

Final draft: Following the Seminar of January 17th 2010 for Show Judges and the responses of the Dutch Breed Clubs and Dutch Dog Show Judges.

This draft is adopted by the Committee of the Association “Raad van Beheer op Kynologisch Gebied in Nederland” (Dutch Kennel Club) after consultation and in cooperation with the “Dutch Dog Show Judges” Association (VKK) and the Dutch Breed Clubs.

BREED SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS Translation by Tuus van Adrichem Boogaert-Kwint (Judge)

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INTRODUCTION

The task of a show judge is to preserve the characteristics of each breed – within the approved breed standard. In other words, the judge's main task is to judge and evaluate dogs, according to the breed standard and to consider them as potential breeding dogs for future generations. This must never be done at the expense of the welfare and wellbeing of the dog.

It is therefore the responsibility of the judge to be acquainted with the breed standard as well as the health problems occurring in the breed. A judge must particularly pay attention to those specific breed characteristics, which have a tendency to exaggeration, so can creep into a breed and could have a negative effect on the health of the individual dog.

It is important that tendencies to exaggerations are noted before they are allowed to give rise to unsoundness.

These instructions are a result of an inventory made possible through extensive collaboration between dog show judges, breed clubs, other dog clubs and veterinary surgeons.

The views and facts contained in this document are also a result of available statistics on dogs' health, carried out in the past for each individual breed.

Scandinavian countries have taken the initiative. Netherlands has used this document as a base for describing its own concerns regarding the breeds which are regularly presented at dog shows in our country. Thanks to the Scandinavian countries for their contribution in this.

Dog Show judges from home and abroad, judging at our shows, being (inter)national shows, (Championship) club shows and all other activities, where judges are asked to qualify, are obliged to judge according to the breed standards as approved by the F.C.I.

In addition we ask the judge for the preservation and the development of a breed, apart from the breed specific characteristics, to also take into account, to their best, the health and welfare aspects of the breed and to express this clearly in the written critique on the dog. These aspects are clearly stated in the Breed Specific Instructions.

During judging at shows deviations regarding the breed specific behaviour will never be tolerated and should result in disqualification of the dog(s).

The judge must be aware of the fact that a pedigree dog with exaggerated breed characteristics, which can lead to and result in health, behaviour or movement problems, never can be evaluated with more than a "Good" and therefore never be qualified for a Championship prize or Best of Breed.

The judge is obliged after judging the breeds, listed in this document, to make a brief inventory of the breed specific problems, which he/she had encountered during judging. The resulting inventory, in consultation with the breed clubs will be used to adjust to breeding and promoting the health of the breeds.

The Show judges have a responsibility not to be underestimated. It will be expected of them that they take this responsibility.

Amsterdam, January 2011
Dutch Kennel Club

Breeds, which require attention (name of the breed and FCI group number :

German Shepherd Dog (1), Welsh Corgi Cardigan (1), Bordeaux Dog (2), German Boxer (2), Bullmastiff (2), Great Dane (2), Bulldog (2), Mastiff (2), Neapolitan Mastiff (2), Shar-Pei (2), Saint Bernard Dog (2), Bull Terrier (3), Miniature Bull Terrier (3), Yorkshire Terrier (3), American Staffordshire Terrier (3), Irish Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier (3), Jack Russell Terrier (3), Norwich Terrier (3), West Highland White Terrier (3), Dachshunds (4), German Spitz/Pomeranian (5), Chow Chow (5), Artesian-Normand Basset (6), Basset Hound (6), Bloodhound (6), American Cocker Spaniel (8), Clumber Spaniel (8), Sussex Spaniel (8), Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever (8), Lagotto Romagnolo (8), Boston Terrier (9), Cavalier King Charles Spaniel (9), Chihuahua, smooth-haired and long-haired (9), Chinese Crested Dog (9), Belgian Griffon (9), Brussels Griffon (9), French Bulldog (9), Japanese Chin (9), King Charles Spaniel (9), Pug (9), Pekingese (9), Small Brabant Griffon (9), Shih Tzu (9), Italian Greyhound (10)

Prior to each judging appointment it is the responsibility of the judge to familiarize himself/herself with these Breed Specific Instructions for the breed he/she has been invited to judge.

A continuous follow-up of the health development of the breeds listed herein will be carried out and also will be regularly updated.

APPLICATION

It is of outmost importance that each judge continues to judge positively, as previously and selects winners of correct type and overall quality, dogs that embodies the ideal image of the breed, according to the adopted F.C.I. standard for that breed. The critique must be written in a positive form, but it is important to be precise and open about relevant health- and welfare matters, if these have affected the evaluation and/or placing of the dog.

As previously, the judge should evaluate what he/she sees during qualifying and placing the dog, deviations must be judged on its degree of imperfection, and no faults are linked to a certain award. Exaggerations in conformation and faults which have an effect on the dog's health are more serious than cosmetic failings. Judges are requested to consider health aspects to a higher degree than previously, particularly when awarding Championship prizes or not.

The Breed Specific Instructions must be applied at all times, even if a breed is sparsely represented at shows in the Netherlands. We need judges, for a healthy breed to breed, who will assess and judge dogs in a similar way, regardless of the number of entries of a breed at shows. Only then we can manage a good and healthy breeding policy.

This list must not be seen as an added list of disqualifying faults in breeds whose standard contain disqualifications!

Frequently existing faults, not linked with health concerns and exaggeration of breed points in individual breeds, have not been listed here routinely, but must also be noted when judging

REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL DOGS

Of judges may be expected to pay attention to the following problems in ALL breeds. Dogs which exhibit these problems, more or less, should preferably be evaluated with a "Good" and can never achieve more than a "Very Good". They will never qualify for a Championship prize.

DISHARMONY AND CONSTRUCTION

When standing or moving the dog should be balanced.

All dogs should be able to move without problems and every dog should show this sufficiently when being judged.

BREATHING

All dogs should be able to breathe normally standing and moving. Particular attention should therefore be paid to exaggerations which might prevent healthy breathing as:

- Very noisy breathing and/or audible breathing problems;
- Very small and pinched nostrils or nostrils covered with skin.

TEETH

The teeth of the dog should be development according to the standard. Particular attention to dogs with jaw and dental exaggerations as:

- Too narrow and weak under jaws;
- Inverted canine teeth, sometimes even going straight up into the roof of the gums (palate);
- Extremely small teeth;
- Not closing jaws.

EYES

All dogs should have bright and dry eyes without any sign of discomfort. Particular attention to dogs with exaggerations that may cause irritation(s) of the eyes, as:

- Overly large and protruding eyes;
- Eye rims too loose and droopy eyelids;
- Visible inflammation and/or running eyes;
- Even for the breed too small and/or too deep set eyes.

SKIN TOO LOOSE

All dogs should have a healthy skin without any sign of discomfort. Particular attention to dogs with exaggerations, which may cause irritation of the skin, as:

- Too many skin folds and loose skin, so the nose and/or eyes are covered with skin;
- On body, limbs and head too much loose skin.

ABUNDANT COAT AND GROOMING

The coat should not be so abundant as to impede movement and/or eyesight.

PRESENTATION OF THE DOG

It is increasingly common that breeds, standing as well as during movement, are presented in the ring on a lifted and tight leash. This not only doesn't promote the well fare of the dog, but moreover it inhibits and makes natural and breed specific movement impossible.

A dog should show, on a loose leash, a correct and breed specific movement in a natural way. Pulling the dog up at the neck and/or tail is prohibited.

Excessive use of make-up articles (hairspray, powder, gel) should be discouraged.

An exhibitor, who does not follow the usual rules for presenting a dog, should leave the ring. The dog will not be judged.

OBESITY/OVERWEIGHT

Lately there has been an increase in overweight dogs. Also in the show ring there are dogs present, which cannot move/breathe properly due to overweight. A wrong diet is often the problem, but also lack of exercise or health problems may be the cause. When the judge is not able to feel the ribs anymore, when the loin is not indicated anymore and the dogs are not able to move/breathe properly, these dogs should never be qualified with an "Excellent".

TEMPERAMENT AND BEHAVIOR

All dogs should have a good temperament in the ring as well as suitable for life in present society. Breed specific behavior must be allowed, but excessive shyness, reluctance or sharpness of temperament is not desirable.

Aggression or fearful behavior should never be tolerated during breed/dog judging and should result in the disqualification of this/these dog(s).

INVENTORY

It is of utmost importance that every judge realizes that he/she contributes to the development within the breeding and the health of a breed. Judges often form the basis (positive or negative) of the development within a breed.

Therefore we ask the judges after judging a breed, mentioned in this BSI document, a short written report on his/her findings. These results we will feedback to the breed clubs, so these clubs will be able to take the development of the breed into account.

In addition to this obligation, a judge should feel free, unsolicited, to report in writing to the Kennel Club, on a breed of which he/she thinks that the development on whatever field, may be in jeopardy.

Both feedback forms are available at shows and breed clubs.
These forms are annexed to this document.

ATTENTION BY BREED

This BSI document describes in addition to general problems that might occur within all breeds, also special problems that occur more frequent in several breeds.

These problems are drawn together with the breed clubs and the Dutch judges. It involves:

1. Problems, which have a major impact on health, welfare and wellbeing of a breed. Dogs with these problems should never be awarded with an "Excellent" and/or a Championship prize.
2. Problems, which by expanding within a population, might cause eventually health problems and/or welfare problems in a breed. Basically dogs with these problems should never be awarded with an "Excellent" and never will be eligible for a Championship prize.
3. Problems, which by expanding will have potentially negative consequences for the breed. It is important to mention the observed problems in a written report on the dog(s).

FCI Group 1

Sheepdogs and Cattle dogs

About the breeds in FCI Group 1

This group concerns several working breeds, for which the ability to move soundly is of particular importance, sound movement should therefore be highly appreciated.

German Shepherd Dog

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Hind movement unstable, “wiggly” and narrow;
- Too big, too heavy or too weak;
- Exaggeration in type.

We are looking for a German Shepherd Dog that can do his job, a dog that can trot balanced and effortless, an athletic-constructed dog, his/her sex well recognizable, balanced and without exaggerated angulations of the hindquarters. The well-developed thighs should be in balance with the mid- and front section. The German Shepherd Dog should in his behaviour be mentally stable, confident, unbiased, kind, perceptive and manageable.

Welsh Corgi Cardigan

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Incorrect movement due to excessive turning out of the front legs and due to over-knuckling

FCI Group 2

Pinscher and Schnauzer – Molossoïd and Swiss Mountain and Cattle dogs

About the breeds in FCI Group 2

This group concerns several heavy breeds of Molossoïd type, but also herding dogs from mountainous areas. It is of the utmost importance that they are not overweight and that they have a sound and strong constitution in order to function properly and to move without visible effort or pain. Narrow fronts, bent front legs and weak pasterns or cow-hocked hind legs are incorrect for any breed of this group.

Some of the Molossoïd breeds have excessive loose skin, which must never be exaggerated and allowed to cause discomfort to the dog.

The eyes should always be visible and never hidden behind skin folds. The eyes should not be too small and too deep set or be just too round and protruding. A healthy eye should always be the norm that fits the proportion of the head. Too small teeth occur frequently in many Molossoïd breeds.

A dog's skin must be healthy without any sign of discomfort. Heavy breathing, excessively heavy head carried low and dogs giving off large amounts of saliva when breathing are incorrect features.

This applies to both small and large breeds. Exaggeration in type and/or exaggerations which can harm the welfare and health of the dog should be punished.

Dogue de Bordeaux

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Eye problems
- Anatomical malformation resulting in a powerless and shuffling movement

German Boxer

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Breathing problems
- Skin irritations

Bullmastiff

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Breathing problems which could result from pinched nostrils and/or overly short muzzles and insufficient room in throat cavities;
- Eye problems, caused by an excessive amount of skin;
- Incorrect movement caused by anatomical malformation such as too high at rear and very steep croups.

Particular attention must therefore be paid to breathing, correct length of muzzle and eyes not set in an excessive amount of loose skin on the head. Attention must be paid to sound movement.

Great Dane

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Eye problems;
- Incorrect movement caused by pasterns knuckling over and weak hindquarters;
- Toe pads which do not meet the ground;
- Flews too heavily developed.

Bulldog

The extreme conformation of this breed with, for example, shortened muzzle and underdeveloped bridge of nose, causes serious health problems if exaggerated.

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Breathing difficulties;
- Inflammation of the skin on the muzzle (heavy nose wrinkle) and around the tail.

The breed standard very clearly emphasizes unconstrained breathing and sound movement and this must be given particular attention.

Mastiff

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Excessively heavy dogs;
- Incorrect movement caused by anatomical faults such as too high at rear and very steep croups.

Particular attention must therefore be paid to strong, sound conformation able to support this breed's typical, massive head and its strongly made body and heavy bone. Movement must be sound.

Neapolitan Mastiff (Mastino Napolitano)

The conformation and skin of this breed cause serious health problems if exaggerated.

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Inflammation of the skin and eye problems;
- Incorrect movement caused by incorrect bone construction and poor overall conformation.

Particular attention should be paid to healthy skin and eyes, as well as to movement. Dogs with the required typical cat-like, agile, somewhat slow movement with good drive from the hindquarters and proper reach in front, should be rated very highly.

Shar-Pei

The extreme type and character of the skin of this breed cause serious health problems. Also eye problems deserve particular attention.

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Excessive amounts of loose skin, the texture of which also can lead to eye problems (cherry eye);
- Eye problems;
- Too small nostrils, tight lip, overshot mouth.

Particular attention must be paid to steep hindquarters with reference to patella luxation, overshot mouth regarding tight lip and the frequently occurring too small nostrils, which can lead to breathing problems like snorting and snoring. The excessive mucin responsible for the typical skin also ensures that the connective tissue is less firm elsewhere in the body. This may cause in young animals loose pasterns and hocks. Older animals which show abnormal movement in the pasterns and hocks should be more punished when being judged.

Saint Bernard Dog. short-haired and long-haired (St.Bernardshund)

Frequent problems in these breeds are:

- Eye problems;
- Skin problems;
- Incorrect movement.

FCI Group 3

Terriers

About the breeds in FCI Group 3

This group concerns a few breeds with skin problems, a few breeds with problems with incorrect bites and a few breeds with tendencies towards exaggerated breed type.

American Staffordshire Terrier

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Height and weight not balanced; particular attention must be paid to excessive shortness of legs, too high on leg, head too coarse in proportion to the body;
- Splay feet.

Bull Terrier / Miniature Bull Terrier

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Skin irritation and sparse coat;
- Irregularly shaped, not tightly closed, sometimes deformed feet;
- Indecisive behavior.

The Miniature Bull Terrier needs particular attention concerning shortness of legs. This breed has a normal length of leg and shortness of leg should definitely not be encouraged.

Irish Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Incorrect coat (structure: woolly, color: not bright wheaten, grey haze, dark front of muzzle, blue ears);
- Bone too light and little substance.

Particular attention therefore must be paid to the correct silky coat. The Wheaten is a working terrier, in all aspects moderate.

Jack Russell Terrier

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Bent front legs;
- Moderate angulation in front and hindquarters;
- Incorrect and/or irregular movement.

Particular attention therefore must be paid to construction and movement.

Norwich Terrier

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Breathing difficulties;
- Extremely short body affecting movement negatively.

West Highland White Terrier

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Diminishing of size;
- Skin problems;
- Temperament.

In general particular attention must be paid to a natural harsh coat. The use of products to fake the harshness and/or whiteness of the coat should be penalized.

Yorkshire Terrier

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Breathing problems.

FCI GROUP 4

Dachshunds

About the breeds in FCI Group 4

This group consists of Dachshunds in three different coat varieties and three different sizes. The dogs are shortlegged, particular attention must therefore be paid to excessively bent limbs and bones.

Dachshunds, all varieties

Frequent problems in these breeds are:

- Sternum too short;
- Too small and narrow under jaws;
- Exaggerated angulations in hindquarters (second thigh too long), therefore the movement is limited.

Particular attention must be paid to the behaviour of the Dachshund. Aggressiveness should be heavily penalized.

FCI GROUP 5

Spitz and primitive types

About the breeds in FCI Group 5

In this group we meet dogs with excessive hair or skin. This leads in some cases to a particular attention for a too loose skin and/or a too heavy coat; consequently the grooming of this coat.

Chow Chow

Problems are caused by excessive amount of skin.

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Eye problems.

German Spitz/Pomeranian (Deutscher Spitz/Zwergspitz)

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Open fontanel.

It is important to check for a closed fontanel.

FCI Group 6

Scent Hounds and related breeds

About the breeds in FCI Group 6

This group currently consists of three breeds which require close scrutiny due to exaggerations in type and with excessive amount of loose skin.

It is very important to examine all Basset breeds carefully for incorrect formed ribcages with deformed ribs with or without incorrect, shortened sternum. Attention should also be given to toe pads which do not meet the ground properly.

Artesian-Norman Basset (Basset Artésien Normand)

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Poorly developed ribcages;
- Excessively bent legs.

Basset Hound

Exaggerations of this breed's chondrodystrophic conformation and substance can lead to serious health problems.

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Excessive and too heavy skin folds;
- Deformed ribs, sternum and legs.

Bloodhound

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Eye problems
- Excessive and too heavy skin folds

FCI Group 7

Pointing Dogs

No specific problems in this group.

FCI Group 8

Retrievers - Flushing Dogs – Water Dogs

About the breeds in FCI Group 8

This group consists of gundogs and endurance and sound movement are therefore particularly important. It is important to be able to distinguish the difference between substance and obesity. To function mentally as a gundog, these dogs should show a steady behaviour.

Several breeds of this group suffer from problems with eyes and ears due to excessive skin, but this can also be caused by large, heavily coated outer ears.

American Cocker Spaniel

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Eye problems.

Particular attention must be paid to correct head proportions (dwarfing characteristics)

Clumber Spaniel

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Eye problems;
- Excessive loose eyelids;
- Excessive amount of loose skin.

Romagna Water Dog (Lagotto Romagnolo)

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Too fearful, too shy and indecisive behaviour.

Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Unstable and indecisive, sometimes fearful behaviour;
- Very small teeth.

Sussex Spaniel

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Eye problems;
- Skin too thick or too loose.

FCI Group 9

Companion and Toy Dogs

About the breeds in FCI Group 9

Several breeds in this group have extreme conformation with shortened skull and underdeveloped muzzle. Further exaggeration of these points would give rise to serious health problems.

The majority of these breeds should have well-developed, long ribcages with well sprung ribs extending far back giving protection to heart and lungs and ample support to the diaphragm. An unsound deviation are short, open (ribs too short) ribcages with short sternum, but also ribs pointing inwards and narrow ribcages – all serious faults.

Some of the breeds in this group are so heavily coated which in some cases has resulted in incorrect, woolly and excessive coats, so heavy that they impair movement.

Some of the breeds however show an effortless movement, but lack momentum as a possible effect of poor muscular condition.

Boston Terrier

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Breathing problems.

Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Dwarfing characteristics in head.

Chihuahua. smooth-haired and long-haired (Chihuaheno)

Frequent problems in these breeds are:

- Open fontanel;
- Extreme dwarfing characteristics in head.

Particular attention must therefore be paid to a well closed fontanel.

Chinese Crested Dog

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Skin injuries caused by unhealthy and ethically unacceptable shaving of the skin in order to disguise lack of correct hairlessness;
- Incorrect bites with wry under jaws and the lack of teeth.

Particular attention must therefore be paid to skin and correct formation of the jaws.

French Bulldog

The construction of this breed, with his achondroplastic skull and underdeveloped nose bridge, can cause serious health problems, if they are exaggerated. Particular attention must therefore be paid to preventing exaggerated characteristics. Look for healthy breathing, open nostrils, correct length of nose, eyes, skin, tail and a free and active movement.

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Breathing problems/snoring sounds
- Pinned nostrils
- Proportions and construction
- Ingrown tail
- Inflammation of the skin on head/ears/legs
- Visible tongue
- Eye problems/Tear staining
- Excessively short neck and/or back

Griffon Belge, Griffon Bruxellois and Petit Brabançon

Frequent problems in these breeds are:

- Breathing problems;
- Extreme dwarfing characteristics in head.

Japanese Chin

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Breathing problems;
- Extreme dwarfing characteristics in head.

King Charles Spaniel

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Extreme dwarfing characteristics in head.

Pug

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Breathing problems;
- Excessive heavy nose wrinkles, which can cause skin infections and eye problems.

Pekingese

The extreme conformation of this breed with shortened skull and underdeveloped bridge of nose, may cause serious health problems if exaggerated further.

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Breathing problems;
- Excessive heavy nose wrinkles, which can cause skin infections and eye problems;
- Skin problems caused by very heavy, woolly coat.

Shih Tzu

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Breathing problems;
- Overly large eyes, eyes too protruding.

FCI Group 10

Sight Hounds

About the breeds in FCI Group 10

This group concerns the sight hounds. Stamina and a sound movement are of the utmost importance.

Italian Greyhound

Frequent problems in this breed are:

- Extreme dwarfing characteristics.



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