07.08.1998/ EN

FCI-Standard Nᵒ 251

POLSKI OWCZAREK NIZINNY
(Polish Lowland Sheepdog)
TRANSLATION: Mrs. Peggy Davis. Official language (FR).

ORIGIN: Poland.


UTILIZATION: Easy to handle, he works like a sheepdog and guard dog. Moved to urban city life, he is a very good companion dog.

FCI-CLASSIFICATION: Group 1 Sheepdogs and Cattle Dogs (except Swiss Cattle Dogs).
Section 1 Sheepdogs.
Without working trial.

GENERAL APPEARANCE: The Polish Lowland sheepdog is a dog of medium size, compact, strong, muscular, with a thick long coat. His well-groomed coat gives an attractive and interesting appearance.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS: The proportions of height at withers to length of body is 9 : 10. The ratio length of muzzle to length of skull is 1 : 1; yet the muzzle can be a little shorter.

BEHAVIOUR AND TEMPERAMENT: Of a lively but tempered disposition, vigilant, agile, intelligent, perceptive and gifted with a good memory. Resistant to unfavourable climatic conditions.

HEAD: Medium dimension, proportional, not too heavy. The thick fur on the forehead, the cheeks and the chin give the head a look of being heavier than it really is.

CRANIAL REGION:
Skull: Not excessively broad, slightly rounded. Frontal furrow and occipital protuberance noticeable.
Stop: Well accentuated.
FACIAL REGION:
Nose: As darks as possible in relation to the colour of the coat with large nostrils.
Muzzle: Strong, blunt. Nasal bridge straight.
Lips: Fitting well; their edges are of the same colour as the nose.
Jaw/Teeth: Strong jaws. Teeth strong, with scissor or pincer bite.

EYES: Medium size, oval, not protruding, hazel colour, with lively and piercing look. The rims of the eyelids are dark.

EARS: Hanging, set rather high, of medium size, heart-shaped, wide at base; the fore edge is close against the cheeks; very mobile.

NECK: Of medium length, strong, muscled, without dewlap, carried rather horizontally.

BODY:
Out line: Rather rectangular than square.
Withers: Well accentuated.
Back: Flat, well muscled.
Loin: Broad, well fused.
Croup: Short, slightly truncated.
Chest: Deep, of medium width; ribs quite well sprung, neither flat nor barrel-shaped.
Underline and Belly: Outlining an elegant curve towards the hindquarters part.

TAIL:
• Short tail or stumpy-tail, very shortly docked tail.
• Undocked quite long and very hairy tail. At rest the tail is hanging; if the dog is alert, the tail is gaily curved over the back, never curled or lying on the back. Undocked tail of medium length, carried in different manners.
LIMBS

FOREQUARTERS: Seen in profile and from the front: Vertical and straight. Stance well balanced due to a strong skeleton (bone structure).
Shoulders: Broad, of medium length, oblique, clean cut, very muscular.
Pastern: Slightly slanting in relation to the forearm.
Forefeet: Oval, tight toes, slightly arched pads really hard. Nails short, as dark as possible.

HINDQUARTERS: Seen from behind: Vertical, well angulated.
Thigh: Broad, well muscled.
Hock: Well developed.
Hind feet: Compact, oval shape.

GAIT/ MOVEMENT: Easy and ground covering. Walk or trot smooth (without much vertical displacement). The dog often ambles when he walks slowly.

SKIN: Tight fitting, without any folds.

COAT
Hair: The whole body covered with coarse hair, dense, thick, and profuse; soft undercoat. Straight or slightly wavy hair is acceptable. The hairs falling from the forehead cover the eyes in a characteristic manner.

Colour: All colours and patches are acceptable.

SIZE:
Height at the withers: Males : 45 - 50 cm.
Females : 42 - 47 cm.

The dog must retain the type of a working dog; consequently his size must not go down below the standard; he must neither be too weak nor delicate.
**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.
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities.

**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.