

Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen Standards

General Appearance □The Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen is a French scent hound developed first and foremost to hunt small game over the rough and difficult terrain of the Vendéen region. To function efficiently, he must be equipped with certain characteristics. He is bold and vivacious in character; compact, tough and robust in construction. He has an alert outlook, lively bearing and a good voice freely and purposefully used.

The most distinguishing characteristics of this bold hunter are: his rough, unrefined outline; his proudly carried head displaying definitive long eyebrows, beard, and moustache; his strong, tapered tail carried like a saber, alert and in readiness. Important to breed type is the compact, casual, rather tousled appearance, with no feature exaggerated and his parts in balance.

Any deviation from the ideal described in the standard should be penalized to the extent of the deviation. Structural faults common to all breeds are as undesirable in the PBGV as in any other breed, regardless of whether they are specifically mentioned.

Size, Proportion, Substance—Size—Both sexes should measure between 13 and 15 inches at the withers. Height, of both sexes at one year of age or older, over 15 inches or under 13 inches at the withers is a disqualification. **Proportion—**When viewed in profile, the body is somewhat longer than tall when measured from point of shoulder to buttocks, as compared to the height from withers to ground. **Substance—**Strong bone with substance in proportion to overall dog.

Head—The head is carried proudly and, in size, must be in balance with the overall dog. It is longer than its width in a ratio of approximately two to one. A coarse or overly large head is to be penalized. **Expression** alert, friendly and intelligent. **Eyes** large and dark with good pigmentation, somewhat oval in shape, showing no white. The red of the lower eyelid should not show. The eyes are surmounted by long eyebrows, standing forward, but not obscuring the eyes. **Ears** supple, narrow and fine, covered with long hair, folding inward and ending in an oval shape. The leathers reach almost to the end of the nose. They are set on low, below the line of the eyes. An overly long or high-set ear should be penalized.

Skull domed, oval in shape when viewed from the front. It is well cut away under the eyes and has a well developed occipital protuberance. *Stop*

clearly defined. **Muzzle**—The length of the muzzle from nose to stop is slightly shorter than the length from the stop to occiput. The underjaw is strong and well developed. **Nose** black and large, with wide nostrils. A somewhat lighter shading is acceptable in lighter colored dogs. A butterfly nose is a fault. **Lips** – The lips are covered by long hair forming a beard and moustache. **Bite**—It is preferable that the teeth meet in a scissors bite, but a level bite is acceptable.

Neck, Topline, Body—**Neck**—The neck is long and strong, without throatiness, and flows smoothly into the shoulders. **Topline**—The back is visibly level from withers to croup. There is a barely perceptible rise over a strong loin. Viewed in profile, the withers and the croup should be equidistant from the ground. **Body** muscular, somewhat longer than tall. Compact, casual in appearance, with no feature exaggerated and his parts in balance. *Chest* rather deep, with prominent sternum. *Ribs* moderately rounded, extending well back. *Loin* short, strong, and muscular. There is but little tuck-up. **Tail** of medium length, set on high, it is strong at the base and tapers regularly. It is well furnished with hair, has but a slight curve and is carried proudly like the blade of a saber; normally pointing at about two o'clock . In a curved downward position the tip of the tail bone should reach no further than the hock joint.

Forequarters—**Shoulders** clean and well laid back. *Upper arm* approximately equal in length to the shoulder blade. *Elbows* close to the body. **Legs**—The length of leg from elbow to ground should be slightly more than $\frac{1}{2}$ the height from withers to ground. Viewed from the front, it is desirable that the forelegs be straight, but a slight crook is acceptable. In either case, the leg appears straight, is strong and well boned, but never coarse nor weedy. Improperly constructed front assemblies, including poor shoulder placement, short upper arms, out at elbows, lack of angulation and fiddle fronts, are all serious faults. *Pasterns* strong and slightly sloping. Any tendency to knuckle over is a serious fault. *Dewclaws* may, or may not, be removed. **Feet** not too long, between hare and cat foot, with hard, tight pads. The nails are strong and short.

Hindquarters—Strong and muscular with good bend of stifle. A well-defined second thigh. Hips wide, thighs well muscled. Hocks are short and well angulated, perpendicular from hock to ground. Feet are as in front, except that they must point straight ahead.

Coat—The coat is rough, long without exaggeration and harsh to the touch, with a thick shorter undercoat. It is never silky or woolly. The eyes are surmounted by long eyebrows, standing forward but not obscuring the

eyes. The ears are covered by long hair. The lips are covered by long hair forming a beard and moustache. The tail is well furnished with hair. The overall appearance is casual and tousled.

The natural, casual and tousled appearance of the breed is vitally important. While some neatening is occasionally necessary, he should be shown naturally. Dogs whose coat has been altered by excessive grooming, sculpting, clipping, or by artificial means shall be so severely penalized as to be effectively eliminated from competition.

Color—White with any combination of lemon, orange, black, sable, tricolor or grizzle markings, providing easy visibility in the field.

Gait—The movement should be free at all speeds. Front action is straight and reaching well forward. Going away, the hind legs are parallel and have great drive. Convergence of the front and rear legs towards his center of gravity is proportional to the speed of his movement. Gives the appearance of an active hound, capable of a full day's hunting.

Temperament—Confident, happy, extroverted, independent yet willing to please, never timid nor aggressive.

DISQUALIFICATION □ Height of both sexes, at one year of age or older, over 15 inches or under 13 inches at the withers is a disqualification.

Approved April 12, 2005 □ **Effective August 31, 2005**