

WHITE SWISS SHEPHERD DOG

FCI Standard No. 347 dated 18/12/2002
Adopted ANKC May 2008

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Group: Group 5 (Working Dogs)

In the U.S.A. and Canada white shepherd dogs have gradually become accepted as a distinct breed.

History:

The first dogs of this breed were imported into Switzerland in the early 70s. The American male "Lobo", whelped on 5th March, 1966, can be considered as the progenitor of the breed in Switzerland. The descendants of that male registered with the Swiss Stud Book (LOS) and other white shepherd dogs imported from the U.S.A. and Canada, gradually multiplied. There exists now a big number of white shepherd dogs, pure bred, over several generations, distributed throughout Europe. For that reason, since June 1991, these dogs have been registered as anew breed with the appendix of the Swiss Stud Book (LOS).

A powerful, well-muscled, medium-sized, white shepherd dog with erect ears, double coat or long double coat; elongated shape; medium sized bone an elegant, harmonious outline.

General
Appearance:

Important proportions:

- Moderately long rectangular shape; body length (from the point of shoulder to point of buttock) to height at withers = 12:10.
- The distance from the stop to the nose leather slightly beyond the distance from the stop to the occipital protuberance.

Characteristics:

Temperament:

Lively, without nervousness, attentive and watchful; towards strangers slightly aloof but never apprehensive or aggressive.

Head And Skull:

Strong, dry and finely chiselled, in good proportion to the body. Seen from above and from the side wedge-shaped. Axis of the skull and foreface parallel.

The skull is only slightly rounded with an indicated central furrow.

The stop is slightly marked, but clearly perceptible.

The nose is medium sized, black pigmentation desired; snow nose and lighter nose acceptable.

The muzzle is powerful and moderately long in relation to the skull; nasal bridge and lower of muzzle straight, slightly convergent to the nose.

The lips are dry, closing tightly and as black as possible.

Eyes: Medium sized, almond shaped, placed obliquely; colour brown to dark brown; eyelids well fitting with black eye-rims desirable.

Ears: Erect ears, set high, carried upright, parallel and directed forward; in the shape of an oblong, at the tip a slightly rounded triangle.

Mouth: Powerful and complete with a scissor bite. The teeth should be set square to the jaw.

Neck: Medium long and well muscled, with harmonious set on at the body, without dewlap; the elegantly arched neckline runs without disruption from the moderately high carried head to the withers.

Straight when seen from the front; only moderately broad stance and seen in profile, well angulated.

Forequarters: The shoulder blade is long and well laid back; well angulated; the whole shoulder strongly muscled. The upper arm is adequately long with strong muscles. The elbows are close fitting. The forearm is long, straight and sinewy. The pastern is firm and only slightly oblique.

The body is strong, muscular and medium long. The withers are pronounced and the back level and firm. The loins are strongly muscled. The croup is long and of medium breadth; from the set on gently sloping to the root of the tail.

Body: The chest is not too broad; deep (about 50% of the height at the withers); reaching to the elbows. The ribcage is oval, well extending to the rear and the forechest is prominent. The flanks are slender and firm with the underline moderately tucked up.

Skin: Without folds or wrinkles with dark pigmentation.

Hindquarters: Seen from the rear straight and parallel; standing not too wide; seen from the side with adequate angulation. The upper thigh is medium-long and strongly muscled. The lower thigh is medium-long, oblique, with solid bone and well muscled. The hock joint of the rear pastern is powerful and well angulated. The rear pastern is medium-long, straight and sinewy. The dewclaws should be removed.

Feet: Oval, hind feet a little longer than forefeet, the toes tight and well arched with firm black pads. Dark nails are desired.

Tail: Bushy sabre tail, tapering to the tip: set on rather deep; reaching at least to the hock joint; at rest, it hangs either straight down or with a slightly sabre-like curve in its last third part. In movement it is carried higher, but never above the topline.

Gait/Movement: Rhythmical sequence of steps with even drive and enduring; front legs reaching out far, with strong thrust. The trot is ground covering and easy.

Coat: The coat is of medium length, dense, close-lying double coat or long double coat with abundant undercoat covered with hard, straight protection hair. The face, ears and front of the legs are covered with shorter hair. At the neck and the back of the legs the coat is slightly longer. Slightly wavy, hard hair is permitted.

Colour: White

Height at withers

Dogs 60-66 cm

Bitches 55-61 cm

Sizes: Weight

Dogs 30-40 kg

Bitches 25-35 kg

Typical dogs with slight under or oversize should not be eliminated.

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.

Faults:

Minor faults:

- Slight deer colour (light yellow or fawny shading) on ear tips, back and upper side of the tail.

- Partial loss of pigment or flecked appearance on the nose leather, lips and/or eye rims.

Serious Faults:

- Heavy appearance, too short in build (square outline)
- Masculinity or femininity not clearly defined
- Missing more than two PM1; the M3 are not taken into account.
- Drop (hanging) ears, semi-pricked ears, button ears.
- Strongly sloping topline
- Ringtail, kinky tail, hook tail, tail carried over the back.
- Soft, silky topcoat; woolly, curly, open coat; distinctly long hair without undercoat.
- Distinct deer colour (distinct yellowish or tawny discolouring) on eartips, back and upperside of the tail.

Eliminating Faults:

- Overly shy or aggressive.
- One eye or both eyes blue.
- Protruding eyes
- Entropion, ectropion.
- Over or undershot mouth
- Wry mouth
- Total loss of pigment on nose, lips and/or eye rims.
- Total loss of pigment in the skin and on the pads

- Albinism

Notes:

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