

**FCI Standard No. 224**  
**Drentse Partridge Dog**  
*Drentsche Partijshond; Epagneul a Perdrix de Drente;*  
*Drent'scher Hiffenerhund; Perdiguero de Drente*



**CLASSIFICATION FCI:**

Group 7.....Pointing Dogs.  
Section 1.2.....Continental Pointing Dogs, "Spaniel" type.  
With working trial.

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TRANSLATION: Mr. A.H. van der Snee.

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UTILIZATION: For the Dutch sportsman who wants to hunt leisurely without too much physical effort in the varying fields, this is the ideal dog. The dog hunts within range of the gun and searches the game without going too far away from the hunter. Keeping in touch with the hunter seems necessary for him. When approaching the game he points as firm as a rock and impeccably at a moderate distance. When pointing, the dog is waiting for the hunter to come near; when this takes a long time, he will look back for his master. He has the adaptability which makes him capable of hunting all sorts of game in the field and in water. Besides he is a good retriever and finder of lost game. These characteristics are innate, therefore he needs little training. Because of his gentle character, it is wrong to train him with force.

**ORIGIN:** The Netherlands.

**BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY:** In the 16th century the breed originated from the Spioenen (also called Spanjoelen) which came via France from Spain. In the Netherlands they were called Partridge dogs. In the eastern part of the country, especially in the province Drenthe, these dogs were kept purebred and were not mixed with foreign breeds as done elsewhere. On the 15th of May 1943 the breed was officially recognized by the Raad van Beheer op Kynologisch Gebied in Nederland. This was strongly promoted by Baroness Van Hardenbroek, Mr. Van Heek Jr. and Mr. Quartero. The breed is related mostly to the Small Münsterländer and the Epagneul Français. The 5th of June 1948 the breed club was founded, the Nederlandse Vereniging "De Drentsche Partijshond".

**GENERAL APPEARANCE:** A well proportioned dog whose body shows power and also the ability to develop the necessary speed for a gundog. He is of heavier build than the Small Münsterländer, his conformation more like the Long-haired German Pointing Dog; he differs from the latter mainly in the head which is shorter. The foreface is blunter and looks finer due to the dry, not pendulous lips, which makes the whole picture of the head less heavy than the Long-haired German Pointing Dog's head. His body is slightly longer than his height at the withers, thus appearing slightly elongated. The coat, though not really long on the body, looks like a long coat because of the well coated ears and the tail, the somewhat richer coat on neck and chest and the feathered ears, front and hind legs and the richly feathered tail.

**BEHAVIOUR/TEMPERAMENT:** By nature obedient, loyal and intelligent which makes him a valuable companion of the hunter as well as a highly esteemed family pet dog.

**HEAD**

**CRANIAL REGION:**

**Skull:** Rather broad and only slightly rounded. Along the middle line there is a hardly perceptible furrow from the shallow stop half-way up to the moderately developed occiput. The superciliary arches are well developed.

**Stop:** Seen in profile and from the front, the skull is sloping gradually to the foreface.

**FACIAL REGION:**

**Nose:** Well developed and brown. The nostrils are wide open.

**Muzzle:** Wedge shaped, blunt at the end, without any sign of being cut away under the eyes. The nasal bridge is broad and neither hollow nor arched (a very light curve upwards is allowed; Roman nose is objectionable).

**Lips:** Rather thin and dry.

**Jaws/Teeth:** Strong and well closing into a scissor bite.

**Cheeks:** Moderately developed, tapering gradually into the foreface.

**Eyes:** Wide apart and set in such a way that they are well protected; neither protruding nor deep set. They are of moderate size and oval shaped. The expression shows kindness as well as the intelligence of the hunting dogs. The desired colour is amber, therefore neither dark nor the light colour of the eye of the bird of prey; the eyelids are close fitting.

**Ears:** Not heavy. They are set on high; right from the set on hanging close to the head without any fold. Drawn forward they should reach as far as 3 fingers' breadth off the tip of the nose. They are broad at the set on, ending in a blunted point, being more pointed than the ears of the Long-haired German Pointing Dog. The outside of the ear covered with abundant wavy hair, not curly hair; the rim of the inside richly feathered.

**NECK:** Powerful, of medium length, rather short than long and forming a smooth line between head and body. A longer than desirable neck, giving a more elegant impression, but lacking in power, is objectionable. Dewlap or a throaty neck are untypical for the appearance of this dry, clean cut dog and are therefore inadmissible.

## **BODY:**

**Topline:** Smooth line from moderately long neck to the level back and loin, ending in the slightly sloping croup.

**Back:** Powerful, of medium length, not too short, giving together with the well angulated front-and hindquarters the impression of being elongated.

**Loin:** Strongly muscled.

**Croup:** Broad and long, slightly sloping.

**Chest:** Deep, reaching to the elbows and rather broad in front. A narrow chest not reaching to the elbows is very objectionable. Long drawn ribcage, with the hind ribs also well developed. Good spring of ribs, neither flat nor barrel shaped.

**Underline:** Only slightly tucked up.

**TAIL:** Not docked. Rather high set. In length the tail reaches the point of the hock. The first half carried hanging and the rest in a slight curve upwards. In action part of the tail is carried horizontally, the last part in a slight curve upwards. A characteristic of the breed is that when searching the game, the tail moves in a circle, especially when the dog picks up the scent of game. Never carried over the back. With exception of the very first part, rich feathering diminishing to the end of the tail.

## **LIMBS**

### **FOREQUARTERS:**

**Shoulders and upper arm:** Shoulder blade and upper arm long, forming a good angle, as well as between upper and forearm. The shoulders are well sloping seen from the front, well inserted into the body, giving a clean, smooth appearance to the forequarters.

**Elbow:** Close to the body, neither turned outwards nor inwards, so that there is no interference with movement.

**Forearm:** Straight and well muscled.

**Pastern joint:** Strong, with good bone.

**Pastern:** Neither turning in nor out, slightly sloping allowing some elastic spring.

**Forefeet:** Round or oval with tight, arched, strong toes and solid pads.

**HINDQUARTERS:** Well developed, broad and well muscled.

**Upper thigh and lower thigh:** The pelvic, upper and lower thigh bones form good angles with respect to each other. Seen from behind, the hindlegs are neither too close nor too wide apart, standing absolutely vertical.

**Hock joints:** Well let down.

**Hocks:** Short, neither turned in nor out.

**Hind feet:** Same as forefeet.

**GAIT/MOVEMENT:** Well extended, balanced with good reach and drive, neither narrow nor wide in trotting, without any swinging or turning sideways; neither elbows nor hocks turned out; with growing speed inclined to single tracking, i.e. all 4 legs converge more and more to the median line of the body.

## **COAT**

**HAIR:** Dense, well covering the body. Not curly-haired. The coat is not really long, but gives the impression as there is longer hair in different parts. On the neck and the forechest where some other breeds have a mane, the hair is longer; on the ears there is long, wavy hair. The ears, the backside of fore-and hindlegs, the back of the thighs and the tail are feathered. Feet with dense hair between the toes.

**COLOR:** White with brown or orange patches, possibly with tan markings, speckled or not speckled. Less desired, but still admissible is a mantle in these colours.

**SIZE: Height at the withers:** 55 to 63 cm. Some centimetres more are acceptable, if the dog is well proportioned.

**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.

**Note:** Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.