

LANDSEER

(EUROPEAN CONTINENTAL TYPE – (ECT))

A breed standard is the guideline which describes the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance including the correct colour of a breed and ensures that the breed is fit for function. Absolute soundness is essential. Breeders and judges should at all times be careful to avoid obvious conditions or exaggerations which would be detrimental in any way to the health, welfare or soundness of this breed. If a feature or quality is desirable it should only be present in the right measure. However, if a dog possesses a feature, characteristic or colour described as unacceptable, it must not be rewarded in the show ring.

Most recent changes to this Standard have an effective date of 01/01/2018

ORIGIN

Germany / Switzerland.

UTILISATION

Guard dog, companion.

BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY

[ed. for interest – from Wikipedia: The Landseer (ECT)]:

The Newfoundland (and Landseer) are descended from dogs used by fishermen in the Newfoundland and Labrador region of Canada. It is believed that these dogs are descended from water dogs and livestock guardian dogs imported by Portuguese and Basque fishing vessels. In the Victorian era, black-and-white Newfoundlands were more popular than the solid black coloration, and they were the subject of a number of 19th century artists, such as Edwin Landseer. In the 20th century the solid black colouration became more popular and supplanted the bi-coloured animals, so much so that, in the 1930s, a concerted effort was made to recreate the dogs seen in the paintings of Landseer. The efforts of these breeders resulted in the Landseer breed. In Great Britain and North America, Landseer-coloured dogs are considered a variety of the Newfoundland breed but, in 1960, a separate breed club for Landseer-coloured dogs was created in Germany. Similar clubs soon followed in Belgium and Holland, and they are now considered a separate breed in continental Europe with separate FCI recognition.



Illustration courtesy of NKU Picture Library

GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Landseer should convey the impression of a tall, powerful, and well-balanced dog. The legs are comparatively longer than those of the black Newfoundland - especially in the male.

HEAD

Scalp should be free from wrinkles, covered with short, fine hair. Head should be strikingly modelled, with noble expression.

Cranial Region:

Skull: Broad and massive, with well-developed occipital protuberance.

Stop: Decided, however not as pronounced and steep as in the Saint Bernard Dog.

Facial Region:

Nose: Black.

Muzzle: Length of muzzle is equal to depth of muzzle, measured in front of the stop.

Lips: Clean, black, as tight as possible, and no dribbling; upper lip slightly overlapping the lower.

Cheeks: Moderately developed, gradually tapering into the muzzle.

Jaws and teeth: Scissor bite.

Eyes:

Medium size, moderately deep-set, brown to dark brown, light brown to be tolerated, friendly expression, almond-shaped, showing no haw. Pronounced light eyes (sulphur or greyish yellow) are faulty, as well as eyes set too close together.

Ears:

Medium size. Reaching to inner corner of eyes, when drawn forward. Triangular shape, with slightly rounded tips. Set high on head, however not too far back. Carried close and flat to sides of head. Ears covered with short, fine hair. Fringes of longer hair to be found only at back part of root of ear.

NECK

The neck – muscular and broad – should not be quite round, but rather egg-shaped in cross-section, symmetrically set and obliquely placed in shoulders. Length of neck from occiput to withers to be approximately three-quarters to four-fifths the length from occiput to tip of nose. Pronounced dewlap undesirable.

BODY

The length, measured from withers to set-on of tail, should be about twice the length of the head. Wide and strong from withers to croup.

Back: Straight and level.

Loin: Muscular.

Croup: Broad, well-rounded at sides and set backward by powerful bolster of muscles.

Chest: Between the very muscular shoulders, the chest is deep and broad, corresponding to well-sprung ribs.

Underline and belly: Slightly tucked-up. Clearly visible flat depression between belly and loin. Weak or hollow back, weak loins, too-short false ribs, and too much tuck-up of the belly are faults.

TAIL

Strong, reaching slightly below hocks at the most, well-covered with dense, bushy hair, however not flag-like. Tail should hang downwards when standing or at ease, with a slight curve at end permissible. May carry tail straight out, with only a slight curve at end, when moving. Tails with a kink or curled over back are most objectionable.

LIMBS

Forequarters:

General appearance: Strong muscles descending from shoulders, and surrounding a well-boned humerus, are connected in correct angulation to the massive bones of the absolutely straight and muscular forelegs, as seen from the front. Legs slightly fringed down to pastern.

Elbow: Close to body at the lowest point of brisket; distance from ground to elbows rather high; elbows pointing straight to the rear.

Hindquarters:

General appearance: The hindquarters, throughout, are very sturdy. Hind legs to move freely; they should have strong bone embedded in powerful muscles. Hind legs to be moderately fringed.

Upper thigh: Especially broad.

FEET

Large, well-shaped cat-feet. Splayed or turned-out feet are objectionable. Toes connected by webbing, which should be strong, almost reaching tip of toes. Dewclaws are objectionable; they should be removed as soon as possible after birth. Cow-hocks or insufficient angulation faulty.

GAIT / MOVEMENT

Movement of the well-muscled legs should present a free, long stride, covering ground well.

COAT

The topcoat – with exception of the head – should be long and as straight and dense as possible; soft to the touch, with good undercoat, which is not as dense as in the black Newfoundland. Slightly wavy coat on back and hindquarters is not objectionable. When brushed the wrong way, it falls back into place naturally.

COLOUR

- Main colour of coat is a clear white with distinct black patches on body and croup.
- * Collar, forechest, belly, legs, and tail must be white.
- * Head black, with white muzzle and white symmetrical blaze – neither too narrow, nor too wide – extending from muzzle, over head to the white collar, is considered a definite breeding goal.
- * Ticking still occurring in the white not to be penalised, but should be bred away.

SIZE

Height at withers:

Males: 72cm – 80cm (approx. 28½" – 31½").

Females: 67cm – 72cm (approx. 26½" – 28½").

Small deviations below or above to be tolerated.

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.

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.

Disqualifying faults:

- Aggressive or overly shy.
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities.

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FCI Standard No 226: LANDSEER (EUROPEAN CONTINENTAL TYPE)

FCI Classification: Group 2: Pinscher and Schnauzer, Molossoid type dogs, and Swiss Mountain and Cattle dogs

Section 2.2. Molossian breeds; Mountain type

Without Working Trial