

FCI -Standard N° 286 / 01.12.1997/ GB

**AMERICAN STAFFORDSHIRE TERRIER**

**ORIGIN** : U.S.A.

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE VALID ORIGINAL STANDARD** : 03.09.1996.

**FCI-CLASSIFICATION** : Group 3 Terriers.  
Section 3 Bull type Terriers.  
Without working trial.

**GENERAL APPEARANCE** : The Staffordshire Terrier should give the impression of great strength for his size; a well put together dog, muscular, but agile and graceful, keenly alive to his surroundings. He should be stocky, not long-legged or racy in outline. His courage is proverbial.

**HEAD** : Medium length, deep through.

**CRANIAL REGION** :

**Skull** : broad.

**Stop** : Distinct.

**FACIAL REGION** :

**Nose** : Definitely black.

**Muzzle** : Medium length, rounded on upper side to fall away abruptly below the eyes.

**Lips** : Close and even ; no looseness.

**Jaws/Teeth** : Well defined. Under jaw strong and to have biting power. Upper teeth to meet tightly outside lower teeth in front.

**Cheeks** : Very pronounced cheek muscles.

**Eyes** : Dark, round, low down in skull, set far apart. No pink eyelids.

**Ears** : Set high. Cropped or uncropped, the latter preferred. Uncropped ears should be short and held rose or half prick. Full drop to be penalized.

**NECK** : Heavy, slightly arched, tapering from shoulders to back of skull. No looseness of skin. Medium length.

**BODY** :

Topline : Back fairly short. Slight sloping from withers to rump with gentle short slope at rump to base of tail.

Loins : Slightly tucked.

Chest : Deep and broad. Well sprung ribs; close together, deep in rear.

TAIL : Short in comparison to size, low set, tapering to fine point; not curled or carried over back. Not docked.

**LIMBS** :

FOREQUARTERS : Front legs straight, with large bones. Set rather wide apart to permit chest development.

Shoulders : Strong and muscular, with blades wide and sloping.

Pastern : Upright.

HINDQUARTERS : Well muscled.

Hocks : Let down, turning neither in nor out.

FEET : Of moderate size, well arched and compact.

**GAIT / MOVEMENT** : Springy but without roll or pace.

**COAT**

HAIR : Short, close, stiff to the touch, glossy.

COLOUR : Any colour, solid, particolour, or patched is permissible; but more than 80% white, black and tan, and liver not to be encouraged.

**SIZE** : Height and weight should be in proportion. A height of about eighteen to nineteen inches (46 - 48 cm) at the shoulder for the male

and seventeen to eighteen inches (43 - 46 cm) for the female to be considered preferable.

**FAULTS** : Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog.

- Dudley nose.
- Undershot or overshot mouth.
- Light eyes.
- Pink eyelids.
- Tail too long or badly carried.

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.