



## Official Breed Standard Of The Kennel Union Of Southern Africa



### WEIMARANER

**BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY:** There are numerous theories regarding the origin of the Weimaraner Pointing Dog. Only so much is certain : That the Weimaraner, which at that time still contained a great deal of liam hound blood (« Leithund ») was already kept at the Weimar court in the first third of the 19th century.

In the middle of the century, before pure breeding was started, breeding was mainly in the hands of professional hunters and game keepers in central Germany, mostly in the regions round Weimar and in Thuringia. As the days of the liam hounds passed, the dogs were crossed with the « Hühnerhund » and breeding was continued with this cross. From about 1890 on, the breed was produced according to a plan and regarded as suitable for registration in a stud book. Apart from the short-haired Weimaraner, a long-haired variety occurred, if only singly, since the turn of the century. Since being admitted to the stud book, the Weimaraner has been pure bred, remaining mostly free from crosses with any other breeds, in particular, Pointers. Therefore the Weimaraner is likely to be the oldest German « pointing » breed, which has been pure bred for about a hundred years.

**GENERAL APPEARANCE:** Medium to large size hunting dog. Functional working type, pleasing in shape, sinewy and very muscular. Difference in type between dogs and bitches easily distinguished.

**IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS:**

Length of body to height at withers approximately 12: 11.

Proportions of the head: From tip of nose to stop slightly longer than from stop to occiput.

Forequarters: Distance from elbow to mid-pastern and distance from elbow to point of withers about equal.

**BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT:** Versatile, easily trained steady and passionate hunting dog. Persevering in systematic search, yet not too lively. Remarkable ability to pick up scent. Ready to seize game and other prey; **he is a good watchdog, without aggressiveness however**. Reliable pointing dog and worker in water. Remarkable inclination to work after the shot.

**HEAD**

**CRANIAL REGION:**

**Skull:** In balance with size of body and facial region. Broader in dogs than bitches, yet in both, the relationship between width of cranial region to total length of head must be in good proportion. Median groove on forehead. Slightly to moderately protruding occipital bone. Zygomatic arches easily traceable behind the eyes.

**Stop:** Extremely slight.

**FACIAL REGION:**

**Nose:** Nose leather large, protruding over the underjaw. Dark flesh colour, merging gradually into gray towards the rear.

**Muzzle:** Long and, specially in the male, powerful, appearing almost angular. Region of canines and carnassial teeth equally strong. Bridge of nose straight, often slightly arched, never with a concave curve.

**Flews:** Moderately deep, flesh coloured, as are the gums. Slight labial corner.

**Jaws/Teeth:** Jaws strong; teeth complete, regular and strong. Top and bottom incisors closely touching (scissor bite).

**Cheeks:** Muscular, clearly defined. Definitely « clean » head.

**Eyes:** Amber colour, dark to pale, with intelligent expression. Sky-blue in puppies. Round, set barely slanting. Lids well fitting.

**Leathers:** Lobular, broad and fairly long, just reaching to corner of mouth. Set on high and narrow, forming a rounded off point at tip. In alternance, turned slightly forward, folded.

**NECK:** Noble appearance and carriage. Upper line arched in profile. Muscular, nearly round, not too short, clean. Becoming stronger towards the shoulders and merging harmoniously into the topline and chest.

### **BODY:**

**Topline :** From the arched neckline, over the well defined withers the topline merges gradually into the relatively long, firm back.

**Withers:** Well defined.

**Back:** Firm and muscular, without a dip. Not running up towards the rear. A slightly longer back, a breed characteristic, is not a fault.

**Croup:** Pelvis long and moderately sloped.

**Chest:** Strong but not unduly broad, with sufficient depth to reach almost to elbows and of sufficient length. Well sprung without being barrel-shaped and with long ribs. Forechest well developed.

**Underline and Belly:** Rising slightly, but belly not tucked up.

**TAIL:** Set on slightly lower than with other similar breeds. Tail strong and well coated. Carried hanging down in repose. When alert or working, carried level or higher.

### **LIMBS**

#### **FOREQUARTERS:**

**General:** High on leg, sinewy, straight and parallel, but not standing wide.

**Shoulders:** Long and sloping. Well fitting, strongly muscled. Well angulated shoulder joint.

**Upper arm:** Sloping, sufficiently long and strong.

**Elbows:** Free and lying parallel to median plane of body. Turned neither in nor out.

**Forearm:** Long, straight and vertical.

**Pastern joint:** Strong and taut.

**Pastern:** Sinewy, slightly sloping.

**Front feet:** Firm and strong. Standing straight in relation to median plane of body. Toes arched. Longer middle toes are a breed characteristic and therefore not a fault. Nails light to dark gray. Pads well pigmented, coarse.

#### **HINDQUARTERS:**

**General:** High on leg, sinewy i.e. well muscled. Standing parallel, turning neither in nor out.

**Upper thigh:** Sufficiently long, strong and well muscled.

**Stifle:** Strong and taut.

**Lower thigh:** Long with clearly visible tendons.

**Hock joint:** Strong and taut.

**Hock:** Sinewy, almost vertical in position.

**Hind feet:** Tight and firm, without dewclaws, otherwise like front feet.

**GAIT / MOVEMENT:** Movement in all gaits is ground covering and smooth. Hind and front legs set parallel to each other. Gallop long and flat. Back remains level when trotting. Pacing is undesirable.

**SKIN:** Strong. Well but not too tight fitting.

### **COAT**

#### **HAIR:**

**Short-haired:** Short (but longer and thicker than with most comparable breeds), strong, very dense, smooth lying topcoat. Without or with only very sparse undercoat.

**Long-haired:** Soft, long topcoat with or without undercoat. Smooth or slightly wavy. Long flowing hair at ear set on. Velvety hair is permissible on tips of leathers. Length of coat on flanks 3 - 5 cm. On lower side of neck, forechest and belly, generally somewhat longer.

Good feathering and breeching, yet less long towards ground. Tail with good flag. Hair between toes. Hair on head less long. A type of coat similar to a double-coat (Stockhaar) with medium length, dense, close fitting topcoat, thick undercoat and moderately developed feathering and breeching, sometimes occurs in dogs of mixed ancestry.

**COLOUR:** Silver, roe or mouse grey, as well as shades of these colours. Head and leathers generally slightly paler. Only small white markings on chest and toes permitted. Sometimes a more or less defined trace

occurs along the back. Dog with definite reddish-yellow marking (« Brand ») may only be given the classification « good ». Brown marking is a serious fault.

### **SIZE AND WEIGHT:**

Height at the withers:

Dogs: 59 - 70 cm (ideal measurement 62 - 67 cm).

Bitches: 57 - 65 cm (ideal measurement 59 - 63 cm).

Weight: Dogs: about 30 - 40 kg.

Bitches: about 25 - 35 kg.

**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.

### **SERIOUS FAULTS:**

- ✘✘ Clear deviation from type. Untypical sexual characteristics.
- ✘✘ Gross deviations from size and proportions.
- ✘✘ Facial region: Gross deviations e.g. too strong flews, short or pointed muzzle.
- ✘✘ Jaws and teeth: Lack of more than two PM1 or M3.
- ✘✘ Eyes: slight faults, above all slight and unilateral faults in eyelids.
- ✘✘ Leathers: Definitely short or long, not folded.
- ✘✘ Throatiness (dewlap), great deviation in neck shape and muscle.
- ✘✘ Back: Definite sway or roach back. Rump higher than withers.
- ✘✘ Chest, belly: Barrel shaped chest. Insufficient depth or length of chest. Tucked up belly.
- ✘✘ Gross anomalies in stance i.e. lack of angulation, out at elbows, splay feet.
- ✘✘ Pronounced bow legs or cow hocks.
- ✘✘ Bad movement in different gaits, also lack of free forward movement or drive, pacing.
- ✘✘ Serious deficiencies i.e. skin very fine or very coarse.
- ✘✘ Mixture of coat varieties defined in the standard.
- ✘✘ Lack of feathering on belly or leathers (leather ears). Widely spread woolly coat in the short-haired Weimaraner or curly or sparse feathering in the long-haired variety.
- ✘✘ Departure from shades of gray, such as yellow or brownish. Tan marking (« Brand »).
- ✘✘ Strong departure from correct height or weight (e.g. more than 2 cm from measurements given in the standard).
- ✘✘ Slight deficiency in temperament.
- ✘✘ Other serious faults.

### **ELIMINATING FAULTS:**

- ✘✘ Faulty temperament, i.e. shy or nervous.
- ✘✘ Completely untypical, above all too heavy or too light in build.
- ✘✘ Completely unbalanced.
- ✘✘ Absolutely untypical, e.g. bulldog - type head.
- ✘✘ Facial region: Absolutely untypical i.e. distinctly concave nasal bridge.
- ✘✘ Jaws and teeth: Overshot, undershot, missing further teeth other than quoted.
- ✘✘ Eyes: Entropion, ectropion.
- ✘✘ Leathers: Absolutely untypical, i.e. stand-off.
- ✘✘ Particularly pronounced dewlap.
- ✘✘ Back: Severe sway or roach back. Definitely overbuilt at croup.
- ✘✘ Chest, belly: Markedly barrel shaped or malformed chest.
- ✘✘ Legs rickety or malformed.
- ✘✘ Chronic lameness.
- ✘✘ Totally restricted movement.
- ✘✘ Skin defects and malformations.
- ✘✘ Partial or total hair loss.
- ✘✘ White markings other than on chest and feet.
- ✘✘ Colour other than gray. Widespread brown marking.
- ✘✘ Definitely over- or undersize.
- ✘✘ Other malformation. Illnesses which must be considered hereditary, i.e. epilepsy.
- ✘✘ The compilers can, naturally, not list all faults which occur, the above are to be regarded as examples.

Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified.

**Note:** Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.

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