FCI-Standard N° 251

POLISH LOWLAND SHEEPDOG
(Polski Owczarek Nizinny)

This illustration does not necessarily show the ideal example of the breed.
TRANSLATION : Mrs. Peggy Davis.

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.

CLASSIFICATION F.C.I. : 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 dark 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:**

**Outline:** 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 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.