The Portuguese Podengo Pequeno

Presented by the Portuguese Podengo Pequenos of America, Inc

For more information go to www.pppamerica.org
HISTORY

A primitive type dog, its probable origin lies in the ancient dogs brought by the Phoenicians and Romans to the Iberian Peninsula in the Classic Antiquity.

It adapted to the Portuguese territory and climate, today it is known as the Portuguese rabbit hunter seeking rabbits among rocks and thick shrub.

It evolved throughout the centuries due to it’s functionality. This is a very rustic breed.
**General Appearance**
A wedge shaped head (a four sided pyramid) with erect ears, a sickle shaped tail, a sound skeleton, well muscled: very lively and intelligent, sober and rustic. This is a breed of moderation.
**Size**
The height is 8” to 12” and the weight is 9 to 13 pounds.

**Proportions**
The distance from the withers to the bottom of the chest is one half the total height. The length from the point of shoulder to the point of buttocks is 20% longer than the height.
HEAD

Lean broad based wedge shaped as a four-sided pyramid when viewed from the top or in profile.
A large base and a definite pointed muzzle.
SKULL
The plane of the muzzle very slightly diverges downward from the plane of the skull.

STOP
Barely defined.

EXPRESSION
Alert and intelligent.
EYES

Very lively expression with small almond shape set slightly oblique. Not rounded or prominent. Eye color ranges from honey to dark brown in accordance with the coat.
MUZZLE
Curved, when seen from the top. A straight profile which is shorter than the skull, broader at the base, and narrowing to the tip.

NOSE
Tapered, obliquely truncated, and prominent at the tip; black or darker colored than the coat.

LIPS
Close fitting, thin, firm and well pigmented.

JAWS, TEETH
Scissor bite. Normal occlusion of both jaws.

CHEEKS
Lean and obliquely set.
EARS

Set obliquely at the level of the eyes, straight, with high mobility, upright or tilted forward when attentive. Pointed, triangular and wider at the base, thin, longer than the width at the base.
NECK
A harmonious transition from head to body. Straight with a slight arch at the nape. Medium in length, well proportioned, strong and muscled. Very dry without dewlaps.

TOPLINE
Level.

WITHERS
Only slightly visible.

BACK
Straight and Long.

LOIN
Level, broad and well muscled.

CROUP
Straight or very slightly sloping and medium size. Well Muscled
**Chest**
The chest reaches to the elbow. It is long and of medium width. The ribcage is slightly sprung. Moderate fore chest.

**Underline**
The belly is lean and slightly tucked up.
TAIL

Medium high set and of medium length. Strong, thick, and tapered with a lightly feathered underside. At rest it falls curved and reaches to the hock joint. In action it rises to the horizontal slightly curved or vertical in the shape of a sickle.

A curled tail is a serious fault.
FOREQUARTERS

Shoulder: Blade moderately laid back.
Shoulder and upper arm angle is moderate.
Elbow: Well tucked in.
Forearm: Straight, long, muscled.
Pastern: Short, lean, strong and slightly sloping.
Feet: Oval, strong, tight, slightly arched.
Strong nails and tough firm pads.
HINDQUARTERS

Hindquarters: Upright when seen from the back and side. Well muscled and lean.
Upper thigh: Long and of medium width, muscled.
   Stifle joint: Moderate angulations.
Second thigh: Long, lean, strong, and well muscled.
Hock joint: Medium height, lean, strong, moderately angled.
Rear pastern: Strong, short, straight. Without dewclaws.
Hind feet: As in front.
COAT

There are two varieties; Smooth coat which is short and very dense. Wire coat (rough) is long and harsh. The hair on the muzzle is longer (bearded) on the wire coat variety. The wire coat is not as dense as the smooth variety. Both varieties are without undercoat. Skin on both varieties is thin and close fitting. A very rustic breed shown naturally.

Groomed but not trimmed or sculpted.

Dogs whose coat has been altered by excessive sculpting, clipping or artificial means shall be penalized as to be effectively eliminated from competition. A silky coat is a fault.
COLOR

Yellow or Fawn. Light, medium or dark shades are acceptable. The color can be solid or with white markings or white with markings of the above colors. The following colors are accepted but not preferred. Black or brown, as solid colors or with white markings. White with markings of the accepted colors

Skin: Mucus membranes are preferably dark pigmented or always darker than the coat. Skin is thin and tight.
GAIT
Light trot, easy and agile movements.

TEMPERAMENT
Very lively and intelligent. A natural rabbit hunter either alone or in a small pack. They seek rabbits among rocks and thick shrub. A companion who willingly serves as a watchdog.
**FAULTS**

Behavior- Signs of shyness.
Back skull/muzzle: Parallel planes
  Jaws- Level bite.
Nose- Partial lack of pigment
Neck- Ewe necked or severely arched.
  Body- Arched top line.
  Croup- Excessive slope.
Coat- Silky and/or with undercoat

**SERIOUS FAULTS**

Skull/Muzzle- Convergent planes
  Nose- Total lack of pigment
  Ears- Rounded
  Belly- Excessive tuckup
  Tail- Curled
DISQUALIFICATIONS

Behavior- Aggressive or overly shy.
Jaws- Undershot or overshot.
Eyes- Of different color.
Ears- Folded or hanging
Color- Brindle, Black and Tan, Tricolor, Solid White.
AKC COMPANION EVENTS

From tracking to agility…. they do it all!
COMPANIONSHIP AND FUN

LURE COURSING

The Portuguese Podengo Pequeno: A breed that is sure to steal America’s heart!

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Mode of Hunt
By Sight, Scent, and Hearing