

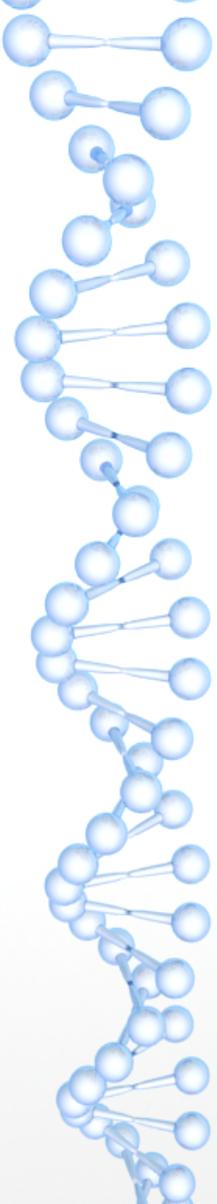
AKC BELGIAN BREEDS

Side by Side AKC Breed Standard Comparison

Laekenois - **Malinois** - **Sheepdog** - **Tervuren**

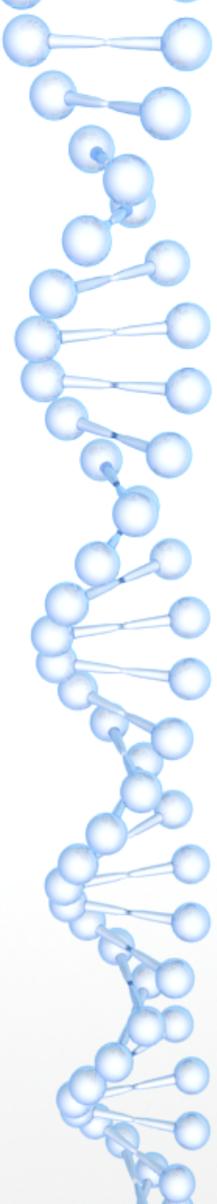
About the Breed Standard Comparison

- The information presented here is the exact verbiage from the approved and current AKC standards as of 1 May 2020 for the Belgian Laekenois, Belgian Malinois, Belgian Sheepdog and Belgian Tervuren.
- The areas highlighted in yellow show information that is different for a breed than the other Belgian breed/s.
- The areas highlighted in green or orange is used to mark standard features that are the same among 2 or more breeds, whilst the other 1 or more breed may be different thus highlighted in yellow as described above.
- This chart is simply a comparison presentation of the standards without opinion or insight or other analysis.
- Please remember each standard for each AKC Belgian Breed is decided upon individual breed clubs. There are areas with minor verbiage differences that actually mean the same thing. In this case, the highlighting is not applied.



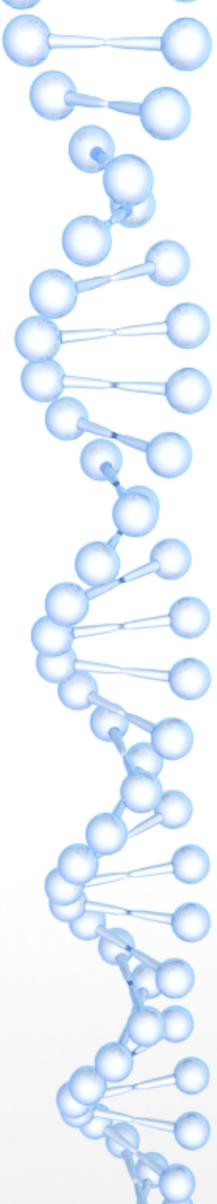
FAULTS STATEMENT

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
<p>Any deviation from these specifications is a fault. In determining whether a fault is minor, serious, or major, these two factors should be used as a guide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The extent to which it deviates from the standard,2. The extent to which such deviation would actually affect the working ability of the dog	<p>The degree to which a dog is penalized should depend upon the extent to which the dog deviates from the standard and <i>the extent to which the particular fault would actually affect the working ability of the dog.</i></p>	<p>Any deviation from these specifications is a fault. In determining whether a fault is minor, serious, or major, these two factors should be used as a guide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The extent to which it deviates from the standard.2. The extent to which such deviation would actually affect the working ability of the dog.	<p>Any deviation from these specifications is a fault. In determining whether a fault is minor, serious, or major, these two factors should be used as a guide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The extent to which it deviates from the standard.2. The extent to which such deviation would actually affect the working ability of the dog.



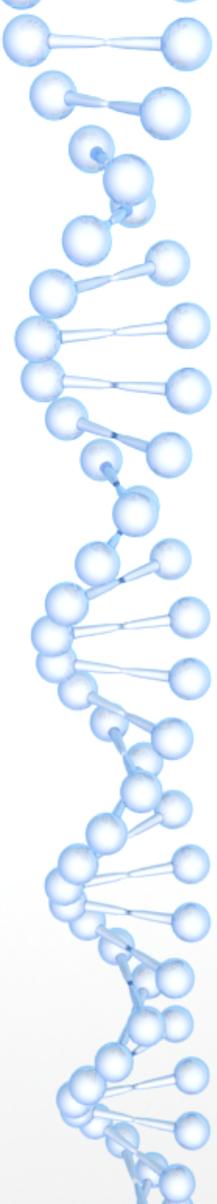
General Appearance

LAEKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
<p>The first impression of the Belgian Laekenois is that of a square, well-balanced dog, elegant in appearance, with an exceedingly proud carriage of the head and neck. He is a strong, agile, well-muscled animal, alert and full of life. His whole conformation gives the impression of depth and solidity without bulkiness.</p> <p>The male dog is usually somewhat more impressive and grand than his female counterpart. The bitch should have a distinctly feminine look. Both male and female should be judged equally.</p>	<p>The Belgian Malinois is a well balanced, square dog, elegant in appearance with an exceedingly proud carriage of the head and neck. The dog is strong, agile, well muscled, alert, and full of life. He stands squarely on all fours and viewed from the side, the topline, forelegs, and hind legs closely approximate a square. The whole conformation gives the impression of depth and solidity without bulkiness.</p> <p>The male is usually somewhat more impressive and grand than his female counterpart, which has a distinctly feminine look.</p>	<p>The first impression of the Belgian Sheepdog is that of a well balanced, square dog, elegant in appearance, with an exceedingly proud carriage of the head and neck. He is a strong, agile, well muscled animal, alert and full of life. His whole conformation gives the impression of depth and solidity without bulkiness.</p> <p>The male dog is usually somewhat more impressive and grand than his female counterpart. The bitch should have a distinctly feminine look.</p>	<p>The first impression of the Belgian Tervuren is that of a well-balanced, medium-size dog, elegant in appearance, standing squarely on all fours, with proud carriage of head and neck. He is strong, agile, well-muscled, alert and full of life. He gives the impression of depth and solidity without bulkiness.</p> <p>The male should appear unquestionably masculine; the female should have a distinctly feminine look and be judged equally with the male.</p> <p>The Belgian Tervuren is a natural dog and there is no need for excessive posing in the show ring. The Belgian Tervuren reflects the qualities of intelligence, courage, alertness and devotion to master. In addition to his inherent ability as a herding dog, he protects his master's person and property without being overtly aggressive. He is watchful, attentive, and usually in motion when not under command. The Belgian Tervuren is a herding dog and versatile worker. The highest value is to be placed on qualities that maintain these abilities, specifically, correct temperament, gait, bite and coat.</p>



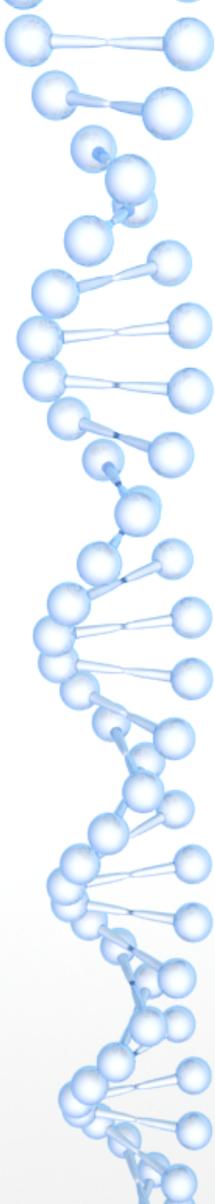
General Appearance Comparison

SAME	DIFFERENT
SQUARE	TERVUREN does not require excessive posing in the ring
WELL BALANCED	
ELEGANT PROUD HEAD & NECK CARRIAGE	
MEDIUM	
SOLIDITY WITHOUT BULKINESS	
AGILE STRONG	
FULL OF LIFE	
MALE MASCULINE	
FEMALE FEMININE	



Size, Proportion & Substance

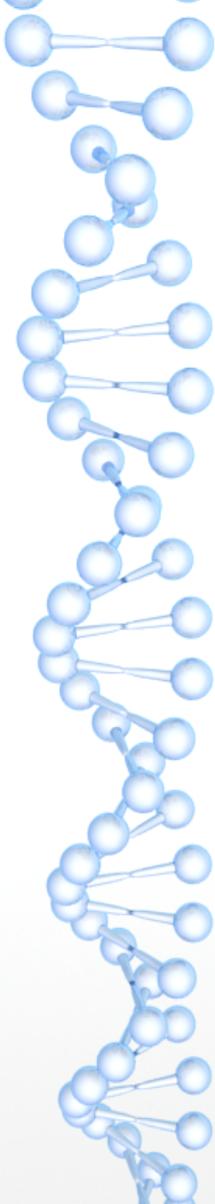
LAEKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TREVUREN
<p>Males should be 24 to 26 inches in height and females 22 to 24 inches, measured at the withers. The length, measured from point of breastbone to point of rump, should equal the height. Bitches may be slightly longer. Bone structure should be moderately heavy in proportion to his height so that he is well-balanced throughout and neither spindly or leggy nor cumbersome and bulky. The Belgian Laekenois should stand squarely on all fours.</p> <p>From a side view the topline, front legs, and back legs should closely approximate a square.</p>	<p>Males are 24 to 26 inches in height; females are 22 to 24 inches; measurement to be taken at the withers. The length, measured from the point of the breastbone to the point of the rump, should equal the height, but bitches may be slightly longer. A square dog is preferred. Bone structure is moderately heavy in proportion to height so that the dog is well balanced throughout and neither spindly or leggy nor cumbersome and bulky.</p>	<p>Males should be 24 to 26 inches in height and females 22 to 24 inches, measured at the withers. The length, measured from point of breastbone to point of rump, should equal the height. Bitches may be slightly longer. Bone structure should be moderately heavy in proportion to his height so that he is well balanced throughout and neither spindly or leggy nor cumbersome and bulky. The Belgian Sheepdog should stand squarely on all fours.</p> <p>Side view - The topline, front legs, and back legs should closely approximate a square.</p>	<p>The ideal male is 24 to 26 inches in height and female 22 to 24 inches in height measured at the withers. Dogs are to be penalized in accordance to the degree they deviate from the ideal. The body is square; the length measured from the point of shoulder to the point of the rump approximates the height. Females may be somewhat longer in body. Bone structure is medium in proportion to height, so that he is wellbalanced throughout and neither spindly or leggy nor cumbersome and bulky.</p>



Size, Proportions, Substance & Disqualifications

LAEKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
<p>Males should be 24 to 26 inches in height and females 22 to 24 inches, measured at the withers. The length, measured from point of breastbone to point of rump, should equal the height. Bitches may be slightly longer. Bone structure should be moderately heavy in proportion to his height so that he is well-balanced throughout and neither spindly or leggy nor cumbersome and bulky. The Belgian Laekenois should stand squarely on all fours. From a side view the topline, front legs, and back legs should closely approximate a square</p>	<p>Males are 24 to 26 inches in height; females are 22 to 24 inches; measurement to be taken at the withers. The length, measured from the point of the breastbone to the point of the rump, should equal the height, but bitches may be slightly longer. A square dog is preferred. Bone structure is moderately heavy in proportion to height so that the dog is well balanced throughout and neither spindly or leggy nor cumbersome and bulky.</p>	<p>Males should be 24 to 26 inches in height and females 22 to 24 inches, measured at the withers. The length, measured from point of breastbone to point of rump, should equal the height. Bitches may be slightly longer. Bone structure should be moderately heavy in proportion to his height so that he is well balanced throughout and neither spindly or leggy nor cumbersome and bulky. The Belgian Sheepdog should stand squarely on all fours. Side view - The topline, front legs, and back legs should closely approximate a square</p>	<p>The ideal male is 24 to 26 inches in height and female 22 to 24 inches in height measured at the withers. Dogs are to be penalized in accordance to the degree they deviate from the ideal. The body is square; the length measured from the point of shoulder to the point of the rump approximates the height. Females may be somewhat longer in body. Bone structure is medium in proportion to height, so that he is well balanced throughout and neither spindly or leggy nor cumbersome and bulky.</p>
<p>Males under 23 inches or over 27 inches shall be disqualified.</p>	<p>Males under 23 inches or over 27 inches and</p>	<p>Males under 22½ or over 27½ inches in height and</p>	<p>Males under 23 inches or over 26½ inches or</p>
<p>Females under 20½ inches or over 25 inches shall be disqualified.</p>	<p>Females under 21 inches or over 25 inches are to be disqualified.</p>	<p>Females under 20½ or over 25½ inches in height shall be disqualified.</p>	<p>Females under 21 inches or over 24½ inches are to be disqualified.</p>

NOTE: Each Breed has a different height parameter for bitches, the only height parameter that is the same is Laekenois and Malinois dogs. The Sheepdog allows for the largest specimens with dogs and bitches.

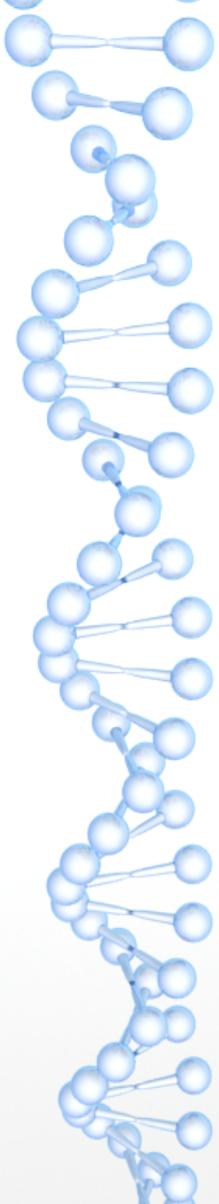


Head

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
<p>Clean cut and strong, long without exaggeration and lean.</p> <p>The skull and muzzle are approximately the same length with at most a very slight advantage for the muzzle.</p> <p>Overall size should be in proportion to the body.</p>	<p>The head is clean-cut and strong without heaviness; overall size is in proportion to the body.</p>	<p>Clean-cut and strong, overall size should be in proportion to the body</p>	<p>Well-chiseled, skin taut, long without exaggeration</p>

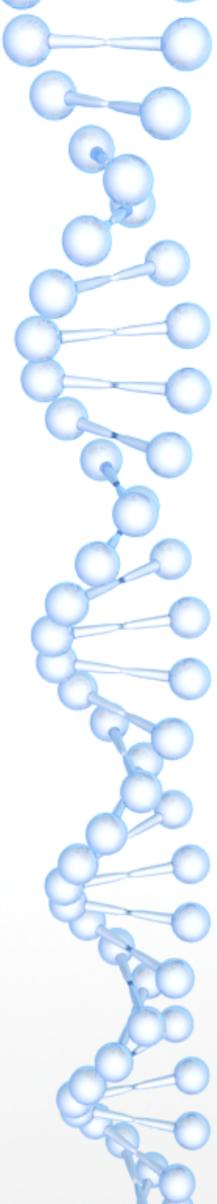
Expression

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
<p>Should be intelligent and questioning, indicating alertness, attention and readiness for activity.</p>	<p>The expression should indicate alertness, attention and readiness for activity, and the gaze is intelligent and questioning.</p>	<p>Indicates alertness, attention, readiness for activity. Gaze should be intelligent and questioning.</p>	<p>Intelligent and questioning, indicating alertness, attention and readiness for action.</p>



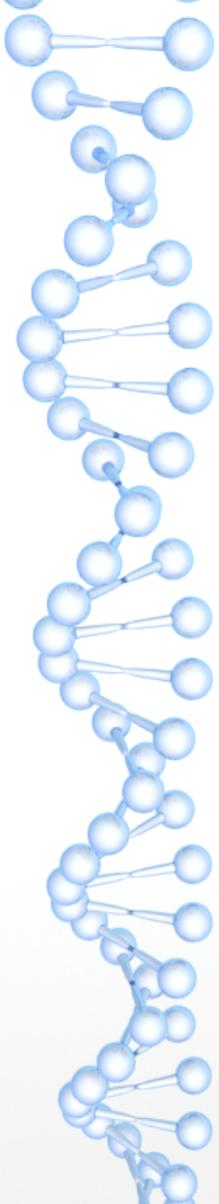
Eyes

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Are brown, preferably dark brown, medium size, slightly almond shaped and not protruding.	The eyes are brown, preferably dark brown, medium size, slightly almond shaped, not protruding. Eye rims are black.	Brown, preferably dark brown. Medium size, slightly almond shaped not protruding.	Dark brown, medium size, slightly almond shape, not protruding. Light, yellow or round eyes are a fault.



Ears

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
<p>Are triangular in shape, stiff, erect, and in proportion to the head in size. Base of the ear should not come below the center of the eye.</p>	<p>Approach the shape of an equilateral triangle and are stiff, erect, and in proportion to the head in size. The outer corner of the ear should not come below the center of the eye.</p>	<p>Triangular in shape, stiff, erect, and in proportion to the head in size. Base of the ear should not come below the center of the eye.</p>	<p>Triangular in shape, well-cupped, stiff, erect; height equal to width at base. Set high, the base of the ear does not come below the center of the eye.</p>
<p><i>Drooping or hanging ears are disqualifying</i></p>	<p><i>Ears hanging as on a hound, or semi-prick ears are disqualifications.</i></p>	<p><i>Ears hanging (as on a hound) shall disqualify</i></p>	<p><i>Hanging ears, as on a hound, are a disqualification.</i></p>

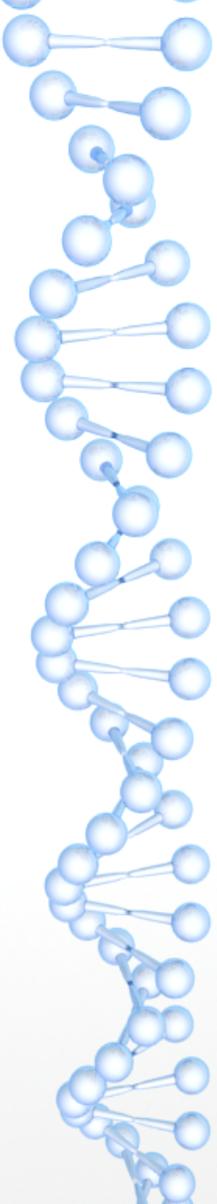


Muzzle

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Moderately pointed, avoiding any tendency to snipiness, and approximately equal in length to that of the topskull.	Moderately pointed, avoiding any tendency to snipiness, and approximately equal in length to the topskull.	Moderately pointed, avoiding any tendency to snipiness, and approximately equal in length to that of the topskull.	The topline of the muzzle is parallel to the topline of the skull when viewed from the side.
The jaws should be strong and powerful.	The planes of the muzzle and topskull are parallel.	The jaws should be strong and powerful	Muzzle moderately pointed, avoiding any tendency toward snipiness or cheekiness .
	The jaws are strong and powerful.		Jaws strong and powerful.

Differences

The Malinois and Tervuren describe parallel planes in the description, whereas The Laekenois and the Sheepdog do NOT refer to parallel planes.

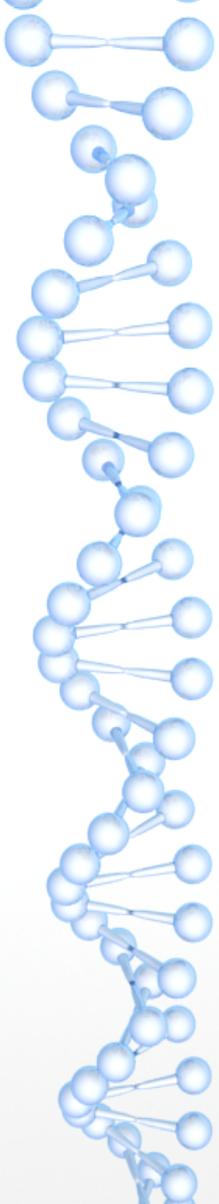


Teeth

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Full complement of strong, white teeth, evenly set.	Full complement of strong, white teeth, that are evenly set	Full complement of strong, white teeth, evenly set	Full complement of strong white teeth, evenly set

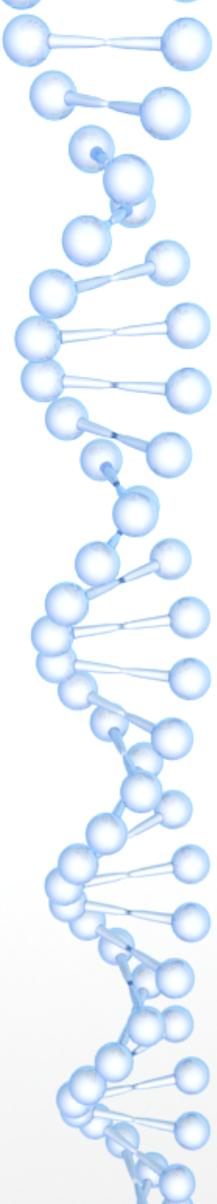
Nose & Lips

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Nose - is black without spots or discolored areas. The lips should be tight and black, with no pink showing on the outside	The nose is black without discolored areas. The lips are tight and black with no pink showing on the outside.	Nose black without spots or discolored areas. The lips should be tight and black, with no pink showing on the outside.	Nose black without spots or discolored areas. Nostrils well defined . Lips tight and black, no pink showing on the outside when mouth is closed.



Bite

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
<p>Should be even or scissors. An overshoot or undershot bite is a fault.</p> <p>An undershot or overshoot bite in which two or more of the upper incisors lose contact with two or more of the lower incisors is a disqualification.</p> <p>The absence of two premolars or molars is a serious fault. The absence of one premolar (PMI) is not to be penalized. Four (4) or more missing teeth is disqualification.</p> <p>Due to the four (4) or more missing teeth a full open mouth exam is required</p>	<p>Meet in a scissors or level bite. Overshot and undershot bites are a fault.</p> <p>An undershot bite in which two or more of the upper incisors lose contact with two or more of the lower incisors is a disqualification.</p> <p>One or more missing teeth is a serious fault</p>	<p>Should not be overshoot or undershot. Should have either an even bite or a scissors bite.</p>	<p>Meeting in a scissors or a level bite.</p> <p>Overshot and undershot teeth are a fault.</p> <p>An undershot bite such that there is a complete loss of contact by all the incisors is a disqualification.</p> <p>Broken or discolored teeth should not be penalized.</p> <p>Missing teeth are a fault. Four or more missing teeth are a serious fault.</p>

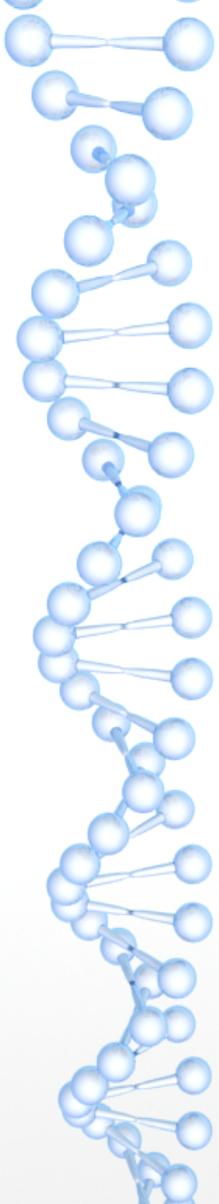


ORAL EXAM

- Refer to the Current AKC Guidance on **Conducting Oral Exams**, for details on Front, Sides, Open and Thumb Exams.
- The Chart Below was extracted from the AKC Conducting Oral Exams dated 2 April 2020

<u>BREED</u>	<u>FRONT</u>	<u>SIDES</u>	<u>OPEN</u>	<u>THUMB</u>
Belgian Laekenois	✓	✓	✓	NO
Belgian Malinois	✓	✓	NO	NO
Belgian Sheepdog	✓	✓	NO	NO
Belgian Tervuren	✓	✓	NO	NO

AKC Laekenois Standard Disqualification - 4 or More Missing Teeth

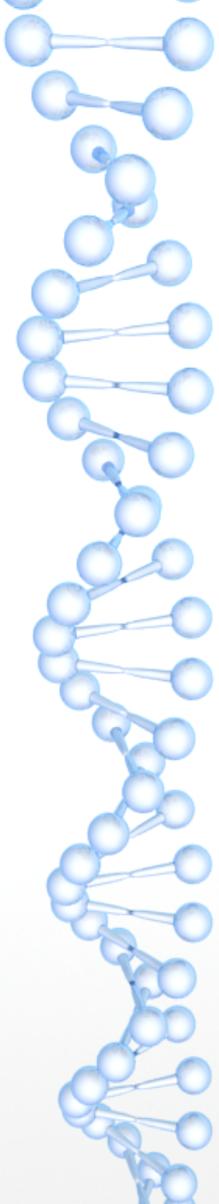


Neck

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Is round and rather outstretched, tapered from head to body, well muscled, with tight skin.	Is round and of sufficient length to permit the proud carriage of the head. It should taper from the body to the head.	Round and rather outstretched, tapered from head to body, well muscled, with tight skin.	Round, muscular, rather long and elegant, slightly arched and tapered from head to body. Skin well-fitting with no loose folds.

Topline

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
The withers are slightly higher and slope into the back, which must be level, straight, and firm from withers to hip joints.	Is generally level. The withers are slightly higher and slope into the back which must be level, straight and firm from withers to hip joint.	The withers are slightly higher and slope into the back, which must be level, straight, and firm from withers to hip joints.	Withers accentuated. Topline level, straight and firm from withers to croup

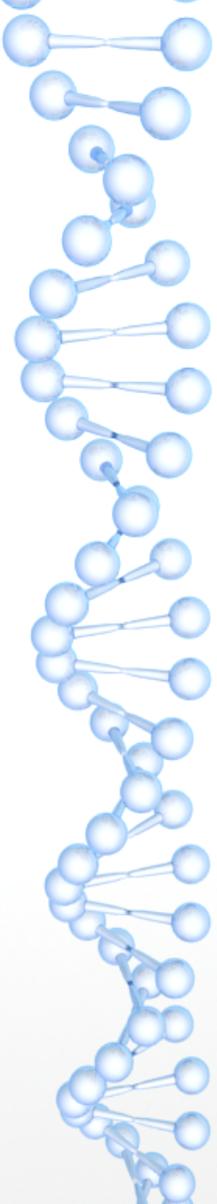


Body

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
	Should give the impression of power without bulkiness.		

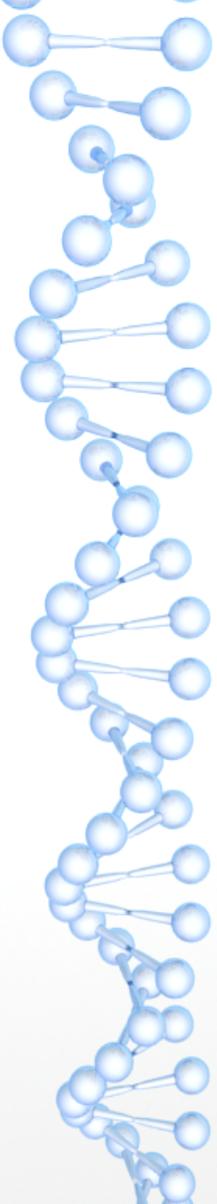
Chest

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Is not broad, but deep. The lowest point should reach the elbow,	The chest is not broad but is deep with the lowest point reaching the elbow.	Not broad, but deep. The lowest point should reach the elbow,	Not broad without being narrow, but deep; the lowest point of the brisket reaching the elbow,
Forming a smooth ascendant curve to the abdomen.	The underline forms a smooth ascendant curve from the lowest point of the chest to the abdomen.	Forming a smooth ascendant curve to the abdomen	Forming a smooth ascendant curve to the abdomen.



Abdomen

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Is of moderate development, neither tucked up nor paunchy.	The abdomen is moderately developed, neither tucked up nor paunchy.	Moderate development. Neither tucked up nor paunchy.	Moderately developed, neither tucked up nor paunchy. Ribs well-sprung but flat on the sides.

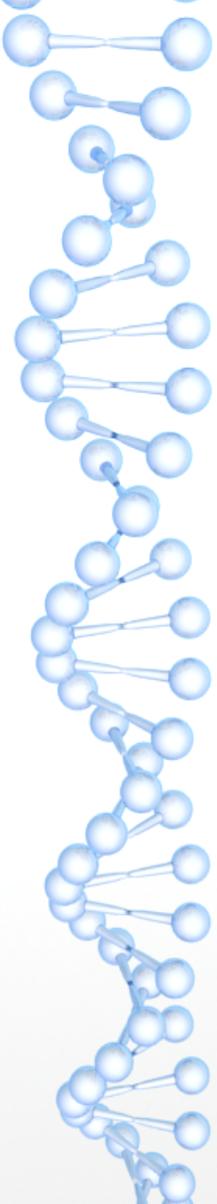


Loin

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Loin section when viewed from above is relatively short, broad and strong, and blends smoothly into the back.	The loin section, viewed from above, is relatively short, broad and strong, and blends smoothly into the back.	Viewed from above, is relatively short, broad and strong, but blending smoothly into the back.	Section viewed from above is relatively short, broad and strong, but blending smoothly into the back.

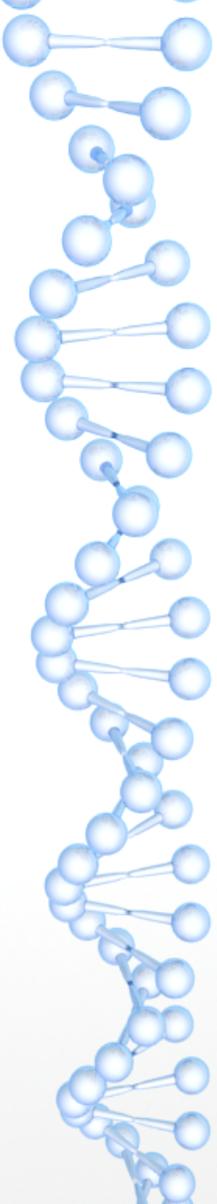
Croup

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Is very slightly sloped, broad, but not excessively so.	The croup is medium long, sloping gradually.	Is medium long, sloping gradually.	Medium long, sloping gradually to the base of the tail.



Tail

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Is strong at the base with the last vertebra reaching the hock.	Is strong at the base, the bone reaching to the hock.	Strong at the base, bone to reach hock.	Strong at the base, the last vertebra to reach at least to the hock.
At rest the dog holds it low, the tip bent back level with the hock.		At rest the dog holds it low, the tip bent back level with the hock.	At rest the dog holds it low, the tip bent back level with the hock.
When in action he raises it and gives it a slight curve, which is strongest towards the tip, without forming a hook.	In action it is raised with a curve, which is strongest towards the tip without forming a hook.	When in action he raises it and gives it a curl, which is strongest toward the tip, without forming a hook.	When in action, he may raise it to a point level with the topline giving it a slight curve, but not a hook. Tail is not carried above the backline nor turned to one side.
Cropped or stump tail are disqualifications.	A cropped or stumped tail is a disqualification	Cropped or stump tail shall disqualify	A cropped or stump tail is a disqualification

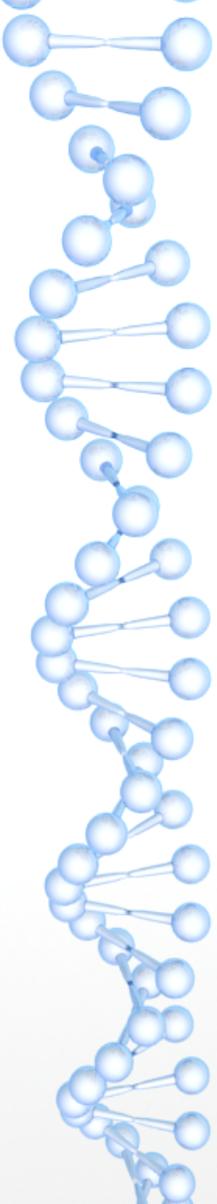


Forequarters General

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
	The forequarters are muscular without excessive bulkiness.		

Forequarters Shoulders

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Are long and oblique, laid flat against the body, forming a sharp angle (approximately 90 degrees) with the upper arm	The shoulder is long and oblique, laid flat against the body, forming a sharp angle with the upper arm.	Shoulder long and oblique, laid flat against the body, forming a sharp angle (approximately 90 degrees) with the upper arm.	Long, laid back 45 degrees, flat against the body, forming a right angle with the upper arm. Top of the shoulder blades roughly two thumbs width apart. Upper arms should move in a direction exactly parallel to the longitudinal axis of the body. Forearms long and well-muscled

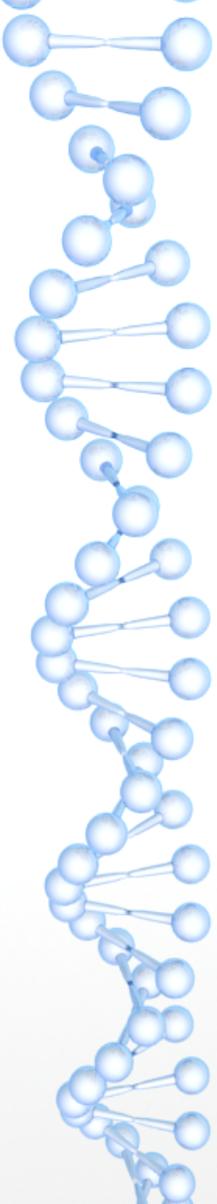


Forequarters Legs

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Are in length and substance well proportioned to the size of the dog with the bone oval rather than round Development (length and substance) should be well proportioned to the size of the dog.	The legs are straight, strong, and parallel to each other. The bone is oval rather than round. Length and Substance are well in proportion to the size of the dog.	Straight, strong and parallel to each other. Bone oval rather than round. Development (length and substance) should be well proportioned to the size of the dog.	Legs straight and parallel, perpendicular to the ground. Bone oval rather than round.

Forequarters Pasterns

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Are short, strong and very slightly sloped.	The pastern is of medium length, strong, and very slightly sloped.	Medium length, strong, and very slightly sloped	Pasterns short and strong, slightly sloped.



Forequarters Feet

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Feet - are round (cat footed).	The feet are round (cat footed) and well padded	Feet round (cat footed)	Feet rounded, cat footed, turning neither in nor out

Forequarters Toes

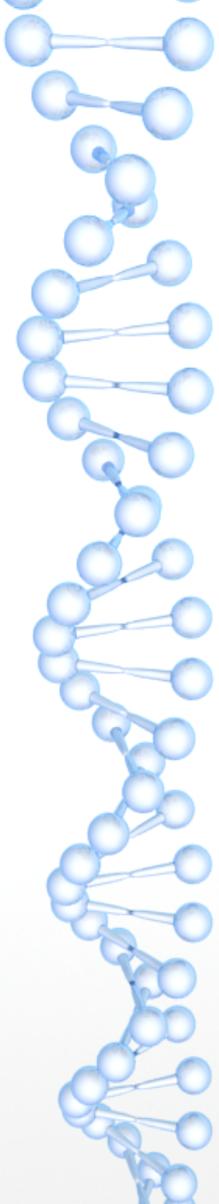
LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Curved close together, well padded.	Curved close together	Curved close together, well padded.	Curved close together, well-padded

Forequarters Toes

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Strong and black, except that they may be white to match white toe tips	The nails are strong and black except that they may be white to match white toe tips	Strong and black, except that they may be white to match white toe tips.	Strong nails

Forequarters Dewclaws

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Are permissible	Dewclaws may be removed.		Dewclaws may be removed

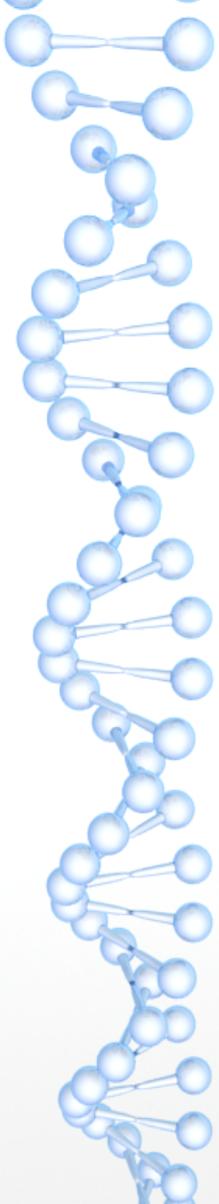


Hindquarters Thighs

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Broad and heavily muscled. The upper and lower thigh bones approximately parallel the shoulder blade and upper arm respectively, forming a relatively sharp angle at stifle joint. The angle at the hock is relatively sharp, although the Belgian Laekenois does not have extreme angulation	The upper and lower thigh bones should approximately parallel the shoulder blade and upper arm respectively. The thighs should be well muscled.	Broad and heavily muscled. The upper and lower thigh bones approximately parallel the shoulder blade and upper arm respectively, forming a relatively sharp angle at stifle joint.	Thighs broad and heavily muscled.

Hindquarters Metatarsus

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Is medium length, strong and slightly sloped.	Metatarsi are of medium length, strong, and slightly sloped.	Metatarsus medium length, strong and slightly sloped	Hocks moderately bent. Metatarsi short, perpendicular to the ground, parallel to each other when viewed from the rear.



Hindquarters Feet

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Are slightly elongated	May be slightly elongated	Slightly elongated.	Feet slightly elongated

Hindquarters Nails

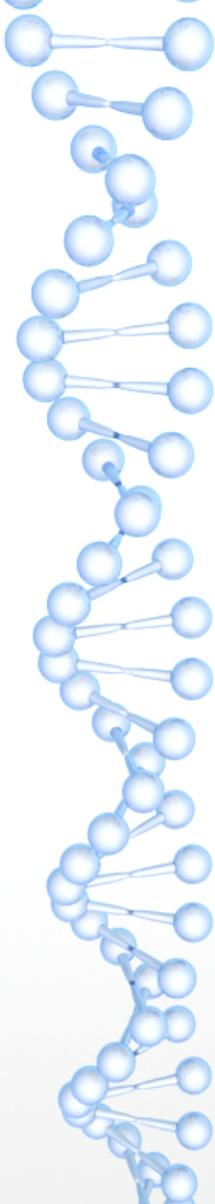
LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Curved close together, well padded	With toes curved close together and well padded.	Curved close together, well padded	Toes curved close together, heavily padded.

Hindquarters Toes

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
Strong and black, except that they may be white to match white toe tips.	Strong and black except that they may be white to match white toe tips	Strong and black, except that they may be white to match white toe tips	Strong nails

Hindquarters Dewclaws

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
If any, should be removed	If any, should be removed.	If any, should be removed	Dewclaws are Removed.



Coat

<https://laeken.club/akc-all-belgians>

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
<p>The coat must have a texture which is rough and coarse giving a disorderly, tousled look.</p> <p>The coat should be severely penalized if silky or soft or lacking a double coat. The length of the hair should be approximately 2½ inches over the body.</p> <p>A beard must be present on the muzzle and hair on the head should not be in excess so as to hide the eyes nor the lines of the head and skull and make the head appear square or heavy.</p> <p>The tail should not form a plume.</p>	<p>The coat should be comparatively short, straight, hard enough to be weather resistant, with dense undercoat.</p> <p>It should be very short on the head, ears, and lower legs.</p> <p>The hair is somewhat longer around the neck where it forms a collarette, and on the tail and backs of the thighs.</p> <p>The coat should conform to the body without standing out or hanging down.</p>	<p>The guard hairs of the coat must be long, well fitting, straight and abundant. They should not be silky or wiry. The texture should be a medium harshness. The undercoat should be extremely dense, commensurate, however, with climatic conditions. The Belgian Sheepdog is particularly adaptable to extremes of temperature or climate. The hair is shorter on the head, outside of the ears, and lower part of the legs. The opening of the ear is protected by tufts of hair.</p> <p>Ornamentation - Especially long and abundant hair, like a collarette, around the neck; fringe of long hair down the back of the forearm; especially long and abundant hair trimming the hindquarters, the breeches; long, heavy and abundant hair on the tail.</p>	<p>The Belgian Tervuren is particularly adaptable to extremes of temperature or climate. The guard hairs of the coat must be long, close-fitting, straight and abundant. The texture is of medium harshness, not silky or wiry. Wavy or curly hair is a fault. The undercoat is very dense, commensurate, however, with climatic conditions. The hair is short on the head, outside the ears, and on the front part of the legs. The opening of the ear is protected by tufts of hair. Ornamentation consists of especially long and abundant hair, like a collarette around the neck, particularly on males; fringe of long hair down the back of the forearm; especially long and abundant hair trimming the breeches; long, heavy and abundant hair on the tail. The female rarely has as long or as ornamented a coat as the male. This disparity must not be a consideration when the female is judged against the male.</p>

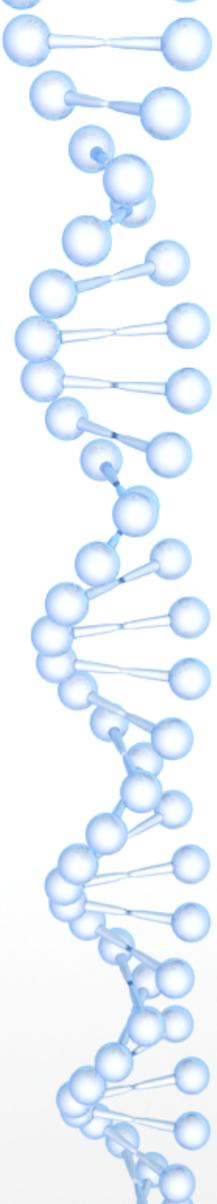
Color

<https://laeken.club/akc-all-belgians>

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
<p>All shades of red or fawn to grayish tones are acceptable with traces of black appearing principally on the muzzle and tail. The degree of blackening varies considerably from dog to dog with all variations being equally acceptable.</p> <p>A small to moderate white patch is permitted on the chest and the tips of the toes may be white. White or gray frosting on the chin and muzzle is normal and acceptable.</p>	<p>The basic coloring is a rich fawn to mahogany, with black tips on the hairs giving an overlay appearance. The mask and ears are black. The underparts of the body, tail and breeches are lighter fawn, but washed-out fawn color on the body is a fault.</p> <p>Color should be considered a finishing point, not to take precedence over structure or temperament.</p> <p>The tips of the toes may be white, and a small white spot on the breastbone/prosternum is permitted, not to extend to the neck. White markings, except as noted, are faulted</p>	<p>Black. May be completely black, or may be black with white, limited as follows</p> <p>Disqualification - Any color other than black, except for white in specified areas. Reddening due to climatic conditions in an otherwise correct coat should not be grounds for disqualification</p> <p>White, limited as follows: Small to moderate patch or strip on forechest. Between pads of feet. On tips of hind toes. On chin and muzzle (frost may be white or gray). On tips of front toes - allowable, but a fault.</p>	<p>Body rich fawn to russet mahogany with black overlay is ideal and preferred. Predominate color that is pale, washed out cream or gray is a fault. The coat is characteristically double pigmented whereby the tips of fawn hairs are blackened. Belgian Tervuren characteristically become darker with age. On mature males, this blackening is especially pronounced on the shoulders, back and rib section. Blackening in patches is a fault. Although allowance should be made for females and young males, absence of blackening in mature dogs is a serious fault. Chest is normally black, but may be a mixture of black and gray. . Face has a black mask and the ears are mostly black. A face with a complete absence of black is a serious fault. Frost or white on chin or muzzle is normal. The underparts of the body, tail, and breeches are cream, gray, or light beige. The tail typically has a darker or black tip. Feet - The tips of the toes may be white. Nail color may vary from black to transparent. Solid black, solid liver or any area of white except as specified on the chest, tips of the toes, chin and muzzle are disqualifications.</p> <p>White is permitted on the chest/sternum only, not to extend more than 3 inches above the prosternum, and not to reach either point of shoulder</p>

Gait

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
<p>Motion should be smooth, free and easy, seemingly never tiring, exhibiting facility of movement rather than hard driving action. The Belgian Laekenois tends to single track at a fast gait; the legs, both front and rear, converging toward the center line of gravity of the dog. The backline should remain firm and level, parallel to the center of motion, with no crabbing. The dog shows a marked tendency to move in a circle or curve rather than a straight line.</p>	<p>The movement is smooth, free and easy, seemingly never tiring, exhibiting facility of movement rather than a hard driving action. The Belgian Malinois single tracks at a fast gait, the legs, both front and rear, converging toward the center line of gravity, while the topline remains firm and level, parallel to the line of motion with no crabbing. The movement is smooth, free and easy, seemingly never tiring, exhibiting facility of movement rather than a hard driving action. The Belgian Malinois single tracks at a fast gait, the legs, both front and rear, converging toward the center line of gravity, while the topline remains firm. The breed shows a marked tendency to move in a circle rather than a straight line.</p>	<p>Motion should be smooth, free and easy, seemingly never tiring, exhibiting facility of movement rather than a hard driving action. He tends to single track on a fast gait; the legs, both front and rear, converging toward the center line of gravity of the dog. The backline should remain firm and level, parallel to the line of motion, with no crabbing. He shows a marked tendency to move in a circle rather than a straight line</p>	<p>Lively and graceful, covering the maximum ground with minimum effort. Always in motion, seemingly never tiring, he shows ease of movement rather than hard driving action. He single tracks at a fast gait, the legs both front and rear converging toward the centerline of gravity of the dog. Viewed from the side he exhibits full extension of both fore and hindquarters. The backline should remain firm and level, parallel to the line of motion. His natural tendency is to move in a circle, rather than a straight line. Padding, hackneying, weaving, crabbing and similar movement faults are to be penalized according to the degree with which they interfere with the ability of the dog to work.</p>



Temperament

LAKENOIS

The Belgian Laekenois should reflect the qualities of intelligence, courage, alertness and devotion to master. Protectiveness of the person and property of his master is added to his inherent aptitude as a guardian of flocks and fields. He should be watchful, attentive and always in motion when not under command. He should be observant and vigilant with strangers, but not apprehensive in his relationship with humans. He should not show fear or shyness nor viciousness by unwarranted or unprovoked attack. With those he knows well, he is most affectionate and friendly, zealous of their attention, and very possessive.

Extreme shyness is not desirable in the Belgian Laekenois and should be severely penalized.

Viciousness is a disqualification.

MALINOIS

Correct temperament is essential to the working character of the Belgian Malinois. The breed is confident, exhibiting neither shyness nor aggressiveness in new situations. The dog may be reserved with strangers but is affectionate with his own people. He is naturally protective of his owner's person and property without being overly aggressive. The Belgian Malinois possesses a strong desire to work and is quick and responsive to commands from his owner. Faulty temperament is strongly penalized.

SHEEPDOG

The Belgian Sheepdog should reflect the qualities of Intelligence, courage, alertness and devotion to master. To his inherent aptitude as a guardian of flocks should be added protectiveness of the person and property of his master. He should be watchful, attentive, and always in motion when not under command. In his relationship with humans, he should be observant and vigilant with strangers, but not apprehensive. He should not show fear or shyness. He should not show viciousness by unwarranted or unprovoked attack. With those he knows well, he is most affectionate and friendly, zealous of their attention, and very possessive.

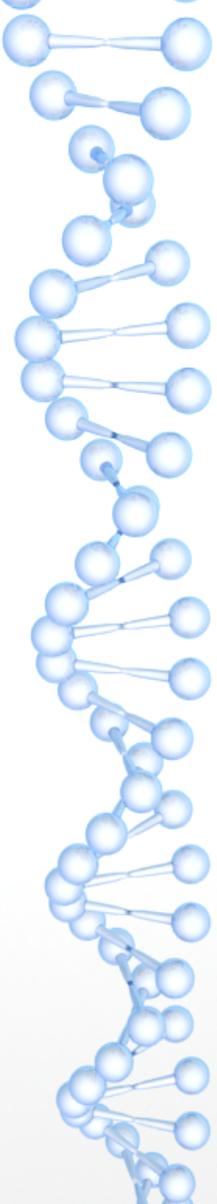
Viciousness is a disqualification

TERVUREN

In his relationship with humans he is observant and vigilant with strangers, but not apprehensive. He does not show fear or shyness. He does not show viciousness by unwarranted or unprovoked attack. He must be approachable, standing his ground and showing confidence to meet overtures without himself making them. With those he knows well, he is most affectionate and friendly, zealous for their attention and very possessive.

FAULTS STATEMENT

LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
<p>Any deviation from these specifications is a fault. In determining whether a fault is minor, serious, or major, these two factors should be used as a guide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The extent to which it deviates from the standard,2. The extent to which such deviation would actually affect the working ability of the dog	<p>The degree to which a dog is penalized should depend upon the extent to which the dog deviates from the standard and <i>the extent to which the particular fault would actually affect the working ability of the dog.</i></p>	<p>Any deviation from these specifications is a fault. In determining whether a fault is minor, serious, or major, these two factors should be used as a guide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The extent to which it deviates from the standard.2. The extent to which such deviation would actually affect the working ability of the dog.	<p>Any deviation from these specifications is a fault. In determining whether a fault is minor, serious, or major, these two factors should be used as a guide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The extent to which it deviates from the standard.2. The extent to which such deviation would actually affect the working ability of the dog.



DISQUALIFICATIONS

DQ TYPE	LAKENOIS	MALINOIS	SHEEPDOG	TERVUREN
SIZE	Males under 23 inches or over 27 inches shall be disqualified. Females under 20½ inches or over 25 inches shall be disqualified.	Males under 23 inches or over 27 inches and females under 21 inches or over 25 inches.	Males under 22½ or over 27½ inches in height and females under 20½ or over 25½ inches in height.	Males under 23 inches or over 26½ inches or females under 21 inches or over 24½ inches.
EARS	Drooping or hanging ears	Ears hanging as on a hound, or semi-prick ears.	Ears hanging (as on a hound).	Hanging ears, as on a hound.
TAIL	Cropped or stump tail	A cropped or stumped tail.	Cropped or stump tail.	A cropped or stump tail.
TEMPERAMENT	Viciousness.		Viciousness.	Viciousness.
BITE	Undershot or overshot bite such that contact with two incisors is lost. (Note: loss of contact caused by short center incisors shall not be judged as undershot in an otherwise correct bite.) Four or more missing teeth.	An undershot bite in which two or more of the upper incisors lose contact with two or more of the lower incisors.		An undershot bite such that there is a complete loss of contact by all the incisors.
COLOR	Solid white markings elsewhere than on tips of toes, chest, or frosting on muzzle.		<i>Any color other than black</i>	<i>Solid black, solid liver or any area of white except as specified on the chest, tips of the toes, chin, and muzzle.</i>