



**FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (AISBL)**

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**16.09.1996/EN**

**FCI-Standard N° 326**

**SOUTH RUSSIAN SHEPHERD DOG**

(Ioujnorousskaia Ovtcharka)

**TRANSLATION** : Mrs Peggy Davis.

**ORIGIN** : Russia.

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE OFFICIAL VALID STANDARD** : 30.09.1983.

**UTILIZATION** : Sheepdog.

**CLASSIFICATION F.C.I.** : Group 1 Sheepdogs and Cattle Dogs  
(except Swiss Cattle Dogs).  
Section 1 Sheepdogs.  
Without working trial.

The Owtcharka of meridional Russia is a dog of robust constitution, of above average size; he is fierce and distrustful of strangers, not very demanding and adapts easily to diverse climatic conditions and temperatures.

**GENERAL APPEARANCE** : Robust, lean, with massive bone structure and a strongly developed musculature.

**Faults** : Frail constitution, bones too light, insufficient musculature; constitution of coarse or gross appearance.

**Sexual type** : Well evident according to sex. The males are courageous, stronger and more massive than the females.

**Faults** : Females of male type.

**Severe faults** : Effeminate type male.

**IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS** :

- Index of bone structure : Males 17 - 19  
Females 16 - 18

- Length index (Format) : 108 - 110.

**Faults** : Slight divergences of the given norm.

**Severe faults** : Accentuated divergences of the given norms (square shape or very elongated).

**BEHAVIOUR AND TEMPERAMENT** : Type of highly nervous activity, strong, balanced, lively. Dominant reaction : active way of defense.

*Faults* : Excessive excitability, timidity, laziness.

*Severe faults* : Uncontrolled excitability, cowardice.

**HEAD** : Elongated shape with a moderately broad forehead; the occipital crest and the zygomatic arches are strongly pronounced. The stop is barely visible. The nose is big, black.

*Faults* : Coarse head, accentuated stop, superciliary arches prominent, muzzle too short or too elongated, grey lips; nose grey or brown.

*Severe faults* : Narrow muzzle, weak, turned up, of truncated shape. Pink nose.

*Teeth* : White, big, fitting closely. The incisors are set regularly and close in scissor bite.

*Faults* : Teeth too small and spaced, yellow or prematurely worn. Broken teeth but not impeding a correct closure of the jaws. Lack of premolars.

*Severe faults* : Everything which does not correspond to a perfect closure of the teeth but not impeding a correct of the teeth in scissor bite. Decayed teeth. Incisors set irregularly.

*Ears* : Relatively small, of triangular shape, hanging.

*Faults* : Detached ears.

*Eyes* : Oval shape, set horizontally, dark; the eyelids lean, tight.

*Faults* : Light eyes.

*Severe faults* : Eyes of different colours, pink eyelids.

**NECK** : Lean, muscular, of moderate length, set high.

*Faults* : Neck too short, set low.

**BODY** :

*Withers* : Apparent but not high.

*Back* : Straight and strong.

*Faults* : Weak back or roach-back.

*Severe faults* : Saddle back or humped.

Loin : Short, broad, rounded.

Faults : Slightly elongated, straight or too rounded.

Severe faults : Saddle back or humped.

Chest : Reasonably broad, slightly flattened, deep.

Faults : Chest insufficiently let down (above the elbow).

Severe faults : Narrow chest, too small, barrel shaped.

Belly : Moderately tucked up.

Faults : Excessively whippetty or sagging.

**FEET** (Front and back) : Oval shaped, strong, well arched, covered with long hair.

Faults : Flat feet, splayed feet.

**GAIT/MOVEMENT** : The gaits are free and extended. The natural gaits of this dog are the heavy trot and the gallop. At the trot, the legs move in a straight line with a slight convergence to the median line. The articulations of the fore- and hindquarters straightening up freely.

Faults : Slight lateral deviation in the movement of the legs; insufficient straightening up of the articulations.

Severe faults : Restrained gait, lack in action.

## **COAT**

**HAIR** : Long (10 – 15 cm), coarse, thick, dense, of equal length on head, chest, legs and tail, with a well developed undercoat.

Faults : Straight hair.

Severe faults : Short hair, soft texture.

**COLOUR** : Most often white, but also white and yellow, straw colour, greyish (ashen grey) and other shades of grey; white lightly marked with grey; grey speckled.

Severe faults : Black, rusy or brown coat; strongly speckled.

**SIZE:**

**Height at the withers** : Males : a minimum of 65 cm.

Females : a minimum of 62 cm.

**Faults** : Size of less than 65 cm for the males, less than 62 cm for the females.

**Severe faults** : Size of less than 60 cm for the males, less than 58 cm for the females.

**FAULTS** : 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 and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog.

**DISQUALIFYING FAULTS :**

- Aggressive or overly shy.
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified.
- Everything which does not correspond to a correct closure of jaws in scissor bite.
- Hair short or straight.
- All the shades of the coat which have not been taken into consideration in the present standard.

**N.B:**

- Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.
- Only functionally and clinically healthy dogs, with breed typical conformation, should be used for breeding.

# ANATOMICAL FEATURES

