

AUVERGNE POINTER

A Breed Standard is the guideline that describes the ideal characteristics, temperament, and appearance of a breed, and ensures that the breed is fit for function, with soundness essential. Breeders and Judges should, at all times, be mindful of features that could be detrimental in any way to the health, welfare, or soundness of this breed.

Most recent changes to this Standard has an effective date of 01/02/2021

ORIGIN

France.

UTILISATION

Pointing breed.

BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY

The Auvergne Pointer is a very ancient breed, present in the Cantal region for more than two centuries. Descending from a multi-pointer common source, derivation has been made by a selection to which the Knights of Malta might have participated. Created by and for hunters, it has a strong identity re-inforced by its coat.



GENERAL APPEARANCE

Rectilinear, of medium proportions. Robust dog, strongly boned, but without heaviness, showing a characteristic Braque type, lightness in its gait, with elegance enhanced by the coat and harmonious proportions. Its conformation predisposes it to cover long distances with a supple action, permitting it to maintain its activity the whole day on the most difficult terrains.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS

- The length of the body (from the point of the shoulder to the point of the buttock) is approximately equal to the height at the withers.
- The depth of the chest equals half the height of the dog at the withers.
- Length of the muzzle slightly less or equal to the length of the skull.

BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT

Gentle dog, very affectionate, intelligent, and obedient. Its training consists mainly of developing its natural qualities. Its sense of smell is powerful. It adapts well to family life.

HEAD

Cranial Region:

Skull: The lines of the skull are slightly divergent towards the front (a characterised Braque). The head is long, proportional to the size, somewhat lighter with the females. Seen from above, the shape of the skull is nearly oval. The occipital protuberance is only slightly prominent. The skull width between the zygomatic arches is equal to its length.

Superciliary arches: Well-pronounced.

Stop: Moderately marked.

Facial Region:

Nose: Always black, relatively broad, shiny, with well-open nostrils. Its upper profile is a prolongation [*ed. extension*] of that of the muzzle.

Muzzle: Length close to that of the skull. The muzzle is level.

Lips: Relatively important. The upper lip overlaps the lower. Neat commissure, without important [*ed. prominent*] inner fold. Seen from the front, the lips form a square end to the muzzle.

Jaws and teeth: Sturdy, of equal length. The teeth are strong. Scissor bite or level bite.

Eyes:

Relatively large, oval, of dark hazel colour, well-set in the orbit, giving an expressive candid and kind look. The well-pigmented eyelid does not allow the conjunctiva to be seen.

Ears:

Attached rather towards the rear. At rest, the ear is set below a line running from the upper level of the nose to the eye. When attentive, the ear may move up to that line. Turned slightly inward, neither curled nor flat, the ear is supple and slightly satiny. The tip is fairly round. Drawn forward, it should reach the root of the nose, without going further than the tip.

NECK

Relatively long, well-inserted between the shoulders, slightly arched. Presence of a slight dewlap. The length of the neck is roughly equal to that of the head.

BODY

Topline: Straight and taut.

Withers: Marked.

Back: Narrow, flat, and short. The spinal column isn't sprung out.

Loin: Well-attached, wide (especially in females), very slightly convex.

Croup: Oblique (35° with respect to the dorsal line), points of hips visible.

Chest: Long and deep, reaching elbow level. A transversal section is egg-shaped, regularly sprung, without rupture [*ed. break*] in the lower part.

Underline and belly: Rises gently towards the belly, not whippety. The flank is wide, only slightly hollowed, joined smoothly to the hips.

TAIL

Set rather high. It should be carried horizontally. Cylindrical and not too fine.

[*ed. Previously customarily docked.*]

Docked: it has a length of 15cm – 20cm.

Undocked: it reaches the point of the hocks without going further.

[*refer note below]

LIMBS

They are in line with the body.

Forequarters:

General appearance: Upright to the ground.

Shoulder: Strong, well-muscled, quite free in action. Sloping at 45°.

Elbow: Well in the axis of the body.

Forearm: Strong and long, muscular and straight.

Carpus (wrist): Strong without knots.

Metacarpus (pastern): Short, slightly inclined seen in profile.

Hindquarters:

General appearance: Well-angled, they work in parallel planes.

Upper thigh: Well-muscled.

Hock: Lean and well-defined.

Metatarsus (rear pastern): Short and never too thin.

FEET

A little longer than what's called a "cat-foot" and a little shorter than a "hare-foot". Turned neither inward nor outward. The nails are strong and short; the pads are hard and resistant; the toes are tightly knit.

GAIT / MOVEMENT

Movement of average amplitude [*ed. not exaggerated*] but with a sustained rhythm that confers its notorious [*ed. well-known*] endurance to the dog. Its habitual hunting gait is an average gallop; regular and slightly rocking.

SKIN

Fine enough, rather loose without exaggeration.

COAT

Hair short, not too fine, never hard, shiny.

COLOUR

- Black with white markings of variable importance.
- * The particularity of the marking generates two recognised types:
- Flecked or greying: This difference cannot be used to separate two subjects of the same quality. The head should be black preferably with a white blaze on the muzzle extending to the skull. The white of that blaze can extend laterally on the muzzle.
- * A white and flecked ear, or the side of the head white and flecked, cannot be considered as faults.

SIZE

Height at withers:

Males: 57cm – 63cm (approx. 22½” – 24½”) ideal height: 60cm (approx. 23½”).

Females: 53cm – 59cm (approx. 20½” to 23”) ideal height: 56cm (approx. 22”).

For both sexes, a tolerance of 2cm above and 1cm below.

***N.B.** Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum. Only functionally and clinically healthy dogs, with breed typical conformation should be used for breeding.*

*Regardless of the provisions of the current KUSA-adopted standard, docked or formerly docked breeds may be shown at all FCI- and KUSA-licensed shows in South Africa, whether their tails are docked or natural. Under no circumstances are Judges permitted to discriminate against exhibits on the grounds of docked or natural tails, and equal consideration for awards must be given to either.

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, and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

- Parallel lines of skull and muzzle.
- Head too loaded under the eyes.
- Apparent conjunctiva.

Severe faults:

- Convergent lines of muzzle and skull (towards the front).
- Concave or convex muzzle.
- Ear attached too high, too short, flat, too much corkscrew.
- Lips hanging or floppy, too short, muzzle tapering towards the end.
- Too narrow brisket.

Disqualifying faults:

- Aggressive or overly shy.
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities.
- Head:
 - Lack of Braque type.
 - Undershot or overshot with more than 1mm gap between the incisive arcades [*ed. incisor arches*].
 - Lack of first premolars is tolerated. The lack of 2 other premolars (PM2 or PM3) or of any other tooth including PM4 is eliminatory.
 - Eversion or inversion of eyelids [*ed. ectropion (droops outwards) or entropion (turns inward)*] or traces of corrective intervention; unpigmented eye-rims.
 - Dudley nose.
 - Yellow eye (hawk eye). Wall eyes.
- Legs: Presence of dewclaws or traces of their removal.
- Coat: Entirely black or entirely white. Absence of flecking; tawny marks or “burnt bread” (fawn) glints.
- Size: Outside of standard defined limits (official tolerance of 2cm above and 1cm below)

©Copyright FCI – Reprinted with permission

The publisher of this edition is the Kennel Union of Southern Africa. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form, or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without permission in writing from the publisher.



FCI Standard No 180: BRAQUE D'Auvergne (AUVERGNE POINTER)

FCI Classification: Group 7 – Pointing Dogs

Section 1.1. Continental Pointing Dogs – Braque type
With Working Trial