

OFFICIAL KLEE KAI STANDARDS

REVISED EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1994

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE ONLY BY DIRECTION OF KLEE KAI BOARD)

MASK: The facial mask is a distinctive trait of this breed and must be clearly visible due to contrasting colors. Different combinations of mask markings are possible, ranging from a full mask which is most desirable, with color extending down the bridge of the muzzle, and under the eyes, to a widow's peak which is the least desirable. The color of the head area above the eyes must be darker than the contrasting facial area below the eyes. The lighter contrasting facial area must extend back to cover the jaw bones and down to cover the area under the chin. It is not mandatory, but is desirable to have light spots above the eyes. A blaze centered in the middle of the forehead is allowed. It is also desirable to have a dark strip down the center of the muzzle, and a dark strip under the eyes. The fur on the inside of the ears should be of the same lighter contrasting color as the facial mask.

FAULTS: A dark area under the eyes deeper than 1/2 of the length of the muzzle is a major fault.

DISQUALIFICATIONS:

- A dark strip on the center of the muzzle so wide that it extends down the sides of the muzzle.
- An open, bald face, in which no mask markings are visible forward of the ears.

COLOR: The color and coat can vary, but all markings must be symmetrical. The lighter undercoat blends with the darker outer coat, resulting in highlights.

FAULTS: A white tip on the tail is a major fault.

DISQUALIFICATIONS:

- A white cape.
- Any markings on the coat that are not symmetrical.
- A dog of any solid color which results in no mask and/or no contrasting color on the legs and under trim.
- Definite contrasting spots anywhere on the coat (other than over the eyes, a blaze in the middle of the forehead or a white tip at the end of the tail.)

HEAD: The skull and muzzle should be of medium size and in proportion to the body. The stop should be clearly defined, yet not too steep. The muzzle should gradually taper to the nose. The nose must be black. The lips should be tight fitting over a scissors bite.

FAULTS: A snow nose (pink streaked) is a major fault.

- A cross bite, or bite at however slight an angle is a major fault and should be given serious consideration as to genetics and possibly the opinion of a veterinarian who specializes in Dentistry, before breeding is considered.

DISQUALIFICATIONS:

- A nose any complete color other than black.
- A Jaw that is either undershot or overshot.

EYES: The eyes should be bright, wide and alert and oval to round in shape. Any color, or combinations of colors is acceptable. The eyes should not be set too close or too wide apart.

FAULTS: eyes that bulge are a minor fault.

EARS: The ears should be moderately large, yet in proportion, triangular in shape, and well furred. The ears must be erect. When in an erect stance, the inside base of the ears should be straight up from between the center and inner edge of each eye.

DISQUALIFICATIONS:

- Ears that are not strongly erect.

CHEST AND FRONT: The chest should be deep and strong, but not too wide. When viewed from the front, the legs should be moderately spaced, parallel and straight, with the elbows set close to the body and turned neither inward nor outward. Bones should be between fine and substantial, but never heavy. Paws should be in proportion to the general bone structure. The areas between the pads should be well furred. Dew claws may be removed at owner's discretion.

FAULTS: • Feet that turn either in or out are a minor fault.

REAR: When viewed from the rear, the hind legs should be moderately spaced and parallel. Rear dew claws are present in some Klee Kai at birth. These should be removed, but it is not mandatory. The hindquarters should exhibit some degree of power as the Klee Kai was originally developed from working breeds of the Arctic Regions.

FAULTS: -;A rear that is too wide, or too narrow, or cowhocked is a major fault.

TAIL: The tail should be well furred and set on just below the level of the top line. When up the tail should form a full loose but complete curl which drapes to either side of the body. A heavily plumed tail is expected in longer haired dogs. The hairs at the tip of the tail should be dark.

FAULTS:

- A white tip on the tail is a major fault.
- A tail which is too short to form a full loose curl is a minor fault.
- A tail which does not lie against the body at all is a major fault.

DISQUALIFICATIONS:

- A tail that is not long enough to curl up to touch the back.

SIZE:

- 10 pounds and under is a Toy
- 10 plus pounds to and including 15 pounds is a Miniature
- 15 plus pounds to and including 20 pounds is a Standard

Height and length should be in proportion to the weight for good conformation. The average length from the front of the shoulder to the back point of the hindquarters is one inch longer than the height from the top of the shoulder to the floor.

FAULTS: A measurement that is more than two inches longer than tall is a minor fault.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

- A weight over twenty pounds or a measurement more than 18 inches at the shoulder.

TESTICLES: Male dogs must have had, and have been able to retain both testicles in the scrotal sac.

DISQUALIFICATIONS:

- Absence of either or both testicles in the scrotal sac.

SCARS: Scars achieved in battle or accident are of no concern unless they prevent one from realizing the original size, shape, or structure of the animal.

PUPPIES: Puppies are judged as close to adult standards as possible. one must note that Klee Kai puppies do not get their adult coat or coloring until approximately six months of age. The puppy's tail can change dramatically when the adult coat comes in. The mask, however, should be in place much earlier. Teeth and jaw lines can change repeatedly until adulthood. Male puppies should have both testicles in the scrotal sac by three months of age or earlier.

KLEE KAI GOALS: The goal for Klee Kai is to not only keep the breed as good as it was when it was made available to the public in 1988, but to make the breed increasingly better as the years go by. Therefore, these standards pertain not only to competition shows, but also are used to determine breeding status of individual Klee Kai. Any Klee Kai that has a disqualification according to these Standards, is excluded from the Breeding Program and must be spayed or neutered.

NOTE: THESE KLEE KAI STANDARDS WERE RE-ISSUED JUNE 1995 TO CHANGE FORMAT AND UPDATE REGISTRAR INFORMATION. THE STANDARDS REMAIN UNCHANGED

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