GB

BEAGLE

ORIGIN : Great-Britain.

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE ORIGINAL VALID STANDARD : 24.06.1987.

UTILIZATION : Hound.

CLASSIFICATION F.C.I. : Group 6 Scenthounds.
Section 1.3 Small-sized Hounds.
With working trial.

GENERAL APPEARANCE : A sturdy, compactly-built hound, conveying the impression of quality without coarseness.

BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT : A merry hound whose essential function is to hunt, primarily hare, by following a scent. Bold, with great activity, stamina and determination. Alert, intelligent and of even temperament. Amiable and alert, showing no aggression or timidity.

HEAD : Fair length, powerful without being coarse, finer in the bitch, free from frown and wrinkle.

CRANIAL REGION :

Skull : Slightly domed, moderately wide, with slight peak.

Stop : Well defined, dividing length, between occiput and tip of nose, as equally as possible.

FACIAL REGION :

Nose : Broad, preferably black, but less pigmentation permissible in lighter coloured hounds. Nostrils wide.

Muzzle : Not snipey.

Lips : Reasonably well flewed.

Jaws/Teeth : Jaws should be strong, with a perfect, regular and complete scissor bite, i.e. the upper teeth closely overlapping the lower teeth and set square to the jaws.

Eyes : Dark brown or hazel, fairly large, not deep set or prominent, set well apart with mild appealing expression.

Ears : Long, with rounded tip, reaching nearly to end of nose when drawn out. Set on low, fine in texture and hanging gracefully close to cheeks.

NECK : Sufficiently long to enable hound to come down easily to scent, slightly arched and showing little dewlap.

BODY :

Topline : Straight and level.

Loin : Short in the couplings, but well balanced. Loins powerful and supple.

Chest : Let down to below elbow. Ribs well sprung and extending well back.

Belly : Without excessive tuck-up.

TAIL : Sturdy, moderately long. Set on high, carried gaily but not curled over back or inclined forward from root. Well covered with hair, especially on underside.

LIMBS

FOREQUARTERS : Forelegs straight and upright well under the hound, good substance and round in bone, not tapering off to feet.

Shoulders : Well laid back, not loaded.

Elbows : Firm, turning neither in nor out. Height to elbow about half height at withers.

Pasterns : Short.

HINDQUARTERS :

Upper thigh : Muscular.

Stifles : Well bent.

Hocks : Firm, well let down and parallel to each other.

FEET : Tight and firm. Well knuckled up and strongly padded. Not hare-footed. Nails short.

GAIT / MOVEMENT : Back level, firm with no indication of roll. Stride free, long reaching in front and straight without high action; hind legs showing drive. Should not move close behind nor paddle nor plait in front.

COAT

HAIR : Short, dense and weatherproof.

COLOUR : Any recognized hound colour other than liver. Tip of stern white.

SIZE :

Desirable minimum height at withers 33 cm (13 ins).

Desirable maximum height at withers 40 cm (16 ins).

FAULTS : Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree **and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog.**

Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified.

N.B. : Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.