FCI

FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE
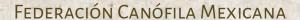
FEDERACION·CANOFILA·MEXICANA.AC.

FEDERACIÓN CANÓFILA MEXICANA

Chihuahueño
(Chihuahua)

FCI group 9
Standard No. 218

ORIGIN:
Mexico.

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE OFFICIAL VALID STANDARD:
04.09.2019.

UTILIZATION:
Companion dog.

FCI-CLASSIFICATION:
Group 9
Companion and Toy Dogs.
Section 6 Chihuahueño.
Without working trial.

BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY:

The Chihuahua is regarded as the smallest pedigree dog in the world and carries the name of the largest state of the Mexican Republic (Chihuahua). One assumes that these dogs used to live in the wild and, at the time of the Toltec civilization, were captured and domesticated by the natives. Representations of a Toy dog called «Techichi» which lived in Tula, were used as decorations on town architecture. These statues are very similar to the present-day Chihuahua.

GENERAL APPEARANCE:

This dog has a compact body. Of great importance is the fact that his skull is apple-shaped and that he carries his moderately long tail very high, either curved or forming the shape of a semicircle with the tip pointing towards the loin region.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS:

Length of body slightly greater than height at withers. Desired, however, is an almost square body, especially in males. In bitches, because of the function of reproduction, a slightly longer body is permitted.
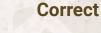
BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT:

Quick, alert, lively and very courageous.

HEAD

Quick, alert, lively and very courageous.

CRANIAL REGION:
Skull: Well-rounded apple head (a characteristic of the breed).
Stop: Well marked, deep and broad as the forehead is rounded above the set-on of muzzle.

Incorrect

Correct

Incorrect

Correct

FACIAL REGION:
Nose: Any colour permitted. Moderately short, pointing slightly upwards.
Muzzle: Short, straight seen from side, broad at set-on, tapering towards the tip.
Lips: Lean and close fitting.
Jaws/Teeth: Scissor or pincer bite. Overshot, undershot, as well as any other anomaly in position of upper or lower jaw must be strictly penalized.
Cheeks: Only slightly developed, very clean.

EYES:

Large, roundish in shape, very expressive, not protruding, perfectly dark. Light eyes permissible, but not desired.
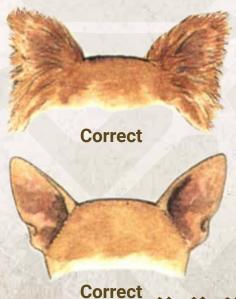
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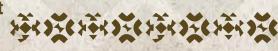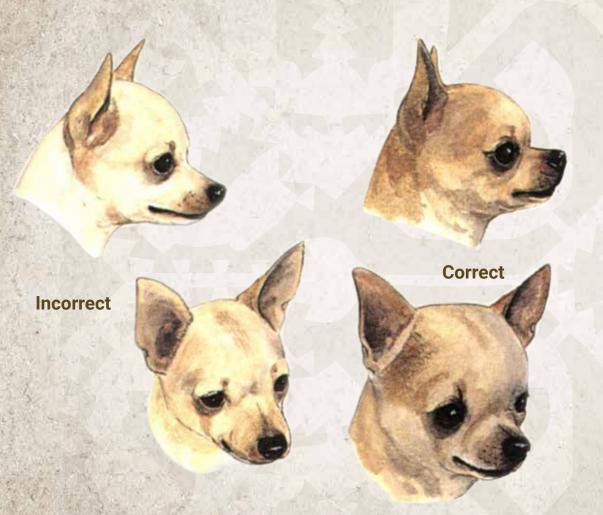
Correct

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EARS:

Large, upright, widely open, broad tapering towards their slightly rounded tip. laterally forming an angle of 45°.
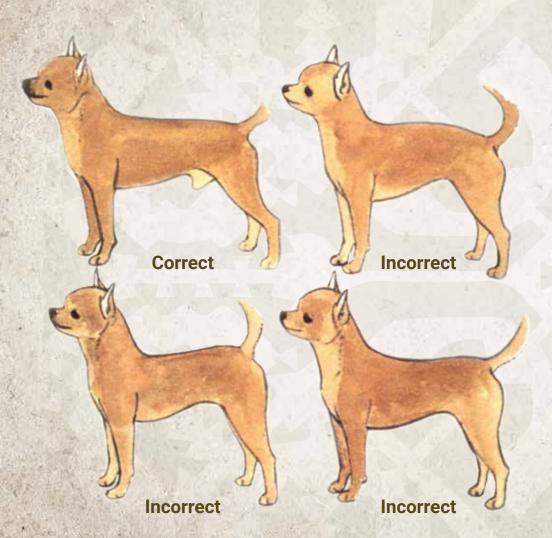
Incorrect

Correct

NECK:

Upper profile slightly arched. Medium length. Thicker in dogs than in bitches. Without dewlap. In the long-haired variety, the presence of a neck-ruff with longer hair is highly desirable.

Correct

Incorrect

Incorrect

Incorrect

BODY:

Compact and well built.
Topline: Level.
Withers: Only slightly marked.
Back: Short and firm.
Loin: Strongly muscled.
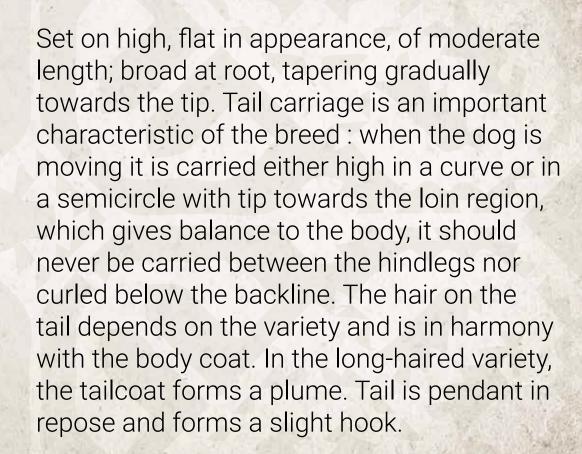**Croup:** Broad and strong; almost flat or slightly sloping.
Chest: Ribcage broad and deep, ribs well sprung. Seen from front, roomy but not exaggerated. Seen from side, reaching to elbows. Not barrel shaped.
Underline and belly: Formed by a clearly tucked up belly. Slack belly is permitted but not desired.
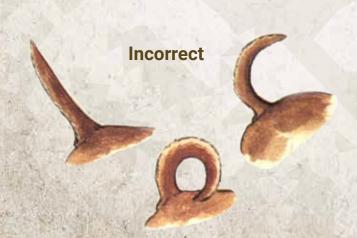
Correct

Incorrect

TAIL:

Set on high, flat in appearance, of moderate length; broad at root, tapering gradually towards the tip. Tail carriage is an important characteristic of the breed : when the dog is moving it is carried either high in a curve or in a semicircle with tip towards the loin region, which gives balance to the body, it should never be carried between the hindlegs nor curled below the backline. The hair on the tail depends on the variety and is in harmony with the body coat. In the long-haired variety, the tailcoat forms a plume. Tail is pendant in repose and forms a slight hook.

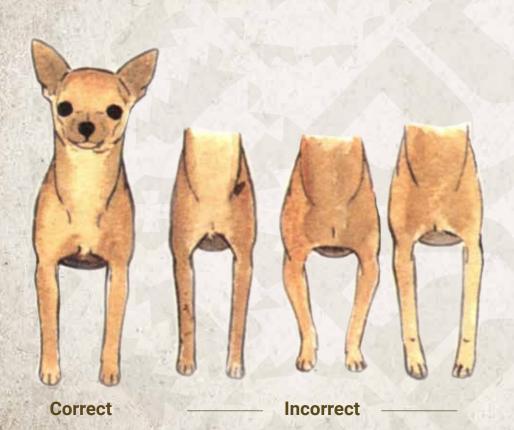## LIMBS

FOREQUARTERS:
General appearance: Forelegs seen from the front form a straight line with the elbows. Seen from the side, they are upright.
Shoulder: Clean and moderately muscled.
Upper arm: Good angulation between shoulder-blade and upper arm.
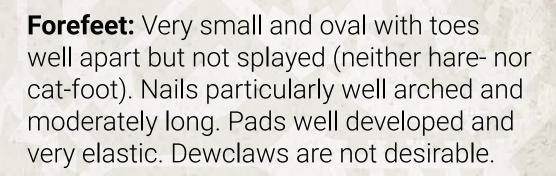**Elbow:** Firm and fitting close to body, which ensures free movement.
Forearm: Straight and of good length.
Metacarpus (Pastern): Slightly sloping, strong and flexible.

Correct   ——   **Incorrect**   ——

Forefeet: Very small and oval with toes well apart but not splayed (neither hare- nor cat-foot). Nails particularly well arched and moderately long. Pads well developed and very elastic. Dewclaws are not desirable.
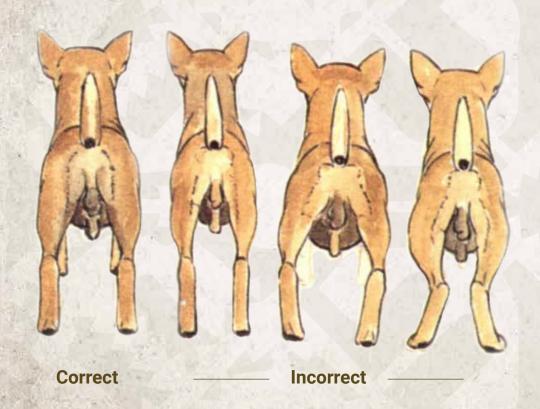
Correct   Incorrect

HINDQUARTERS:

General appearance: Hindlegs well muscled with long bones, vertical and parallel to each other with good angulation at hip, knee and hock joints, in harmony with angulation of forequarters.

Metatarsus (Rear pastern): Short hocks with well-developed Achilles' tendons; seen from rear, they are well apart straight and vertical.

Hind feet: Very small and oval with toes well apart but not splayed (neither hare- nor cat-foot).

Nails particularly well arched and moderately long. Pads well developed and very elastic. Dewclaws are not desirable.
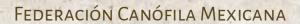
GAIT / MOVEMENT:

Steps are long, springy, energetic and active with good reach and drive. Seen from rear, hind legs should move almost parallel to each other, so that the footprints of the hind feet fit directly into those of the front feet. With increasing speed, the limbs show a tendency to converge towards the median plane (single track). Movement remains free and springy without visible effort, head raised and back firm.
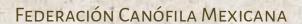
SKIN:

Smooth and elastic all over body.

COAT:

Hair:
In this breed there are two varieties of coat.
• **Smooth-haired:** Coat is short, lying close all over body. If there is an undercoat, the hair is somewhat longer; sparse coat on throat and belly permissible; slightly longer on neck and tail, short on face and ears. Coat is glossy and its texture is soft. Hairless dogs are not tolerated.

• **Longed-haired:** Coat should be fine and silky, smooth or slightly wavy. Not too thick undercoat desired. Coat is longer, forming feathering on ears, neck, rear of front and hind legs, on feet and on tail. Dogs with long billowing coat will not be accepted.

Colour: All colours in all possible shades and combinations are admitted, except merle colour.
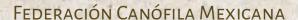
SIZE AND WEIGHT:

In this breed, only the weight is taken into consideration, not the height.

Weight: 1 to 3 kg.
Ideal weight: between 1,5 and 2,5 kg.

Subjects weighing less than 1 kg and more than 3 kg shall be disqualified.

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.

- Missing teeth.
- "Double teeth" (persistence of temporary teeth).
- Pointed ears.
- Short neck.
- Long body.
- Roach or hollow back (Lordosis or Kyphosis).
- Steep croup.
- Narrow chest, flat ribcage.
- Tail: incorrect set-on, short or twisted.
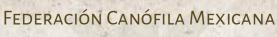- Short limbs.
- Out at elbow.
- Too close behind.

SEVERE FAULTS:

- Narrow skull.
- Eyes small, deep set or protruding.
- Long muzzle.
- Under or overshot mouth.
- Unstable stifle.

DISQUALIFYING FAULTS:

- Aggressive or overly shy.
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities.
- Deer type dogs (dogs with an atypical or extremely stylized structure: refined head, long neck, slender body, long limbs).
- Dogs with an open fontanel. • Drop ear or short ear.
- Deformed jaws.
- Extremely long body. • Absence of tail.
- In the long- haired variety: Dogs with very long, fine and billowing coat.
- In the smooth-haired variety: Bald patch (alopecia). • Merle colour.
- Subjects weighing less than 1 kg and more than 3 kg shall be disqualified.
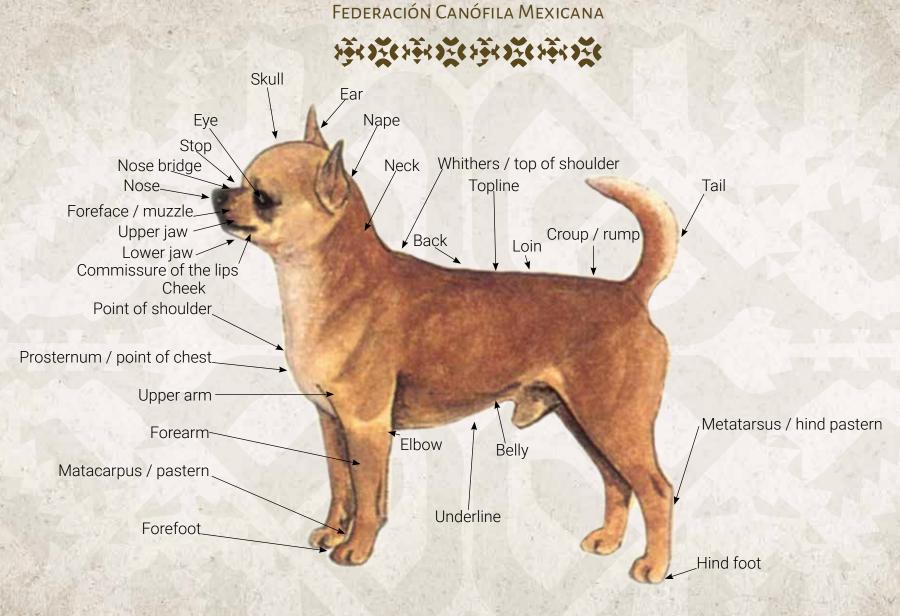
N.B.:

- 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.

Skull

Ear

Eye

Nape

Stop

Neck

Nose bridge

Whithers / top of shoulder

Nose

Topline

Foreface / muzzle

Tail

Upper jaw

Croup / rump

Lower jaw

Back

Loin

Commissure of the lips

Cheek

Point of shoulder

Prosternum / point of chest

Upper arm

Metatarsus / hind pastern

Forearm

Elbow

Belly

Matacarpus / pastern

Forefoot

Underline

Hind foot

Federación Canófila Mexicana

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