
THE FRENCH POINTING DOG

. Standard and comments .



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CENTRALE
CANINE





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Brief historical summary

Like the other small game birds and ground game hunting dogs of the 7th and 8th groups, the French Pointing dog is the distant successor of the dogs used in the Middle Ages as auxiliaries in falconry and to capture birds with nets. Like other French gundogs, the braccoid dogs were in competition from the 18th century by imported English breeds. The modern stock is a lighter version of an ancestral large-sized model that used to be found in different regions and which has survived more particularly in the southwest, come in two sizes known as "Gascogne type" and "Pyrenées type". Long renowned for its docility and trainability, the French Pointing dog is a particularly versatile pointing dog.



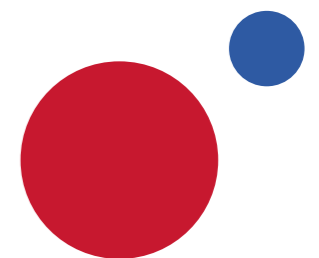
GENERAL APPEARENCE

GASCOGNE TYPE

- Pointing dog of medium proportions with « Braque » type, powerful but without excessive heaviness, robust with strong bone structure
- The skin is supple, quite loose.

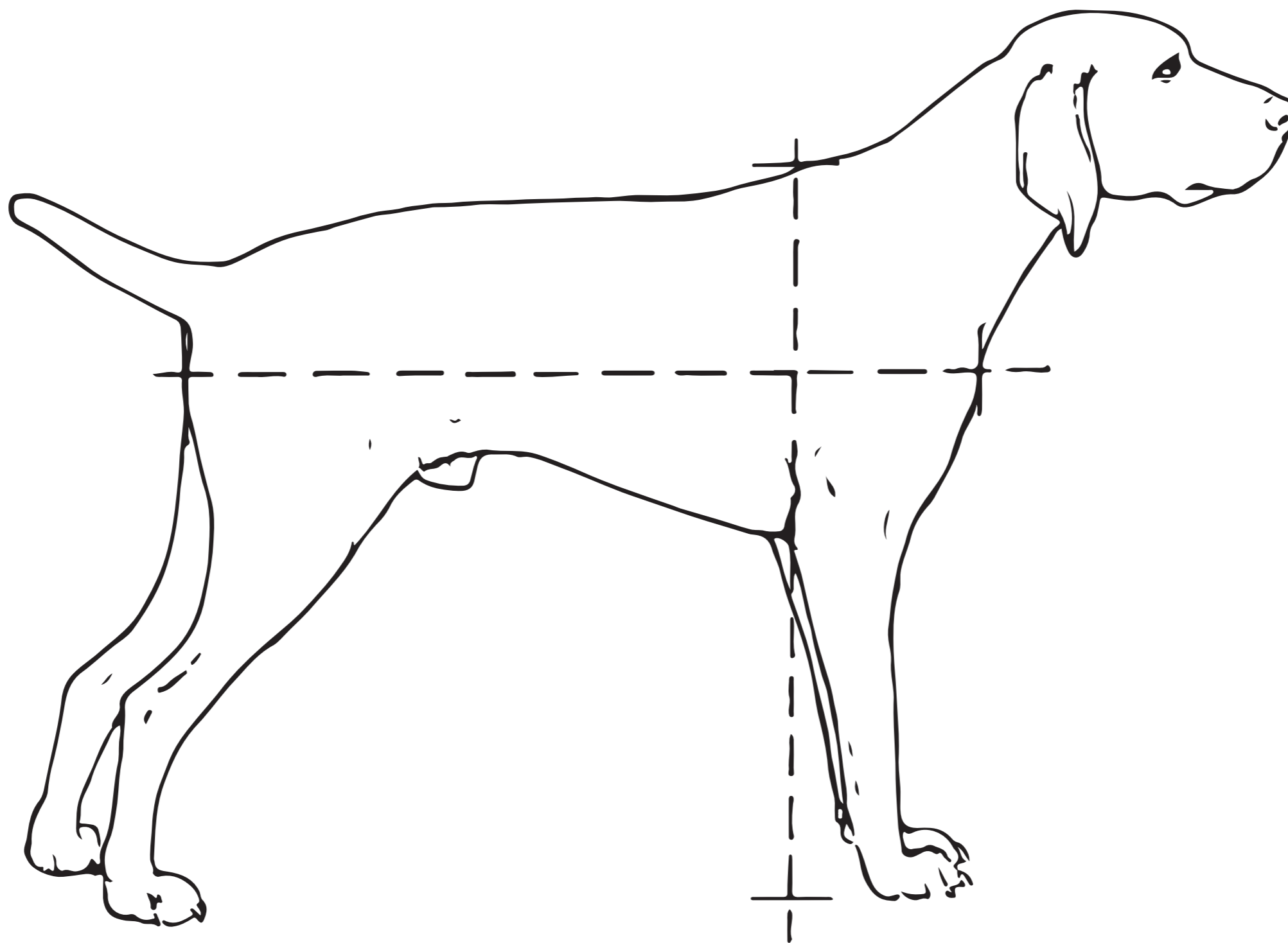
A. Franchi : « the hypertype being a fault, for the Gascogne the skin laxity must remain very moderate, in particular at the lips, the eyelids, which must not show the conjunctiva, and the ears, which must not be too long. Care must be taken to this: a type being close to a scenthound has his aesthetics, and we see them sometimes, but it does not comply with the standard. »

French pointing dog - Gascogne type



I PROPORTIONS

- Length of muzzle somewhat shorter than that of the skull.



Braque Français type Gascogne

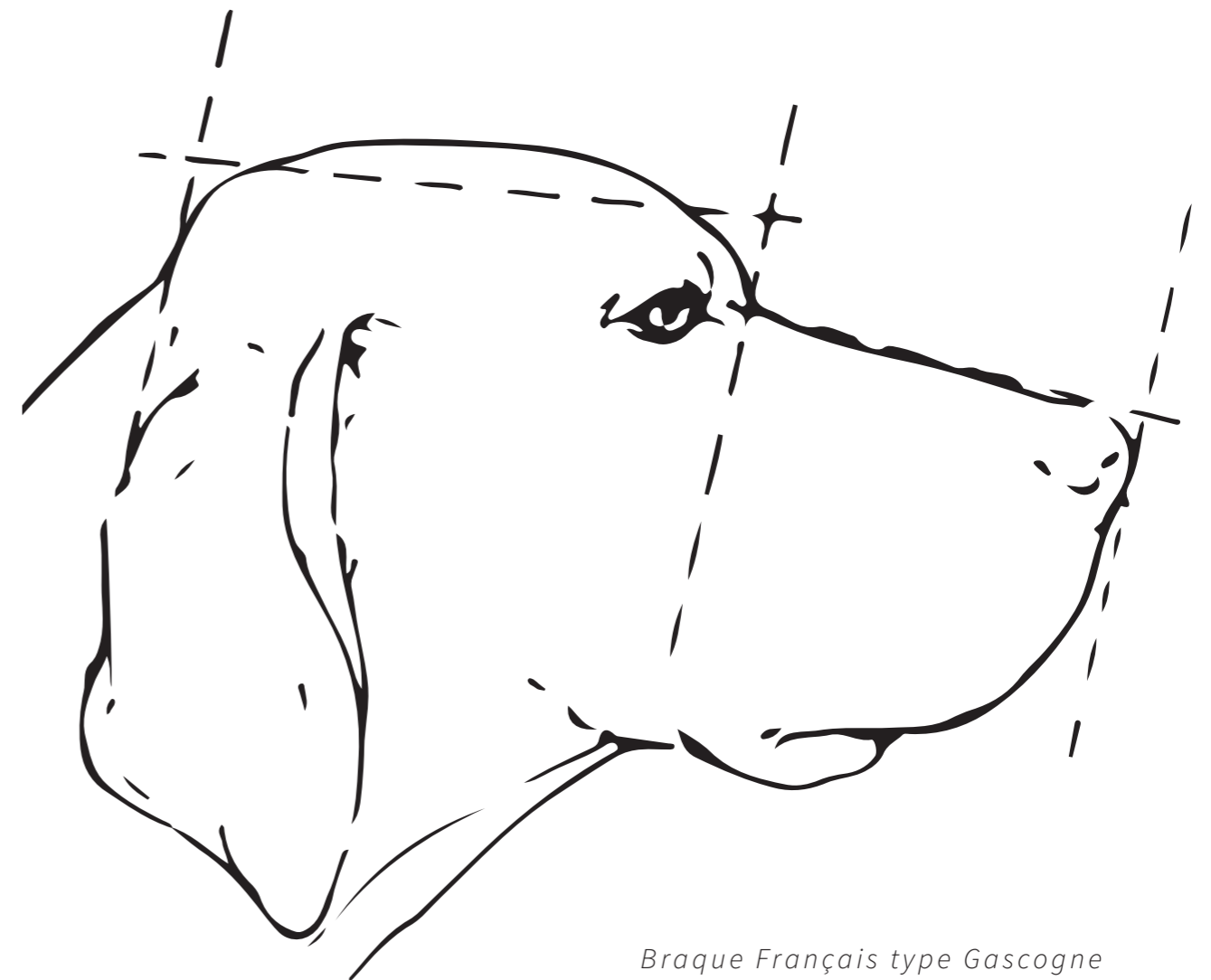
HEAD

- Quite important but not too heavy

A. Franchi : the head should be rectangular.

- In profile, the lines of the skull and the muzzle are slightly divergent.

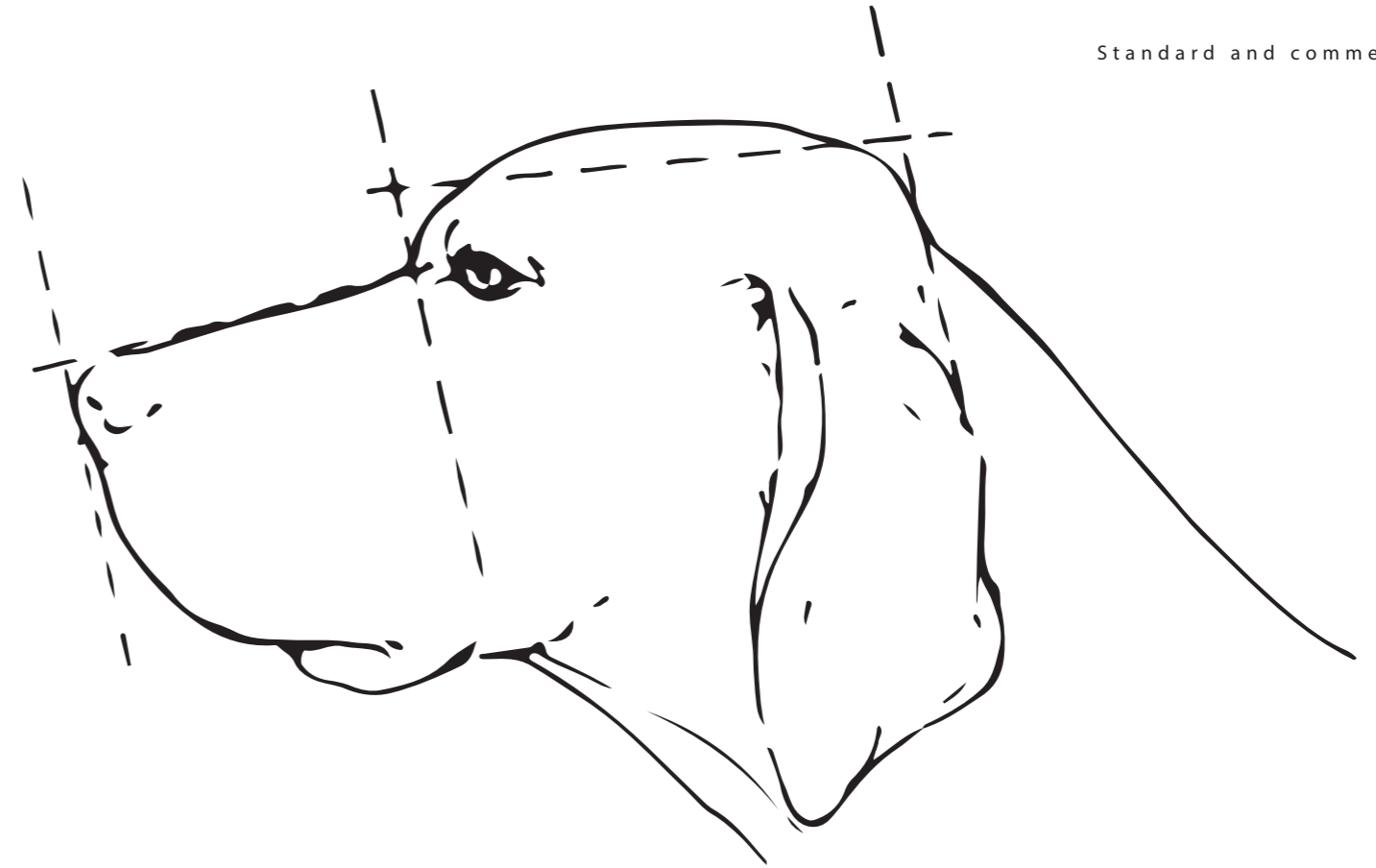
A. Franchi : it would be more accurate to say that the lines are neither convergent nor divergent; they are parallel. But there is a visual divergence effect, due to the slight depression located just after the tip of the nasal bone. It's the same with the Setter, for example.



Braque Français type Gascogne

CRANIAL REGION

- Skull: almost flat or very slightly rounded; shows a medium furrow only lightly marked.
- The occipital protuberance is barely prominent.
- Stop: neither shallow nor accentuated.



FACIAL REGION

- Nose: broad, brown in colour.
- Broad and rectangular, sometimes a little convex.
- Lips: pendent.

A. Franchi : the upper lip, without being significantly drooping, must cover the lower lip well.

- Jaws/Teeth: pincer bite is tolerated
- Eyes: well set into the eye socket, chestnut brown or dark yellow.
The expression is frank.

A. Franchi : rather than dark yellow, light hazelnut is a denominative that would seem more suitable. As for the gaze, it is affectionate, good-natured; it doesn't have that authoritarian side that emanates from that of the German Short-haired Pointing dog or the Pointer.

- Ears: Of medium length, set at eye level, not too broad at their set on, slightly folded and rounded at their tip. The tip of the leathers must reach the rear rim of the nose leather.

A. Franchi : the ears are shorter than in the Italian Pointing dog, for example, which therefore comes close to the scenthound.

NECK

- Of good length, slightly arched in its upper part, always with a slight dewlap.

A. Franchi : the dewlap should be relatively pronounced, this is typical of the variety.

BODY

- Back: broad, straight, sometimes a bit long but always well sustained.

A. Franchi : visually, there may be a slight break at the level of the 11th vertebra, like other dogs, which is obviously not the same as a saddle back.

- Loin: short, muscled, slightly arched.
- Croup: slightly oblique in relation to the topline.
- Chest: broad seen from the front, long in profile, reaching to the level of the elbow; the ribs are rounded without exaggeration.

A. Franchi : the chest must imperatively reach the elbow, otherwise it would lack amplitude.

- Belly : only slightly tucked up.



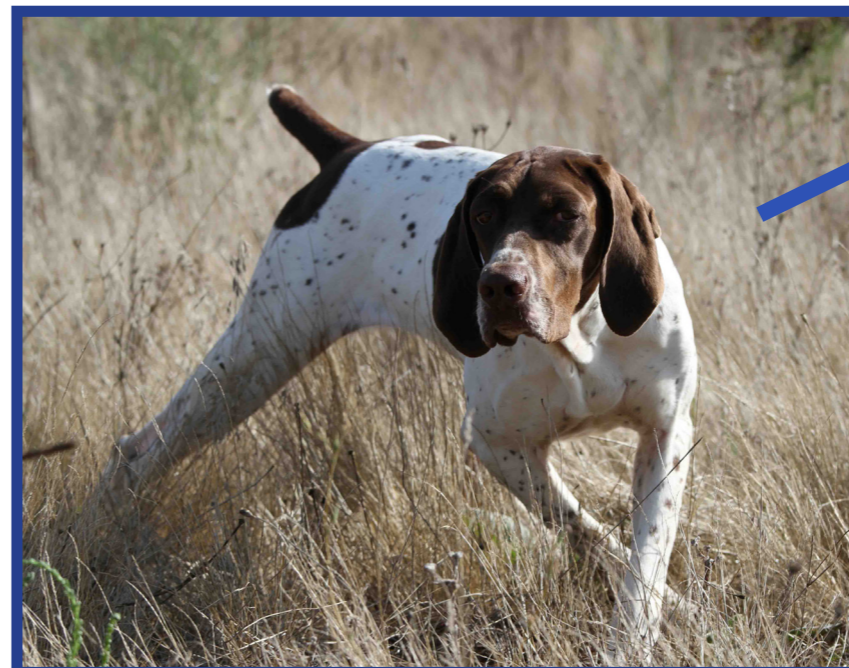
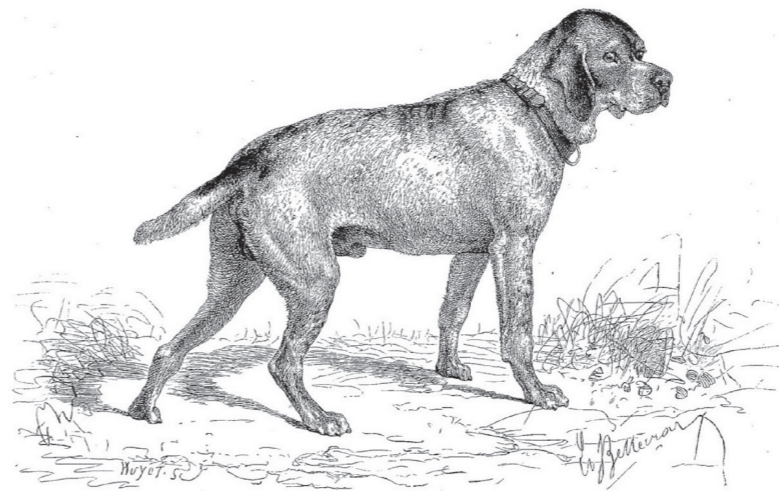
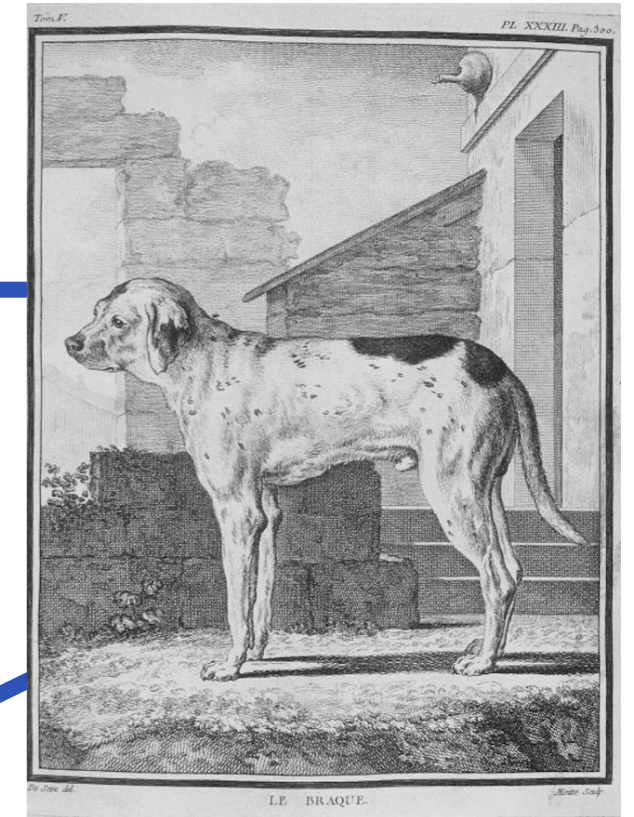
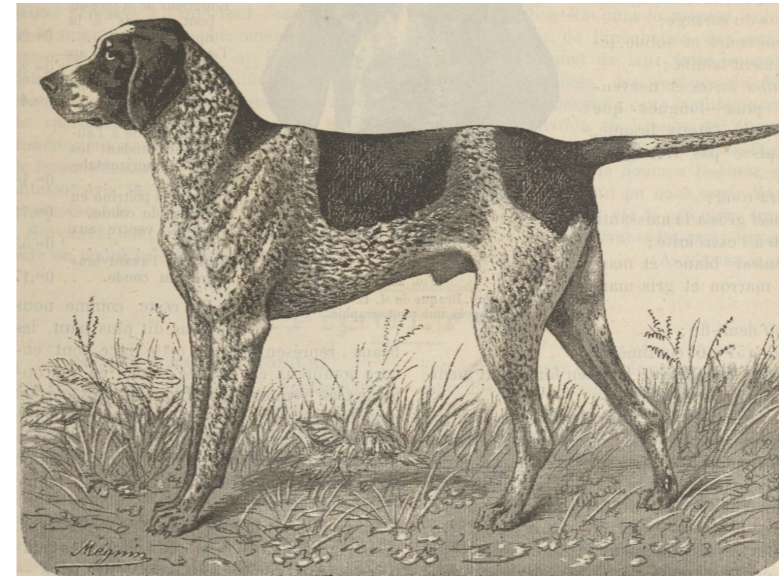
I TAIL

- Generally docked, although the long tail, if well carried, is not a fault, no more than the naturally short tail.

A. Franchi : The tail head should not be low, so as not to break the harmony.

To reduce the risk of injury, the tail may be shortened to a third, no more; it must be able to cover the genitals of both male and female.

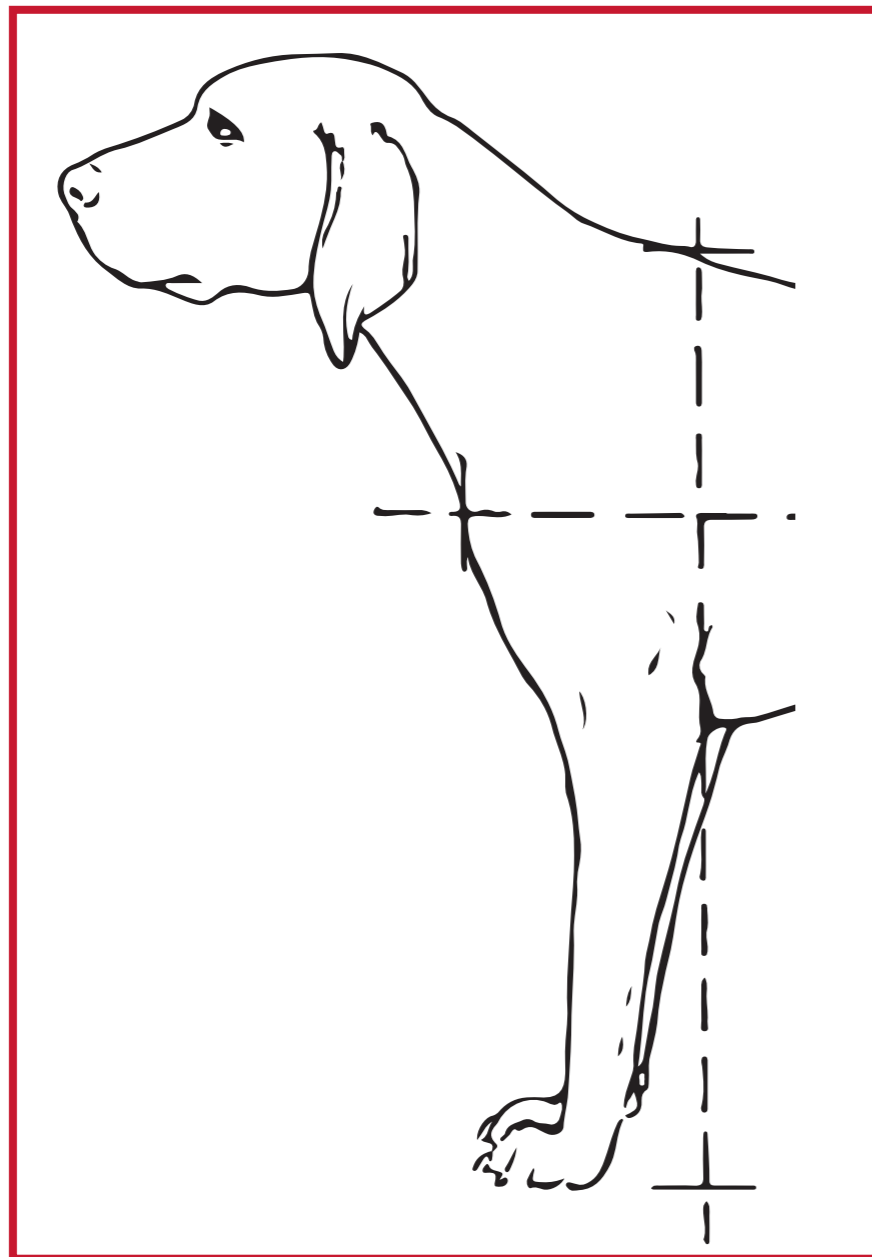
But there is no obligation. The well carried long tail, it is a tail in the extension of the back line.



LIMBS

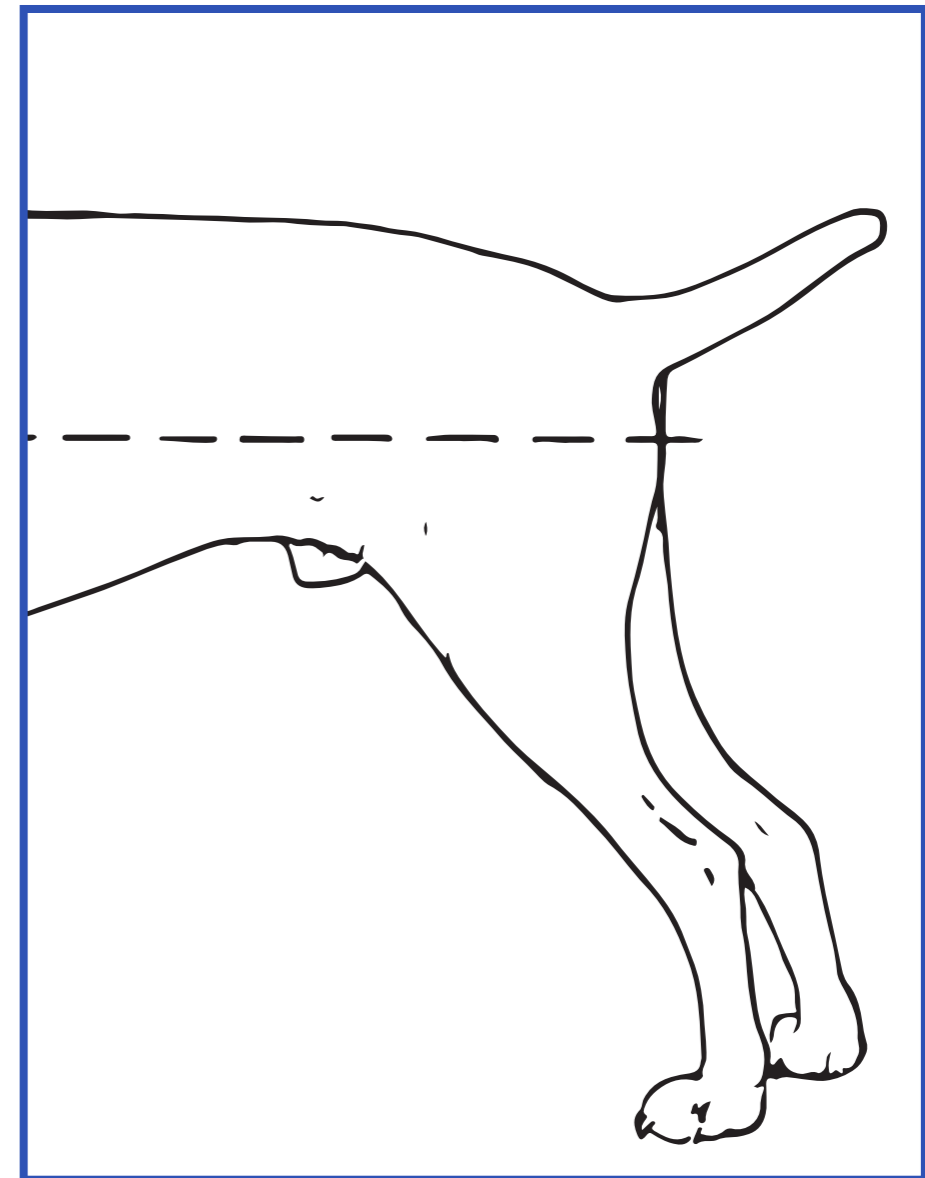
FOREQUARTERS

- Vertical, straight and muscular.
- Shoulders: very muscular and moderately oblique.
- Upper arm: strong and well muscled.
- Feet: toes are tight and well arched.



HINDQUARTERS

- Really vertical and straight.
- Thighs: Fleshy, muscular.
- Hocks: moderately angulated.
- Feet: compact, almost round.



HAIR

- Rather thick and well furnished; finer on the head and ears.

A. Franchi : this fairly thick, rustic hair, typical of the Gascogne, we appreciate it to the touch: it is a short hair, but which without being harsh, is very dense, much more than in the Pointer for example. We sometimes see subjects with very smooth short hair; this is a fault.

- Colour: chestnut brown; chestnut brown and white; chestnut brown and white strongly speckled; Chestnut brown marked with tan (above the eyes, at the lips and on the legs).

A. Franchi : the tan markings of certain subjects, persistence of an old bloodline, must be very discreet; a really tricolor coat is a defect.



HEIGHT

- Male : 58 to 69 cm. Female: 56 to 68 cm.
- Preferred sized : 61 à 63 cm.

“ *A. Franchi : the CBF requested that the minimum authorized size be reviewed, with 60 cm for males, 58 cm for females. The fact that the minimum size of a Gascogne is equal to the maximum size of a Pyrenean does indeed seem undesirable: the Gascogne must be by definition taller.* ”

At the other end of the scale, the maximum should not be exceeded; subjects at 71 cm, as we have seen, this is not compliant. The ideal slot of 61 to 63 cm remains a relevant criterion: it is better, for the majority of the stock, not to touch the limits. » ”



FAULTS :

SOME IMPORTANT POINTS

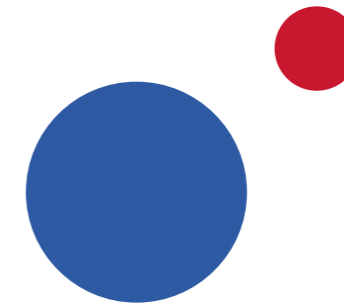
- Dog too heavy or too light.
- Lips too thick or not let down enough.
- Leathers flat and too short, or too curled.
- Belly too tucked up (whippety)

“
A. Franchi : if a dog lacks substance, it may have a deep chest but a belly that tucks up like that of a sighthound; it is not compliant.
 ”

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DISQUALIFYING FAULTS

- Agressive or overly shy.
- Skull/muzzle lines converging or too divergent.
- Split nose, pronounced depigmentation.



“
A. Franchi : the excess of depigmentation on the nose is prohibited, but not if it is just a light spot.
 ”

- Over- or undershot mouth.
- Entropion, ectropion, pink spots on the eyelids.
- Absence of tail.

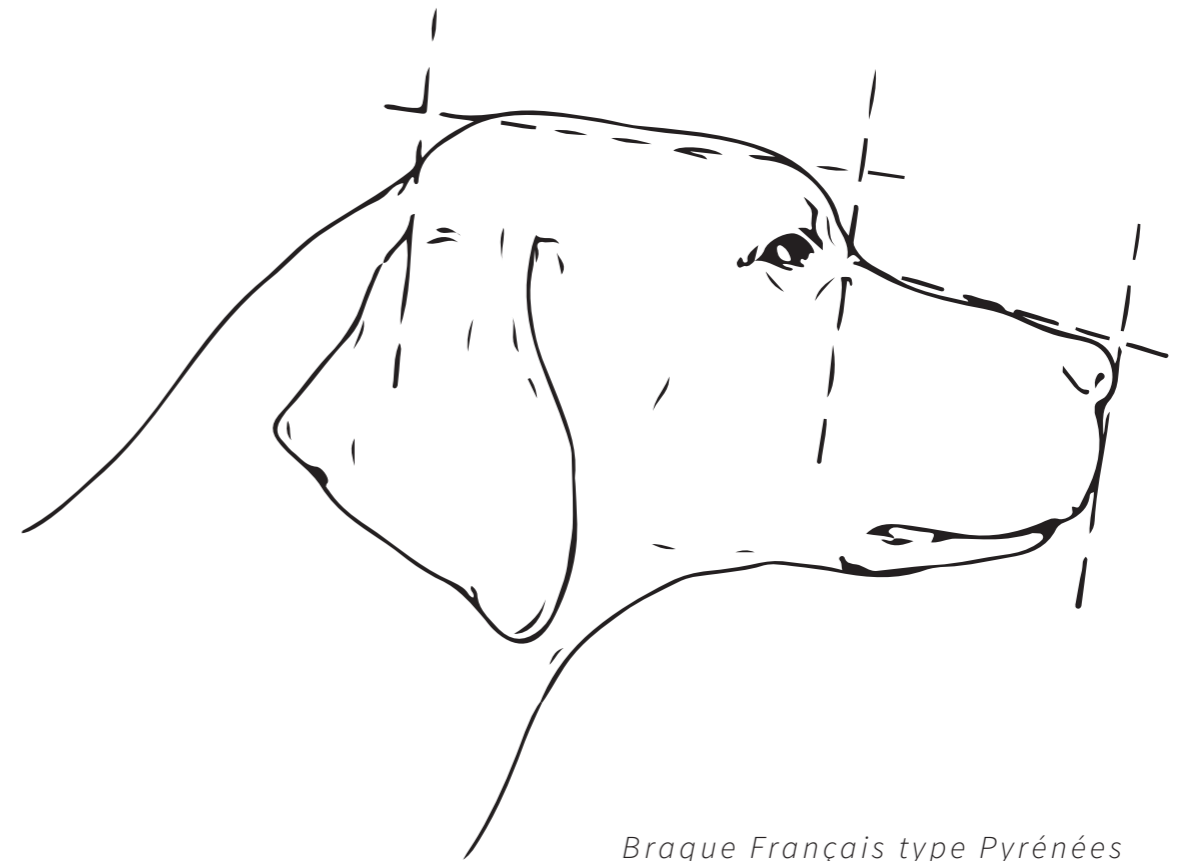
“
A. Franchi : the absence of tail is a rare fault in the Gascogne.
 ”

GENERAL APPEARENCE

PYRENEAN TYPE

The small size French Pointing Dogs « Pyrenean type » show, while keeping all proportions, with more reduced dimensions and lighter shapes, the same general characteristics as those of the « Gascogne type ». They only differ on the following points:

- Rustic dog, not heavy but sufficiently muscled.
- Skin tighter than that of the Gascogne type.



Braque Français type Pyrénées

HEAD

- Nose : chestnut-brown in colour.
- The lips are less pendent or less convex than in the Gascogne type.
- Ears: set on above eye line, barely folded. The tips of the leathers must end at 2 cm from the nose leather.

A. Franchi : the Pyrenean is globally drier than the Gascogne. The lips should be less let down but the muzzle should not appear pinched.

A. Franchi : compared to the Gascogne, the ears are shorter, flatter, more triangular in shape.

NECK

- Slight or no dewlap.

A. Franchi : ideally, it is better if there is no dewlap.

BELLY

- Less let down than in the Gascogne type.

A. Franchi : however, the belly should not be whippety.

TAIL

- Fine : can be docked or naturally short.

A. Franchi : in the Pyrenean, the short tail is not uncommon, but it should still measure a few centimeters; anuria is not accepted.



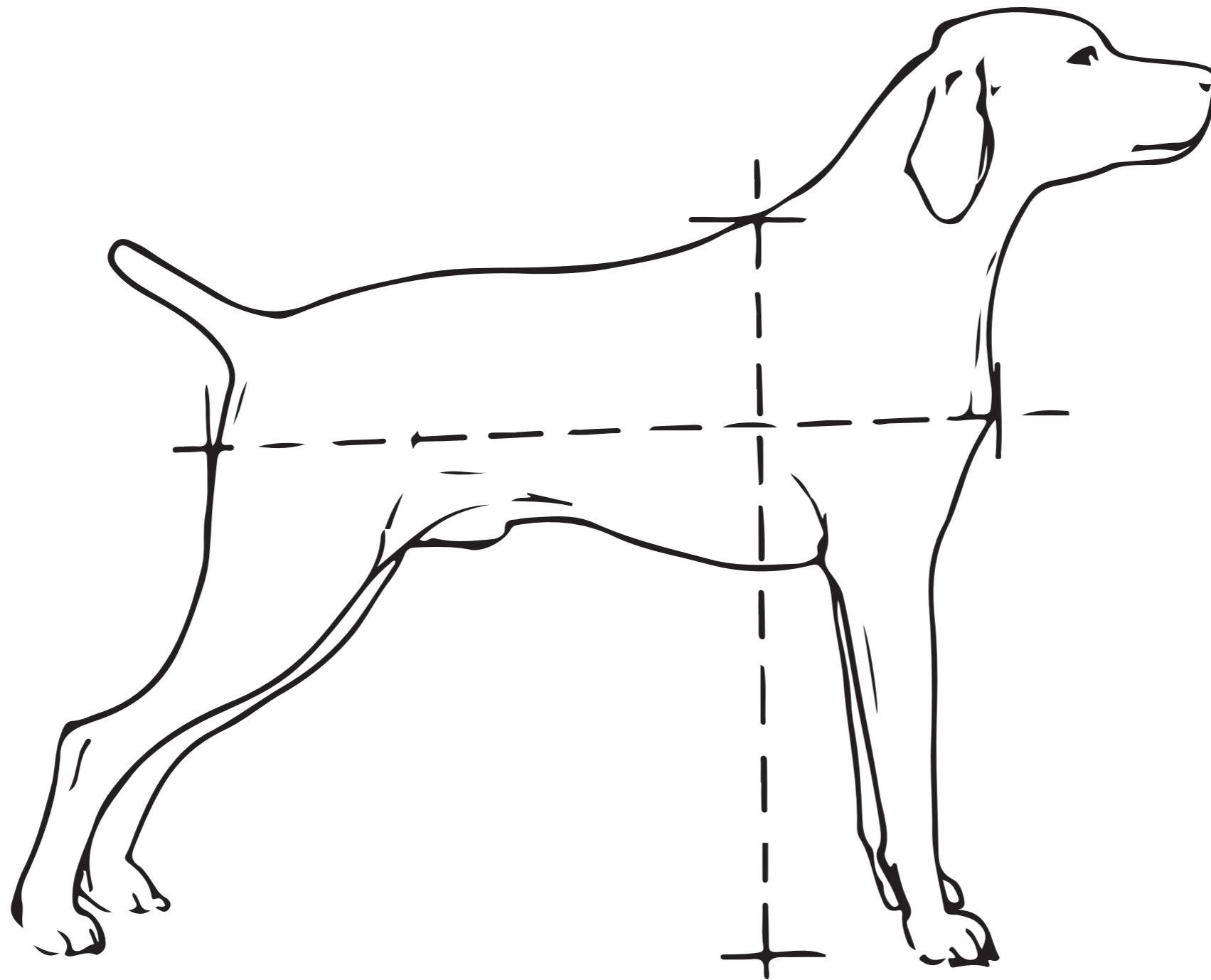
LIMBS

FOREQUARTERS

- Lighter than in the Gasconne type.
- Shoulders: Muscular and moderately sloping.

HINDQUARTERS

- Feet: tight.



COAT

- Finer and shorter than that of the Gascogne Type.

HEIGHT

- Male: 47 to 58 cm. Female: 47 to 56 cm.
- The size of 50 to 55 cm is the one to aim for which covers the most numerous utilizations.

A. Franchi : as with the Gascogne, the CBF is in favor of increasing the minimum size: in this case, 51 cm for the male, 49 cm for the female; 47 cm is indeed a bit too small.

As for the maximum size, a tolerance of 2 cm above could be allowed if the dog is a typical subject, but without it being eligible for the qualifier "Excellent" and the CACS.



FAULTS :

SOME IMPORTANT POINTS

- Dog too heavy or hyperlight

“ A. Franchi : we see less and less hyper-light subjects; the selection has therefore progressed. ”

- Lips too droopy or too light.
- Leathers set at eye level, too long (touching the nose)
- Belly too tucked up (whippetty).

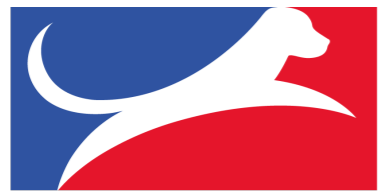
DISQUALIFYING FAULTS

- Aggressive or overly shy.
- Split nose, pronounced depigmentation of the nose leather.
- Entropion, ectropion, pink spots at the base of the eyelids.
- No tail (anury).

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