



SEGUGIO ITALIANO CLUB OF AMERICA OFFICIAL STANDARD

SEGUGIO ITALIANO

ORIGIN: Italy.

DATE OF ADOPTION: 3.1.2020.

UTILIZATION: Hunting

GROUP: Scenthound

BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY: The origin of the Segugio goes back to ancient times. These dogs are certainly descendants of the primitive hounds of ancient Egypt, used for hunting game. They were introduced along the Mediterranean coast by Phoenician merchants and finally arrived in Italy. Numerous drawings executed under divers dynasties of Egyptian Pharaohs bear witness to the presence of dogs very much resembling the present Segugio. Lets point out in particular the presence of hanging ears, undoubtedly a sign of an advanced domestication. One may therefore assume that the ancient dog for the scent-hunting game, landed in Italy and gave birth to the present Segugio, whose general anatomical particularities have been maintained practically without change throughout the centuries. Dogs of the same type and stature as the present Segugio figure on statues of "Diane the huntress" in the Naples Museum and that of "Diane with bow and arrow" in the Vatican Museum. In the castle of Borso d'Este (1600) there is a painting, which represents the ideal type of the present Segugio.

GENERAL APPEARANCE: Adapt to diverse terrain, the Segugio Italiano is robust. Medium in proportion, the dog is squarely built, well balanced, with well developed bone, lean shape, and good muscles without a trace of fat; it comes in both a smooth and rough coated variety.

SIZE, PORTION, SUBSTANCE:

Size - Males - 19.5 to 24.5 inches. Females - 19 to 24 inches.

Portion - The length of the body is equal to the height at the withers. The depth of the chest is equal to half of the height at the withers.

The length of the muzzle is equal to half the length of the head. The neck must reach in length

4/10th of the height at the withers.

Substance - Weight should be in proportion with height depicting a lean shape and good muscle without a trace of fat. Both males and females should be between 39 to 62 lbs.

HEAD

Expression: Always soft; the smooth coated variety should appear resonant while the rough coated variety appears proud yet slightly sad in expression.

Eyes: Large, luminous and almond in shape. Dark ochre in color with black rims.

Ears: The ears must be hanging. The leather is of triangular shape, flat in its entire length and broad; the point of the leather must end in a narrow point; it is never widely rounded. The length of the ear must reach about 70% of the length of the head, approximately half the length of the muzzle (longer being preferable to shorter).

Skull: Seen from above, the shape of the skull is nearly oval. When viewed from the side, the stop and frontal furrow are slightly marked.

Muzzle: The length of the muzzle is equal to half the length of the head; In profile the muzzle is slightly convex (Roman Nose). The nose is large, black with open nostrils. Teeth - scissors bite. Even bite acceptable. Lips - always black. Cheek - lean.

NECK, TOPLINE & BODY:

Neck: The upper profile is slightly arched, therefore slightly convex. The length corresponds to or is almost equal to the length of the head. The appearance is very lean and light. Skin appears thin and close fitting on smooth coated dogs, but thick and form fitting on rough coats.

Top line: Straight top line which from the withers descends harmoniously towards the croup with a modest convexity at the level of the lumbar region. (this gives an extremely slight sway back appearance)

Body:

Withers: Only slightly raised above the top line and narrow due to the closeness of the shoulder blade points; fusing harmoniously into the base of the neck.

Back: Profile straight with muscles not very apparent

Loin: The length of the loin measures a bit less than a fifth of the height at the withers; the width of the loin is close to the length; muscles of the lumbar region are well developed in length and width. Croup: Upper profile of the croup is slightly convex; with muscles well developed.

Chest: The depth of the chest is about half the height at the withers; well developed but not barrel-shaped. The chest must reach down to the elbows. The ribs are not greatly sprung, so slightly convex.

Underline and belly: The profile is typical, ascending in a straight line from the sternum to the belly. The belly is very lean and slightly tucked.

Tail: Set high on the line of the croup. Thick at the base and ending in a fine point, the tip of the tail almost reaches to the point of the hock. At rest, it hangs sabre fashion. In action, it rises at the level of, or above the topline. Whether the dog is smooth or rough, there should be no fringes from the coat.

FOREQUARTERS:

Shoulder: The shoulder should be well laid back; the muscles are long and lean, apparent and very distinct.

Upper arm: The length corresponds to about half the height, from the ground to elbow. Arm muscles are long and lean.

Elbow: Free and well set under shoulders.

Forearm: A third of the height at the withers; perpendicular to the ground and shows a well visible carpo-cubital groove, which gives the impression of a lean leg, not heavy in bone.

Carpus (Wrist): Lean, extends in the straight line of the forearm. **Metacarpus (Pastern):** Broader than the wrist, but flat and lean; seen in profile, the pastern is slightly oblique from back to front. **Feet:** Oval shaped (hare foot), well knit, arched toes. Pads are dry, hard, leathery, and always black. Strong nails, curved and always black. The presence of some white nails (not pink) is not a fault.

HINDQUARTERS:

Thigh: Long and broad. The length reaches at least a third of the height at the withers. Muscles are prominent, but clearly separated; the back edge of the thigh is a little convex. The angle of the coxo-femoral joint measures 90° to 95°.

Stifle (Knee): The stifle must be on a vertical with the hindleg, therefore should not turn neither out nor in; the angle of the femoro-tibial joint is of about 115°.

Lower thigh: The length of the lower thigh is slightly less than that of the thigh; the slant below the horizontal is about 40°. The lower thigh shows lean muscles even in its upper part, firm and clearly distinct one from the other; the leg groove is well marked and apparent, the outer saphenous vein is visible; bone structure rather light but very solid.

Hock Joint: The bone structure is solid with the bony outline clearly visible, which underlines the leanness of the leg; the femoro-tibial angle is of about 135°. The width is approximately 1/10th of the height at the withers.

Metatarsus (Rear pastern): The length is inferior to half the length of the foreleg measured from the ground to the elbow; less wide than the hock, set in a vertical position, i.e. perpendicular to the ground. No dewclaws.

COAT:

Smooth coat: Short hair all over the body; straight horse hair texture, dense, close and uniformly smooth; there may be a few scattered coarse hairs on the body, on the muzzle, also on the legs which does not constitute a fault.

Rough coat: On the body the length of the hair should not be more than 5cm. The hair is definitely rough, except on the head, on the ears, the legs, the tail and the muzzle, where the hair is usually less rough than on the body and the lips; under the lips, the hair, although of moderate length, forms the so-called beard. The hair on the superciliary arches is of limited length so as not to fall over the eyes or hide them.

Color: The permissible colors are: solid fawn in all nuances, from intense red fawn to a faded (washed out) fawn, grizzly, Tan with a black saddle, and the black and tan. The tan markings, as in all black and tan dogs, should be on the muzzle, eyebrows, chest, on the legs, from carpus to foot and tarsal to foot, also on the perineum. Fawn and grizzly dogs may have white on the muzzle and the skull, (symmetrical mask or not), a white star on the chest, white on the neck, the pastern, hocks, on the feet and the tip of the tail. The white however is not desirable and the less there is of it the better. The bicolored dogs may show a white star on the chest; in that case the Segugio is called tricolour.

GAIT/MOVEMENT: Preferred gait is the gallop, but the hunting action forces him equally to walk and trot.

BEHAVIOUR/TEMPERAMENT: Scent hound well adapted to the most circumstance; endowed with a great resistance and good speed, is eager, whether working alone or in a pack; of a steady temperament but not very outgoing, has a soft expression and a resonant very pleasant voice.

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 its ability to perform his traditional work.

DISQUALIFYING FAULTS:

- Aggressive or overly shy dogs.
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified.
- Cranio-facial axes convergent.
- Concave muzzle.
- Overshot mouth.
- Wall eye
- Lack of tail or short tail, whether congenital or artificial.
- when white predominates.