

Judges Education Materials

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Printable Version of Judges Education Breed Study PowerPoint

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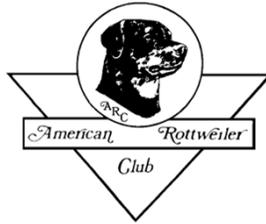
Rottweiler Dentition

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American Rottweiler Club

Judges Education

Breed Study

1

Breed Study Outline

- History
- General Appearance
- Size, Proportion, Substance
- Head Type
 - General Description and Geometry
 - Dog and Bitch Head Type
- Bite and Dentition
- Neck
- Topline
- Body
- Tail
- Forequarters
- Hindquarters
- Coat
- Color
- Gait
- Temperament,
- Faults, Serious Faults, Disqualifications
- Closing Statement
- Hands-On Experience, Q&A



2

History



The origin of the Rottweiler is not a documented record. It is believed he is descended from one of the drover dogs indigenous to ancient Rome. This drover dog has been described by various accredited sources as having been of the Mastiff-type, a dependable, rugged, willing worker, possessed of great intelligence, and a strong guarding instinct.

When the Roman Legions traversed the Alps, the dogs accompanied them protecting the soldiers and driving the herds. Settling in the area of Rottweil, the Roman Army dogs came into contact with dogs native to the area.

The principal duties remained guarding and driving of large herds, defending their masters and their master's property, and pulling a cart.

There was a concentration of these dogs in the Old German Empire City of Rottweil, where the dog acquired the name: ROTTWEILER, "butcher dog."

In the 20th century, his natural protective instinct, hardiness, willingness to please, and trainability led to his use in military and police work.

The Rottweiler was recognized by the American Kennel Club in 1935. The first revision to the standard was made in 1979 and the second in 1990.



3

General Appearance

The ideal Rottweiler is a medium large, robust and powerful dog, black with clearly defined rust markings. His compact and substantial build denotes great strength, agility and endurance. Dogs are characteristically more massive throughout with larger frame and heavier bone than bitches. Bitches are distinctly feminine, but without weakness of substance or structure.



4

Size - Proportion - Substance



Dogs are characteristically more massive throughout with larger frames and heavier bone with height range of 24 to 27 inches



Bitches are distinctly feminine, but without weakness of substance or structure with height range of 22 to 25 inches

Preferred size is midrange of each sex.

Correct proportion is of primary importance, as long as size is within the standard's range.

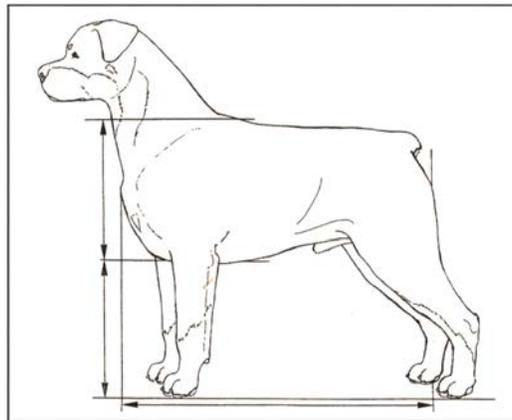


5

Size - Proportion cont.

The length of body, from prosternum to the rear most projection of the rump, is slightly longer than the height of the dog at the withers, the most desirable proportion of the height to length being 9 to 10.

The Rottweiler is neither coarse nor shelly. Depth of chest is approximately fifty percent (50%) of the height of the dog. His bone and muscle mass must be sufficient to balance his frame, giving a compact and very powerful appearance.



6

Head Type

Head - Medium length, broad between the ears; forehead line in profile moderately arched; zygomatic arch and stop well developed with strong broad upper and lower jaws. Desired ratio of back skull to muzzle is 3 to 2. Forehead is preferred dry, some wrinkling may occur when dog is alert.

Expression - noble, alert, and self-assured.

Eyes - medium size, almond shaped with well fitting lids, moderately deep-set, neither protruding nor receding. Desired color is uniform dark brown.

Ears - medium size, pendant, triangular in shape; level with the top of the skull hanging forward with the inner edge lying against the head and terminating at approximately mid-cheek.

Muzzle - bridge is straight, broad at base with slight tapering towards tip. The end of the muzzle is broad with well developed chin. Nose is broad rather than round and always black.

Lips - always black, corners closed, inner mouth pigment is preferred dark.



7

Dog and Bitch Head Type *a discussion of their differences*



8

What are the differences in Dog and Bitch Head Type?

There should be NO distinct difference in the head geometry of the Dog and Bitch Rottweiler. Both the Dog and the Bitch should have the broad top skull, strong muzzle and well-developed zygomatic arch and stop.

The AKC standard states:

“Dogs are characteristically more massive throughout with larger frame and heavier bone than bitches. Bitches are distinctly feminine, but without weakness of substance or structure.”

The Geometry of the head, including the broad deep muzzle, good pronunciation of the zygomatic arch and stop, is the same for the dog and bitch.

With the caveat that:

The head of the dog is more massive to complement his body, which possesses more substance with larger frame and heavier bone than bitches.



9

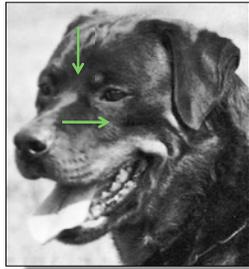
Correct Dog Head Type



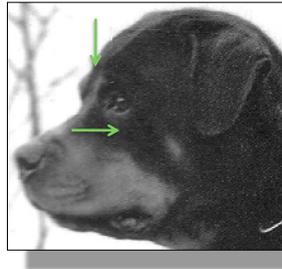
10

Incorrect Dog Head Type

Too Shallow
Zygomatic Arch
and Stop



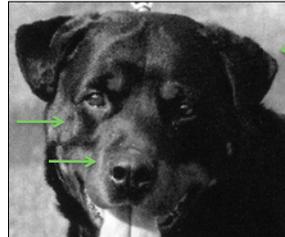
Too Shallow
Zygomatic Arch
and Stop



Too High-Set
Too Small Ears
Exaggerated
Zygomatic Arch



Too Narrow in
Muzzle, Shallow
Zygomatic arch
Small Ears



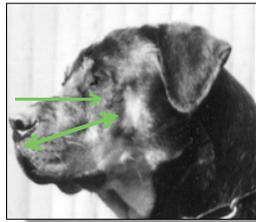
11

Correct Bitch Head Type

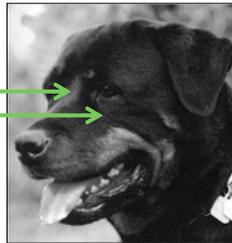


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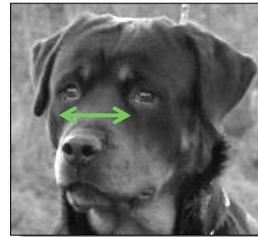
Incorrect Bitch Head Type



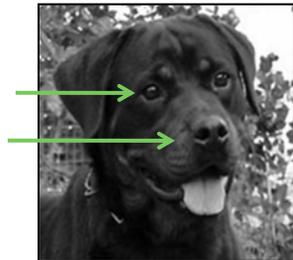
Too long in muzzle,
shallow zygomatic arch



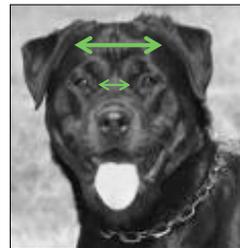
Shallow zygomatic arch and stop



Incorrect conical shape of muzzle



Round eyes, conical shape muzzle



Eyes set too close, narrow top skull

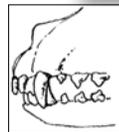
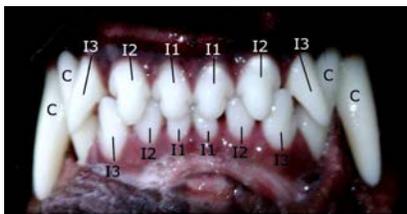
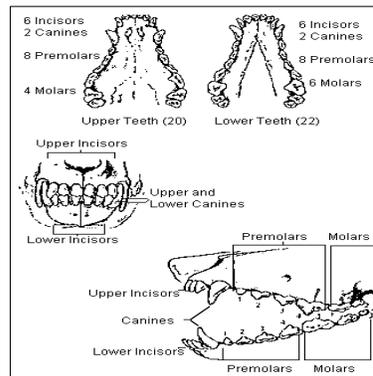


13

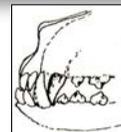
Bite and Dentition

The Rottweiler standard is exacting on the bite and dentition requiring
42 Teeth: 20 upper, 22 lower
Strong, Correctly Placed Scissors Bite

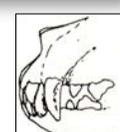
A judge should thoroughly examine the dentition of all exhibits



Overshot
Disqualification



Undershot
Disqualification



Level
Serious fault



14

Neck

Powerful, well muscled, moderately long, slightly arched and without loose skin

The bitch possesses the same traits but less girth



Dog



Bitch



15

Topline

The back is firm and level, extending in a straight line from the withers to the croup. The back remains horizontal to the ground while moving or standing.



16

Body



The chest is roomy, broad and deep, reaching to elbow, with well pronounced forechest and well sprung, oval ribs. Back is straight and strong. Loin is short, deep and well muscled. Croup is broad, of medium length and only slightly sloping. Underline of a mature Rottweiler has a slight tuck-up. Males must have two normal testicles properly descended into the scrotum.



17

Tail

“Tail docked short, close to body, leaving one or two tail vertebrae. The set of the tail is more important than length. Properly set, it gives an impression of elongation of topline; carried slightly above horizontal when the dog is excited or moving.”

The set of the tail is what is important and should be judged. If a natural tail is presented, only the set of the tail should be judged or faulted.



18

Forequarters

Shoulder blade is long and well laid back. Upper arm equal in length to shoulder blade, set so elbows are well under body. Distance from withers to elbow and elbow to ground is equal.

Legs are strongly developed with straight, heavy bone, not set close together.

Pasterns are strong, springy and almost perpendicular to the ground.

Feet are round, compact with well arched toes, turning in nor out. Pads are thick and hard. Nails short, strong and black. Dewclaws may be removed.



19

Hindquarters



Angulation of hindquarters balances that of forequarters. Upper thigh is fairly long, very broad and well muscled. Stifle joint is well turned.

Lower thigh is long, broad and powerful, with extensive muscle leading into a strong hock joint.

Rear pasterns are nearly perpendicular to the ground. Viewed from the rear, hind legs are straight, strong and wide enough apart to fit with a properly built body.

Feet are somewhat longer than the front feet, turning neither in nor out, equally compact with well arched toes. Pads are thick and hard. Nails short, strong, and black. Dewclaws must be removed.



20

Coat



Outer coat is straight, coarse, dense, of medium length and lying flat. Undercoat should be present on neck and thighs, but the amount is influenced by climatic conditions.

Undercoat should not show through outer coat.

The coat is shortest on head, ears and legs; longest on breeching.

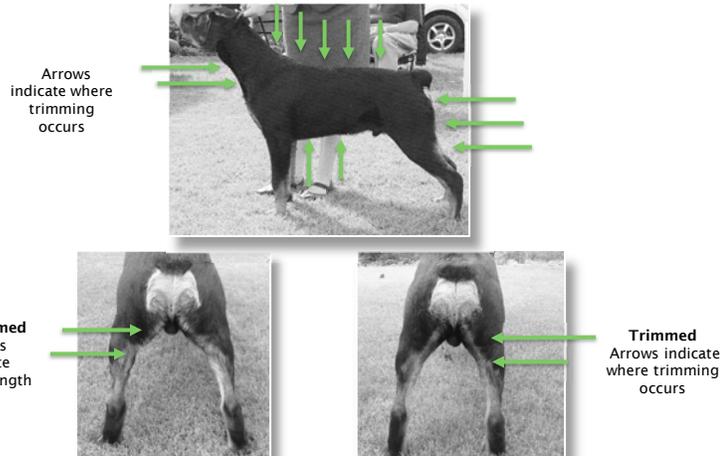
The Rottweiler is to be exhibited in the natural condition with no trimming.



21

Trimming

Currently in the show-ring, Rottweilers are being trimmed on the necks, bodies, and rear quarters. From the standard: "Any trimming that alters the length of the natural coat" is faulty. The American Rottweiler Club wants the Rottweiler to be exhibited untrimmed and in its natural state. We hope that you will help us achieve our goal and penalize this practice.



22

Color



Always black with rust to mahogany markings. The demarcation between black and rust is to be clearly defined. Markings should be located as follows: a spot over each eye; on cheeks; as a strip around each side of muzzle, but not on the bridge of the nose; on throat; triangular mark on both sides of prosternum; on forelegs from carpus downward to toes; on inside of rear legs showing down the front of the stifle and broadening out to front of rear legs from hock to toes, but not completely eliminating black from rear of pasterns; under tail; black penciling on toes.

The undercoat is gray, tan, or black. Quantity and location of rust markings is important and should not exceed 10% of body color.



23

Front View



Rear View



24

Gait



The Rottweiler is a trotter. His movement should be balanced, harmonious, sure, powerful and unhindered, with strong forereach and a powerful rear drive. The motion is effortless, efficient, and ground-covering. Front and rear legs are thrown neither in nor out, as the imprint of hind feet should touch that of forefeet. In a trot the forequarters and hindquarters are mutually coordinated while the back remains level, firm and relatively motionless. As speed increases the legs will converge under body towards a center line



25

Temperament



The Rottweiler is basically a calm, confident and courageous dog with a self-assured aloofness that does not lend itself to immediate and indiscriminate friendships.

A Rottweiler is self-confident and responds quietly and with a wait-and-see attitude to influences in his environment.

He has an inherent desire to protect home and family, and is an intelligent dog of extreme hardness and adaptability with a strong willingness to work, making him especially suited as a companion, guardian and general all-purpose dog.

The behaviour of the Rottweiler in the show ring should be controlled, willing and adaptable, trained to submit to examination of mouth, testicles, etc.

An aloof or reserved dog should not be penalized, as this reflects the accepted character of the breed.

An aggressive or belligerent attitude towards other dogs should not be faulted.



26

Faults

- Coat: Wavy coat

Serious Faults

- Size, Proportion, Substance
Lack of proportion; undersized; oversized, reversal of sex characteristics (bitchy dogs, doggy bitches)
- Head
Eyes - Yellow (bird of prey) eyes, eyes of different color or size, hairless eye rim
Ears - improper carriage (creased, folded or held away from cheek/head)
Lips - total lack of mouth pigment (**pink mouth**)
Bite - level bite, any missing tooth
- Coat
Open, excessively short, or curly coat; total lack of undercoat; any trimming that alters the length of the natural coat
- Color
Straw-colored, excessive, insufficient or sooty markings; rust marking other than described; white marking any place on dog (a few rust or white hairs do not constitute a marking)



27

Disqualifications

- Head
Eyes - entropion, ectropion
Bite - overshot, undershot (when scissors do not touch or mesh); wry mouth; two or more missing teeth
 - Neck, Topline, Body
Body - unilateral cryptorchid or cryptorchid males
 - Coat
Long coat
 - Color
Any base color other than black; absence of all markings
- A dog that attacks any person in the ring.



28

Miscellaneous Photographs

Below are photographs for the purpose of educational critique. They are numbered and sexed. We ask that you critique each dog on its pros and cons, using the knowledge you have learned in this breed study.



1. Dog



2. Dog



3. Dog



4. Bitch



5. Dog



6. Bitch

29

The End

The American Rottweiler Club Board of Directors, Judges Education committee and presenters appreciate your interest in the Rottweiler. The purpose of our presentation is to enhance your understanding of the Rottweiler standard and to provide you with keen insights that will assist in your decision making while adjudicating our breed.

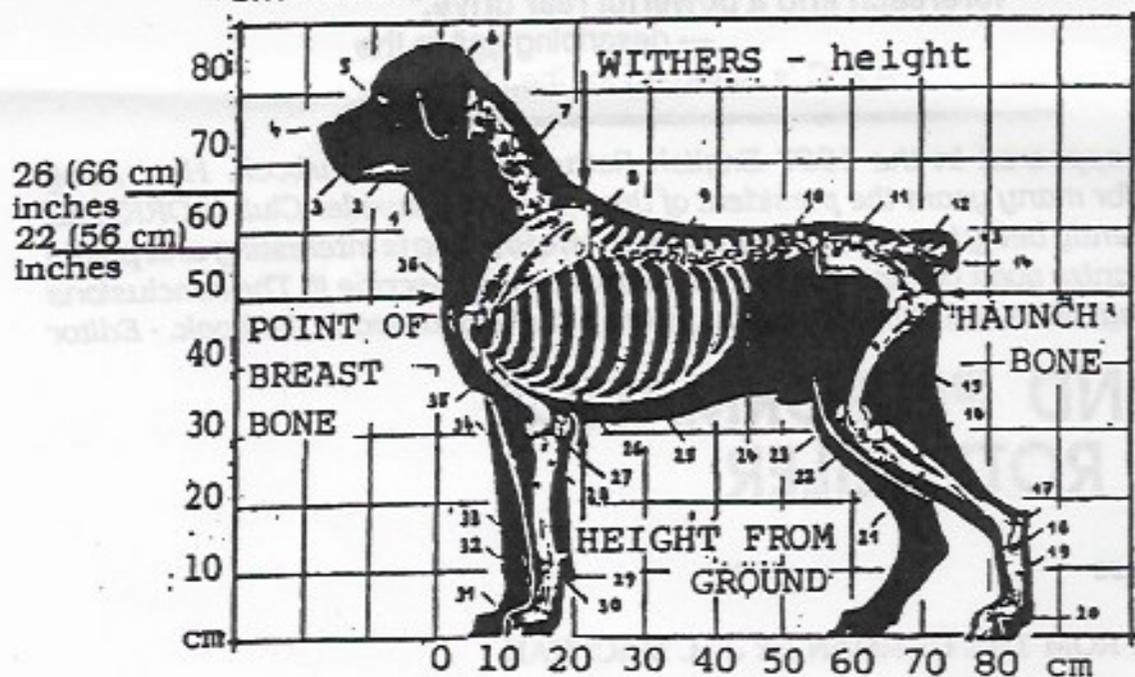
We now proceed to the practical, hands-on examples of Dogs and Bitches. If there are questions or topics yet unanswered, please ask so we may provide you with clarity.



30

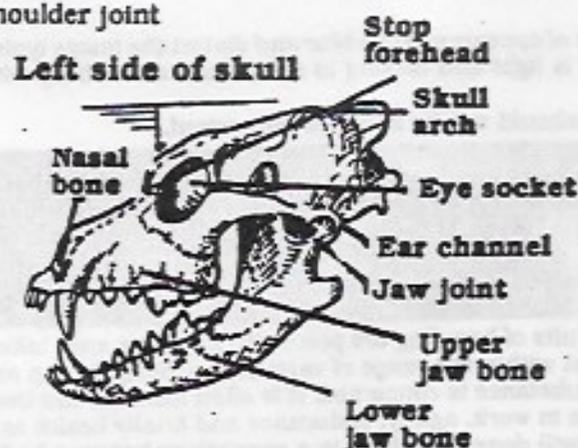
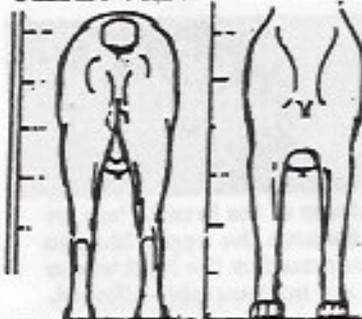
DER ROTTWEILER

VERFASSER DR. H. E. SCHMITZ (KÖRMEISTER), KÖLN



- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Cheek | 19. Metatarsus |
| 2. Lower jaw | 20. Hind digits (phalanges) |
| 3. Muzzle | 21. Tibia or shin bone |
| 4. Nostrils | 22. Stifle or knee joint |
| 5. Stop | 23. Patella or knee cap |
| 6. Occiput | 24. Floating rib (15th) |
| 7. Neck vertebrae | 25. Chest cavity |
| 8. Shoulder blade | 26. Breast bone |
| 9. Back vertebrae | 27. Elbow joint |
| 10. Lumbar vertebrae | 28. Ulna |
| 11. Hip bone | 29. Carpal pad |
| 12. Tail vertebrae | 30. Carpus-fetlock (human wrist) |
| 13. Hip joint | 31. Fore digits |
| 14. Stump | 32. Metacarpus |
| 15. Femur - thigh bone | 33. Dew claw |
| 16. Fibula | 34. Radius |
| 17. Heel bone | 35. Humerus |
| 18. Hock joint | 36. Shoulder joint |

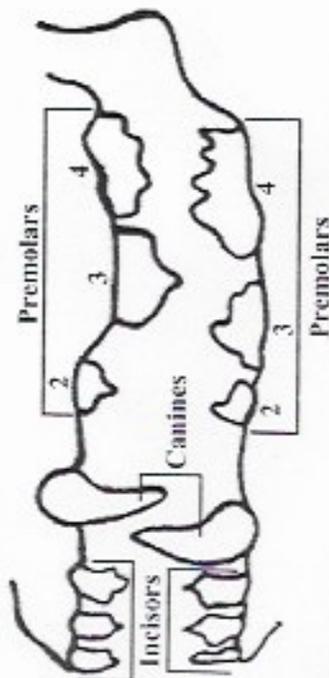
REAR VIEW FRONT VIEW



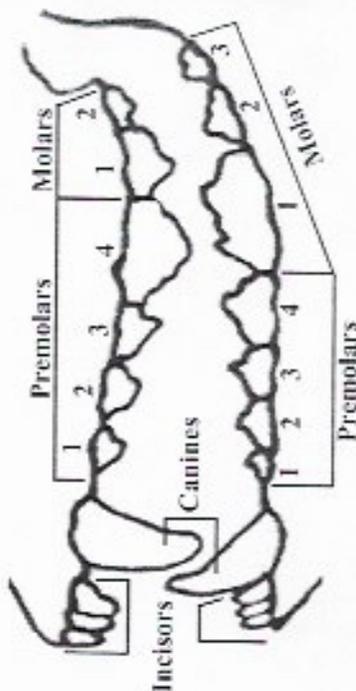
ROTTWEILER DENTITION

Adults should have 42 teeth. But remember when looking at puppies, they only have 28: 6 incisors, 2 canines, and 6 premolars (P2, P3, P4) on both the top and bottom. They do not have a P1, nor do they have any molars. Puppy teeth should all be in by 8 weeks and permanent, adult teeth should all be present by 8 months. Below are diagrams of both a puppy's and dog's dentition, as well as instructions for counting teeth in groups.

Puppy



Adult



Counting teeth in groups:

Look for 6 incisors and 2 canines, both upper and lower. This can easily be done when checking the occlusion (bite).
Look for 4 premolars and 3 molars on each lower side.
And 4 premolars and 2 molars on each upper side.

Type and Performance of the Rottweiler

By Adolf Peinkoss
(Translated from the German by J.H. MacPhail)

Rottweiler breeding aims at a vigorous dog which, though powerful in general appearance, is not lacking in refinement and is particularly suitable as a companion, guard and utility dog.

It is above middle size, sturdy, slightly elongated, stocky and powerfully built. The body length should exceed the height at the withers by 15% at most. That corresponds to a ratio of 10:9.1 and 10:8.7. In the case of a dog 65cm high at the withers that represents a length of 71.5 to 74.5 cm.

The Rottweiler is a trotter. In motion the back remains firm and relatively still. The course of motion is harmonious, secure, powerful and unchecked with a good length of stride.

The body of the dog is adapted in its construction to forward motion, for which reason the center of gravity of the whole body lies in the front half of the trunk. Trotting is the kind of gait in which the center of gravity of the body is supported exclusively by diagonal pairs of limbs and these always move synchronously, ie. are approximately in the same phase at each moment in the course of motion. In trotting the trunk is propelled forward by powerful muscular contraction, whereby motion experiences considerable acceleration. In this the musculature of the trunk, and especially of the back and neck, play an essential part by tightening the spinal column, which is flexible in the dog, and taking part in the synchronous interaction of the diagonal limits.

As the latter throws the center of gravity constantly forward in a straight line, sideways swinging movements of the trunk are absent in trotting, while the back remains relatively still.

Faults of appearance can blur and distort the image typical of the breed. Such faults include a general appearance which is light and lacking in substance, and a body which too long, too short or too narrow. There should not be a lack of refinement. Refinement implies in the dog, descent from forebears which rose above the average in form and working performance. A dog with refinement is also one which is beautiful, noble and proud looking. Size is not the main feature of the refined dog, but beautiful clear outlines and a harmoniously proportioned body. Refinement does not express itself only in the form, but also in posture and character. Temperament without pushiness, courage without wildness, friendliness with a touch of reserve.

The results of breeding are presented at shows, and taken together, they reflect the status of the breed. Here we find that within the range of variations among the top animals, the type leans more towards the upper limit so far as substance is concerned. It is often massiveness that strikes one. Body weight approaches the limit where pleasure in work, agility, endurance and finally health as well as character attributes are unfavorably affected.



American Rottweiler Club

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(303) 663-6382 garskearcbod@comcast.net

Dear Rottweiler Judge or Judge Applicant,

The American Rottweiler Club recently updated its Judges Education material. We are reaching out to all American Kennel Club Rottweiler judges to make them aware of these updates.

On September 20, 2018, the Board of Directors of the American Rottweiler Club unanimously passed the following motion:

“The set of the tail is what is important and should be judged. If a natural tail is presented, only the set of the tail should be judged or faulted.”

In 2012, the American Kennel Club revised its *Rules, Policies and Guidelines for Conformation Dog Show Judges* to require judges perform an objective, breed-specific examination of each exhibit, including gaiting, prior to making any decision regarding the merits of the exhibit. This includes examining and gaiting dogs that are uncropped or undocked in breeds that have traditionally been docked or cropped. Once examination is complete on each exhibit, it is up to the judge to place any exhibit in the ring using the hierarchy of the breed standard for faults, serious faults, and any deviation from the standard that affects function and structure of the exhibit as a whole.

The American Rottweiler Club thanks you for your interest in judging our breed. It is our belief that the conscientious selections of judges contribute greatly to the continued quality and integrity of the Rottweiler in this country. This letter supersedes any prior correspondence from the American Rottweiler Club regarding judging of Rottweilers.

Sincerely,

Randi Garske
President

American Rottweiler Club

CC: Ms. Lew Olson, Chairperson, Judges Education Committee
Mr. Peter Piusz, AKC Delegate of The American Rottweiler Club



Relaxed



Straight tail



Sabre tail

Natural tails that may be seen in the ring

The set of the tail is what is important and should be judged. If a natural tail is presented only the set of the tail should be judged or faulted.

Motion 9.3.2018

"The set of the tail is more important than length. Properly set, it gives an impression of elongation of topline; carried slightly above horizontal when the dog is excited or moving."

Excerpt, AKC Breed Standard