



Official Breed Standard

Lowchen (Little Lion Dog) (Toy Group)



A Breed Standard is the guideline which 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 which could be detrimental in any way to the health, welfare or soundness of this breed.

GENERAL APPEARANCE:

Coat clipped in traditional lion clip, tail also clipped, topped with plume, giving the appearance of the little lion. Strongly built, active, well balanced and alert.

CHARACTERISTICS:

Gay, lively and alert little dog.

TEMPERAMENT:

Intelligent, affectionate showing no sign of aggression.

HEAD & SKULL:

Short, fairly broad. Skull flat between ears, head carried proud and high. Well defined stop; short, strong muzzle.

EYES:

Round, dark, relatively large and intelligent, unbroken pigmentation of eye rims, pigment to be in accordance with coat colour.

EARS:

Ears pendant, of moderate length with long fringing.

MOUTH:

Jaws strong, with perfect, regular and complete scissor bite i.e. the upper teeth closely overlapping the lower teeth and set square to the jaws.

NECK:

Good length, proudly arched.

FOREQUARTERS:

Forequarters shoulders well laid. Forelegs straight with round bone, not too fine.

BODY:

Short, strong and well proportioned. Level topline. Ribs well sprung. Strong loin with moderate tuck up.

HINDQUARTERS:

Hindlegs well-muscled. Good turn of stifle; straight when viewed from rear.

FEET:

Small, round.

TAIL:

Medium length, clipped with a tuft of hair to resemble a plume. Carried gaily on the move.

GAIT/MOVEMENT:

Free parallel movement fore and aft, no hackneyed action.

COAT:

Fairly long, wavy, never curly. Single coat of silky texture. Coat to be shown in its natural state without scissoring or sculpting, apart from the traditional lion clip.

COLOUR:

Any colour or combination of colours permissible. Merle is not acceptable.

SIZE:

Height at withers 25-33cm (10 - 13in).

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 on health and welfare of the dog and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

NOTE:

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



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