

FCI-Standard N° 20 / 03. 09. 1996 /GB

ARIEGE-HOUND

(Ariégeois)



TRANSLATION : Mrs Peggy Davis.

ORIGIN : France.

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UTILIZATION : Scenthound used for driving game to waiting guns and for coursing. His medium size and lightness make him a precious auxiliary, whether he hunts on his own or in a pack, capable of evolving easily on difficult terrains. Hare hunting is his favourite type of hunting; but he is also used in tracking roe deer or wild boar..

CLASSIFICATION F.C.I. : Group 6 Scenthounds, and related breeds.
Section 1.2 Medium sized Hounds.
With working trial.

BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY : Originates from the Ariège, product of a crossing of a Briquet with a “chien d’ordre” (scenthound hunting in a pack) which could have been the Bleu de Gascogne or the Gascon Saintongeois. Physically he has kept the typical characteristics of the “chien d’ordre”, with, however, less distinction, less size and more lightness.

GENERAL APPEARANCE : Light dog, medium size, elegant and distinguished.

BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT :

Behaviour : From his origins he is hardworking dog being at the same time very good at driving game to the waiting guns and showing proof of much initiative and enterprise. He has a resounding voice and is quick in his plotting.

Character : Happy and sociable; easy to train.

HEAD :**CRANIAL REGION** :

Skull : Seen from the front, slightly domed, not too broad; the occipital protuberance only slightly marked. Seen from above, the back of the skull is of lightly pronounced ogival shape. The forehead is full. Superciliary arches only slightly marked.

Stop : Only slightly accentuated.

FACIAL REGION :

Nose : Black, developed; nostrils well opened.

Muzzle : Nasal bridge straight or slightly arched; muzzle of equal length with that of the skull.

Lips : Tight, rather thin. The upper lip must just cover the lower jaw but without giving the muzzle a pointed profile.

Jaws/Teeth : Scissor bite. Incisors set square to the jaws.

Eyes : Well open, brown; eyelids without looseness. Alert, bright expression.

Leathers : Fine, supple, curled in, must be able to reach the onset of the nose without going beyond its extremity. The leather is narrow at its base and is set just below the eye level.

NECK : Light, rather thin, long, slightly arched.

BODY :

Back : Well muscled and sustained (firm).

Loin : Well fused, slightly arched.

Croup : Quite horizontal.

Ribs : Long, moderately rounded.

Chest : Long, medium width, let down to elbow level.

Flank : Flat and slightly drawn up.

TAIL : Well set, fine at its extremity, reaching the point of the hock. Carried gaily, sabre blade style.

LIMBS

FOREQUARTERS : View of the ensemble : solidly constructed.

Shoulder : Moderately oblique, muscular without heaviness.

Elbow : Close to body.

HINDQUARTERS : View of ensemble : well proportioned.

Upper thigh : Quite long and muscled without excess.

Hock : Well set in the axis of the body, well let down. No dewclaw.

FEET : Elongated oval, i.e. “harefeet”; toes lean and tight. Pads and nails black.

GAIT / MOVEMENT : Supple and easy.

SKIN : Fine, supple, not closely adherent to the body but not allowing the presence of dewlap, folds or wrinkles. Mucous membranes (hairless zones) black.

COAT

HAIR : Short, fine and dense.

COLOUR : White with jet black markings with well defined outlines; sometimes mottled. Presence of quite pale tan on the cheeks and above the eyes.

SIZE :

<u>Height at the withers</u> :	males :	52 to 58 cm.
	females :	50 to 56 cm.

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.

Head :

- Skull flat or too pronounced dome.
- Profile of the extremity of the muzzle too square.
- Presence of wrinkles or dewlap.
- Eye round; haw apparent.
- Leathers too flat; thick, badly set, too long or too short.

Body :

- Excessive volume.
- Slack (soft) back.
- Drooping croup.

Tail :

- Tail deviated.

Limbs :

- Insufficiently developed bone structure.
- Cow hocks seen from behind.
- Splayed feet.

Behaviour :

- Timid subject.

ELIMINATING FAULTS :

- Flightened or aggressive subject.
- Lack of type.
- Serious anatomical malformation.
- Visible disabling (invalidating) defect.
- Over-or undershot mouth.
- Light eyes.
- Any coat other than scheduled in the standard.

Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified.

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