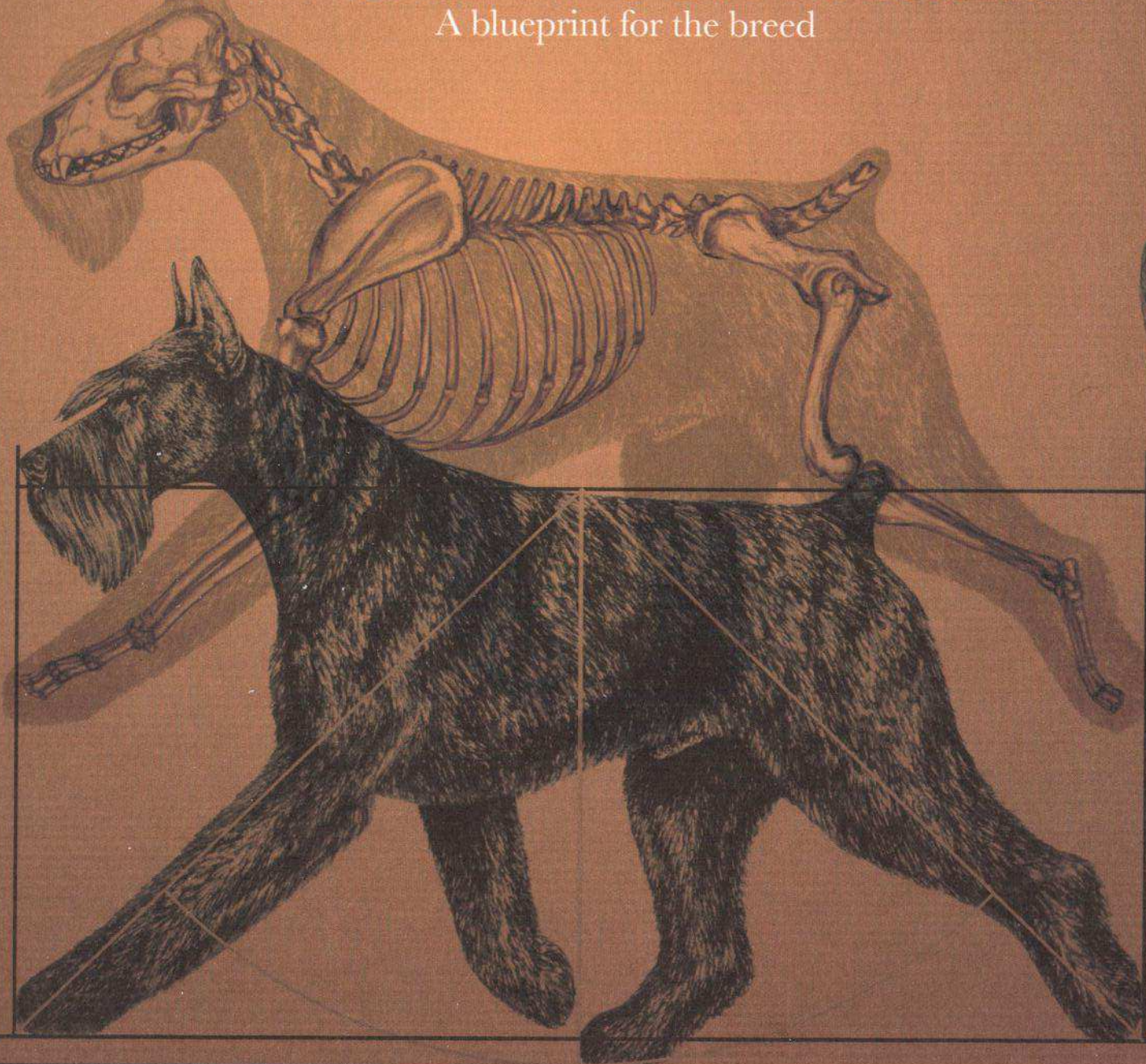


# THE GIANT SCHNAUZER

A blueprint for the breed



THE ILLUSTRATED STANDARD BY THE GIANT SCHNAUZER CLUB OF AMERICA, INC

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ILLUSTRATED STANDARD COMMITTEE  
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## FOREWORD

This booklet has been prepared by the Illustrated Standard Committee of the Giant Schnauzer Club of America to assist breeders, judges and fanciers in their understanding, assessment, and appreciation of the ideal Giant Schnauzer.

The discussions and illustrations are to be considered a supplement and expansion of the official standard of the Giant Schnauzer as approved by the American Kennel Club. It is hoped that the aspects of 'good' and 'poor' comparisons will enable an understanding of correct breed type. The drawings are an artist's interpretation of the standard and are meant only to be used as visual aids to assist in learning.

The official standard describes the ideal Giant Schnauzer. Any deviation from the official standard should be penalized to the extent that the deviation affects the structural function of the working dog. The dog should be judged as a whole, balancing positive qualities with faults, and due consideration should be given to those areas in which the dog might excel.

## BREED HISTORY

During the latter part of the 19th century in Bavaria there were large rough coated dogs used by farmers for herding, guarding livestock, and other everyday farm chores. Several breeders used these dogs with others to create what is now known as the Giant Schnauzer. The Standard Schnauzer has commonly been recognized as the foundation stock of the Giant Schnauzer. There is still some confusion about the other breeds used to develop the Giant because many of the most important breeders were very secretive about their breeding programs. It has been theorized that many of the rough or other shaggy haired herding and working farm dogs from the region contributed a role in the breed's development.

At the 1909 Munich show 23 'Munchener' Schnauzers were presented to judge Boppel Cannstadt. All were heavily coated except one, Bitru v Weinberg. Judge Cannstade chose Bitru as best representing the breed standard because of his black harsh double coat. At this time coat colors were quite varied. There are listed pepper and salt dogs, black with white chest spots, yellow and brown dogs, as well as red ones. In its first Studbook, of 1923, the parent Pinscher-Schnauzer Club listed 567 Riesenschnauzers (Giant Schnauzers). The only acceptable colors were black or pepper and salt. In 1925 the breed received official designation in Germany as a Gebrauchshund or working dog.

When the first Schnauzers were brought to the United States they were designated as wire-haired pinschers, but without size separation. In 1925 they became 'Schnauzers' and were separated into Miniature and Standard. While there is evidence of Giants being imported and sold in the United States after World War I, the first one registered was Seigerin Butzi v d Glucksburg in 1929, and she was included with the Standard Schnauzers. The following year saw the first registration of Schnauzers, Giant, and their first appearance as show dogs at the Westminster Show in February 1930. For the next 35 years, they were exhibited infrequently in the conformation ring. There were Giants earning advanced obedience titles during this time.

It was not until the success of import Ch Terry v Krayenrain, with three Best in Show awards (from the classes) in 1966, that the breed truly became established here. Another import, a Terry nephew, Ch Quedame de la Steingasse earned two Best in Show awards in 1972. At the same time, Ch El Lobo Emo became the first American-bred Giant to receive a Best in Show award. Registration for puppies and imports rose from 328 in 1970 to 1011 in 1988. Presently annual registrations are averaging around 1000.

## OFFICIAL STANDARD FOR THE GIANT SCHNAUZER

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** - The Giant Schnauzer should resemble, as nearly as possible, in general appearance, a larger and more powerful version of the Standard Schnauzer; on the whole a bold and valiant figure of a dog. Robust, strongly built, nearly square in proportion of body length to height at withers, active, sturdy, and well muscled. Temperament which combines spirit and alertness with intelligence and reliability. Composed, watchful, courageous, easily trained, deeply loyal to family, playful, amiable in repose, and a commanding figure when aroused. The sound, reliable temperament, rugged build, and dense weather-resistant wiry coat make for one of the most useful, powerful, and enduring working breeds.

**HEAD** - Strong, rectangular in appearance, and elongated; narrowing slightly from the ears to the eyes, and again from the eyes to the tip of the nose. The total length of the head is about one-half the length of the back (withers to set-on of tail). The head matches the sex and substance of the dog. The top line of the muzzle is parallel to the top line of the skull; there is a slight stop which is accentuated by the eyebrows.

**SKULL** - (Occiput to Stop). Moderately broad between the ears; occiput not too prominent. Top of skull flat; skin unwrinkled.

**CHEEKS** - Flat, but with well-developed chewing muscles; there is no 'cheekiness' to disturb the rectangular head appearance (with beard).

**MUZZLE** - Strong and well filled under the eyes; both parallel and equal in length to the top skull; ending in a moderately blunt wedge. The nose is large, black, and full. The lips are tight, and not overlapping, black in color.

**BITE** - A full complement of sound white teeth (6/6 incisors, 2/2 canines, 8/8 premolars, 4/6 molars) with a scissors bite. The upper and lower jaws are powerful and well formed. Disqualifying Faults - Overshot or undershot.

**EARS** - When cropped, identical in shape and length with pointed tips. They are in balance with the head and are not exaggerated in length. They are set high on the skull and carried perpendicularly at the inner edges with as little bell as possible along the outer edges. When uncropped, the ears are V-shaped button ears of medium length and thickness, set high and carried rather high and close to the head.

**EYES** - Medium size, dark brown, and deep-set. They are oval in appearance and keen in expression with lids fitting tightly. Vision is not impaired nor eyes hidden by too long eyebrows.

**NECK** - Strong and well arched, of moderate length, blending cleanly into the shoulders, and with the skin fitting tightly at the throat; in harmony with the dog's weight and build.

**BODY** - Compact, substantial, short-coupled, and strong, with great power and agility. The height at the highest point of the withers equals the body length from breastbone to point of rump. The loin section is well developed, as short as possible for compact build.

**FOREQUARTERS** - The forequarters have flat, somewhat sloping shoulders and withers. Forelegs are straight and vertical when viewed from all sides with strong pasterns and good bone. They are separated by a fairly deep brisket which precludes a pinched front. The elbows are set close to the body and point directly backwards.

**CHEST** - Medium in width, ribs well sprung but with no tendency toward a barrel chest; oval in cross section: deep through the brisket. The breastbone is plainly discernible, with strong forechest; the brisket descends at least to the elbows, and ascends gradually toward the rear with the belly moderately drawn up. The ribs spread gradually from the first rib so as to allow space for the elbows to move close to the body.

**SHOULDERS** - The sloping shoulder blades (scapulae) are strongly muscled, yet flat. They are well laid back so that from the side the rounded upper ends are in a vertical line above the elbows. They slope well forward to the point where they join the upper arm (humerus), forming as nearly as possible a right angle. Such an angulation permits the maximum forward extension of the forelegs without binding or effort. Both shoulder blades and upper arm are long, permitting depth of chest at the brisket.

**BACK** - Short, straight, strong, and firm.

**TAIL** - The tail is set moderately high and carried high in excitement. It should be docked to the second or not more than the third joint (approximately one and one-half to about three inches long at maturity).

**HINDQUARTERS** - The hindquarters are strongly muscled, in balance with the forequarters; upper thighs are slanting and well bent at the stifles, with the second thighs (tibiae) approximately parallel to an extension of the upper neckline. The legs from the hock joint to the feet are short, perpendicular to the ground while the dog is standing naturally, and from the rear parallel to each other. The hindquarters do not appear over-built or higher than the shoulders. Croup full and slightly rounded.

**FEET** - Well-arched, compact and catlike, turning neither in nor out, with thick tough pads and dark nails.

**DEWCLAWS** - Dewclaws, if any, on hind legs should be removed; on the forelegs, may be removed.

**GAIT** - The trot is the gait at which movement is judged. Free, balanced and vigorous, with good reach in the forequarters and good driving power in the hindquarters. Rear and front legs are thrown neither in nor out. When moving at a fast trot, a properly built dog will single-track. Back remains strong, firm, and flat.

**COAT** - Hard, wiry, very dense; composed of a soft undercoat and a harsh outer coat which, when seen against the grain, stands slightly up off the back, lying neither smooth nor flat. Coarse hair on top of head; harsh beard and eyebrows, the Schnauzer hallmark.

**COLOR** - Solid black or pepper and salt.

**BLACK** - A truly pure black. A small white spot on the breast is permitted; any other markings are disqualifying faults.

**PEPPER AND SALT** - Outer coat of a combination of banded hairs (white with black and black with white) and some black and white hairs, appearing gray from a short distance. Ideally; an intensely pigmented medium gray shade with 'peppering' evenly distributed throughout the coat, and a gray undercoat. Acceptable; all shades of pepper and salt from dark iron-gray to silver-gray. Every shade of coat has a dark facial mask to emphasize the expression; the color of the mask harmonizes with the shade of the body coat. Eyebrows, whiskers, cheeks, throat, chest, legs, and under tail are lighter in color but include 'peppering'. Markings are disqualifying faults.

**HEIGHT** - The height of the withers of the male is 25½ inches to 27½ inches, and of the female, 23½ to 25½ inches, with the mediums being desired. Size alone should never take precedence over type, balance, soundness, and temperament. It should be noted that too small dogs generally lack the power and too large dogs, the agility and maneuverability, desired in a working dog.

**FAULTS** - The foregoing description is that of the ideal Giant Schnauzer. Any deviation from the above described dog must be penalized to the extent of the deviation.

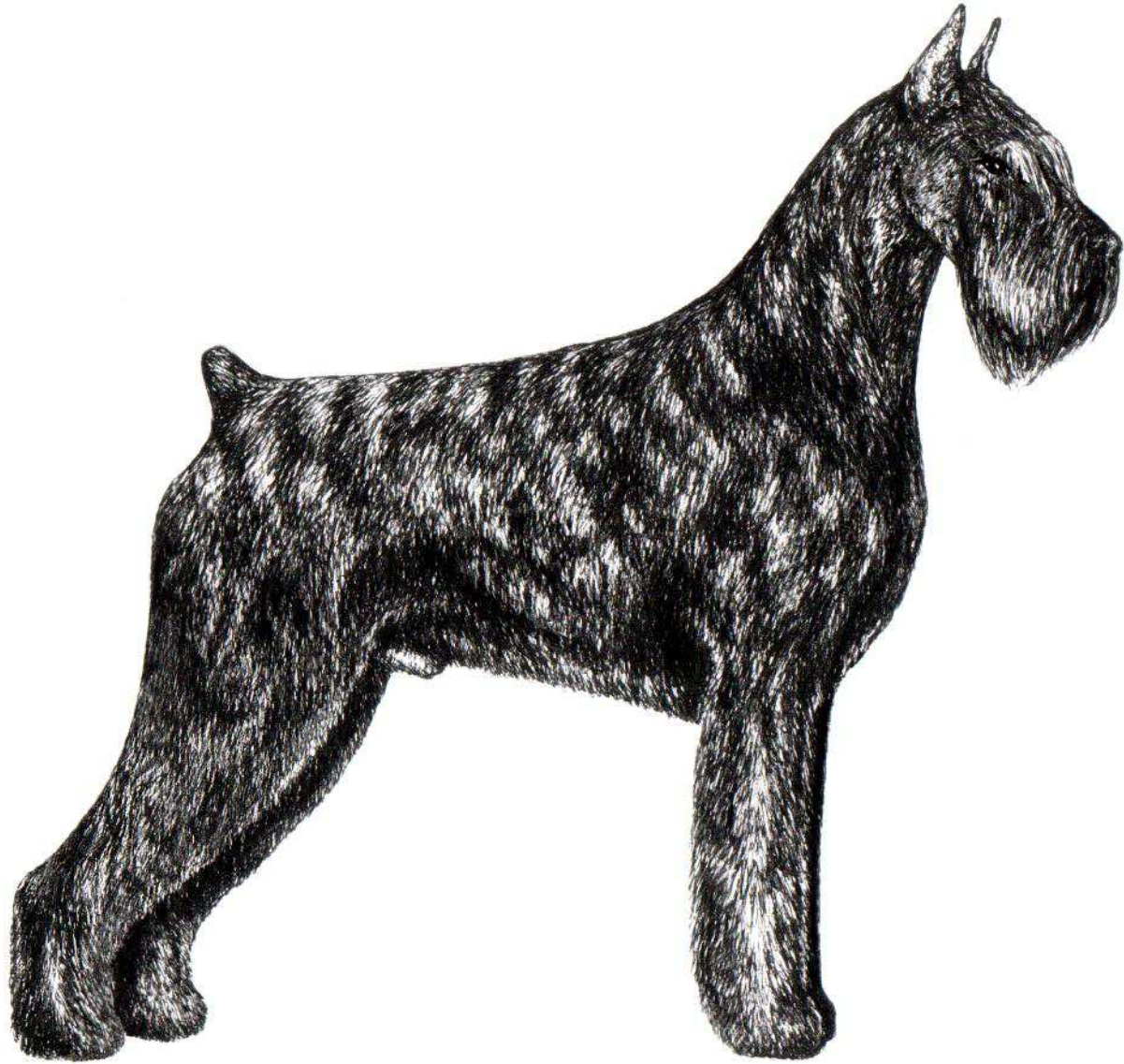
The judge shall dismiss from the ring any shy or vicious Giant Schnauzer.

**SHYNESS** - A dog shall be judged fundamentally shy if, refusing to stand for examination, it repeatedly shrinks away from the judge; if it fears unduly any approach from the rear; if it shies to a marked degree at sudden and unusual noises.

**VICIOUSNESS** - A dog that attacks or attempts to attack either the judge or its handler, is definitely vicious. An aggressive or belligerent attitude towards other dogs shall not be deemed viciousness.

**DISQUALIFICATIONS** - Overshot or undershot. Markings other than specified.

**Approved October 11, 1983**



BLACK DOG

## ILLUSTRATED DISCUSSION OF THE GIANT SCHNAUZER STANDARD

### NOTE:

Normal type indicates the official standard as approved by the American Kennel Club.

*Italicized type indicates commentary supplementing the Official Standard. Graphics in each section illustrate the discussion. Some graphics illustrate the ideal Giant Schnauzer.*

*Graphics in shaded boxes illustrate faults associated with the discussion.*

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION** - The Giant Schnauzer should resemble, as nearly as possible, in general appearance, a larger and more powerful version of the Standard Schnauzer; on the whole a bold and valiant figure of a dog. Robust, strongly built, nearly square in proportion of body length to height at withers, active, sturdy, and well muscled. Temperament which combines spirit and alertness with intelligence and reliability. Composed, watchful, courageous, easily trained, deeply loyal to family, playful, amiable in repose, and a commanding figure when aroused. The sound, reliable temperament, rugged build, and dense weather-resistant wiry coat make for one of the most useful, powerful, and enduring working breeds.

- *The last sentence summarizes the Giant Schnauzer very well. Notice that the temperament is mentioned first: sound, reliable; while the rugged build and dense wiry coat are second. In general substance it is between the lithe Doberman Pinscher and the solidly built Rottweiler. The word moderate is most descriptive of the Giant Schnauzer.*
- *The Giant Schnauzer shares with its two smaller cousins these characteristics that typify all three sizes: a body that is square, compact and balanced; harsh textured double coat; and a headpiece with bushy beard and eyebrows that helps to create the classic Schnauzer expression.*



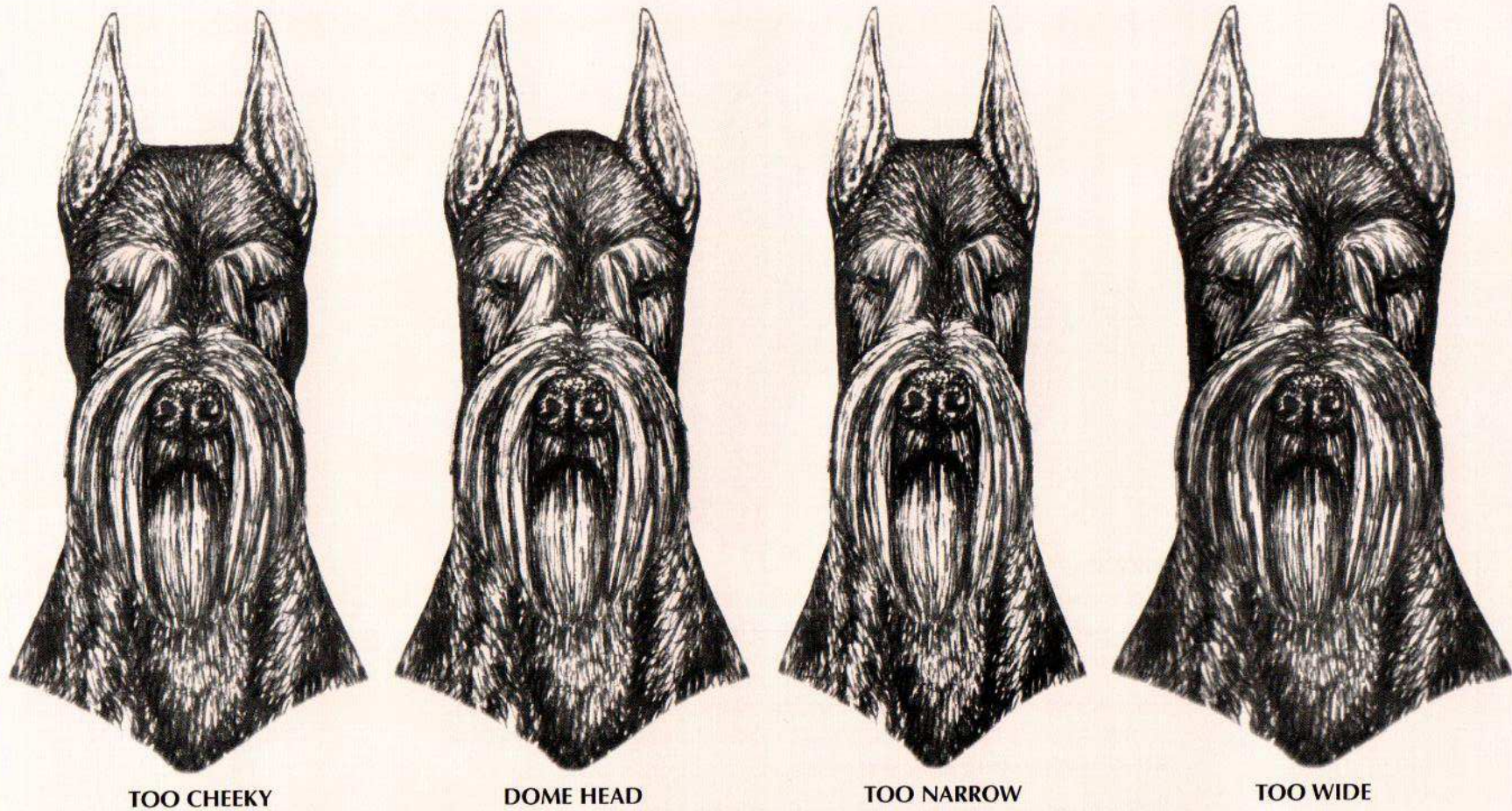
# HEAD



## Head

Strong, rectangular in appearance, and elongated; narrowing slightly from the ears to the eyes, and again from the eyes to the tip of the nose. The total length of the head is about one-half the length of the back (withers to set-on of tail). The head matches the sex and substance of the dog. The top line of the muzzle is parallel to the top line of the skull; there is a slight stop which is accentuated by the eyebrows.

- *Viewed from the side, the hallmark rectangular head is at least half the length of the back and is constructed with strong clean lines, parallel planes, and flat surfaces.*



# SKULL & CHEEKS

## Skull

(Occiput to Stop). Moderately broad between the ears; occiput not too prominent. Top of skull flat; skin unwrinkled.

- *The width of the skull is 2/3 of the length from stop to the occiput. Too broad of a top skull gives a coarse appearance. Too narrow of a top skull creates the appearance of a terrier. Too rounded of a top skull creates a domed appearance which then affects the ear set, and it is not in keeping with the flat rectangular lines of the head.*

## Cheeks

Flat, but with well-developed chewing muscles; there is no 'cheekiness' to disturb the rectangular head appearance (with beard).

- *In head-on view cheeks are flat; in profile cheeks are deep, full and strong.*



## Muzzle

Strong and well filled under the eyes; both parallel and equal in length to the topskull; ending in a moderately blunt wedge. The nose is large, black, and full. The lips are tight, and not overlapping, black in color.

- *Well filled under the eyes; both upper and lower jaws are well formed, tapering smoothly from the cheeks to end in a blunt wedge. Muzzle should be full with a strong underjaw, powerful to the end, not snipey. Lips are tight without overlap.*
- *Skillful grooming can enhance this area, hands-on examination is important.*



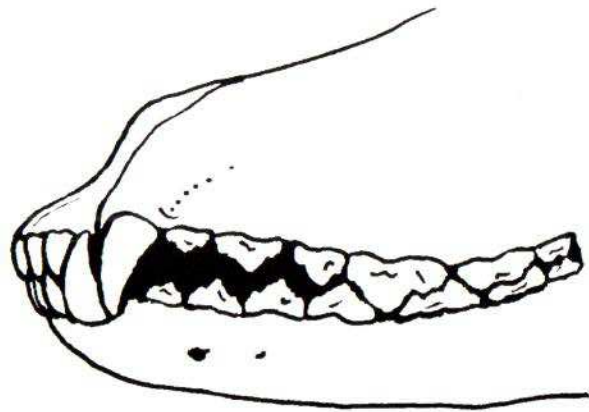
DOWN FACED



SNIPEY



TOO LONG



SIDE OCCLUSION

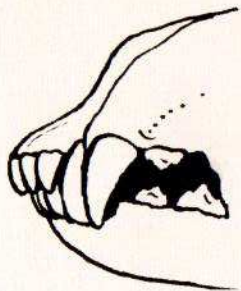


SCISSOR BITE

### Bite

A full complement of sound white teeth (6/6 incisors, 2/2 canines, 8/8 pre-molars, 4/6 molars) with a scissors bite. The upper and lower jaws are powerful and well formed.

- *There should be a full complement of large teeth. A scissors bite is ideal with a level bite considered undesirable. Broken or worn teeth are not to be penalized.*
- *Disqualifying faults: Overshot or undershot bites.*



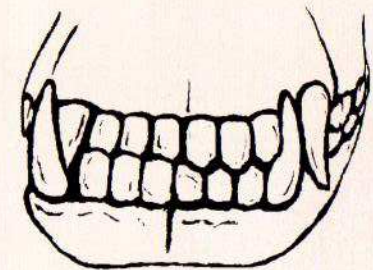
OVERSHOT BITE



UNDERSHOT BITE



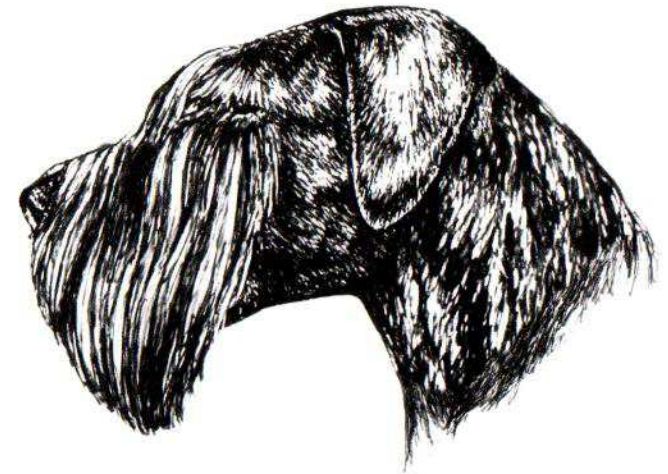
LEVEL BITE



WRY MOUTH



CORRECT EARS

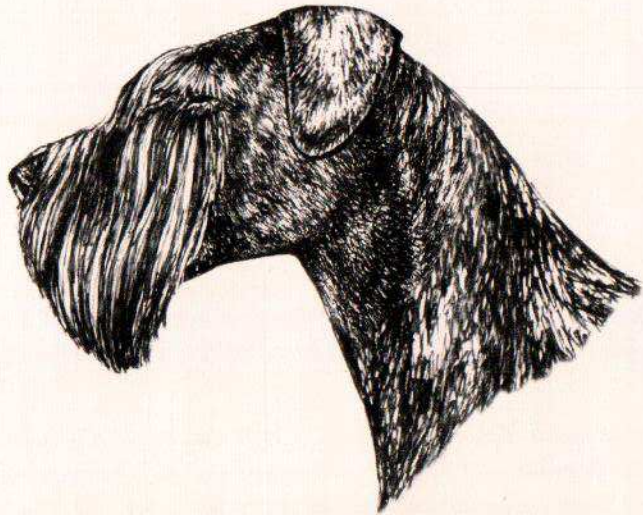


CORRECT NATURAL EARS

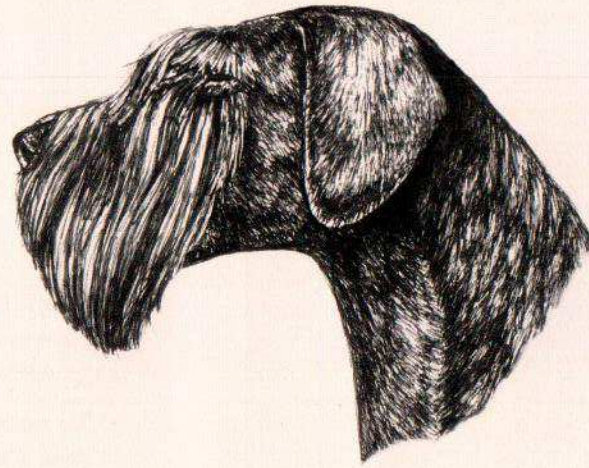
## Ears

When cropped, identical in shape and length with pointed tips. They are in balance with the head and are not exaggerated in length. They are set high on the skull and carried perpendicularly at the inner edges with as little bell as possible along the outer edges. When uncropped, the ears are V-shaped button ears of medium length and thickness, set high and carried rather high and close to the head.

- *Both cropped and uncropped ears are set high on topskull. Ears, cropped or uncropped, should be in balance with the proportions of the head and appear moderate in length.*
- *Faults: ear set too high, ears houndy, cropped ears set too low, ears set too low, ears too long.*



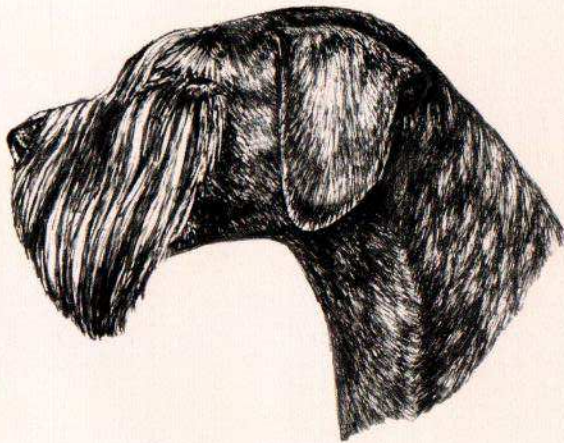
EARS SET TOO HIGH



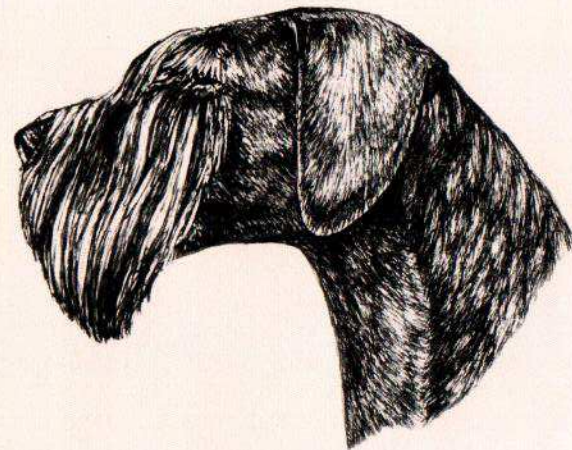
EARS HOUNDY



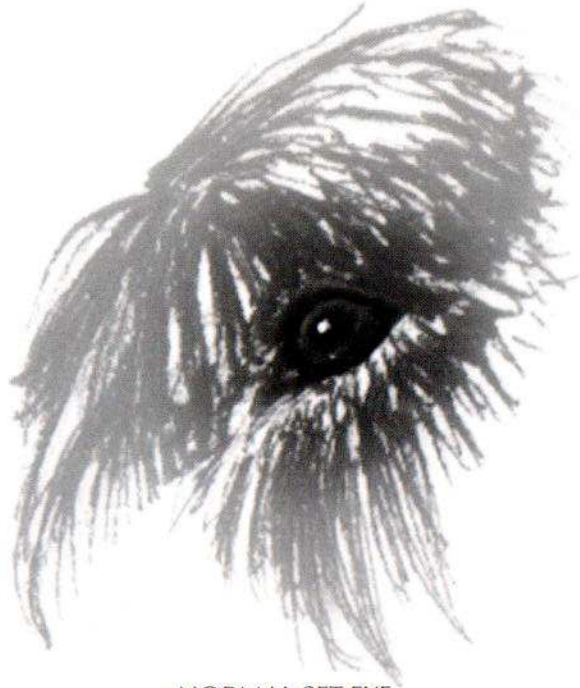
CROPPED EARS SET TOO LOW



EARS SET TOO LOW



EARS TOO LONG

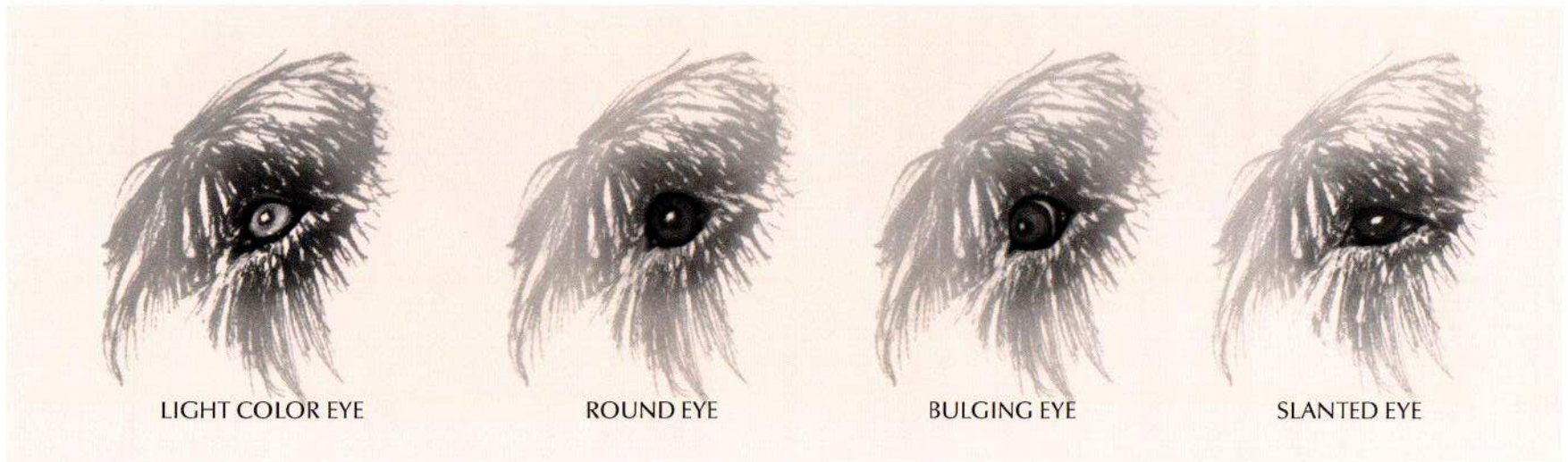


NORMAL SET EYE

## Eyes

Medium size, dark brown, and deep-set. They are oval in appearance and keen in expression with lids fitting tightly. Vision is not impaired nor eyes hidden by too long eyebrows.

- *The eyes are as dark as possible. They are oval, almond, in shape without slant. The eyebrows should be lifted so that the eye shape and placement can be properly assessed. When the eyebrows are properly trimmed, the eyes can be easily seen from either the front or side view. The expression of the eyes should reflect the lively, alert, spirited character of the breed.*
- *Faults: light color, round eye, bulging, too slanted eye.*



LIGHT COLOR EYE

ROUND EYE

BULGING EYE

SLANTED EYE

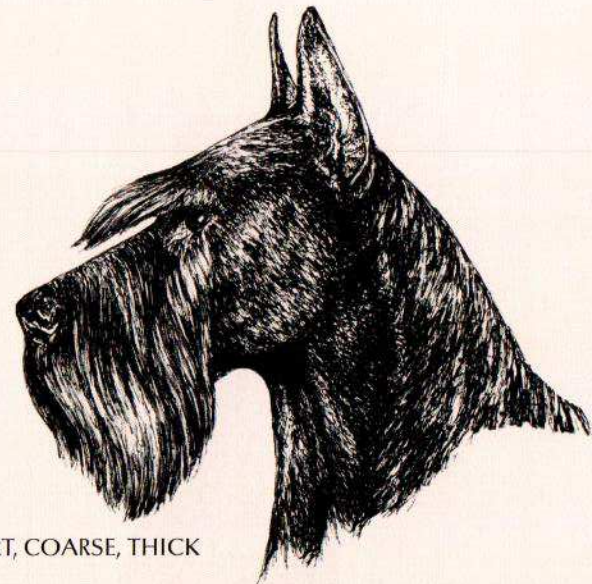
## Neck

Strong and well arched, of moderate length, blending cleanly into the shoulders, and with the skin fitting tightly at the throat; in harmony with the dog's weight and build.

- *The breed is known for its strong crested neck. Throatiness is undesirable. The neck is well muscled, widening gradually to blend smoothly into the well laid back shoulders. The nape of the neck crests behind the occiput.*
- *Faults: too short, thick, coarse; too long, thin, stovepipe, ewe; throaty; poor transition.*



MODERATE LENGTH, STRONG, WELL ARCHED



SHORT, COARSE, THICK



LONG, STOVEPIPE,  
EWE, NARROW

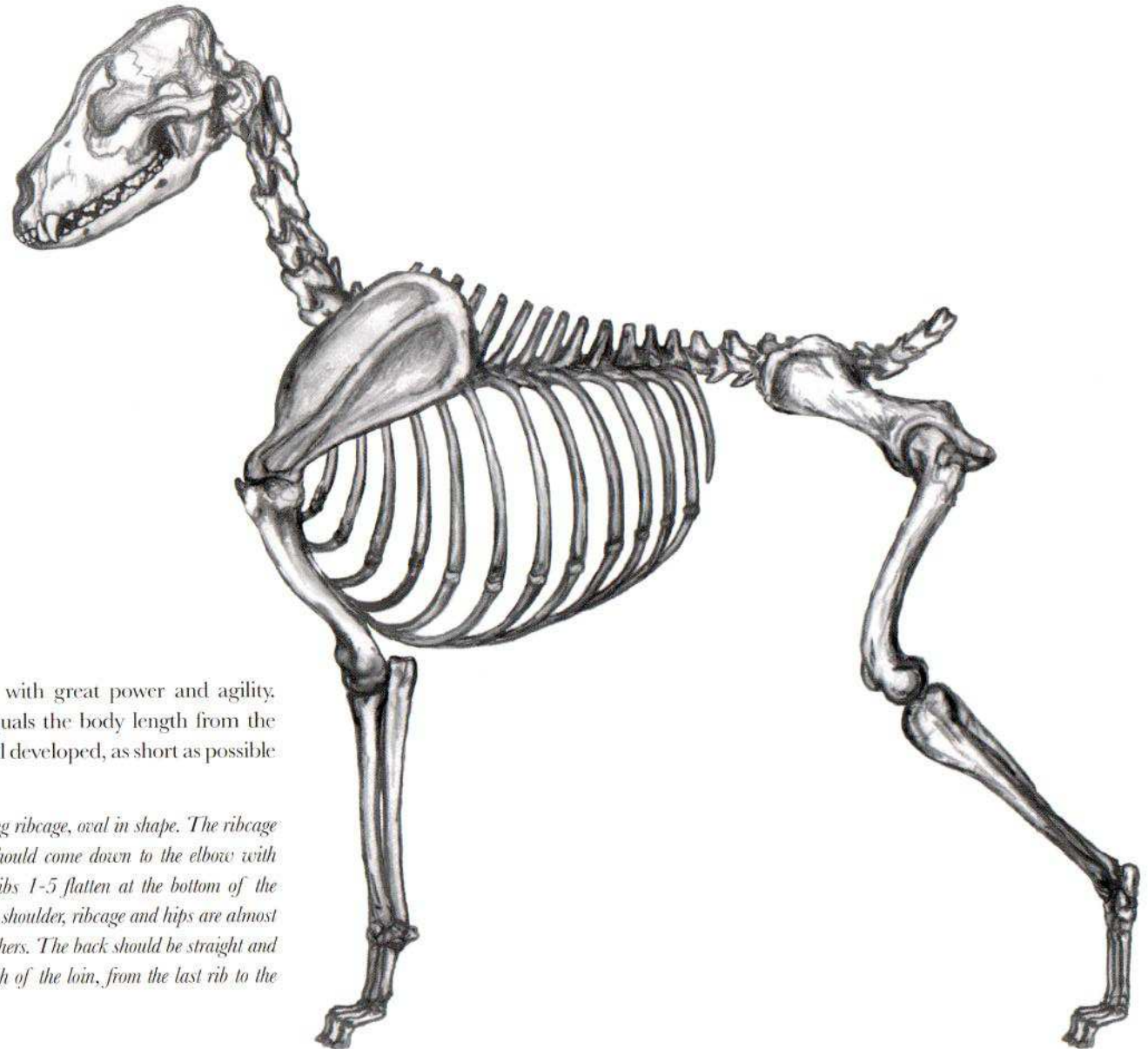


# BODY



ROBUST AND COMPACT





## Body

Compact, substantial, short-coupled, and strong, with great power and agility. The height at the highest point of the withers equals the body length from the breastbone to point of rump. The loin section is well developed, as short as possible for compact build.

- *The body of a Giant Schnauzer should have a well sprung ribcage, oval in shape. The ribcage should be substantial and deep to the brisket. Brisket should come down to the elbow with underline gradually tapering to the moderate tuck-up. Ribs 1-5 flatten at the bottom of the ribcage to permit elbow clearance. Viewed from above, the shoulder, ribcage and hips are almost equal in width. The highest point of the back is at the withers. The back should be straight and may have a minimal slope to the set-on of the tail. Length of the loin, from the last rib to the hips, should be as short as possible.*
- *Remember, robust and compact.*

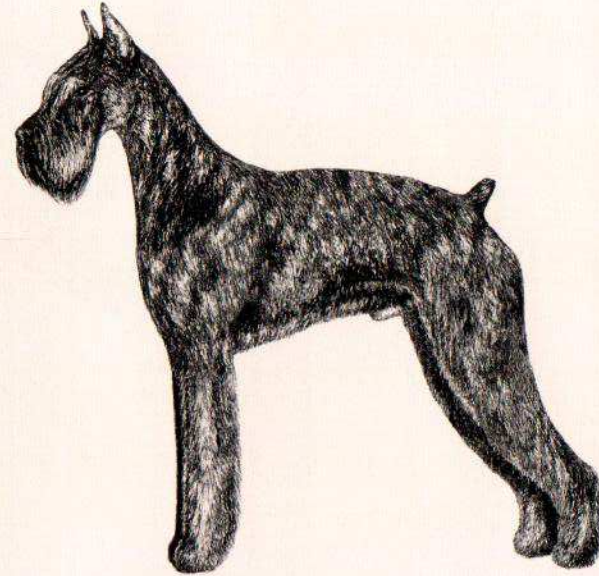
# BODY (Faults)



SLAB-SIDED  
FLAT RIBS



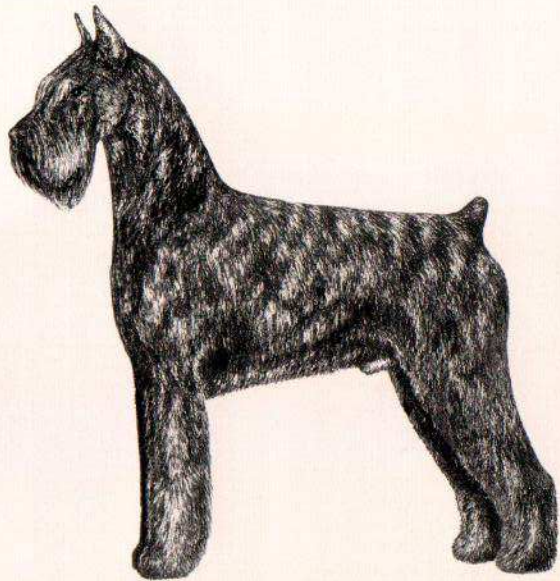
TOO WIDE  
OVERDONE



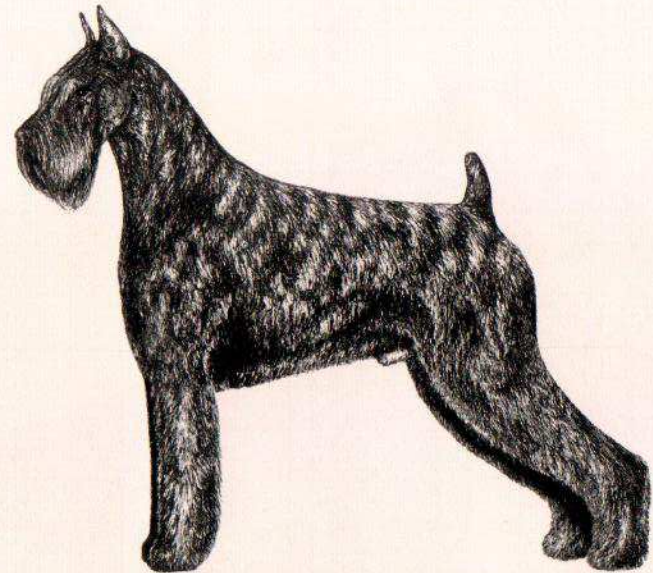
SHALLOW, WEEDY/ROACHED TOPLINE



BODY TOO SHORT, LOW TAILSET,  
GOOD UPPER ARM WITH SHORT SHOULDER



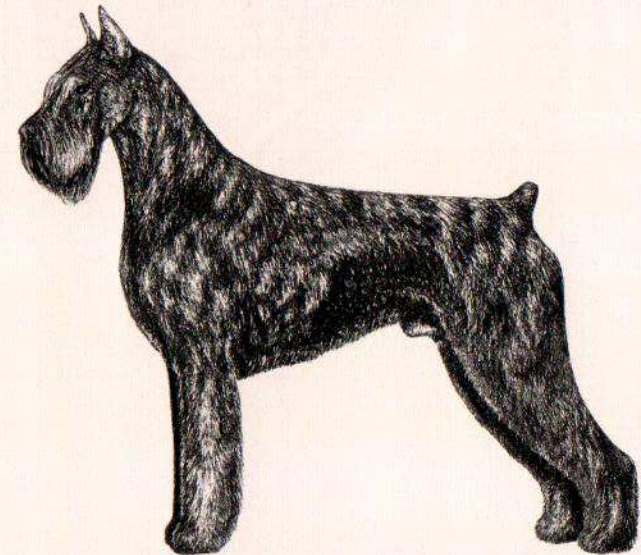
TOO STRAIGHT FRONT AND REAR



STRAIGHT FRONT,  
OVER ANGULATED REAR, GAY TAIL

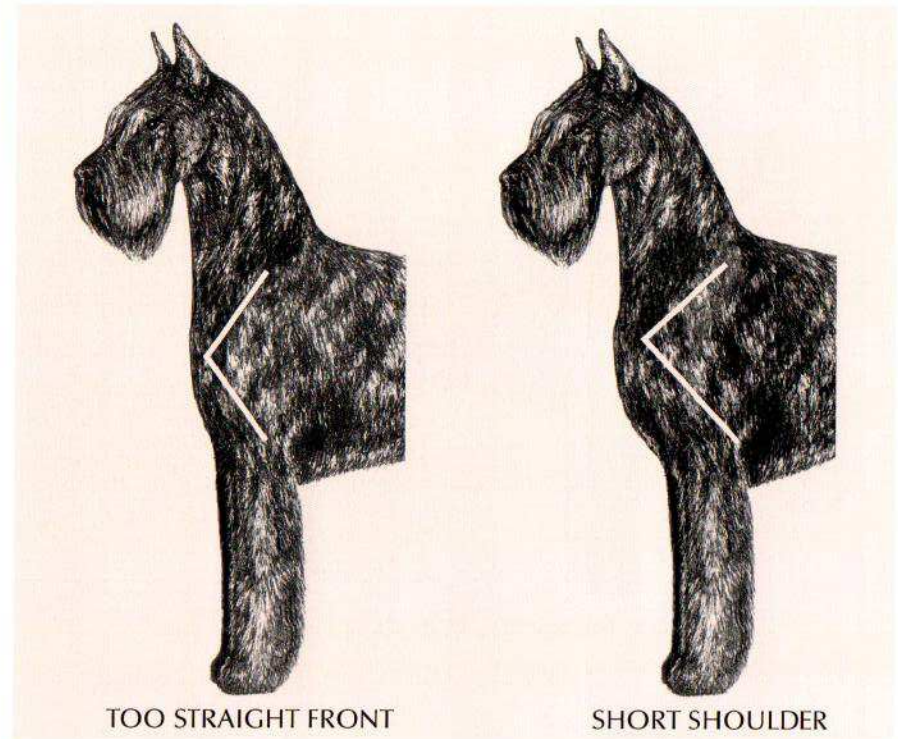
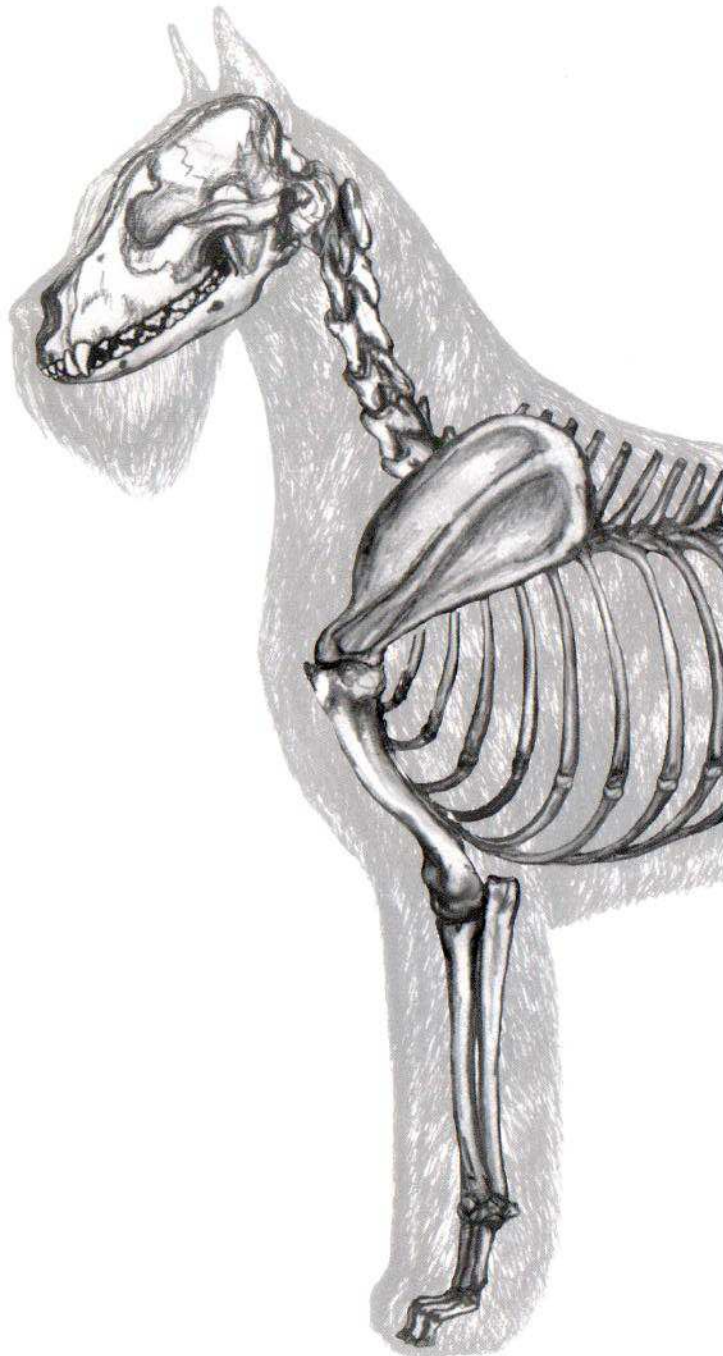


COARSE OVERDONE, SOFT TOPLINE



TOO LONG, LACKS SUBSTANCE AND  
RIB SPRING

# SHOULDERS



## Shoulders

The sloping shoulder blades (scapulae) are strongly muscled, yet flat. They are well laid back so that from the side the rounded upper ends are in a nearly vertical line above the elbows. They slope well forward to the point where they join the upper arm (humerus), forming as nearly as possible a right angle. Such an angulation permits the maximum forward extension of the forelegs without binding or effort. Both shoulder blades and upper arm are long, permitting depth of chest at the brisket.

- *Shoulders should be flat and sloping and strongly muscled.*
- *The muscles should be smooth and lithe, not bulging.*
- *The withers, formed by the rounded upper ends of the scapulae (shoulder blades), should be in a vertical line with the elbows.*
- *The scapulae should slope well forward from the withers.*
- *The scapula and humerus (upper arm) should be long and equal to each other. It is important they have enough length to create the proper angles that allow the maximum extension of the front assembly.*
- *A too short humerus can result in a terrier-like front.*



CORRECT FRONT



FIDDLE FRONT OR EAST-WEST



TOO WIDE, OUT AT ELBOW



NARROW FRONT

# FOREQUARTERS

## Forequarters

The forequarters have flat, somewhat sloping shoulders and high withers. Forelegs are straight and vertical when viewed from all sides with strong pasterns and good bone. They are separated by a fairly deep brisket which precludes a pinched front. The elbows are set close to the body and point directly backwards.

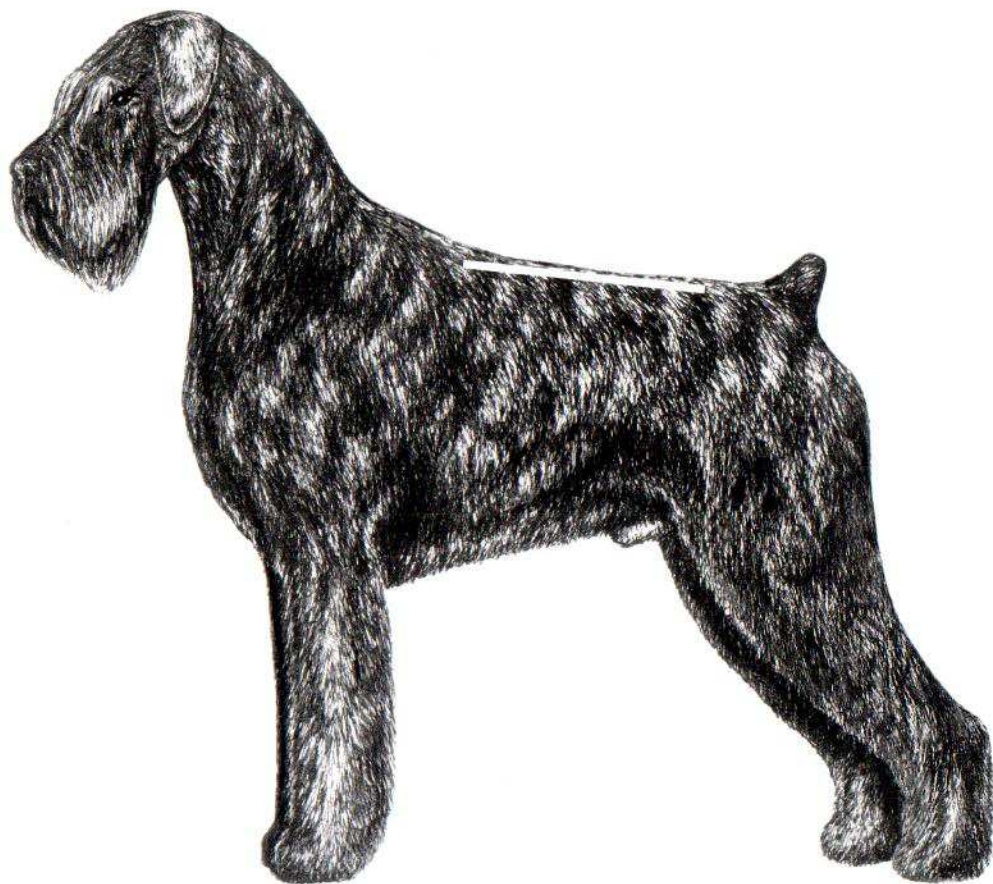


## Chest

Medium in width, ribs well sprung but with no tendency toward a barrel chest; oval in cross section; deep through the brisket. The breastbone is plainly discernible, with strong forechest; the brisket descends at least to the elbows, and ascends gradually toward the rear with the belly moderately drawn up. The ribs spread gradually from the first rib so as to allow space for the elbows to move close to the body.

- *The chest is deep to the elbows, medium in width and oval in shape.*
- *There should be a visible sternum (breastbone) and the forechest should be well filled in. Hands on examination is a must to determine the sternum, width and depth of forechest, and the front assembly.*
- *Elbows should be set close to the body, leaving enough space for the brisket. They must point straight back, having no indication of a pinched front.*
- *Forelegs are straight with strong bone, vertical to the ground and parallel to each other from all sides. They should be set moderately apart.*
- *Pasterns are strong but flexible. Steep, upright pasterns may be associated with a straight front, and may be indicative of a short shoulder and upper arm assembly. The foot will lack the necessary cushioning for smooth movement and can result in pounding.*





# TAIL

## Tail

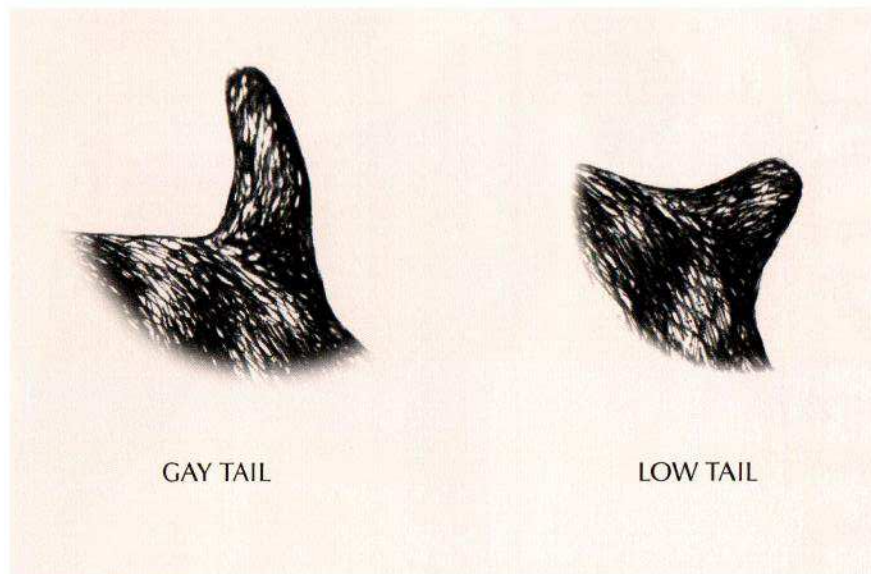
The tail is set moderately high and carried high in excitement. It should be docked to the second or not more than the third joint (approximately one and one-half to about three inches long at maturity).

- *The tail should appear to be a continuation of the spine without significant drop.*
- *The hipbones or pelvis should fall away from the spinal column at about a 30° angle.*
- *A tail held vertically at a ninety degree angle (commonly known as a gay tail or squirrel tail) is incorrect. This type of tailset indicates improper placement of the pelvis which can result in restricted rear movement.*
- *Examples of low tail and gay tail are included on the BODY Faults page.*

## Back

Short, straight, strong, and firm.

- *The highest point of the back is at the withers. The back should be as straight as possible from the withers to the set-on of the tail. A minimal slope is acceptable. Length of the loin from the last rib to the hips should be as short as possible.*



# HINDQUARTERS



## Hindquarters

The hindquarters are strongly muscled, in balance with the forequarters; upper thighs are slanting and well bent at the stifles, with the second thighs (tibiae) approximately parallel to an extension of the upper neckline. The legs from the hock joint to the feet are short, perpendicular to the ground while the dog is standing naturally, and from the rear parallel to each other. The hindquarters do not appear over-built or higher than the shoulders. Croup full and slightly rounded.

- *The upper and lower thighs are well muscled and show power.*
- *The angle of the pelvis and the femur (upper thigh) should be ideally in balance with the scapula and humerus of the forequarters.*
- *The slope of the tibia (second thigh) and the extension of the upper neckline should form imaginary parallel lines.*
- *The rear pastern from the hock joint to the foot is short. This lower part of the rear assembly (from the hock joint to the foot) should be perpendicular to the ground and moderately wide set. The hocks are parallel to each other when viewed from behind.*



# FEET



CAT FOOT

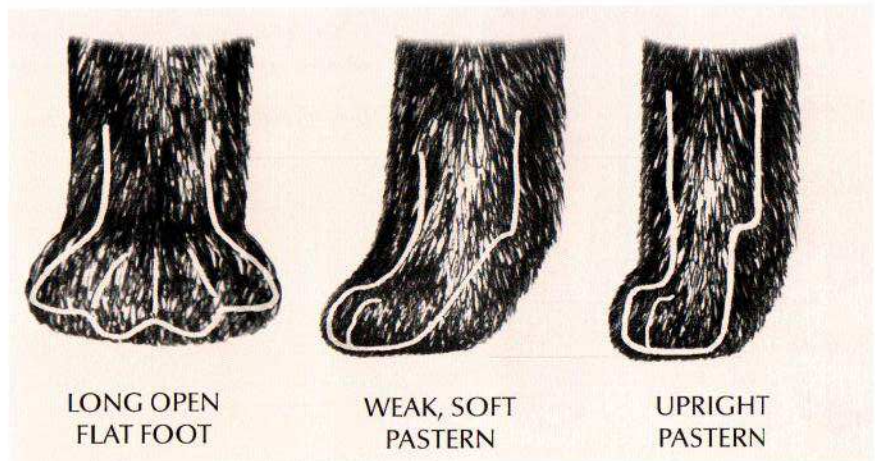
## Feet

Well-arched, compact and catlike, turning neither in nor out, with thick tough pads and dark nails.

## Dewclaws

Dewclaws, if any, on hind legs should be removed; on the forelegs, may be removed.

- Feet are very compact, close arched toes, short and round, pointing forwards.
- Faults: long open flat foot; weak, soft pastern; upright pastern



LONG OPEN  
FLAT FOOT

WEAK, SOFT  
PASTERN

UPRIGHT  
PASTERN



KEYHOLE REAR



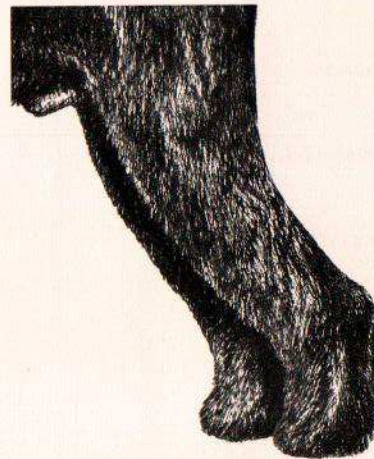
COW HOCKS



OPEN HOCKS

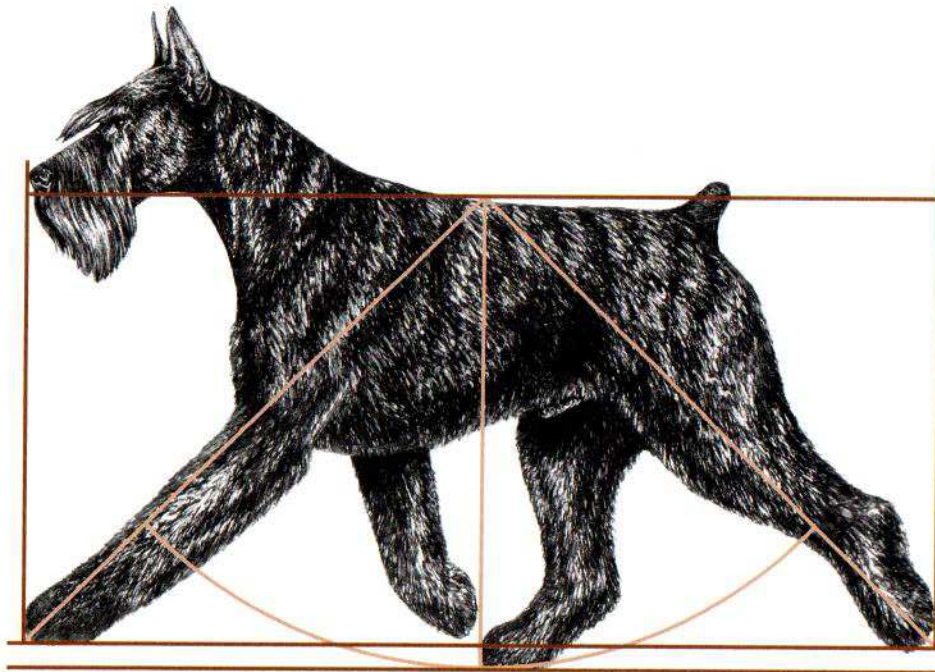


SICKLE HOCKS



WEAK NARROW  
UPPER THIGHS

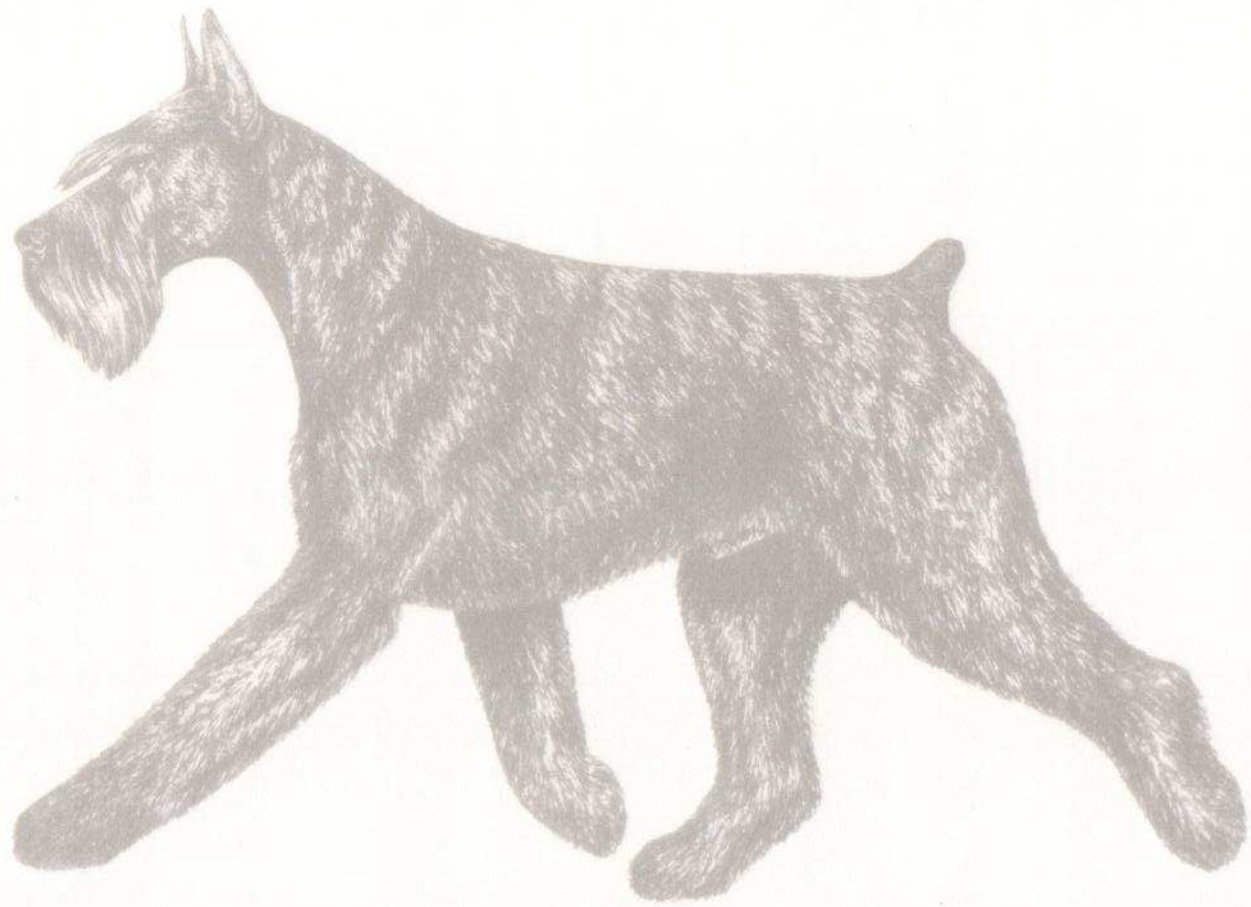
# GAIT

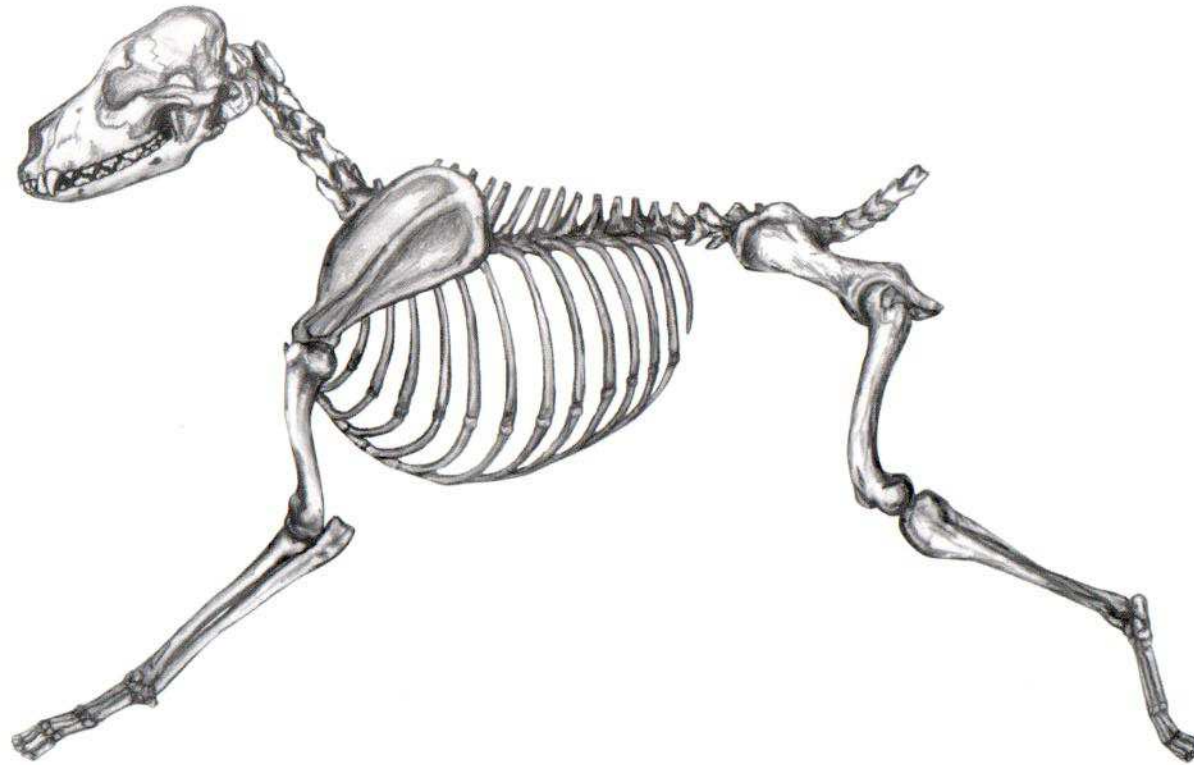


GAIT IS FREE, BALANCED, VIGOROUS

- *At a fast trot, the front and rear legs incline toward a vertical center of gravity which indicates single tracking*
- *When viewed from the front and rear, a dog may have the proper movement, but not the desired extension and drive when viewed from the side.*
- *Dogs should be exhibited on a loose lead at a moderately fast trot.*





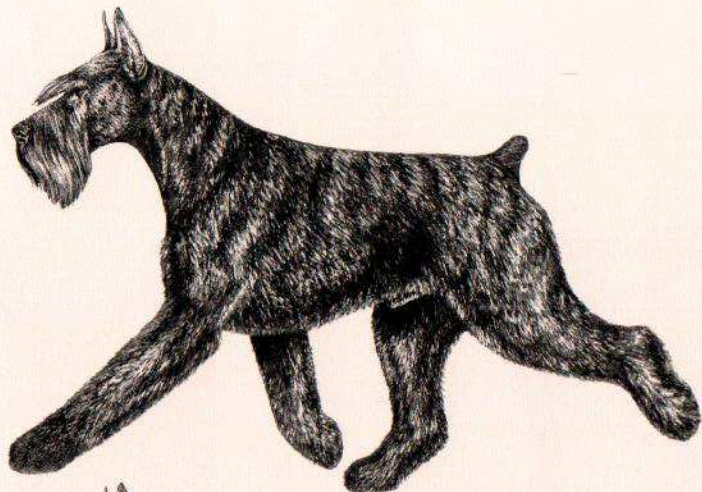


## Gait

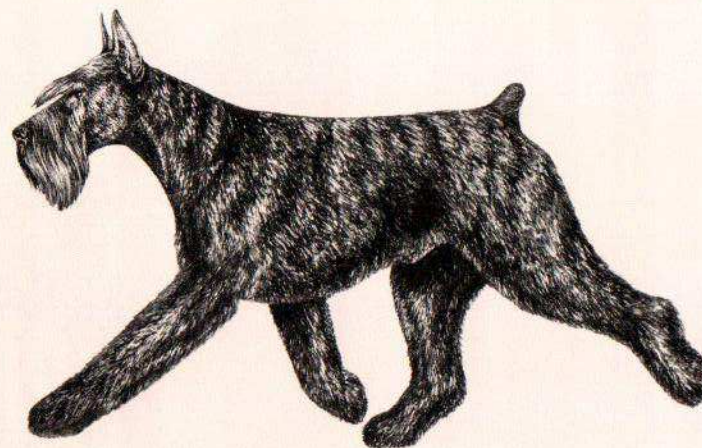
The trot is the gait at which movement is judged. Free, balanced and vigorous, with good reach in the forequarters and good driving power in the hindquarters. Rear and front legs are thrown neither in nor out. When moving at a fast trot, a properly built dog will single-track. Back remains strong, firm, and flat.

- *Movement should be smooth and flowing. It should appear effortless, while exhibiting energy, power and agility.*
- *When moving out, the head should be carried lower to allow maximum reach of the forequarters. However, the head will still be held higher than the withers and back.*
- *The body of the dog will move as a unit with the front and back moving in symmetry.*
- *The back should remain level, strong and firm, without being higher in the rear.*
- *There is good reach in front, powered by a strong drive in the rear.*
- *The extended stride of the front and hind quarters should equally cover ground.*

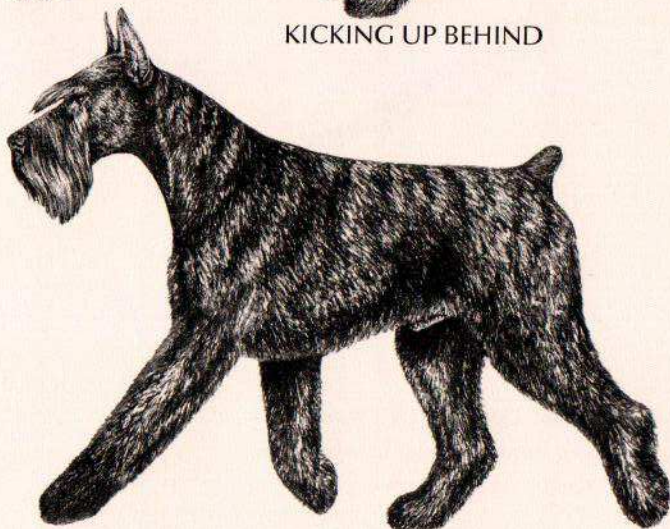
# GAIT (Faults)



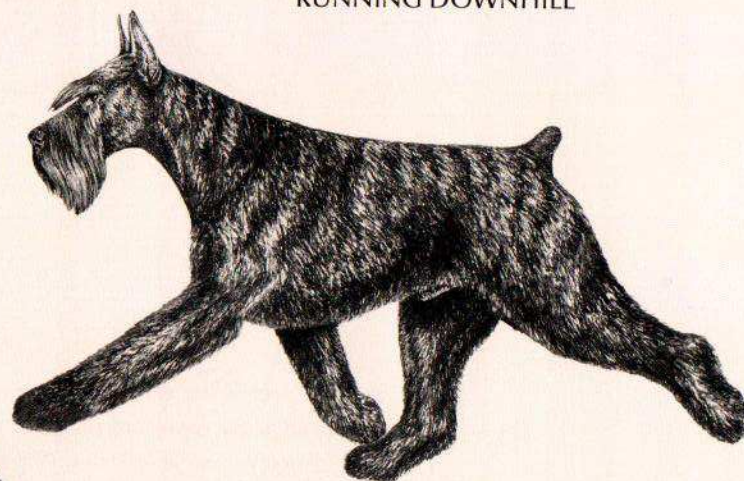
KICKING UP BEHIND



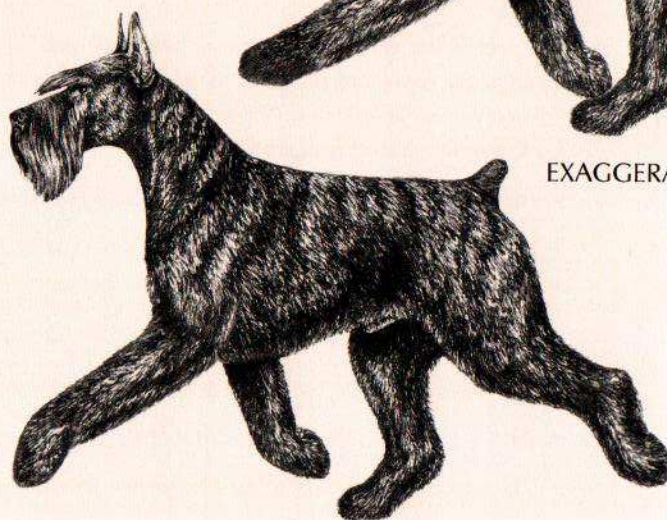
RUNNING DOWNHILL



LACK OF REACH AND DRIVE



EXAGGERATED MOVEMENT



HACKNEY



MOVING WIDE



OUT AT ELBOW



PADDLING



MOVING COW HOCKS

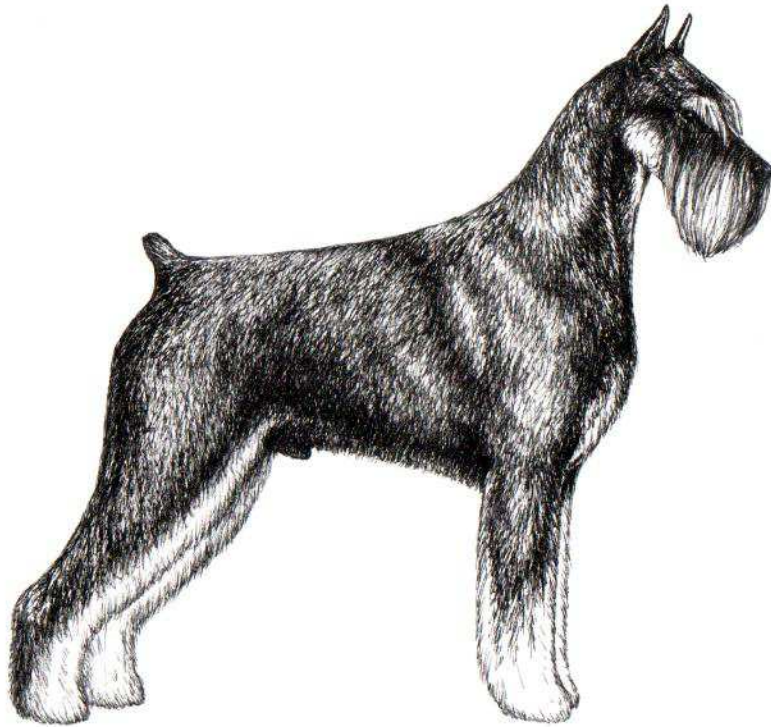


MOVING OPEN HOCKS



MOVING TOO CLOSE BEHIND





## Coat

Hard, wiry, very dense; composed of a soft undercoat and a harsh outer coat which, when seen against the grain, stands slightly up off the back, lying neither smooth nor flat. Coarse hair on top of head; harsh beard and eyebrows, the Schnauzer hallmark.

- *When in proper show trim, the body coat is normally between 3/4" and 2". Texture can be more readily determined on a coat of the longer length. The hair on the top skull, cheeks, ears, throat, groin area and under the tail is trimmed closely. The hair on the eyebrows, beard, and that of the legs is longer than that of the body coat. These 'furnishings' are shaped in a traditional Schnauzer trim with scissors or by stripping (plucking). The underline and forechest have just enough fringe to simply accentuate and emphasize the natural outline of the dog. These furnishings should ideally be a longer and fuller continuation of the body coat and also be of harsh texture. They should not be so profuse as to detract from the neat appearance of the natural lines of the dog. They should not be silky, flopping and swaying during movement or be obviously hanging near the ground.*

- *Emphasis should be placed on proper texture and undercoat. The ancestry of the Giant Schnauzer includes a more varied gene pool than that of the Standard and Miniature Schnauzer. Consequently, we see a broader variation in the type and style of leg furnishings. They may be groomed and presented as neatly scissored fuller furnishings or hand stripped in a classic shorter presentation, depending on the amount or degree of furnishings the dog is born with. It is not uncommon to see different coat styles born in the same litter. Both styles of presentation are acceptable.*
- *Knowledgeable judges will understand that contrary to grooming trends, excessive fluffy furnishings are not mandatory, nor are they more desirable over dogs presented with shorter, more moderate furnishings. Conversely, a dog should not be penalized just for having fuller furnishings. Both styles should be given equal consideration provided that they have a correct double coat. Proficient grooming skills can disguise coat faults, so a thorough hands-on evaluation is necessary to determine proper texture, undercoat and density.*

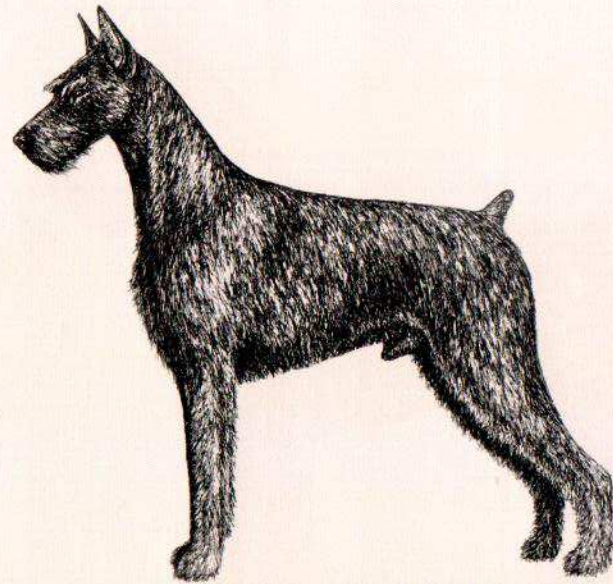
### Faults:

- **Soft, woolly or fluffy** - *Soft, woolly or fluffy topcoats that lack a readily discernible harsh topcoat with excessive undercoat and overly profuse silky furnishings.*
- **Single coated** - *Single coated, consisting mostly of a coarser textured topcoat with very little or no undercoat. Often the individual hairs of the topcoat are not as thick as would normally be expected. This coat normally lacks the proper depth or density of an ideal coat, has wispy or weak furnishings, and sometimes a total lack of furnishings. This is not to be confused with a correct dense double coat, presented with shorter furnishings, so hands-on examination is necessary to determine correct texture and density.*
- **Curly or kinky coats** - *A coat that is very rough and open, curling outward from the body. Challenging for the most experienced groomer, as it is very difficult to conform to the contours of the body. A straighter coat is preferred.*
- **Clipped coats** - *Traditionally, Schnauzer coats are hand stripped in preparation for shows, in order to attain the proper texture and lie of the coat. A coat that has recently been clipped will not have the length necessary to determine texture and repeated clippings will often alter the coat texture.*
- *Basic structure, breed attributes and soundness are more fundamental considerations than the amount or type of furnishings. The purpose and function of the breed as an all-purpose, agile, working dog should always be the first consideration when evaluating the complete package that makes a Giant Schnauzer.*

# COAT (Faults)



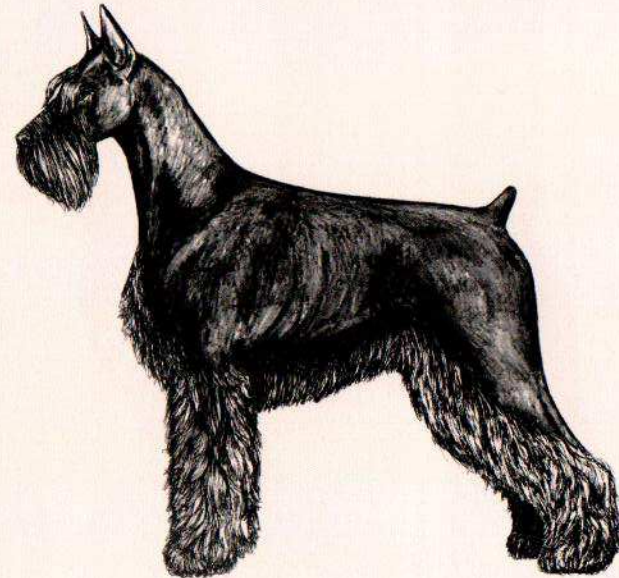
SOFT, WOOLY OR FLUFFY



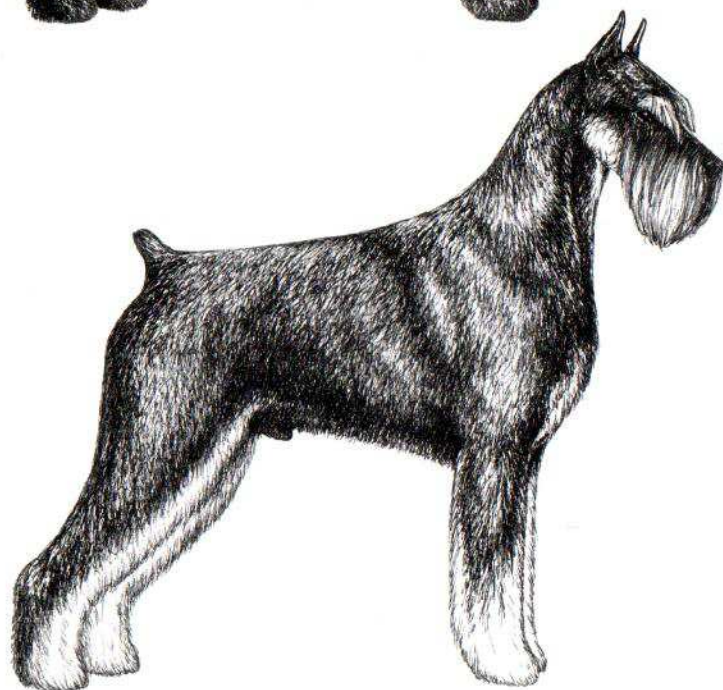
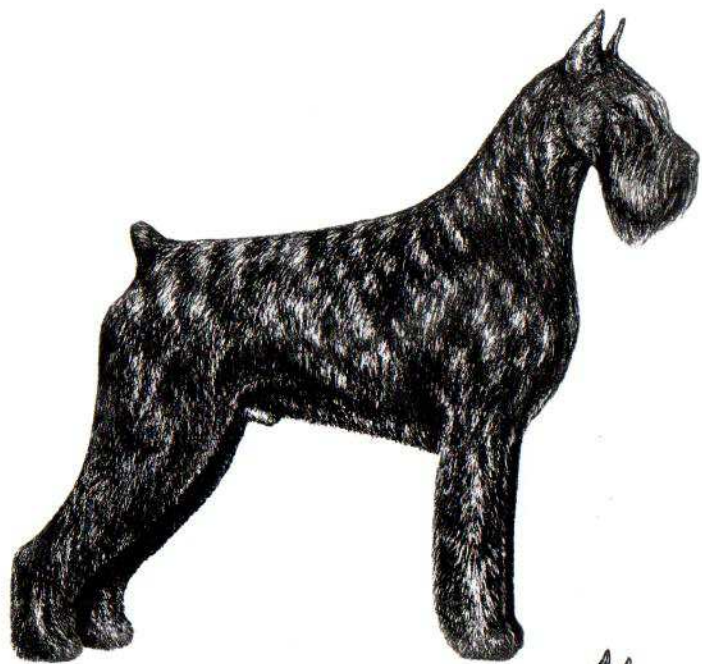
SINGLE COATED/NO UNDERCOAT



CURLY OR KINKY COATS



CLIPPED COATS



## Color

Solid black or pepper and salt.

### Black

A truly pure black. A small white spot on the breast is permitted; any other markings are disqualifying faults.

- *Often the undercoat can appear to be a slightly lighter shade of black - a dark charcoal or dark gray is acceptable. Reddish, tan, or light gray undercoat color is undesirable.*
- *Stickle hairs are individual coarse white hairs typically associated with coat change, i.e. from puppy to adult. These should only be noticeable on close examination. This is not to be faulted.*

### Pepper and Salt

Outer coat of a combination of banded hairs (white with black and black with white) and some black and white hairs, appearing gray from a short distance. Ideally; an intensely pigmented medium gray shade with 'peppering' evenly distributed throughout the coat, and a gray undercoat. Acceptable; all shades of pepper and salt from dark iron-gray to silver-gray. Every shade of coat has a dark facial mask to emphasize the expression; the color of the mask harmonizes with the shade of the body coat. Eyebrows, whiskers, cheeks, throat, chest, legs, and under tail, while lighter in color, will include 'peppering'. Markings are disqualifying faults.

- *The banded (agouti) coloration of the coat takes time to reach the final adult color.*
- *Immature coats on young pepper and salt Giants can also show tan, fawn, and/or gray (preferred) undercoat colors, but with continuous stripping the undercoat colors should mature to the desired gray undercoat.*
- *White or nearly white furnishings, beard, and eyebrows are undesirable.*
- *Cottony, woolly coats without banded hairs are to be faulted.*



## Height

The height of the withers of the male is 25½ inches to 27½ inches, and of the female, 23½ to 25½ inches, with the mediums being desired. Size alone should never take precedence over type, balance, soundness, and temperament. It should be noted that too small dogs generally lack the power and too large dogs, the agility and maneuverability, desired in a working dog.

- *The words moderate and medium are used in describing the Giant's body and chest. This is also true of height. A four inch variance from the smaller bitches to the largest males is permitted. The compact, medium size animal is preferred.*

## Faults

The foregoing description is that of the ideal Giant Schnauzer. Any deviation from the above described dog must be penalized to the extent of the deviation.

The judge shall dismiss from the ring any shy or vicious Giant Schnauzer.

**Shyness** - A dog shall be judged fundamentally shy if, refusing to stand for examination, it repeatedly shrinks away from the judge; if it fears unduly any approach from the rear; if it shies to a marked degree at sudden and unusual noises.

**Viciousness** - A dog that attacks or attempts to attack either the judge or its handler, is definitely vicious. An aggressive or belligerent attitude towards other dogs shall not be deemed viciousness.

- *The Giant Schnauzer, as a guard breed, may not warm-up to strangers readily. They may seem aloof, but still, they should not be threatening or nervous under typical circumstances. As a member of the herding and working breeds, the Giant must have a reliable and stable temperament. The Giant must be amenable to working with its handler. An overly confident, overly dominant, and/or high strung animal may not work well with its handler, nor will one at the other extreme be reliable. Both extremes show instability. These extremes manifest themselves in viciousness and shyness.*

## Disqualifications

Overshot or undershot. Markings other than specified.

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