



**Standard n° 01-1/039**

## **WDF Romanian Carpathian Shepherd Dog**

**ORIGIN: Romania**

**UTILITY: Excellent herding dog, incorruptible guardian and marvelous companion.**

**CLASSIFICATION: Group 1 Sheepdogs and Cattle dogs (except Swiss Cattle dogs)**

**BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY:** The Romanian Mioritic Shepherd Dog was selected from a natural breed of the Carpathian mountains, the principle reason being utility. This breed has many fanciers in Romania because of its vigorous appearance. The standard was drafted by the Romanian Kennel Club in 1981. The Technical Commission of the R.K.C. adapted and revised the Standard on 29.03.2002 to conform to the F.C.I model established in Jerusalem.

**GENERAL APPEARANCE:** A large dog but never heavy; vigorous and spectacular. The coat is long and well-furnished on the head, all of the body and the limbs. Males are taller and stronger than females showing clear sexual dimorphism.

**IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS:** The body is longer than the height at the withers (ideal ratio is 11: 10). The depth of chest should be approximately half of the height at the withers. The muzzle is slightly shorter than the skull.

**BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT:** A calm and stable dog. A good herd dog, very courageous and efficient fighter against possible animal prey (bear, wolf, lynx). Wary of strangers.

## **HEAD**

### **CRANIAL REGION:**

Skull: Moderate width, slightly rounded. The upper profiles of the skull and muzzle are almost parallel. Eyebrow arcades not too prominent. The zygomatic arches are only slightly defined.

Occipital protuberance well defined.

Stop: Not too pronounced.

### **FACIAL REGION:**

Nose: Wide, well developed, black.

Muzzle: Equal or a little shorter than the skull; well developed, tapering progressively towards the nose but never pointed; strong lower jaw.

Lips: Thick, tight, strongly pigmented.

Jaws/Teeth: Powerful jaws; complete dentition (lack of PM1 and M3 allowed), strong and healthy with well-set white teeth; scissor bite. Level bite tolerated but not preferred.

Cheeks: Not protruding.

**EYES:** Moderate size, oblique; the color is hazel, dark brown or slightly lighter, never yellow. Eyelids well pigmented. Calm and intelligent expression.

**EARS:** Relatively high set, “V” shaped with the tip slightly rounded, 10–15 cm long, hanging closely to the cheeks; cropping forbidden.

**NECK:** Moderate length, broad and powerful, without dewlap.

**BODY:** Well developed.

Topline: Straight and solid.

Withers: Moderately defined.

Back: Horizontal, strong and muscled.

Loin: Moderately long, wide and very muscular.

Croup: Muscled and moderately sloping towards the set of the tail.

Chest: Not too long, broad, depth being approximately half of the height at the withers, ribs well sprung.

Underline and belly: Slight tuck up without being exaggerated.

**TAIL:** High set-on. At rest, it is carried hanging, reaching to or lower than the hock; when the dog is alert or in action, the tail is carried higher, slightly curved, sometimes above the topline but never curled over the back or touching it. Docking is forbidden.

## **LIMBS**

### **FOREQUARTERS:**

General appearance: Upright, seen from the front or the side.

Shoulder: Moderate length, oblique, very muscular and well attached. The scapulo-humeral angle is approximately 100°–105°.

Upper arm: Moderate length, well-muscled.

Elbow: Close to the body, turning neither in nor out.

Forearm: Sufficiently long, powerful and muscled.

Carpus (Wrist): Firm.

Metacarpus (Pastern): Slightly sloping seen from the side.

Forefeet: Oval, compact and massive, toes are tight and arched, nails ash-grey colored.

#### **HINDQUARTERS:**

General appearance: Very muscular and powerful, straight and parallel seen from behind. Angulations only slightly open.

Thigh: Long, broad and very muscular.

Stifle (Knee): The femoro-tibial angle is approximately 100°–105°.

Lower thigh: Sufficiently long, muscled with good bone.

Hock joint: Moderate height, strong, well bent, turning neither in nor out.

Metatarsus (Rear pastern): Not too long, robust and almost vertical, seen from the side. The presence of dewclaws should not be penalized.

Hind feet: Slightly longer than the forefeet.

**GAIT / MOVEMENT:** Harmonious, free, well-coordinated, powerful and effortless. The trot is preferred. The gallop is sustained and balanced.

**SKIN:** Thick, tight fitting and well pigmented.

#### **COAT**

Hair: The coat is abundant on the head and body, harsh texture, straight and minimum length of 10 cm. The undercoat is more dense and supple and of a lighter color. On the limbs the coat is shorter. The tail is well furnished.

Colour: Piebald: The ground color must be white with well-defined black or grey markings. Solid colors: Solid white or solid grey.

Tips of ears should be pigmented in dark grey or black (earrings).

#### **SIZE AND WEIGHT:**

Height at the withers:

Males: Minimum 70 cm, ideal height is 75 cm.

Females: Minimum 65 cm, ideal height is 70 cm.

Weight: In proportion to the size.

**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 and its ability to perform its traditional work.

- Overweight or weak subject.
- Tail curled or carried in a ring.
- Absence of teeth, other than PM1 and M3.
- Elbows turned in or out.
- Heavy gait.

**SEVERE FAULTS:**

- Sexual dimorphism not sufficiently marked.
- Untypical expression.
- Round, protruding eyes.
- Wall eye.
- Erect ears.
- Coat too short (less than 8 cm).
- Curly coat or of a texture other than described in the standard.
- Topline sagging, arched or dipping.
- Spreading feet, turned out or in.
- Rear limbs with angulation too open.
- Cow hocked.
- Presence of brindle markings.
- Males below 70 cm height at the withers, females below 65 cm.

**DISQUALIFYING FAULTS:**

- Aggressive or overly shy dogs.
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioral abnormalities.
- Untypical subject.
- Absence of incisive or canines teeth.
- Overshot or undershot.
- Albinism.
- Naturally absent or naturally short tail.
- Docked tail.
- Height at the withers less than 68 cm for males.
- Height at the withers less than 63 cm for females.

**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.

