

# Bergamasco

**Height - Dogs-** 23 ½"; Bitches- 22" at withers; 1" over/under OK

**General Appearance** –Muscular, heavy boned, large head, thick tail to hock with slight curve upward at end; unique coat covers entire dog; compact but slightly longer than tall, (5-6% longer)

**Head** – Long, proportionate to size of dog; skull/muzzle equal in length, parallel planes join at pronounced stop; **Eyes** – Large, oval, set obliquely, brown with darkness varying with coat color, tight-fitting black eye rims; **Ears** – Set on high, soft, thin, slightly rounded tips, at alert the ears prick up at base with top 2/3 semi-drooping, covered with wavy hair, fringes at tips; **Muzzle** – Blunt, tapers only slightly toward nose; **Nose** – Large, black, big well-opened nostrils; **Bite** – Full dentition, Scissors (See DQ's on head).

**Body - Neck-** Strong, slightly arched, no dewlap, thick collar; **Topline** – Inclines slightly downward from prominent withers to strong, broad back; **Loin-** Well-muscled, broad. **Croup-** Slightly sloping; **Chest - Ribs-** Well-sprung, to elbows, nearly absent of tuck-up. **Tail** – Natural, in action it is raised in curve with crook raised above level of back; **Shoulders-** Massive, strong, moderate laid back, **Feet-** oval, well feathered, rear ones slightly smaller with dewclaws removed.

**Coat** –3 types of hair: Undercoat, "goat hair", and wooly outer form uneven distribution of flocks of hair of various widths over body, Flocks are from 1.5 to 3 inches wide. Coat from withers to mid body is mostly "goat hair". On the back of the body and legs, the wooly outer coat is abundant. Hair on legs hangs in flocks rather than feathering. Flocks are never combed out. Hair on head is mostly "goat hair" but somewhat less rough.

**Color** – Solid gray or gradations of gray including merle, solid black (not shiny or lustrous), shading of Isabella and fawn on lower part of flocks, No solid white.

**Gait** – Free, extended, elastic (slow) trot, Feet remain close to ground, Head lowers with backline.

## **Disqualifications:**

Height under 22 ½" and over 24 ½" in males; under 21" and over 23" in a female. Any lack of pigmentation of eye rims. One (or two) full blue eye. Dudley nose. Overshot, with a space greater than one eighth of an inch between the outer surface of the lower incisors and the inner surface of the upper incisors, or undershot. White on more than one-fifth of the total area of body.

**Effective January 1, 2011**