FIT FOR FUNCTION
BREED WATCH

THE KENNEL CLUB
Making a difference for dogs

Listing for Working Breed Group

- The decisions made by judges in the show ring strongly influence future breeding plans
- Judges must take conformation related health problems and temperament into account when making their decisions as well as breed type
- All show dogs should be Fit for Function: Fit for Life, see www.fitforfunction.org.uk
- Judges should never award prizes to dogs which are visibly suffering from any condition which would adversely affect their health or welfare. For example:
    - Obvious breathing difficulty
    - Significantly over or under weight dogs
    - Lameness, including hopping
    - A discharge from one or both eyes or any signs of discomfort in either eye
    - Obvious skin or ear irritation
    - Inappropriate temperament- refusal to be handled, timidity or aggression
    - Exaggerations that would make the dog unsuited for fulfilling its original purpose
- A judge is expected to make such decisions based on their extensive experience of dogs as owners and breeders – they are not expected to display the knowledge of a veterinary surgeon and should not undertake any extra examination of a dog other than that which they would normally perform in assessing general fitness and breed type.

Particular points of concern for individual breeds may include features not specifically highlighted in the breed standard. The features listed are derived from health surveys, a meeting of Kennel Club Group Judges (Feb 2009), feedback from judges at shows and consultation with individual breed clubs / councils.

Working

Alaskan Malamute

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Beauceron (Imp)

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Bernese Mountain Dog

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Bouvier Des Flandres

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Boxer

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Bullmastiff

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Canadian Eskimo Dog

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Dobermann

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Dogue de Bordeaux

Particular points of concern for individual breeds may include features not specifically highlighted in the breed standard including current issues. In some breeds, features may be listed which, if exaggerated, might potentially affect the breed in the future.

The features listed below are derived from health surveys, meetings of Group Judges, feedback from judges at shows or in consultation with individual breed clubs/councils.

Points of concern for special attention by judges

- Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in or out, or both abnormalities are present)
- Unsound movement – especially weak hind action
- Nervousness
- Grossly undershot, over or underweight

- Signs of dermatitis in skin folds; hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Entlebucher Mountain Dog (Imp)

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

German Pinscher

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Giant Schnauzer

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Great Dane

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Points of concern for special attention by judges

- Loose eyelids

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Greater Swiss Mountain Dog (Im

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Greenland Dog

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Hovawart

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Leonberger

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Mastiff

No dog should be rewarded which appears to be in pain or discomfort when moving

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The features listed below are derived from health surveys, meetings of Group Judges, feedback from judges at shows or in consultation with individual breed clubs/councils.

Points of concern for special attention by judges

- Excessively heavy in build
- Excessive loose skin and overly wrinkled
- Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in or out, or both abnormalities are present)
- Unsound movement and weak hindquarters
- Signs of dermatitis in skin folds; hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis
- Clear evidence of eyelid surgery

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Neapolitan Mastiff

No dog should be rewarded which appears to be in pain or discomfort when moving.

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Points of concern for special attention by judges

- Excessively heavy in build
- Excessive wrinkle and dewlap
- Excessively loose skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in or out, or both abnormalities are present)
- Unsound movement – especially that resulting from weak hindquarters
- Clear evidence of eyelid surgery
- Signs of dermatitis in skin folds; hair loss or scarring from previous dermatitis

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Newfoundland

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Points of concern for special attention by judges

- Suspect eyelid conformation

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Portuguese Water Dog

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Pyrenean Mastiff (Imp)

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Rottweiler

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Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Russian Black Terrier

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Siberian Husky

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Points of concern for special attention by judges

- Significantly underweight or significantly overweight

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

St. Bernard

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Points of concern for special attention by judges

- Incorrect bite and dentition
- Excessive amounts of loose facial skin with conformational defects of the upper and/or lower eyelids so that the eyelid margins are not in normal contact with the eye when the dog is in its natural pose (e.g. they turn in or out, or both abnormalities are present)
- Unsound movement; weak hindquarters
- Clear evidence of eyelid surgery

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

Tibetan Mastiff

Last updated on 23rd March 2012.

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