

AMERICAN STAFFORDSHIRE TERRIER

ORIGIN: U.S.A.

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE OFFICIAL VALID

STANDARD: 03.09.1996.

FCI-CLASSIFICATION: Group 3 Terriers.
Section 3 Bull type Terriers.
Without working trial.

GENERAL APPEARANCE: The Staffordshire Terrier should give the impression of great strength for his size; a well put together dog, muscular, but agile and graceful, keenly alive to his surroundings. He should be stocky, not long-legged or racy in outline. His courage is proverbial.

HEAD: Medium length, deep through.

CRANIAL REGION:

Skull: broad.

Stop: Distinct.

FACIAL REGION:

Nose: Definitely black.

Muzzle: Medium length, rounded on upper side to fall away abruptly below the eyes.

Lips: Close and even; no looseness.

Jaws/Teeth: Well defined. Under jaw strong and to have biting power. Upper teeth to meet tightly outside lower teeth in front.

Cheeks: Very pronounced cheek muscles.

EYES: Dark, round, low down in skull, set far apart. No pink eyelids.

EARS: Set high. Cropped or uncropped, the latter preferred. Uncropped ears should be short and held rose or half prick. Full drop to be penalized.

NECK: Heavy, slightly arched, tapering from shoulders to back of skull. No looseness of skin. Medium length.

BODY:

Topline : Back fairly short. Slight sloping from withers to rump with gentle short slope at rump to base of tail.

Loins: Slightly tucked.

Chest: Deep and broad. Well sprung ribs; close together, deep in rear.

TAIL: Short in comparison to size, low set, tapering to fine point; not curled or carried over back. Not docked.

LIMBS:

FOREQUARTERS: Front legs straight, with large bones. Set rather wide apart to permit chest development.

Shoulders: Strong and muscular, with blades wide and sloping.

Pastern: Upright.

Forefeet: Of moderate size, well arched and compact.

HINDQUARTERS: Well muscled.

Hocks: Let down, turning neither in nor out.

Hind feet: Of moderate size, well arched and compact.

GAIT / MOVEMENT: Springy but without roll or pace.

COAT

Hair: Short, close, stiff to the touch, glossy.

Colour: Any colour, solid, particolour, or patched is permissible; but more than 80% white, black and tan, and liver not to be encouraged.

SIZE: Height and weight should be in proportion. A height of about eighteen to nineteen inches (46 - 48 cm) at the shoulder for the male and seventeen to eighteen inches (43 - 46 cm) for the female to be considered preferable.

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.

- Dudley nose.
- Undershot or overshot mouth.
- Light eyes.
- Pink eyelids.
- Tail too long or badly carried.

DISQUALIFYING FAULTS

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

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.

SURFACE ANATOMY

