

Current Lagotto Romagnolo Standard

General Appearance: Small to medium-sized dog, well proportioned, powerfully built, of a rustic appearance, with a dense, curly coat of woolly texture. The dog should give the impression that he has the strength and endurance to work all day in difficult and challenging terrain.

Size, Proportion, Substance: *Size* - Height at the withers: Dogs 17 to 19 inches, Bitches 16 to 18 inches. ~~Tolerance of ½ inch.~~ Disqualification - Dogs under 16½ inches or over 19½ inches. Bitches under 15½ inches or over 18½ inches. *Weight* - Males 28 to 35 pounds. Females 24 to 31 pounds. *Important Proportions* - ~~The length of the head is four tenths of the height at the withers. The dog is nearly as high as long (square). The length of the dog, measured from the sternum to the ischium is nearly the same as the height at the withers. The length of the skull should be slightly more than 50 percent of the total length of the head. The depth of the chest is less than 50 percent (about 44 percent) of the height at the withers.~~

Head: When viewed from above the *head* is trapezoidal in shape and moderately broad; the upper longitudinal axis of the *skull* and the muzzle diverge slightly. Cheeks flat. Axis of the skull and the muzzle converging or appearing “dishfaced” is a fault. Viewed from the side, from occiput to stop, the skull should be longer than the muzzle. The skull measured across the area of the zygomatic arches is wide and equal to the area from the stop to the occipital crest, both being slightly more than 50 percent of the total length of the head (56 percent). Frontal sinuses well developed, marked arch of the eyebrows, the occipital crest is not very developed, the stop not too pronounced though the furrow between the eyes is pronounced. The ridge formed by the eye sockets is palpable from the eyebrows to the side of the head. The *eyes* are large, but never exaggerated, rounded, filling the socket, set fairly apart. The color of the iris ranges from ochre to hazel and dark brown depending on the color of the coat. Close fitting eyelids; eye rim color will vary with coat color from flesh colored to dark

Proposed Lagotto Romagnolo Standard

General Appearance: Small to medium-sized dog, well-proportioned, powerfully built, of rustic appearance, with a dense, curly coat of woolly texture. The dog should give the impression that he has the strength and endurance to work all day in difficult and challenging terrain.

Size, Substance, Proportions: *Size* – Height at the shoulders: Dogs 16½ to 19½ inches; Bitches 15½ to 18½ inches. Disqualification - Dog under 16½ or over 19½ inches; bitches under 15½ or over 18½ inches. *Substance* - Males 28 to 35 pounds. Females 24 to 31 pounds. *Important Proportions* - The Lagotto is a square dog, measured from the prosternum to the point of ischium and from the highest point of the shoulder to the ground. The length of the head is 40 % of the height at the shoulders. The neck is slightly shorter than the length of the head. The length of the skull should be slightly more than half the length of the head. The legs are slightly more than half the height of the dog at the shoulder.

Head: Viewed from above and from the side, the *head* is a broad blunted wedge. The length of the skull, from stop to occiput, is the same as the width at the widest point of the zygomatic arch. The somewhat arched skull is slightly longer than half the length of the head (56 percent skull to 44 percent muzzle) with unpronounced occiput. Planes of the skull and muzzle diverge slightly - extreme divergence, parallel planes or dish faced appearance are serious faults. Nasal bone is straight. The stop is moderate, with a distinct furrow between the eyes. Frontal sinuses are well developed, giving good fill beneath the eye. Cheeks are flat. The wide robust underjaw defines the shape of the muzzle so that the lips form an upside-down semi-circle. The nose is large with wide open and mobile nostrils and a strongly pronounced median groove. It protrudes very slightly from the front edge of the lips. The nose should be fully pigmented in shades from light to dark brown, varying with coat color. Anything else is a serious fault. Lips are rather tight and not thick. The strong lower jaw determines the profile of the muzzle.

brown. Eyelashes very well developed. The Lagotto's expression should be alert, keen and lively. Walleye(s), an eye with a whitish iris, a blue eye, are a disqualifying fault. The **ears** are medium sized in proportion to the head, triangular with rounded tips; their base is rather wide; they are set just above the zygomatic arches. Hanging at rest or slightly raised when the dog is attentive. The ears when pulled loosely forward across the cheeks towards the nose tip should cover ¼ of the length of the muzzle. **Muzzle** is measured from eyes to nose tip. On the ears, the hair tends to show looser curls, but remains very wavy. Except where trimmed to the edges there should be no short hair on the ears. The inner part of the auricle is also covered with hair. The muzzle is broad in width, in length a little shorter than the skull (44 to 56 percent ratio). The muzzle is wedge shaped, giving a blunt profile. The nose is large with wide open and mobile nostrils. Median groove strongly pronounced. The bridge of the muzzle has a straight profile, a roman nose is a fault. Viewed in profile, the nose continues on the same level as the muzzle and protrudes very slightly from the front edge of the lips. Color will vary with coat color from flesh colored to dark brown. The nose should be fully pigmented. A de pigmented nose is a fault. The lips are not too thick; they are rather tight, so that the lower profile of the muzzle is determined by the mandible. They are covered with a long and rather bristly moustache. Color will vary with coat color from flesh colored to dark brown. The flews are tight fitting and dry. Strong underjaw which is relatively large with white and well developed teeth. The mandibular braches of the jaw should be straight. Reverse scissor **bite**, scissor bite or level bite are all acceptable. Overshot bite and pronounced undershot bite (more than a ¼ inch space between the upper and lower incisors) are both disqualifying faults. Full dentition is preferred. No more than one missing tooth. The missing tooth to be allowed only between P1-P4. Any tooth missing other than a premolar or more than one missing tooth is a disqualification.

Neck, Topline and Body: The **neck** is strong, muscular, lean and oval in shape; well set off from the nape, and slightly arched. In males the perimeter of the neck can reach the double of its length. Short in appearance, it is less than the total

The flews are tight fitting and dry. Pigment of the lips varies with coat color from light to dark brown. Well-developed teeth meet, ideally, in a scissor or level **bite**. A reverse scissor bite is acceptable. Full dentition is preferred. Disqualification - Overshot or undershot bites (where the incisors do not touch those of the opposing jaw). The **eyes** are set somewhat frontal-obliquely, and fairly well apart. They are large, rounded, fill the sockets, and very slightly protruding. The color of the iris ranges from ochre to hazel to dark brown – no other colors are acceptable. Eyelids are close fitting. Eye rim color will vary with coat color from light to dark brown. Eyelashes are very well developed. The arch of the eyebrow is prominent. The **ears** are medium-sized in proportion to the head, triangular with rounded tips. The base of the ear is rather wide and is set just above the zygomatic arch. When alert, the top of the ear rises to widen the appearance of the skull, and the front edge of the ear is close to the cheek. When pulled loosely forward, the ear should cover about ¼ of the length of the muzzle. The Lagotto's expression should be intelligent, friendly and attentive.

Neck Body, Topline: The **neck** is strong muscular, thick, and oval in shape. It is lean, well set off from the nape, and slightly arched. The length of neck is slightly less than the total length of the head. Neck should blend smoothly into shoulders. Muscles are extremely powerful. A

length of the head. The **topline**—well pronounced withers, topline straight from behind the withers to the croup, which is slightly sloping. **Body**—compact and strong. The length of the dog, measured from the sternum to the ischium is nearly the same as the height. Chest—well developed, reaching down to the elbows. Ribs—well developed, narrow in front; widening from the sixth rib back (behind the shoulders) to the last rib. Underline—long sternal section in form of a straight line; the following tuck-up is only slight. Back straight, very muscular. Loin—short coupled, very strong, width is equal or slightly exceeds the length. Croup—long, wide, muscular, slightly sloping. **Tail**—set on slightly below the line of the back; following the natural line of the croup. The length of the tail when hanging at rest should barely reach the hocks. At rest carried scimitar like or straight; when excited it is decidedly raised. When moving the tail is often carried level with the back. When working or excited can be raised higher, also scimitar like, but never curled or straight up. Tail tapers towards the end. It is covered with woolly and rather bristly hair.

Forequarters: **Shoulder**—shoulder blades long (30 percent of the height at withers), well laid back (~~52 to 55 degrees~~), muscular, strong and closely attached to the chest, but moving freely. The angle formed between the shoulder blade and the upper arm should be ~~110 to~~ 115 degrees. **Upper Arm**—muscular, of thin bone structure, as long as the shoulder blade; its inclination to the horizontal ranges from 58 to 60 degrees. Elbow—tucked firmly against the brisket; covered with

correct neck is fundamental to function. The Lagotto *body* is square, compact and strong. The length of the dog, measured from the prosternum to the point of the ischium, should be the same as the height at the top of the shoulder blade, which are long and quite high-set, rising well above the level of the back. Chest is wide and well-developed, reaching down to the elbows, but not below them. The ribcage is slightly narrowed in front, widening from the sixth rib back, allowing elbows to move smoothly along the body. Ribs are well sprung (width of ribcage at the widest point is about 30 percent of the height of the dog). Underline is straight, with a slight tuck-up at the flank. The scapulae are set high, back straight, loin slightly arched, croup slightly sloping and tail follows the line of the croup. A line drawn from the top of the shoulder to the hip will be slightly sloping. A dog high in the rear or low in the shoulder is to be penalized. The Lagotto's back is straight and very muscular. The loin is short-coupled, very strong, and slightly arched. Its width is equal to or slightly exceeds the length, giving strength for digging. Croup is slightly sloped, quite long, broad, and muscular. It forms an angle of approximately 25/30 degrees from the horizontal. Flat or steep croups are to be severely penalized. The *tail* is set on following the line of the croup. At rest, it is carried scimitar-like, and no higher than the back. When excited, the tail is decidedly raised, and carried in a loose arc above the level of the back. Tip of tail should not be carried further forward than the pelvis. The tail should never be curled or carried straight up. The tail tapers from base to end and should reach to just above the hock. Ringtails or tails carried over the back are serious faults.

Forequarters: The shoulder blades are long (30 percent at the height of the shoulder), well laid back (yet not too close at tips), muscular, and strong. They are closely attached to the chest but move freely. The angle formed between the shoulder blade and the upper arm should be approximately 115 degrees. The elbow will fall on a vertical line lowered from the back of the scapula to the ground. The upper arm is as long as the shoulder blade, of light bone structure, muscular, and tucked firmly against the chest.

thin skin. Parallel to the median sagittal plane (means in line with the spine) of the body as are the upper arms. The tip of the elbow is located on a vertical line lowered from the back end of the scapula to the ground. Forearm—perfectly vertical, long (36 percent of the height at withers), with compact, strong bone of oval cross section. Carpus (wrist)—viewed from the front in a vertical line with the forearm; fine, robust and mobile; the bone of the carpus markedly protruding. Pasterns—rather less thick and of finer bone compared with the forearm. Seen in profile, slightly sloping (They form an angle of 75 to 80 degrees with the ground). Dewclaws—must be present on the front legs. Missing dewclaws are a disqualifying fault. Forefeet—slightly rounded, compact, with well arched and tight toes having well developed webbing between the toes. Pads are fully pigmented. Nails are strong and curved and may range in color from white to so dark a brown as to appear black.

Hindquarters: Angulation—in balance with the forequarters. Legs powerful, upright seen from the rear, well proportioned to the size of the dog and parallel. Upper thigh—long (35 percent of the height at withers), with well defined muscles. The axis of the femur has a distinct inclination of 80 degrees to the horizontal. The coxo femoral angle ranges from 105 to 110 degrees. The thigh is parallel to the median plane of the body. Stifle the angle of the stifle ranges from 130 to 135 degrees. Second thigh slightly longer than the upper thigh (36 percent of the height at withers), well boned and muscled, with marked muscular groove. Its inclination to the horizontal ranges from 50 to 55 degrees. Its direction is parallel to the median plane of body. Hocks (rear pastern)—well let down. Thin, cylindrical, perpendicular to the ground. Hind feet slightly oval shaped, compact, with toes slightly less arched than those of the forefeet and with well developed webbing between the toes. Pads are fully pigmented. Nails are strong and somewhat straighter than those of the forefeet and may range in color from white to so dark a brown as to appear black. Dewclaws present on rear feet is a disqualification.

Coat: Hair—of woolly texture, never twisted to form thin cords, semi-rough on the surface, with tight, ring shaped curls, with visible undercoat.

Legs are straight. The forearm is long, with strong, compact, oval bone. The carpus is fine, robust and mobile, and in complete alignment with the forearm. Pasterns are also in perfect alignment with forearm, and of slightly finer bone. They are moderate in length and slightly sloping. Forefeet are webbed, rounded, and compact, with well-arched, tight toes. Pads have particularly hard soles. Nails are curved and range in color from white to extremely dark brown.

Hindquarters: Angulation of the hindquarter is slightly less than the angle of the forequarter (approximately 110 degrees). Legs are powerful and parallel when seen from the rear. The upper thigh is slightly longer than the shoulder (35 percent of height at shoulders). It is quite broad, convex, and with well-defined muscles. The second thigh is slightly longer than the upper thigh, well boned and strong. The hindquarters must be perfectly parallel to the spine. The angle of the stifle should be more open than the angle at the hip, (approximately 130 degrees). The hock joint is well let down, wide, clean and strong. Pasterns are thin, cylindrical, and perpendicular to the ground when the dog is standing freely. A vertical line from the point of ischium to the ground will fall slightly in front of the toes. Hind feet are slightly oval, compact, and webbed. The toes of the back feet are not quite as arched as those of the forefeet; thus, the nails may be straighter.

Skin, Coat: The skin of the Lagotto is thin, firm and close-fitting all over the body, without wrinkles. Pigmentation of the skin and pads harmonizes with the color of the coat, ranging

~~Curls must be evenly distributed all over the body and tail, except on the head, where the curls are not as tight forming abundant eyebrows, whiskers and beard. Even the cheeks are covered with thick hair. The topcoat and specially the undercoat are water-proof. The clipped coat must not be longer than a maximum of 1½ to 2 inches in a curled state (not brushed-out) and it should be uniform with the silhouette of the dog. Only on the head the coat can be longer than 1½ inches, but not so long as to cover the eyes. The edges of the ears should be clipped to the leather, though the surface of the ear flap should show wavy hair. The area around the genitals and anus should be clipped short. The hair should never be clipped so short (except as noted above) that curls and texture of the coat cannot be assessed. The correct clip is unpretentious and contributes to accentuate the natural, rustic look typical of the breed. The correct coat is never luxurious and shiny. Excessively groomed dogs (sculpted or blown out so that the curl may not be assessed) should be so severely penalized as to eliminate from competition. Disqualification — Corded coat. Skin thin, close fitting all over the body, without wrinkles. Pigmentation of the skin connecting with mucous membranes and that of pads ranges from light to dark and very dark brown.~~

Color: ~~Off-white solid color, white with brown or orange patches, brown roan, brown (in different shades) with or without white, orange with or without white. Some dogs have a brown to dark brown mask. Tan markings (in different shades) allowed. The colors have a tendency to fade to a more diluted shade as the dog ages, sometimes to such an extent that the brown areas can appear as a silvery/gray roan. All the above colors are equally desirable including faded or diluted colors. Black coat, black patches or black pigmentation are to be disqualified.~~

Gait/Movement: ~~Energetic trot with reach and drive. Lively and balanced.~~

from dark pink to dark brown. Depigmentation anywhere on the body is a serious fault. Coat is extremely important in this breed. Hair should be of wooly texture, semi-rough on the surface. Topcoat should be quite thick, and undercoat visible. The combination of the two repel water. A correct coat is never luxurious or shiny. The body is covered with tight ring-shaped curls, not frizz. Skull and cheeks are covered with thick hair, and the looser curls of the head form abundant eyebrows, whiskers, and a rather bristly beard. The coat covering the tail is both curly and somewhat bristly. The Lagotto must not be corded. Disqualification - smooth or straight coat. The correct trim must always be unpretentious, and contribute to the natural, rustic look typical of the breed. In a curled state the body coat must be trimmed to no more than 1½ inches in depth (not brushed/combed out), and it should be uniform with the silhouette of the dog. Only on the head can the coat be longer than 1½ inches, but should never cover the eyes (should be penalized). The edges of the ears should be trimmed to the leather; the surface of the ear flap should show looser curls, but remain wavy. The area around the genitals and anus may be clipped short. Hair must be of sufficient length that curls and texture can be assessed. Corded dogs or excessively groomed dogs (sculpted or blown out) should be so severely penalized as to be eliminated from competition.

Color: Lagotti can be off-white solid color, white with brown or orange patches, brown roan, orange roan, brown, orange, or sable (in different shades), with or without white. Some dogs have extremities darker than their body color. Tan markings (in different shades) allowed. The colors have a tendency to fade, sometimes to such an extent that the brown areas can appear as silvery/gray roan. All the above colors are equally desirable, including the faded or diluted colors. Disqualification - Black or gray coat or patches; black pigmentation.

Gait/Movement: Lagotti should exhibit an energetic, lively, balanced trot, with moderate reach and drive. Back should remain firm and strong with no tendency to roll. At a trot, the rear foot covers but does not pass the footprint of the front foot. Movement from the front is parallel at a walk or slow trot, never wider than the dog's

Behavior and Temperament: The Lagotto is tractable, ~~undemanding~~, keen, affectionate, ~~very~~ attached to his owner ~~and easy to train~~. He is ~~also a very good~~ companion and ~~an excellent~~ watch-dog. A natural gift for searching and a very good nose has made the breed very efficient in finding truffles. The former hunting instinct has been modified by genetic selection; ~~hence his work is not distracted by the scent of game. The dog should be neither~~ aggressive nor overly shy.

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 and on its ability to perform its traditional work.~~

Disqualifications:

Size - Dogs under 16½ inches or over 19½ inches. Bitches under 15½ inches or over 18½ inches. Walleye(s), an eye with a whitish iris, a blue eye. Bite - Overshot bite, pronounced undershot bite (more than a ¼ inch space between the upper and lower incisors). Teeth—Any tooth missing other than a premolar or more than one missing tooth. Dewclaws—Missing on front feet or present on rear feet. Coat - Corded coat. Color - Black coat, ~~black patches or~~ black pigmentation.

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shoulder, and tends toward a center line as speed increases. Rear legs are also parallel at a slow gait, converging at increased speed, with hocks staying in a straight line between hip and foot. As the dog increases speed, the neck moves slightly lower and forward. The Lagotto should move with distinction and nobility of bearing. He should not be exhibited in an elongated trot – it is atypical and incorrect for the breed.

Behavior, Temperament: The Lagotto is tractable, adaptable, keen, affectionate, and extremely attached to its owner. He is both highly intelligent and easily trained. He is an excellent companion and a very good watchdog. A natural gift for searching and a very good nose have made the breed very efficient in finding truffles. The former hunting instinct has been modified by genetic selection to avoid distraction by game. This breed should never be aggressive or overly shy.

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 to the degree that it will affect the dog's ability to perform its traditional work, as well as the health and welfare of the dog.

Disqualifications:

Size- Dogs under 16½ inches or over 19½ inches. Bitches under 15½ inches or over 18½ inches. Bite – Overshot or pronounced undershot bite (incisors of the upper jaw and lower jaw do not touch). Coat – Smooth or straight. Color – Black or gray coat or patches; black pigmentation.