

**Standard proposal**

**WHITE TURKISH SHEPHERD DOG AKBASH**

*(Breed name in the country of origin)*

**ORIGIN:** Turkey

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE OFFICIAL VALID STANDARD:**

**UTILIZATION:** Shepherd dog and guard dog

**FCI CLASSIFICATION:** Group 2                      Pinschers and Schnauzers – Molossoid breeds  
–    Swiss Mountain and Cattle Dogs.

Section 2.2      Mountain type.

Without working trial.

**BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY:**

**GENERAL APPEARANCE:** powerful, square-shaped body allows for movement across difficult terrain for prolonged periods of time. Very durable dog. The coat is not long, but its thickness protects the dog from unfavorable weather conditions. Sturdy to rough constitution.

**IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS:** Head length is roughly 40% of height at withers. Skull length to muzzle ratio is ~ 60:40. Lines of nozzle and skull are diverging. Body format index is 104-110.

**BEHAVIOUR/TEMPERAMENT:** Of steady disposition. Fierce in guarding flock and property entrusted to him. Devoted to his master and very calm in his presence.

**HEAD**

**CRANIAL REGION:**

**Skull:** The skull is massive, length a bit greater than width. Slightly rounded, gradually narrowing towards the nozzle. Both occipital protuberance and forehead ridge are unobtrusive. Supra-orbital arches are clearly visible.

Stop: Visible, slightly pronounced.

#### FACIAL REGION:

Muzzle: Shorter than cranial region. Massive and powerful. Muzzle width ranges from 25.00 % to 30.00% of head length and depth ranges from 30.00% to 35.00% of head length. Must be wide with well-developed jaws. Slightly wedged shape, with bridge line gradually dropping towards the nose. Side lines are gently converging.

Nose: Black, with sufficiently wide nostrils, whose inside must have dark pigmentation. Nose should not be above or below the bridge.

Lips: Of moderate thickness, tight fitting to the jaws. Lower lips cannot be drooping and lip angle must be closed. The edge of the upper lip slightly crosses over the lower lip. Lip edges must be pigmented.

Jaws/Teeth: Both scissor and pincer bite are allowed. Teeth are powerful and set deep in the jawbone. Lack of P1 and M3 does not affect the score.

Eyes: Almond-shaped, never round. Not depressed nor protruding from the orbits. Eyelids must have dark pigmentation along the edge. Eyelids must fit tightly to the eyeball.

Ears: Set at a medium height, folded and pendant, triangular. Folding line must not be above the topmost line of the skull. Carried close to the cheeks. Fairly large, ear length is 45.00% to 50.00% of head length. Ears can be traditionally cropped in country of origin.

NECK: Of medium length, powerful, skin tight fitting, without dewlap, well-coated. Set-on angle to the body not greater than 30 degrees. Transition from the neck to the body should not be abrupt.

#### BODY:

General appearance: Powerful, balanced and well connected. Never stout or sluggish. The back line, looking from the withers to croup, is slightly sagging in the middle, descending from the withers and rising to the croup, and should never be straight. Midpoint of the back is 4-5% lower than the withers. It is a breed characteristics of these dogs to be built downhill. Rump is higher than the withers for 2%-4%.

Withers: Powerful, mildly pronounced. Transition to the neck is not sharp.

Back: Hard, well connected, not too long. Muscular. Should be as still as possible during motion.

Front section of the back: Powerful and well connected with the loins.

Loins: Powerful and muscular, well connected to the croup and rear section of the back- Fairly short, although it is acceptable that female loins are somewhat longer. Upper line of the loin is slightly convex, and the lower line is slightly tucked up. The stomach should never look like the one of sighthounds.

Croup: Medium to long, muscular. Croup length should be 26% to 35% of height at withers. Well connected to the loins. Croup angle is 25-35 degrees (measured from the horizontal line).

Ribcage: Spacious, never barrel-shaped. Strong ribs. Ribcage depth should be 40-45% of height at withers. Its circumference should be 105-120% of height at withers, and its width, measured behind the shoulder blades, should be 25-35% of height at withers.

Chest: Powerful, but not too wide. Width should be 20-25% of height at withers. Tip of the sternum should be at 65-70% of height at withers.

Underline and belly: Gradually ascending from the tip of the sternum towards the rear part of the body. Belly is slightly tucked up.

**TAIL**: Set on a medium height and is, visually, a continuation of the upper line of the body. Strong at the set and gradually narrowing towards the tip. When relaxed it is slightly hanging and reaches the hock joint, in movement or agitation can be carried higher, with some curve to it. It should not be carried erect, and if curved, it should not be carried on the side

## **LIMBS**

### **FOREQUARTERS**:

General appearance: Parallel to each other, strong, with lean muscles and powerful tendons. Elbow height should be 55-60% of height at withers. Boniness index should be 19-22.

Shoulder: Strong, of medium length. Shoulder angle is from 90.00 to 110 degrees. Fits snugly to the body.

Upper arm: Strong and muscular, fits snugly to the body. Left and right upper arms are parallel.

Lower arm: Of sufficient length, sinewy. Elbow angle is 110 to 135 degrees.

Brisket: Strong, well connected, lies in the extension of the vertical line falling from the lower arm.

Metacarpus (Pastern): forms an angle of 20-30 degrees with the vertical. Seen from the front, must be flat, parallel to each other.

Forefeet: Round, with strong toes that are coupled together. Nails pigmented darkly.

### **HINDQUARTERS**:

General appearance: Strong, parallel to each other. Must be elastic enough in motion.

Thighs: Parallel to each other and well-muscled. Length should be approx. 30% of height at withers. Knee angle should be 110-130 degrees.

Lower thigh: Sinewy, parallel to each other, of sufficient length.

Hock joint: Firm, well set. Hocks should be parallel to each other. Hock height should be 25-35% of height at withers. Hock angle should be 120-155 degrees.

Metatarsus (Rear pastern): Strong, but of sufficient elasticity to permit flexibility in motion. Its height depends on hock height.

Hind feet: Parallel to the longitudinal axis of the body, also, parallel to each other. More elongated than front paws. Nails darkly pigmented. Possible dewclaws.

**GAIT / MOVEMENT:** Walk is typical for slower movement, and trot for quick movement. Legs cover a lot of space in motion. Thrust from the rear legs must be strong and energetic. Back should not bend during motion. Typical gait is medium trot, which is least tiring to the dog.

**SKIN:** fits the body tightly. There should be no loose skin anywhere on the body except beneath the neck, where a slight fold is allowed. Skin must be pigmented. All visible mucous membranes must have black pigment.

### **COAT:**

Hair: Hair length should be from 4.00 cm to 7.00 cm. The body should be covered with thick topcoat and undercoat. Belly is not as hairy. Hair is slightly wavy. Hair on head and ear is short and thick. Hair on the underside of the tail can be somewhat longer

Colour: The only allowed color is white. Dogs must be completely white.

### **SIZE AND WEIGHT:**

Height at withers: In males ranges from 63.00 cm to 70.00 cm. Ideally, height at withers should be 67.00 cm. Height at withers in bitches ranges from 60.00 cm to 66.00 cm. Ideally, height at withers should be 63.00 cm.

**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.

### **SEVERE FAULTS:**

- Untypical expression
- Round, protruding eyes
- Erect ears
- Hair too short or too long
- Curly coat or bad texture.
- Yellow eyes.

- Different colour of eyes (heterochromatic).
- Cow hocked.

**DISQUALIFYING FAULTS:**

- Aggressive or overly shy dogs.
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified.
- Incompleted dental formula (absence of any tooth except the two third molars (M3) or the two first premolars (PM1s))
- Docked tail
- Height below minimum.
- Overshot or undershot bite.
- Albinism.
- Other coat colour than the above prescribed

**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.