

BALANCE



● **BY LEW OLSON PHD**

- **ROTTWEILER BREEDER, OWNER AND EXHIBITOR SINCE 1979**
- **JUDGE SINCE 2002**

- **A CONDITION IN WHICH DIFFERENT ELEMENTS ARE EQUAL OR IN THE CORRECT PROPORTIONS.**



STRENGTH, POWER, BALANCE



WHAT CREATES BALANCE IN THE ROTTWEILER?

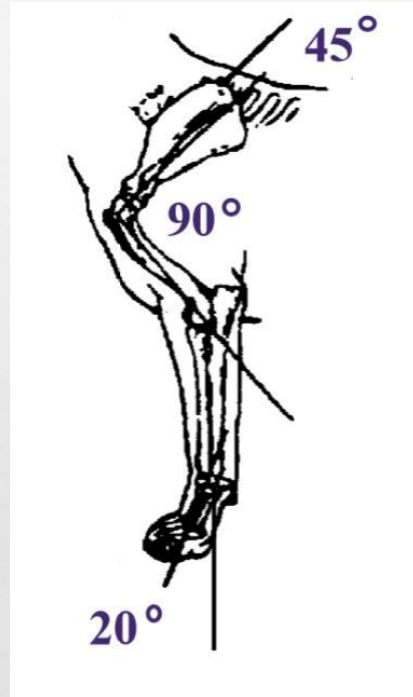
PROPORTION

FRONT AND REAR ANGULATION

LONG RIB CAGE AND SHORT LOIN

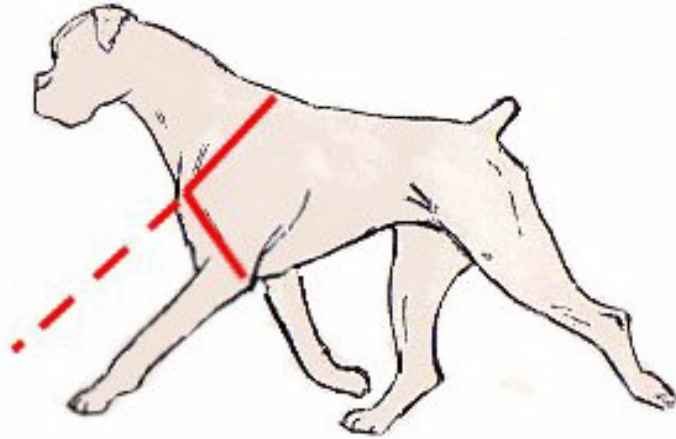
CONDITIONING

FRONT ASSEMBLY, SHOULDER AND UPPER ARM

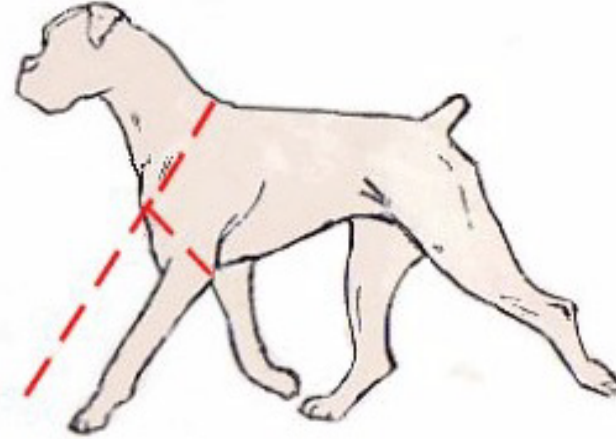


How structure affects movement

Showing how the angle of the shoulder blade affects extension:



The well laid back shoulder blade gives more extension to the front leg
Note that the length of upper arm does not affect the angle of extension, only the timing



The steeper the angle of the shoulder blade the less extension of the front leg

Now when you can see the difference side by side you will discover that the first dog will need less steps and energy to cover the same distance

Note the column of support on each of these examples.

Figure A

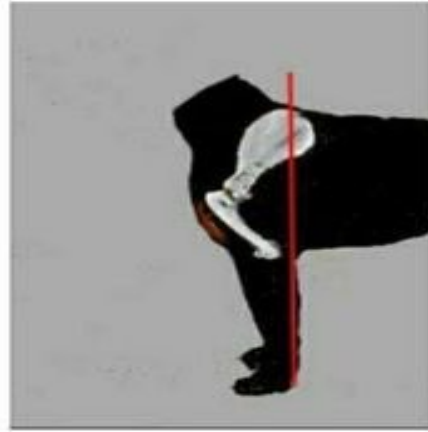


Figure D

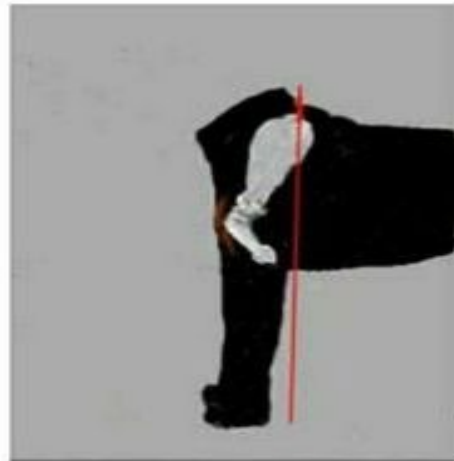


Figure B

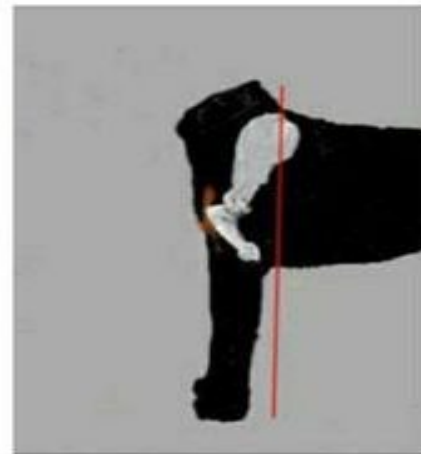
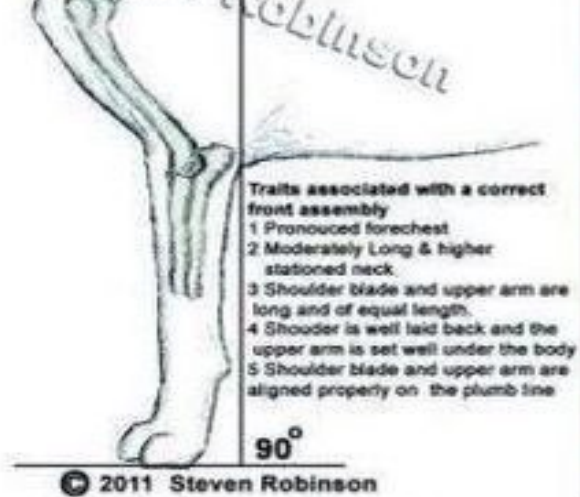
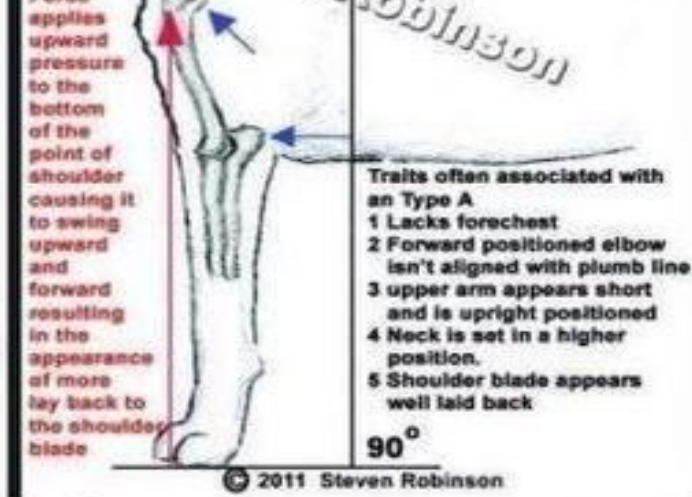


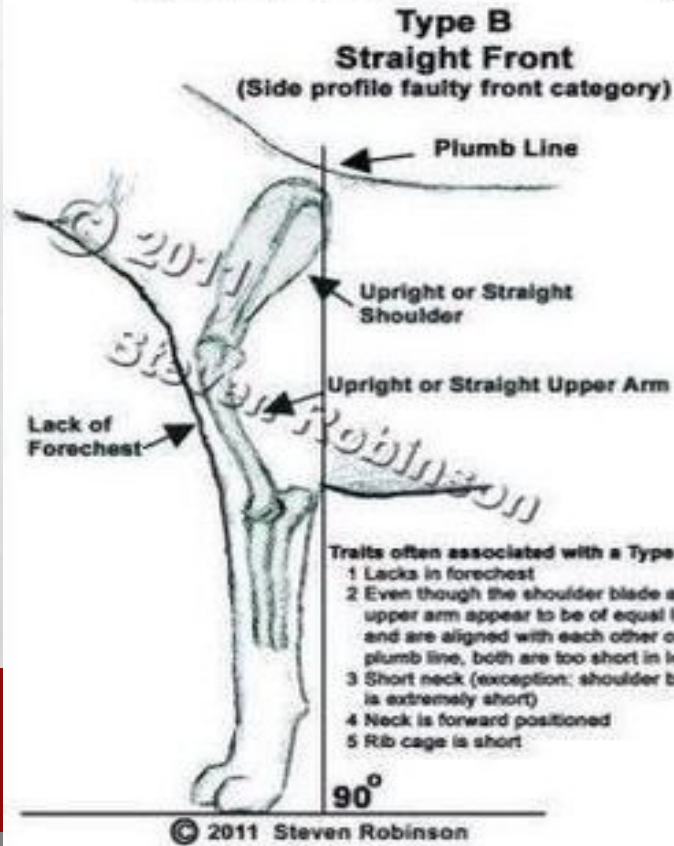
Figure C



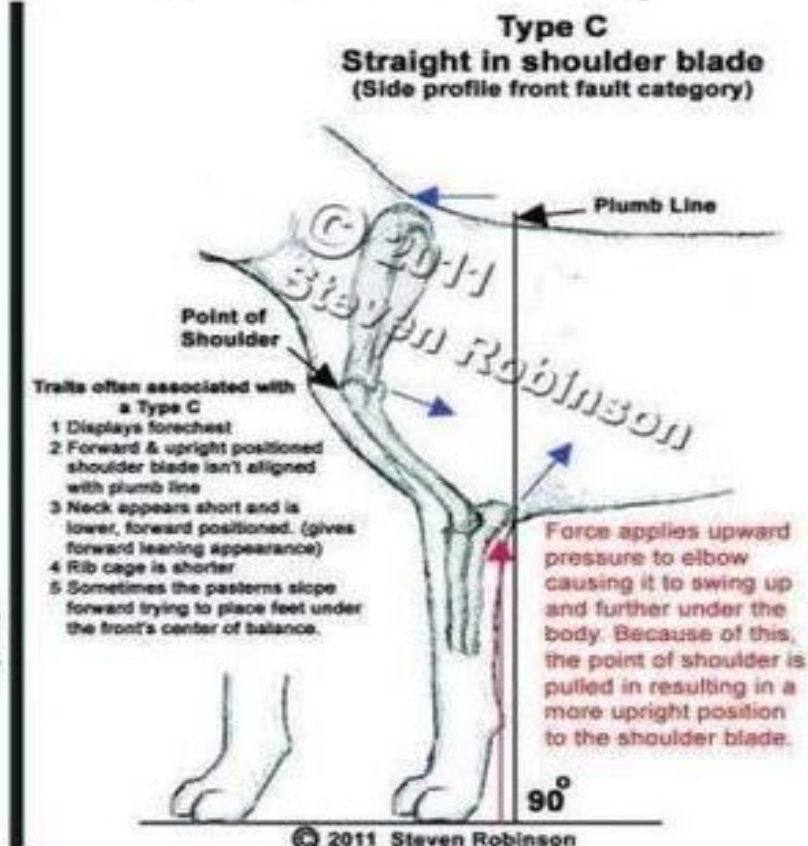
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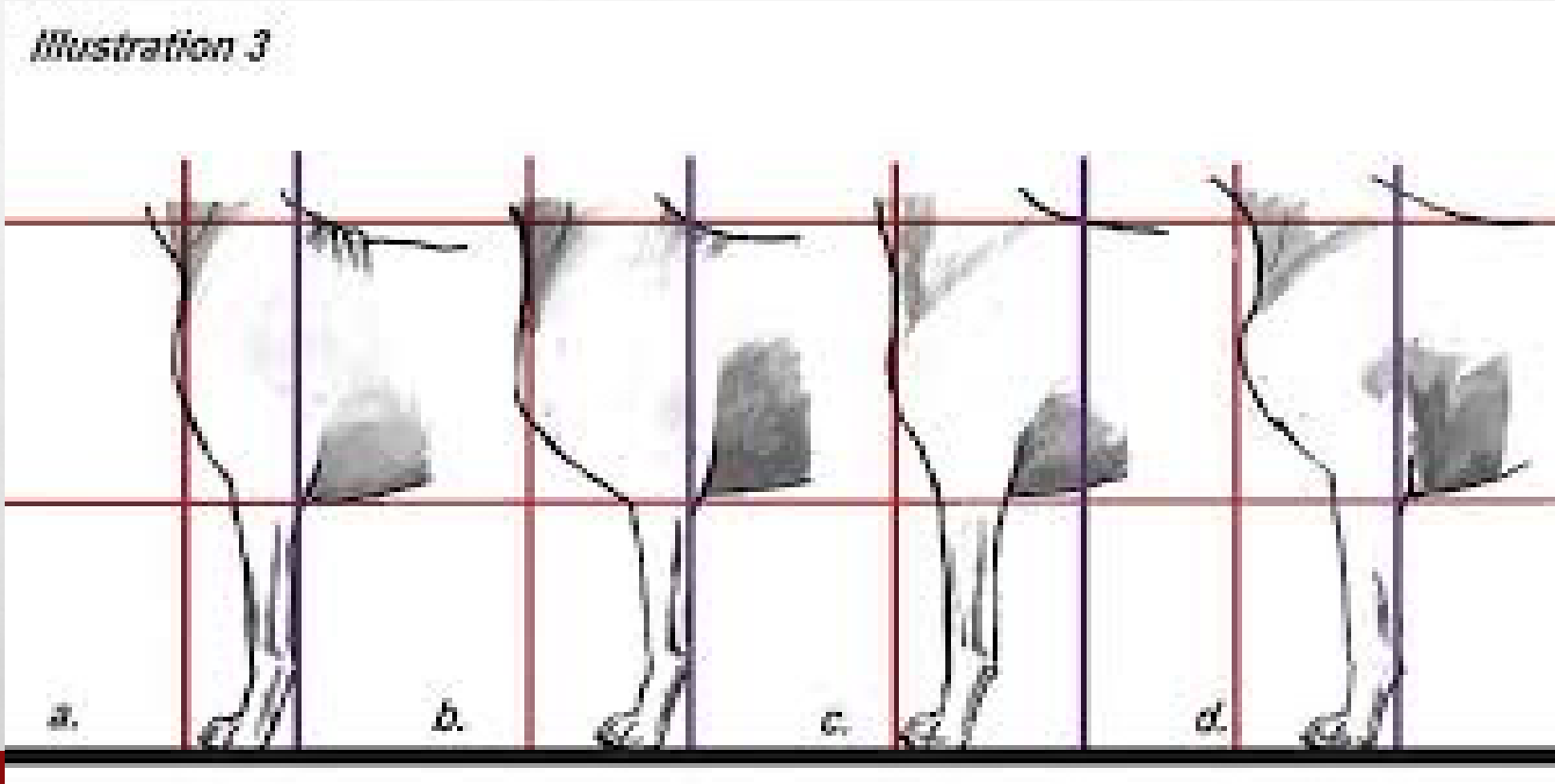


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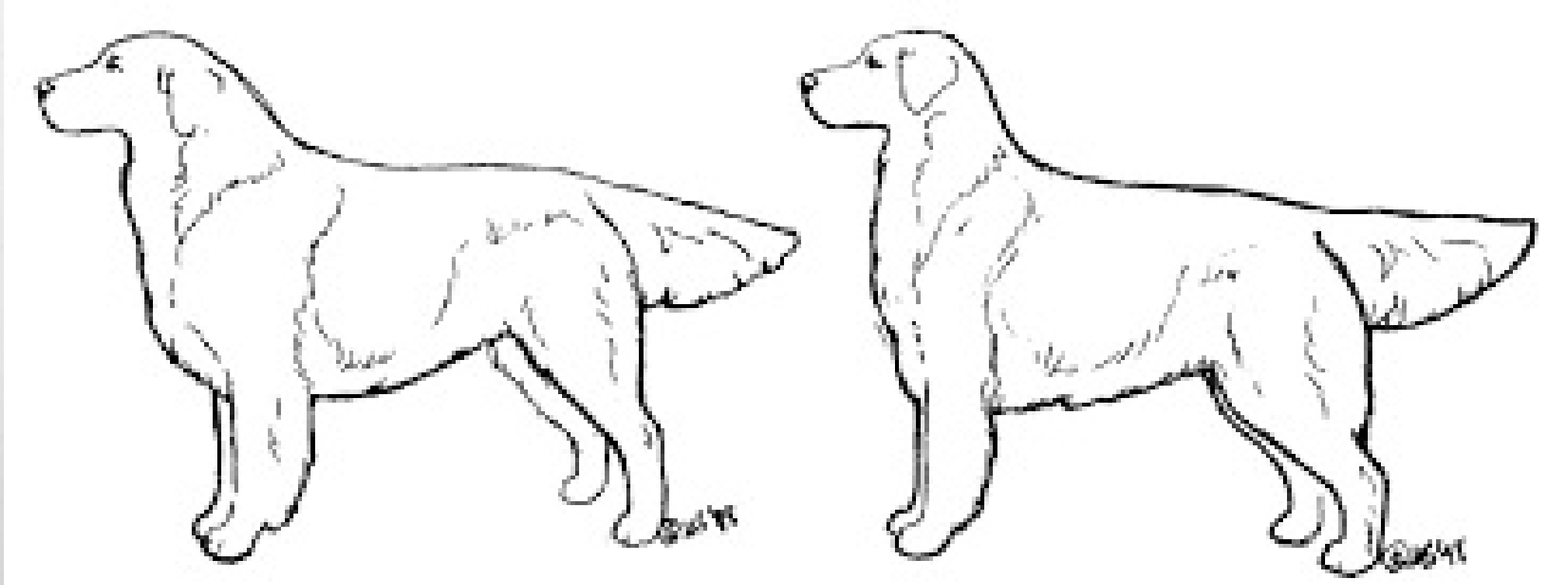


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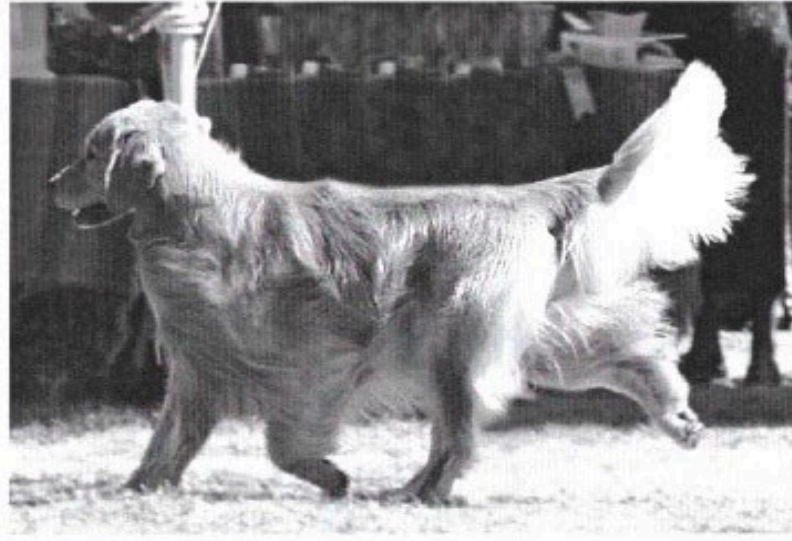
HOW SHOULDERS AFFECT MOTION



GOOD LAYBACK MEANS FRONT LEGS NEED TO BE UNDER THE POINT OF THE WITHERS



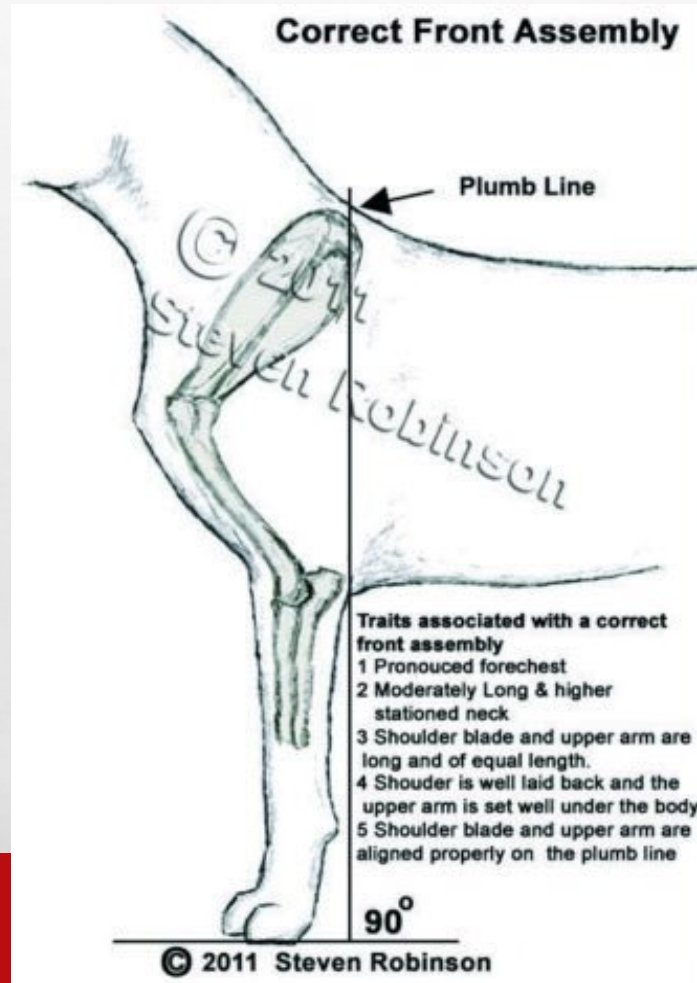
What happens when they lack balance.



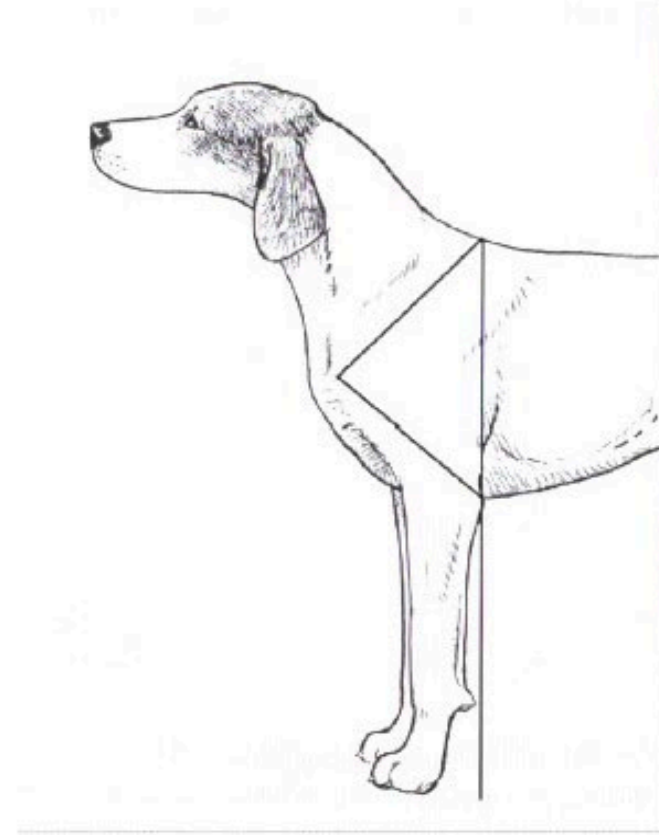
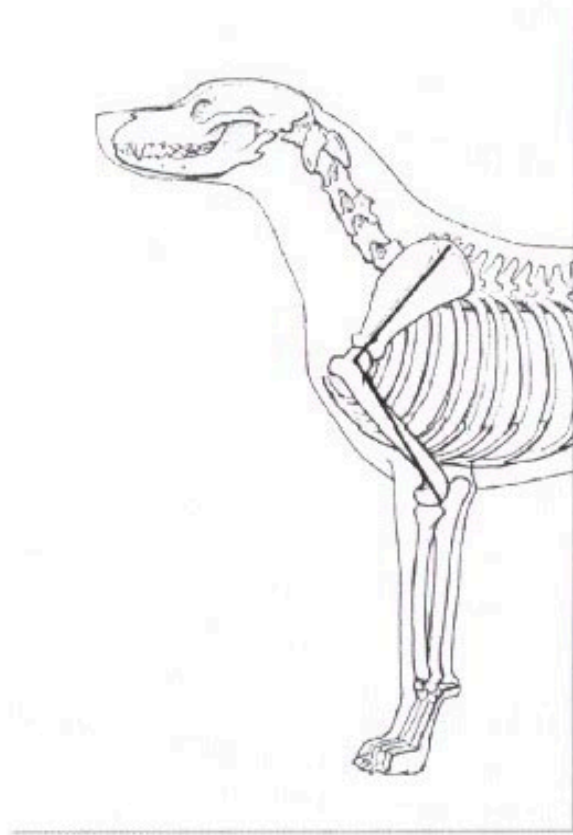
As opposed to when they have it.



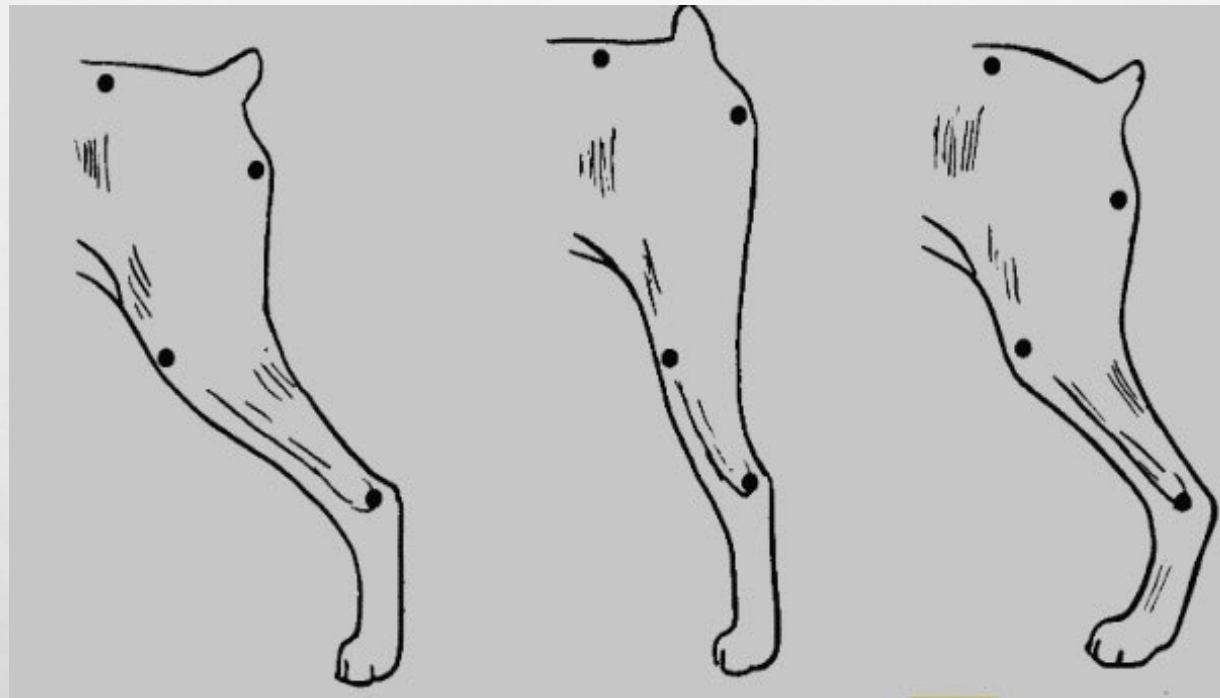
CORRECT FRONT ASSEMBLY

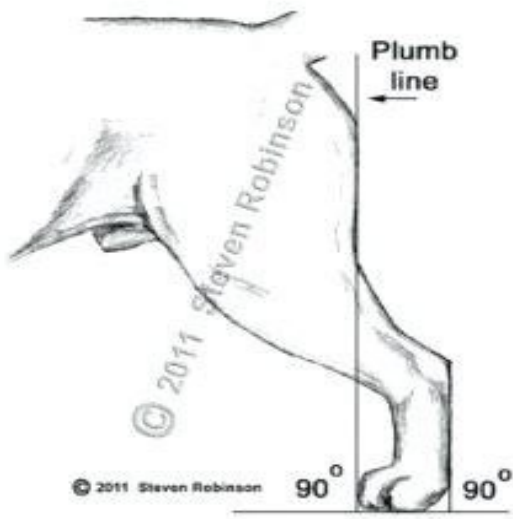


Shoulder assembly –inside and out.



REAR END ASSEMBLY





Too Long Lower Thigh



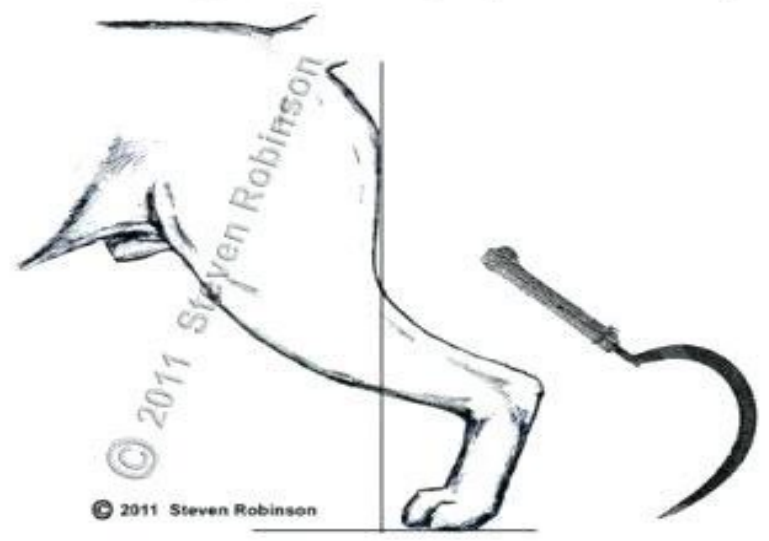
Short Upper Thigh



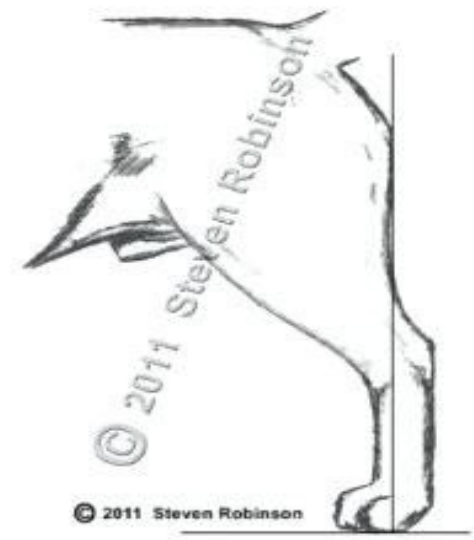
Short Lower Thigh



Too Long Lower Thigh (Sickle Hock)

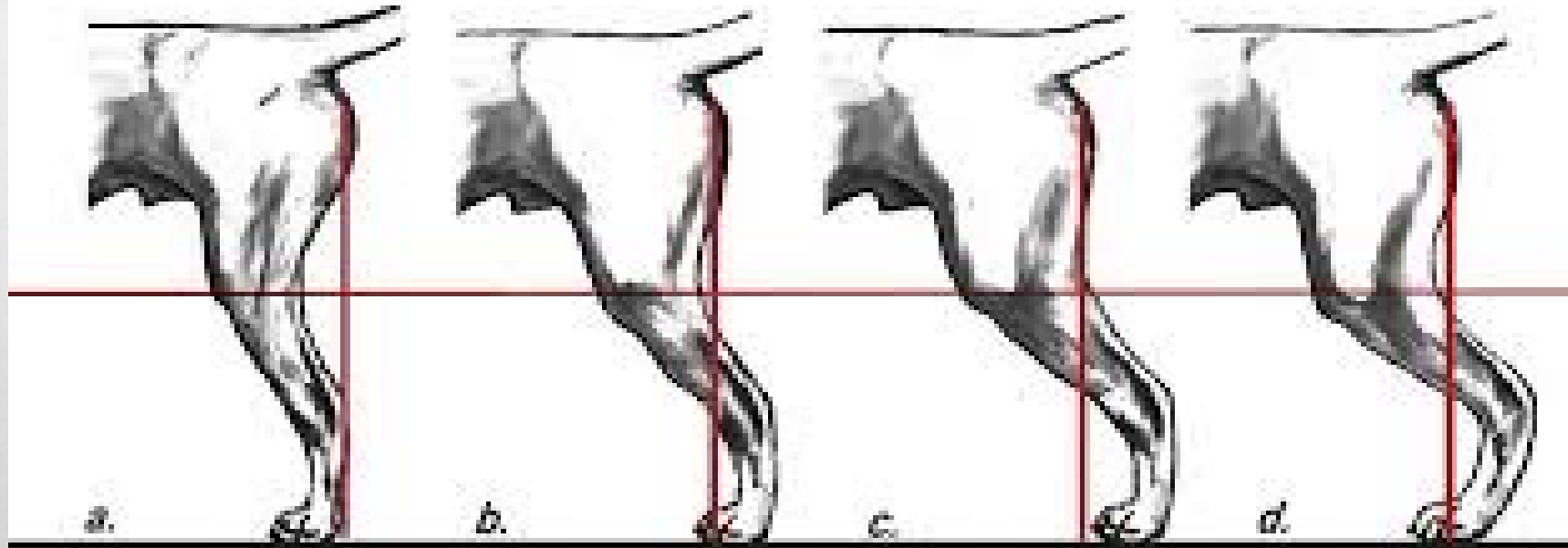


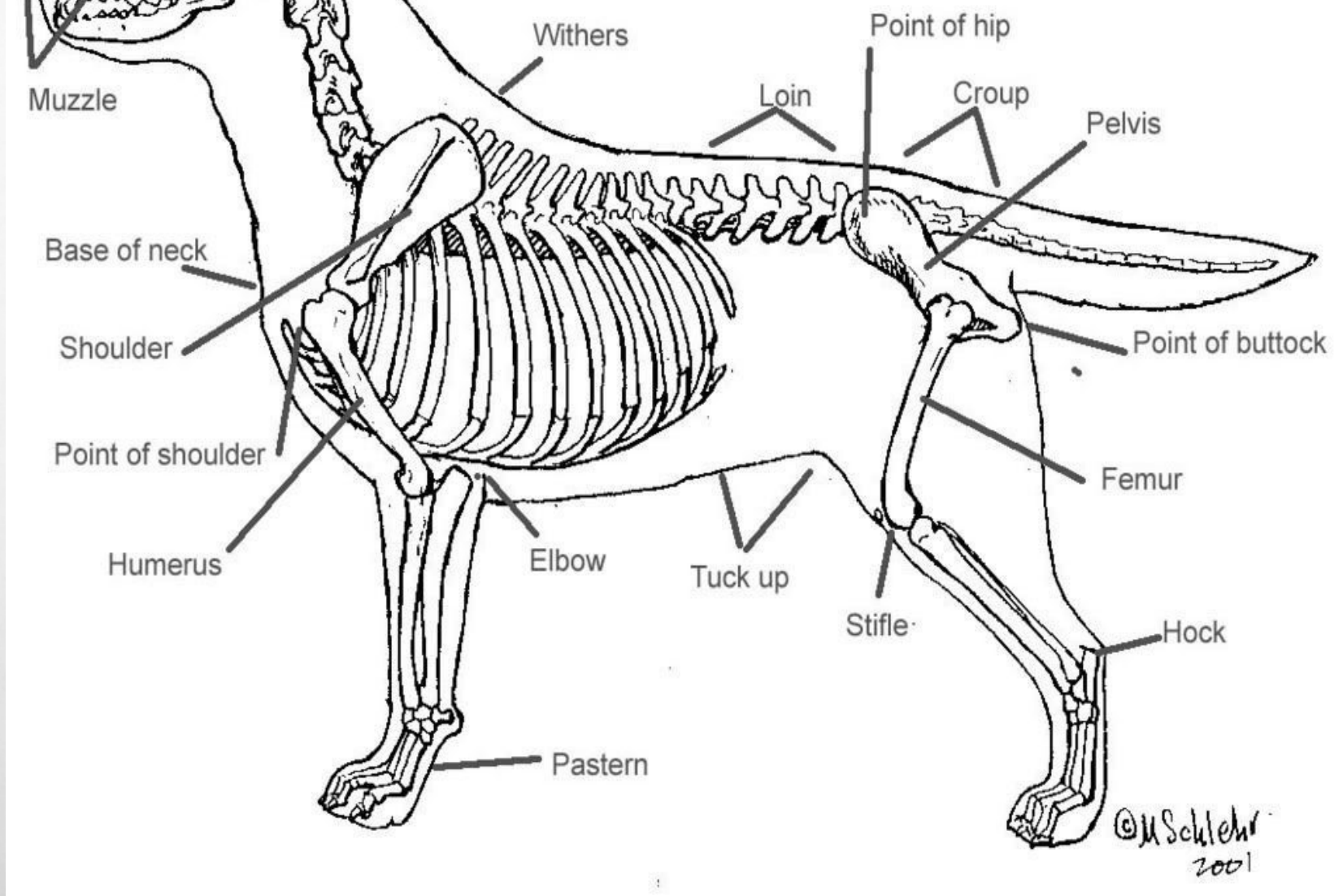
Long Hock

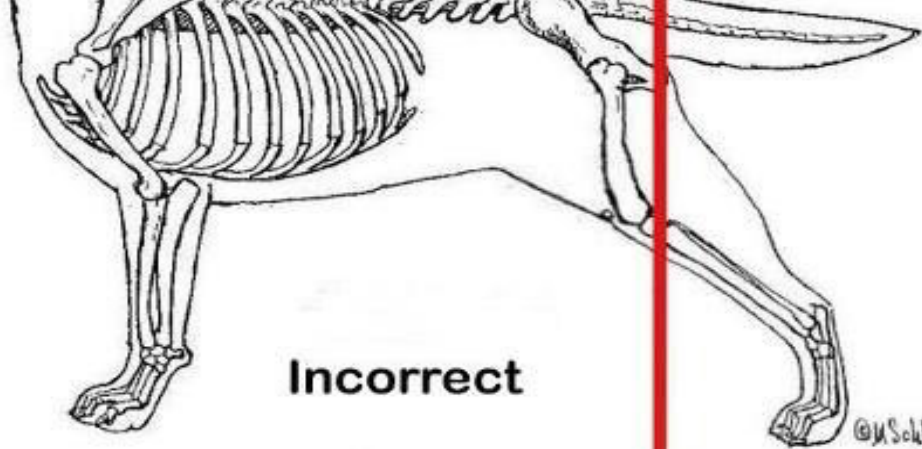


REAR END ASSEMBLY AFFECTS DRIVE

Illustration 5

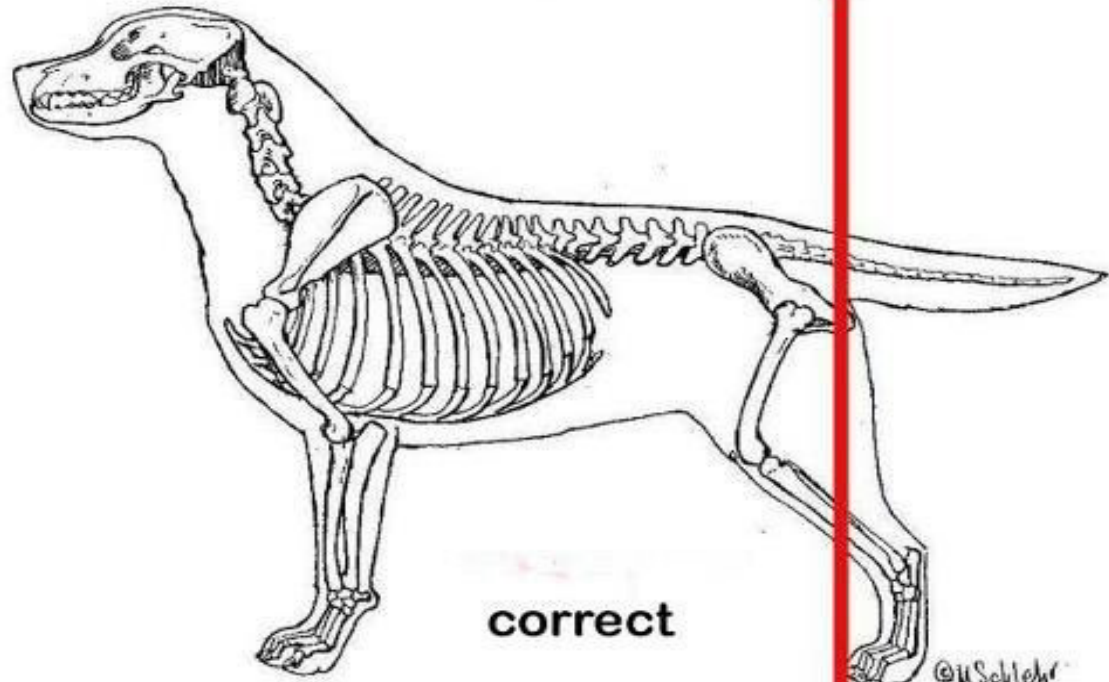






Incorrect

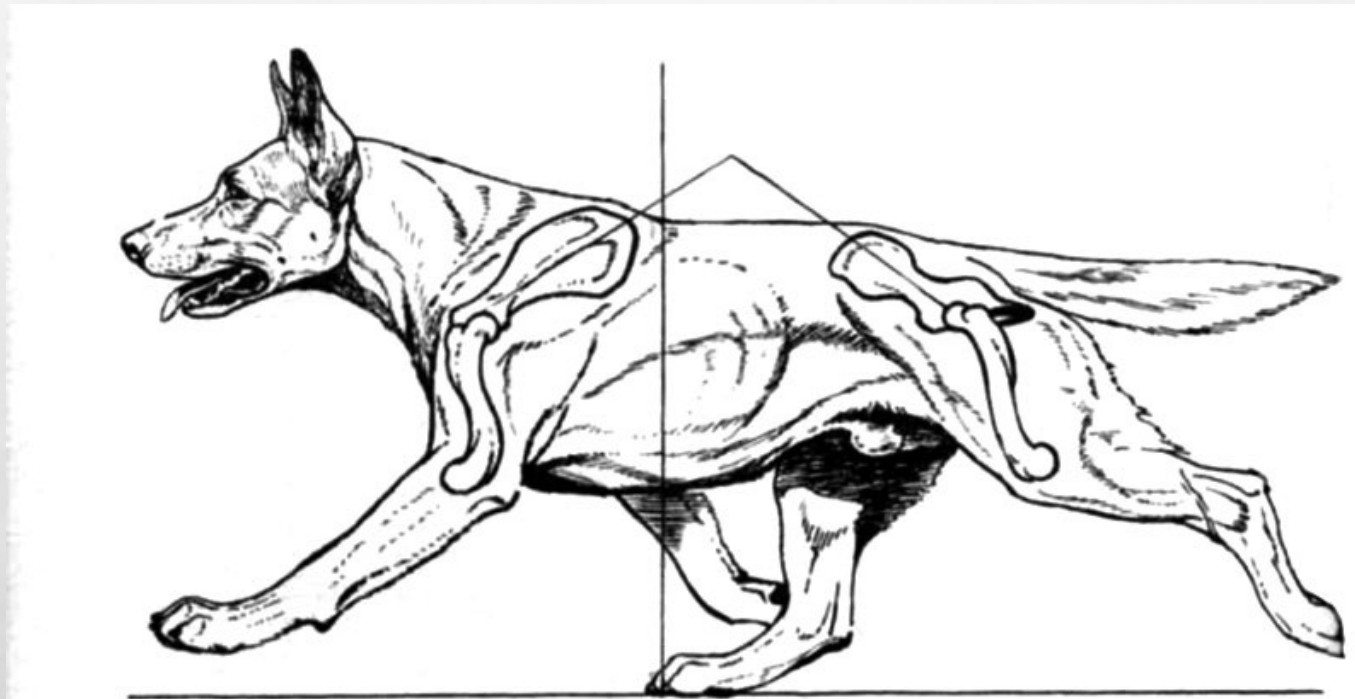
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correct

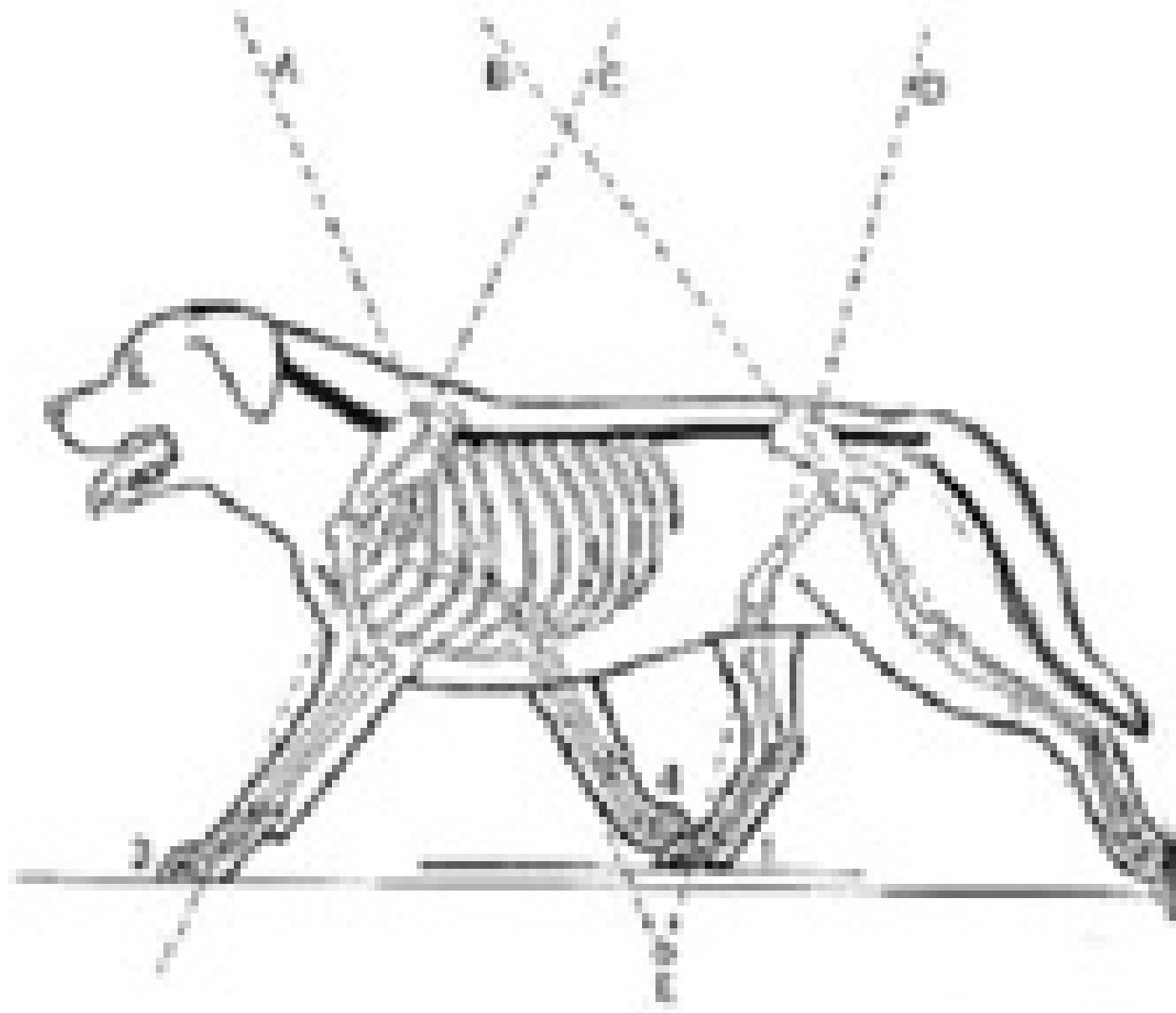
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OVER EXTENSION, FLYING TROT

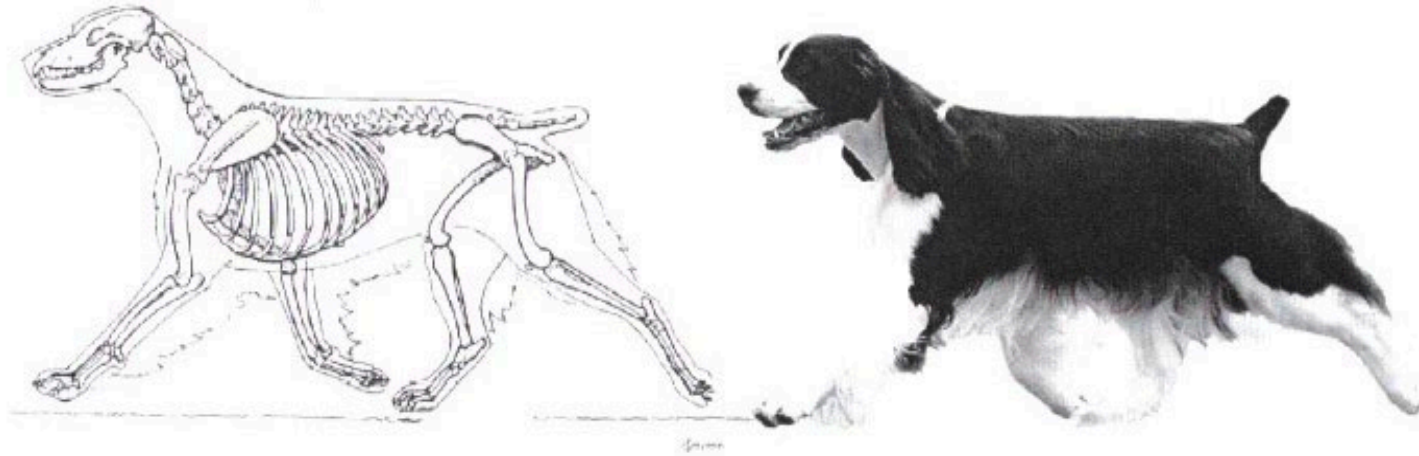


- **A BALANCED FRONT AND REAR ASSEMBLY, WITH THE CORRECT PROPORTION MAKE FOR ENDURANCE**
- **THIS GIVES THE DOG THE MOST EFFICIENT, GROUND COVERING MOVEMENT, WITH THE LEAST AMOUNT OF EFFORT**
- **THE RESULT IS AN ATHLETIC, ROBUST ROTTWEILER THAT IN SPITE OF THE SIZE, MOVES SMOOTHLY AND WITHOUT APPARENT EFFORT**





How they work



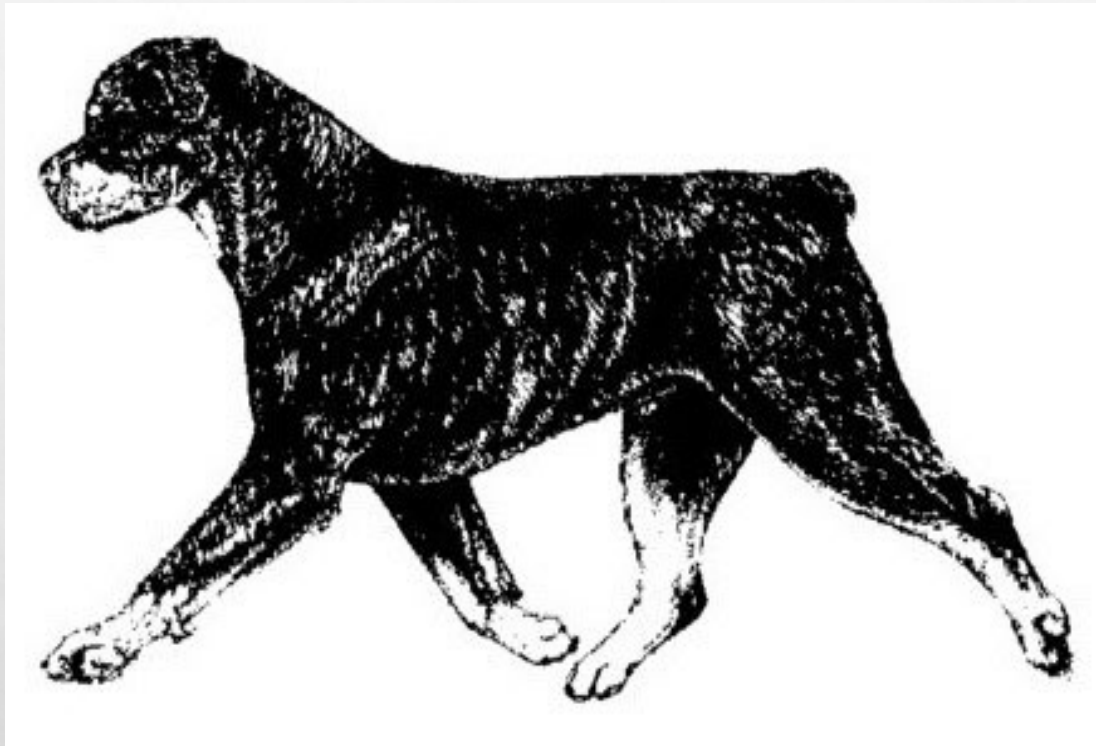
The shoulder blade is not static; it rotates on the ribcage during movement. A long, correctly laid shoulder blade allows for more rotation, thus more forward reach of the front leg. The upper arm rotates forward to a vertical position, not beyond.



BALANCE



BALANCE HARMONY OF DESIGN AND PROPORTION.



THE END!

