

STANDARD OF THE CHILEAN TERRIER (CHILEAN FOX TERRIER OR CHILEAN RAT TERRIER)

Origin: *Chile*

Utilization: *Hunting dog for small game, guard dog and companion*

Current Classification: *Group 11. FCI non recognized breeds.*

Brief Historical Summary: *There is evidence of their presence in our country since Colonial times, when European immigrants settled in South America, bringing Fox Terriers Smooth and Bodeguero Andaluz dogs with them. These dogs mated with local dogs with undefined breed, giving birth to the Chilean Terrier. During the XVIII and XIX centuries the breed was developed in the farms of the central and southern side of Chile, easily adapting to a rustic life, often situated in stables. At the end of the XIX century, and the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, many countrymen migrated to the cities, taking their families and Chilean Terriers with them. This breed quickly adapted to the "urban" life, being used in the new industries and human settlements (cités) to exterminate rats. This way, the Chilean Terriers continued to be present in middle class homes of our country, becoming even more popular through the local comic book "Condorito" and his ever-faithful dog "Washington". In 2004 a group of breeders and fans decided to work for recognition and promotion of the Chilean Terrier within the "Asociación Gremial de Criadores y Expositores de Perros de Chile". In 2007 the National Chilean Terrier Club was formed, planning the breeding and establishing the standard type. Currently its presence crosses the whole Chilean territory, as it has the virtue of adapting to a variety of climates and ways of life, being still used in rural areas as a rat hunter and in the city, as an excellent companion dog, friendly and vivacious.*

General Appearance: *Compact and, medium sized dog, well balanced, elegant and firm but not heavy. Short and tight hair, where marks and color symmetry stand out. Short tail, often born without it.*

Significant Proportions: *The height of the withers represent a 90% of the length of the dog. It is desirable in the case of males a nearly square body and a little longer body is allowed in bitches due to the reproductive function.*

Temperament: *Brave, gentle, lively, alert and energetic.*

Head: *Its shape is triangular if viewed from the top, broad at its base and thinning towards the tip of the muzzle. Looking at its side face, a slight convexity to the occipital bone is observed.*

1. *Skull: Rounded with almost flat forehead, the stop not very pronounced.*
2. *Facial Region:*

Nose : with wide nostrills, always black in tricolors and red dogs; brown in the case of the chocolates.

Muzzle: strong and triangular viewed from the top.

Lips: Clean and tight

Cheeks: Thin and clean.

Bite: a complete scissor bite with well developed teeth; level bites are accepted but undesirable as well as the absence of any tooth or jaw deformation.

Eyes: small, moderate separation, almond shaped, dark, a bit lighter version is accepted in chocolate type. Bright eyes are undesirable.

Ears: small, set high, moderate separation, triangular shaped, half-upright and pointed tips, laying down in to the corner of the eye.

Neck: Slightly curved, of medium length , thicker in the case of males.

Body: Compact and well structured, almost square shaped and shorter in case of males. Strong but not heavy, with clearly defined curved lines.

Withers: high and well defined.

Topline: firm and straight, going slightly downwards from the withers to the croup.

Back: short and well muscled.

Loin: short, firm and strongly muscled.

Croup: wide, well developed and muscled, with evident inclination.

Underline and belly: Slightly curved.

Tail: Low set, moderately broad at its base. An important number of dogs are born anuran. . Between two dogs of similar quality, the naturally anuran one should be selected. In its country of origin and, due to its use as rat exterminator, the tail is docked at the second vertebra. The presentation of dogs with complete tails is not desirable. When they are naturally born with tail and it is not cut off, the tail should not reach the hocks and have a high position without curving over the back.

Limbs:

Forequarters: Straight, parallel to the hindquarters; viewed from front they appear in a straight line with elbows.

Shoulders: Moderately long, muscled, bent in a 120° angle.

Elbows: Set tightly to the body, firm, at the same level as the chest underline.

Forefeet: Hare feet; compact. Nails are preferred at medium length, well developed pads. Spurs must not be removed.

Hindquarters: Muscled, large boned, straight and parallel. Well developed thighs with evident muscles; high and parallel hocks. Hind feet are also hare shaped. Spurs are not desirable.

Gait/ Movement: Flexible, elegant, short steps, with head set up high and firm back.

Skin: Smooth, without wrinkles and/or folds.

Coat: Short- haired, tight and lustrous; covers the whole body of the dog; finer in ears, neck, inner and lower parts of the forequarters and backside of the thighs. Undercoat is undesirable.

Colour: Predominant color is white, which covers the whole body including neck and tail, and excluding head and ears. This zone presents black and tan, brown and tan and blue and tan coloring. Tan marks should distribute symmetrically above the eyes, both cheeks and inside ears. There is also a bicolor type which is rare that presents only black or tan coloring, always limited to the head and ears.

Whatever the head and ear color may be, dogs with a white spot in the frontal part and under the cheeks harmoniously distributed are very appreciated.

Dogs with color spots in the neck, back and/or tail will be allowed (according to the type), but a complete white coat is desirable.

Size and Weight:

Size: male between 32 and 38 cm., **ideal 35 cm**; female, between 28 and 35 cm, **ideal 32 cm**. A variation of 1 cm. below these measures is allowed as long as the dog keeps the right proportions, which will allow him to develop its function in an optimal way.

Weight: Male: between 5 and 8 kilos. **Ideal weight: 6,5 kilos** ; **Female:** between 4 and 7 kilos. **Ideal weight: 5,5 kilos.**

FAULTS: Any deviation from the criteria mentioned previously must be considered a fault and its severity should be in exact proportion to the degree of deviation to the standard.

Minor Faults:

- Lack of color marking (dogs known as “pirates” or with white color including head and ears)
- Rose shaped ears, big or too separate.
- Short neck
- Joint hindquarters.
- Unattached elbows.
- Narrow skull, serpent type.
- Loose or heavy shoulders.
- Small teeth.

Mayor Faults:

- Long body.
- Short legs.
- Completely erected ears.
- Bright eyes, rounded or too separate.
- Curved back.
- High set tail.
- Straight croup, without inclination.
- Presence of spurs in hindquarters.
- Dogs that exceed 1 cm. over maximum height.
- Presence of undercoat.
- Excessive presence of marks and spots of color in the body.
- Patella dislocation.
- Lack of one or more teeth.

Disqualifying Faults:

- Shy and/or aggressive dogs.
- Overshot or undershot bite.

N.B.: Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.