

1450 American Standard

No 2

OFFICIAL BOXER STANDARD
OF THE
BRITISH BOXER DOG CLUB

Not yet passed by Club

Not for publication or divulged to Press.

Albin Watson

OFFICIAL BOXER STANDARD
OF THE
BRITISH BOXER DOG CLUB

As passed, and agreed by the Chairman and Committee of the British Boxer Dog Club, 26th September, 1938.

Approved

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GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Boxer is a medium-sized, smooth-haired, sturdy dog of short square figure and strong limbs, measuring from 22" to 24" at shoulder and weighing about 65 lbs., according to height. The muscles are powerfully developed, the movements are alive with energy, the gait although firm,, is elastic, the stride free and roomy, the carriage proud and noble. As a service and guard dog, he must combine with substance and ample power, the elegance essential to an enduring escort dog with horse or cycle, and able to jump any reasonable obstacle.

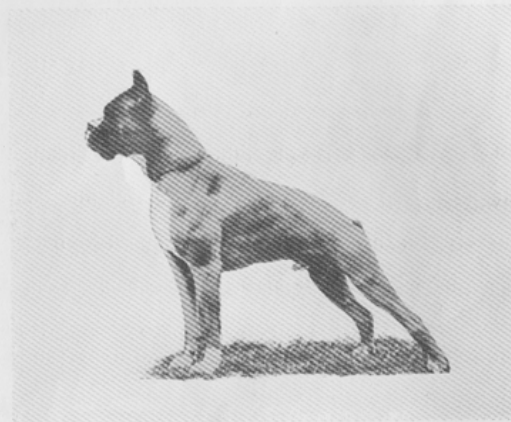
Only a body whose individual limbs are built to withstand strenuous effort, assembled as a complete and harmonious whole, can respond to such demand; to be at his highest efficiency he must not be plump or heavy., and, while equipped for great speed, he must not be racy.

The head imparts to the Boxer a unique individual stamp peculiar to him alone. It must be in perfect proportion to his body, and above all, it must not be too light. His muzzle is his most distinctive feature and the greatest value is to be placed on its correct form and in absolutely proper proportion to the skull.

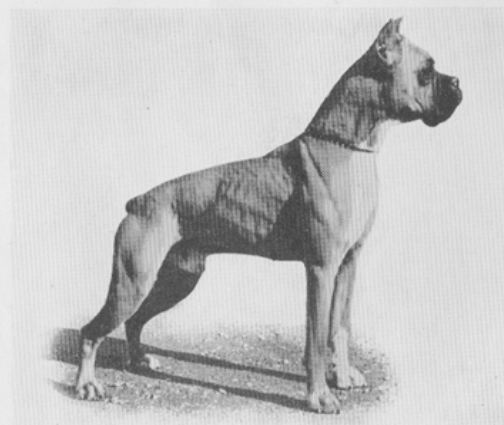
In judging the Boxer, the first thing to be considered is general appearance and the relation of substance to elegance, and of the desired proportions of the individual parts of the body to each other.



Do. Edel of Barriere



Do. Justiz v. Don.



Do. Zureflay v. Don

HEAD

The beauty of the head depends on the harmonious proportion between the muzzle and the skull. From whatever direction the head is viewed, whether from the front, from the top, or from the side, the muzzle must always appear in correct relationship to the skull. The head should be clean, the forehead wrinkled but not too deeply and there should be folds from the root of the nose downward on both sides of the muzzle. The mask must be dark and in distinct relief to the colour of the head, so that the face will not have a sombre expression.



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The muzzle must be powerfully developed in length, breadth and height. It must not be pointed or narrow, short or shallow. Its shape is influenced through the formation of both jaw-bones, through the placement of the teeth and through the quality of the lips. Length of muzzle to whole head as 1 to 3.

The lower jaw protrudes beyond the upper and bends slightly upward. The mouth is slightly undershot. The upper jaw is broad where attached to the skull, and maintains this breadth except for a very slight tapering to the front. The lips complete the formation of the muzzle. The upper lip is thick and padded, it fills out the hollow space in front formed by the projection of the lower jaw and is supported by the fangs of the same. The muzzle must be broad and almost square. The teeth of the underjaw must not be seen when the mouth is closed ; neither should the tongue show when the mouth is closed.



The top of the skull is slightly arched. It must not be so short that it is rotund, nor too flat, nor too broad, and the occiput must not be pronounced. The forehead forms a distinct stop with the top line of the muzzle, the stop being one of the most important points in the head. The stop must not be forced back too far into the forehead like that of a Bulldog, but neither should it slope away (appear downfaced). The nose should be large and black with wide open nostrils, and should be slightly higher at the tip than at the root of muzzle. Corresponding with the powerful set of teeth, the cheeks are accordingly well developed without protruding from the head with too " bulgy " an appearance

EARS

American and Continental Boxers are cropped. Cropped ears cover a multitude of sins. British Boxers have natural ears which are defined as :

Moderate in size (small rather than large), thin to the touch, set on wide apart at the highest points of the sides of the skull and lying flat and close to the cheek when in repose.

When looking alert, the ears to fall forward with a definite crease (see Fig. 1 and 2).



Fig. 1 Front View



Fig. 2 Side View

FAULTS

Flying ears, rose ears, semi-erect or erect ears.

EYES

Should be dark, preferably dark brown, disclosing an expression of energy and intelligence. Not too small, protruding, or deep set, nor appear gloomy, threatening or piercing, the lids free from sagging.

FAULTS Visible conjunctive (Haw). Light eyes.

NECK

Round, not too thick, and of ample length, yet strong and muscular, clean cut throughout, with an elegant arch from the head to the shoulders.

FAULTS Dewlap.

CHEST AND FRONT LEG MEASUREMENTS

The chest is deep, reaching down to the elbows ; the depth of the chest amounts to half of the height of the dog at the withers. The ribs are well sprung, but not barrel shaped, and are carried well back. The loin is short, close and taut and slightly tucked up. The shoulders are long and sloping, close lying and not excessively covered with muscle. The humerus (upper arm) is long, forming a right angle to the shoulder blade. The forelegs when seen from the front must be straight and stand parallel to each other. The elbows must not be under the ribs, nor protrude outwards. The underarm is perpendicular, long and firmly muscled. The pastern is short, slightly slanting but standing almost perpendicular to the ground. Feet small with tightly arched toes and hard soles (cat's paws).

The length of body from front of chest to rear of body should equal the height from ground to top of shoulder, giving the Boxer a short-coupled, square profile. (See photograph)

HINDQUARTERS

Very strong, with the muscles highly developed and the thighs and the croup slightly sloped. Tail attachment high rather than too deep. Tail docked, carried upward. The pelvis should be long and especially broad in females. Upper and lower thigh long, and well bent at the stifle. In standing position a vertical line from the hip protuberance should touch the leg at the stifle. The line of the leg from hock to heel should be slightly forward. Seen from behind the legs are straight. The hind feet are firmly padded, the rear toes a little longer than the front.

HEIGHT

Dogs to be from 22 in. to 24 in.

Bitches to be from 21 in.
to 23 in. Heights above or
below these limits not to
be
encouraged.

WEIGHT inches should

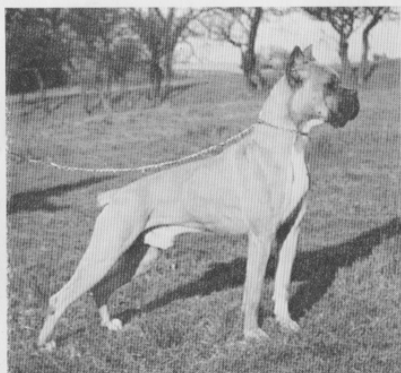
Males around 23 inches should weigh about 66 lbs. and females of about 22

weigh about 60 lbs.

COAT

Short, shiny, lying smooth and tight to the body.

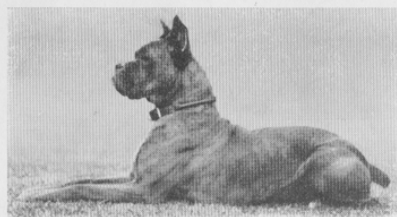




Box. Zerstieg v. Don



Box. Oly v. Don



Box. v. Bee der steen

COLOUR

The colours are fawn and brindle. The brindle variety should have black stripes on a golden yellow or red-fawn background. The stripes should be clearly defined. Stripes that do not cover the whole top of the body are not desirable. White markings in fawn and brindle dogs are not to be rejected, but the white must not exceed one-third of the fawn or brindle markings.

The black mask is absolutely required. When white stretches over the muzzle, naturally that portion of the black mask disappears. By the same token it is not possible to get black toe nails with white feet. It is desirable to have an even distribution of the head markings.

The character of the Boxer is of the greatest importance and demands the most solicitous attention. He is renowned from olden times for his great love and faithfulness to his master and household, his alertness and fearless courage as a defender and protector. He is harmless in the family, but distrustful of strangers, bright and friendly of temperament at play but brave and determined when aroused. His intelligence and willing tractability, his modesty and cleanliness make him a highly desirable family dog and cheerful companion. He is the soul of honesty and loyalty, and is never false or treacherous even in his old age.