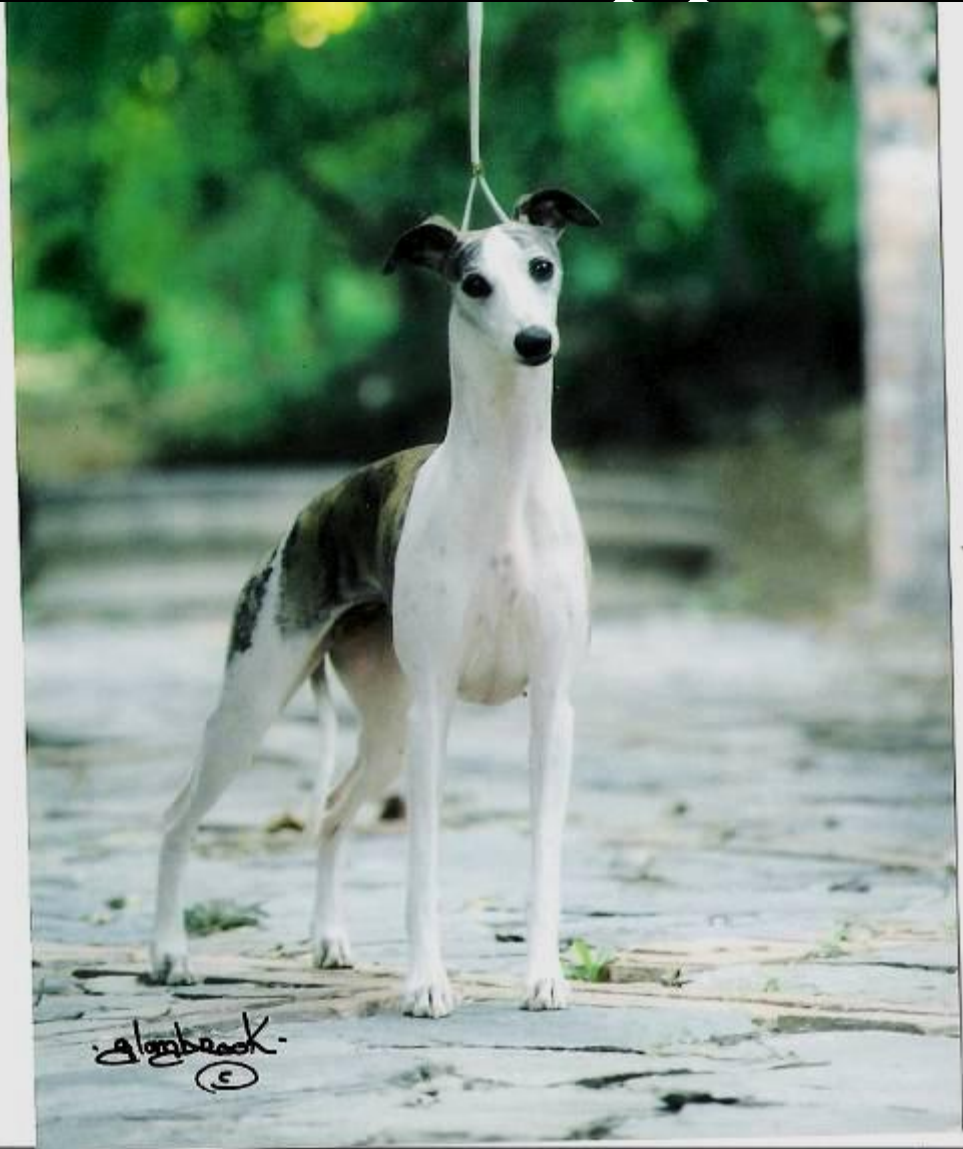


The Whippet



History

- Evolved in 18th & 19th century Northern England by working class
- Hunting dog/race dog for sport
- “Poor Man’s Racehorse” at a time when only wealthy owned greyhounds





- Believed to be a Greyhound/Terrier cross.
- Recognized by AKC in 1888.

General Appearance

- “Should convey an impression of beautifully balanced muscular power and strength, combined with great elegance and grace of outline.”



General Appearance



- Symmetry of outline, muscular development and powerful gait are the main considerations

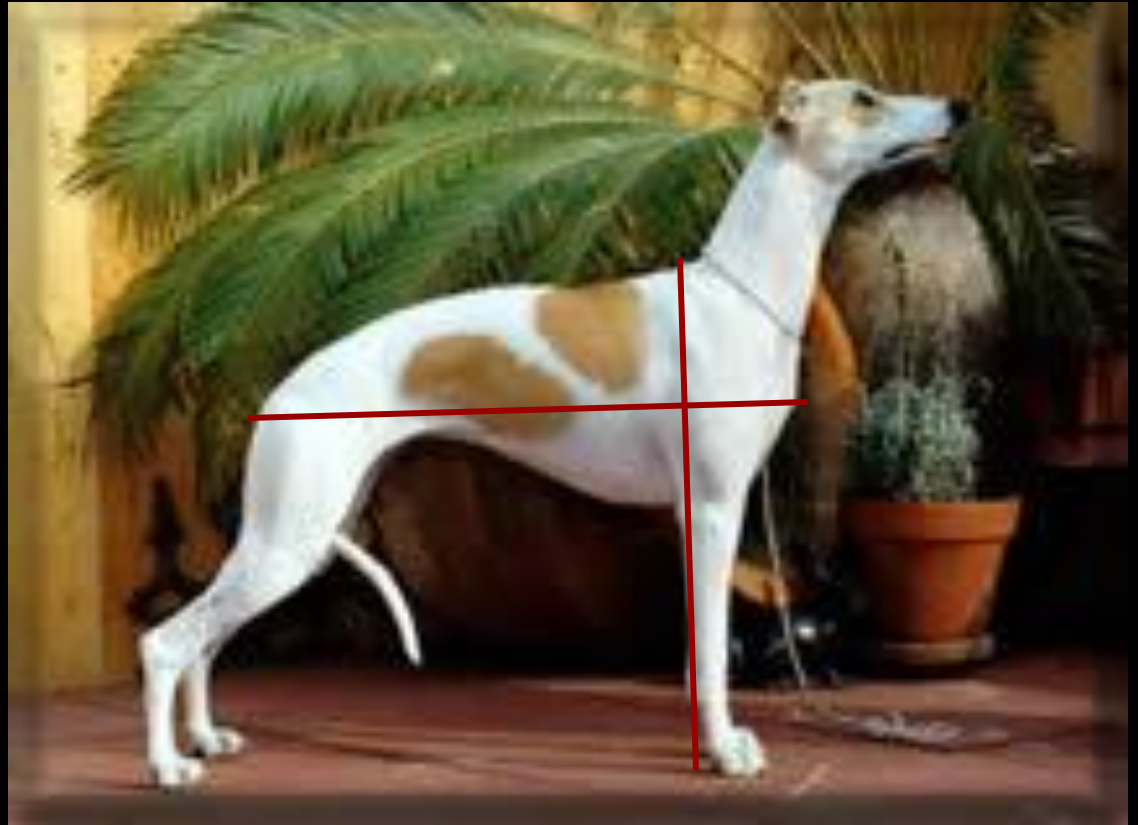
General Appearance

- OUTLINE Breed
- Smooth bodied combination of 'S' curves
- Only hard angle at the hock joint



Size, Proportion and Substance

- Dogs 19-22
- Bitches 18-21
- MORE than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch under or over to DQ
- Length equal to or slightly greater than height
- Moderate Bone



Head

- Eyes – large, round to oval in shape. Small/almond shaped eyes to be faulted.
- Eyes dark brown to nearly black. Eye color can vary with coat color – dark eyes always preferred



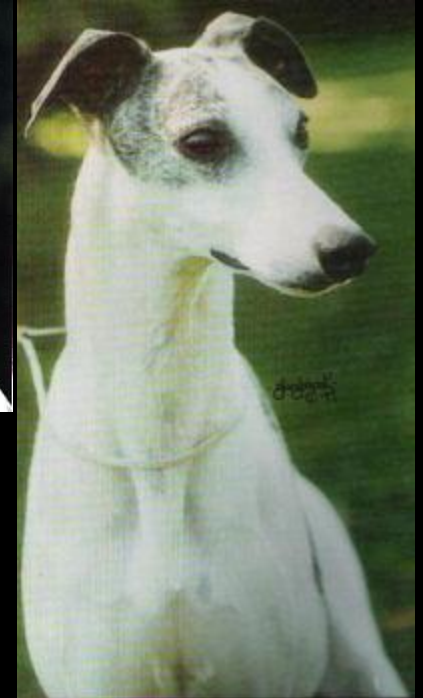
Head

- Nose leather to be entirely and uniformly pigmented – black, dark blue or dark brown (both so dark so as to appear nearly black)



Head/ears

- Rose ears (all shown at right are correct)
- Breed DOES NOT need to bait like a Doberman.



Head

- Skull long and lean, fairly wide between the ears (width of back skull accommodates large full eye)
- Muzzle long and powerful – great strength of bite
- Scissors bite (VERY few mouth/bite problems in the breed)



Neck

- Neck – long, clean, muscular.



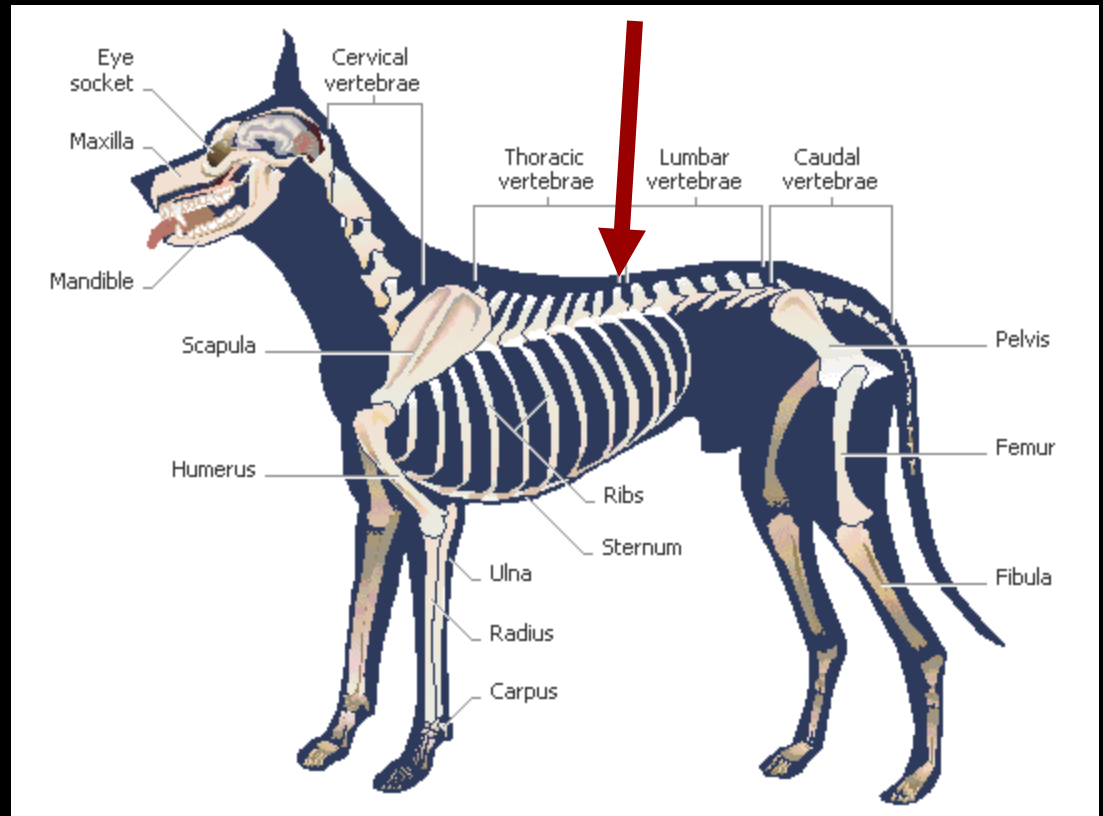
Topline, Body

- Back is broad, firm and well muscled, *having length over the loin*
- Topline runs smoothly with a graceful natural arch, not too accentuated, carrying through over the croup
- Highest point of arch should not be higher than the highest point of withers.
- Arch is continuous without flatness



Topline

- Arch begins at juncture of thoracic and lumbar region, after the Anticlinal vertebrae.
- Will always have a small divot in topline where vertebrae change direction (at the anticlinal vertebrae)



Underline, Tail

- Brisket very deep
- Definite tuckup
- Underline just as important as topline. Topline/underline = defining breed characteristic.
- Tail long and tapering – measure at least to hock along the inside of hind leg.



Why loin length is critical...

- Note topline flexion in double suspension gallop.
- Length of loin is a speed adaptation where there is great bending of trunk at speed.



- Sufficient loin length combined with proper tuck up = flexion at speed.
- “Fast” dogs have faults but are never short coupled or steep in croup.



Forequarters

- Sighthounds in general have slightly more open angle at shoulder (than 90 d)
- Moderate space between shoulder blades (allows for lowering of head when taking prey)
- Slightly bent, flexible pastern
- Feet more hare than cat, both acceptable



Forequarters

- Functional importance of strong, slightly bent, flexible pastern – shock absorption
- MUST have good feet and pasterns to function correctly and stay sound.



Hindquarters

- Long and powerful
- Stifles well bent
- Hocks well let down



Hindquarters

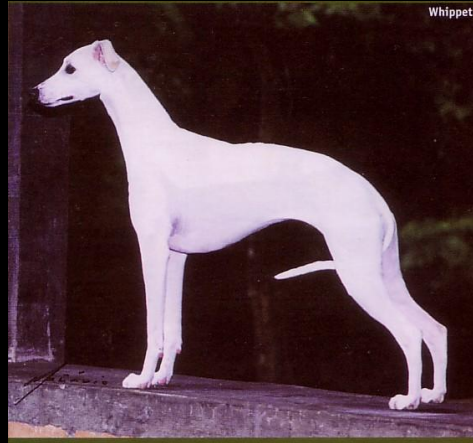
- Hind end is the running dog's "engine".



Coat & Color

Coat short, close,
smooth

■ Color immaterial



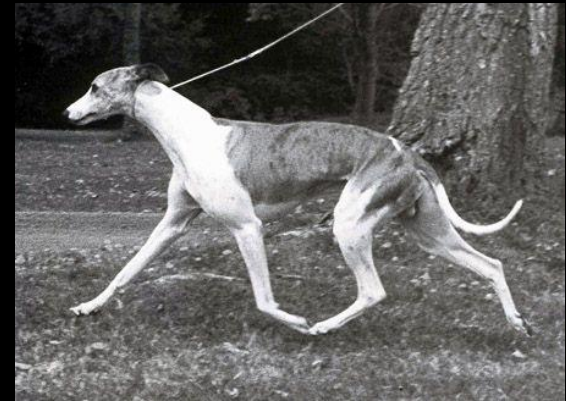
Coat & Color

- Color immaterial



Gait

- Low, free moving and smooth.
- Sprinting breed, not a trotting breed
- Ease and efficiency more critical than scope/TRAD



What “fast” looks like...

- Balanced yet moderate side gait.
- Note balance, feet, pasterns, hindquarters, length and topline



Temperament

- Amiable, friendly, gentle, but capable of great intensity during sporting pursuits.



Disqualifications

- More than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch above or below stated height limits.
- Blue eye(s), any portion of blue in the eye(s), eyes not of the same color
- Undershot
- Overshot $\frac{1}{4}$ inch or more
- Any coat other than short, close, smooth and firm in texture.

Summary

- From the typiest:
 - OUTLINE
 - S-Curves
 - Muscular fitness
 - Proper “whippety” head and expression
- Find the soundest
 - Overall sound structure
 - Correct, easy “daisy cutter” movement



Measuring Demo.

Exam Demo.
