

1906 CHOW STANDARD

BACK TO STANDARDS



The very first Chow Standard in England and the
USA was based upon this lovely Chinese import

CH. CHOW VIII

Owned by Mrs. Faber

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James Watson's
"THE DOG BOOK"

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standard below

took Mrs. Jarrett with him. That good fancier had to have some chows and it is to her we owe the promotion of the breed. Then Mrs. Proctor took a hand in exhibiting them and she was for a year or two alone as an exhibitor and having drawn her dogs from England she has had the advantage of securing better bred chows and more variety of colour than is easy to get from China direct. Mrs. Van Heusen has now joined the fancy, having bred from Mrs. Proctor's stock and added importations thereon.

In addition to variety in colour there is also a difference in coat, which is classified as rough and smooth. There seems to be some question as to this division being thoroughly sound, and from the few smooths we have seen we do not consider our opinion as of any value. In a letter from Dr. Ivy of Shanghai, he writes of the roughs and smooths as being apparently distinct. Dr. Ivy has good dog knowledge and his mention of the varieties in this manner is entitled to every consideration. At the same time what we have seen looked more like a half-bred in the way of coat, or a dog with a coat just coming in after having lost his old coat entirely. We leave the question open as chow breeders are not at all unanimous, and when authorities are splitting it is as well for outsiders to let them settle the matter.

The chow is a medium sized dog and is very stoutly built. It should not have the slightest appearance of being leggy, indeed with its outstanding bushy coat coming below the elbows there is a suggestion of being the least bit short on the leg. We have noticed in some of these English dogs a suspicion of legginess which is certainly not correct. Forelegs straight as a terrier's and somewhat heavy in bone, adding thereby to the appearance of stoutness, or sturdiness of frame. The head is short and this is made to appear still more so by the width of skull, the thickness and bluntness of muzzle, the forward pinch of the ears and the frill or mane encroaching on the cheeks and skull. The same straightness of hind legs, even to the extent of being double jointed is as evident now as it was in the case of

country teeming with population is somewhat difficult to understand, but it is always a possibility for one of any litter of dogs to be entirely different in disposition from the others, even to the extent of timidity or fear of his owner or caretaker.

DESCRIPTIVE PARTICULARS

Head.—Skull flat and broad, with little stop, well filled out under the eye.

Muzzle.—Moderate in length, broad from the eyes to the point (not pointed at the end like a fox).

Nose.—Black, large and wide. In cream or light coloured specimens a pink nose is allowable.

Tongue.—Black.

Eyes.—Dark and small. (In a blue dog light colour is permissible.)

Ears.—Small, pointed and carried stiffly erect. They should be placed well forward over the eyes, which gives the dog the peculiar characteristic expression of the breed—viz. a sort of scowl.

Teeth.—Strong and level.

Neck.—Strong, full, set well on the shoulders, and slightly arched.

Shoulders.—Muscular and sloping.

Chest.—Broad and deep.

Back.—Short, straight and strong.

Loins.—Powerful.

Tail.—Curled tightly over the back.

Fore legs.—Perfectly straight, of moderate length and great bone.

Hind legs.—Same as fore legs, muscular, and with hocks well let down. (The standard is silent as to the straightness of hind legs and lack of bend at the stifle and hock joints, but this is nevertheless considered

framed, with tail curled over the back.

Disqualifying Points.—Drop ears, red tongue, tail not curled over the back, white spots on coat, and red nose, except in yellow or white specimens.

Smooth chows are governed by the same description except that the coat is smooth.



“Peculiarities of the Chow Chow”

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TONGUE – Black

EYES – Dark and small. (In a blue dog light color is permissible)

EARS – Small, pointed and carried stiffly erect. They should be placed well forward over the eyes, which gives the dog the peculiar characteristic expression of the breed-viz. a sort of scowl.

TEETH – Strong and level.

NECK – Strong, full set well on the shoulders and slightly arched

CHEST – Broad and deep

BACK – Short, straight and strong

LOINS – Powerful

TAIL – Curled tightly over the back

FORELEGS – Perfectly straight, of moderate length and great bone

HIND LEGS – Same as forelegs, muscular, and with hocks well let down. (The standard is silent as to the straightness of hind legs and lack of bend at the stifle and hock joints, but this is nevertheless considered the proper formation of the

leg for the chow)

FEET – Small, round, and cat-like standing well on the toes

COAT – Abundant, dense, straight and rather coarse in texture, with a soft woolly undercoat

COLOR – Whole-coloured, black, red, yellow, blue, white etc. not in patches. (The under part of tail and back of thighs frequently of a lighter colour)

GENERAL APPEARANCE – A lively, compact, short-coupled dog, well-knit in frame, with tail curled over the back.

DISQUALIFYING POINTS – Drop ears, red tongue, tail not curved over back, white spots on coat, and red nose, except in yellow or white specimens

SMOOTH CHOWS are governed by the same description except that the coat is smooth.