

# ***1942 UK Basenji Standard***

Drawn up in February, 1939 and approved on 24th June, 1942

**HEIGHT:** Approximately 16 inches bitches, 17 inches dogs.

**HEAD:** Of medium width, not coarse, tapering towards the eyes, well-chiseled with lofty carriage. The skull should be flat. The foreface should taper from eye to muzzle, and should be shorter than the skull. Teeth should be level. Wrinkles appear upon the forehead when the ears are pricked, giving a puzzled expression. These are a special characteristic of the Basenji, but exaggerated wrinkle is to be avoided, as the excessive loose skin tends to give a Bloodhoundy appearance and spoils the clean lines of the breed.

**NOSE:** Black greatly desired, but a pinkish tinge should not penalise an otherwise first-class specimen.

**EARS:** Should be pointed and erect, set well forward, and of fine texture.

**EYES:** Dark hazel, almond shaped, small, deep-set and far-seeing.

**NECK:** Of sufficient length, well-crested, and slightly full at the base of the throat. It should be well set into flat laid-back shoulders.

**CHEST:** Deep and of medium width.

**BODY:** The body should be short and level. The ribs well sprung with plenty of heart-room and deep brisket, short-coupled and ending in a definite waist.

**LEGS:** Straight with clean bone and well defined sinews. Pasterns straight rather than otherwise, but not of the fox-terrier type.

**FEET:** Small, narrow, with well arched toes.

**HINDQUARTERS:** Should be strong and muscular, with hocks well let down, and turned neither in nor out, with long second thighs.

**TAIL:** Should be set on top and curled tightly over to one side.

**COLOUR:** Chestnut with white points and tail tip, also black and white, and black, tan and white.

**COAT:** Short and silky, skin very pliant.

**MOVEMENT:** Both hindlegs and forelegs should be carried straight forward with swinging stride, greatly resembling that of a racehorse trotting full out, this swift tireless running gait being a special characteristic of the breed.

**GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS:** Basenjies do not bark. The appearance should be one of springy poise and alertness, greatly resembling an antelope.

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*At the Annual General Meeting, April 29th, 1946, the following additions were made:*

**WEIGHT:** Approximately 22 lbs. bitches, 24 lbs. dogs.

**COLOUR:** Creams are banned from showing and breeding.

Coarse skull or muzzle. Domed or peaked skull. Dewlap. Round eyes. Low-set ears. Overshot or undershot mouths. Wide chest. Wide behind. Heavy bone. Creams, sables or off-colours, other than those defined above, should be heavily penalized.