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Norwegian ELKHOUND BLACK
(Norsk Elghund Sort)



TRANSLATION : Norsk Kennel Klub.

ORIGIN : Norway.

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UTILIZATION : Hound for elk-hunting.

CLASSIFICATION F.C.I. : Group 5 Spitz and primitive types.
Section 2 Nordic Hunting Dogs.
With working trial only for the Nordic countries (Sweden, Norway, Finland).

GENERAL APPEARANCE : A typical spitz, squarely built, black hair lying rather close to the body, erect pointed ears, tail curled over the back. Proud rise of neck, muscular and athletic.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS : Height of withers = length of body. Length of muzzle = length of skull.

BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT : Fearless, energetic and brave.

HEAD : Wedge-shaped, tapering to nose. Clean and rather light, comparatively broad between ears.

CRANIAL REGION :

Skull : Nearly flat.

Stop : Distinct, but not abrupt.

FACIAL REGION :

Nose : Black.

Muzzle : Bridge of the nose straight.

Lips : Tightly closed.

Jaws/Teeth : Scissor bite. Complete dentition.

Eyes : Not protruding. Preferably dark brown.

Ears : Set on high, pricked, height slightly greater than width at the base, pointed.

NECK : Of medium length, firm, without loose skin.

BODY :

Topline : Straight from the withers to the croup.

Withers : Well developed.

Back : Straight and strong.

Loin : Well developed, broad and straight.

Croup : Broad, well muscled.

Chest : Relatively deep, with good spring of ribs.

Belly : Slightly tucked up.

TAIL : Set on high. Short, thick, with thick and close coat, but not with a flag. Tightly curled over the back, but not carried on either side.

LIMBS

FOREQUARTERS :

General appearance : Firm, sinewy and strong, but not heavy.

Shoulders : Sloping.

Upper arm : Moderately sloping.

Elbow : Well set, turned neither in nor out.

Forearm : Straight.

Pastern : Moderately sloping seen from the side.

Forefeet : Rather small, somewhat oval, compact and not turned outwards.

HINDQUARTERS :

General appearance : Moderately angulated in stifle and hock. Parallel seen from behind. Dewclaws not desired.

Upper thigh : Muscular and broad.

Stifle : Moderately angulated.

Lower thigh : Of medium length.

Hock joint : Moderately angulated.

Hock : Moderately sloping seen from the side, parallel seen from behind.

Hind feet : Rather small, somewhat oval, compact.

GAIT / MOVEMENT : Light and effortless. Parallel seen both from the front and behind.

COAT

HAIR : Dense and rough, but lying close to the body. On head and front of legs short and smooth; longer on chest and neck, back of legs and the underside of tail. The coat is composed of a longish and coarse topcoat and a soft, woolly and black undercoat.

COLOUR : Shining black. A little white on chest and feet may be tolerated.

SIZE :

Height at withers : Males 46-49 cm. Ideal height 47 cm.
Females 43-46 cm. Ideal height 44 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.

- Pincer bite, irregular bite.
- Lacking undercoat.
- White hairs, white on the tail.
- White socks.
- Stressed, nervous, barking.

SERIOUS FAULTS :

- Naturally short tail.

ELIMINATING FAULTS :

- Aggressive or overly shy.
- Bite over- or undershot.
- Height at withers under 3 or above 4 cm from the ideal height.

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.