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SWEDISH LAPPHUND

(Svensk Lapphund)



TRANSLATION : Renée Sporre Willes, in collaboration with R. Triquet.

ORIGIN : Sweden.

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UTILIZATION : Herding dog, nowadays mainly kept as a companion dog.

CLASSIFICATION F.C.I. : Group 5 Spitz and primitive types.
Section 3 Nordic Watchdogs and Herders.
Without working trial.

BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY : The Swedish Lapphund (a Nordic Spitz used in the past for reindeer herding by the nomadic Laplanders) has been known in the Nordic area for centuries.

GENERAL APPEARANCE : Typical Spitz dog of slightly less than medium size and with proud head carriage. Its coat is weather resistant.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS : Rectangular body shape.

BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT : Lively, alert, kind and affectionate. The Lapphund is very receptive and willing to work. Its abilities as a good guard and herding dog made it very useful in the reindeer trade. It is very versatile, suitable for obedience training, agility, herding, tracking, etc. It is easy to train, full of endurance and toughness.

HEAD

CRANIAL REGION :

Skull : Slightly longer than broad; forehead rounded and occiput not clearly defined.

Stop : Very well marked.

FACIAL REGION :

Nose : Preferably dark, or very black.

Muzzle : A little more than one third of the length of the head. Foreface strong, evenly tapering towards tip of nose. Nose bridge straight.

Lips : Close fitting. Palate and lips strongly pigmented.

Jaws/Teeth : Scissor bite with evenly set and well developed teeth.

Eyes : Set well apart, round, fairly big, but not protruding. Brown, preferably dark brown and full of expression. Rims strongly pigmented.

Ears : Triangular, broad at base, small, pricked, tips slightly rounded. Set well apart and very mobile. Tipped ears are undesirable but not as eliminating fault.

NECK : Medium length, clean-cut and powerful.

BODY : Well put together, slightly longer than height at withers.

Back : Level, strong, muscular and springy.

Loin : Short and broad.

Croup : Proportionally long and broad, slightly sloping and well muscled.

Chest : Rather deep reaching to elbow. Ribcage proportionally long, oval and with well developed last ribs. Forechest well developed; well defined breastbone.

Underline and belly : Belly slightly tucked up.

TAIL : Rather high set, reaching to hock when extended. Carried curled over back when the dog is moving.

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.

SEVERE FAULT :

- No trace of undercoat.

ELIMINATING FAULTS :

- **Aggressive or overly shy.**
- Untypical.
- Abnormalities.

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.