

STANDARD SEGUGIO DELL'APPENNINO

(approved with the activation of Libro Aperto con delibera ENCI Prot. n°46048 del 21.10.2004)

Translation

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Breed Name

APPENNINE HOUND – ITALIAN HARE-HUNTING

(Segugio dell'Appennino)

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ORIGIN: Italy.

UTILIZATION: Hound specialized in the hunting of hare, wild boar and other fur animals.

FCI-CLASSIFICATION: Group 6: Scenthounds and related breeds. Section 1.2: Medium-sized Hounds. With working trial.

BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY: Its origins are very old; the description of this hound can be found in several treatises on hunting, hunting magazines and specialized magazines on living in the Italian countryside and mountains. In the illustrated journal "La caccia", dated 2 November 1882, it was described and included among the scenthound breeds existing in Italy. Rather than acting as a selective process, Nature with this race has created a uniform kind of dog which is rustic, resistant and elegant and that mountaineers and lovers of the breed have carefully preserved. In 1932 the lawyer, farmer and user of this race, Filippo Zacchini wrote: "Small-sized hound of great agility and vivacity, all muscles and nerves without any heaviness, of ancient origin and of well-established kind. It has been owned for some time largely by small landowners and strainers where it has found a healthy environment, hardy standard of living and a close attachment to its master, all factors which have favoured its preservation. Thanks to the many people fond of this hound throughout Italy, this breed has fortunately arrived intact to this day.

GENERAL APPEARANCE: Italian breed of medium-size with stiff short hair and qualities inherited from hunting hare in the difficult terrain of hills and mountains. Sociable by temperament, it's very attached to its master. This breed is striking for its rapidity and speed of action, for the ease of his movements and for its pleasantly rustic appearance. A trunk that just fits inside the perfect symmetry of a rectangle, supported by lean, agile and fine limbs, complimented by strong and prominent muscles.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS

Length of body/height at withers: 1.03 ÷ 1.10.
Depth of chest/height at withers: 0,46 ÷ 0.50.
Length of muzzle/length of head: 0,45 ÷ 0.49.

BEHAVIOUR/TEMPERAMENT: Scenthound specialized for hunting, primarily hare but also wild boar, it hunts well and prudently barking at the prey while standing still; it's also an excellent hunter of other fur animals. It lives in perfect symbiosis with its master, though it has a strong temperament and possesses an exaggerated passion for hunting. Its obedience is an innate and atavistic talent, keeping it closely linked to its master and to its other hunting mates. Particularly predisposed, it does not chase other wildlife. Its voice is sharp and clear in sound with pleasant tones which change depending on the different phases of the hunting work. Confident approacher, excellent discoverer and great follower. It feels particularly at ease in the mountain landscape, and while it is always in contact with its master, it doesn't need to be accompanied. It's an excellent hunter, either alone or in pairs, and it also adapts well to the hounds pack.

HEAD: Its total length is equal to 4÷4.5/10 of length at the withers, while its width is less than or equal to half its length.

Cranial region: Its projection on the surface is elliptical. Axes of skull and muzzle slightly divergent. The top is slightly convex, never flat.

Skull: Its width is a little less than its length and about half of the total length of the head. Frontal sinuses slightly defined, slightly domed. The crest bone can be felt by touch. The forehead line is barely visible.

Stop: Slightly defined.

Facial region:

Nose: Medium, black, black diluted, brown. Well opened nostrils.

Muzzle: Its length is more or less half of the total length of the head. The barrel of the nose is straight, slightly arched is acceptable. The lateral muscles of the muzzle converge with each other but without excess.

LIPS: The upper lip should be thin and meet the lower one just overlapping, without heaviness.

Jaws/Teeth: Jaws are semi-conical, with a perfect, regular and complete scissor bite, i.e. the upper incisor teeth closely overlap the lower teeth, a pincer bite is tolerated.

Cheeks: Thin, with slightly convergent lateral axes.

Eyes: Set well apart, tending to a semi-lateral position. From amber to brown, with a clever, merry and mild expression. Well developed, round shaped and with the eyelid well adherent.

Ears: Movable in attention, with a width insertion at eye-line level or a little upper. Long, with slightly rounded tips, reaching nearly half, or little more, the muzzle length when drawn out.

NECK: Medium length (as long as the head), with well-developed muscles but at the same time thin, placed not too high on the withers. Separation from the head is clear at the insertion point, showing no dewlap.

BODY

TOPLINE: It descends slightly from the withers, almost parallel to the horizontal line.

WITHERS: Slightly elevated above the back line and well harmonized with the cervical muscles.

LOIN: Loin strong, powerful and supple. The loin area is muscled and developed in breadth.

CHEST: Oval, its length is proportionate to the general appearance. The sternum must almost reach the height of the elbow. Ribs good ringed but not too much. Abdomen goes moderately up from mesogaster to epigaster without excessive retraction.

RUMP: Its length is not less than 1/3 of height at withers and its width is not less than half its length. Inclination on the horizon should not exceed 25°.

TAIL: Set to form an extension of the topline, its length reaches the hock. Well covered with hair. Hair length on the tail should be shorter than that of the trunk in strong-haired dogs but should be homogeneous in short-haired dogs.

LIMBS

FOREQUARTERS: Shoulder muscles well developed, with inclination on the horizon ranging from 45 to 53°. The arm is slightly shorter than the forearm, with an angle between the scapula and humerus of 105 to 115°. Forearm perpendicular to the ground, with the carpal and metacarpal regions strong and rightly flexed (75°).

ELBOWS: Firm, turning neither in nor out.

HINDQUARTERS: The hindquarters are strong and powerful without being heavy, thin but with evident muscle.

UPPER THIGH: Wide, with well developed muscles, leg slightly inclined towards the rear. Coxal femoral angle of 95-100°.

PASTERNS: Short vertical and relatively strong.

HOCKS: Firm, well let down and parallel to each other.

FEET: Tight and firm. Hare-foot, toes compact and strong toe joints. Coriaceous soles. Nails strong and curved. The rear feet are less oval. Spurs, when present, are tolerated.

GAIT/MOVEMENT: Canter, loose, lively, elegant, alternated to trot at some stage in the work of hunting.

Skin: Skin free from wrinkle and loose parts, perfectly adherent to the underlying tissues.

COAT:

Admissible colors are:

- fawn in its different shades;
- black and tan;
- hare gray;
- dark brown.

In every type of admissible color of the coat the present of white is appreciate if disposed on:

- four limbs: hinds, by feet to knee; forelimbs, by feet to elbow;
- chest;
- neck, also like collar;
- forehead;
- muzzle;
- tip of the tail.

In relation to hair texture, there are two varieties, and mating is possible between them: short-haired hounds and long-haired hounds, having the following characteristics.

SHORT-HAIRED HOUNDS: the coat is short (max 2cm) vitreous texture, dense, evenly distributed throughout the body. Some rough hair scattered on the trunk, on the muzzle or limbs is not a defect.

LONG-HAIRED HOUNDS: the coat is medium coarse to the touch, by 2 to 5cm max long, topped by a dense undercoat preventing moisture to wet the skin. Its distribution is homogeneous. There may be exceptions on some parts of the body, such as the limbs and head, where it is more dense but less long. On the ears, however, it may be less dense or even short. The hair, however, must be close to the body without ever forming curls or ringlets.

SIZE AND WEIGHT

Desirable minimum height at withers in the female is 42 cm; in the male, 44.

Desirable maximum height at withers in the female is 48 cm; in the male, 50.

In excellent subjects, two centimeters more and less in height are permissible.

Weight ranging from 10 to 18 kg.

FAULTS

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault, above all if it compromises the ability to perform the traditional work of the race.

SEVERE FAULTS

Height which exceeds or is lower than the permitted measurements. Skull-facial axes which are convergent. Prognathism.

DISQUALIFYING FAULTS

Overshort, monorchidism, criptorchidism, incomplete development of one and both testicles.

Aggressive or overly shy.

Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified.

N.B.: male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.

Standard of work

Dog strong and sturdy, resistant and brave, briskly and very powerful.

Its nose it's very valuable and performant.

It has a high-pitched tone of voice.

Behavior

His behavior is that of a hound for hunting rifle equipped

It can give a voice already from when it comes to knowledge of the first clues of the hunted animal;

his voice increases in frequency as it approaches the lair of the hare, and then its voice remains constant throughout the chase; it shows great ability to hunt in difficult terrain (very dense woods, mountains).

It searches on the ground and on the branches for the night trace of the animal. His gallop expresses the power and harmony of forms. It is very suitable for hunting the hare but also hunts other animals (wild boar, fox, deer) It may hunt alone, in pairs and in pack.

It is tenacious and an excellent lateral aligner. It is a quick and brilliant tracker and returns easily to the master.