

TAKEN FROM THE ST. BERNARD: BY HUGH DALZIEL
EXCERPT FROM THE STANDARD

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STANDARD ADOPTED BY THE SWISS KYNOLOGICAL SOCIETY IN 1886

A. The smooth coated St. Bernard
GENERAL CHARACTER: Powerful, tall with great muscular development in all parts of the body. An imposing head, and very intelligent eyes. In dogs with a dark mask, the expression more serious but never sour.

HEAD: Large in correct proportion to the powerful body, very imposing, and well developed. Stop well marked, skull wide, and of the shape of a flat arch, showing an indication of peak. A clear defined indentation starts between the eyes and reaches far up the forehead. The bone above the eyes very strongly developed, and its position towards the axis of the head. Forms a right angle. The skin around the before-mentioned indentation of the forehead, round the eyes and above the middle of the skull, is drawn more or less into wrinkles. Muzzle straight, not arched, and shorter than its diameter from the stop-downwards: looked at full face, the muzzle appears blunt. Flews, slightly overhanging, but under-lips not pendant. Teeth, not powerful in proportion to size of animal. A black roof to mouth is much liked.

NOSE: Large, with well dilated nostrils, and always black like the lips.

EARS: Thin, wide, and moderately high set on, lying flat to the side with out wrinkle, of medium length, broad at the top, getting narrower towards the point, but well rounded.

EYES: Of medium size, brown, nut brown, similar to this of a setter, with an intelligent and friendly expression, set moderately.

FEET: Broad, with well arched and closed toes.

COAT: Very close, broken haired, thighs slightly bushy, on the tail not strikingly longer than the body

COLOR: White and red or red and white, the red in all shades. White, with grey yellowish or grey-brownish spots, or these colors with white markings. Red and grey to count of equal value. Essential markings are white feet, chest, point of tail, white collar is desirable. Never self colored or without white. Faulty are also all other colors, with the exception of the favorite dark shadings on the head and ears.

HEIGHT AT THE SHOULDER: Minimum for the dog 27 1/2 inches, for the bitch 24 inches. The bitch's form is throughout the more delicate.

FAULTS: A red nose or split; ears set on too high; saddle back; crooked forelegs; coarse tail, and carried too high, or too much curled; self color, black and white, white and black, black, or yellow. The absence or presence of single or double dew-claws is of no importance, as they cannot be considered as signs of purity of breed; but they are liked the same as a black roof of the mouth is much valued.

B. THE ROUGH-COATED SAINT BERNARD.

GENERAL CHARACTER: The same as the smooth-coated variety only the body is rather longer, and there are slight differences in the following points. Deep the lower eyelids form, as a rule, near the inner corner of the eye, or slightly wrinkle, but lids which are very pendant, showing the haw, are never admissible.

NECK: Short and thick, powerful, very muscular, and arched, carried well upwards, the junction between the head and the neck marked by a distinct line, clearly noticeable dewlaps, but a too great development is not desirable.

SHOULDERS: Broad and sloping.

CHEST: Broad, moderately deep, the lower part not to reach below the elbow.

BACK: Broad, quite straight beyond the loins, if anything slightly arched over the loins, hardly noticeable, sloping towards the root of the tail.

BELLY: Slightly drawn up near the loins.

TAIL: Of medium length, very broad at the root, not ending in a fine point; quite straight, or in the lower third—that is towards the point—slightly bent upwards. The best kind of tail is the one that in formation and covering resembles the tail of an otter. In repose it ought to hang down straight, or have a slight curve similar to a f; in excitement level with the back, or slightly above, but never curled over the back.

FORELEGS: Straight and powerful.

HIND LEGS: Slightly bent in the hocks; the feet, according to the presence of single or double dew claws, more or less turned out, which is not to be mistaken for being cow-hocked.

STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE SAINT BERNARD, ADOPTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS AT ZURICK, ON JUNE 1887.

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THE SHORT HAired (SMOOTH) ST BERNARD

GENERAL CHARACTER: Powerful, tall, upstanding with hard muscular development. Massive head and very intelligent expression. In dogs with dark face markings, the expression is more solemn but ought never to be sour.

HEAD: Like the body, very powerful and imposing; the massive skull is wide, slightly arched, and sloping at the side with a gentle curve into the very well developed cheek-bone.

Occiput: Only slightly developed. The supra-orbital ridge is strongly developed and forms nearly a right angle with the horizontal axis of the head. Between the supra-orbital arches at the root of the muzzle begins a deep furrow, which clearly defined in the first half, extends over the whole skull, getting gradually shallow towards the occiput. The lines at the sides, from the outer corners of the eyes diverge considerably towards the back of the head. The skin of the forehead forms over the supra-orbital arches deep wrinkles which converge towards the above mentioned furrow. They are particularly noticeable when the animal is very animated, without giving it a savage expression.

STOP: Clearly defined

MUZZLE: Short, not snipy, and an imaginary line through the muzzle straight down from the stop must be longer than the length of the muzzle. The bridge of the muzzle is straight, not arched, and in some good dogs, slightly broken. From the root of the muzzle or stop descends its whole length to the nose a rather wide, well marked, shallow furrow.