

GRCA / CCA DESCRIPTORS PAGE

1. GENERAL APPEARANCE	<u>DESIRABLE</u>	<u>UNDESIRABLE</u>
1a. Proportion / balance	Ratio of 11 tall to 12 long; symmetrical; well balanced	Lacking harmony; long in leg; short in leg; square; long in body; not balanced
1b. Size / substance <i>DQ for over or under size</i>	Solid, midsize retriever	Weedy; overdone; cloddy; too refined; overly large/small
1c. Condition / musculature	Hard working condition; well muscled; athletic	Too thin; overweight; soft; lacks conditioning; poor musculature
2. HEAD		
2a. Skull / muzzle / stop	Skull: Broad, slightly arched Muzzle: Blends smoothly into skull; slightly wider and deeper at stop than at tip; nearly as long as skull Stop: Well defined but not abrupt	Skull: Prominent occipital / frontal bones; narrow; coarse; flat; domed Muzzle: Short; long; narrow; down-faced; dish face; lack of depth; weak underjaw; lacking smooth blend into skull Stop: Lacking; abrupt
2b. Eyes: color/ shape	Dark Brown; medium brown acceptable. Set well apart, reasonably deep with dark, close fitting rims	Too light; odd color; loose rims; round; slant; narrow; triangular; too close; too small; white or haw showing
2c. Expression	Friendly, intelligent, confident	Harsh; houndy; spaniel-like; lacking interest (vacuous)
2d. Ears: size / set	Rather short; just covers the eye. Attached well behind and just above the eye; carried close to cheek	Large; long; too short; folded wrongly. Set too high; too low
2e. Lips / flews	Clean without heaviness	Heavy; loose; wet mouth
2f. Pigmentation	Black or brownish black; snow nose acceptable	Pink nose/eyerims; lacking pigmentation; artificially colored
2g. Teeth <i>DQ under or overshot</i>	Full dentition; correct scissors bite	Missing teeth; misaligned; level
3. TOPLINE		
3a. Neck	Medium long; smooth blend into shoulders; muscular; untrimmed natural ruff	Long; short; throaty; wrongly set; ewe neck; over trimmed ruff
3b. Backline	Strong; level	Weak; roached; sway; sloping
3c. Croup	Slightly sloping; broad	Flat; steep; narrow
3d. Tail	Well set on; thick and muscular base; follows natural curve of croup; bone extends to hock	High or low set; thin; curled over back; held between legs; too short; too long
4. BODY		
4a. Forechest	Well developed; strong keel	Flat; lacking; overdone
4b. Chest / ribcage	Moderately broad; extending well towards hindquarters; brisket to elbows. Ribs long and well sprung. Correct underline	Narrow; too wide. Ribs too short; slab-sided; barrel shaped. Ribcage lacking horizontal length
4c. Loin	Short, muscular, wide and deep with very little tuck-up	Long; narrow; lacking muscle; paunchy; excessive tuck-up
5. FOREQUARTERS		
5a. Scapula / humerus / angulation	Scapula long, well laid back; fairly close at tips. Long upper arm, well angulated	Short, upright bones; scapula wide at tips; little return of humerus
5b. Elbows / legs	Elbows beneath upper tip of scapula, close to ribs without looseness. Legs straight with good bone	Elbows tied in; loose; set forward; hollow behind. Legs coarse; fine; crooked
5c. Feet / pasterns	Feet: Medium; round; compact; well knuckled Pasterns: Short; strong; slightly sloping	Feet: Too small; hare-like; splayed; thin pads Pastern: Long; upright; weak; east-west
6. HINDQUARTERS		
6a. Thighs / second thighs	Broad; strong; well muscled	Narrow; weak; thin; short bones
6b. Angulation	Stifles well bent	Over-angulated; lacking
6c. Hocks	Rear view: straight; well let down	Cow hocked; spread; sickle
6d. Feet / rear pasterns	Feet: Medium; round; compact; well knuckled Rear pasterns: Relatively short; strong	Feet: Hare-like; splayed; thin pads Rear pasterns: Long; weak
7. COAT		
7a. Texture / density	Firm; resilient; dense; weather resistant; may be straight or wavy; jacket fitting close to body	Silky; fine; soft; cottony; limp; wirey; open; curly
7b. Undercoat	Dense and waterproof	Lacking; stripped out
7c. Quantity / length	Moderate; correct, natural pattern for breed	Excessive; sparse; too long; too short
7d. Color	Rich, lustrous golden of various shades; feathering may be lighter	Predominant body coat extremely pale or extremely dark; black area; white markings
8. GAIT		
8a. Co-ordination / timing	Free; smooth; efficient; even cadence; workmanlike	Unharmonious; over-extended; choppy; poor timing; pacing
8b. Side view	Level; balanced rear to front action	High action front or rear; kicking up; hackney; padding; over-reach; interference
8c. Front / rear view	Turns neither in nor out; without interference; converges with increased speed	Front: Out at elbows; base wide; toeing in Rear: Cow hocks; too close; spread hocks; twisting hocks
8d. Back	Firm; level; "working back"	Soft; bounces; rolls; roach; sloping
8e. Head & tail carriage	Head: Somewhat forward; naturally carried Tail: Level or slightly curved upward	Head: Strung-up; too low Tail: Upright; curled over back; held between legs
9. TEMPERAMENT		
<i>(Score ZERO if aggressive, snaps, growls or threatens a person)</i>	Friendly; reliable; trustworthy; calm; steady; responsive; confident	Timid; sullen; hyperactive; shy; quarrelsome
10. OVERALL IMPRESSION		
10a. Breed type / character	Appropriate for gender; breed specifics well developed - the "essence" of the breed	Bitchy dog; doggy bitch; plain; poor type; resembles another breed
10b. Balance	Symmetrical; harmonious in structure	Parts don't fit the whole picture
10c. Fitness for purpose	Workmanlike; athletic; useful; practical coat	Too "fancy"; too plain; lacks basic structure/strength to perform as a working retriever; unsoundness of any sort; overdone/massive; delicate/over-refined