

World Union of Saint Bernard Clubs

Bernhardiner - Saint-Bernard



SKG SCS
hund schweiz chien suisse cane svizzero



Schweizerischer St.-Bernhards-Club
Club suisse du Saint-Bernard
Sektion der Schweizerischen Kynologischen Gesellschaft
Section de la Société cynologique suisse
Gegründet / Fondée en 1884



This document has been produced for the education of Saint-Bernard judges to help them in the desired harmonisation of their judgements.

It has been written under the responsibility of the W.U.S.B. (World Union of Saint Bernard Clubs) breeder-judges, in agreement with the Swiss Saint Bernard Club and the Swiss Kennel Club (S.C.S.), who are in charge of the standard.

The Saint Bernard is a group 2 dog, "Pinscher and Schnauzer type dogs, molossoids, mountain dogs and cattle dogs. Section 2.2 Mountain type Molossoids. Without working trial."

The mountain type classification is of utmost importance in the selection of this breed. Even though the dog is no longer used in mountain rescue, it is originally a working dog and should remain so. Both breeding and judging must always keep this use in mind as a guideline.

Deviation in type is due to fads or misunderstandings of the standard that attempt to change the general appearance required by the F.C.I. standard.

The most recurrent faults encountered for some time are:

- *Too heavy dogs with a lymphatic appearance;*
- *Proportions not in accordance with the standard, in particular dogs that are too short in limbs therefore unsuitable for a mountain working dog;*
- *A center of gravity too low;*
- *An alteration of the skeleton and of the length of bones with front and/or rear angulations much too pronounced (which may be spectacular in a ring of honor but does not meet the standard of a mountain working dog).*
- *An alteration of the head bones with the disappearance of the frontal furrow required by the standard.*

The Saint-Bernard is not a fat or heavy dog, it must be big, powerful and "noble" in appearance.

The Saint Bernard is neither the heaviest dog of the canine species, nor a "plush toy".

The Saint Bernard is not a "red and white" Newfoundland.

Each breed has an original function and we must respect it.

A breed will naturally evolve over time, but it is our duty as judges to know the fundamentals to keep the overall breed type on the right track.

This booklet is meant to help you when judging and we appreciate your assistance to keep the "modern" Saint Bernard of the correct type.

Happy reading to all.

Didier Basset
President of the WUSB / FCI Judge

We thank all those who contributed to this booklet:

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The **yellow background** is the official text of the current FCI standard n°61 published on 04.04.2016.

*The **grey background** contains the comments of the standard elaborated by the breeder-judges specialised in the breed explaining the different important points to respect and to avoid disappearance of type.*

The photos and texts framed in **green** illustrate typical examples of the breed.

The photos and texts framed in **orange** illustrate acceptable examples.

The photos and texts framed in **red** show specimens with serious faults, which should not be qualified as Excellent, and not given CAC or CACIB or a Championship.

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Standard FCI N° 61 ST.BERNHARDSHUND, BERNHARDINER - (Chien du Mont Saint-Bernard – Saint-Bernard)

TRANSLATION: Mrs. C.Seidler and Mrs. Pepper. Amendments Christina Bailey. Official language (DE). ORIGIN: Switzerland.

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE OFFICIAL VALID STANDARD: 04.04.2016. UTILISATION: Companion-, watch- and farm dog. FCI-CLASSIFICATION: Group 2 Pinscher and Schnauzer. Type, Molossians, Swiss Mountain-and Cattle dogs. Section 2.2 Molossian type, Mountain type. Without working trial.

BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY: At the height of the Great St. Bernard Pass, 2469 metres above sea level, a hospice was founded by monks in the 11th century as a place of refuge for travellers and pilgrims. There, large mountain dogs have been kept since the middle of the 17th century for guarding and protection. The existence of such dogs has been documented pictorially since 1695 and in a written document at the hospice in the year 1707. The dogs were soon in use as companion dogs and especially as rescue dogs for travellers lost in snow and fog. The chronicles about the numerous human lives saved by these dogs from the « white death », published in many languages, and the verbal reports of the soldiers who crossed the pass with Bonaparte's army in 1800, spread the fame of the St. Bernard, called Barry-dog at that time, throughout Europe during the 19th century. The legendary dog « Barry » became the epitome of the rescue dog. The direct ancestors of the St. Bernard were the large farm dogs common in that region.

Within a few generations and aiming to a defined ideal type, these dogs were developed to the present-day type of breed. Heinrich Schumacher from Holligen near Bern was the first who began to issue genealogical documents for his dogs in 1867.

*In February 1884 the "Schweizerisches Hundestammbuch" (SHSB), the **Swiss Dog Stud Book**, was started. The very first entry was the St. Bernard "Leon", and the following 28 registrations also concerned St. Bernards. On the 15th March 1884, the Swiss St. Bernards-Club was founded in Basle. On the occasion of an international Canine Congress on June 2nd 1887, the St. Bernard dog was officially recognized as a Swiss breed and the breed standard was declared as binding. Since then, the St. Bernard has been regarded as the Swiss national dog.*



† H. Schumacher, 1831—1903

www.bernhardiner-zucht.ch



Léon. S. H. S. B. Nr. 1.
Kurzhaariger St. Bernhardshund der Herrn E. Baur und B. Siegmund.







Historical photos taken at the Grand Saint Bernard.



The Grand Saint Bernard Pass in summer



The Grand Saint Bernard pass in winter - looking for a victim



J. J. 8476 Grand St. Bernard - A la recherche d'une victime

Mountain rescue with dogs

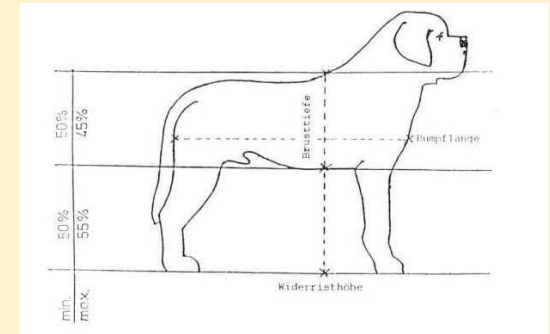


GENERAL APPEARANCE

There are two varieties of the St. Bernard : Short-haired variety (double coat, “Stockhaar”) and Longhaired variety. Both varieties are of considerable size and of impressive general appearance. They have a balanced, powerful, sturdy, muscular body with impressive head and an alert facial expression.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS

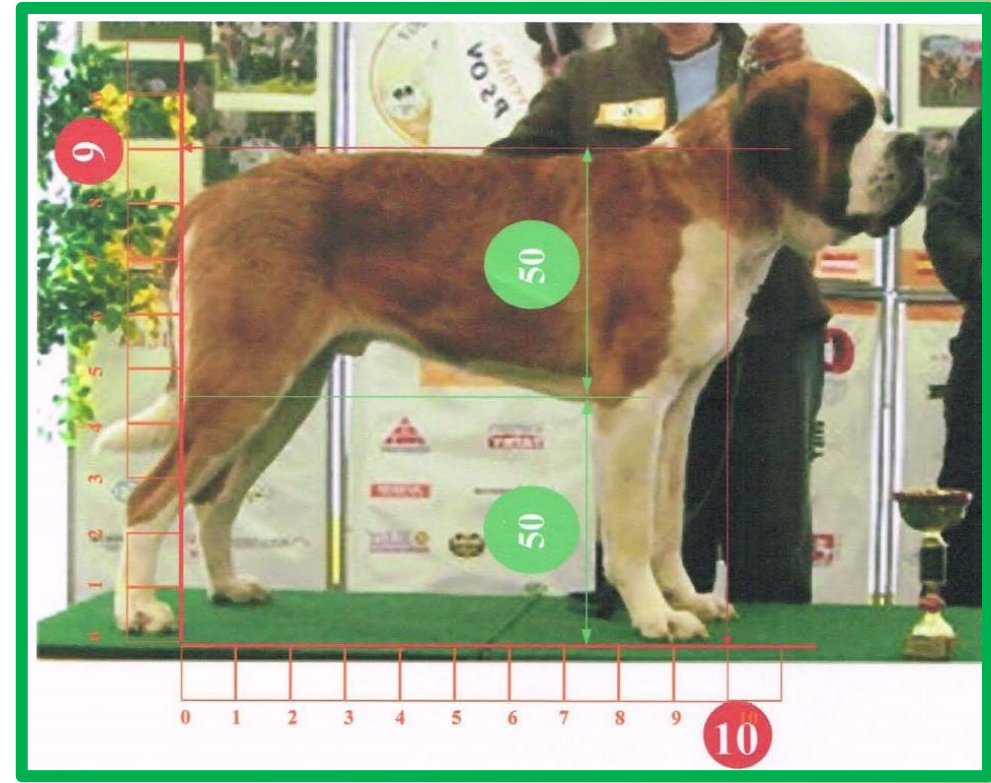
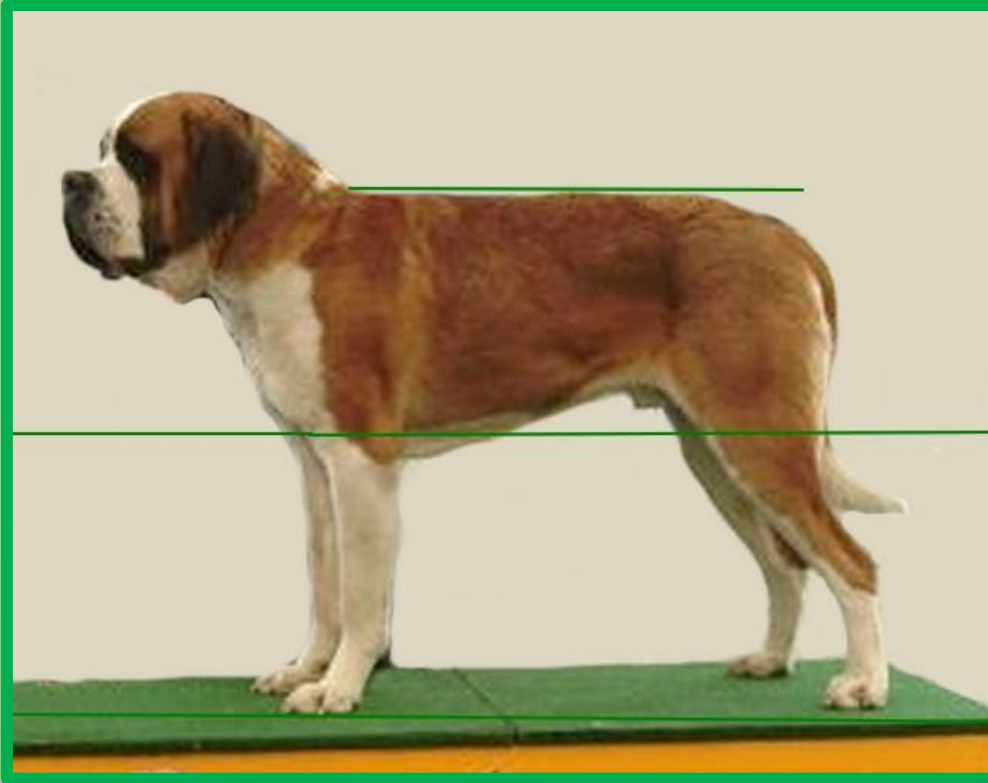
- Ideal relation of height at withers to length of body = 9 : 10.
(measured from the point of the shoulder to the point of buttocks)
- Ideal relation of height at withers to depth of chest see sketch below.
- The total length of the head is slightly more than one third of the height at withers.
- The relation of depth of muzzle *(measured at its root)* to length of muzzle is almost 2:1.
- Length of muzzle to be slightly longer than one third of the total length of the head.



EXCELLENT OVERALL APPEARANCE (TYPE) FOR THIS LONGHAIR AND SHORTHAIR - THE LEGS ARE LONG AND THE HEAD IS IN PROPORTION TO THE BODY. TWO LARGE DOGS, THEIR APPEARANCE IS FULL OF MAJESTY.

General appearance and important proportions

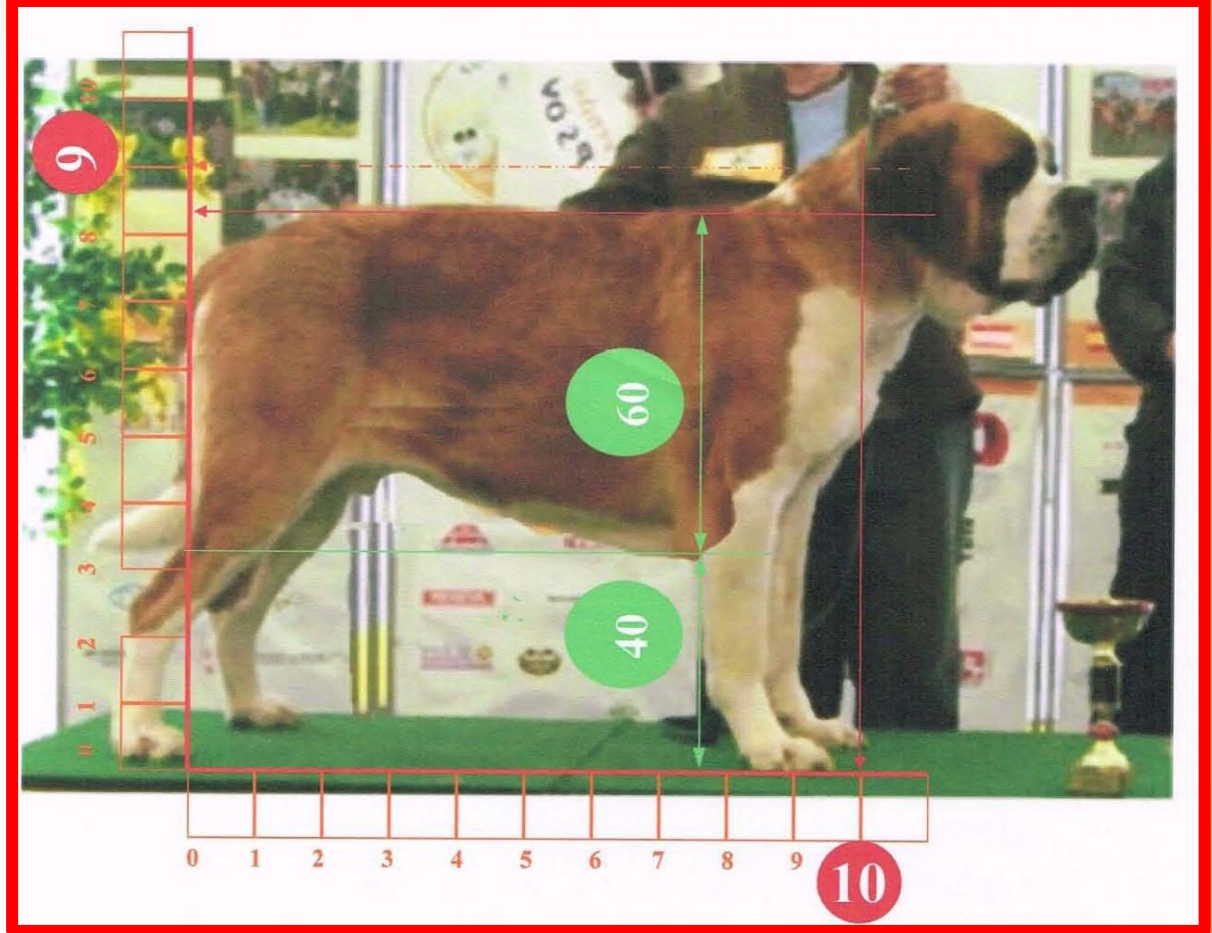
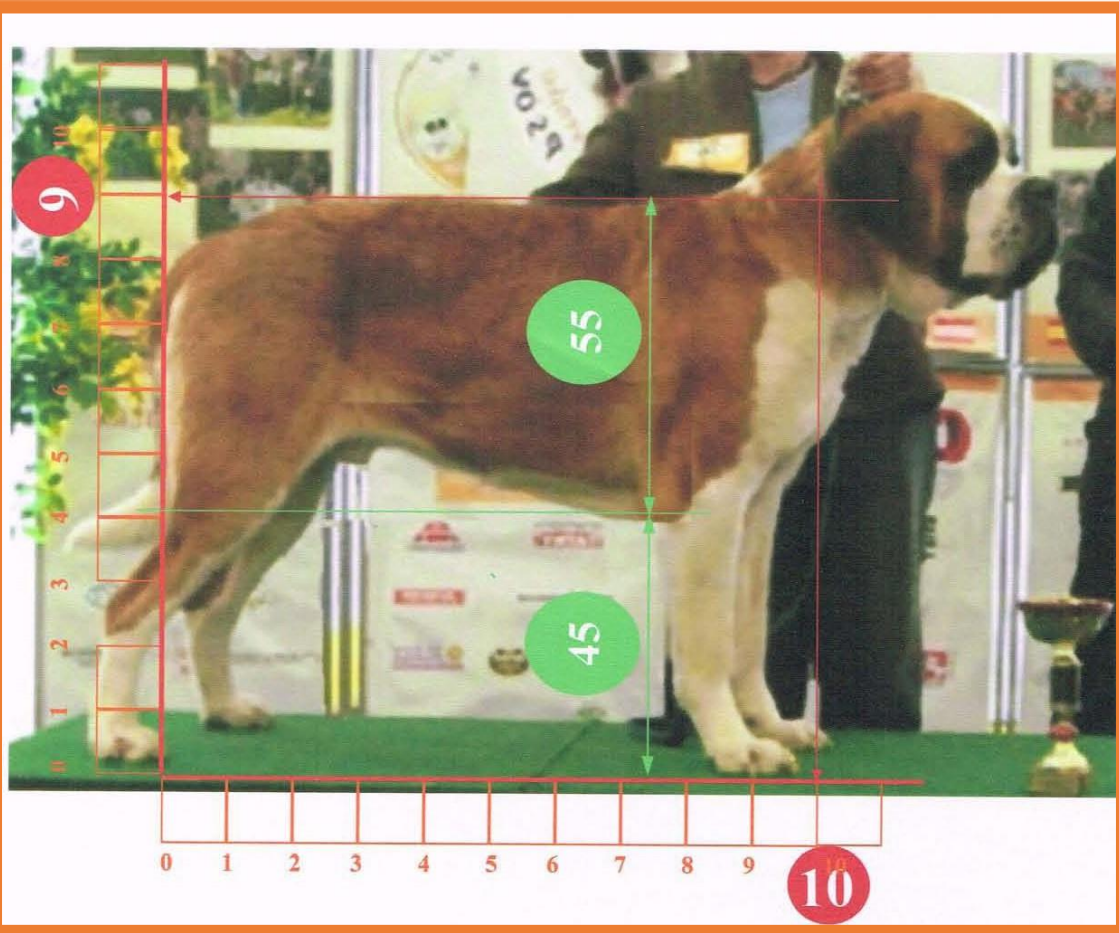
- **Proportion sought between height at withers : length of trunk = 9 : 10**
(the length of the trunk is measured from the point of the shoulder to the point of the buttock).
- **Desired proportion between height at withers and height of chest** *(see following sketch).*



Body proportions are important characteristics to define the mountain type dog

IN THESE TWO PICTURES, THESE ADULT DOGS HAVE AN :

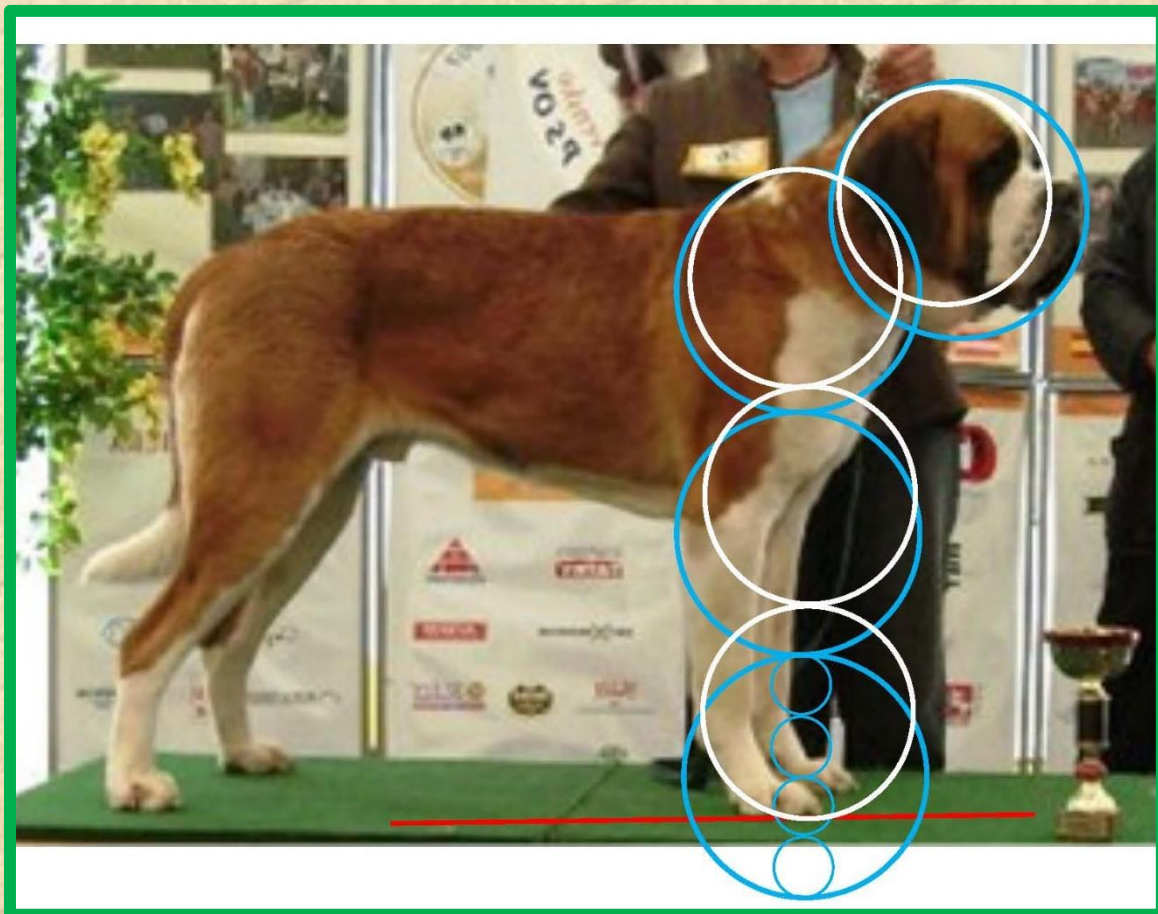
- *EXCELLENT HEIGHT AT WITHERS/LENGTH OF BODY RATIO (9/10)*
- *EXCELLENT HEIGHT CHEST/WITHERS RATIO (45/55 OR 50/50)*



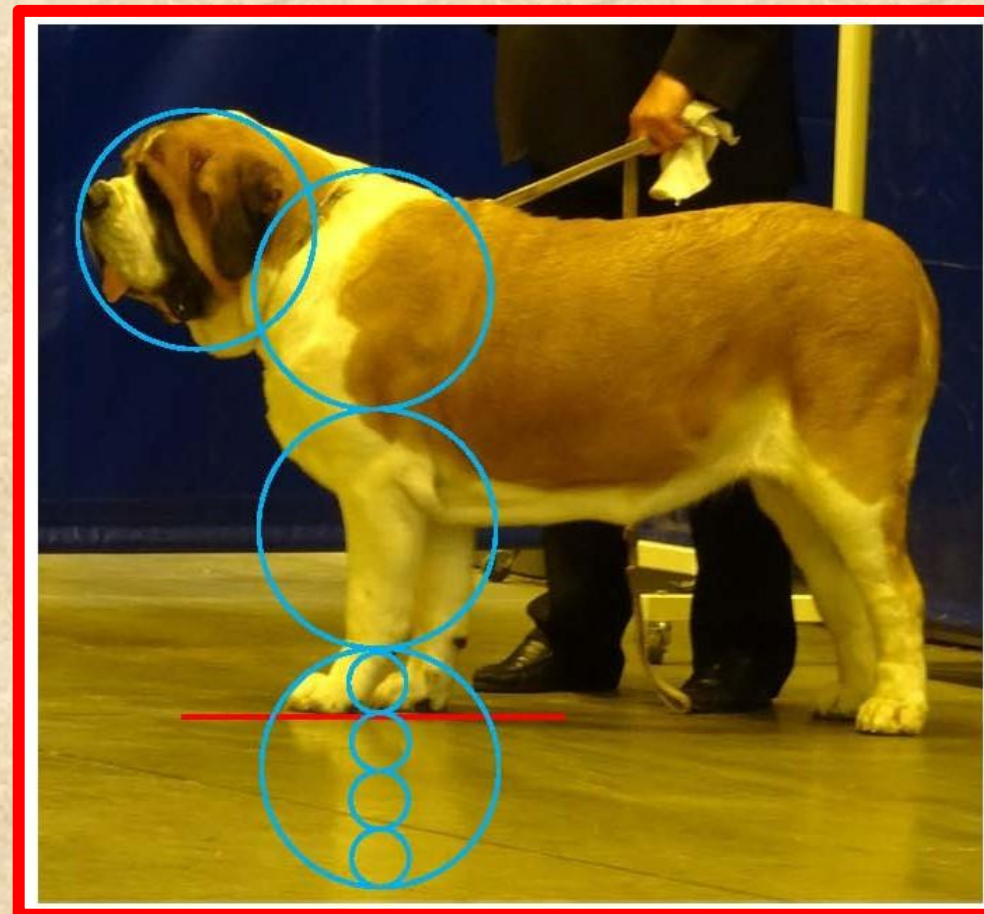
*Chest height/withers height ratio
STILL ACCEPTABLE
 for a very mature dog (over 5 years)
 but one qualification lower because the proportions are no longer
 those required by the standard (especially in a young dog)
MAXIMUM QUALIFICATION : VERY GOOD*

*Chest height/withers height ratio
OUT OF STANDARD
 Appearance lacking in majesty
Qualification : DISQUALIFIED
NOT TO BE SELECTED FOR BREEDING*

- The total length of the head is slightly more than a third of the height at the withers



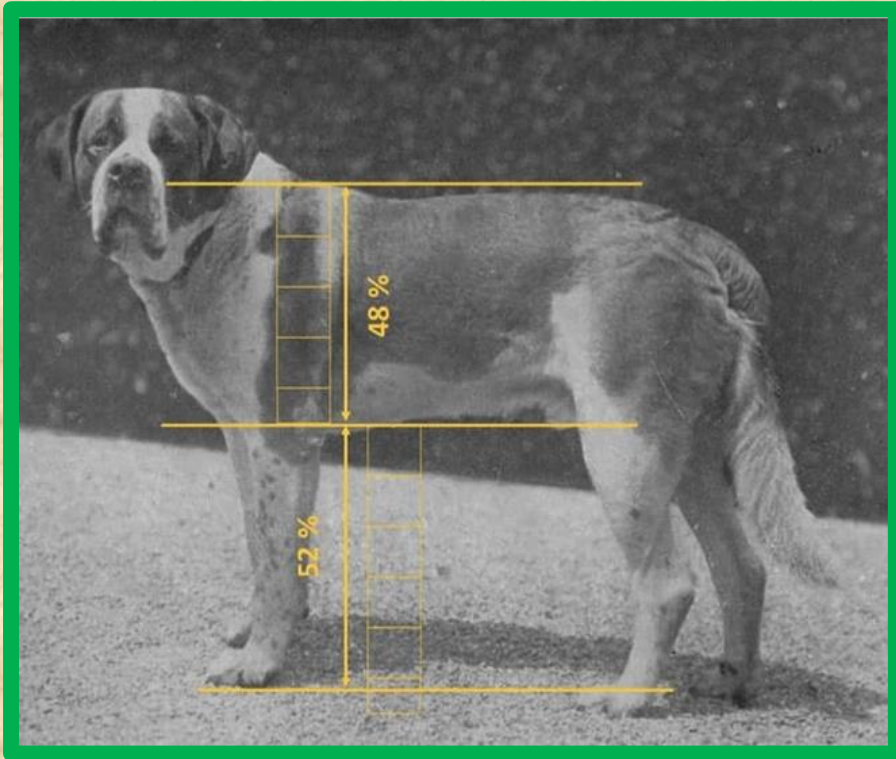
**EXCELLENT TOTAL LENGTH OF THE HEAD
WHICH IS SLIGHTLY MORE THAN A THIRD OF THE HEIGHT AT THE
WITHERS**



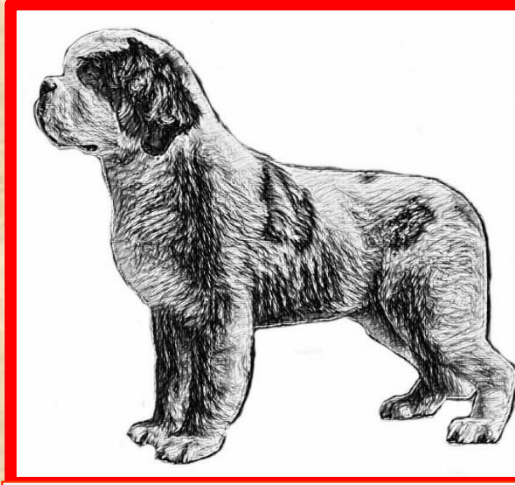
***The total length of the head is well above one third
of the height at the withers.
The dog is lymphatic and lacks nobility.
THIS DOG DOES NOT FIT THE STANDARD ANY LONGER***

*These outlines do not fit the standard...
but these dogs have all been awarded in shows, almost all are champions ...*

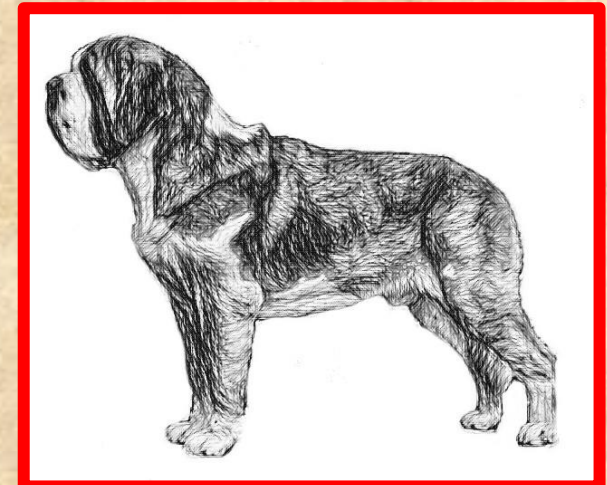
Common faults: too short muzzle, too short legs, too heavy outline, chest dropping below elbows ...



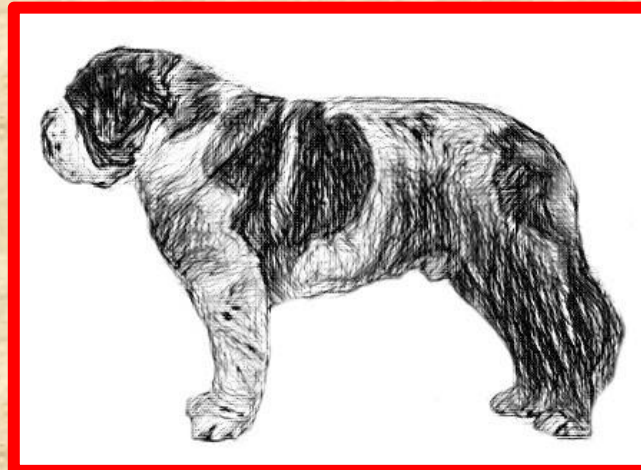
Swiss Saint-Bernard Shorthair of 1926



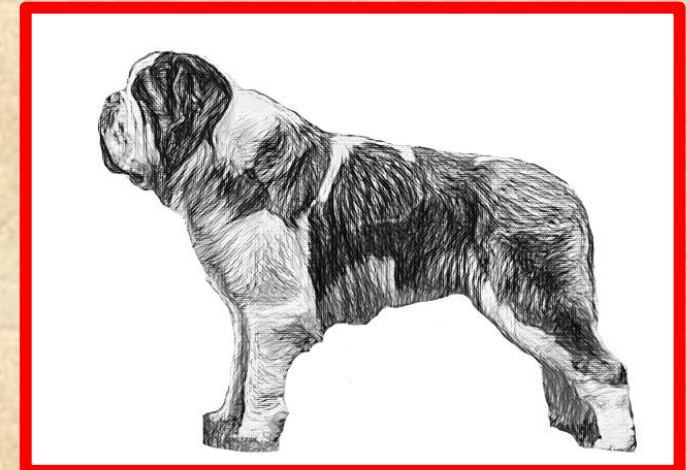
... neck overly long, shoulder angle too acute, over angulated rear, hocks too short...



... flews too pendulous, down-faced, sloping topline...

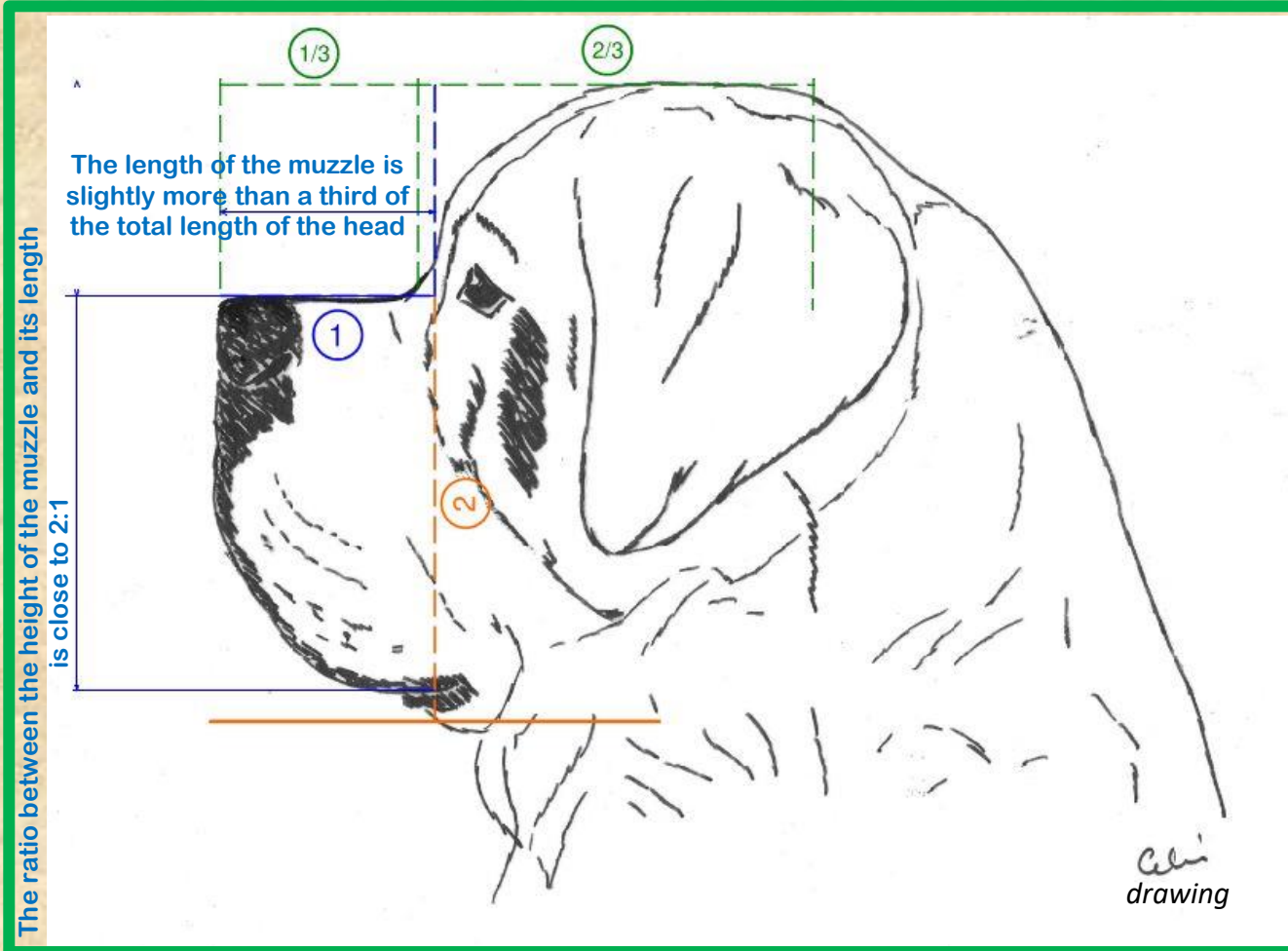


... short and stocky in neck, straight hindquarters ...



... not typical head, stocky in neck, sloping topline, short hocks...

- The ratio between the height of the muzzle (measured at its root) and its length is close to 2:1.
 - The length of the muzzle is slightly more than a third of the total length of the head.



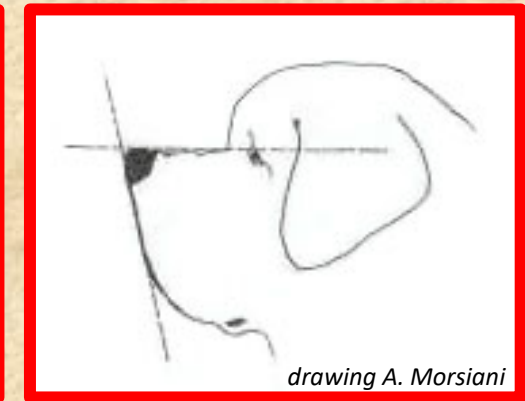
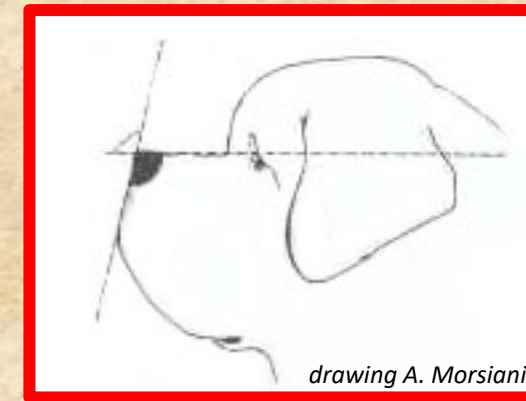
THE PROFILE OF THE MUZZLE AND THE LIPS FORMS A 90° ANGLE.



Convergent head lines



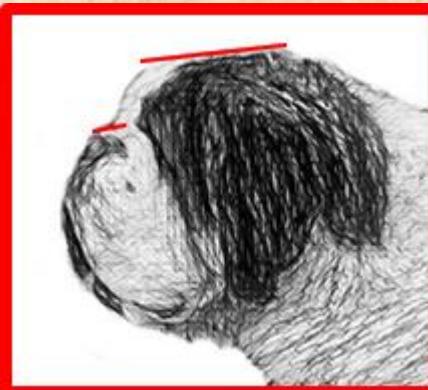
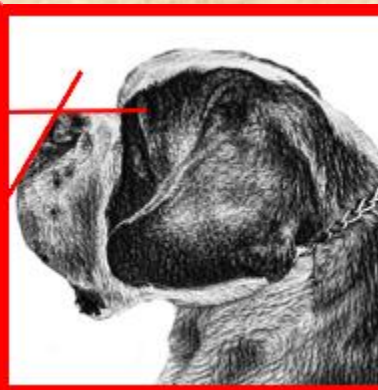
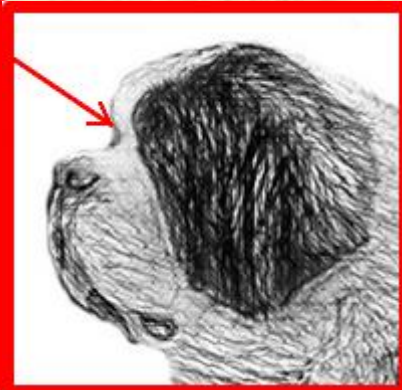
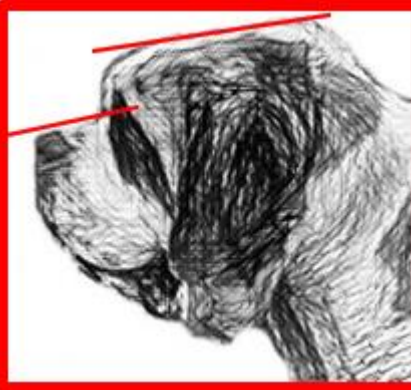
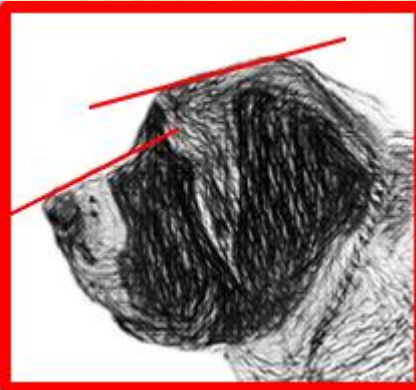
Double convergence is a serious fault leading to hypertype



BEWARE of too short a muzzle and too long lips.
In case of excess, a minimum of one qualification will be dropped.
 A really too short muzzle is a serious fault and out of type, such a dog should not be used for breeding.
 It often goes with a deformed skull and a strong undershot jaw.



- THE SKULL IS **SLIGHTLY** DOMED IN PROFILE
- THE LENGTH OF THE MUZZLE IS SLIGHTLY **MORE** THAN 1/3 OF THE LENGTH OF THE HEAD
- THE SUPERCILIARY ARCHES ARE **STRONGLY** DEVELOPED
- THE PROFILE OF THE HEAD IS DEFINED BY THE ARCHES AND NOT BY THE STOP



*Divergent headlines,
too long muzzle,
lacking in type ...*

*Parallel headlines,
flat skull,
open lower lip ...*

*Flat skull,
stop too closed,
frontal furrow missing*

*Muzzle angle over 100°,
stop too pronounced,
boxer-type head,
strongly undershot ...*

*Muzzle much too short,
undershot,
brachycephalic head ...*

*Head too loaded with tissue,
mastino-type head,
too many wrinkles,
flews too pendulous,
lymphatic temperament ...*

BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT

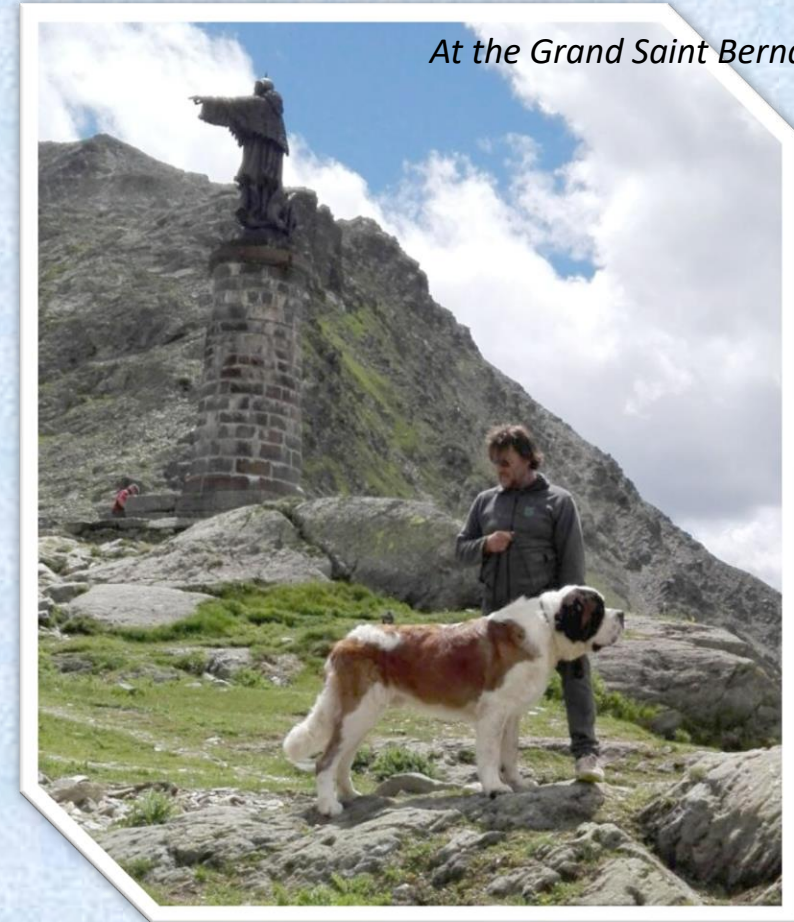
Friendly by nature. Temperament calm to lively; watchful.

Character is an important element to take into account when judging.

A slightly dominant temperament towards other dogs may be accepted but not towards humans.

*In the case of any aggressive behaviour shown towards a human, the dog must be **disqualified**.*

Caution : the Saint Bernard is a stable dog not a big plush toy either.



At the Grand Saint Bernard pass

HEAD

HEAD : powerful, imposing and very expressive



**IDEAL HEAD
(FOR A MALE)**



TYPICAL HEAD : POWERFUL, EXPRESSIVE AND IMPOSING IN APPEARANCE





**IDEAL HEAD
(FOR A FEMALE)**

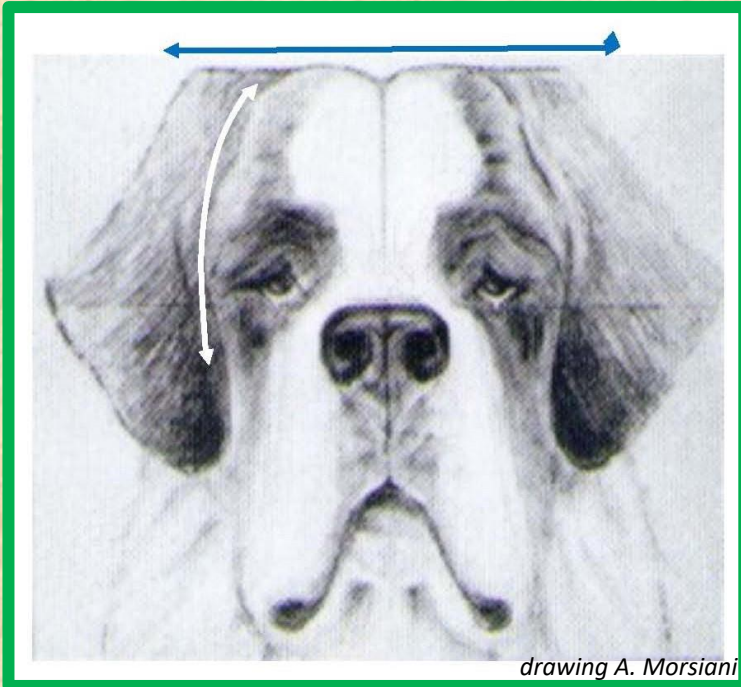


TYPICAL FEMALE HEADS



CRANIAL REGION

Skull: strong, broad, seen in profile and from the front slightly rounded. When the dog is alert, the set-on of the ears and the top of the skull form a straight line, which slopes at the sides in a gentle curve to the strongly developed high cheekbones.



**EXCELLENT EXEMPLE OF A HEAD
(ALERT)
THE UPPER LINES OF THE SKULL, MUZZLE
AND NOSE FORM A STRAIGHT LINE**

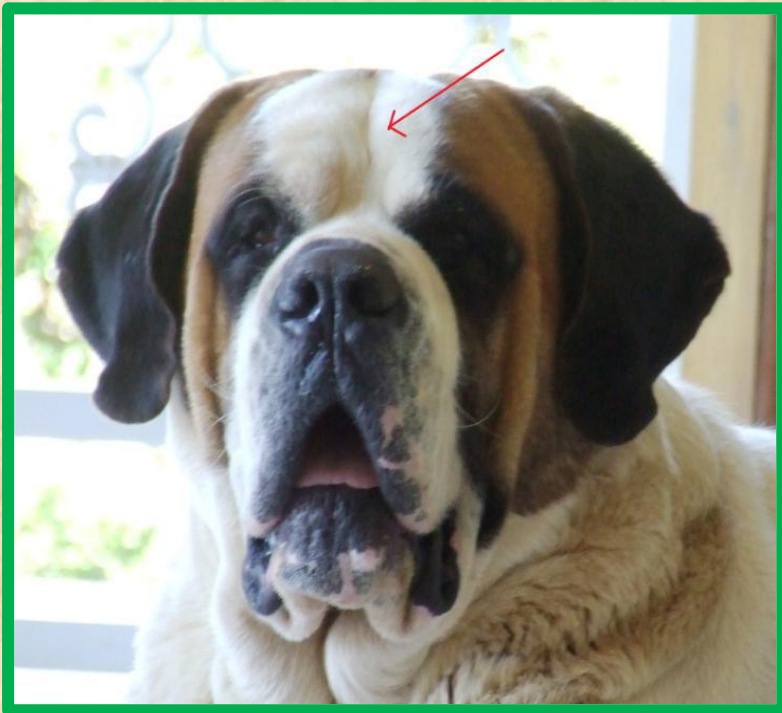


*Round skull - Low set ears - Round nose
Two qualifications drops (good)*

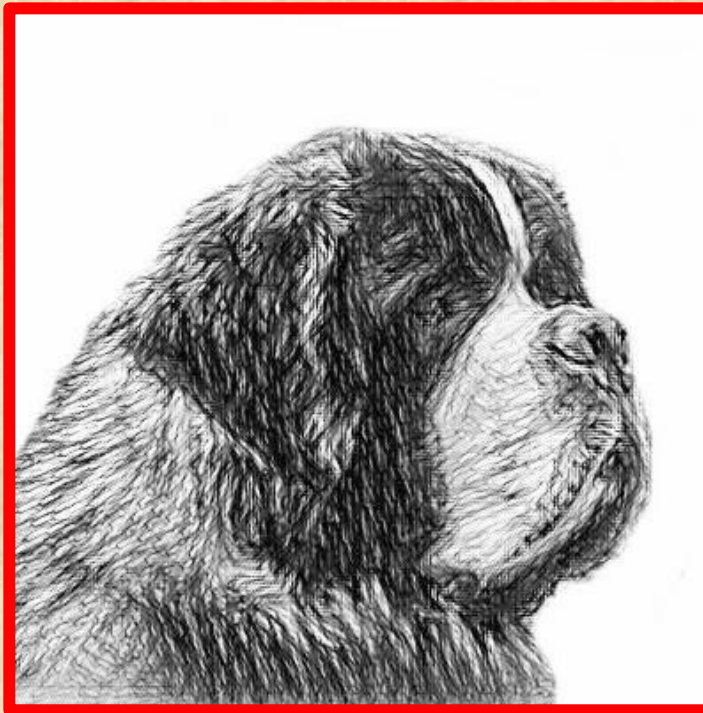


*Excessive wrinkles,
lymphatic,
Towards Hyper-type
DISQUALIFIED*

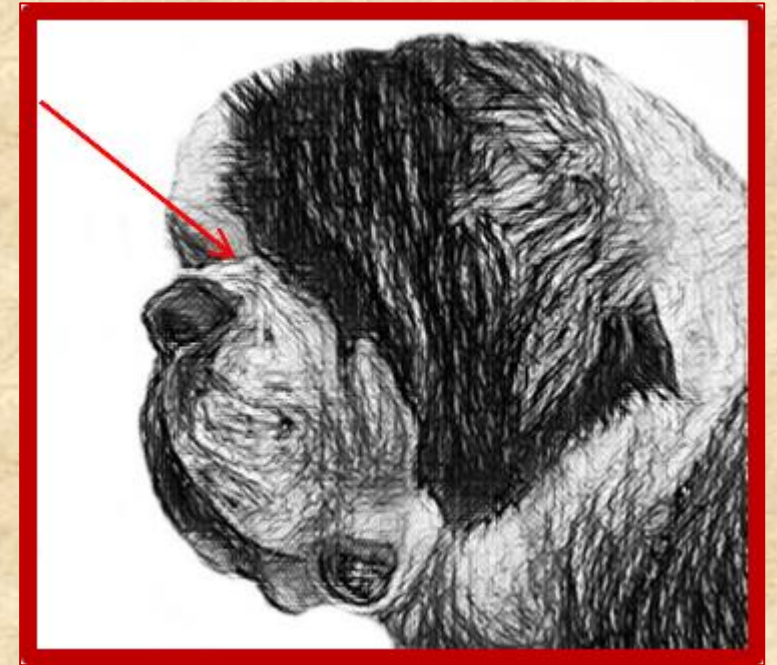
Forehead falling away steeply towards the muzzle. Occipital bone only moderately developed, superciliary ridges strongly developed. The frontal furrow, which starts at the base of the forehead, is distinctly developed and runs up right in the middle of the skull. The skin of the forehead forms slight wrinkles above the eyes that converge towards the frontal furrow. When the dog is at attention, they are moderately visible; otherwise they are rather inconspicuous.
Stop: distinctly pronounced.



**STRONGLY DEVELOPED SUPERCILIARY ARCHES
CLEARLY PRONOUNCED FRONTAL FURROW**



*Stop too pronounced
Frontal furrow erased
(2 qualifications drops - Good)*



*The absence of a frontal furrow leads to a
alteration of the cranial bone and to
hypertype (serious fault)*



*EXCELLENT EXPRESSION FOR A BITCH
THE WRINKLES ARE SLIGHTLY MARKED WHEN ALERT*



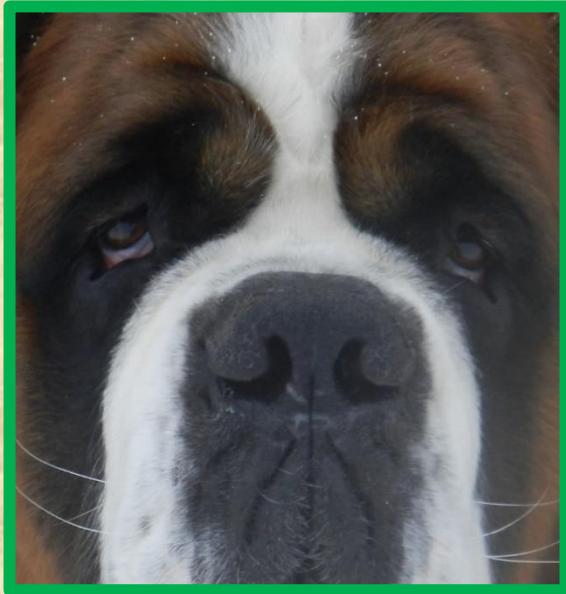
*Overloaded head,
wrinkles too strongly marked and always visible.
Excessive skin.
Lymphatic aspect leading to hypertype
Down by 2 qualifications at least*

FACIAL REGION

Nose: black, broad and square. Nostrils well opened.

Muzzle: of even width. Nasal bridge straight, with slight groove.

Lips: edge of lips black pigmented. Flews of upper jaw strongly developed, firm and not too pendulous, forming a wide curve towards the nose. Corners of mouth remain visible.



**EXCELLENT BROAD SQUARE NOSE
WITH WELL OPENED NOSTRILS**



***Rounded nose,
round head lines
Very Good qualification at the most***



***Open lower lip,
Inverted lips
"drooling"***



***Incomplete lip pigmentation.
Age and quality of the dog to be
taken into account***

The muzzle is broad, with parallel sides. It should be in proportion to the skull of the dog.

The nose is flat, broad and angular. It determines the width of the muzzle.

There is currently a deviation in type with a disproportion between the width of the muzzle and the width of the skull.



**WIDE AND ANGULAR NOSE.
NOBLE AND TYPICAL EXPRESSION**



*Small and round nose, low-set ears,
deep-set eyes, not typical expression*



*Small round nose, thick skin, swollen and
hanging lips, sunken eyes, not typical expression*



*Round skull, jaw muscles pronounced, sunken
eyes, low-set ears, hanging lips, short muzzle.
Important disproportion skull / muzzle*



*Narrow and elongated muzzle, round
skull, low-set ears
Lack of type*

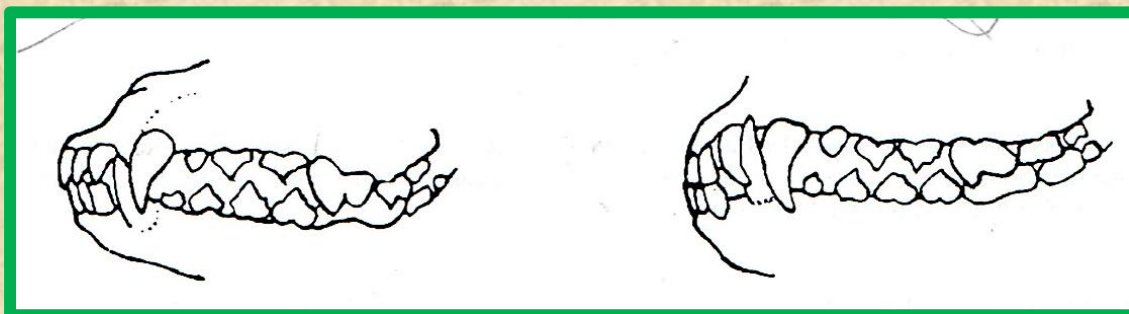
Jaws / Teeth

Upper and lower jaw strong, broad, equal in length.

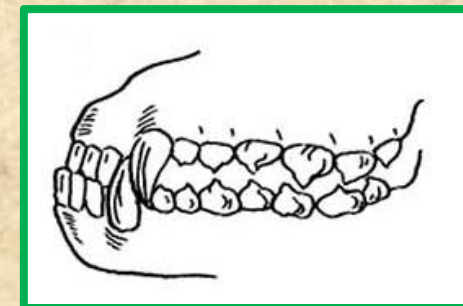
Well developed, regular and complete scissor or pincer bite.

Close fitting undershot mouth without any space between the lower and the upper incisors acceptable.

Absence of PM 1 (premolar 1) and M3 tolerated.

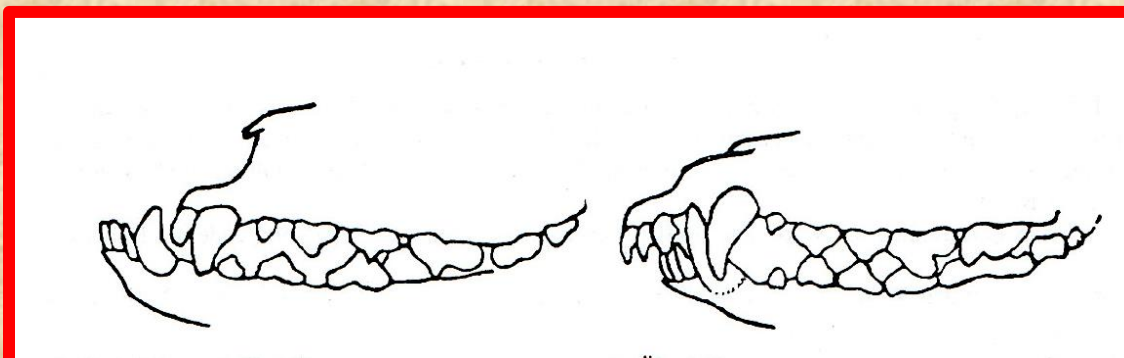


EXCELLENT BITE



PERMITTED BITE

An incorrect bite often goes with a muzzle that is too short



Distinctly undershot / overshot : DISQUALIFICATION

EYES

Of medium size. Colour dark brown to nut-brown. Moderately deep set with a friendly expression. Natural tightness of lids desired. A very small angular fold on the lower lids with the haws only very slightly visible as well as a small fold on the upper lids are permitted. Eye rims completely pigmented.



DARK BROWN



BROWN



HAZEL

The shape of the eye of the Saint Bernard is unique and gives it its characteristic expression. It is not only aesthetic, but above all protects the eye from the reflection of the sun on the snow.



*Lower eyelid open
(maximum acceptable opening)*



Rounded eyelids



*Almond shaped eyelids
At least one qualification down*



*Clear eyes
Two qualifications down*



*Eyelids too closed
At least two qualifications down*



**WALL EYE
DISQUALIFIED**

EARS

Of medium size, set on high and wide. Strongly developed burrs.

Flaps pliable, triangular with rounded tips.

The rear edges slightly standing off, the front edges lying closely to the cheeks.



Ear-set too low (on a round skull)

*WHEN ALERT,
THE EAR-SET FORMS A STRAIGHT LINE WITH THE TOP OF THE SKULL.*



Ear-set too high

NECK

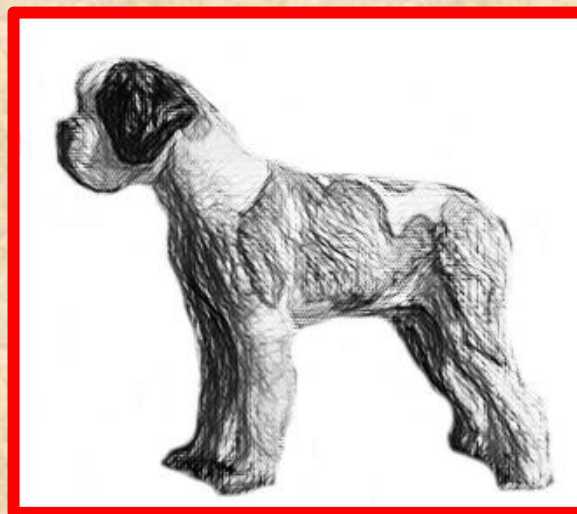
Strong and of sufficient length. Dewlap and loose skin on the neck moderately developed.



*An overdeveloped dewlap can be hidden by a too tight collar.
Ask the exhibitor to present the dog on a loose lead ;
stringing up a dog is against animal welfare.*



Neck too short



Neck too long



Dewlap overdeveloped

BODY

General appearance: general appearance imposing, balanced, impressive and well-muscled.

Withers: well defined.

Back: broad, strong, firm. Topline straight and horizontal up to the loins.

Croup: long, hardly sloping, merging gently with the root of the tail.

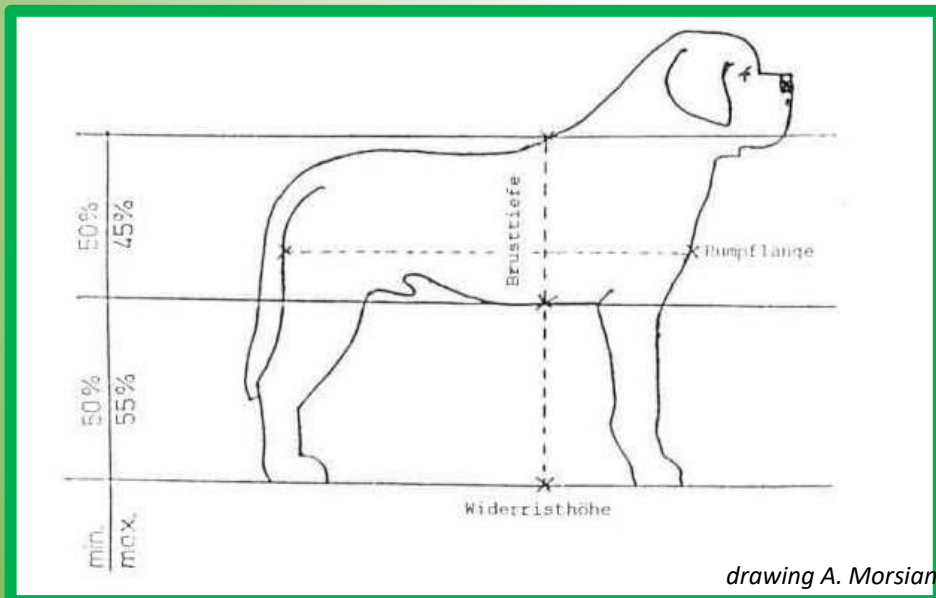
Chest: brisket moderately deep with well sprung ribs, but not barrelshaped. Not projecting below elbow level.

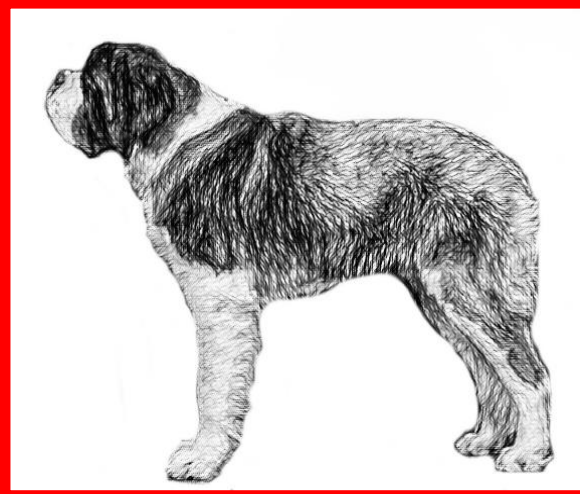
Underline and belly: slight tuck up towards rear.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS

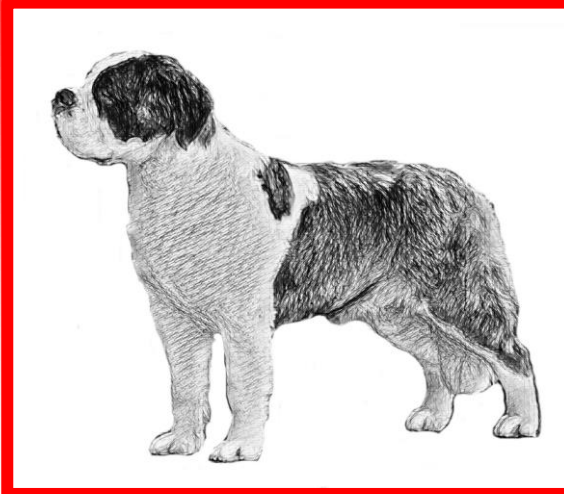
Desired proportion of height at withers to length of body = 9 : 10

(measured from the point of the shoulder to the point of buttocks).

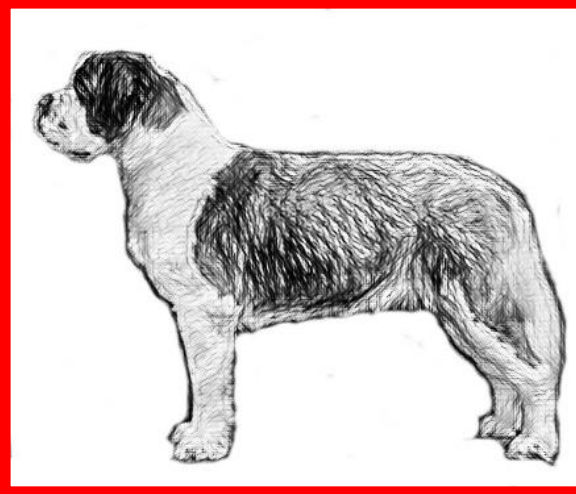




Body too short, croup too steep ...



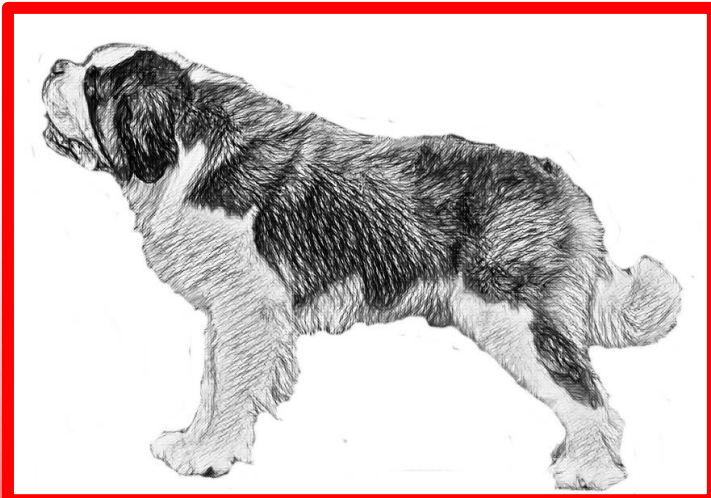
Body too long and short-legged ...



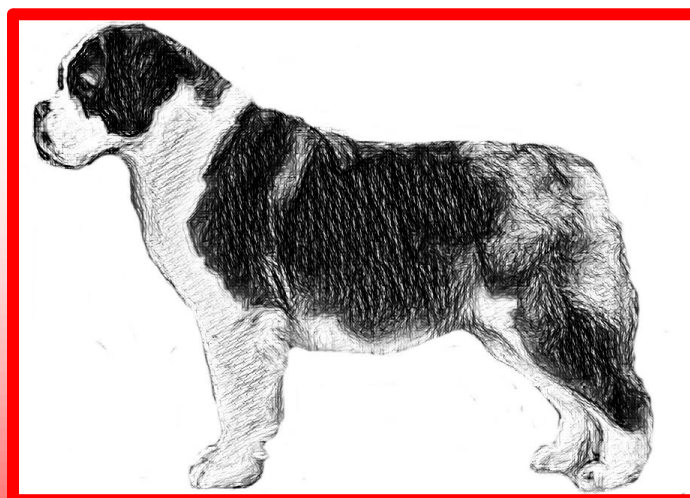
*Long dog - disproportion
between head and body ...*



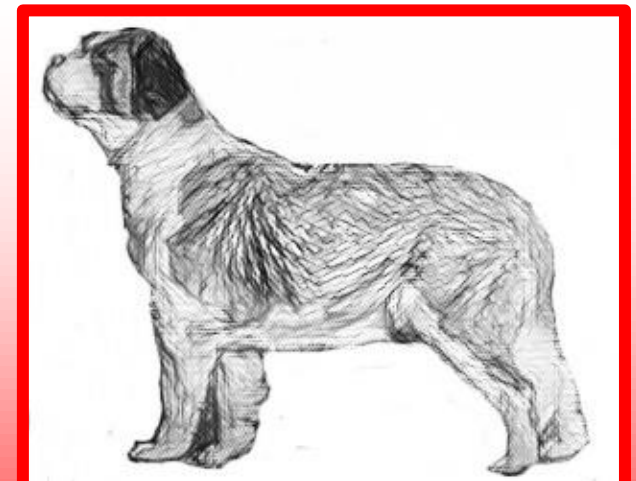
*Stocky dog, too short muzzle, over-
angulated ...*



*Stocky and short in neck, chest too deep,
sloping topline, short hocks, straight stifle ...*

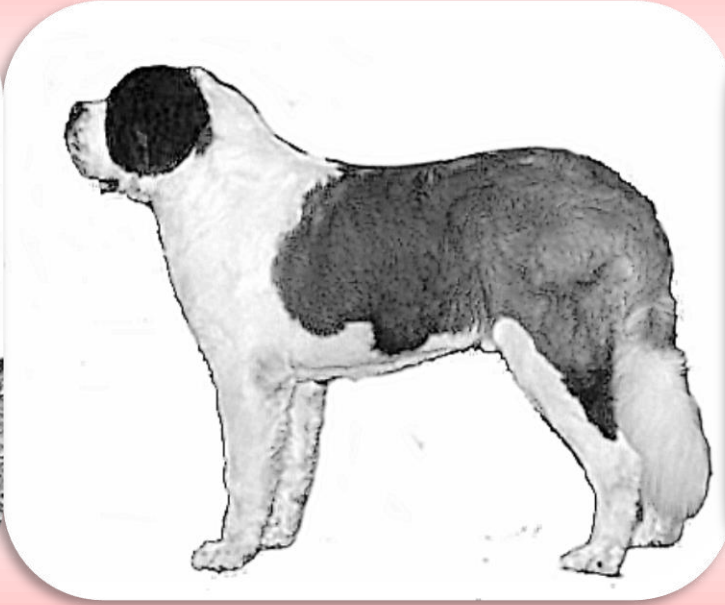
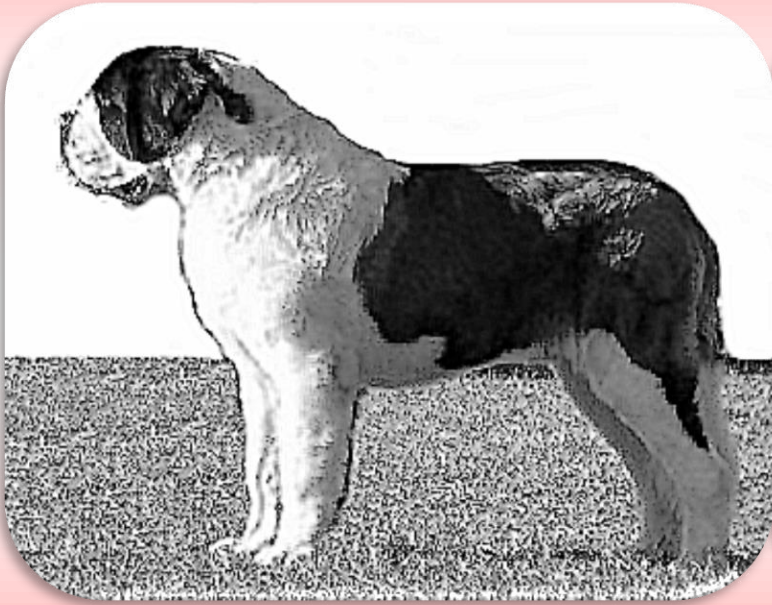


*Body too heavy, chest too deep, legs too
short ...*



*Neck and body too long, legs too
short, weak topline ...*

*A clever handler will stack his dog in extension to hide a weak back.
Move him forward a few steps to check ...*



Same dog taken from different angles and with different handlers ...

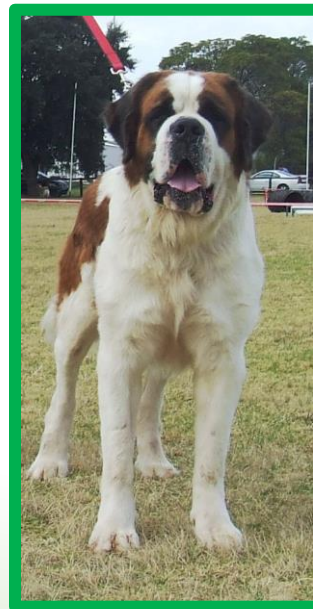


TYPICAL SHORTHAIR OUTLINES

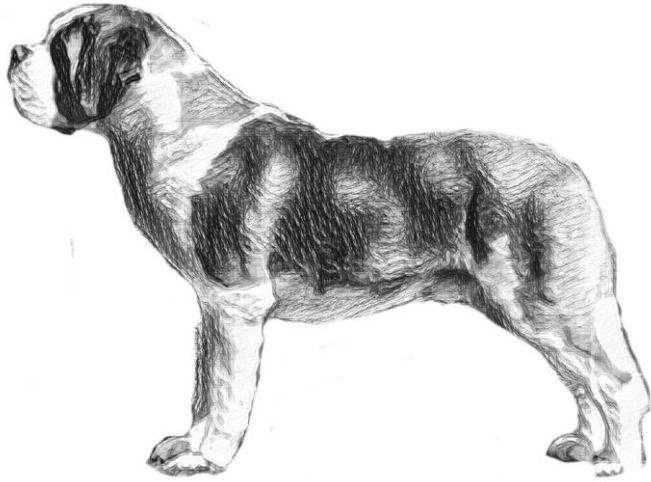




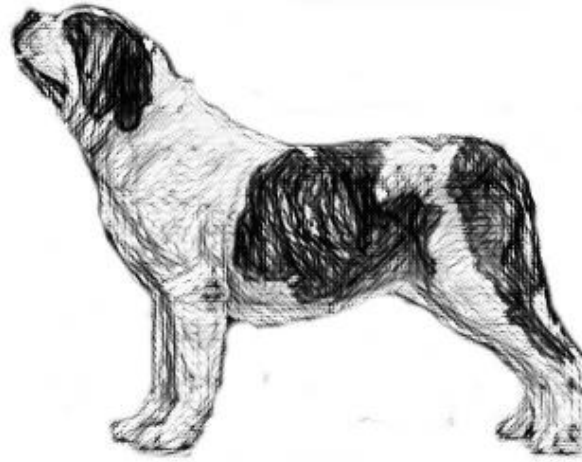
TYPICAL LONGHAIR OUTLINES



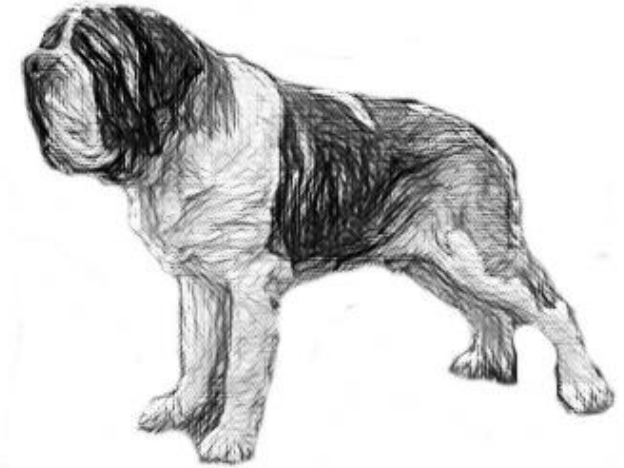
NOT TYPICAL SHORTHAIR OUTLINES



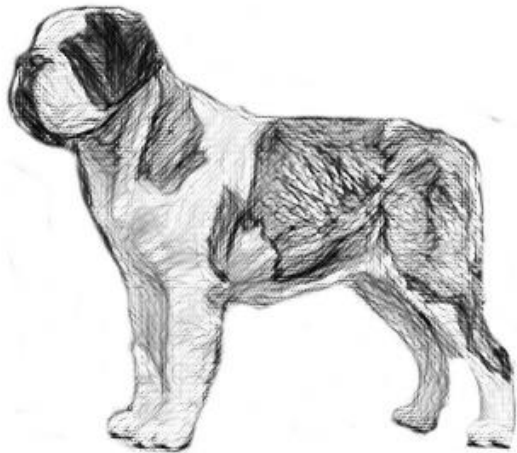
Extended neck, long body, shoulder angulation too acute, over-angulated ...



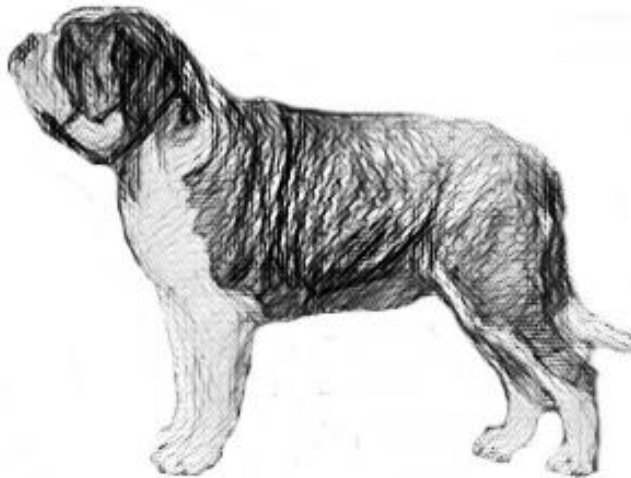
Limbs too short, prominent sternum, weak topline, straight croup, bad rear angulations...



Heavy and wrinkled head, lymphatic dog, thick neck, rising topline, non-functional hindquarters...



Too short muzzle, heavy set, short legs, over-angulated hindquarters ...



Heavy set, short muzzle, dewlap, short legs, over-angulated hindquarters =...



Extended neck, front and back over-angulated, lower-thigh too long ...

NOT TYPICAL LONGHAIR OUTLINES



Too heavy, excessive bone, chest dropping below elbow, short legs, over-angulated...



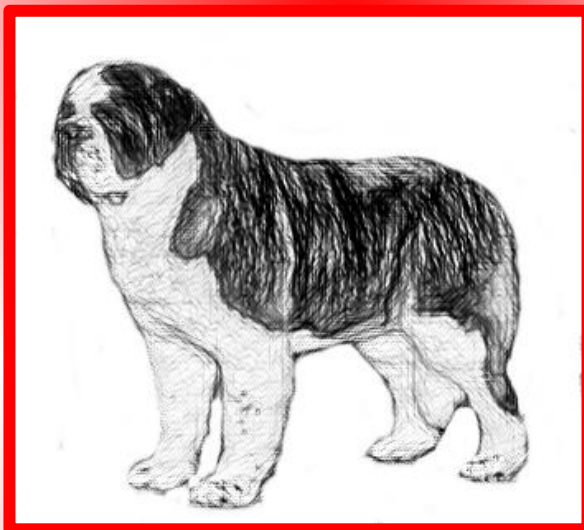
Too heavy, short legs, over-angulated, long feet ...



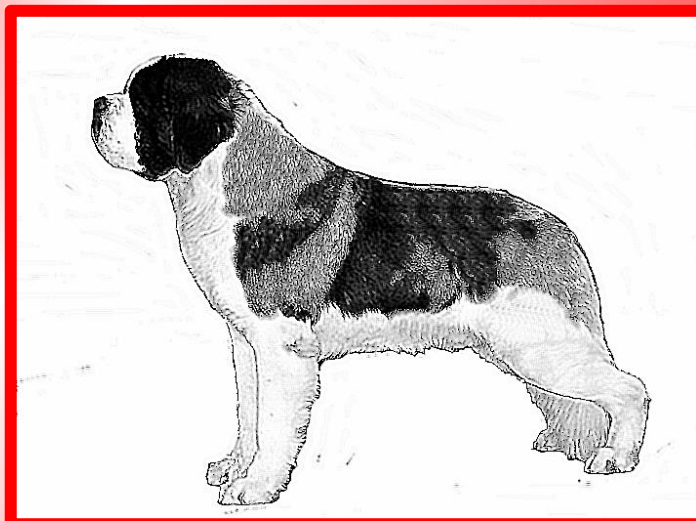
Set too heavy, excessive bone, chest too deep, short legs, shoulder angulation too marked, not typical head ...



Over-angulated, Over-extended, rising topline ...



Set too heavy and lymphatic, excessive bone, chest too deep, shoulder angulation too acute ...



Chest too deep, over-angulated, lower thigh too long, "German shepherd type" ...

TAIL

Set-on broad and strong. Tail long and heavy. The last vertebra reaching at least to the hock joint. When in repose, the tail hangs straight down or slightly upturned in the lower third. When animated, it is carried higher.



TYPICAL TAIL CARRIAGE



Tail carriage still acceptable but not desirable



Tail carriage to be sanctioned

FOREQUARTERS

General appearance : forelegs straight and parallel seen from the front. Standing moderately broad.

Shoulder : shoulder blades oblique, muscular and well attached to the chest wall.

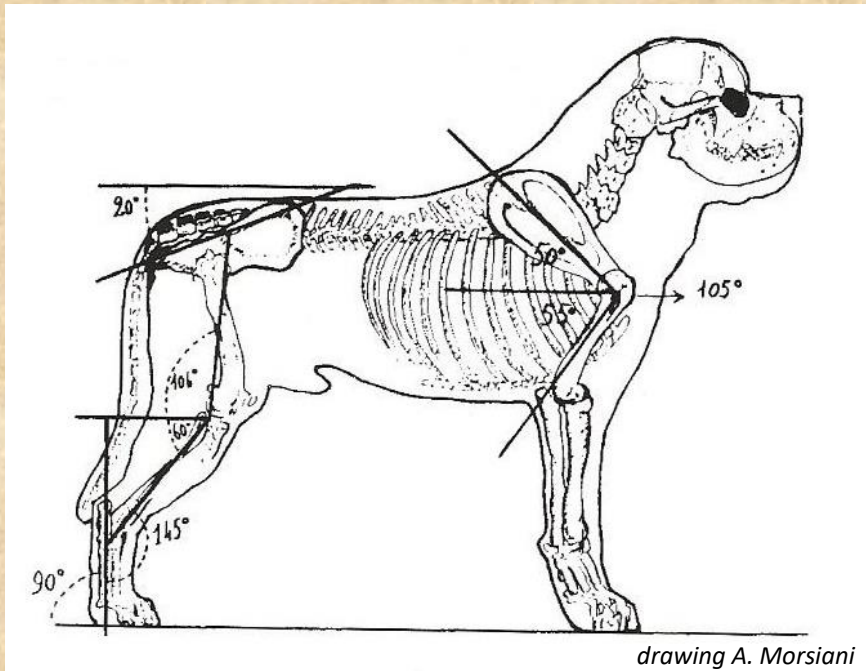
Upper arm : longer than the shoulder blade. Angle between shoulder blade and upper arm not too blunt.

Elbow : close fitting.

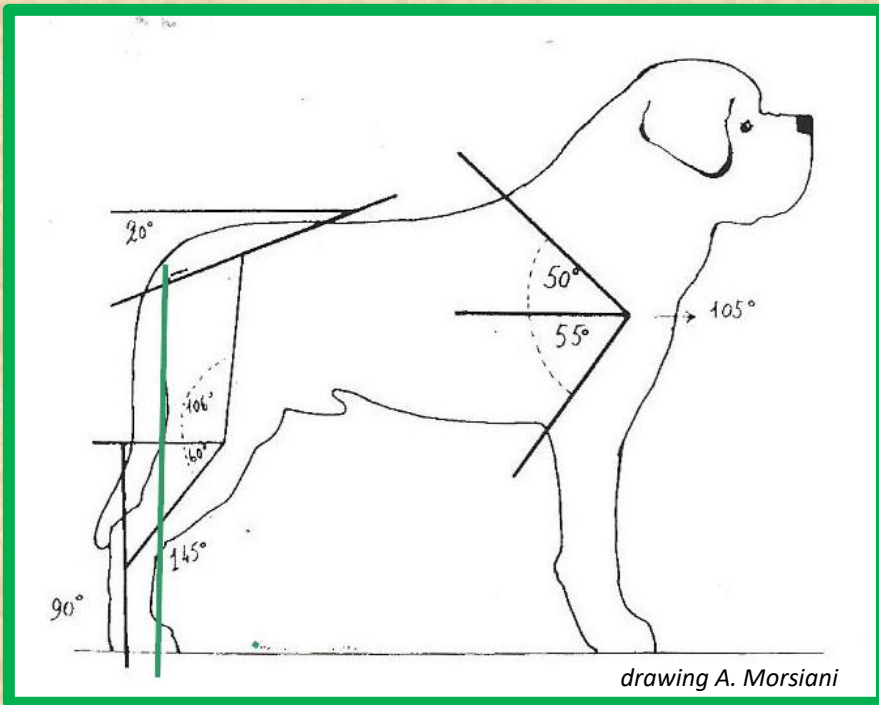
Forearm : straight, strong in bone, with lean musculature.

Metacarpus (Pasterns): seen from the front vertical in prolongation of the forearms; slightly oblique seen from the side.

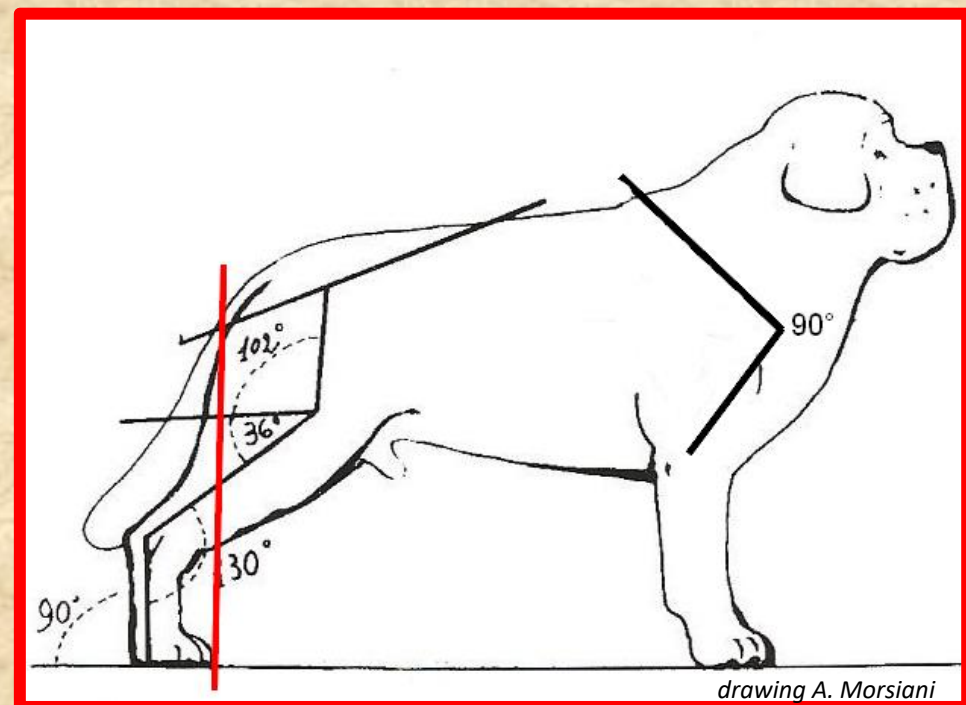
Forefeet : broad, with strong, tight, well arched toes.



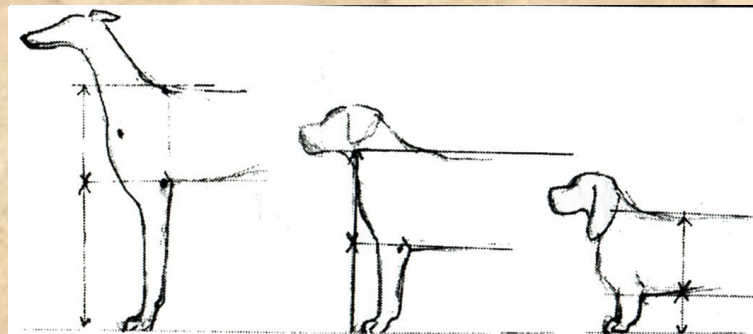
FIRM TIGHT FEET



- THE ANGLE OF THE SHOULDER IS ABOUT 105 - 110 °.
- THE ARM IS LONG AND THE LIMBS ARE LONG
- THE STERNUM IS MARKED WITHOUT EXCESS



- The angle of the shoulder is about 90°
- The arm is short and the limbs are short
- The sternum is too prominent

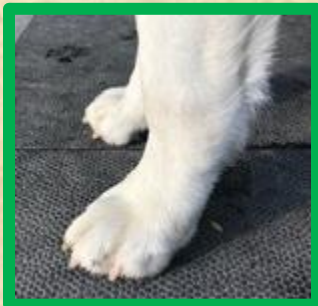


Different heights of limbs according to dog breeds

FEET



*Fine bone structure
Upright in shoulder*



CAT FEET



Feet a little open



Long toes



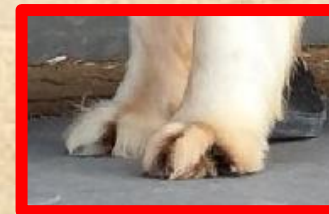
Pasterns too steep



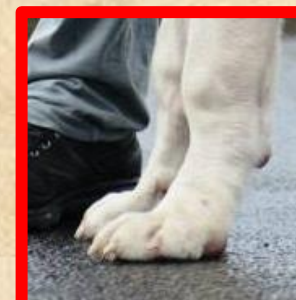
*Weak pasterns
Long feet*



Open and splayed feet



Open feet



*Knuckled over in front
Long feet*



Deformed front



*The Saint Bernard is a Mountain working dog.
Too strong or lacking in bone is not typical of
the breed*

HINDQUARTERS

General appearance : muscular with moderate angulation. Seen from the back, hind legs are parallel, not standing closely together.

Thigh : strong, muscular, broad.

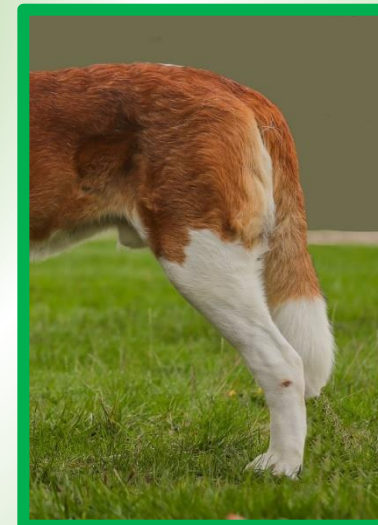
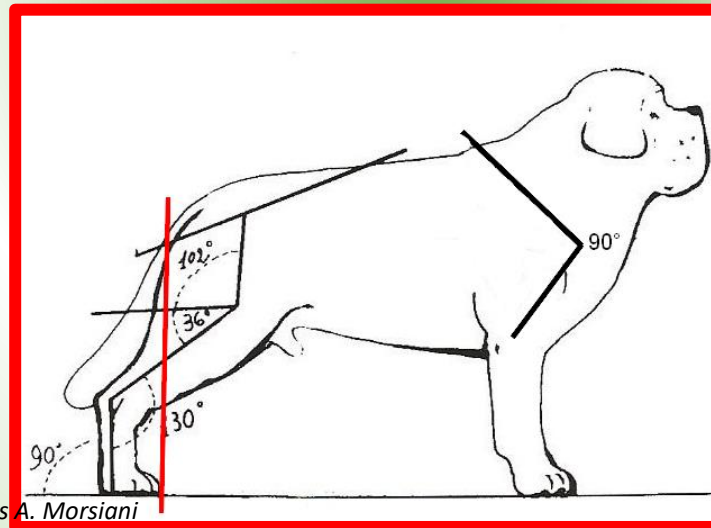
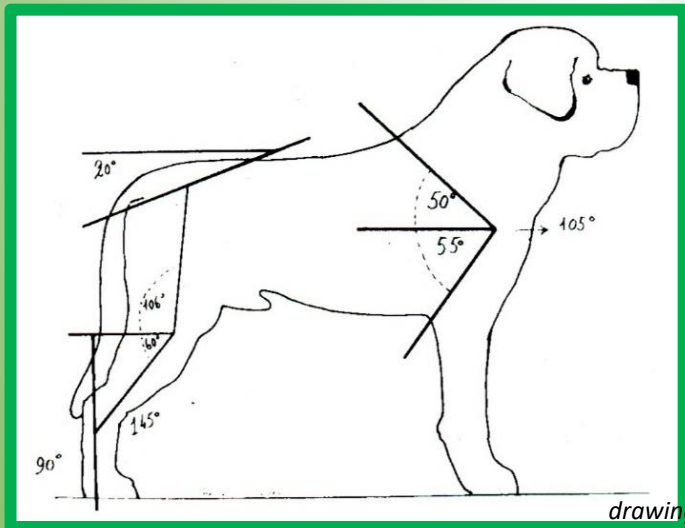
Stifle (Knee) : well angulated, turning neither in nor out.

Lower thigh : slanting and rather long.

Hock joint : slightly angulated, firm.

Metatarsus (Rear pastern) : straight and parallel when seen from behind.

Hind feet : broad, with strong, tight, well arched toes. Dewclaws tolerated if they do not hinder the movement.

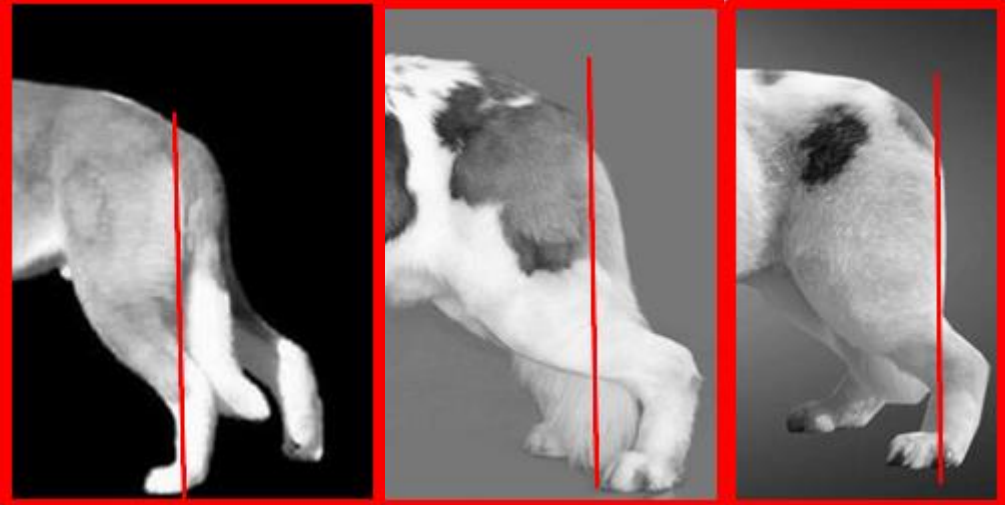




TYPICAL MODERATE ANGULATION



Straight angulation with sway back



Much too pronounced angulation for a Mountain working dog, lower thigh too long, hock too short, the legs are out of line with the body.
2 qualifications down



ACCEPTABLE ANGULATION FOR A MOUNTAIN WORKING DOG IF THE BACK IS STRONG AND THE MOVEMENT FUNCTIONAL

Inverted hock: dog with an obvious physical abnormality DISQUALIFICATION



Long toes



Open feet

GAIT / MOVEMENT

Harmonious far reaching movement with good drive from the hindquarters,
the back remaining stable and firm.
Front and hind feet move forward in a straight line.



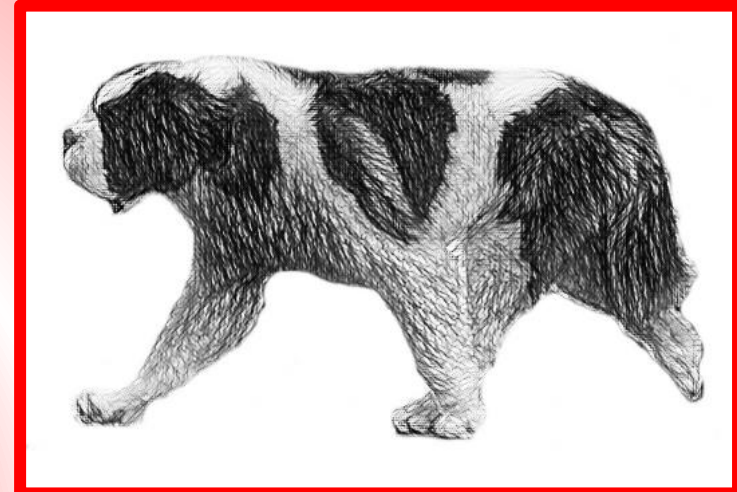
*The head is carried low in action.
Carrying the head too high is unnatural for a Mountain working dog and should not be encouraged,
even if it is spectacular.
Furthermore, this presentation is contrary to animal welfare.
The movement is free and efficient, not high stepping or “shepherd like”*



Spectacular "show style" movement, over angulated, gait not typical of the breed, too much reach



Head carriage too high



Heavy and cumbersome gait, overreaching



The back of an overweight dog is not stable and rolls in action: this is not typical of the breed. The topline is firm and strong on movement.



Amble gait

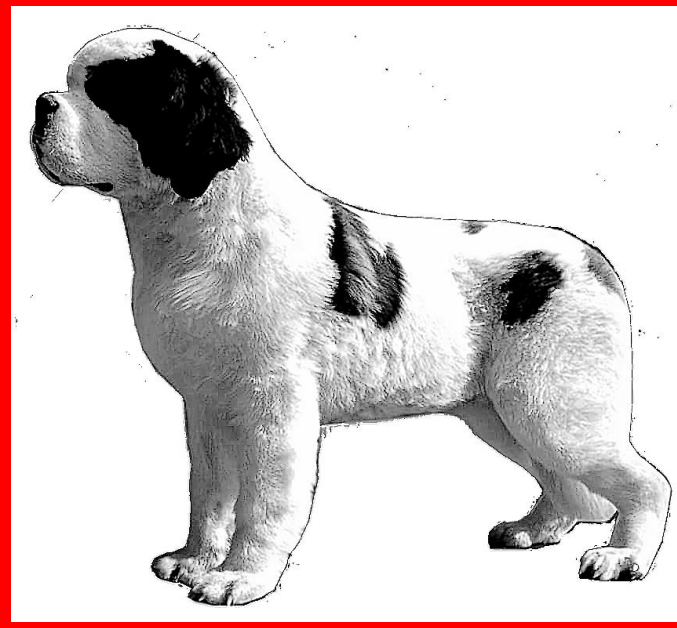
COAT

Hair:

- **Short-haired variety** (stockhaar, double coat) : topcoat dense, smooth; close lying and coarse. Plenty of undercoat. Thighs with slight breeches. Tail covered with dense hair.
- **Long-haired variety** : topcoat straight, of medium length with plenty of undercoat. Short hair on face and ear; hair over the haunches and the croup usually somewhat wavy. Front legs feathered. Thighs with good breeches. Bushy tail.



- **Long-haired variety:** top coat straight, of medium length with plenty of undercoat.



The erect coat allowing excessive grooming/scissoring is not typical



Wavy coat

*The typical topcoat is flat lying, protecting from the extreme weather conditions of the mountains.
Therefore it does not allow for reverse grooming.*

Colour : primary colour white with smaller or larger clear red patches (splash-coated dogs) up to an unbroken clear to dark red mantle covering back and flanks (mantle dogs). A broken reddishbrown mantle is of equal value. A brindle reddish-brown colour permissible. Brownish-yellow tolerated. Dark shadings on head desirable. Slight touch of black shading on body tolerated.

Required white markings : chest, feet, tip of tail, muzzle band, blaze and patch on neck.

Desirable markings : white collar. Symmetrical dark mask.





COLOUR VARIATIONS IN SHORTHAIR



All these markings are equally acceptable when judging



COLOUR VARIATIONS IN LONGHAIR



All these markings are equally acceptable when judging



Excessive shading "brindle" on body not desirable and is a fault

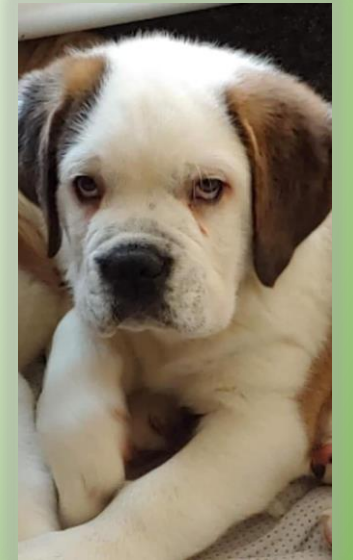
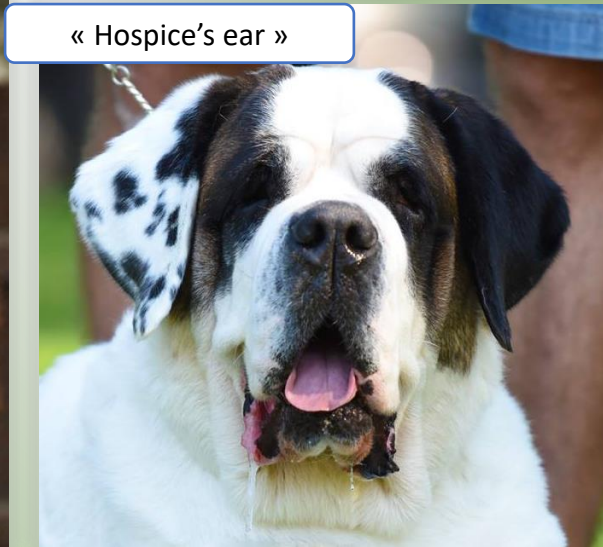


Pronounced flecks on head and limbs not desirable





*All these markings are allowed.
The symmetrical mask is desired and preferred in exhibitions.*



SIZE

Height at the withers:

For males minimum 70 cm, For females minimum 65 cm.

For males maximum 90 cm, For females maximum 80 cm.

Dogs which exceed the maximum height will not be penalised, provided their general appearance is balanced and their movement is sound.



Please check the height if the dog looks too small

*Some dogs compensate for short limbs with a longer neck.
Only the head reaches the correct level !*

The ratio height/fitness weight is about :

- 1 for a male (80 kg for 80 cm)

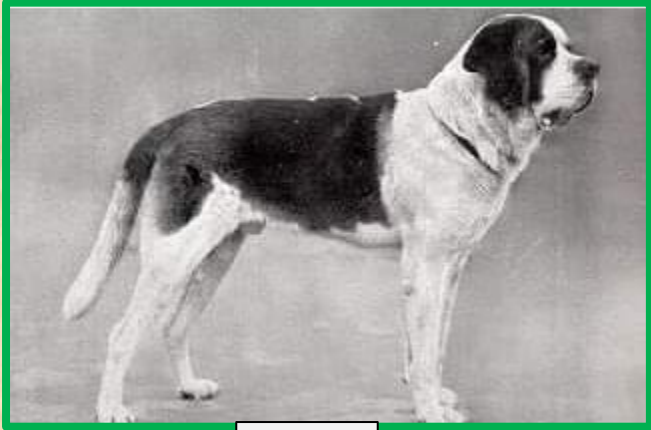
- 0.8 for a female (60 kg for 75 cm)

*AND NOW IT'S YOUR TURN TO PLAY!
LET'S TALK ABOUT IT ...*

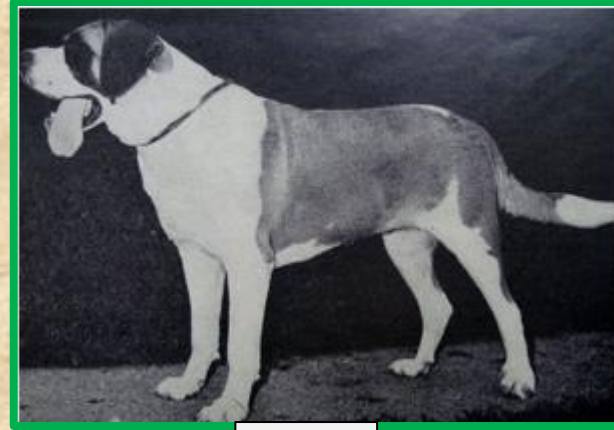
These 2 dogs won at the same show under the same judge ...



4 CHAMPIONS ...



1930



1961

When the FCI standard is respected, the type remains the same ...



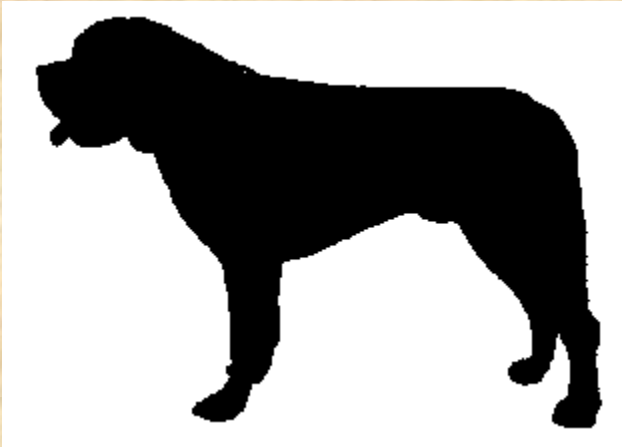
2010

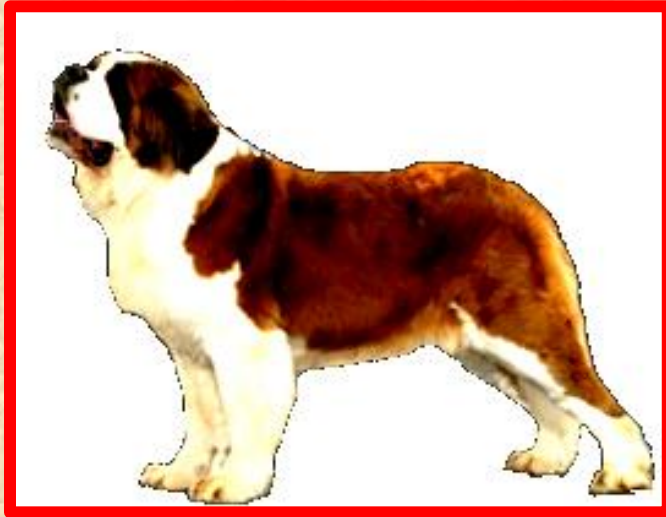
Why such a difference?



2010

*The Saint Bernard is not a red and white Newfoundland...
The breed should be obvious from the silhouette*





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.

- Lack of sexual characteristics.
- Unbalanced general appearance.
- Muzzle too short or too long.
- Flews of the lower jaw turning outwards.
- Missing teeth other than PM 1 (premolar 1) and M3. Small teeth (especially incisors).
- Slightly undershot mouth.
- Light eyes.
- Eyelids too loose.
- Sway back or roach back.
- Croup higher than withers or falling away.
- Tail carried curled on the back.
- Absence of required markings.
- Faulty movement.
- Curly coat.
- Incomplete or totally absent pigmentation on nose leather, around the nose, on the lips or the eyelids.
- Faulty primary colour e.g. reddish-brown dots or ticks in the white.

Pay attention to sexual dysmorphism !

At first sight, a male and a female should be distinguishable ...



(All pictures are of females)

SEVERE FAULTS

- Too short legs in relation to size (short-legged).
- Heavy folds on head and neck.
- Crooked or severely turned out front legs.
- Poorly angulated, open-hocked or cow-hocked hindquarters.

*Down by 2 qualifications
NOT TO BE AWARDED THE CAC/CACIB UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES*

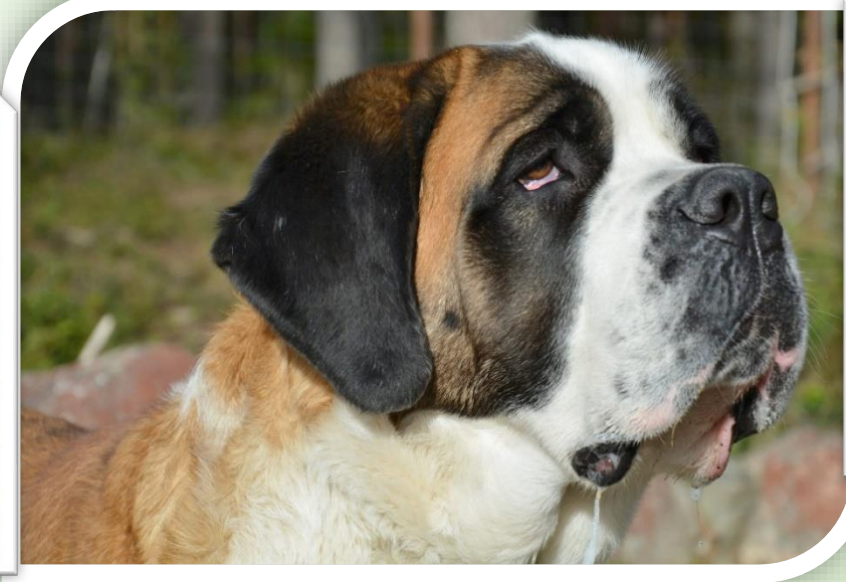


ELIMINATING FAULTS

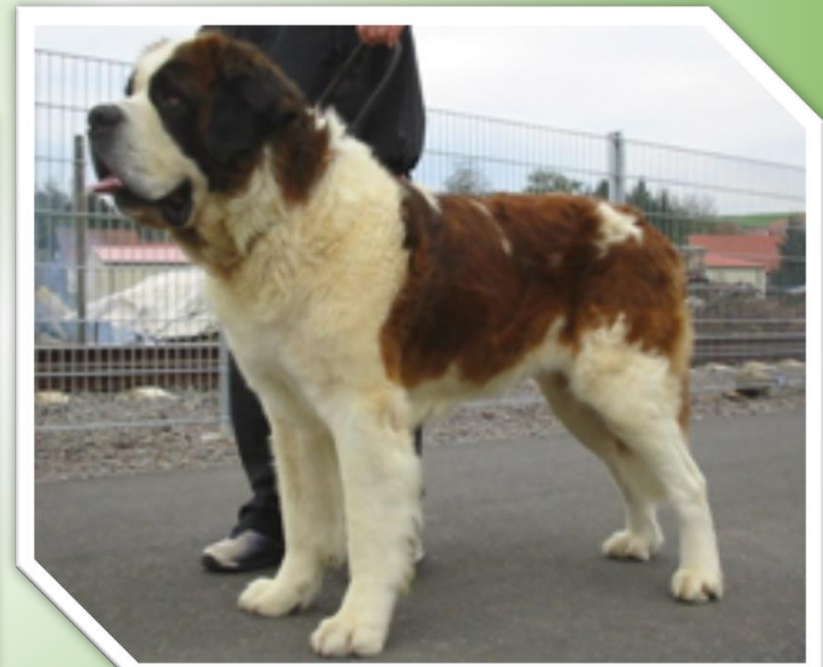
- Aggressive or overly shy dogs.
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities.
- Weak temperament
- Overshot mouth, distinctly undershot mouth.
- Wall eye.
- Ectropion, entropion.
- Solid white or solid reddish-brown coat (absence of the primary colour).
- Coat of any other colour as well as flesh coloured nostrils (nostrils without pigmentation)
- Height at withers below minimum size.

Qualification : **DISQUALIFIED**

- Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum (this expression is obligatory in every standard).
- Only functionally and clinically healthy dogs, with breed typical conformation should be used for breeding.







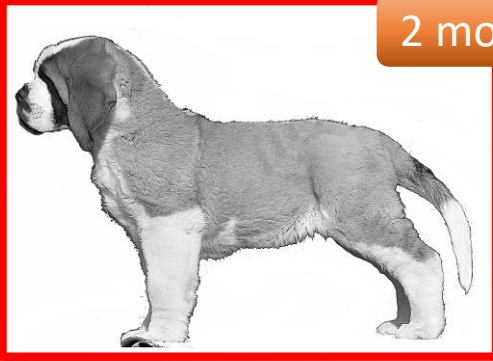


DEVELOPMENT OF A YOUNG DOG

*This is a slow maturing breed. A dog shown in the youth class is not "mature".
The body of the Saint Bernard develops up to 3 years of age, especially in males*



Very heavy mature youngsters don't last. When they mature they will be too heavy and cumbersome.



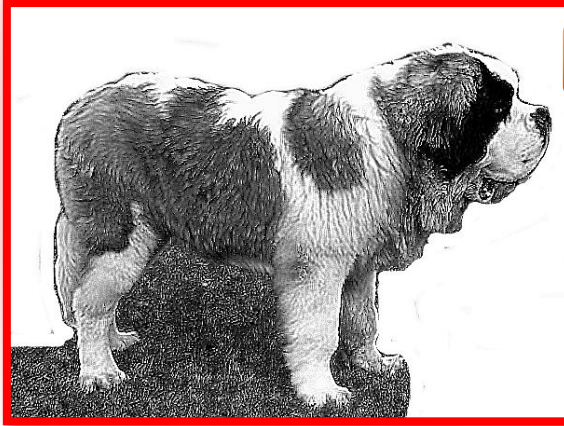
2 months



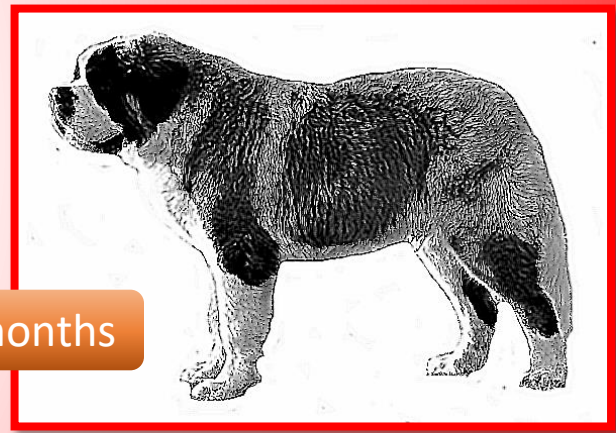
3 months



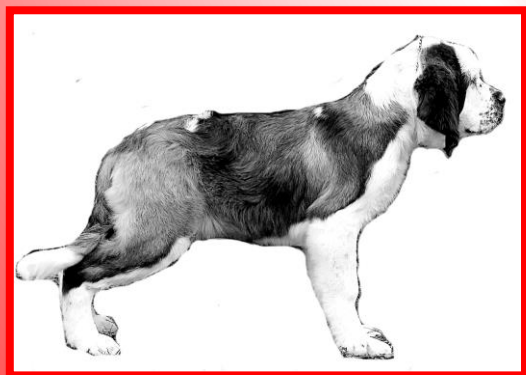
5 months



6 months



13 months



Excessive angulations in the puppy will remain excessive in the adult



SAME BITCH

aged 6 months to 9 years (dam of 4 litters)

6 months



11 months



12 months



16 months



3 years



6 years



9 years





A young dog should not be as mature as an adult, he goes through an adolescent phase before reaching full maturity at the age of 3 years.

Pictured here are veterans over 8 years, still in perfect body proportions.

11 Years



9 Years

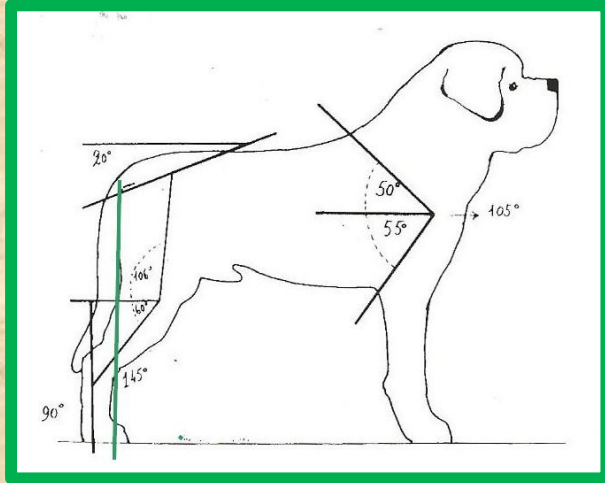




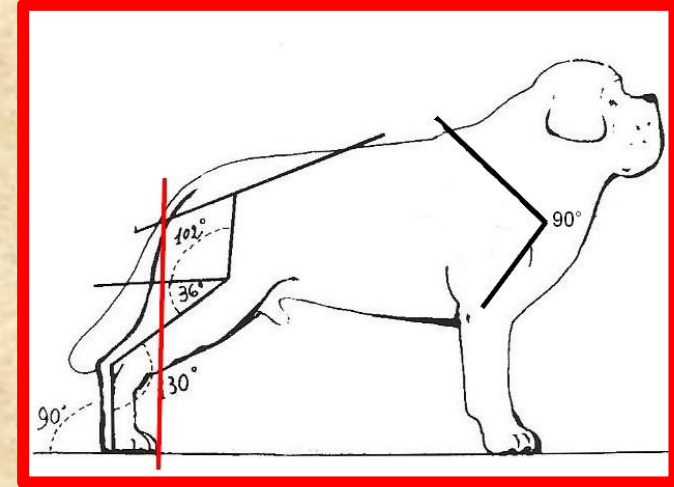




Summary



- Depth of chest/height at withers : **45/55 to 50/50**
- Upper arm **longer** than shoulder blade
- Ratio muzzle/head : slightly **more** than 1/3
- Frontal furrow well pronounced
- Skull slightly **domed** in profile
- From the front, upper lines of skull, muzzle and nose : **straight**
- **Moderate** angulations
- Moves free and strongly, **no exaggeration**



- Depth of chest/height at withers over 50/50
- Short upper arm ; dog low to the ground
- Ratio muzzle/head well below 1/3
- Frontal furrow erased or missing
- Flat skull in profile ; parallel headlines
- From the front, upper lines of skull, muzzle and nose : round
- Over-angulated ; lower thigh too long
- High stepping ; shepherd-like movement

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- Christian TESSIER (F)

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| - Albert DE LA RIE (CH) | 1970-1973 |
| - Peter Paul SCHMIDLIN (CH) | 1973-1988 |
| - Ottmar KUTTENKEULER (D) | 1988-1990 |
| - Ko DE GRAAF (NL) | 1991-1992 |
| - Joseph VAN HUMMELEN (B) | 1992-1996 |
| - Wolfgang KETZLER (D) | 1996-2015 |
| - Ruedi THOMANN (CH) | 2015-2018 |
| - Didier BASSET (F) | 2018- ... |

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- Peter Paul SCHMIDLIN (CH)
- Wolfgang KETZLER (D)

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A photograph of two Saint Bernard dogs sitting on a rocky mountain peak. To their left is a Swiss flag on a wooden pole, which is planted in a stack of stones. The background shows a vast, hazy mountain range under a clear sky.

Goodbye ...
and thank you for helping us to keep our Saint Bernard
typical and healthy !

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