
Beagle

General Appearance

A miniature Foxhound, solid and big for his inches, with the wear-and-tear look of the hound that can last in the chase and follow his quarry to the death.

Size

There shall be two varieties:

- 13 inches (33 cm) – which shall be for hounds not exceeding 13 inches (33 cm) in height;
- 15 inches (38 cm) – which shall be for hounds over 13 inches (33 cm) but not exceeding 15 inches (38 cm) in height.

Coat and Colour

A close, hard, hound coat of medium length. Any true hound colour.

Head

The skull should be fairly long, slightly domed at occiput, with cranium broad and full. Muzzle of medium length - straight and square-cut, the stop moderately defined. Nostrils large and open. Jaws level. Lips free from flews. Eyes large, set well apart – soft and hound-like – expression gentle and pleading; of a brown or hazel colour. Ears set on moderately low, long, reaching when drawn out nearly, if not quite, to the end of the nose; fine in texture, fairly broad – with almost entire absence of erectile power – setting close to the head, with the forward edge slightly in-turning to the cheek, rounded at tip.

Neck

Neck rising free and light from the shoulders, strong in substance yet not loaded, of medium length. The throat clean and free from folds of skin; a slight wrinkle below the angle of the jaw, however, may be allowable.

Forequarters

Shoulders sloping – clean, muscular, not heavy or loaded – conveying the idea of freedom of action with activity and strength. Forelegs straight, with plenty of bone in proportion to size of the hound. Pasterns short and straight. Feet close, round, and firm. Pad full and hard.

Body

Back short, muscular, and strong. Chest deep and broad, but not broad enough to interfere with the free play of the shoulders. Loin broad and slightly arched, and the ribs well sprung, giving abundance of lung room.

Hindquarters

Hips and thighs strong and well muscled, giving abundance of propelling power. Stifles strong and well let down. Hocks firm, symmetrical, and moderately bent. Feet close and firm.

Tail

Set moderately high; carried gaily, but not turned forward over the back; with slight curve; short as compared with size of the hound; with brush.

Faults

A short, thin coat, or of a soft quality. A very flat skull, narrow across the top; excess of dome, eyes small, sharp and terrier-like, or prominent and protruding; muzzle long, snipey or cut away decidedly below the eyes, or very short. Roman-nosed, or upturned, giving a dish-faced expression. Ears short, set on high or with a tendency to rise above the point of origin. A thick, short, cloddy neck carried on a line with the top of the shoulders. Throat showing dewlap and folds of skin to a degree termed "throatiness." Straight, upright shoulders. Out at elbows. Knees knuckled over forward, or bent backward. Forelegs crooked or Dachshund-like. Feet long, open or spreading. Very long or swayed or roached back. Chest disproportionately wide or with lack of depth. Flat, narrow loins. Flat ribs. Cow-hocks or straight hocks. Lack of muscle and propelling power. Open feet. A long tail. Teapot curve or inclined forward from the root. Rat tail with absence of brush.

Disqualification

Any hound measuring more than 15 inches (38 cm) shall be disqualified.

Scale of Points**Head**

Skull.....	5
Ears.....	10
Eyes.....	5
Muzzle	5..... 25

Body

Neck	5
Chest and shoulders.....	15
Back, loin and ribs.....	15..... 35

Running Gear

Forelegs.....	10
Hips, thighs and hind legs.....	10
Feet	10..... 30
Coat	5
Stern	5..... 10

TOTAL	100
--------------	------------

Pack of Beagles**Score of Points for Judging****Hounds**

General levelness of pack.....	40
Individual merit of hounds.....	30..... 70
Manners.....	20
Appointments	10..... 30

TOTAL	100
--------------	------------

Levelness of Pack

The first thing in a pack to be considered is that they present a unified appearance. The hounds must be as near to the same height, weight, conformation, and colour as possible.

Individual merit of the Hounds

is the individual bench-show quality of the hounds. A very level and sporty pack can be gotten together and not a single hound be a good Beagle. This is to be avoided.

Manners

The hounds must all work gaily and cheerfully, with flags up - obeying all commands cheerfully. They should be broken to heel up, kennel up, follow promptly and stand. Cringing, sulking, lying down to be avoided. Also, a pack must not work as though in terror of master and whips. In Beagle packs, it is recommended that the whip be used as little as possible.

Appointments

Master and whips should be dressed alike, the master or huntsman to carry horn - the whips and master to carry light thong whips. One whip should carry extra couplings on shoulder strap.

Recommendations for Show Livery

- (a) Black velvet cap, white stock, green coat, white breeches or knickerbockers, green or black stockings, white spats, black or dark brown shoes. Vest and gloves optional.
- (b) Ladies should turn out exactly the same except for a white skirt instead of white breeches.