

# Commentary to the FCI standard for Dachshunds

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**World Union Teckel**  
**Founded in 1992**

## Commentary to the FCI Standard for Dachshunds

FCI standard number 148

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## 1.

### **Area of jurisdiction:**

The FCI Standard number 148 contains the minimum requirements. Breeders and judges of dachshunds belonging to the FCI may not fall short of these guidelines.

## 2.

### **Goal:**

This commentary to the FCI Standard number 148 D is addressed towards owners, handlers, breeders, judges and judge apprentices of dachshunds. It shall demonstrate how the contents of the FCI Standard shall be interpreted and used.

**The cursive text corresponds word for word with the FCI standard for Dachshunds.**

## 3.

### **Responsibility and Approval:**

The country of origin of a breed is responsible and has jurisdiction for a breed standard within the FCI. The standard before us was drafted by the Deutscher Teckelklub 1888 e.V. The Board of the FCI has adopted the current version during its meeting on 12 March 2001 in Munich. It replaces the standard from 03 July 1998.

## 4.

### **Utilization:**

Hunting dog, above and below ground.

## 5.1

### **FCI Classification:**

Group 4, Dachshunds. With working trial.

## 5.2

### **Commentary:**

For some time now, some non-European countries have been attempting to award the title International Conformation Champion FCI without the performance requirements. The Dachshund is and shall remain a useful hunting dog. Excellent evaluation scores and outstanding performance are not mutually exclusive. The goal for the breeding of dachshunds must be form and function.

## ***BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY:***

### **6.1**

*The Dachshund, also called Dackel or Teckel, has been known since the Middle Ages. From the « Bracken », dogs were constantly bred which were especially suitable for hunting below ground. From these short legged dogs, the Dachshund evolved and was recognised as one of the most versatile and useful breeds of hunting dogs. He also has excellent achievements above ground,*

*hunting while giving tongue, searching and tracking wounded game. The oldest Club devoted to the breeding of Dachshunds is the « Deutsche Teckelklub » e.V., founded in 1888. For decades the Dachshund has been bred in three sizes (Teckel, Miniature Teckel and Rabbit Teckel) and in three different kinds of coat (Smooth-haired, Wire-haired and Long-haired).*

## 6.2

### **Commentary:**

These short sentences describe the history and evolution of today's dachshund accurately. The book "Der Dachshund" by Engelmann and Bandel, Publisher Neumann-Neudamm D-34212 Melsungen (ISBN 3-7888-0324-X) may be regarded as the most important work about Teckels.

The dachshund has been known, not only in Germany, since the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. Besides Germany, England must be noted in regards to horse and dog breeding. A busy exchange of horses and dogs took place between those two countries. Through breed books and the drafting of breed standards the breeding was put into orderly fashion. From this point of view it is interesting to note that a dachshund club was founded in England as early as 1881 (Rassehunde II Band, page 463, by Räber, Franckh-Kosmos Verlags-GmbH & Co. Stuttgart, ISBN 3-440-06752-1). According to Milo G. Denlinger, dachshunds were entered into the English "Kennel Club Studbook" under Dachshunds (or German Badger Hounds) as early as 1874. Badger = Dachs. (The Complete Dachshund, page 10, publisher Denlinger's Middleburg VA. USA)

## **GENERAL APPEARANCE:**

### 7.1

*Low, short legged, elongated but compact build, very muscular with cheeky, challenging head carriage and alert facial expression. His general appearance is typical of his sex. In spite of his legs being short in relation to the long body, he is very mobile and lithe.*

### 7.2.

#### **Commentary:**

This short description is of decisive importance for the appearance of the Dachshund. The entire exterior is designed for hunting use. The harmonious look is characterized by all-around balanced proportions which ensure good mobility. The entire front part should be nicely upright; the head should be carried high, with alert expression, watching the surroundings intently. The Dachshund should exert confidence. The French call this important factor: It has "de l'allure" (zest, striking presence)!

Dachshunds, which are too large and too heavy, as well as those lacking substance, or whippet-like, may not receive an "Excellent". According to the severity of this fault this could lead all the way to a score of "Sufficient" (see also "serious faults" in the standard) Miniature and rabbit dachshunds must fulfill the same requirements. No concessions may be made due to their size and gene pool. Today's dachshund breeding knows outstanding miniature and rabbit dachshunds. The fanciers of miniature and rabbit dachshunds shall take their queue from this correct type. They shall be absolutely regarded of equal ranking and are equal to the standard sized dachshund.

## 8.1

### **IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS:**

*With the distance above ground level of about one third of the height at withers, the body length should be in harmonious relation to height at withers, about 1 to 1,7 - 1,8.*

## 8.2

### **Commentary:**

The tendency towards back diseases [IVDD] shall be counteracted by compact dachshunds, full of substance.

The measurement 1 means the distance from the ground to the tip of the shoulder blade.

The measurement 1.8 means the length of the body from the forechest to the pelvis.

Prior to measuring, the points shall be precisely pin-pointed with the fingers. Three to five measurements are necessary in order to reach a correct mean measurement.

The ratio is calculated as follows:

The sample body length is 46 cm and the height at the withers is 25 cm. The ratio reads 25 : 46 or 1 : 1.84 .

A dachshund with compact appearance leans towards a ratio of 1 to 1.7.

Overly-long dachshunds that exhibit a ratio of 1 to 2.0 and above, may no longer receive an evaluation score of "Excellent".

The ground clearance is ideally a third of the height at the withers. Less ground clearance hinders progress in the hunting field. Dachshunds, which are too high off the ground, no longer conform to the standard. In both cases the evaluation score of "Excellent" should not be awarded.

If a conformation judge wants to withhold the evaluation score "Excellent" for a dachshund due to non-conforming proportions as described here, then he should do so only after making sure, using suitable measuring implements. Obvious extreme cases remain exceptions.

### **BEHAVIOUR /TEMPERAMENT:**

## 9.1

*Friendly by nature, neither nervous nor aggressive, with even temperament. Passionate, persevering and fast hunting dog with an excellent nose.*

## 9.2.

### **Commentary:**

This is one of the reasons, why the dachshund is so common and well-liked by the general public. Friendly and devoted, neither fearsome nor aggressive. Combined with temperament, intelligence, alertness and a lot of self confidence this is a combination hard to beat. This broad scale of the dachshund character and the extreme ability to adapt makes it the ideal companion.

Concerning temperament, we know the inherited and acquired shortcomings. It is of importance to the breeder if the fault is due to careless care, upbringing or training or if, indeed, it is an inherited defect. A judge, however, shall only evaluate what he sees at the time of the evaluation. The fact remains that dams with temperament faults will pass on this shortcoming to their puppies via their negative example. Dogs which tuck their tail under, aggressive biters, fear biters, urinating on the judge's table or even defecating on

the judge's table have forgone the evaluation score "Excellent". Unsociable dachshunds, which try to avoid the oncoming judge by hiding behind their handler's legs, are also excluded from the evaluation score "Excellent". Depending on the level of the temperament fault, be it acquired or inherited, the decision of the judge may even lead to a "Disqualification" (see under "disqualifying faults"). If, due to fearfulness or aggression, no dentition examination can be performed on the judge's table, the dachshund must be "Disqualified". A judgment of "Excused Without Evaluation" is incorrect, since the criteria temperament can, after all, be evaluated!

In all regulations and testing rules the sentence, "the temperament shall be considered in a suitable manner" is listed. It is however advisable not to speak of "temperament" but of "behavior". The temperament of a dog cannot be evaluated correctly by a judge in the short available time.

## **HEAD:**

### **10.1**

*Elongated as seen from above and in profile. Tapering uniformly towards the nose leather yet not pointed. Superciliary ridges clearly defined. Nasal cartilage and bridge of nose long and narrow.*

### **10.2**

#### **Commentary:**

The description of the head is correct and comprehensive. Of note is the ratio of the length of the skull to the muzzle. It should be at least 1 to 1. A slightly longer muzzle than the length of the skull between the stop and the occiput peak pronounces a distinctive, elegant head. Every now and then the term "hunting type" is used. It describes a normally wide top of the skull and a slightly shorter muzzle. The skull appears too wide because the muzzle does not have the desired length. It lacks the aristocracy! The eyebrow arches (superciliary ridges) may not stick out too starkly from the flat top of the head, so that a slightly descending "ramp" may be felt towards the middle of the skull. Such an elevation is atypical and excludes an evaluation of "Very Good". A Ram's nose is desired, a straight muzzle is tolerated, a dish face (Hechtnase or Himmelfahrtsnase) (pointer) is atypical, so that the dachshund shall be excused from the ring with a disqualification. Also of note is a distinctive difference regarding the chiseling of the head between the coat varieties. While a finely sculpted head is desired in smooth-haired dachshunds, the wire-haired dachshund shows a slightly coarse outline underneath his beard and eyebrows. The long-haired dachshund, on the other hand, shows a straight-lined head design with sometimes a slightly wider muzzle.

### **11.1**

#### **CRANIAL REGION :**

**Skull** : *Rather flat, gradually merging with the slightly arched nasal bridge.*

**Stop** : *Only indicated.*

### **11.2**

#### **Commentary:**

The skull is flat, not too wide and not too narrow. The contours of the occipital ridge are almost invisible but well palpable. A strongly pronounced occiput peak is usually combined with a small skull (spaniel). Small dachshunds often exhibited round “apple heads” in the past, but are rarely seen anymore. An “apple head” is atypical and excludes the score of “Very Good”.

The stop should be slightly indicated. Lack of stop (borzoi) is just as much a fault as the strongly pronounced stop (pointer).

### **12.1**

#### **FACIAL REGION:**

**Nose** : *Leather well developed.*

**Muzzle** : *Long, sufficiently broad and strong. Can be opened wide, split to level of eye.*

### **12.2**

#### **Commentary:**

A commentary about the nose is unnecessary.

The depth of the muzzle requires attention. Especially in smooth haired dachshunds every now and then the bottom jaw is barely visible with a closed muzzle. The evaluation of the depth of the muzzle is made difficult in wire-haired dachshunds due to the beard. Long-haired dachshunds, however, usually show a very nice depth of muzzle.

### **13.1**

#### **Jaws/Teeth:**

*Well developed upper and lower jaw. Scissor bite, even and closing firmly. Ideally, complete set of 42 teeth according to requirements for a dog's mouth with strong Canines exactly fitting into each other.*

### **13.2a**

#### **Commentary regarding jaws:**

The desire for substance in the jaw as well as the bite is clearly expressed. A width of the muzzle which provides space for six incisors is desired. A common evil are muzzles, which sharply taper off towards the nose. Often the teeth are no longer strong enough and there is no longer sufficient room for six incisors. A muzzle which is too narrow precludes an evaluation score of “Excellent”.

### **13.2b**

#### **Commentary regarding dentition:**

A strong and well-developed bite with 42 teeth is required. Double PM1's may not be counted as faults. Of special gravity, tooth loss shall be born in mind. Non-visible teeth are always counted as tooth loss. Surgical interference to expose teeth, or make them visible, is not permitted.

A true tooth gap in the incisors may be seen as an exception. If, for example, only 5 incisors are visible in the upper or lower jaw and those are evenly spaced over the entire width, then it can be assumed that this is an inherited incisor loss. However, if there is obviously room for 6 incisors, but only 5 incisors and an obvious tooth gap are visible, then one may assume that one incisor was bitten out. An x-ray picture helps in this case.

Without a veterinary statement the dachshund must be sent out of the ring “Without Evaluation” (when in doubt, for the defendant).

A tooth loss does not always count the same. A missing PM1 is not comparable with a missing PM4. For that reason the evaluation score must be adjusted downward depending on the type of tooth loss. The standard clearly notes in the section “faults” that the loss of one or two PM1 shall not be judged as a fault. The M3’s are always ignored! From a breeding point of view this means that the lack of the M3 should not exclude dachshunds suitable and qualified for breeding from passing on their advantages. Every dachshund owner is advised to check the dentition of his dog very carefully in order to know what is going on. A periodic check-up is advisable so that a lost tooth does not lead to bad surprises and to unnecessary annoyance of the dog owner.

If, in addition to two PM1, another tooth is missing then this constitutes an excluding fault. If only a PM2 is missing then this is a fault. In this case an evaluation score of at the most “Very Good” may be awarded. If, however, another tooth is missing in addition to a missing PM2, then this case requires a “Disqualified” as well (ignoring the M3 however). If one or more PM3, PM4, M1 or M2 are missing, then this conclusively requires a “Disqualified” (also look under section 57.2)

Canines which do not properly fit into each other (base narrow canines) do occur from time to time. The incorrectly positioned lower canines often cause a lasting injury in the gums or the palate of the upper jaw. Correctly positioned canines (the lower canine sits in front of the upper canine), with closed mouth, the tip of the canine is always visible. If the tip of the canine, with closed mouth, is no longer visible, then this is an eliminating fault, according to the current standard.

If the lower incisors still have contact with the dental neck (cervix dentis) of the upper incisors on the inside, then this can still be accepted as a scissor bite.

However, one shall strive for the strong, close-fitting scissor bite.

A pincer bite is counted as a fault (see under section 52.1). In this case only the evaluation score of “Very Good” may be awarded.

Caution is advisable with older dogs. Starting at the age of 4 years and over there might be a pincer bite caused by age. This age pincer bite shows itself with the strong wear of the incisors. Therefore this is no fault but an acquired condition. If the national dachshund club can certify that a correct scissor bite was ascertained during a prior evaluation, then this pincer bite shall have no bearings on the evaluation (see section 77.1). In all other cases the evaluation score of “Excellent” may no longer be awarded.

#### **14.1**

##### **Lips:**

*Taut fitting, covering the lower jaw well.*

#### **14.2**

##### **Commentary:**

These few words express clearly what is desired.

One shall pay special attention to the pigmentation of the muzzle. Black dachshunds have black muzzles. With recessive, homozygous brown dachshunds (lack of pigmentation) the muzzle is brown.

Rarely does one still see throw-backs to the old bracken type with an overly massive head. Such dogs could have open lips (St. Bernhard). This clumsy, lymphatic, heavy-boned build is typical of dachshunds that in their entire type and general appearance do not conform to today's ideal. They can no longer receive a score of "Good".

### 15.1

#### **Eyes:**

*Medium size, oval, set well apart, with clear energetic yet friendly expression. Not piercing. Colour bright, dark reddish brown to blackish brown in all coat colours. Wall, fish or pearl eyes in dapple dogs are not desired but may be tolerated.*

### 15.2

#### **Commentary:**

The desire for an expressive, oval eye is clearly described. The round protruding eye (inherited from the miniature pinscher) is only rarely exhibited these days and combined with the apple head and short muzzle. Such an eye precludes the evaluation score of "Very Good". The fact that a small and narrow eye is faulty goes without speaking. The seriousness of the fault is equal as the round, protruding eye.

The pigmentation of the eye is tied to the base color of the dog. Black dachshunds shall show a blackish-brown eye. With recessive, homozygous brown dachshunds (lack of pigmentation) the dark reddish-brown eye color should be visible. Light, piercing hawk eyes are not desired. Such an eye color excludes the evaluation score "Excellent".

The pigmentation of the eye lid corresponds, as described above, with the base color of the dachshund. The same criteria shall be used.

Extremely rarely, dachshunds with entropion (eye lid rolling inward) or ectropion (lower eye lid rolling outward, exposing the cornea, at most in throw-backs to the old heavy bracken type) could be exhibited. Entropion and ectropion are considered eliminating faults in all dog breeds, so that such a dachshund must be excused from the ring with a "Disqualification".

### 16.1

#### **Ears:**

*Set on high, not too far forward. Sufficiently long but not exaggerated. Rounded, not narrow, pointed or folded. Mobile with front edge lying close to cheek.*

### 16.2.

#### **Commentary:**

The desired result is accurately described. Ears set at the same height as the flat skull or minimally below that line may be viewed as the correct set of the ears. During a relaxed mood the ears are carried parallel to the cheek. If the dachshund notices something unusual it will lay the front seam of its ears close to the cheek. Faulty positioning of the ears could be due to handler mistake, temperament or inherited faults. Handler mistake would be if, for example, the handler wants to lure the standing dachshund with a treat in the optimal stacking position. Instead of holding the head straight and the front seams of the ears are laying flat against the cheek (concentrated attention), the dachshund now seeks eye contact with the handler. That causes the head being picked up and the ears fall backwards and appear "open". This is not a fault. This observation may, however, have



consequences in the ranking. A behavior fault exists if, for example, the dachshund feels insecure in the ring. It will then lay the rear seams of the ears down onto the neck and opens his ears. This is called “open or openly carried ears”. A constantly “openly carried ear” excludes the evaluation score of “Excellent”.

The following faults can be listed:

- Ears too short or too long
- Ears too narrow
- Ears too pointy (not rounded at the bottom)
- Ear set too low (bracken or spaniel inheritance)
- Folded or rolled ears (bracken or spaniel inheritance)
- Ears standing away from head (too much cartilage growth, often combined with short ears, Miniature Pinscher or Miniature Schnauzer inheritance)

These faults exclude an evaluation score of “Excellent”. If the fault is especially severe then the dachshund will also be denied the evaluation score of “Very Good”.

### 17.1

#### **NECK:**

*Sufficiently long, muscular. Tight fitting skin on throat. Lightly arched nape of neck, carried freely and high.*

### 17.2

#### **Commentary:**

A well-built dachshund carries his head high with a slightly arched neck, whose line will harmoniously flow into the withers. A short neck appears ungainly; a neck which is too long lets the head appear as if it is set on top of a stem. The neck should taper off from the base towards the head. The skin should be tight and surround the neck without dewlap. It should be noted that every correctly built dachshund does have a minor dewlap.

The following points can be listed as faults, which exclude the evaluation score “Excellent”:

- Neck too short (the head seems to sit right on the body)
- Neck too long (the overall appearance does not seem balanced)
- Too much dewlap (usually combined with a clumsy, ungainly appearance)

If the balance of the total appearance is greatly disturbed then the score of “Very Good” may also no longer be awarded.

Some dachshunds do not show any motivation to present themselves in a positive way in the ring. They let their head “hang” and demonstrate listlessness. This may not be interpreted as a fault. This fact may however have consequences in the ranking.

## **Body:**

### 18.1

**Upper line:** Blending harmoniously from neck to slightly sloping croup.

**Withers** : Pronounced.

## 18.2

### **Commentary:**

The desired topline is described excellently. Possible faults of the topline are outlined under their respective detailed descriptions.

Well developed withers are desired. It is dependent upon the position of the shoulder and consists mainly of muscles. Basically, dogs tend to have better developed withers than bitches. Lack of a pronounced development of the withers may not exclude the evaluation score of "Excellent". However, it may be considered during ranking.

## 19.1

### **Back:**

*Behind the high withers, topline running from the thoracic vertebrae straight or slightly inclined to the rear. **Firm and well muscled.***

## 19.2

### **Commentary:**

The backline should run straight above the thoracic vertebrae. During movement (gaiting) firmness is desired.

The backline can exhibit slight to serious faults. Starting with the drop through the withers being too strongly pronounced (dipping anticlinal vertebra / # 10 of the thoracic vertebrae / Diaphragmatischer- or Wechselwirbel), directly at the end of the withers, to the carp back or hollow back. Depending on the severity of the fault, an evaluation score of "Very Good" to "Sufficient" is possible.

## 20.1

### **Loins:**

*Strongly muscled. Sufficiently long.*

## 20.2

### **Commentary:**

Well muscled loins (overbuilt back) are not always recognizable at first glance. Therefore it is necessary to check by hand on the judge's table. Strenuous use often leads to pronounced loin musculature. This very visible arch may give the impression of an incorrect topline and must therefore be checked out thoroughly. If the described well-developed musculature is detected this shall not be a fault. A curved spine however is faulty and excludes the evaluation score of "Excellent".

Sufficiently long means "according to the ratio". Reminder - compact dachshunds, full of substance, are desired.

## 21.1

### **Croup:**

*Broad and sufficiently long. Slightly sloping.*

## 21.2

### **Commentary:**

The croup should decline slightly, broad and well bolstered with muscles. If the croup is falling away too much, the evaluation score of "Excellent" should be avoided.

## 22.1

### **Chest:**

*Sternum well developed and so prominent that slight depressions appear on either side. The ribcage, seen from the front, is oval. Seen from above and the side, it is roomy, giving plenty of space for the heart and lung development. Ribs carried well back. With correct length and angulation of shoulder blade and upper arm, the front leg covers the lowest point of the sternal line in profile.*

## 22.2

### **Commentary:**

The desired shape of the chest is very well described. The forming parts of the skeleton are the sternum and the ribs (9 true ribs and 4 shorter ribs, so-called false ribs). All ribs, as well as the slightly curved sternum (keel) run harmoniously.

If the desired prominence of the sternum (presternum) is missing, then this is a fault, which excludes the evaluation score "Excellent". In smooth-haired dachshunds the check for the sternum (forechest) is possible with the naked eye. With correctly coated wire-haired dachshunds this is possible as well. With long-haired dachshunds a manual examination is unavoidable, provided the coat shows the desired quality. Ideally the end of the sternum can be felt slightly in front of the middle of the body. The end of the sternum should be situated deep down in the body and in no case show a curve at the end towards the inside of the body. With the cut-off sternum/keel (eliminating fault) the end of the sternum/keel is abrupt. The sternum/keel is greatly shortened and extremely bent upwards. The chest is extremely short ribbed and the false ribs are also greatly shortened. It can occur that the 9<sup>th</sup> true rib grows together with the end of the sternum via cartilage. One can reach with the fingers from underneath inside the inner chest. A correctly developed sternum/keel is the "bumper" of the front and lower body area of the dachshund. It protects with the ribs the heart and lungs up to the diaphragm.

The chest may not have a flat rib cage. Well-set ribs at the chest vertebrae enable the desired strong back musculature. A certain arching of the ribs, which reach deep down, must also be present so the front legs do not stand too close to each other from a frontal view. A barrel chest is not desired. This causes the opposite of the previous statement and the frontal view of the front quarters is too wide. Rib curvature too flat or too round excludes the evaluation score of "Excellent".

## 23.1

### **Underline and Belly:**

*Slight tuck up.*

## 23.2

### **Commentary:**

The underline consists of the ribcage reaching as far back as possible and well developed abdominal musculature. When evaluating the underline on the examination table the first step is to check the ribbing by hand. A ribcage, carried well back will cover about three quarters between the front- and the back legs. A normal ribbing reaches slightly past the middle of the trunk. The last rib is the 13<sup>th</sup> [rib]. It is not connected to the sternum and therefore "floating". Together with the abdominal muscles the very last part of the ribs

has the task to protect the intestines of the dachshund in the best possible way. A whippet-like flank (too much tuck-up) is listed in the standard under “serious faults” and excludes the evaluation score “Good”.

#### **24.1**

##### **TAIL:**

*Not set on too high, carried in continuation of topline. A slight curve in the last third of the tail is permitted.*

#### **24.2**

##### **Commentary:**

The tail continuously tapers off towards the tip of the tail. If a slight curve in the last third of the tail can be ascertained, then one cannot call this a sickle tail. A sickle tail starts curving after the first third. The reason being that the tendons are too short. Some tails also curl sideways. Obvious sickle tails exclude the evaluation score “Excellent”. Tails that are set too high are not encountered very often. Sometimes the appearance is deceptive due to high tail carriage. A tail set that is too low is extremely rare in dachshunds. It happens mostly only in combination with a greatly falling-away croup. A “gay tail” is clearly elevated above the backline. This indicator actually should be dealt with under “behavior, temperament”. The dachshund shows dominance and presence in the ring, therefore a positive aspect. Unfortunately this posture disturbs the overall appearance so that the score “Excellent” can no longer be awarded. The tucking of the tail is described under 9.2. Anatomical reasons, like a short croup with a high tail set or an inclining back line, may be combined with too steep a rear angulation, can also lead to a “gay tail”.

All inherited tail deformations and tail faults, like kinky tail, fused tail vertebrae (tail vertebrae should always be movable against one another, in all directions), stump tail (18 to 22 tail vertebrae are normal), corkscrew tail etc. are “eliminating faults” and end with a “Disqualification” of the dachshund. Attention should be paid to tails that seem to be a little short. Is such a tail length congenital or was a kink in the last vertebra surgically removed? When in doubt, an x-ray picture from a neutral institution should be requested. Should your dachshund suffer from a tail injury you should try hard to obtain a consultation with your veterinarian while still in a “bloody state”. Only then may your veterinarian write a correct statement regarding an injury-induced tail deformation.

##### **LIMBS:**

##### **FOREQUARTERS:**

#### **25.1**

##### **General:**

*Strongly muscled, well angulated. Seen from front, clean front legs, standing straight with good strength of bone; feet pointing straight forward.*

#### **25.2**

##### **Commentary:**

The forequarters are described in the standard in seven subsections so that only the general statements are being commented here. Pay attention to the strength of the bone (substance). Bone substance is congenital and may not be confused with mass. An overweight dachshund is massive. Mass, however, is an acquired factor. Lacking substance prevents the evaluation of “Excellent”.

## **26.1**

### **Shoulders:**

*Pliant muscles. Long sloping shoulder blade, fitting close to chest.*

## **26.2**

### **Commentary:**

Desired is the close-fitting, sloping shoulder blade. This sloping position is being checked by the distance of the tips of the scapulas (tip of the shoulder blades). As the acceptable distance between the scapulas one may expect one finger width. The scapulas may not be positioned too close to each other; otherwise the position of the shoulder may cause a wide gait in the forequarters. If the scapulas have too much room between them then the position of the shoulder blade is no longer sloping. These dachshunds will then often “hang between the shoulders”. This appearance of the shoulder blades is similar to that of the great cats. This fault is listed in the standard under “serious faults” and excludes an evaluation score of “Good”.

## **27.1**

### **Upper arm:**

*Equal in length to shoulder blade, set almost at right angle to same. Strong boned and well muscled, close fitting to ribs but free in movement.*

## **27.2**

### **Commentary:**

The correct upper arm is described very well. Frequently a short upper arm can be found. This has a negative impact on the ground clearance and [together] with insufficient angulation, will be considered too high. The forechest does not appear to stick out sufficiently. The vertical axis of the forequarters is being pushed forward. It can also cause an optical illusion of insufficient depth of chest. A short upper arm or insufficient angulation of the forequarters excludes the evaluation score of “Excellent”.

## **28.1**

### **Elbows:**

*Turning neither in nor out.*

## **28.2**

### **Commentary:**

The elbow includes the elbow joint and the olecranon. The radius and ulna form the forearm. A correctly close-fitting upper arm leaves no room between the ribs and the upper arm. It is impossible to push fingers into this space. Subsequently only an incorrectly fitting upper arm can force the elbow to turn out. If there are faults in the area of the lower front leg (see commentaries below), then this can cause the elbow to turn

inwards. These two faults and/or a loose upper arm can cause toeing in or toeing out of the front paws and exclude an evaluation of “Excellent”.

### **29.1**

#### **Forearm:**

*Short, yet so long that the dog's distance from the ground is about one third of its height at withers. As straight as possible.*

### **29.2**

#### **Commentary:**

Once again the ground clearance is noted (see also section 27.2). It is desired to have as straight and vertical a forearm as possible when viewed from the side and from the front. The angle between the upper arm and forearm amounts to approaching 90 degrees. Many dachshunds suffer from slightly incorrectly built forequarters with a somewhat ‘soft’ appearance. Forearm, wrist, pastern, forefoot and front paws, seen as a unit, show subsequently a greatly backwards- or inwards bent lower front leg assembly. Depending on the severity of the fault this soft bone consistency excludes the evaluation score “Excellent” (light fault) or even a “Very Good” (serious fault).

### **30.1**

#### **Pastern joints:**

*Slightly closer together than the shoulder joints.*

### **30.2**

#### **Commentary:**

In order for the dachshund to keep his balance he will place his forequarters, depending on the build of the chest, in the most comfortable position. In the case of a correctly built chest with flawlessly built and placed forequarters, the pastern joints are a bit closer to each other than the shoulder joints. If the front assembly of the dachshund is not optimal he must take a faulty position of the forequarters in order to counter-act the anatomical faults. Different factors can also lead to a pronounced narrow position of the pastern joint. Most of the time this is combined with east-west feet (French front, paws turned outward). If this fault is extremely severe, the paws can be turned outward up to 90 degrees. During movement the paws then roll sideways. Depending on the severity of this fault the evaluation of “Very Good” to “Sufficient” shall be awarded. Knuckling over in the pastern is listed under “eliminating faults”. This fault rarely occurs. It is usually observed by accident, since the occurrence happens within fractions of a second. Under sufficient strain on the pastern joint this will jump forward and “knuckle”. Often overly-heavy dachshunds will show this fault. Since the dachshund can not use the knuckling front leg for a short period of time he will then immediately take the weight off the leg, with the result that the normal position may immediately be resumed.

### **31.1**

#### **Pastern:**

*Seen from the side, should be neither steep nor noticeably inclined forward.*

### 31.2

#### **Commentary:**

The pastern consists of five bones. As already stated above, good bone density is demanded here as well in order to enable the correct structure for the entire forequarters.

### 32.1

#### **Front feet:**

*Toes close together, well arched with strong, resistant, well cushioned pads and short strong nails. The fifth toe has no function but must not be removed.*

### 32.2

#### **Commentary:**

The front paw is almost oval shaped, compact, slightly larger than the rear paw with well-arched toes. The pads and nails, corresponding with the color of the dachshund, are either black or dark brown. The position of the paws is pointed forward. Overly heavy, lymphatic dachshunds often have splayed toes. This fault excludes the evaluation score of "Very Good". A soft build of the front legs often ends in hare feet, which also excludes the evaluation score of "Very Good". The term toeing in (paws turned inward) or toeing out (paws turned outward) is commented upon further above (section 28.2)

## **HINDQUARTERS :**

### 33.1

#### **General:**

*Strongly muscled, in correct proportion to forequarters. Strong angulation of stifles and hock joints. Hindlegs parallel standing neither close nor wide apart.*

### 33.2

#### **Commentary:**

The hindquarters are described in the standard in six sub-sections so that only generalities will be expressed here. The hindlegs are positioned parallel and should be carried rather wide, due to the short legs. They stand slightly outside the pelvis (tuber ischiadicum). There should be ca. three finger's width between the hindlegs. Desired is a strong muscle tone. A somewhat weak or too much developed muscle tone may influence the overall appearance of the dachshund. This is, however, never a fault which would justify a lower evaluation score. A lower placing would be appropriate in this case.

### 34.1

#### **Upper thigh:**

*Should be of good length and well muscled.*

### 34.2

#### **Commentary:**

Unnecessary

### 35.1

#### **Stifle (joint):**

*Broad and strong with pronounced angulation.*

### **35.2**

#### **Commentary:**

Special attention should be paid to stifle defects (patella luxation), which may occur in dachshunds every now and then. They catch the eye especially due to irregular movement. In this case the lower thigh does not move parallel but slightly angled inwards; often in conjunction with pigeon toed paws. With a suspicion of patella luxation no evaluation may be given. The dachshund shall be excused from the ring "Without Evaluation". This is combined with notification to the responsible breed book office. They will order a medical examination with x-rays.

### **36.1**

#### **Lower thigh:**

*Short, almost at right angle to upper thigh. Well muscled.*

### **36.2**

#### **Commentary:**

Insufficient angulation of the hindquarters often causes a higher positioned croup and therefore an inclining backline. This fault is described with the technical term "überbaut" (higher in the rear) and excludes the evaluation score "Excellent".

### **37.1**

#### **Hock joint:**

*Clean with strong tendons.*

### **37.2**

#### **Commentary:**

Here as well the correct angulation between lower thigh and rear pastern consists of ca. 90 degrees. Faults, which become obvious due to the position of the hock-joints, are bow-legged and cow-hocked positions. Bow-legged or cow-hocked positions exclude the evaluation score of "Excellent". If these possible faults are markedly obvious, then an even lower evaluation is suitable.

### **38.1**

#### **Hock:**

*Relatively long, mobile towards lower thigh. Lightly curved forward.*

### **38.2**

#### **Commentary:**

From a side view a correctly balanced dachshund shows an almost perpendicular, slightly behind the pelvis positioned hock with good bone structure.

### **39.1**

#### **Hind feet:**

*Four close knit toes, well arched. Standing firmly on strong pads.*



## 39.2

### **Commentary:**

In the correct position the hind paws are pointed forward and stand underneath the pelvis (tuber ischiadicum). They are a little bit smaller than the front paws. If the hindquarters are cow-hocked then the position of the paws is often turned outward. If the hindquarters are bow-legged the paws are often turned inward.

Sometimes dachshunds present hindquarters which are too far under (“untergestellte Hinterhand”). The croup appears somewhat strongly falling off and the tail set somewhat low. During natural stack the paws are then positioned in a vertical line with the stifle joint or even in front. This is a fault which excludes the evaluation score “Excellent”.

### **GAIT / MOVEMENT:**

## 40.1

*Movement should be ground covering, flowing and energetic, with far reaching front strides without much lift, and strong rear drive movement should produce slightly springy transmission to backline. Tail should be carried in harmonious continuation of backline, slightly sloping. Front and hindlegs have parallel movement.*

## 40.2

### **Commentary:**

A very balanced and expressive section. The evaluation of the motion always happens during gaiting. The dachshund should always stay balanced. It is the task of the handler to determine the appropriate speed for the dachshund. The following faults can sometimes occur on one side.

The following faults can be noted in the front quarters during gaiting:

Insufficient, short step, gaiting narrow or gaiting wide in the front, round or stepping motion, goose stepping or parade step (straight front leg, thrust upward), loose (not correctly laying close to ribs and tight-fitting upper arm), paddling, paws pigeon toed or east-west front quarter. Goose stepping or the parade step may not be confused with stepping front quarters. When “stepping”, the front leg is strongly bent at the pastern joint. In motion the dog shows a round, pull-up, short step. This fault is extremely rarely seen in dachshunds unlike in long legged breeds.

The following faults can be noted in the hindquarters during motion:

Insufficient drive, hindquarters too far under (the area of movement is exclusively limited to the belly area, often combined with a short step, gait like a “sewing machine”), gaiting narrow or gaiting wide hindquarters, bow-legged or cow-hocked hindquarters, pigeon toed or east-west toed and not in one line straight backwards moving action but rather weaving of the hindquarters

A sideways movement of the back (crabbing) is also faulty.

All faults listed here exclude the evaluation score of “Excellent”. If these faults are markedly pronounced, then a lower evaluation may also be granted.

During gaiting faults of the topline, meaning back, will be better visible than during stacking. Faults of the back are often concealed during stacking, meaning they are not apparent.

## **SKIN:**

### **41.1**

*Tight fitting.*

### **41.2**

#### **Commentary:**

The vast majority of our dachshunds have a tight fitting skin. A minimal dewlap is normal and no fault. The clumsy, lymphatic type (rarely occurring) can show a strong dewlap development, open lips and additional faults of the heavily built dachshund ‘from old days’, already listed above. A medium dewlap development excludes the evaluation score of “Excellent”.

## **COAT :**

### **SMOOTH-HAIRED**

#### **42.1**

***HAIR:** Short, dense, shiny, smooth fitting, **tight and harsh.** Not showing any bald patches anywhere.*

***Tail :** Fine, fully but not too profusely coated. Somewhat longer guard hair on underside is not a fault.*

#### **42.2**

#### **Commentary:**

The smooth-haired dachshund should have an extraordinarily dense coat. Additionally a tight structure of the hair is desired. The winter coat is denser and a little bit longer than the summer coat. Smooth-haired dachshunds out of cross-coat breedings with long-haired dachshunds (USA imports) often show a silky-soft smooth coat development. If the following points are detected on the judge’s table then it may be assumed that the presented smooth-haired dachshund can have long-haired ancestors:

- Coarser head outline (not finely chiseled lines)
- Overly long tail
- Fine, soft, silky smooth hair

If the presented smooth is correct in all other parts then these points shall be accepted and do not lead to a lower evaluation. This, insofar as the coat is dense. At the most such a smooth can be ranked lower.

The density of the coat is checked by running the hand against the grain of the coat. If too much skin shows during this check and, additionally, the coat on the underside of the chest and on the belly is sparse to non-existent, then the coat density is inadequate and excludes the evaluation score of “Excellent”.

If the coat density is even more insufficient, so-called leather ears and leather tails can develop. Such a fault excludes the evaluation score of “Very Good”. Every now and then a so-called ridge (hunter’s crest, hair whirl growing in opposite direction than the rest of the coat) may occur on the nape of the neck. A ridge is usually connected with a strong

smooth coat development and is not counted as a fault. The same weight is given to slightly longer guard hair on the underside side of the tail.

### **COLOUR :**

#### **43.1**

a) **Whole-coloured:** Red, reddish yellow, yellow, all with or without interspersed black hairs. A clear colour is preferable and red is of greater value than reddish yellow or yellow. Even dogs with strongly interspersed black hairs are classed as whole-colour, not as other colours. White is not desired but single small spots do not disqualify. Nose and nails black. **reddish-brown** is also permissible but not desirable.

#### **43.2**

##### **Commentary:**

A rich, deep stag-red is desired. The more yellow the color, the lower the color quality. Red smooth-haired dachshunds with dark pigmentation on eyes, nose, lips and nails show one of the classical color schemes. Interspersed black hair as well as a small white spot on the chest are acceptable and may not be regarded as faults. Large white spots are breed-eliminating. A lighter eye, a reddish-brown nose, reddish-brown lips and nails are not desired and show lack of pigmentation. Lack of pigmentation excludes the evaluation score of "Excellent". Insufficiently pigmented dachshunds pass on this fault recessively.

#### **44.1**

b) **Two-coloured:** Deep black or brown, each with tan or yellow markings (« Brand ») over eyes, on sides of muzzle and of lower lip, on inner edge of leathers, on forechest, on inside and rear side of legs, also on the feet, round the vent and from there reaching to about one third or one-half of the underside of the tail. Nose and nails black in black dogs, brown in brown dogs. White is not desired but single small spots do not disqualify. Tan or yellow marking (« Brand ») too wide spread is undesirable.

#### **44.2**

##### **Commentary:**

The classic two-colored dachshund is black and tan. A small white spot on the chest may not be regarded as a fault. Black and tan smooth-haired dachshunds with small white spots on the chest are often homozygous in regards to color. Large white spots are breed-eliminating. If the necessary pigmentation is lacking, then the color is brown with yellowish markings. Such a color is also called "chocolate". Two-colored brown dachshunds would be easy to breed because the color is recessive and is also homozygous. However, dachshund breeders attach importance to deep- and well pigmented dogs so that two-colored brown dogs may be seen only occasionally. In the case of two dogs with exteriors of equal quality, the two-colored brown (chocolate) dachshund shall be ranked lower due to lack of pigmentation. If the markings are too widely spread or not spread enough or the base color bleeds over too much (almost black) then this will exclude the evaluation score of "Excellent"

#### **45.1**

c) **Dappled (Tiger-brindle, brindle):** The basic colour is always the dark colour (black, red or grey). Desired are irregular **grey or beige** patches\*spots\* (large patches not desired). Neither

*the dark nor the light colour should be predominant. The colour of a brindle Dachshund is red or yellow with darker brindle. Nose and toenails are the same as with the whole- and two-coloured.*

#### **45.2**

##### **Commentary:**

The breeding of dapples is a difficult affair. The merle factor plays a role and contains devastating dangers. The breeding of dapples belongs exclusively in the hands of experienced breeders. Desired are grey or beige spots, corresponding with the respective base color. Small white spots are undesired and are counted as faults in dapples. Large patches and large light spots exclude the evaluation score of "Excellent". Large areas of white are eliminating [faults].

### **WIRE-HAIRED**

#### **46.1**

**HAIR** : *With exception of muzzle, eyebrows and leathers, perfectly even close fitting, dense wiry topcoat with undercoat. The muzzle has a clearly defined beard. Eyebrows are bushy. On the leathers, the coat is shorter than on the body, almost smooth.*

**Tail** : *Well and evenly covered with close fitting coat.*

#### **46.2**

##### **Commentary:**

Wire hair is, and will also remain in the future, the problem coat for breeders. Considering the ancestry of the wire-haired dachshund (incrossing of terriers and wire-haired pinschers, so-called ratters), then the breadth of the wirehair coat quality will not be under control in the coming decades. Slight deviations in coat quality towards short as well as soft are therefore accepted. The coat density shall also be checked in wire-haired dachshunds (see 42.2). Black and tan wires usually show less harsh wirehair than their wild-boar colored cousins. Besides the excellent wire-haired dachshunds with ca. 2-3 cm long, harsh top coat, interspersed with undercoat, dachshunds with slightly softer or rather short wire coat with little beard, eye brows and undercoat shall be left in the breeding program; however, they should have the evaluation score of "Excellent" withheld. Over and above that, the less than optimal wire coat shall be taken into account during ranking within the classes.

The evaluation score of "Good" is excluded only in extreme cases, such as a too soft wire coat, as well as the smooth wire coats without beard and eye brows.

**These wire-haired dachshunds shall be scored with the evaluation score of "Sufficient".**

The standard defines a curly or wavy coat as faulty. This criterion may only be evaluated in dry conditions. If the coat gets wet, this fault may appear for a short period of time and should therefore be approached with caution.

As a rule, a wire-haired dachshund may be trimmed. If the judge suspects that the dachshund has been shorn, then the true coat quality, as well as the entire external appearance can no longer be evaluated. The dachshund shall be excused from the ring **"Without Evaluation"**.

Soft coat on the head with top-knot, ears with long, silky hair and furnishings on the legs, combined with feathered tail are not desired. Stripping/trimming, however, enables a remarkable improvement of the general appearance of the wire-haired dachshund in the ring.

One more word regarding inheritance in wire-haired dachshunds. Smooth hair and excessively soft hair are recessive.

#### **47.1**

***COLOUR:*** *Dominantly light to dark wild boar colour as well as colour of dry leaves. Otherwise same colours as described under Smooth-haired a-c.*

#### **47.2**

##### **Commentary:**

Wild boar has countless shades. From light wild boar, wheaten to dark wild boar everything is tolerated. Small white spots on the chest also occur and are not faulty. If the question arises if a dachshund is dark wild boar or black and tan, then this criterion can best be checked on the ears. If the hair is not true black but at the base and at the edges slightly lightened up with brown, then it is a dark wild boar colored dachshund.

In no case may a wild boar colored dachshunds show any lack of pigmentation (see under 43.2), otherwise anything said elsewhere regarding colors remains valid.

### **LONG-HAIRED**

#### **48.1**

***HAIR:*** *The sleek shiny coat, with undercoat and close fitting to body, is longer at the throat and on underside of body. On leathers the hair must extend beyond the lower edge of ears (feathering). Distinct feathers on rear side of legs. Achieves its greatest length on underside of tail and there forms a veritable flag.*

#### **48.2**

##### **Commentary:**

In long-haired dachshunds, the development of the coat, taking age into account, is the most remarkable. It is finished only at the age of around three years. Every once in a while already fully grown, young long-haired dachshunds do not yet show the above described coat in its completeness. The top coat is ca. 5 cm long and well interspersed with undercoat. Desired is a moderately overhanging long coat on the ears. Ears overloaded with hair are not desired. The long tapering longhair fringes on the frontquarters are called feathering, on the hindquarters furnishings. The long hair fringes on the tail are called flag.

If the top coat is too short and of equal length on the entire body, then this excludes the evaluation score of "Excellent". Judged equally is a profuse long coat or parted on the back which would hinder use in the field, especially during snow. Wavy or shaggy coat, as well as too long hair on the toes, excludes the evaluation score of "Excellent" as well. Long-haired dachshunds may also be trimmed. By analogy, Section 46.2, paragraph 4 may be applied here as well.

#### **49.1**

**COLOUR** : *As described in Smooth-haired a-c.*

#### **49.2**

##### **Commentary:**

The dark red variety leans towards the mahogany red. In mahogany red long-haired dachshunds the feathering also should be of the same color, if possible. Light yellow furnishings, for example, are not desired. They do not result in lowering of the evaluation score though. At the most one may take this point into consideration during ranking within the class.

Otherwise section 42.1 to 45.2 as well as 50.2 shall be used as reference.

#### **50.2**

##### **Undesired colors, Commentary:**

All previously unmentioned colors are not dachshund colors. According to the FCI standard this is an eliminating fault. Wild boar or wheaten colored smooth-haired dachshunds are not desired, so that the evaluation score of "Good" can not be awarded. White dachshunds with large patches even exist in the "country of unlimited possibilities" (USA).

Beige (crème) and bonbon colored (isabella, blue) dachshunds may be marveled at in England!

Caution: dachshunds may be dyed! Such a treatment of the coat is forbidden. In such a case the dachshund will be sent out of the ring "Without Evaluation". The judge is then required to file a report with the show committee and to note this discovery in his judge's report.

### **SIZE AND WEIGHT/IMPORTANT MEASUREMENTS**

#### **51.1**

*Dachshund* : Circumference of chest 35 cm. **Upper weight limit about 9 kg.**

*Miniature Dachshund* : Circumference of chest from 30 to 35 cm measured when at least 15 months old.

*Rabbit Dachshund* : Chest circumference up to 30 cm measured when at least 15 months.

Weight : Standard Dachshund up to about 9 kg.

#### **51.2a**

##### **Commentary regarding size:**

A correct measurement shall be taken between the elbow and the trunk. During the WUT meeting of the Chairmen for Conformation Judges in 1996 it was decided that a tolerance of 2 cm is allowed during subsequent measurements. If the measurement exceeds the allowed tolerance of 2 cm, then this will exclude the evaluation score of "Excellent".

#### **51.2b**

##### **Commentary regarding weight:**

An overall appearance full of substance is desired in all three sizes. Slender dogs with little bone substance are surely quick and agile but often pass on the lack of substance. Dachshunds with overly heavy bone structure are no longer agile enough. During work

underground their body volume hinders the desired progress. Dachshunds with insufficient or overly heavy bone substance and volume exclude the evaluation score of “Excellent”. Dachshunds weighing in at more than 10 kilos may also not be awarded the “Excellent”. If it is suspected that the dachshund is overly heavy then this lower evaluation may only be awarded in clearly obvious cases or with the help of a scale.

## **FAULTS:**

### **52.1**

*Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree.*

- ***M3 (Molar 3) are not to be considered when judging. Lack of 2PM1 (Premolar 1) is not to be penalised. The absence of PM2 should be regarded as a fault, if other than M3, no other teeth are missing, also a departure from the correctly closing scissor bite.***

### **52.2**

#### **Commentary:**

The standard indicates that two missing PM1, as well as the two M3 may not be counted as faults. They do not play a role in the award of the evaluation score. This factor may however very well be taken into account during placements. In the forefront we are dealing here in this case with teeth with little function in the bite of the dog. In spite of this, the cautionary finger may be lifted here for all breeders! Tooth loss is hereditary and in the next generation a more important tooth might be missing so that this breeding line may no longer be used. Breeders are well advised to carefully weigh the disadvantages of tooth loss with the potential advantages in other areas of his dachshund.

The pincer bite, while still tolerated, is however clearly described as a fault. The highest qualification here is “Very Good”.

This commentary can not claim having covered all possibilities. However, it will introduce the dachshund fancier far into the “world of the teckel, his desired ideal appearance and the potential faults, according to the FCI breed standard”.

## **SERIOUS FAULTS :**

### **53.1**

- *Weak, long-legged or body trailing on ground.*
- *The absence of teeth other than those described among « faults » or « eliminating faults ».*
- *Wall eye in any colour other than dapple.*
- ***Pointed, very folded ear leathers.***
- *Body suspended between shoulders.*
- *Hollow back, roach back.*
- *Weak loins.*
- ***Marked running up at rear (croup higher than withers).***
- *Chest too weak.*
- *Flanks with whippety-like tuck up.*
- *Badly angulated fore- and hindquarters.*

- *Narrow hindquarters, lacking muscle.*
- *Cow hocks or bow legs.*
- *Feet turning markedly inwards or outwards.*
- *Splayed toes.*
- *Heavy, clumsy, waddling movement.*

### **53.2**

#### **Commentary:**

The “serious faults” listed under 53.1 may appear more or less obvious in the dachshund. As a rule, these faults shall be awarded the evaluation score “Sufficient”. If these faults are only slightly indicated then they may not lead to a significant lowering of the evaluation score. Several lighter faults add up and may cause an appropriately lower score during the award of the evaluation score. Special attention shall be given to the paragraph “other tooth faults as under faults or eliminating faults”.

This sentence serves exclusively as a safeguard for dentition faults not listed in the standard. A serious dentition fault, not listed in the standard, will as a general rule always lead to a disqualification.

Reason: if a missing incisor already leads to disqualification then more severe bite faults or tooth losses must naturally be treated equally during the award of the evaluation score. These dachshunds must be kept out of the breeding program (see section 13.2b)

### **FAULTY COAT:**

#### **54.1**

##### **SMOOTH -HAired DACHSHUND :**

- *Coat too fine or thin. Bald patches on leathers (leather ear), other bald areas.*
- *Coat much too coarse and much too profuse.*
- *Brush like tail.*
- *Tail partially or wholly hairless.*
- *Black colour without any marking (« Brand »).*

#### **55.1**

##### **WIRE-HAired DACHSHUND :**

- *Soft coat, whether long or short.*
- *Long coat, standing away from body in all directions.*
- *Curly or wavy coat.*
- *Soft coat on head.*
- *Flag on tail.*
- *Lack of beard.*
- *Lack of undercoat.*
- *Short coat.*

#### **56.1**

##### **LONG-HAired DACHSHUND :**

- *Coat of equal length all over body.*
- *Wavy or shaggy coat.*
- *Lack of flag (tail).*



- *Lack of overhanging feathering on ears.*
- **Short coat.**
- *Pronounced parting in coat on back.*
- *Hair too long between toes*

#### **54.2 to 56.2**

##### **Commentary:**

The commentary regarding coat and color can be read under 42.2 to 50.2.

### **ELIMINATING FAULTS :**

#### **57.1**

- *Very anxious or aggressive nature.*
- *Overshot or undershot mouth, wry mouth.*
- *Faulty position of the lower canines.*
- *Absence of one or more canines; absence of one or more incisors.*
- **Lack of other premolars or molars.**  
*Exceptions : The two PM1, one PM2 without consideration of M3, as mentioned under Faults.*
- *Chest : Sternum cut off.*
- *Any fault of tail.*
- *Very loose shoulders.*
- *Knuckling over in pasterns.*
- *Black colour without markings (Brand); white colour with or without markings (Brand).*
- **Colours other than those listed under "Colour".**

#### **57.2**

##### **Commentary:**

The faults listed under 57.1 must result in the disqualification of the dachshund. In such cases the pedigree shall be confiscated by the judge and presented to the responsible office of the national dachshund club, together with the judge's report.

#### **58.1**

##### **N.B.:**

*Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.*

#### **58.2**

##### **Commentary:**

The check of the testicles inside the scrotum is usually not problematic. Always approach the dog from the front and refrain from performing the check in a surprising manner for the dog. A potentially unfriendly reaction from the male could be the result. This action of the dog has nothing to do with aggression or fear biting. It is merely the result of incorrect actions of the person performing the examination.

Monorchidism (unilateral cryptorchidism) means the abnormal retention of one testicle inside the belly cavity or the inguinal canal.

Cryptorchidism is the abnormal retention of both testicles inside the belly cavity or the inguinal canal. This does not mean that the testicles of the dog do not exist but rather that the testicles did not descend into the scrotum.

Wandering testicles can rarely be found. A testicle may move into the inguinal canal for varying amounts of time (several minutes) and will then move back to its original location.

Some breeds require that the testicles are positioned side by side inside the scrotum.

However, there are many dogs, which have the testicles one behind the other inside the scrotum. In the end only one thing is important for the male dachshund - two obviously normally developed testicles must be perceptible inside the scrotum. Otherwise the dog presents an eliminating fault, which will result in a disqualification.

According to section 57.2 the judge must send the national breed book office a statement regarding testicle faults and shall explain the unsuitability for breeding with a short description of the testicle fault.

It is advisable that owners of bitches do not leave a bitch in heat in the same room with a dog assumed to be without testicles. Unpleasant surprises could be the result.

### **Faults and their gravity:**

#### **Definition of the FCI evaluation scores:**

(VDH "Guideline for Conformation Judges". See also FCI regulations for conformation shows, section 19. Accepted on 23/24 June 1987 in Jerusalem)

#### **59.1**

##### **"Excellent"**

may only be awarded to a dog that comes very close to the ideal standard of the breed, is being presented in outstanding form, exhibits a harmonious, easy-going temperament, possesses "class" and has an outstanding posture. The superior characteristics of its breed will outweigh small imperfections, but it will possess the typical characteristics of its gender.

#### **60.1**

##### **"Very Good"**

will only be awarded to a dog that has the typical characteristics of its breed, is of balanced proportions and in good shape. One will forgive some excusable faults but no morphological ones. This rating can only be awarded to an exemplary dog.

#### **61.1**

##### **"Good"**

shall be awarded to a dog that possesses the main characteristics of its breed, but exhibits faults provided these are not covered up.

#### **62.1**

##### **"Sufficient"**

is given to a dog that conforms to the breed type sufficiently without possessing its generally known characteristics or whose physical shape is lacking.

### **63.1**

#### **“Disqualified”**

is given to a dog that does not conform to the type described in the standard, clearly does not exhibit behavior according to the standard or is aggressive, has a testicle fault, a congenital tooth fault or an anomaly of the jaw, has a color and/or coat fault or clearly shows signs of albinism. A dog shall furthermore be disqualified for conforming so little to one individual breed characteristic that the health of the dog is impaired. A dog must also be awarded a disqualification if it possesses a serious or disqualifying (eliminating, from the publisher) fault according to its appropriate standard.

### **64.1**

#### **“Without Evaluation”**

Only the dog that can not be awarded any of the five aforementioned evaluation scores may be excused from the ring “Without Evaluation”. This would be the case, for example, if the dog does not move, constantly jumps up on the handler or constantly tries to leave the ring, so that the gait and the movement can not be evaluated or if signs of manipulation or treatments can be discovered on the presented dog, which makes an attempt to deceive likely. The same rings true if the judge has the justified suspicion that surgery has been performed on the dog, which deceives the original condition (for example eye lid, ear or tail correction) or the judge discovers findings which seem suspicious to him. The reason for the evaluation “Without Evaluation” shall be noted in the judge’s report.

### **Faults which exclude the score of EXCELLENT:**

### **65.1**

#### **Overall appearance, type and head**

- Appearance slightly deviating from the desired ideal overall appearance
- Ratio of height at withers to body length of 1 : 2.0 or more
- Too much or too little ground clearance
- Fearful or aggressive behavior
- Coarse head, lacking aristocracy
- Too wide or too narrow skull
- Occipital peak too prominent
- Muzzle too pointy
- Weak bite, lacking substance
- Missing of one PM2 (disregarding the two M3)
- Pincer or partial pincer bite
- Yellowish, light, piercing eye color
- Openly carried ears
- Other ear faults

## **66.1**

### **Upper and lower line**

- Neck too short
- Neck too long
- Dip behind the withers
- Slight carp back
- Slight hollow back
- Unstable backline during motion
- Curvature of the spine above the loins
- Croup falling off too much
- Lacking forechest
- Flat ribs
- Barrel chest
- Sickie tail
- Tail set too high or too low
- Tail carried too high, gay tail

## **67.1**

### **Fore quarters and hind quarters while stacking**

- Lacking bone substance
- Short upper arm
- Insufficient angulation of the forequarters
- Loose upper arm
- Toeing in or toeing out of the front paws
- 'Soft' appearing front legs, slightly bent backwards or inwards
- Insufficient angulation of the hindquarters
- Inclining backline
- Higher in the rear
- Bow-legged
- Cow-hocked
- Hindquarters too far under
- Toeing in or toeing out of the rear paws

## **68.1**

### **Gaiting/movement**

- Insufficient, short step
- Gaiting narrow or gaiting wide
- Round or stepping motion
- Goose stepping or Hackney gait (straight front legs, thrown upwards)
- Loose upper arm
- Paddling, toeing in or toeing out forequarters

- Insufficient drive of the hindquarters
- Gaiting narrow or gaiting wide hindquarters
- Bow-legged or cow-hocked hindquarters
- Weaving movement of the hindquarters
- Additional listed faults of the back line (during stacking) pursuant to Sec. 66.1

### **69.1.**

#### **Skin**

- Dewlap

### **70.1**

#### **Coat and color**

- Smooth coat too fine, thin
- Insufficient hair density
- Lack of pigmentation in one-colored red dachshunds
- Markings in black and tan dachshunds spread too much or not enough, bleeding over markings in black and tan dachshunds
- Large patches, large light and small white spots in dapples
- Lack of pigmentation in wild boar or wheaten colored wire-haired dachshunds
- Coat too short or too soft in wire-haired dachshunds
- Coat too short or of equal length everywhere in long-haired dachshunds
- Profuse, too much hair and coat parted on the back in long-haired dachshunds
- Wavy or shaggy coat in long-haired dachshunds

### **71.1**

#### **Size and weight**

- Surpassing the tolerance measure of more than 2 cm in small dachshunds during subsequent measuring of the chest circumference
- Dachshunds weighing over 10.0 kilos on the scale

### **Faults which exclude the score of VERY GOOD:**

**(These dachshunds may not be used for breeding)**

### **72.1**

- Appearance deviating significantly from the desired ideal overall appearance
- Dogs with female characteristics
- Bitches with male characteristics
- Fearfulness or aggression
- Declining ramp towards the middle of the skull
- Round skull (apple head)
- Round, protruding eye

- Small and slit eye
- Crass ear fault
- Strongly pronounced dip behind withers
- Pronounced unstable/soft topline during movement
- ‘Soft’ appearing front leg, bent backwards or inwards
- Open paws
- Hare paws

### 73.1

#### **Coat and color**

- Leather ears or leather tail
- Profuse, still sufficiently harsh wire coat, hair standing in all directions from the body

### **Faults which exclude the score GOOD:**

**(These dachshunds may not be used for breeding)**

### 74.1

- Atypical overall appearance
- Unbalanced proportions
- Clumsy, lymphatic heavy-boned built
- Weakly, long-legged or body trailing on ground
- Body hanging between shoulders
- Severe hollow back
- Severe roach back
- Weak loins
- Too much tuck-up (whippety-like)
- Markedly higher in the rear (croup markedly higher than withers)
- Chest too weak
- Badly angulated fore- and/or hindquarters
- Significantly narrow position of the wrist
- Severely toeing in or severely toeing out paws
- Narrow hindquarters, lacking muscle tone
- Severely cow-hocked
- Severely bow-legged
- Clumsy, awkward, waddling motion
- Wall eye, except in dapples

### 75.1

#### **Coat and color**

- Extremely soft wire coat

- Profuse, soft wire coat standing away from the body in all directions
- Short haired wire-haired dachshund lacking beard and eye brows.

**Note:**

Shorn wire-haired dachshunds or long-haired dachshunds shorn at the neck shall be excused from the ring “Without Evaluation”.

**Score DISQUALIFIED:**

**(All faults listed in the standard as “eliminating faults” shall be filed here)**

**76.1**

- Very fearful or aggressive temperament (**behavior**)
- Over-shot, under-shot and wry mouth
- Faulty positioning of the lower canines
- Missing of one or more canines
- Missing of one or more incisors
- Missing of premolars or molars except for two PM1 or one PM2 disregarding the M3 (as described under faults)
- Dentition faults other than described under faults or eliminating faults, such as the Kulissengebiss (teeth not in a straight line, some teeth even partially in front of another tooth) or Palisadengebiss (teeth are straight inside the mouth but of equal length, sometimes with a little space between them)
- Sternum cut off
- All faults of the tail
- Very loose shoulders
- Knuckling over in the wrist
- Black color without markings
- White color with or without markings
- Colors other than those listed under “color”
- Wild boar or wheaten colored smooth-haired dachshunds
- Large white patches in all colors
- Cryptorchidism
- Entropion, ectropion

**Other health impairments, which could be passed on, discovered during veterinary examinations, for example:**

- Congenital eye or hearing damages
- Epileptic seizures
- Inherited, congenital heart conditions
- Patella luxation
- IVDD (intra vertebrae disk disease)

**Veterinary examinations and/or x-ray pictures shall be requested in case of suspicion.**

**Injuries:**

**77.1**

Except for the removal of testicles, a veterinary statement must be presented for healed accident-induced injuries of the dentition, tail or other body parts, which negatively influence the evaluation score and/or the movement of a dog. This statement must have been issued by the treating veterinarian at the time of the treatment of the injury.

**Belated drafting or submission of a veterinary statement will not be accepted!**

**78.1**

**Dentition and bite certificate (dentition status report)**

The national dachshund clubs are advised to provide dachshund owners a certificate that discloses the status of the dentition as well as the bite at the earliest age of 12 months. Such a certificate must be issued by two persons authorized by the regional district. A dentition status report helps to keep the dachshund in the breeding program following subsequent tooth loss (for example due to dog fights, during hunting or tooth loss due to accident as well as a legitimization of the age induced pincer bite).

**79.1**

**Translations**

In the case of discrepancies with translations of the standard or the commentary, the German text is authoritative.

The commentary in hand is compiled in the male form. It also applies analogously to the female form.

**Ratification date:**

This commentary was approved at the WUT meeting on 10 August 2001 in S-503 05 Boras, Sweden.

It serves as a guidebook for breeders and judges within the jurisdiction of the FCI.

The President:

Chairperson of the Standard Committee:

Wolfgang Ransleben

Robert Osterwalder



