

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL KENNEL COUNCIL



Extended Breed Standard of **THE SEALYHAM TERRIER**

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in conjunction with
The Australian National Kennel Council

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HISTORY OF THE BREED

The following article on the breed is reprinted from "Our Dogs" (1914) and was contributed by Mr. Fred W. Lewis, a keen admirer and a successful breeder and exhibitor, who, being on the spot, has studied the subject closely:

"The Sealyham Terrier's rise to fame and popularity has been rapid and permanent. Previous to the Kennel Club Show in October, 1910, the breed was comparatively unknown to the English exhibitor, and it fell to my privilege to be chiefly instrumental in introducing the Pembrokeshire production to the English public.

At the show in question I offered personally to guarantee several classes, provided the Kennel Club consented to their inclusion in the schedule. The ruling authority agreed to this course, and four classes were allocated to Sealyhams, and also, on my suggestion, Mr. H. Ridley was appointed to judge. The result was quite a decent entry, averaging, I think, six exhibits per class. In Open Dogs, Ch. Dandy Bach, which I had just sold to Lord Kensington, was placed 1st; Ch. Whisky Bach, then my property, came 2nd; while Ch. St. Bride's Demon, exhibited by Lord Kensington, was placed 3rd. In Open Bitches, Ch. St. Bride's Delight took premier honours, 2nd going to Ch. Bess Bach, then owned by Mr. Charles Wynn-Griffith. It will thus be seen that the winners of that time must have been pretty good specimens, in as much as most of them subsequently acquired championship honours, and have continued their successful show-bench career down to the present day. This is more or less an interesting feature, as showing that, notwithstanding the enormous amount of breeding that has since taken place; few individual good specimens have been produced. But there can be no question that the breed, as a whole, has vastly improved during the last four years, and the noticeable uniformity amongst the large - numbers of Sealyhams, which now appear at all the leading shows, is evidence of much care and attention on the part of breeders.

The origin of the Sealyham is more or less wrapped in obscurity, but there are several features of interest which I think I am in a position to lay before my readers, and which will give an approximate idea of how the Sealyham was first evolved and came to be recognised as a distinct breed.

Captain John Edwardes was an eccentric sporting gentleman of noble birth, and resided at Sealyham, an attractive country mansion situate between Haverfordwest and Fishguard, and which is now in the occupation of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Higgon, the latter a well-known breeder and judge, and chairman of the Sealyham Terrier Club since its formation in January, 1908. The Terrier is called after the residence of its founder.

Captain Edwardes, as I have just stated, was a great sportsman, and he conceived the idea that the mongrel dog of sixty or more years ago which he was obliged to use in his numerous sporting excursions was not quite the kind of animal for bolting the fox and otter, or digging out the badger, which he wished for. There seems little doubt that the Terrier of that date was more or less a nondescript kind of creature, with no pretension to beauty or breeding, nor with the least claim to uniformity of type. It will be apparent that to evolve a short-legged, smart, workman like terrier which above all other considerations, must be dead game, was not easy of solution and only a man possessed of indomitable courage and tenacity would have preserved in his efforts to realise an ideal which repeated failures must sometimes have indicated was incapable of accomplishment. But Captain Edwardes in his lonely country mansion, plodded on, and by careful selection and judicious breeding eventually established a short-legged; rough haired Terrier capable of facing any vermin then prevalent in the county.

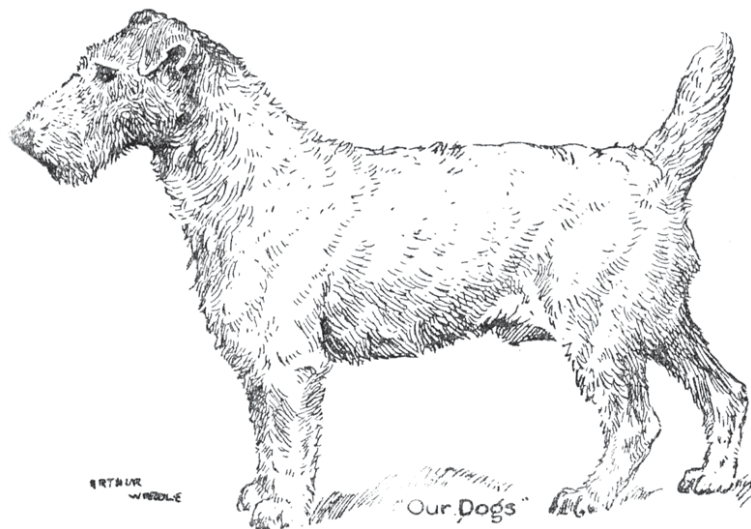


Fig.1- Illustration of Ch. Bess Bach – exhibited at first show.

At this period the polecat was fairly plentiful in the dense woods abounding in the vicinity of the Captain's residence, and the old gent made it a *sine qua non* that no dog should be given lodging at Sealyham which would not dispose of a full-grown specimen of the *Putorius fatidus*; and anyone who, has seen these denizens of the forest will at once realise that the standard of pluck fixed by the gallant Captain was by no means insignificant.

His method of testing the young dogs, which took place when they were about a year old, was as follows: A live polecat was dragged across a field, and then enclosed in a small pit, roughly a couple of feet deep, with an entrance about the size of an ordinary badger's hole. The quarry was secured with sufficient liberty to enable him to put up

a fair and square fight. As the polecat is a notoriously odoriferous animal, the dog, which would previously have done plenty of rapping, usually experienced no difficulty in following the trail and arriving at the spot where the length of its stay in the world was to be decided by the character of the combat which then took place. If the dog "went in" and killed, all well and good; if he funk'd the encounter and minced about outside, and declined to tackle his quarry, his doom was sealed. But our old friend was not always wise in his estimate of the character of his dog. One day a particularly good rapping dog turned craven, and refused to tackle the polecat. Every facility and encouragement was given, but without effect. The verdict was soon pronounced-the coward must die. The man who had walked the dog had become attached to the Terrier, and begged hard that, as he was such an excellent ratter and so useful to him about the farm, he might be allowed to keep him. A reluctant consent was given, and before the dog was a year older he turned out one of the gamest Terriers ever bred at Sealyham, and the old Captain subsequently purchased him from the farmer. The dog lived to a ripe old age, and when he died was mourned as one of the best tykes that ever went to earth. There is nothing exceptional in this experience, and I have no doubt that many readers, like myself, could relate similar examples of a dog not really developing until he had reached two years of age or so.

To come to the present-day Sealyham it is necessary to jump several -decades

The standard of points drawn up, and subsequently adopted in a slightly amended form by the Sealyham Terrier Club at its first meeting in January 1908 conveys, I think, a very fair and accurate description of a Sealyham Terrier.

It is often stated that there must be no resemblance to the Fox-terrier. I agree, but I don't agree with those breeders who prefer a Sealyham showing more resemblance to a Clumber Spaniel than to a Fox-terrier. Of two evils, I prefer the Fox-terrier type. But it is certainly not necessary to have either. I think the Sealyham should have a wider skull, shorter and wider jaw, broader chest, longer body, more profuse and harder coat, and, of course, very much shorter legs, than the Fox-terrier. When I add that larger ears we also permissible, I think I have covered the chief characteristics of the dog.

I am surprised to find in the Standard of points issued by a new club that " black markings are objectionable, even on head and ears, and a large black spot on the body should almost be a disqualification as showing Fox terrier blood. Now, such rubbish should not be permitted to pass unchallenged. I agree that none of us care for body markings of any description, but to say that black body markings are evidence of Fox-terrier blood shows an astonishing ignorance of the history of the Sealyham in particular, and of dogs in general.

My object in referring to this matter is to prevent novices from being misled by such nonsense, and they will no doubt be surprised to learn that I have bred scores of puppies by Huntsman and Peer Gynt with any amount of dark body markings, and I do not suppose anyone will dare dispute the statement that the Sealyham Terrier of today owes more to these two dogs than to any other specimen, living or dead.

In conclusion, I do hope the novice will not be led away by the glamour of misleading descriptions. Let him be careful to consult a rational standard, and then endeavour to breed specimens as near to it as possible, and consign the fantastic fallacies of the newly fledged theorists to the melting-pot of immaturity.”

STANDARD ADOPTED BY THE SEALYHAM TERRIER CLUB (1908).

- No. 1. HEAD. The skull slightly domed, and wide between the ears.
- No. 2. JAW. Powerful and long, with a more punishing and squarer jaw than the Fox Terrier.
- No. 3. NOSE. Black.
- No- 4. TEETH. Level and square, strong, and canines fitting well into, each other, and long for size of dog.
- No. 5. EYES well set, round and of medium size, of a dark brown or dark hazel colour.
- No. 6. EARS. Medium, V drop.
- No. 7. NECK. Fairly long, thick and muscular, strongly set on sloping shoulders.
- No. 8. CREST. Broad and deep, well let down between forelegs.
- No. 9. BODY. Long, and ribs well sprung, hindquarters very strong, body very flexible.
- No 10. LEGS AND FEET. The legs short and straight as possible, feet round and cat-like, with thick pads.
- No. 11. STERN. Carried gaily.
- No. 12. COAT. Long, hard, and wiry.
- No. 13. COLOUR. Mostly all white, or white with lemon, brown, or badgerpie'd markings on head and ears.
- No. 14. WEIGHT. Dogs to weigh from 18 to 20lb. bitches from 16 to 18lb.
- No. 15. HEIGHT. To measure from 8 to 12in. at the shoulder.

Faults

- No. 1. EYES. Light –coloured or small,
- No. 2. NOSE. White, cherry or spotted to a considerable extent with either of these colours.
- No. 3. EARS. Prick, tulip or rose.
- No. 4. COLOUR. Much black objectional
- No. 5. TEETH. Defective

Disqualifying Faults

Muzzle much overshot or undershot

● GENERAL APPEARANCE

Free moving, active, balanced and of great substance in small compass. General outline oblong, not square.

Free moving and active means that a Sealyham must be capable of moving freely over quite long distances. For example, in a hunting situation they could be asked, quoting an old Sealyham breeder, 'To go three miles out and three miles home' without any physical stress. Not only did they hunt the badger and often underground but hunted with packs of Foxhounds as well. A Sealyham must be extremely fit and appear so. Also an unbalanced dog would tire easily and have his activities curtailed.

Any dog much above the standard in height at the shoulder would not be able to safely work underground.

Likewise, the standard insists that the out line be oblong not square as is the case in some other Terriers such as the Scottish Terrier. A square Sealyham with a shorter back may please the eye but it is totally incorrect. A short backed dog loses the suppleness that is necessary in an underground hunter.

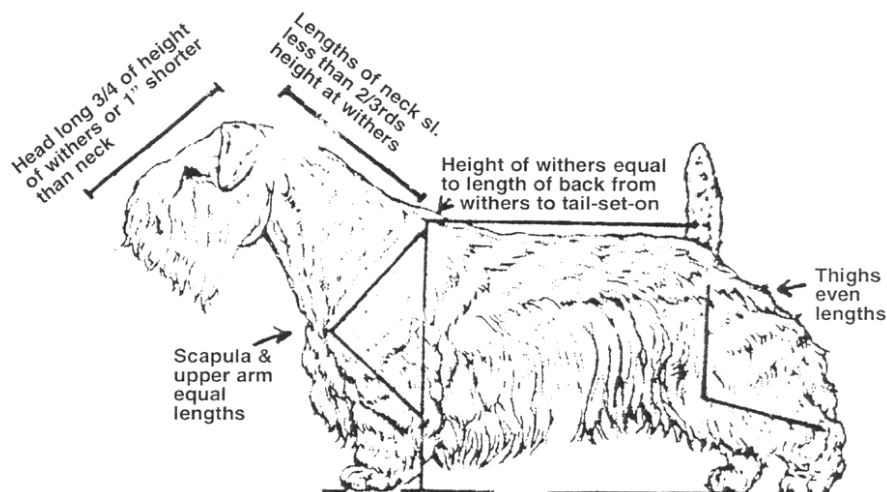


Fig. 2 – showing essential balance required.

● CHARACTERISTICS

Sturdy, game and workmanlike.

This describes the Sealyham, as it should be. On examination you will be surprised as to how solid they are, especially in bone and general musculature. Strong dense bone, heavy for the overall size of the dog is necessary to carry the muscle of an active hunter.

Gameness is noted when running free, Sealyhams stand their ground no matter what is before them, firstly in the upright eye catching challenge stance which is often followed by a characteristic crouching position with the strong hindquarters used as a fulcrum for immediate action. To watch these dogs free you can note their hunting workmanlike movement. Sadly the show ring precludes this, but knowledgeable judges should be capable of recognising the active workmanlike hunter in the unnatural environment of the show ring.

● TEMPERAMENT

Alert and fearless but of friendly disposition.

This is described in characteristic notes and in the introduction to this document. Sealyhams are very protective towards their families, and especially children. They are 'people' dogs and are at their very best working and associating with humans. However they often show a wariness with complete strangers. It is because of these characteristics that they make excellent guard dogs.

● HEAD AND SKULL

Skull slightly domed and wide between ears. Cheek bones not prominent. Punishing square jaw, powerful and long. Nose black.

Length of head roughly three quarters of the height at withers, head must be in perfect balance with the body. Skull slightly domed with a shallow indentation running down between the brows joining the muzzle, with a moderate slope. Cheeks smoothly formed and flat but showing obvious strength. Punishing jaws powerful and long. At examination of the jaw, you will be surprised at the strength and size of the teeth, especially the canines.

The words slightly domed for the head are important as a flat skull usually has prominent cheekbones, which make the head look coarse. The square punishing jaw is sometimes lost sight of - a long snipey jaw is wrong as there will be insufficient room for the strong teeth.



Fig.3 – Showing head proportions and ear placement.

● EYES

Dark, well-set, round, of medium size. Dark, pigmented eye rims preferred but unpigmented tolerated.

The reasons for these points are worth consideration. A hazel eye is permitted but a very light or yellow eye gives a foreign expression.

The shape of the eye is of utmost importance. It must be remembered that the Sealyham was bred to go to ground, so the eye had to be protected. A large protuberant eye would have been easily damaged.

It should be noted that eye pigmentation is often not fully developed in some Sealyhams until they are eighteen (18) months old.

● EARS

Medium sized, slightly rounded at tip and carried at side of cheek.

The size and carriage of ears plays a great part in the Sealyhams expression. Ears should be folded level with the top of head with forward edge close to cheek. The ears should be obviously rounded at the tip. In an alert stance the length should reach the outer corner of the eye.

Ears that are small and high placed like a Fox Terrier are most untypical as are the heavy hanging ears of the hound.

The dog should use its ears when anything attracts its attention. The ears should be thin, if the cartilage is too thick, the ears will be dead in appearance. However although the ears should not be leathery, they should not be ultra thin or they will 'fly' when the dog is in motion or develops a fold down the centre.

● MOUTH

Teeth level and strong with canines fitting well into each other and long for size of dog. Jaws strong with regular scissor bite, i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping the lower teeth and set square to the jaws.

This Standard statement should be self-explanatory. However one of the greatest Sealyham breeders and exhibitors, Nancy Bilney of Vandon Kennels, has this to say about the Sealyham's mouth:

Quote: "In the case of the teeth and jaw a Sealyham is required to have a strong jaw and good firm bite, by reason of the work for which it was bred. One tooth out of alignment is not going to make any difference to the strength of the bite provided the jaw is square and not narrow, but small mis-shapen irregular teeth are. As regards the jaw, who is to say what is "much" undershot or overshot? A pincer bite as opposed to a scissor bite can be just as effective and therefore should not be condemned. I believe that many of the sportsmen of the older generation prefer the pincer bite. Provided the canines - which are all important are long and fit well into each other and the jaws are strong and level, I would not be concerned if the upper teeth did not overlap the lower."

Despite this well known breeders opinion, the scissor bite remains that which is required by the Standard. In the final analysis the judge must assess the complete dog, taking into account all his qualities.

● NECK

Fairly long, thick and muscular on well laid shoulders.

The length of the neck should be slightly less than two-thirds the dogs height at its withers. Muscular, without coarseness, with good reach, refined at throat and set firmly on shoulders. The idea that a Sealyham should have a long thin neck is wrong. It would upset the essential balance, with a strongly built, low to the ground dog. A puppy may have a thin neck until it matures and the muscles develop.

Sloping shoulders are of great importance as so much depends on shoulder placement. A Sealyham cannot have the correct gait and be a free mover if it has straight upright shoulders. Straight shoulders give a short stride and a stilted action. A straight shoulder also means a short neck that gives a 'stuffy' appearance to the dog. Forward shoulders, which are due to the length of the humerus, and the angle at which it is set usually result in bad fronts and dipping toplines. Shoulders that are too wide due to excess of muscle under the shoulder blade, making for ungainly action with the dog 'paddling' instead of having the straight forward and backward movement, as with a pendulum.



Fig. 4 – Outstanding winner in both UK & USA.

● FOREQUARTERS

Forelegs short, strong and as straight as possible consistent with chest being well let down. Point of shoulder in line with point of elbow which should be close to side of chest.

A Sealyham must have well laid shoulders, powerful but not over muscled. Over muscling in the forequarters limits the dog's freedom of action and spoils the overall balance of the dog. Legs should be short in relation to the body. They should be strong and straight with good bone, with the chest being well let down between them. Pasterns should be checked for strength and out at elbows is not desired.

Mrs Phoebe Cummings of the famous 'Polrose Kennels' has had a continuing association with the Sealyham breed since the 1920's and makes the following point to judges:

'Do not forget that there have always been two types of Sealyham - the heavier, lower to the ground and possibly nearer to the standard and the more "racy" light and

possibly bigger type. We must keep both these types as I have noticed that if either is kept exclusively for several generations the stock seems to get either too small and too low to the ground or bigger and lighter in type.

Because of this both types are exhibited in the show ring.



Fig 5 –Note correct topline.

● **BODY**

Medium in length, level and flexible with ribs well sprung. Chest broad and deep, well let down between forelegs.

The Sealyham's body should be very flexible, and well ribbed back so that the loin is not too long. The loin should be muscular with no sign of weakness. This gives the picture of a medium length body. There should be no dipping behind the withers. Too often the short backed dog is admired but if the essential flexibility is to be maintained it follows that the back must be of medium length. The Sealyham was 'custom' bred to hunt underground, so great flexibility must be apparent. A short backed Sealyham usually has a short neck and shoulders that tend to be upright and is altogether too square in body. American Sealyhams are bred to a totally different standard from the English Kennel Club document and as illustrations of these dogs are readily available in canine publications judges all too often make the error of judging to this standard. It is the picture they have in their minds eye. It should never be forgotten that Sealyhams in Australia should be medium length and oblong in shape, not square like a Scottish Terrier.

The long dorsal vertebrae i.e. well ribbed back give space between each rib and so there is room for chest expansion. The chest must be deep and well let down between the forelegs. The narrow fronted flat-sided dog is incorrect as is the barrel shaped body, which is inclined to rest on the top of the forelegs instead of being down between them.

Although the topline should be level, with no dipping behind the withers, an in perceptible rise over the croup in front of the tail is not regarded as a serious fault. As an English specialist judge comments, 'Most exhibitors groom their dogs in such a way to hide this.'

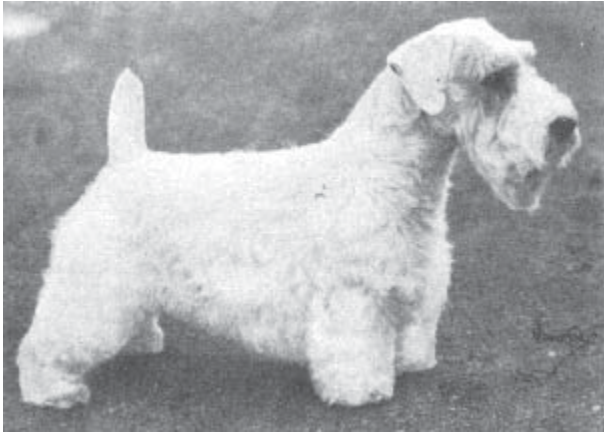


Fig. 6 – Showing strength of tail.

● HINDQUARTERS

Notably powerful for size of dog. Thighs deep and muscular with well bent stifle. Hocks strong, well bent and parallel to each other.

This is a clear description of the hindquarters, but no mention is made of the second thigh, which should be well developed.

The hindquarters are very powerful and should protrude behind the tail. Without these powerful hindquarters movement will lack drive and it is obvious that if there is any weakness in the hindquarters or any tendency towards cow hocks, its hind legs cannot move firmly and parallel to each other.

Again it is necessary to consider the dog in the working environment for which it was bred. Crawling and digging its way through damp under ground sets - the badgers burrows - and challenging a feline quarry weighing up to 26kg - demanded very strong hindquarters for propulsion and balance in a very confined space.



Fig. 7 – Correct balance

● FEET

Round and catlike with thick pads. Feet pointing directly forward.

The Standard is inadequate on this point. The Sealyhams front feet are different from the back feet. The front feet are big and powerful for the size of the dog, with thick pads and large strong size claws consistent with a digging breed. Thick pads are necessary as they are made of elastic material, which cushions the feet and prevents jarring when working in rough terrain or travelling distances.

The back feet are slightly smaller than the front feet and are inclined to be more oval in shape. Again the claws are long as they assist the dog to hold its ground when dealing with its underground adversaries.

● TAIL

Docked: Medium length. Thick with a rounded tip. Set in line with back and carried erect. Quarters should protrude beyond set of tail.

Undocked: Medium length of tail to give a general balance to the dog. Thick at root and tapering towards tip. Ideally carried erect, but not excessively over the back, with no curl or twist. Quarters should protrude beyond set of tail.

Again the Standard is inadequate as it gives no indication of how the tail should be set. It can be carried erect whether it is high set or low set. The tail is very important as its carriage shows the dogs character. A characteristic of the breed is gameness, Sealyhams should be alert and fearless. The tail carriage is an indication of the qualities. A nervous shy dog will keep its tail down. A forty-five degree tail can be forgiven in young bitches, but never in a male Sealyham.

The tail is a continuation of the sacrum, which is the wedge shaped bone at the base of the spin and lies between the upper edges of the hipbones. The tail root should leave the sacrum level with the spine. If the sacrum tends to run downwards towards the rear, the tail will be low set.

Dogs with such a set on of tail that have a fearless nature tend to try to remedy the low set on, and in keeping the tail up tend to carry it forward over the back. This is a gay tail, it is ugly and spoils the dogs outline.

Sealyham tails are about one third docked off. This is preferable as the tail is an integral indicator of a Sealyhams character.



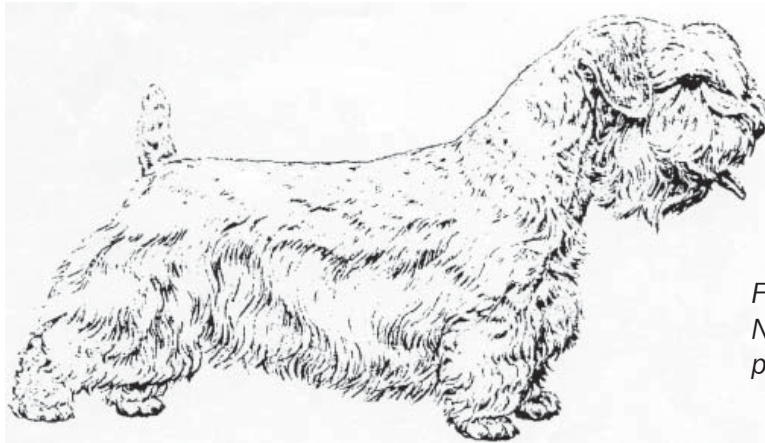
*Fig.8.
Over-coated – furnishings to ground.*

● GAIT/MOVEMENT

Brisk and vigorous with plenty of drive.

A Sealyham should be a free moving Terrier capable of covering rough ground if necessary. Correct conformation gives correct movement, which should be light and effortless.

English breeders of long experience state that most bitches lack enthusiasm to portray this characteristic movement in the show ring but dogs will always be more vigorous. Judges who know the breed well will understand this. These experts comment that ‘the girls prefer to stay at home, but will exhibit the same movements as dogs off the leash.’



*Fig. 9.
Note hindquarters correctly protruding behind tail set.*

● COAT

Long, hard and wiry topcoat with weather resistant undercoat.

The coat should not be dense and woolly but should have a weather resisting undercoat covered by a straight harsh topcoat of medium length, which should be 4 to 5 1/2 CM long.

Soft coats with over profuse furnishings are totally incorrect and most unsuitable for a working breed such as the Sealyham. Judges do the breed a great disservice when they give awards to Sealyhams with soft coats or excessive furnishings on head, body and thighs. Not all Sealyhams are show dogs and pet owners cannot manage incorrect soft coats. This fault crept into the Sealyham breed some twenty years ago and because expert groomers presented glamorous theatrical specimens in the show ring and received high awards the fashion was accepted.

The breed immediately lost popularity as a domestic pet. Breeders have realised the error of their ways and are returning to the correct Sealyham standard; long flowing soft coats are no longer acceptable and judges should give support to harsh coats with workmanlike furnishings.

● COLOUR

All white or white with lemon, brown, blue or badger pied markings on head and ears. Much black and heavy ticking undesirable.

These comments are based on statements from leading English Sealyham specialists. Many English dogs that have a small body patch become champions and rightly so for correct conformation should take precedence over body marking, but the key words are ‘small body patch.’

Very heavy markings on the head are often regarded as objectionable as they detract from the appearance of the dog no matter how well made.

Comment from a leading English Sealyham specialists:

‘On observations and discussions with old breeders puppies with a lot of pigment in their skin and very correct dark eyes, will sometimes have a blue undercoat. This disappears at about 2 to 2 1/2 years, however the guard hairs must always be white. Black patches of guard hairs on body are not really desirable.’



Fig.10–Note head markings

- **SIZE**

Ideal weight: Dogs approx. 9 kg (20 lbs)

Bitches approx. 8 kg (18 lbs)

Height should not exceed 31 cms (12 ins) at shoulder.

General conformation, overall balance, type and substance are main criteria.

Hard and fast rules on weight and size do not apply to Sealyhams. As the main criteria are general conformation, overall balance, type and substance.

The sizes given are approximate only but are a guideline to what is required. The last sentence is so important to our breed as we are numerically low world wide that we need encouragement to pursue this lovely breed. If you find a nice specimen and it catches your eye, recognise its quality and reward it even if there are not a great number of them around. Sealyhams have won B.I.S. many times and regularly take out group awards against very strong competition.

- **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.

- **NOTE**

Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.

Quote from a highly regarded Sealyham specialist judge:

‘Even champions are allowed faults which experienced judges note, but credible judges prefer to see the virtues take preference. Those judges of greater experience do not fault judge.’

Suggestions for Judges:

A good Sealyham male is a very self assured dog, alert and aware, not aggressive until challenged. A cautious approach by judges received a cautious response. Sealyhams make friends for life and never forget their friends even after years of no contact. Similarly they do not forget their perceived ‘enemies’. Good, well ‘brought up’ Sealyhams love people generally but keep a very watchful eye on other dogs.

Sealyham bitches especially young ones are very feminine and inclined to be shy in the show ring as they are usually not as dominant as the males.

The Sealyham is not a lap dog; he should not be a docile dog with a theatrical appearance or demeanour. There should be workman like toughness with an overall aura of elegance in a good Sealyham.

Do:

1. Approach the exhibit with confidence and courtesy, using your voice as you do - these Terriers are very responsive to voice tone.
2. Examine the dog from the side standing position - first ears, skull, muzzle and finally the mouth. Sealyhams over 9 months of age should permit this without any resistance, young puppies sometimes object through inexperience.
3. Then examine the rest of the body. If a Sealyham shows signs of nervousness - a young bitch - talk to her as you make your detailed examination.



Fig. 11- Too long in body

Don't:

Please don't be rough with the exhibit.

The Sealyham is a highly intelligent Terrier bred to dominate a large (40 to 60 lbs) aggressive feline - the badger - underground. A Sealyham with correct temperament fears no one, if challenged. So we must request our judges not to challenge their exhibits, even inadvertently.

1. Please do not walk up to the Sealyham from behind, introduce yourself from the side so the animal is aware of your approach.
2. Until you have introduced yourself please do not stand in front of the dog and bend over it to examine the head and forequarters.
3. Do not stare into the dogs face from the front or carelessly run your hands down and pull the beard to examine the head planes.

Sealyhams are generally very good-natured Terriers but even the most generous dog can resent indignities.

Sealyhams are not by nature kennel dogs. They thrive on human companionship. If they are denied this their temperament can suffer. They must also have firm but loving discipline at all times or their natural dominance (to hunt badger underground they needed it) will take over and a delinquent dog results. Judges should be aware of this.

In Australia today Sealyham owners are very conscious of this and do not allow it to happen, so present day judges should not face the problem.

However, all judges should be aware that stud Sealyhams are very resentful of other stud Sealyhams who appear to be intruding into their space - even in the show ring.

A mature male will regularly growl and challenge other males of the breed, but will behave with perfect good manners in a group line up.

Please judges understand that because mature males show aggression to each other it does not mean that they are aggressive dogs. Humans need have no fear: a Sealyham is more likely to lick you than nip you, if you treat with understanding and courtesy.

Realistically and perhaps fortunately, what one judge considers a bad fault, another may not. Some judges deal with over and undersize as a fault just as they would teeth out of line. But if an exhibit has other virtues should it be penalised for a crooked incisor or mismark? Likewise a large dog either has to stand first or last in line. One has to evaluate the propensities of virtues and faults. The judges' purpose is to place dogs in true order of merit.

The Sealyham must be, first and foremost, a Terrier with obvious working qualities. Working Terriers are loyal to their masters and watchful of strangers.

BASIS OF STATEMENT:

The Sealyham Terrier Club (unaffiliated but registered with the Canine Control Council, Queensland) has membership in every State of Australia except Tasmania and the Northern Territory, as well as in New Zealand. Sealyhams are being regularly exhibited in all these areas.



We are in constant contact with fellow members and this document has been given input from the following individuals:

1. Club members.
2. Mrs Diane Harrison - N.S.W. Sealyham specialist.
3. Mrs Stella Rootes (TORSET) and Miss Phyllis Rowe OBE (PASTELIN), English Sealyham breeders and Grade I Specialist judges over a thirty-five year period.
4. Mr Tom Horner (UK) written statements on the breed.
5. Mr Derrick Thomas (Wales) DERSADE. Judge and breeder.
6. Mrs Pat Crick - SHENDON (UK) Judge and breeder.
7. Mr. George Wilson - GUNGRACE (UK) Judge and breeder.
8. Miss Nancy Bilney - VANDON KENNELS.

The eight above-mentioned specialists, except Mr. Homer, are all breeders of at least 30 years experience and have judged internationally as well as in Great Britain. Mr. Homer is an internationally recognised Terrier judge. We hope that their knowledge and experience gives this document credence.



It is presented for the assistance of all judges interested in understanding the special character and behaviour of our breed - the Sealyham Terrier.