

The Breed Standard

Interpretation and judging guidelines



Typical differences between the three breeds:



ST BERNARD



LANDSEER



NEWFOUNDLAND

LANDSEER (European Continental Type, Ect)

TRANSLATION: Mrs. Matenaar.

ORIGIN : Germany / Switzerland.

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE OFFICIAL VALID STANDARD : 24.08.1960.

UTILIZATION : Guard Dog, Companion.

FCI-CLASSIFICATION : Group 2 Pinscher and Schnauzer- Molossoid breeds - Swiss Mountain and Cattle Dogs.
Section 2.2 Molossoid breeds, Mountain type.

Without working trial.

GENERAL APPEARANCE: The Landseer should convey the impression of a tall, powerful and well balanced dog. The legs are comparatively longer than those of the black Newfoundland - especially in the male.

Despite his size and strength the Landseer is not as heavy or massive as the Newfoundland. He is clearly higher on the leg. He has strong bone without being heavy and his movement should be effortless. The breed has a certain elegance created by balance where all structural elements fit together to create a harmonious overall picture.

HEAD: Scalp should be free from wrinkles, covered with short, fine hair. Head should be strikingly modelled, with noble expression.

CRANIAL REGION:

Skull: Broad and massive with well developed occipital protuberance.

Stop: Decided, however not as pronounced and steep as in the Saint Bernard Dog.

FACIAL REGION:

Nose: Black.

Muzzle: Length of muzzle is equal to depth of muzzle measured in front of the stop.

Lips: Clean, black; the as tight as possible and no drivelling upper lip slightly overlapping the lower.

Jaws/Teeth: Scissor bite.

Cheeks: Moderately developed, gradually tapering into the muzzle.

Head should be strong, in proportion to body and not too small. Skull should not be excessively long. Occiput is prominent. Muzzle should be reasonably deep when viewed from the side. Cheekbones under the eye moderately developed. Head should not carry an excess of skin or wrinkle. Moderate flews with tight fitting lips as the breed does not drool. Complete, strong pigmentation on nose and lips. Incisors should not be too small. There is a clear distinction between a male and female head.



Two excellent male breed representatives

Left: correct shape of male head

*Right: an excellent female head
with ideal eye shape and beautiful
expression*



Above: Correct Newfoundland head

Below: Newfoundland head - profile



Eyes: Medium size, moderately deep set, brown to darkbrown, lightbrown to be tolerated, friendly expression, almond shaped, showing no haw. Pronouncedly light eyes (sulphur or greyish yellow) are faulty, as well as eyes set too close together.

When judging the head, please pay attention to the shape and placement of eyes – they should not be set too close to each other or too slanted. Round, bulging eyes are incorrect. Eyelids should be tight with no visible haw. Expression must be friendly; this can also be achieved in dogs with lighter eyes providing the eye placement and shape are correct. Very light eyes should be penalised.

Ears: Medium size. Reaching inner corner of eyes, when drawn out. Triangular shape, with slightly rounded tips. Set high on head, however not too far back. Carried close and flat to sides of head. Ears covered with short, fine hair. Fringes of longer hair to be found only at back part of root of ear.

Ears should not be too large. They are quite high set – ear should reach inner corner of eye.



*Too much lip, corners of mouth loose,
generous amount of dew lap.*



Stop too pronounced, weak lower jaw



*Narrow head with barely any stop and muzzle
too long. Eye is too round*



*This head is lacking quality, eyes are too open
and too light in colour*

NECK : The neck- muscular and broad - should not be quite round but rather eggshaped in cross-section, symmetrically set and obliquely placed in shoulders. Length of neck from occiput to withers to be approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{4}{5}$ the length from occiput to tip of nose. Pronounced dewlap undesirable.

Neck is very strong and muscular and should not be excessively long. Length from occiput to withers is almost equal to head length measured from occiput to tip of nose. Dewlap not desirable.

BODY: The length measured from withers to set on of tail should be about twice the length of the head. Wide and strong from withers to croup.

Back: Straight and level.

Loin: Muscular.

Croup: Broad, well rounded at sides and backwards by powerful bolster of muscles.

Chest: Between the very muscular shoulders the chest is deep and broad corresponding to well sprung ribs.

Belly: Slightly tucked up. Clearly visible flat depression between belly and loin. Weak or hollow back, weak loins, too short false ribs and too much tuck-up of the belly are faults.

Body is relatively short albeit not square. The length should be twice the length of the head measured from withers to tip of tail. Back should be wide and strong with horizontal topline, not dipped or sloping. Rib cage should be relatively deep and long and there is no obvious tuck-up. Barrel shaped ribcage is not desirable. There should be good width of chest. Normal croup.

TAIL: Strong, reaching slightly below hocks at the most, well covered with dense, bushy hair, however not flaglike. Tail should hang downwards when standing or at ease, with a slight curve at end permissible. May carry tail straight out, with only a slight curve at end, when moving. Tails with a kink or curled over back are most objectionable.

Well covered with hair. Tail should reach to just below hock. Tip of tail may curve slightly. When moving tail carried slightly elevated, but never curled on back.

LIMBS: FOREQUARTERS

General appearance : Strong muscles descending from shoulders and surrounding a well boned humerus are connected in correct angulation to the massive bones of the seen from front absolutely straight and muscular fore-legs. Legs slightly fringed down to pastern.

Elbows : Close to body at the lowest point of brisket ; distance from ground to elbows rather high ; elbows pointing straight to the rear.



Please note excellent reach and drive, firm topline as well as correctly carried tail on the move



Correct front; ideal angulation of shoulder blade and upper arm



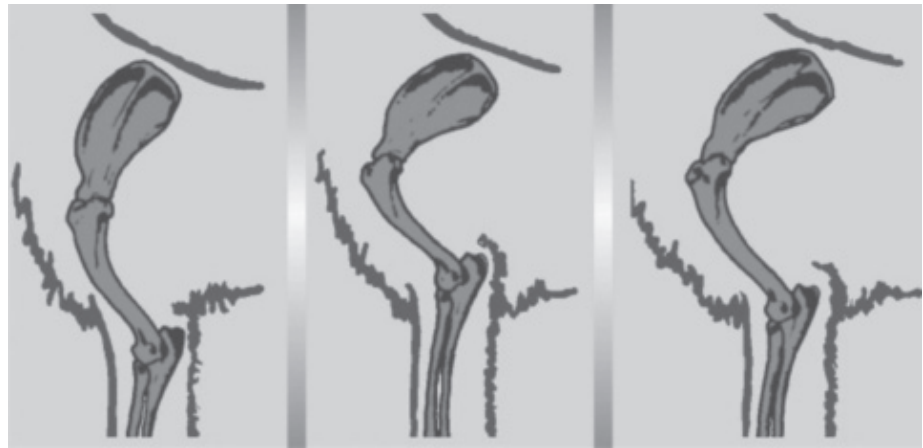
Correct tail set



Incorrect tail carriage – carried too gaily on back



Good front



Shoulder too straight

Short upper arm

Good shoulder angulation

FEET: Large, well shaped cat-feet. Splayed or turned out feet are objectionable. Toes connected by webbing, which should be strong, almost reaching tip of toes.

Forequarters are well-angulated in order to enable correct, flexible movement as well as sufficient reach. Elbows set close to body, not turning in or out. Feet large and well cupped. Light bone, small feet and long splayed toes are a common fault.

HINDQUARTERS:

General appearance: The hindquarters are throughout very sturdy. Hindlegs to move freely ; they should have strong bone embedded by powerful muscles. Hindlegs to be moderately fringed.

Upper thighs: Especially broad.

Dewclaws: They are objectionable ; they should be removed as soon as possible after birth. Cowhocks or insufficient angulation are faulty.

Thighs broad and muscular. Poor hind angulation results in narrow thighs lacking muscle. In spite of his size and strength this breed should always convey an impression of being an efficient mover. Balanced angulation results in good reach and drive. Imbalance in angulation is a common occurrence with many having much better rear than front angulation. Poor angulation results in short-stepping movement which lacks drive.



East-west front, narrow chest and weak pasterns



Croup too steep

Insufficient knee angulation

Correct rear angulation

COAT

HAIR : The top coat - with exception of the head - should be long and as straight and dense as possible, soft to the touch, with good undercoat, which is not as dense as in the black Newfoundland. Slightly wavy coat on back and hindquarters is not objectionable. When brushed wrong way it falls back into place naturally.

COLOUR : Main colour of coat is a clear white with distinct black patches on body and croup. Collar, forechest, belly, legs and tail must be white. Head black, with white muzzle and white symmetrical blaze - neither too narrow, nor too wide - extending from muzzle over head to the white collar, being considered a definite breeding goal. Ticking still occurring in the white not to be penalized, but should be bred away.

When assessing the breed attention should be paid to colour, but equally importantly coat quality should be taken into consideration. Many dogs carry coats which are too short. If the coat is of correct length it will fall naturally back when brushed in the opposite direction. Coat quality should not be too soft as the correct outer coat is relatively coarse. This is particularly noticeable when the dog is moulting and is short of undercoat. A curly coat is incorrect whereas



Croup falling away too abruptly



Straight rear angulation, steep croup and tail carriage too gay

Correct croup and well angulated rear



slight waviness is permissible. Legs should carry feathering. In 1960 the standard stated that ticking in the white parts is not a fault, but attention should be paid to breed it out. Over 50 years have passed and we still see some dogs with excessive ticking, which should be penalised. Dogs with a black mantle or dogs with a white frame should not have ticking in the white colour. If the dog is otherwise presentable and the correct type, and moves in a healthy way, the colour alone should not be penalised too harshly.

SIZE : Height at shoulders :

Dogs: 72 to 80 cm (28,5 to 31,5 inches)

Bitches: 67 to 72 cm (26,5 to 28,5 inches).

Small deviations below or above to be tolerated.

Particularly the Landseer male is very tall. Greater size variation (eight centimeters) is permissible in males. As the ideal is a large, strong and tall dog, those not reaching the minimum height should be penalised.

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.

DISQUALIFYING FAULTS :

- Aggressive or overly shy dogs.
- 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.
- Only functionally and clinically healthy dogs, with breed typical conformation should be used for breeding.



*Too much white as well as too much
ticking in the white colour*



Too heavily marked with black

Commonly seen faults



Rangy and very lightly built dog. Long head with insufficient stop and pointed muzzle. Tuck-up is too abrupt. This dog is very square due to poor angulation fore and aft



This dog is too low on the leg. Please note incorrect round skull. Feet are long and splayed. This dog is well angulated in front and rear.



This specimen is not balanced and lacks angulation in front and rear and is high in the rear. Head lacks stop. Poor croup and tail carriage too gay.



Leggy male with flat ribcage. Good bone, but needs better angulation. Please note high tail carriage when standing. Good color and markings.



Very good male, who could have a little more height of leg. Low-set ears, rather generous lips and open corners of the mouth. Good depth of body. Very good bone, adequate angulation. Ideal markings.



Slightly low on leg, but still a good male. Head has correct shape, but is slightly small in relation to body. Very good body, medium strong bone, good angulation. Correct tail carriage when standing. Correctly marked.



This bitch is too low on the leg. Completely black head which needs better stop and stronger muzzle. Good strong body and very good bone. Coat is too wavy. White color is mottled with undesirable ticking. Acceptable markings.



Somewhat long cast male who is also low on the leg. Large head in comparison to body. Good body, acceptable amount of bone. Needs better angulation. Correct tail carriage when standing. Pure white color, markings acceptable.



Rangy and lightly built rather square male. Bone is too light. Very high hock. Appears slab-sided and tuck up is too pronounced. Short of feathering on legs. Good markings and correct tail carriage when standing.