



COLLIE (Smooth) STANDARD

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AMERICAN CHAMPION BLOSSOM HILL FULL CIRCLE (ROM)
Owned by Paul and Mary Wells, California, America



The Overview

GENERAL APPEARANCE

Instantly appeals as gifted with:

- intelligence
- alertness
- activity

Stands with:

- dignity

Movements should be:

- governed by perfect anatomical formation
- with no part out of proportion
- smooth and graceful

Gives the appearance of a dog capable of working



CHARACTERISTICS

For the Collie to fulfil their natural function of sheepdog work, its physical structure is on lines of:



- strength
- activity
- free from cloddiness
- without any trace of coarseness

EXPRESSION; One of the most important points is obtained by perfect balance and combination of:

- skull and foreface
- size, shape, colour and placement of eyes
- correct position and carriage of ears

TEMPERAMENT

Should be:

- gay
- friendly

Never:

- aggressive
- nervous

COAT

A very important feature

- short

Top coat

- flat
- of harsh texture

Undercoat

- very dense

COLOUR

Three recognised colours:

▪ **sable**



▪ **tricolour**



▪ **blue merle**



Sable: Any shade from light gold to rich mahogany or shaded sable. Light straw or cream colour is highly undesirable

Tricolour: Predominantly black with rich tan markings about the legs and head. Rusty tinge in top coat is highly undesirable

Blue Merle: Predominantly clear, silvery blue, splashed and marbled with black. Rich tan markings to preferred, but their absence not to be counted as a fault. Large black markings, slate colour, or a rusty tinge either on the top coat or undercoat are highly undesirable

White Markings: All the above may carry the typical white collie markings to a greater or lesser degree. The following markings are favourable: ▪ white collar, full or part ▪ white tail tip ▪ white shirt ▪ white legs and feet ▪ a blaze may be carried on the muzzle or skull or both

All white or predominantly white is most undesirable

Specific Static Anatomical Structure

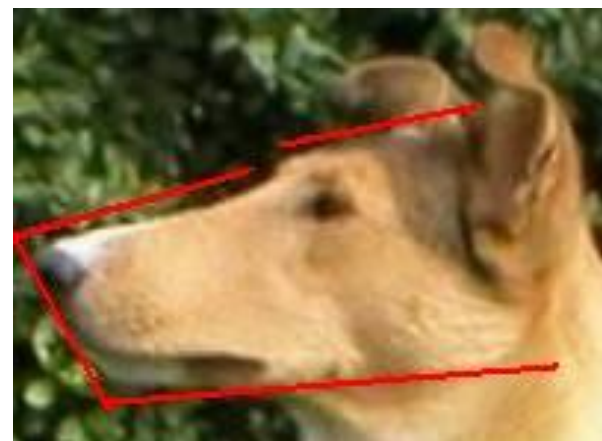
HEAD AND SKULL

Head properties are of great importance

and must be considered in proportion to the size of the dog.

Viewed from the front or side the head:

- is smooth in outline
- bears a general resemblance to a well-blunted, clean wedge
- the sides taper gradually and smoothly from the ears to the end of the black nose, without prominent cheek bones or pinched muzzle
- the skull should be flat



Viewed in profile:

- top of skull and the top of the muzzle lie in two parallel straight planes of equal length, divided by a slight but perceptible "stop" or break
- a mid-point between the inside corners of the eyes (which is the centre of a correctly placed "stop") should be the centre of balance in the length of the head
- the end of the smooth, well rounded muzzle should be blunt, but not square
- the under jaw should be strong, clean cut
- the depth of the skull from the brow to the underpart of the jaw, should never be excessive (deep through)

Whatever the colour of the dog, the nose must be black

EARS

- relatively large
- wider at the base
- placed not too close together nor too much on the side of the head
- in repose carried thrown back
- when alert, brought forward and carried semi-erect with approximately two thirds of the ear standing erect, the top third tipping forward naturally, below the horizontal

EYES

A very important feature

giving a sweet expression to the dog

- medium size
- set somewhat obliquely
- almond shape
- dark brown colour, expect in blue merles where one or both eyes maybe wall or jewelled



Expression:

Full of intelligence, with a quick, alert look when listening

MOUTH

Teeth:

- good size
- lower incisors fitting closely behind the upper incisors - very slight space not to be regarded as a serious fault

NECK

- powerful
- muscular
- well arched
- of fair length



BODY

The body should be a trifle long compared to the height

Back:

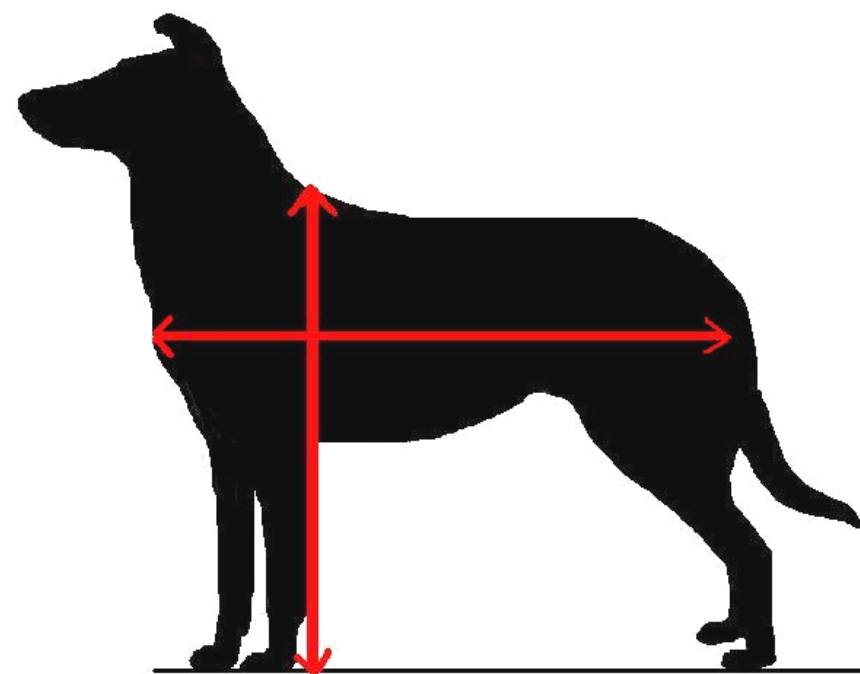
- level
- firm
- slight rise over the loin

Ribs:

- well sprung

Chest:

- deep and fairly broad behind the shoulders



FOREQUARTERS

The shoulders should be:

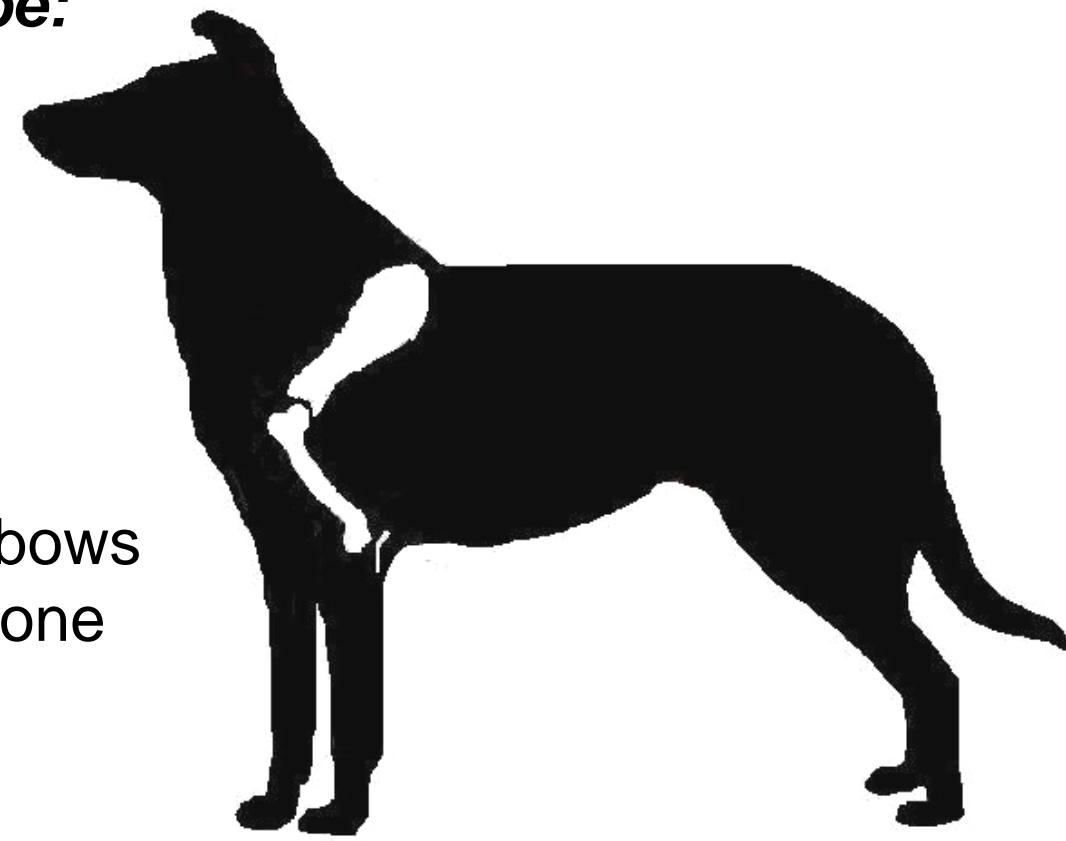
- sloped
- well-angulated

The forelegs:

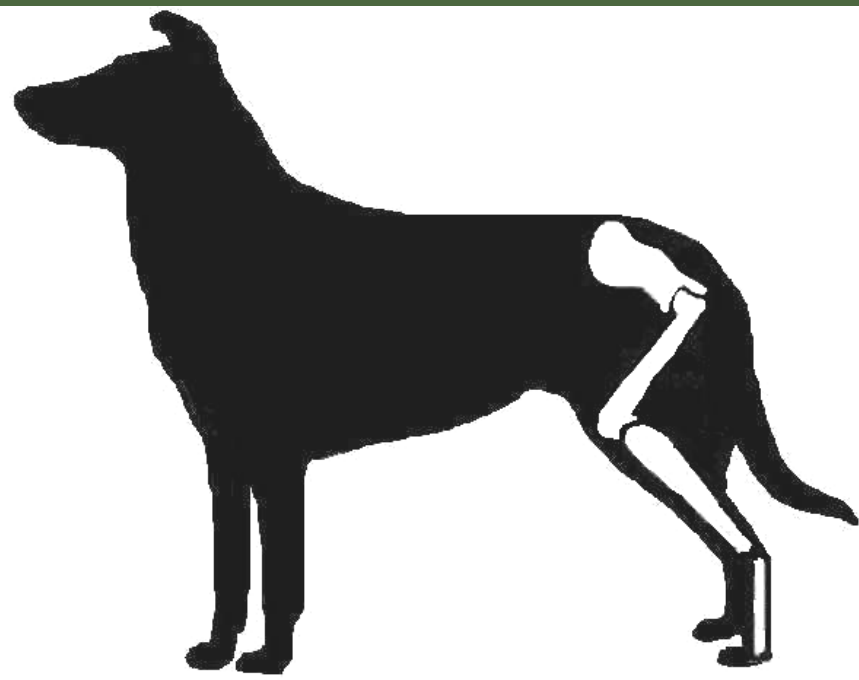
- straight
- muscular
- neither in nor out at elbows
- moderate amount of bone

The forearm:

- somewhat fleshy
- pasterns showing flexibility without weakness



HINDQUARTERS



The hind legs:

- muscular at thighs
- clean and sinewy below thighs
- well bent stifle

Hocks

- well let-down
- powerful

FEET

- oval
- soles well padded
- toes arched and close together

The hind feet slightly less arched

TAIL

- long with the bone reaching to the hock joint
- carried low when the dog is quiet, but with slight upward swirl at the tip
- may be carried gaily when the dog is excited, but not over the back

SIZE

Height: (at the shoulder)

- **Dogs:** 56-61cm (22-24 in)
- **Bitches:** 51-56cm (20-22in)

Weight:

- 20.5-29.5kg (45-65 lbs)
- 18-25kg (40-55lbs)

FAULTS

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness of the fault should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect on the health and welfare of the dog

NOTES

Males have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum

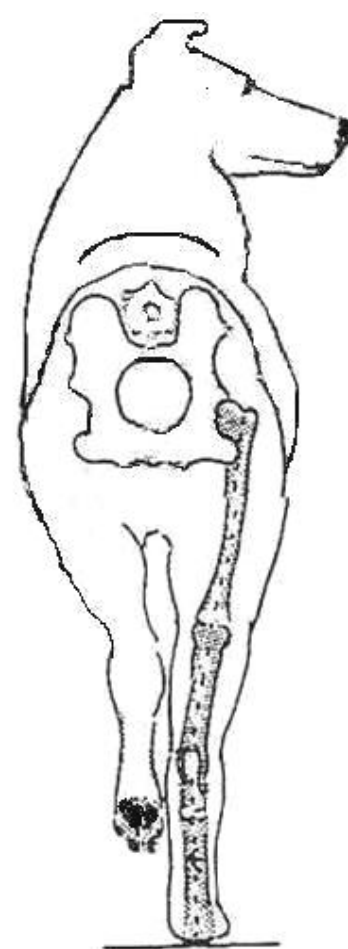
Dynamic Functionality

GAIT/MOVEMENT

Movement is a distinct characteristic of the breed

Viewed from the front:

- a sound dog is never out at elbow
- yet it moves with its front feet comparatively close together
- plaiting, crossing, rolling are highly undesirable



Viewed from the rear:

the hindlegs from the hock joint to the ground should be:

- parallel
- powerful
- full of drive



Viewed from the side the action:

- is smooth
- with reasonably long strides
- is light
- appears quite effortless

