



BACK TO STANDARDS

Ch. Far Land Thunderstorm has been selected to illustrate the official Chow breed standard



CH. FAR LAND THUNDERSTORM

Bred by William MacFarland and is a son of Ch. Far Land Thundergust and Goldy Queen. He was acquired by the Tally-Ho Kennels when 4 months of age; he completed his title in February 1935. Thunderstorm is the sire of Ch. Tally Ho Black Image of Storm (Best in Show allbreeds twice); Ch. Jimmee Boy; Ch. Lotus Lilee; Ch. Storm Cloud of Shanghai and Ch. Shanghai Cincy Nati, and a number of other dogs who have done a good amount of winning. The Tally-Ho Kennels, formerly located in Flushing, N. Y. moved to Oyster Bay, N. Y. in 1938, and are breeders of Dalmatians as well as Chows.

In the 1941 standard, a much larger emphasis was placed on the description of head than in the 1921 version, which ended up being part of the reason chows began trending towards being seen as a “head breed”.

Decades later in the 1980’s, the Chow Standard needed to be rewritten from the ground up, to emphasize the importance of evaluating all points of the animal equally, including balance, soundness and correct breed type,.

1940 ADVERTISEMENT REVEALS MODEL FOR 1941 STANDARD



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The smooth coated variety was omitted from this version for reasons I'm still researching.. The smooth coated variety was returned to the standard during the big rewrite in 1986, with many thanks to the Society for the Preservation of the Smooth Chow Chow for their dedication to returning the smooth to the standard

AKC Chow Standard revision March 1941

GENERAL APPEARANCE - A massive, cobby, powerful dog, active and alert, with strong, muscular development and perfect balance. Body squares with height of leg at shoulder: head, broad and flat, with short, broad, and deep muzzle, accentuated by a ruff: the whole supported by straight, strong legs. Clothed in a shining offstanding coat, the Chow is a masterpiece of beauty, dignity and untouched naturalness.

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HEAD – Large and massive in proportion to the size of dog, with broad, flat skull: well filled under the eyes: moderate stop: and proudly carried. Expression-Essentially dignified, lordly, scowling, discerning, sober and snobbish-one of independence. Muzzle-Short in comparison to length of skull: broad from eyes to end of nose, and of equal depth. the lips somewhat full and overhanging. Teeth-Strong and level, with a scissors bite: should neither be overshot, nor undershot. Nose-Large, broad, and black in color. (Disqualification-nose spotted or distinctly other color than black except in blue Cows, which may have solid blue or slate noses.) Tongue-A blue-black. The tissues of the mouth should approximate black. (Disqualification-drop ear or ears. A drop ear is one which is not stiffly carried or stiffly erect, but when breaks over at any point from it's base to it's tip.)

BODY – Short, compact, with well-spring ribs, and let down in the flank.

NECK – Strong, full, set well on the shoulders

SHOULDERS – Muscular, slightly sloping

CHEST – Broad, deep, and muscular. A narrow chest is a serious fault.

BACK – Short, straight and strong

LOINS – Broad, deep, and powerful.

FORELEGS – Perfectly straight, with heavy bone and upright pasterns

HIND LEGS – Straight-hocked, muscular, and heavy boned. Feet-Compact, round, catlike, with thick pads.

GAIT – Completely individual. Short and stilted because of the straight hocks.

COAT – Abundant, dense, straight, and off-standing: rather coarse in texture with a soft , woolly undercoat. It may be any clear color, solid throughout, with lighter shadings on ruff,

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tail and breechings.

DISQUALIFICATIONS - Nose spotted or distinctly other color than black, except in blue Chows, which may have solid blue or slate noses. Tongue red, pink or obviously spotted with red or pink. Drop ear or ears.