

Border Collie

Height- Dogs – 19” to 22” Bitches 18” to 21”

General Appearance - Athletic, agile intense dog of great working ability and endurance should be shown in hard working condition. Honorable scars and broken teeth incurred in the line of duty are acceptable.

Head - Skull – Relatively flat, moderate in width, stop moderate, muzzle strong with slight taper, well developed under jaw. **Eyes** - Set well apart, oval, any color acceptable. Blue or merle eyes acceptable, but in colors other than merle, not preferred. Expression alert, eager, interested. **Ears** – Set well apart, one or both carried erect or semi-erect. **Bite** – Scissors, full dentition.

Body – Slightly longer than tall in proportion of 10 to 9, measured from prosternum to point of buttocks. Never low on leg, the distance from wither to elbow is slightly less than from elbow to ground. Bone strong, oval. **Neck** – Strong, slightly arched, ribs well sprung, back level, loin moderately deep and short. **Tail** set on low, moderately long, bone reaching at least to the hock, base should not curve forward over back.

Coat – Two coat varieties, rough and smooth; both are double, weather resistant, with outer coat coarser than the undercoat an either straight or wavy. No excess trimming.

Colors – All colors and markings to be judged equally except that random white patches on the body and head should not predominate; color and markings are always secondary to structure and gait.

Gait – Distinctive, free, not long striding but covering ground smoothly with minimum lift of feet. Head is carried level or slightly below withers. Legs converge as speed increases.

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