



# BREED FEATURE

## English Springer Spaniels



### They answered

A.1. I have owned Springers for nearly 30 years, I "fell into" the breed, fell in love – and I am still here. Springers are a very easy breed to live with. They are easy going, affectionate and just happy hanging out with their mates, human and canine.

A.2. Interesting question and one



that could be debated at length. I think the answer comes back to pure numbers. Like most breeds, our numbers are declining, and getting the depth of quality of the past is a challenge. However in saying this, I

**“ a true mover will still show the proper movement at a more moderate pace. I think you could take a leaf out of the American Cocker Standard which states “excessive animation (insert the word “speed”) should not be confused for proper gait” ”**

would say it is rare to see a dog in the Aust/NZ ring today, totally off type, whereas in Europe I have attended large shows where a surprising number of exhibits were not of sufficient standard.

A.3. The Springer’s movement is one of its key distinguishing features “strictly his own” – it is KEY.

As a general rule correct movement is recognised and rewarded. There are many judges who correctly (IMO) ask exhibits to slow down, a true mover will still show the proper movement at a more moderate pace. I think you could take a leaf out of the American Cocker Standard which states “excessive animation

(insert the word “speed”) should not be confused for proper gait”.

A.4. The Springer is a reasonably basic dog; of course “type” is the utmost – that which distinguishes it from other breeds. I wouldn’t rank the following points – without all of them, the Springer is off type.

Movement (funnily enough).

Expression – soft, well chiseled foreface. No chiseling = bland.

Appearance of a stop rising from the foreface with brows and fluting. The stop is not distinct.

Highest on leg and raciest – of the British land Spaniels

Balance – like most gundogs. Moderation – no exaggeration

A.5. At this stage we are lucky in the breed, with few dogs outside the height parameters, but I feel there should be a stipulated variance in height for dogs and bitches. At the current unisex approximately 20”, one could have 19” males which would be pressed to project a look of masculinity.

I would also like a reference to be included that young Springers often have lighter eyes which will generally darken with age.

A.6. Springers are a relatively healthy breed. Over the years PRA, Entropion, HD, Epilepsy, Fucosidosis and Bloat have all featured at low levels. Whilst every case is one too many, incidences seem to be rarer than ever before, most breeders are being very responsible.

A.7. Fairly standard – do your homework, ask questions. Also – think about their own ability to raise a puppy, it is a 10-14 year commitment.

**Jan Waite**

**Cardhu English Springer Spaniels**

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A.1. My father purchased my first English Springer in 2001 and the first ‘Sandicam’ Springers were bred from this bitch. The breed was introduced into our lives for its versatility and wonderful people orientated disposition.

A.2. My apprenticeship in this breed involved hours of video watching and pedigree research, mostly from the 1980’s and 90’s. The English Springer, like all breeds, has continued to evolve globally in accordance with somewhat ‘contemporary’ styles or fashions. What is clear is that as time has gone on we have seen a much higher incorporation

### We asked Breeders

**Q.1. How long have you been breeding English Springer Spaniels? Why are they your chosen breed?**

**Q.2. Is the English Springer Spaniel in the show rings of Australia & NZ more or less consistent in ‘breed type’ than say 15 years ago?**

**Q.3. Do you feel that judges understand correct English Springer movement?**

**Q.4. Could you list in order of priority the 5 most important points you think a judge should look for in the English Springer Spaniel?**

**Q.5. If you were able to add a sentence to the English Springer Spaniel breed standard what would it be?**

**Q.6. Does the English Springer Spaniel have any health problems?**

**Q.7. What would your advice be to a potential puppy buyer when looking for an English Springer Spaniel?**

of American blood to many of our existing lines. The desire for some breeders to explore this direction has resulted in a significant change in the overall ‘look’ of the breed in Australasia, promoting generally, a smaller lower to ground dog, with more profuse coat without as much ticking. This change has sparked some intense debate and discussion amongst breeders and explains why your average open dog or bitch class can present a challenge to many of our newer judges due to the general lack of consistency between exhibits.

A.3. In short, no! In order to understand the correct gait of an English Springer, one must comprehend some key points. The first of which is emphasized by the first three words under the movement section of the standard...‘strictly his own’. The springer in motion should in no way remind you of any other sporting spaniel and must at all times highlight the balance of the dog. If your initial impression is that of an overgrown Cocker Spaniel, then it is wrong! A correct moving Springer is often described as ‘floating’ around the ring which at its best creates a very impressive picture. In saying this, I’ve noticed that some judges seem to award nothing more than an extreme side gait; length of stride is fine so long as the action is correct and typical. A priority when judging the breed is being able to correctly identify the ‘swinging’ forequarter action. The entire forelimb (that is from the withers to the foot) should resemble a swinging pendulum in motion. A dog with this action and also the required drive from the rear will ensure balanced and harmoni-

ous movement. There should be no hackney action and any inclination to ‘goose step’ or ‘pad’ should be penalised just as heavily as generic spaniel movement.

A.4. Get the shape right first! The Springer standard throws a couple of ‘gems’ to judges to make his or her evaluation of the breed quite easy! The breed is “the highest on leg” of all British land spaniels, so a tendency to look ‘long and low’ is

**“ A priority when judging the breed is being able to correctly identify the ‘swinging’ forequarter action. The entire forelimb (that is from the withers to the foot) should resemble a swinging pendulum in motion ”**

therefore foreign to the breed. His balance and proportions is what sets it apart from the rest of its spaniel cousins, so make sure his silhouette resembles nothing but an English Springer!

Moderate – the breed is a fairly basic breed, free from exaggeration. Extreme angulation and excessive amounts of coat are foreign to the typical Springer.

Balance – not only referring to the correct proportions of the breed, but also the balance of front and rear assemblies

I have previously mentioned the Springer’s distinctive movement, so remember to make it a priority when judging.

*Continued on page 74*

# Another Kinsheran Superstar...

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Vin McPhee, Burwood Victoria (vinmcphee@gmail.com)

# Cardhu Reflects

Sometimes you just plug away, and you forget what has been – and just how good it has been. My thanks to owners who have campaigned Cardhu dogs your success helped make Cardhu the number one Breeder of English Springers in Australia in 2014 (Advance).



## *Ch Cardhu Because The Night*

(Qld – Wendy Fox). Best in Group and Class In Show Winner. Ryder carries the flag up North and has sired a gorgeous Cardhu litter.



## *Ch Cardhu Deal Or No Deal*

(Vic – Lyn Ayres). Runner Up In Show Winner, BOB Melbourne Royal, RUBOB Adelaide Royal, numerous Class in Group/Show.



## *Ch Cardhu Flanky Tank Woman*

(Vic – Cardhu). Currently recuperating from maternal duties, multi Class in Group/Show winner, on her last outing, BOB out of over 80 at the NSW Sporting Spaniel Show, will be back soon.



## *Ch Cardhu Flatbush Dreaming*

(Vic – Cardhu) Named in memory of the much loved Judy Kennon-Wray – Bushman Flatcoats. Specialty Best In Show Winner, Multi Best in Group Winner, Victorian Rising Star 2014 (DOL).

## *Cardhu Love That Man*

(Vic – Cardhu). Multi Class in Group/Show Winner, including back to back Junior In Show at the 2015 Victorian Specialties. Soon to join Siegers in Denmark.



# Cardhu Reflects



## *Sup Ch Cardhu Scents of Power*

(NSW – Bill and Maryanne Borg).

A Multi BIS and RUBIS winner and Sydney Royal BOB winner. Felix was Australia's Number One English Springer Spaniel (DOL) in 2014.



## *Cardhu Strictly Whatever*

(Vic – Cardhu). Multi Class in Group and Show, including Junior In Group at the prestigious Sunbury Show.



## *Ch Cardhu Tainted Love*

(Vic – Lyn Ayres). A Specialty Runner Up Best In Show Winner, Multi Class in Group/Show winner.



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*Azucroft & Azudance English Springer Spaniels*

Robert, Yvonne & Michelle Lauder  
 azucroft@optusnet.com.au  
 +61 9838-1945 ~ +61 0412 383 305

Ads By Jo

# SUPREME CHAMPION

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# Brock



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 Dam: NZ Ch Birchlands Stormy Plum

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- 3 RUBIS ALL BREEDS
- 24 BIG
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OWNED BY PHIL AND MARIE MERCHANT, EMMA PARKER, JO RASCHE AND RENEE HARTNETT

“Putting the English Back in the Springer”

# OUTTAFIRE

ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIELS



**AUST. CH.  
CARDHU BECAUSE  
THE NIGHT**

*Ryder*

**2014 OLD'S  
NUMBER 1 ESS RISING STAR**

**MULTI SPECIALTY  
CLASS IN SHOW WINNER**

**BEST IN GROUP WINNER  
MULTI CLASS IN SHOW WINNER**



**MYTHRIL  
OVER THE  
GARDEN WALL**

*Havana*

**MULTI CLASS IN GROUP WINNER**

**RYDER AND HAVANA ARE  
OWNED BY MISS W FOX  
AND MISS J BIRT.**

**HANDLED AND LOVED BY MISS W FOX  
PRESENTED WITH CHRIS CHRISTENSEN AUSTRALIA**

**OUTTAFIRE: WENDY FOX & JASMIN BIRT, BRISBANE, QLD.**



SILVASPRING PRESENTS...

*Felix*

SUPREME CH  
CARDHU  
SCENTS OF POWER

28 Best in Show  
18 RU Best in Show  
73 Best in Group



CABAI  
Canine Caretakers

#1 DOLPS Breed Competition 31/12/15  
#3 National All Breeds ESS DOL 31/12/15



Melinda Perrett

THE NEXT GENERATION...

Blaze



CARDHU FLATBUSH BURNING  
MULTI CLASS AND IN SHOW WINNER  
BLAZE & FELIX BRED BY JAN WAITE 'CARDHU'.

Evie



AUST CH SILVASPRING RIBBONS  
OF COLOUR  
MULTI CLASS IN GROUP WINNER

Eva



SILVASPRING AMBER ALERT  
9 MONTHS OLD. MULTI CLASS IN  
GROUP AND SHOW WINNER

Sugar



SILVASPRING BROWN SUGAR  
9 MONTHS OLD  
MULTI CLASS IN GROUP WINNER

Penny



AUST CH SILVASPRING WISH UPON A STAR  
MULTI CLASS IN GROUP  
WINNER AND IN SHOW

Parsha



SILVASPRING UPTOWN GIRL  
11 MONTHS  
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*Noah*



**Supreme Champion Sandicam The Look of Love**  
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*Vivienne*



**Champion Sandicam Royal Rendezvous**  
Specialty CC winner  
Multiple Class in Show winner



*Carla*

**Champion Sandicam Summer Salsa**  
All Breeds Best in Show winner  
Specialty Reserve BIS winner  
Royal CC winner



*Madison*

**Champion Sandicam Dancing Queen**  
Multiple Reserve BIS All Breeds  
Specialty BIS winner  
Multiple Specialty CC winner



*Tommy*

**Champion Sandicam Tommy Hilfiger**  
Australia's Number 1 Rising Star ESS  
(DOL Dec '15)  
Multiple Class in Show awards



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**SUPREME CH REIBEY WORLD PREMIERE (AI)**

**(MULTI CH ZELINI'S PREMIERE LEAGUE (FIN) X CH REIBEY OVER THE RAINBOW (AI SWD))**

*Oscar*

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# Reibey English Springer Spaniels

## BEST IN SHOW SPECIALTY 2015



# Rumba

## CH REIBEY SOOLAIMON

(SUP CH KINSHERAN KILIMANJARO X CH REIBEY OVER THE RAINBOW (AI SWD))

*"A bitch of superb type. She has a classic head piece, which flows to a good neck, correct shoulder and front assembly that enabled her to swing straight from the shoulder. Well sprung in rib, well coupled loin, flowing to a sound rear which drives well under on the move. In full bloom with a modest correct coat.*

*Bitch Challenge and a pleasure to award Best in Show."*

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**Reibey have SIX different Group winners currently being shown!  
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All our dogs are bred from Scandinavian/Aust bloodlines.**

**Shannon Lancaster  
Reibey English Springer Spaniels  
ANKC All Breeds Judge  
www.reibey.com**





# BREED FEATURE

## English Springer Spaniels



Continued from page 64

Show the exhibitor that you are looking for breed specifics when it comes to evaluating head type. Use your thumb to show that you are looking for the breed's 'fluting' be-



tween the eyes and look for a length of muzzle that is the same length as the skull. In addition, a Springer, or indeed any spaniel should have a gentle and melting expression. Although a lighter eye is more acceptable in a youngster we should be less tolerant in a mature adult.

A.5. As a general rule, our standard (that being the FCI standard) gives a sound written description of the breed's ideal. One topic however that I find does strike some fairly consistent debate amongst breeders refers to the interpretation of correct breed proportions. The General Appearance section of the standard refers to the breed being "compact" but further down under the description of the Springer's Body, it states that the English Springer should be "neither too long nor too short". This has resulted in numerous breeders disagreeing about what is deemed acceptable when it comes to balance and correct height to length ratio for the breed. I have heard some Springer breeders explain that the breed should be 'square' while others deem the breed 'rectangular'. In my personal opinion, when evaluating the correct balance of the Springer we should be looking for a dog that is 'slightly longer than tall'.

A.6. As a general rule, the Springer is a healthy, robust breed that will generally live to about fifteen years of age. Most Springer breeders' hip and elbow score their breeding stock however as a general rule the breed isn't known for having huge issues

when it comes to joint health. Like most spaniels however, eyes issues are a concern and physical eye examinations are recommended to check for diseases like PRA and glaucoma. Unfortunately epilepsy has long been a serious health concern and at the moment there is no test to verify whether dogs are affected, carriers or clear. Thankfully Australian breeders are known for communicating amongst each other when it comes to the problem, enabling all of us to make educated and informed breeding decisions.

A.7. The English Springer is a medium sized dog, requiring some regular exercise and coat maintenance. When selecting a puppy look for an outgoing and engaged pup with a friendly and happy disposition. A puppy that is afraid or runs and hides from visitors will not end up with a typical temperament. Wherever possible, if you can meet several members of the puppy's family, this will give you more of an indication of the kind of the character your dog will end up with. Never forget, the English Springer is a very social dog, so it's important to ensure every opportunity is given to socialise the puppy in order to foster his physical and mental health.

**Cam Cavallo**

**Sandicam English Springer Spaniels**

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A.1. Approaching our 25<sup>th</sup> year! We instantly fell in love with the breed after a friend of ours obtained a puppy. He grew into such a wonderfully faithful and loving dog, we just had to have one.

A.2. The past ten years has seen a real mix when it comes to quality in the breed. I do believe that in recent years the breed has turned a major corner by using new quality bloodlines from overseas. We were the first to have success with imported frozen semen (from Scandinavia) and with more breeders now trying and having success, I feel the breed can only go forward in a positive way.

A.3. I think the majority do understand, but finding them can be a challenge. We know the standard says "throwing feet well forward in a free and easy manner"; there is no place for exaggeration in our breed. A huge side gait is not what it's about. It's a balanced gait, free and easy.

## We asked Breeders

**Q.1. How long have you been breeding English Springer Spaniels? Why are they your chosen breed?**

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A.4. Type, it must look like an English Springer first and foremost. Balance, right through, including



There is no reason why all breeders should not be testing.

A.7. Visit breeders, look how the dogs and puppies are kept. Ask to see copies of health certificates on the parents and go with your gut. If you're not happy, don't buy.

**Shannon Lancaster**

**Reibey English Springer Spaniels**

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A.1. Why are they your chosen breed? Robert has owned & bred English Springer Spaniels together with his family since 1971 breeding under the Julwender prefix. Together with Yvonne have been breeding under the Azucroft prefix since 1981 & Michelle our daughter has had her own prefix breeding her first litter in 2004. We both used to have Labradors and liked the English Springer for its size & versatility. After getting our first Springers we fell in

length of body to height and correct length of leg. Remember this is an

“**We know the standard says "throwing feet well forward in a free and easy manner"; there is no place for exaggeration in our breed. A huge side gait is not what it's about. It's a balanced gait, free and easy.**”

approx. 20 inch dog. Head, the soul of the Springer. A well chiselled head with complete balance and a kind eye. 4. Movement. As above and of course temperament.

A.5. Movement neither short, cobby nor exaggerated in any way. I would love to see a breed extension approved for our breed!

A.6. The breed like many others can suffer health problems including Hip Dysplasia and eye disorders.

“**There are still working style & in the show type; there are two different styles however when you see these dogs you still know straight away that they are English Springer Spaniels. Grooming can change their outlook but they still fit the standard.**”

love with their personality & loving nature.

A.2. The breed is as consistent now as it was back then. There are still working style & in the show type there are two different styles however when you see these dogs you still know straight away that they are



# BREED FEATURE

## English Springer Spaniels



### They answered

English Springer Spaniels. Grooming can change their outlook but they still fit the standard.

A.3. Some do not understand the movement. They see something different and think that must be it. The springer should throw the foreleg straight from the shoulder and not from the elbow moving in a free, easy manner.

A.4. 1) A well balanced & moderately angulated dog. Nothing over exaggerated.

2) Must have a friendly, happy disposition.

3) A soft expression with a dark almond shaped eye.

4) Moving in a free & easy manner from the shoulder.

5) Good length of neck, not too stuffy.

A.5. No I wouldn't add anything.

A.6. There are a few health issues to look out for. Most reputable breeders will have their Springers eyes checked for hereditary eye diseases and hips X-rayed. There is a DNA test available to PRA Cord 1 for eyes. There can be epilepsy in some however unfortunately there is no DNA test for this as yet for our breed. These issues are not prevalent however they can be found from time to time. Reputable breeders do health testing to try & eliminate these from the breed.

A.7. Our advice is firstly buy from a reputable breeder & visit several breeders & meet the parents of the puppies & see what their temperaments are like. Ask questions & check that their breeding stock are health tested.

**Yvonne & Robert Lauder  
Azucroft & Azudance English  
Springer Spaniels**

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A.1. I have been involved with English Springer Spaniels for 13 years. I am yet to breed a litter. I fell in love with the English Springer Spaniel, when I was asked to handle a friend's ESS, their personality, and nature was what made me have to have one.

A.2. From what I have seen here in Australia our breed type varies from state to state, I can say in Qld we have both American Type, a mix of American over English Type and

English Type. Victoria and New Zealand has English Type.

A.3. Some do and some don't. The movement of the ESS is a hallmark of our breed, to many of the ESS today lack front angulation and forearm. A correct front assembly is everything (well almost) Our standard calls for well angulated front assembly, long sloping shoulder blades that come close together at the tips, coupled with a long upper arm that sets the elbows well back under the dog. The ESS should swing its front legs forward from the shoulder blade, not POP them forward from the elbow.

**“ Outlines should be trimmed to give the dog an attractive, but natural look, it should look like the coat grew that way. NOT like a paper cut out and barbered into existence. No clipper should touch the top coat of this breed ”**

A correctly built and muscled ESS should move freely and easily in a gait that seems effortless. NOT fast, choppy, short stepping motion or the high lifting and kicking motion



we see, which are both incorrect.

A.4. Our hallmark movement is vitally important to understand and is in our standard, which we are losing with the lack of front angulation and upper arm. The breed should carry its correct, upstanding outline and proportion when it moves, the head will (and should be allowed to, by the handler) go somewhat forward to assist in balance. Never should the ESS sink to the ground or appear low in action.

The heads, too many are becoming course with broad back skulls and are lacking the work in the face, our head requires chiselling (the boning in the face), no cheekiness. Deep set forward placed eyes. Well-developed eyebrows that are the

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highest point of the skull, strong underjaws and parallel plains of the skull and foreface and a nasal bone that is straight.

Size matters, our standard calls for a "Sturdy, muscular, strong and powerful. Strong but not excessively heavy, bone, properly shaped, oval ribs that carry well down to the elbow, broad, deep, muscular upper and lower thighs have given way to over refinement, lack of rib and excessively narrow loins and thighs. We need to retain our characteristics that make the ESS a strong, athletic and active hunting dog. While NEVER being course or cumbersome.

Eye colour also should be taken into consideration, a light eye is becoming more and more prevalent this deflects the soft expression that our breed standard calls for, and our breed today is losing this. Our standard calls for Hazel eyes in both liver and white and black and whites.

Trimming - outlines should be trimmed to give the dog an attractive, but natural look, it should look like the coat grew that way. NOT like a paper cut out and barbered into existence. No clipper should touch the top coat of this breed, nor should it be broken from over stripping or have a cotton wool look to it. Dying or bleaching the coat should not be done. We only drop (clip) the ears a third down, face and throat. Hand stripping dead coat from the body. Too many ESS today are over groomed.

Temperaments, never should this breed be aggressive, flighty, skittish or back off people, they are a friendly dog that like all gundogs have to work with people and other dogs. This is unacceptable within our breed.

A.5. "A correctly built English Springer Spaniel should move freely and easily in a gait that seems effortless."

A.6. I am aware of some lines that carry, Addison's & Cushing's disease, also Bloat has become prevalent in some lines as well. Retinal displacer, entropion and epilepsy are prevalent in some lines as well. We do test for PRA cord 1, and have hips and elbows x-rayed. Also an eye certificate is done yearly.

A.7. Check with the breeder for all health issues in the lines the puppy is from. View all hip, elbow scores, eye certificates. Ask if the parents have produced genetically clear PRA cord 1 babies and if not do they need to DNA test the puppy. Also if possible both parents and see the temperaments on them. Is the breeder willing to help with ongoing grooming, what training are you able to give, and where the dog is going to live, it is going to be inside with the family or an outside dog? I would ask if they have adequate fencing and yard space as they have to consider how much exercise this breed needs as they are an active breed. **Wendy Fox Outtafire English Springer Spaniels**





# BREED FEATURE

## English Springer Spaniels



# The Breed Standard

### GENERAL APPEARANCE:

Symmetrically built, compact, strong, merry, active. Highest on leg and raciest in build of all British land Spaniels.

### CHARACTERISTICS:

Breed is of ancient and pure origins, oldest of sporting gundogs; original purpose was finding and springing game for net, falcon or greyhound. Now used to find, flush and retrieve game for gun.

### TEMPERAMENT:

Friendly, happy disposition, biddable. Timidity or aggression highly undesirable.

### HEAD AND SKULL:

Skull of medium length, fairly broad, slightly rounded, rising from foreface, making a brow or stop, divided by fluting between eyes, dying away along forehead towards occipital bone which should not be prominent. Cheeks flat. Foreface of proportionate length to skull, fairly broad and deep, well chiselled below eyes, fairly deep and square in flew. Nostrils well developed.

**EYES:** Medium size, almond shaped, not prominent nor sunken, well set in (not showing haw), alert, kind expression. Dark hazel. Light eyes undesirable.

**EARS:** Lobular, good length and width, fairly close to head, set in line with eye. Nicely feathered.

**MOUTH:** Jaws strong, with a perfect, regular and complete scissor bite, i.e. Upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws.

**NECK:** Good length, strong and muscular, free from throatiness, slightly arched, tapering towards head.

### FOREQUARTERS:

Forelegs straight and well boned. Shoulders sloping and well laid. Elbows set well to body. Strong flexible pasterns.

### BODY:

Strong, neither too long nor too short. Chest deep, well developed. Well sprung ribs. Loin muscular, strong with slight arch and well coupled.

### HINDQUARTERS:

Hindlegs well let down. Stifles and hocks moderately bent. Thighs broad, muscular, well developed. Coarse hocks undesirable.

**FEET:** Tight, compact, well rounded, with strong full pads.

**TAIL:** Docked: Set low, never carried above level of back. Well feathered with lively action.

Undocked: Set low, never carried above level of back. Well feathered with lively action. In balance with the rest of the dog.

### GAIT/MOVEMENT:

Strictly his own. Forelegs swing straight forward from shoulder, throwing feet well forward in an easy free manner. Hocks driving well under body, following in line with forelegs. At slow movement may have a pacing stride typical of this breed.

**COAT:** Close, straight and weather resisting, never coarse. Moderate feathering on ears, forelegs, body and hindquarters.

### COLOUR:

Liver and white, black and white, or either of these colours with tan markings.

### SIZES:

Height: approx. 51 cms (20 ins).

### 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.

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