

Breedstandard

Last Updated woensdag, 21 maart 2007

On this page we would like to inform you about the breeding standard of the Dogo-Argentino.

The breed Dogo-Argentino has been evolved out of the following breed's.

Scull

Massive and round. The round form of the scull is caused by ceveral different muscles.

Snoute

Has the same length as the skull. The head shows, seen from the side, a round form formed by strong muscles. The snoute seems to give the idea of slightly curving upward at the tip of the nose. In other words, the dog has a doglike skull and a snout like a huntingdog.

Eyes

Dark or almond colored. Heavy eyelid.

The pigmentation around the eyes must be black or light. The eyes must be properly apart from each other and give a vivid, intelligent though at the same time tough expression.

Jaws

The jaws must be properly proportioned and strong with large teeth. The most important is that all teeth are alike and properly aligned.

The dog can't have tooth decay or any other irregularities in upper or lower teeth. It's important that the 4 fangs are big and obvious and cross perfectly when they are holding prey.

Nose

Must be black and have a slight curve upward at the tip of the nose. The nostrals must be wide.

Ears

Must be placed at the top of the skull. Must be worn standing up or semi-standing up. The form of the ears is triangular.

Lips

The lips must be dry. They can't be hanging down. The rims must be

pigmented black. The lump at the back of the skull (occiput) can't be sticking out. Because of the strong muscles and tendons this lump is not showing.

Neck

Must be strong and curved, but must have a certain grace. The skin on the throat must be thick and folded like Mastiffs and Bulldogs have, not smooth and tight like a Bullterier.

Chest

Broad and deep. Must give the idea that the dog has big lungs. The chestbone must reach past the ellbows.

Thorax

Large

Shoulder

Must be placed high and be strong with big muscles.

volume. Seen from the side it must reach past the ellbows.

Backbone

Must be high at the front, go down to the back and slightly curved at the loins. Front legs. Must be straight and massive with short, compact toes. Loins. Severely muscled.

Back legs

Severely muscled and angular. Feet must be compact and can't have a lychopod.

Tail

Must be long and thick. Is naturally worn downward. In action the tail is worn upward with a continuing lateral movement. Like when the boss is greeted when coming home.

Weight

40-50 kilograms.

Height

60-70 centimeters.

The judge can not be flexible with the height of the dog. Under 60 cm is not acceptable. The same goes for weight. The Dogo Argentino is a huntingdog for large wild. Small dogs are less suitable for hunting. A male or female dog under 60 cm must be disqualified.

If there is to be made a choice between several dogs of equal quality, the choice must be made in favor of the larger heavier dog without exaggerating height. The dog's pelt must be absolute white. Any spots of another color means disqualification.

Disqualifying flaws

- Glass eye.
- Deafness.
- Spots on the body.
- Hanging lips.
- Hounddog like skull.
- Long ears.

- Height under 60 cm.
- More than one spot on the head.
- Unproportioned physique.
- Creviced palate.
- White nose or too much white on the nose.
- A slight lack of pigmentation is tolerated.
- Lychopod is not a disqualifying flaw, but it may cost the dog points.

Pigment spots

The Dogo Argentino is a white dog, which means that the dog is white all over its body. The hair is short and has a hard structure. The race standard states that a small spot on the head is tolerated. This means that only a little bit of colour is tolerated on the dog and then only at the appointed places, which means, not on its body. Often, dark pigment spots are seen on the skin, these are already visible on the pups abdomen. After a year these spots may develop at other places on the body. These spots are necessary for the dog to keep its pigmentation. The race standard declares after all that the rims of the eyes must be black, as does the nose. The lips also must be rich with pigment, which means black and not flesh colored rims of the mouth. It's also advisable to keep pigment in the palate and on the inside of the cheeks. Pups are born without pigment. The development of pigment is first seen after 10 days. Small spots appear on the nose which develop as the dog ages. The complete development of pigment on nose, eyes and lips takes 1 ½ years to complete.

Pigment loss

When breeding Dogo Argentino dogs, the breeder must take under consideration that the goal of a complete white dog brings the problem of pigment loss. The rims of eyes and lips are no longer black and the nose is no longer fully colored. The loss of pigment causes severe problems like deafness and the lethal factor. Which means that the dog dies at a very young age.

Deafness and epileptie

Deafness is often seen in this race. A good breeder tests his pups before the new owner comes to pick them up. Epileptie is a health problem that every so often appears in this race. This doesn't usually show until the dog is 1 ½ years old. When the dogs are still in the litter there are no indications to see if the dog has this disease. Of course every self respecting breeder will check the breed dogs family line to check if there are any cases of epileptie there. Sometimes the disease has only occurred for many generations back and checking is impossible. Imported dogs also give no guarantees because there's often

very few information about its ancestors. Therefore always ask your breeder what kind of guaranties you get in case of herideterie diseases. We advise written guaranties, because it has proven hard to hard to prove that you have oral guaranties in case you get trouble when the dog is older.

Glasseye

Sometimes you come across a Dogo Argentino which has one dark eye and one light blue eye. It's also seen that a dogg has two light blue eyes. This is called a glasseye and is an unwanted characteristic for a Dogo Argentino.

Form of the lips

It's sometimes difficult to interpret the racestandard. When this appears to be the case, one should look at the purpose of breeding the dogg. It wasn't the builders intent to create a dogglike dogg. Dogglike dogs are dicribed as protector of home and stead and to go to war. The creators of the Dogo Argentino wanted to create a huntingdog for large wild with a good nose and moving abilities. Not too heavy or too light.

When we go back to the form of the lips, its easy to understand what the racestandard states. No hanging lips like in dogglike dogs, and no drewling. The lips can't be hanging over because this would hinder the dog when grabbing it's prey. The dog could injure it's own lips. Characteristic for the Dogo is however the loose corners of the mouth. When the dog is holding it's prey, this attribute gives the dog the ability to keep breathing. The wide nostrals and somewhat upstanding nose are signes for this function. After all, our Dogo Argentino is registered at the F.C.1 as catagory 5 dog, the walking dog.

Function of the skin on the throat

The race standard mentions a strong neck and throat with strong muscles and also loose skin visible in two folds. Usualy a lot af loose skin ruins a elegant neck. But with the Dogo Argentino this skin has a function. Because the neck is suited with this loose and elastic skin that isn't tightly connected to the muscles and tissue beneath, this skin actualy protects the dog from injury. The dogs opponent which is trying to defend itself with teeth and clauws has less chance to hurt the neck or damage vains.

Ears

Although the standard mentions cut ears, lately there are only dogs with long ears. This because of Dutch law witch prohibits cutting ears.

The country of origin has, sadly, not altered the standard for country that uphold such laws. Only the country of origin can alter or change the race standard. Dutch cynologie has to make up an own way of dealing with this new way of wearing ears.

History of the Dogo Argentino

The standard of the Dogo-Argentino has been written down for the first time in 1928.

This standard was published for the first in the magazine "DIANA" in the year 1947 Buenos Aires.

The "creator" of the breed, Dr. Antonio Nores Martinez was killed during the hunt in the province Cordoba on 2 december 1956.

His brother, Dr. Agustin Nores Martinez started 3 Februari 1954 to register his breded Dogos-Argentino's until his death in the year 1978 he registered 1031 pups with his kennel name "DEL CHUBUT".

The Dogo Argentino has been acknowledged as a breed by the Argentinian Kennel Club (Federacion Cinologica Argentina: F.C.A. at 20 march 1964.

By the Federacion Cynologique International (F.C.I.) the Dogo Argentino was acknowledged as breed on 31 Juli 1973.

The First Dogo-Argentino exhibition ever was kept at 20 June 1971 and ofcourse it was in Buenos Aires.

The Dogo Argentino was the first inland breed that has been established in Argentina.

To create the Dogo-Argentino 10 other breeds have been used.

These breeds looked much more different as they do today, cause they lost their original purpose.

Below is another example of the breed standard.

