Judges Education Seminar on
The American Eskimo Dog

The presentation of the American Eskimo Dog Breed and Breed Standard by the American Eskimo Dog Club of America
In the Neolithic or Late Stone Age, 4000 - 1900 B.C., Spitz "Peat-Moss" dogs extended over both Northern & Central Europe and Asia.
Studies include the American Eskimo Dog as one of the earliest genetically distinct ancient breeds; one of the 16 Basal Breeds.

* Rethinking dog domestication by integrating genetics, archeology and biogeography
“The Morning Walk”
By Thomas Gainsborough
(1727-1788)
1775 Print of the Spitz and Mastiff
Eskie & Boys
Eskies want to "get" the rabbit
In the 19th century, the eskie was commonly found in communities of German immigrants.

The Eskie was bred to be a multi-purpose farm dog and used for herding, hunting & protecting.
Also, a guardian & devoted companion
Known as the “Spitz”, “Eskimo Spitz” or “American Eskimo Spitz”

Believed to be descendants of the white German Spitz and other white European Nordic dogs
Assisted farmers moving & protecting farm animals as well as protecting the property & family.
Bred to be agile, intelligent, robust and highly trainable with a strong desire to please

This nature makes them strong performance competitors today
• American Eskimo Dog Club of America formed in 1986
• Full AKC recognition granted July 1, 1995
• Included in the Non-Sporting Group
• Bred in three sizes- Toy, Miniature, and Standard which may be divided in the Open classes
General Appearance
Presents a picture of strength, agility, alertness and beauty
• Small to medium-size Nordic type dog
• Always white, or white with biscuit cream
• Compactly built, well balanced
• Good substance
• Face is Nordic type
• Erect triangular ears
• Distinctive black points (lips, nose, and eye rims)
- White double coat, short, dense undercoat
- Guard hair forms outer coat
- Straight with no curl or wave
• Coat is thicker and longer around neck & chest
• Forming a lion-like ruff
• More noticeable on dogs than on bitches
Rump and hind legs down to the hocks covered with thicker, longer hair forming the characteristic breeches
• Richly plumed tail carried loosely on the back
• May be carried in center or on either side
Size, Proportion, Substance
No preference for size
* Disqualification Under 9" over 19"

Toy
Over 9" to & including 12"

Miniature
Over 12" to & including 15"

Standard
Over 15" to & including 19"
Point of shoulder to point of buttocks is slightly greater than height at withers (Approx. 1.1 to 1 ratio)
Feel under the coat for accurate measurement
• Body is strong
• Compactly built
• Adequate bone
Head
Expression is keen, intelligent and alert
• Eyes not fully round, but oval
• Set well apart
• Not slanted, prominent or bulging

Correct slightly oval

Incorrect
Too round
(ears not up)
• Dark to medium brown eye color
• Eye rims black to dark brown
• Eyelashes white
*Disqualification: Blue eyes
Faults: Amber eye or pink eye rims
Ears conform to head size, triangular, erect, set high yet well apart.

Correct

Too Large

Ears not erect
Skull slightly crowned, softly wedge-shaped, widest breadth between the ears. The stop is well defined, not abrupt.
• Muzzle is broad, length not exceeding the length of skull, may be shorter
• Nose pigment is black to dark brown
• Lips thin, tight, black to dark brown
• Snow Nose
  • Dark pigment around the edges
  • Fading of pigment may occur due to age or environment

Faults: pink nose pigment or pink lip pigment
• Strong jaws
• Full complement of close fitting teeth
• Bite is scissors or pincer

lacking underjaw

Preferred
The head is the same regardless of size
Neck, Topline, Body
• Neck is carried proudly erect
• Medium length
• Strong graceful arch
• Topline is level
• Tail set moderately high
• Carried loosely on the back
• Tail reaches approximately to point of hock
• Body is strong, compact not cobby
• Chest is deep, broad with well sprung ribs
• Loin is strong, well muscled
• Neither too long nor too short coupled
• Slight tuck up of belly just behind ribs
Length of leg equal to depth of body
Depth of chest to point of elbows
Forequarters
Legs are parallel and straight
Legs are parallel and straight
Preferred

Bowed
(chest to narrow)

Legs are parallel and straight
Forequarters well angulated
Well laid back shoulder blades - 45 degrees
Pasterns strong, flexible, 20 degree slant
Dewclaws, if present, not to be faulted
Feet are oval, compact, tightly knit & well padded  
Pads black to dark brown, tough & deeply cushioned
Hindquarters
• Hindquarters - well angulated
• Upper thighs well developed
• Lay of pelvis - 30 degrees to horizontal
Hock joints are well let down and firm
Rear pasterns are straight.
• Legs parallel from the rear
• Legs turn neither in nor out
• Dewclaws are not present on hind legs
Coat
• Standoff double coat
• Dense undercoat longer guard hair
• No wave or curl
• No trimming except feet & back of pasterns
Pronounced ruff more noticeable on dogs than bitches
Outer part of the ear well covered with short, smooth hair, longer tufts in front of ear openings
Hair on muzzle is short and smooth
Backs of the front legs well feathered, as are the rear legs to the hock
Tail is covered profusely with long hair
There is to be no trimming of the whiskers or body coat and such trimming will be severely penalized.

The only permissible trimming is to neaten the feet and the backs of the rear pasterns.
Color
Pure white is preferred
White with biscuit cream is permissible. Presence of biscuit cream should not outweigh consideration of type, structure, or temperament.
*Disqualification: any other color than white or white with biscuit / cream
Gait
The American Eskimo Dog shall trot not pace
• Gate is agile, bold and frictionless with good forequarter reach and good hindquarter drive
• Back remains firm, strong, level
Front should show good forequarter reach and the rear should show strength and drive
All 3 sizes are balanced with good reach & drive
(Top line should be level)
Single tracking as it gains speed
Legs converge toward the centerline of gravity
Single tracking on the return
Single tracking

Too close
Temperament
Intelligent, alert, and friendly, slightly conservative
Never overly shy nor aggressive
Such dogs are to be severely penalized
Excellent watchdog, sounding a warning
Protective of its home and family
Although does not threaten to bite or attack
Learns new tasks quickly, eager to please
Disqualifications
* Disqualification: Blue eyes
Faults: Amber eye or pink eye rims
* Disqualification Under 9" over 19"

**Toy**
Over 9" to & including 12"

**Miniature**
Over 12" to & including 15"

**Standard**
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*Disqualification: any other color than white or white with biscuit / cream
Ring Management
Please gait dogs around to table
Eskies are a table breed - all sizes
Sort by size for gaiting
When to wicket?

Under 9 inches & over 19 inches
In divided Open classes if 12" or 15" questioned
Thank you!

Questions & Open Discussion