

## THE BLACK RUSSIAN TERRIER STANDARD 2005

**Country of origin:** Russia

The standard is accepted by FCI in 1984 (Mexico City).

The valid standard with changes and additions is accepted by the Ministry of Agriculture in Russia

**Utilization** - working dog.

**Classification FCI** - II group, a subgroup Molossians. Working tests are desirable.

**Brief history:** The breed was developed in Russia in the military kennel named “Red Star”, outside of Moscow. It was created by selective interbreeding using Rottweiler, Giant Schnauzer, Airedale and Newfoundland. The Giant Schnauzer is considered to be the ancestor of the breed. The Russian black terrier was recognized by FCI in 1984.

**General Appearance:** Black Russian Terrier (BRT) is a proportional and balanced dog of coarse, robust type with massive bone and powerful muscles, above average and large size, slightly longer in the body, wide and deep. BRT is a dignified and confident dog, well controlled in all circumstances. When the situation requires, immediately assumes an active–defensive posture, however, quickly calms down at disappearance of danger. It is handsome and amiable, with excellent health, has great endurance, undemanding, smart and friendly. Adapts well to various climatic conditions, it is easy to train, hard working and reliable.

**The sexual type** is well expressed.

The desired height for dogs is 72-76cm (28.4-30inches) and for bitches is 68-72cm (26.8- 28.4inches)

**Body** Coat composed of well-developed undercoat and a harsh outer coat, the head and the limbs are covered with coarse furnishing hair. The grooming under the established form is obligatory.

**Head** The head must be in proportion to the overall built, large, approximately equal to the length of the neck, but not less than 40% of height of a dog in withers, with a moderately broad skull with rounded, but not too pronounced dry cheek bones. The brow ridges and occipital bone are moderately expressed.

**Forehead** is flat, transition from a forehead to a muzzle noticeable but not sharp, the top line of the skull is parallel to the top line of the muzzle. The muzzle is massive, broad, narrowing slightly to the tip of the nose, slightly shorter than the skull (4:5). Moustaches and beard accentuate volume and give the muzzle a rectangular, blunt appearance.

**Lips** are thick, fleshy, well-pigmented and tight. Full set of teeth (42). The incisors at the base are positioned in one line.

**Bite** the bite is a scissors bite.

**Eyes** of medium size, oval shaped, dark, set wide apart and straight. Eye rims are dry, tight and dark.

**Ears** of medium size, set high, hanging on cartilages, v-shaped, rounded at the tip, the front edge of the ear lay close to the cheek. The hanging down part of an ear is dense, without dents and folds.

**The neck** is massive, dry; muscular, average length; it is approximately equal to length of a head, and set at the angle of 45-50 degrees to horizon. The nape is strong, well expressed.

**Body** The length of the body exceeds height in the withers at dogs no more than 4 %, bitches - no more than 6 %.

**Top line** is slightly sloping in a direction from the withers to the base of a tail.

**The withers** are brawny, high, long, well developed. In dogs it is more expressed, than in bitches.

**The back** strong, straight, wide, muscular, and is equal to 1/2 of the length from the highest point of withers to the base of a tail.

**The loin** is wide, muscular, short, and is equal to 1/2 length of the back, slightly arched.

**Croup** is broad, muscular, slightly sloping (approximately 5-10 degrees), of medium length.

**Chest** The shape of the thorax in cross-section should be oval, long, broad, deep; the ribs are well-sprung and long, reaching to the elbows or a little below. Depth of chest should not be less than 50% of the height of the dog at the withers. The breast-bone is long. The fore chest extends slightly beyond the shoulder joints and is well muscled.

**The stomach** is moderately tucked up. Folds of flanks are weakly expressed.

**Tail** is set high, thick, docked short (leaving 3-5 vertebrae). In movement is carried energetically. Carried high in excitement, but does not inclined toward the back.

#### **Forequarters:**

**Forelegs** are straight and parallel when viewed from the front angle. When viewed from the side the shoulder blades are wide, long, are set at a 45-degree angle to horizon, forming approximately a 100-degree angle with the upper arm. Upper arms are not shorter than shoulder blades. Shoulders are muscular. Elbows are directed strictly back.

Forearms thick, medium length, vertical and parallel set. The pasterns are short, massive, and set slightly slanted. Distance from withers to elbow and elbow to ground is equal.

**Hindquarters:** Are straight and parallel when viewed from behind and set wider than the forelegs and slightly laid-back when viewed from the side. The angle of hip joints is 100-105 degrees. The upper thigh is wide, with well-developed relief muscles. The upper thigh bone is of moderate length and set slightly inclined. Knees are well outlined. Stifle joint angle is approximately 130 degrees. Lower thigh is not shorter than upper thigh and is well muscled.

**The hock joints** are wide and dry. The angle of the hock joints is well pronounced and approximately 135 degrees.

**Rear pasterns:** Are massive, not long, well let down.

**Feet:** Are large, well-arched, compact and catlike, rounded in shape. The hind feet are slightly smaller and more oval than the front feet. Nails and pads are black. Dewclaws should be removed.

**Movement** – the typical gait is a trot with long strides. As speed increases the front legs will converge towards a centerline, while the back remains firm and elastic. Big

coverage of the ground during movement comes from the powerful rear drive and significant forereach.

**Skin:** Tight, with well-developed subcutaneous tissue, without folds and loose skin. It is evenly pigmented.

**Coat:** The coat is rough and thick. Natural coat is a double coat that covers the dog well over the body, the natural untrimmed coat length is from 5 to 15 cm (2-6in), it is composed of a coarse, thick, tousled outer coat and a softer, dense undercoat. Furnishings are well developed forming on the head impending eyebrows, mustaches, beard and mane on the neck and the withers. Front and hind legs are well protected by long rough hair. Grooming in the correct form is required. Color: black, black with the insignificant gray hair.

**Sizes and weight:** The desired height for dogs is 72-76cm (28.4- 30in), for bitches 68-72cm (26.8-28.4in). Dogs not below 70cm (27.6in) and not above 78cm (30.7in). Bitches not below 66cm (26in) and not above 74cm (29in). The weight: Dogs - 50-60kg (110-132lbs), bitches 45-50kg (99-110lbs).

**Faults:** Any deviation from the above description must be considered a fault. Degree of the fault depends on the extent of the deviation.

Not well expressed sexual type in dogs. Deviations toward light or raw build dogs that are leggy or squat, too long in the body. Timid or overly excitable. The head that is short, coarse, light, and disproportionate to the body. Jutting forehead, protruding cheekbones. Muzzle that is short turned upward or downward, pointed. Narrow lower jaw, small nose. Ears, which are wrinkled, semi-erected or set too far away from the cheek bones. Round, lightly-colored eyes, slant or closely set eyes, loose eyelids, visible third eyelid, and wall-eye. Un-pigmented lips or gums. Small in size, widely spaced, overly decayed teeth, and lower incisors not aligned. Neck set too high, dewlap. Flat, barrel-shaped, shallow, not oval-shaped chest. Soft, narrow, arched, too long or too short back. Long, narrow, sagging or arched loins. Horizontal, slanted, narrow croup. "Squirrel-like" tail (bent towards the back when excited). Excessive or insufficient shoulder angle, short shoulder bones, deformation of front pasterns. Narrowly set legs. Short or overly long thighs and shins, soft or weak joints. Saber-shaped, straight hind legs. Flat, splayed feet, light-colored claws. Abundance of gray hair (more than 1/3). Straight, smooth hair on the legs. Natural guard hair that is shorter than the undercoat, curly coat. Stilted, heavy, short, unbalanced movement, crabbing, pacing, high in the rear. Overly mistrustful, shy, apathetic.

**Disqualifying faults:** Extremely disproportional built. Strong deviations from the desirable built. Fearfulness, extreme excitability, uncontrollable aggressiveness. Nose color other than black. Any deviations from the scissor bite. Absence of any tooth. Soft, short, silky coat, very curly coat. Lack of furnishings on head and legs. Any color other than standard. White spots and marks. Clearly outlined areas of abundant gray hair. Weakening of the color on the legs. Use of cosmetic means that change the structure and color of the coat is forbidden. Dogs must have the two normal testicles that are completely descended into the scrotum.