

similar, with the Ibizan a little more flat muscled.

When you examine the forequarter assembly there are marked differences. The Pharaoh has a more angled upper arm. The elbow is set closer to the deeper part of the chest. Also, it is a little shorter than the long upper arm of the Ibizan.

The Ibizan front has a straighter upper arm, set well in front of the deepest part of the brisket. This does not mean it should drop straight from the point of the shoulder, which is a problem sometimes found in the breed. The Ibizan appears shallower because of the length of the upper arm and the slightly forward placement. The Ibizan's front assembly is unique to the breed.

The Pharaoh's topline is almost straight, slightly longer than his height. The barrel of the chest is well sprung. The slope to the tail is gentle. The tail is whiplike, with no feathering.

The Ibizan is only slightly longer, if at all, than he is tall. The back is level until it comes to the loin, which has a rise, and then it slopes off from the point of the hip bones, which are in evidence. The rib cage is flattened. The body is narrow without being weak looking. The tail is long and has some feathering; it is low set and can be carried in various ways, just not curled tightly or lying on the back.

The foot of the Pharaoh is in between the cat and the hare foot. The Ibizan has a longer hare-foot.

The gait of the Pharaoh is described as "free and flowing"; it is more of a pendulum trot. The Ibizan has a floating trot, with joint flexion. The suspended trot has the Ibizan suspended all feet off the ground at a certain point in the stride.

The Pharaoh has a glossy, fine, short coat, with no feathering. The short-haired Ibizan also has a glossy hard coat, but with more or less feathering on back of thighs and tail. The wirehaired Ibizan has a harsh, broken coat, ranging from quite short to several inches long, with face furnishing.

Type is in the details.

—Nan Kilgore Little, Gladstone, Va.;
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Irish Wolfhounds



The Closing of a Door

It cannot be helped; this lament for the passing of an era, when the printed pages of the AKC GAZETTE will be no more, leaving behind an archival history of purebred dogs.

There are collections on shelves to be picked out at random and reread, gravitating to old favorites, such as the beautiful *Life* magazine-size issues of the 1920s and 1930s. A history of dogs and their people,



and not just dogs, but a reflection of our times—of art, presidents, politics, medicine, clothing, business, morale,

wars, and heroes. All there among the pages of the GAZETTE.

It is time to reflect and be thankful for all those of the Wolfhound world who were willing to put down their thoughts and have served as columnists so that the rest of us could look forward to each issue to enjoy and be informed.

Many from the long-distant past, to name a few: Mrs. Norwood B. Smith, L.O. Starbuck, Alma Starbuck, Roy Fess, Gordon Graham, Jane Moir, Joel Samaha, Gretchen Bernardi, Jill Bregy, Ada B. Schreiner, Joan Suplee MacNamara, Cheryl Rice, Janeen Herring, Marcia Frankel, Betty Deemer, Frances Abrams, Yvonne Heskett, and for the past 17 years, myself.

It is said that when one door closes, another opens, and we can only wait and see what the future holds.

—Lois J. Thomasson, Salinas, Calif.;
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Norwegian Elkhounds



Breeding Purposes

There was an outbreak of distemper in the local humane shelter recently. When word got out that the dogs were being euthanized, local

breed-rescue groups acquired those of their breed, and people were encouraged to adopt dogs that seemed unaffected by the virus. The public was in an uproar, yet the problem is ongoing.

The only valid reason for breeding dogs is to perpetuate the breeds as they are precisely described in the accepted breed standards. The Norwegian Elkhound is no exception. Supplying puppies for pet shops and puppy mills or to make money is not an acceptable reason for breeding. Nor should conscientious breeders sell a puppy unless the buyer has an acceptable reason for wanting a Norwegian Elkhound.

It may take several years and a substantial amount of money to acquire specimen with the genetic basis for producing the aspired combination of traits as stated in the breed standard. Breeding an outstanding dam to an outstanding dog does not ensure outstanding offspring. However, breeding the same dam to a different dog, or the same dog to a different dam, may achieve the correct results. Breeding with discernment requires much time, money, and patience.

The Elkhound has few inherent genetic problems. If and when an obvious defect is apparent at whelping, however, a veterinarian can be of assistance. Physical deformities including dwarfism, mis-marked coats, and internal abnormalities are examples of flaws that may occur.



Surgical procedures performed by a veterinary specialist can correct some congenital disorders, and the dogs can appear normal. However, in such cases the underlying fault remains within that dog's genetic makeup. Dogs possessing the ill-contributing genes should not be used in a breeding program.

A breeder may sell an 8-week-old puppy as a pet if it is apparently not of show quality. However, buying an 8-week-old puppy as a sure show