



# Ibizan Hound Club of the United States



## Photo Illustration of our Standard

May 4, 2022 version





This booklet was prepared by the Judges Education Committee and members of the IHCUS in 2017, it was updated in May 2022 along with our Standard revision. Its purpose is as a handout for the Judges Education program and as a stand-alone educational resource for AKC Judges and Ibizan Hound breeders. All example pictures are of dogs who were no longer in competition at the time the presentation was created.

This Illustrated Standard contains photographs, drawings, and commentary to aid in understanding the Ibizan Hound AKC Standard.

Commentary will be in Arial typeset like this: The dogs were owned and used for hunting by the Pharaohs.

The Ibizan Hound AKC Standard is quoted often in the Illustrated Standard. When quoted it will be in Bold New Times Roman typeface like this: **Legs --The forearms are very long, strong, straight, and close...**

Most of the pictures were donated for use in education by IHCUS members, over the years. The Committee is grateful for those generous donations. Other pictures are being used with permission.

Many dogs are used as examples in this booklet and in the IHCUS Judges Education program. Most are used as positive examples of a particular feature. No dog is perfect, but these photos were chosen to illustrate a particular point and we hope they do that well.

This Photo Illustrated Standard is organized in the same order as the Judges Education presentation being used in 2022.

Please enjoy and learn from this booklet. If you have questions please contact an IHCUS Breed Mentor and ask questions. You can find the current list of IHCUS Breed Experts at [www.IHCUS.org](http://www.IHCUS.org).





## Table of Contents

<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>2</b>
Table of Contents .....	3
<b>Breed History</b> .....	<b>4</b>
Ancient History .....	4
Modern History .....	6
<b>Breed Character</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>Our Standard</b> .....	<b>10</b>
General Appearance .....	10
Size, Proportion, Substance .....	11
Neck, Topline, Body .....	13
Forequarters .....	14
Front Construction Summary .....	16
Hindquarters .....	19
Gait .....	21
Joint Flexion .....	23
Head .....	25
Ears .....	30
Coat .....	36
Color .....	38
Tail .....	40
Disqualification .....	42
Official Standard .....	43

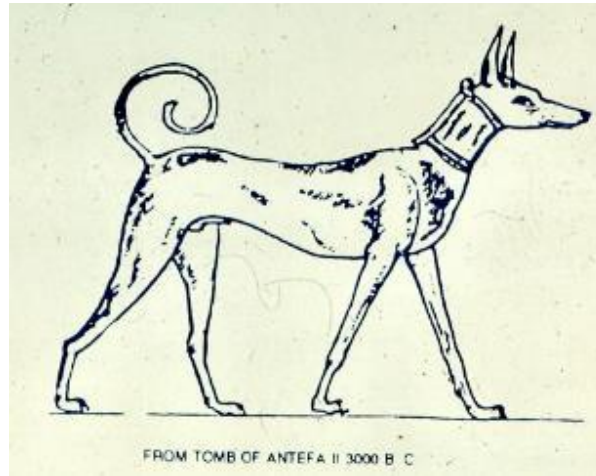


## Breed History

## Ancient History

The Ibizan Hound is traceable back to approximately 3400 BC. The dogs were owned and used for hunting by the Pharaohs. Numerous artifacts found in the tombs of the Pharaohs reinforce the existence of such a dog.

We can but surmise the movement of the breed from Egypt was by the Phoenician Sea traders into the Mediterranean. His existence in ancient Egypt is clear.



*“The red long tailed dog goes at night into the stalls of the hills, he is better than the long faced dog. He makes no delay in his hunting, his face glows like a God and he delights to do his work.”*

*(Translated from hieroglyphs)*

The “long faced dog” in the quote above is probably a Greyhound. The “glows like a God” statement has been taken as referring to Pharaoh Hound “blush”





**Wooden Anubis, about 4 feet long. ~500 BC, Houston Museum of Natural Science.**



From National Geographic 11/2009

## **Bound for Glory**

*Puzzle by Cathy Allis*

Ancient Egyptians' ties to animals (a scene on a sarcophagus is at left) extended even to the afterlife. Creatures were wrapped in linen or papyrus to serve as a human mummy's best friends. Read the animal mummies story on page 30. Then unravel the tinted clues.

It is clear that Pharaoh Hounds and Ibizans and the other Podenco breeds share much of this ancient history. Our breed's ancestors hunted in Egypt during the Pharaoh's times.

All the Podenco breeds, including the Ibizan, developed to their current type and hunting abilities in the isolated places that the Phoenician merchants and sailors deposited them across the Mediterranean Sea, long ago. So, each breed now reflects the hunting terrain and the canine needs of the people where they lived.



## Modern History

The tiny island of Ibiza, and the other Balearic Islands off the coast of Spain, is where the breed derives its name and is still used for hunting today. This breed has survived even the hard life that the island imposed on it. Only the fittest could survive, especially when food was scarce. The people there still use these dogs to assist in bringing meat to the table. In the United States Ibizans excel in open-field and Lure Coursing.

The island of Ibiza, now belonging to Spain was ruled and conquered by many: Egyptians, Chaldeans, Carthaginians, Romans, Vandals and Arabs. Roman coins bear the head of an Ibizan, and Hasdrubal once ruled this land. Conejera, a member of this Balearic grouping was the small island that claims historical fame by being the birthplace of Hannibal. Ibiza is now known for beautiful beaches and night clubs.



Malta the home of the Pharaoh Hound is near Sicily.

Colonel Seone and his wife Rhoda imported the first Ibizan Hounds (Hannibal and Certera) to the United States in 1956. They lived in the Washington D.C. area. The breed became eligible for AKC show competition on January 1st, 1979. Hannibal's type is consistent with current dogs.



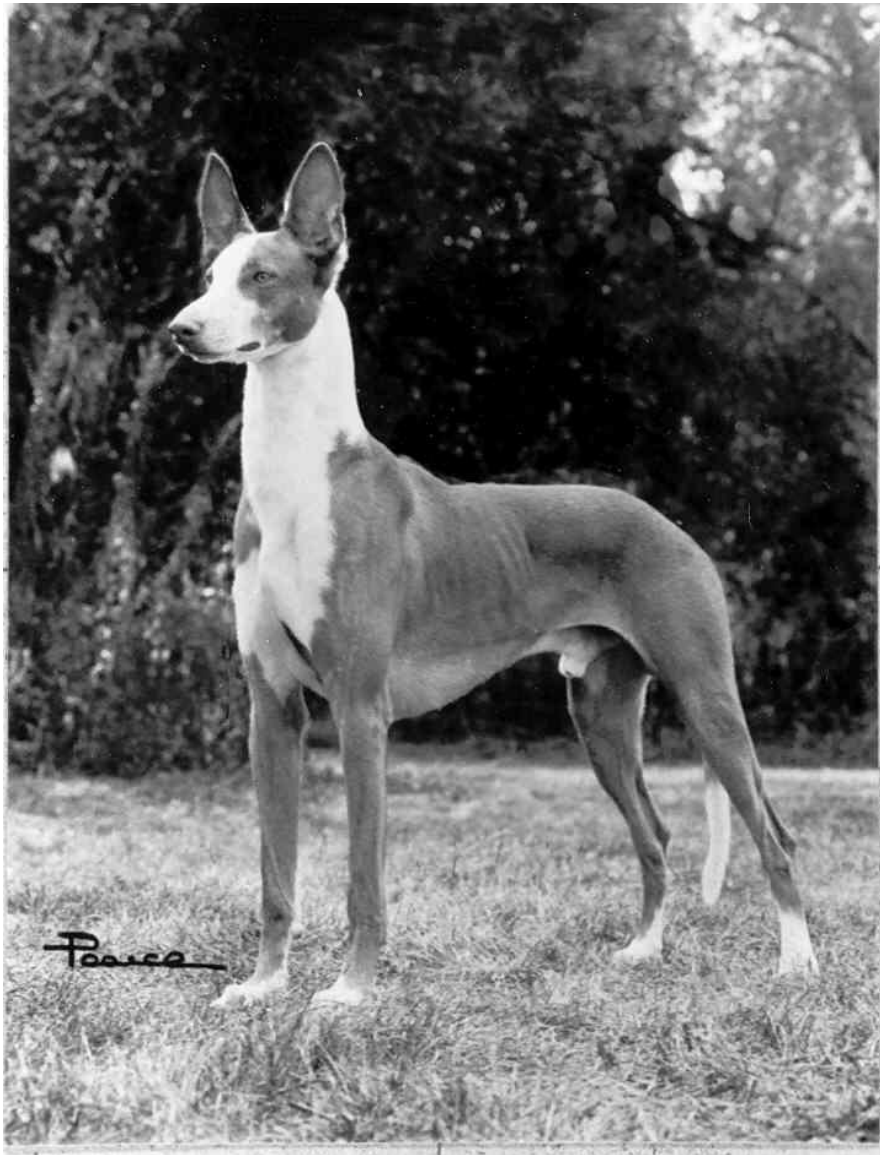
*Certera & Hannibal*



# Breed Character

## Unique...

With those large ears, amber eyes and a rosy flesh-colored nose the Ibizan Hound is unique even among the Sighthounds. Swift and agile hunters, Ibizan Hounds hunt by sight, scent, and hearing. The dogs you'll see in this presentation and in the show ring have the ability to go from the couch to the backyard, to the field and to the ring. To preserve their ancestral function as a hunter, a sound body is of particular importance to this breed.



Ibizans should be shown in hard running condition, like the dog in the picture. Some of his ribs and muscle definition are evident.





## ...the urge to chase

True hunters with great athleticism, the breed's traditional prey were rabbits living on the island of Ibiza. However, birds, lizards, squirrels, or any small game that moves will do just fine. Ibizan temperament allows them to hunt in teams while working with their owners. Our breed hunts high above the ground combining leaping, trotting, & galloping as part of the hunt. These two pictures (and videos which you can view on the IHCUS website) show our dogs hunting on Ibiza and Mallorca in the terrain where they were developed.



This a breed of extreme athleticism.

The video that goes with the pictures above is on our website: [IHCUS.org](http://IHCUS.org)







## Athleticism

Hunting, at play and in Open Field and Lure Coursing





## The Standard

**General Appearance:** The Ibizan's clean-cut lines, large prick ears and light pigment give it a unique appearance. A hunting dog whose quarry is primarily rabbits, this ancient hound was bred for thousands of years with function being of prime importance. Lithe and racy, the Ibizan possesses a deerlike elegance combined with the power of a hunter. Strong, without appearing heavily muscled, the Ibizan is a hound of moderation. With the exception of the ears, he should not appear extreme or exaggerated. In the field the Ibizan is as fast as top coursing breeds and without equal in agility, high jumping and broad jumping ability. He is able to spring to great heights from a standstill.



(In this presentation the Standard is usually quoted directly as it is above. Comments are in a different typeface, as below))

Large prick ears, lithe and racy with the power of a hunter. In the field, the Ibizan is without equal in terms of agility and can keep pace with the top speed breeds of equal size. The breed can spring to great heights from and standstill as well as leap to great heights or lengths from a standing position. Their use of 3 main senses, sight, smell, and hearing provide them with superior hunting abilities in the heaviest of brush







**Size, Proportion, Substance:**

**Size** - The height of dogs is 23½ to 27½ inches at the withers. Bitches are 22½ to 26 inches at the withers. There is no preference for size within this range. Sizes slightly over or under the norms are not to be regarded as demerits when other qualities are good. **Weight** - Average weight of dogs is 50 pounds; bitches, 45 pounds.



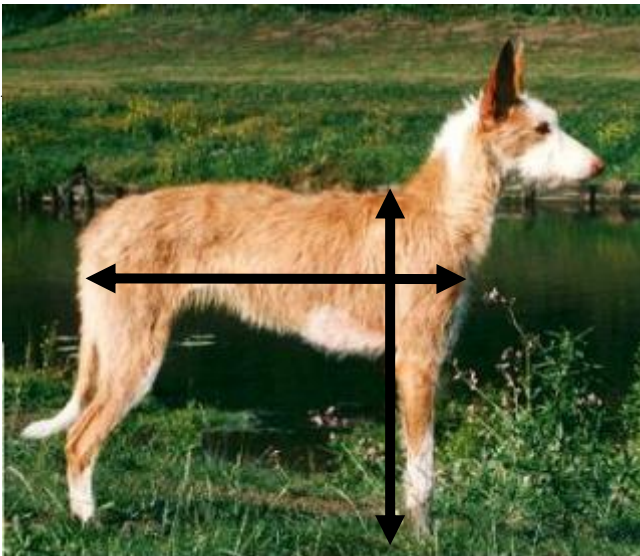
Most of the dogs & bitches you will judge are near the top of the ranges described; This is not preferred, just the way it is right now. Please remember that the full-size range (and slightly over & under) is equally acceptable.

We rarely see Ibizans near the bottom of the standard, but they are entirely acceptable. If you think an Ibizan is too small, its competition is probably too large. Exhibits much over standard might lose balance and therefore function. An Ibizan who is 2 inches or more over standard height clearly exceeds the “**slightly over**” allowance.

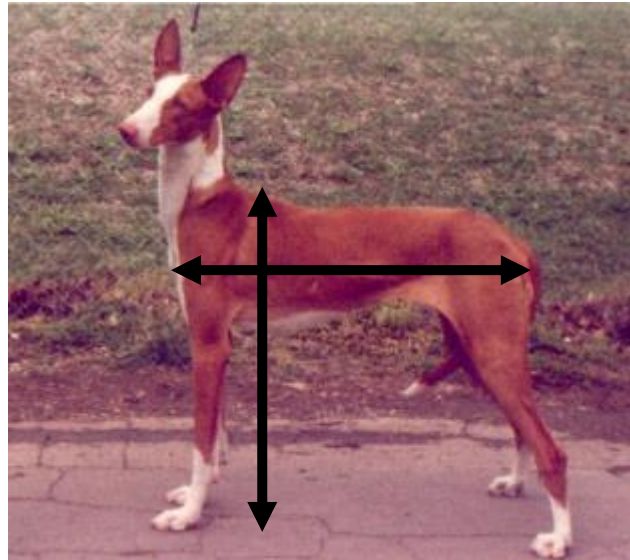


26 ½ inch tall dog, 22 ½ inch bitch





(This example 106.5%)



(This example 105%)

The Ibizan Hound is slightly longer than tall. (Measurements are taken from the highest point of the withers to the ground, and from the point of the shoulder to the point of the buttocks.)

We have seen Ibizans with great function ranging from nearly square (~102%) to longer than these examples (~112%). The rib cage should be long as compared to the loin. While long examples sometimes have weak topline, it is that weakness which is the real fault. Slightly longer dogs can gallop and trot well but the Ibizan should be athletic and strong throughout.

These characteristic proportions along with head carriage, topline shape and our special ears combine to create an easily recognized profile for the Ibizan Hound. Every good exhibit can be recognized as an Ibizan Hound by its profile.

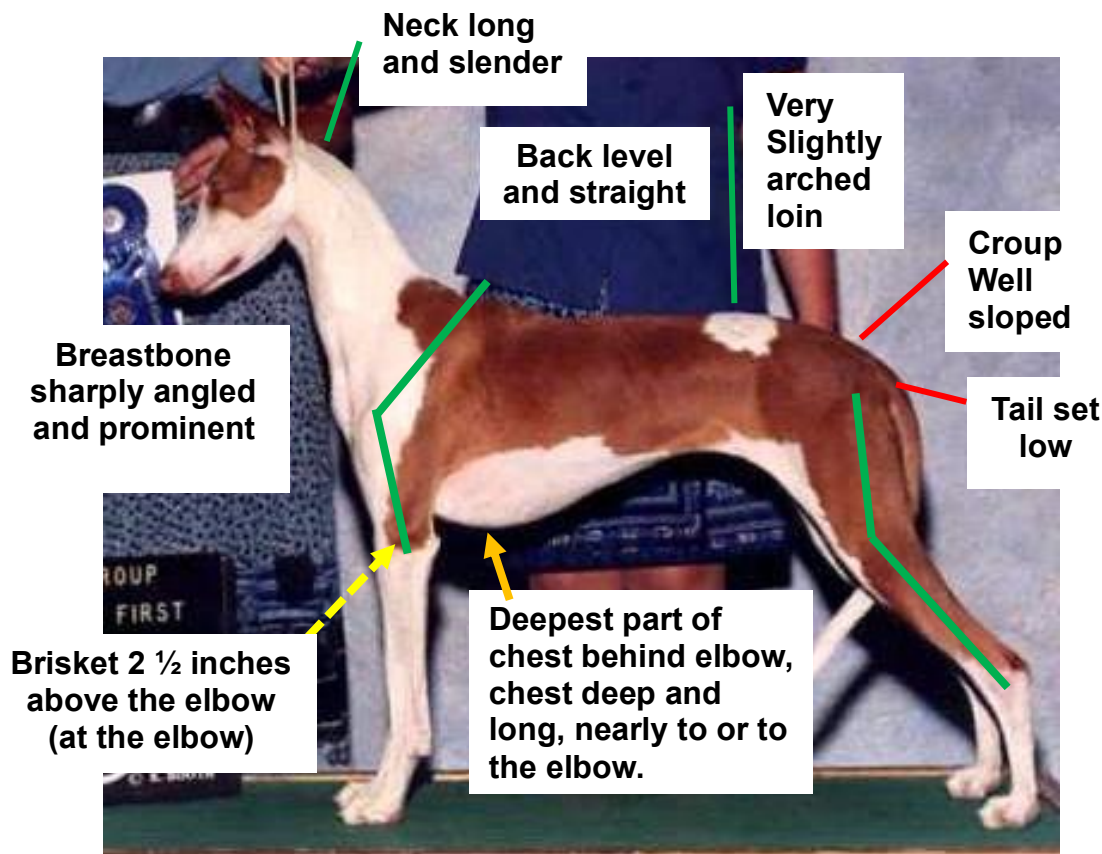
**Substance** - The Ibizan possesses clean, fine bone. The muscling is strong, yet flat, with no sign of heaviness.



Clean fine bone but not without sufficient substance and bone. Even these two young bitches (left photo) have good balanced substance. Bone must be felt on Wire coated examples.



**Neck, Topline, Body:** The *neck* is long, slender, slightly arched and strong, yet flat muscled. The *topline*, from ears to tail, is smooth and flowing. The back is level and straight. *Body* -The chest is deep and long with the breastbone sharply angled and prominent. The ribs are slightly sprung. The brisket is approximately 2½ inches above the elbow. The deepest part of the chest, behind the elbow, is nearly to or to the elbow. The abdomen is well tucked up, but not exaggerated. The loin is very slightly arched, of medium breadth and well muscled. The croup is well-sloped with bone structure visible. The *tail* is set low, highly mobile, and reaches at least to the hock. It is carried in a sickle, ring, or saber position, according to the mood and individual specimen.



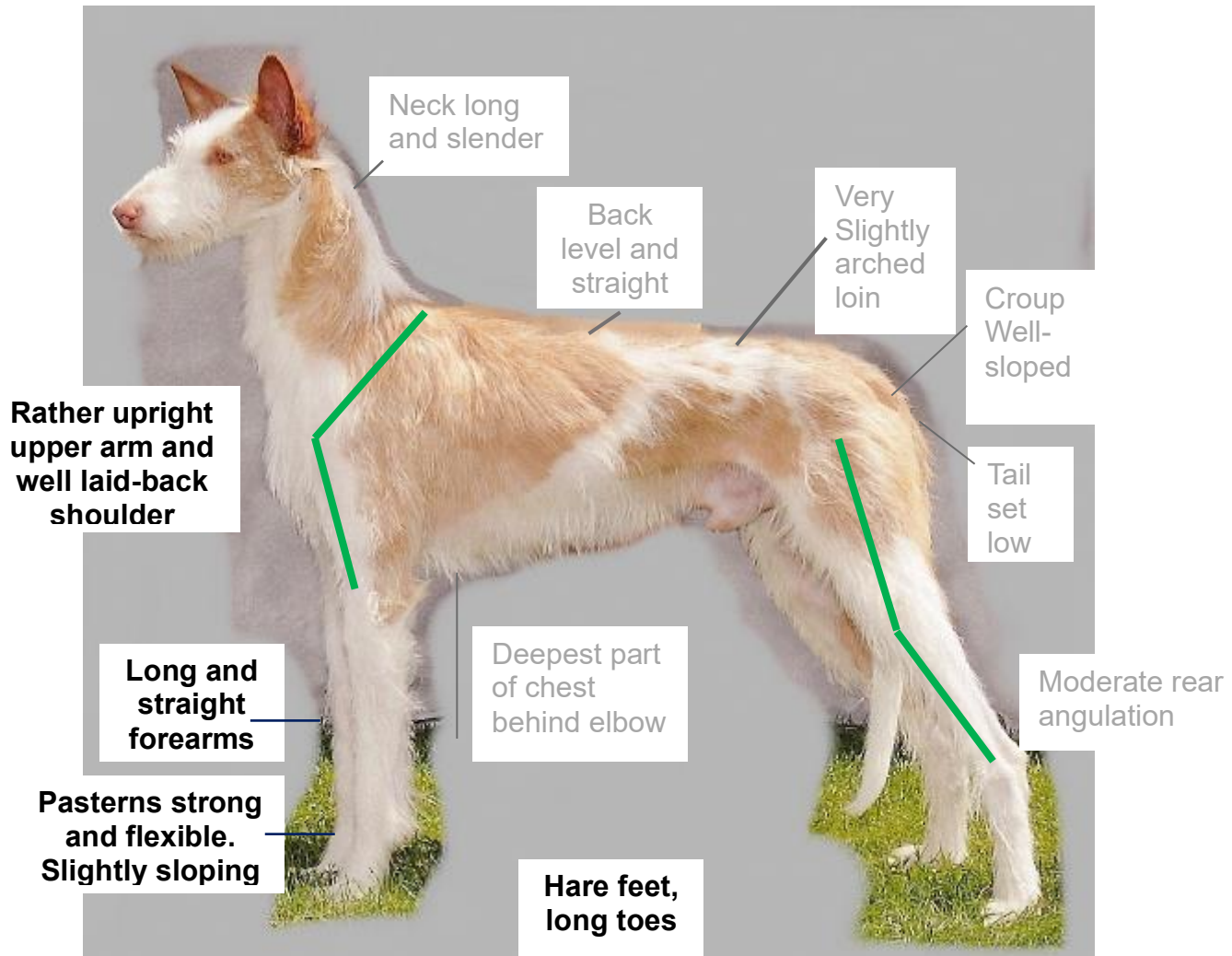
The back is level and straight. There is a flowing line from the slightly arched neck into the topline. You should be able to feel prominent hip bones in the transition from the loin to the croup. In order to “**spring to great heights from a standstill**” and have a “**tail ... set low**” a well-sloped croup is required. For Ibizans a 25 to 30 degree slope is typical and correct.

Note the typical sharply angled and prominent breastbone. Our “**brisket 2 ½ inches above the elbow**”, at the elbow, does not imply an empty front, the sternum is prominent. Angles are evident on our dogs—sharply angled & prominent—we have some sharp points. This is not a breed where one might say “I love the smooth lines” (except perhaps coming down the neck into the topline). The back is a short span. The Ibizan Hound needs room for lungs & heart, hence the “long” chest, so herring gutted is not desirable (“**well tucked up, but not exaggerated**”).



**Forequarters:**

*Angulation* is moderate. The *shoulders* are elastic but never loose with moderate breadth at the withers. The shoulder blades are well laid back. At the *point of the shoulder* they join to a rather upright *upper arm*. The *elbow* is positioned in front of the deepest part of the chest. It is well held in but not so much as to restrict movement.



Key to understanding the Ibizan Hound is its unique front construction and the characteristic movement style, both of which define important type features in the breed.

The rather upright upper arm sets the front assembly forward to enhance the breed's amazing agility and turn-on-a-dime ability. The deepest part of the chest is behind the elbow, since the elbow has been placed forward by the rather upright upper arm.

The well laid-back shoulder provides needed reach to this type of front. This is an unusual front assembly, and the combination of the rather upright upper arm and laid-back shoulder is an essential aspect for proper front lift and reach.





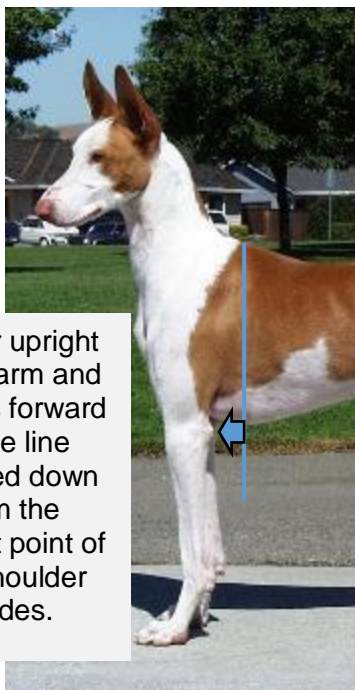
## Ibizans have a unique front!

In breed standard after breed standard forequarters are described as a well-laid back shoulder connected to a well angulated upper arm. Familiar phrases include: an upper arm which places the “elbows well under” the dog (Irish Wolfhound Standard, similar words in the Rottweiler standard), and an upper arm “placed so that the elbow falls directly under the withers” (Whippet Standard, similar words in the Pointer Standard).

Our Ibizan Standard is different. It calls for “**shoulder blades ... well laid back... join(ed) to a rather upright upper arm**”. Shoulder Blade angulation is **not** matched by the return of the Upper Arm. Therefore, the elbow is correctly placed in front of a line dropped from the highest point of the shoulder blades and the deepest part of the chest is behind the elbow.

### From Neck, Topline, Body section:

**The brisket is approximately 2-1/2 inches above the elbow. The deepest part of the chest, behind the elbow, is nearly to or to the elbow.**



Rather upright upper arm and Elbows forward of the line dropped down from the highest point of the shoulder blades.



At the elbow, the brisket is about 2 1/2 inches above the elbow

With the elbows in front of the deepest part of the chest, at the elbows the brisket is above the level of the elbows (approximately 2 ½ inches above).

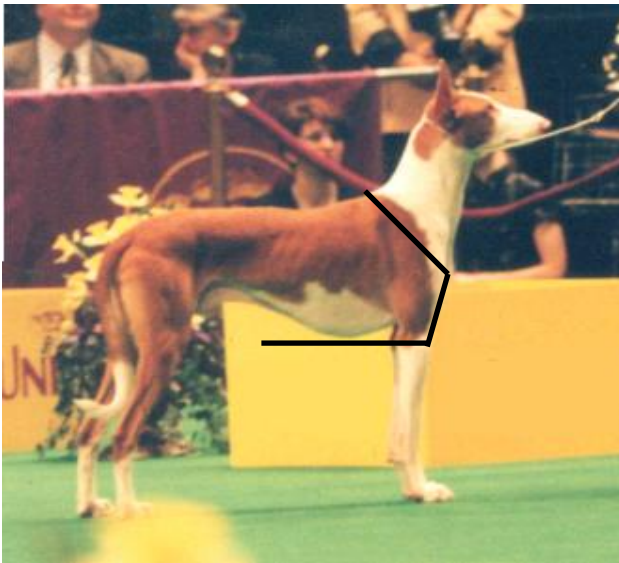
How deep “**nearly to or to the elbow**” for the full depth of the chest is a matter for interpretation. The Ibizan’s chest should not be deeper than the level of the elbows. At or within an inch or two above the elbow is generally acceptable. The reason for the rather deeper extreme (at the elbow) is good room for heart and lung. The reason for a rather shallower chest (up to an inch or 2 inches above the elbow) is optimum flexibility. In all cases the chest rises from the deepest point to the prominent sternum and when it passes the elbows it should be “**approximately 2-1/2 inches above the elbow**”. The chest should not be too broad as to impede flexibility in the front, needed when hunting.



A critical function of the Ibizan Hound is his aerial agility. To achieve this, the Ibizan will compress and spring vertically, gaze for game, and whilst still in the air, twist to land safely and in the line of quarry. A barrel shaped front would interfere with that function, as would depth of brisket exceeding the elbow. Take heed that the proper Ibizan Hound front assembly is truly unique - unlike any other breed: Besides the rather upright shoulder assembly as described, and the brisket curve at about 2-1/2" above the elbow, the Ibizan Hound front needs a triangle of daylight between the elbow and the depth of brisket. An Ibizan Hound without this triangle of daylight is incapable of performing its function over time.

The rather upright upper arm results in a gait with front lift as well as good reach. Our current standard describes this as **"A suspended trot with joint flexion when viewed from the side."** More about the desired gait later.

## Front Construction Summary



**"The brisket is approximately 2-1/2 inches above the elbow. The deepest part of the chest, behind the elbow, is nearly to or to the elbow."**

**"The shoulder blades are well laid back.**

**At the point of the shoulder they join to a rather upright upper arm. The elbow is positioned in front of the deepest part of the chest. "**

The words quoted above are consistent and from different paragraphs in the standard.

- At the elbow, the chest is approximately 2 ½ inches above.
- Behind the elbow the chest is nearly at the level of the elbow.
- Again, this is the result of the relatively upright upper arm joined to a well laid back shoulder.
- The desired gait **"with joint flexion"** is due to this front.



## Front angulation faults

### Inverted Angulation in Front



These fronts are so upright in upper arm they appear inverted. This does not characterize “rather upright” and is faulty.





### Forequarters (continued)

**Legs --The forearms are very long, strong, straight, and close, lying flat on the chest and continuing in a straight line to the ground. Bone is clean and fine. The *pasterns* are strong and flexible, slightly sloping, with well developed tendons. *Dewclaw* removal is optional. *Feet*: hare-foot. The toes are long, closed and very strong. Interdigital spaces are well protected by hair. Pads are durable. Nails are white or red.**



These are all good examples of “**very long, strong**” forearms, “**flexible, slightly sloping**” pasterns and hare feet. In the hare foot the second joint is long, and the foot is therefore oval rather than round. Hare feet are not flat, but rather well built as seen in the above pictures.

Good straight forearms, strong flexible pasterns and well-built feet are generally not a problem in our athletic breed. There is some tendency towards rounder cat-feet, and this should be guarded against.

Dewclaws removal is entirely optional. Some feel that dewclaws are functional in the field.

“**Nails are white or red**“. More often white but on red feet (and sometimes on white feet) red nails are seen and are OK.

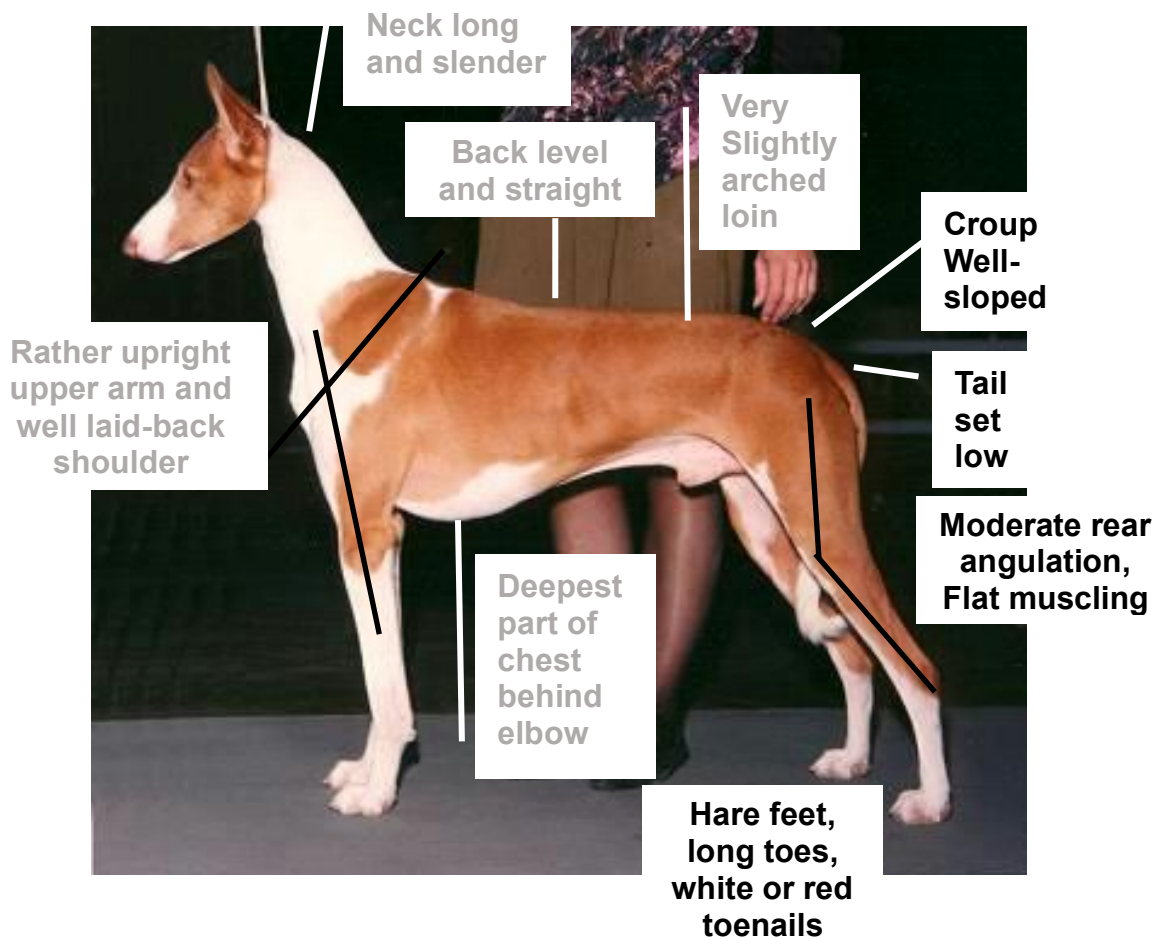
As with all color issues on Ibizans, the nails are never black, liver, or grey, they are white or red only.





## Hindquarters

**Angulation** is moderate with the hindquarters being set under the body. **Legs**--The thighs are very strong with flat muscling. The hocks are straight when viewed from the rear. Bone is clean and fine. There are no rear dewclaws. The **feet** are as in front.



A moderately angulated rear combined with strong thigh muscling enables the Ibizan Hound to spring to great heights, part of the Ibizan's hunting arsenal. The Ibizan Hound's flat muscles can extend and stretch. Hindquarters "**set under the body**" (especially when standing naturally) help with jumping ability. Our standard asks for a dog who can "**jump to great heights from a standstill**". The Ibizan Hound can jump six to eight feet straight up.

Over-angulated rears overdrive the dog forward and are inconsistent with vertical spring and leaping ability; they are undesirable.



Property of IHCUS

In a natural stance, our moderate angulation and well-sloped croup places the hindquarters under the body. There is an acceptable and functional range but moderation is desired. Note that in most of these examples the croup's bone structure is visible. This what we mean by "**bone structure visible**" in the croup description.



These are in the acceptable range of rear angulation. Feet, front and rear are hare-footed.

## Proper Angulation & Balance ...with allowable variations



These examples all have good angles, proportion, strong flexible pasterns, and balance. Also visible in a few of these is the prominent sternum called for in our standard.





## Gait

An efficient, light and graceful single tracking movement. A suspended trot with joint flexion when viewed from the side. The Ibizan exhibits smooth reach in front with balanced rear drive, giving the appearance of skimming over the ground.

## Front:



We want clean front movement, our lifting (“**with joint flexion**”) front is not an excuse for lack of soundness. As with any long legged breed, single-tracking is evident at a quickened pace.

The dog’s left leg lifts in first gait photo, shows the next phase of lift in the next photo, is placed down in full extension in the next photo and then the cycle repeats with his right leg lifting. The entire time the elbows are held close to the body, although not too close as to restrict movement.



## Rear: Standing and Moving



As with the front, we expect regular, show dog sound movement in the rear. Because the Ibizan Hound single-tracks at a quickened pace, the hocks may appear to move somewhat close together. However, the hocks should move straight, never turning in or out, and they should never touch or move around each other. Well developed, flat muscling should be evident both moving and standing in the dog's rear.

Although as a Sighthound the Ibizan gallops and leaps in hunting, the trot is an important reconnaissance and endurance gait for the breed as well. The desired front lift ("**joint flexion**") occurs as part of balanced side movement with effective front reach and rear drive.



### Gait

**An efficient, light and graceful single tracking movement. A suspended trot with joint flexion when viewed from the side. The Ibizan exhibits smooth reach in front with balanced rear drive, giving the appearance of skimming over the ground.**

Most key to understanding the Ibizan Hound is its gait.

Our standard describes a unique front construction with a **“rather upright upper arm”** and this results in a unique front movement style. The Ibizan Hound trots and gallops with front lift. This is distinct from ground skimming front movement which is proper and desired in Greyhounds, Whippets and Pharaoh Hounds. The rough terrain and bushy vegetation on Ibiza favors the hunter who trots and gallops with lift and can leap. You saw some pictures of this earlier. Videos showing this hunting style on Ibiza and Mallorca can be found at [www.IHCUS.org](http://www.IHCUS.org).

Judges can evaluate proper movement type in Ibizan Hounds by watching for **“joint flexion”** evidenced in the side gait in the ring. This is not restricted or hackneyed movement, it is the action that the Ibizan uses in the front to achieve smooth reach.



Lift prior to footfall



Full extension after lift



Full extension and footfall

Ibizan Hound movement is a light, graceful, efficient single-tracking movement. The movement displays good balanced reach and drive. Wording in a previous Standard called for “lift” the current standard describes this as **“joint flexion”**. Proper movement exhibits a break at the wrist in the front along with good reach and efficient drive

...lift

...reach

...drive



This lifting movement is a direct consequence of our unusual front construction. It is a key difference between Ibizan Hound and Pharaoh Hound movement. Correct Pharaoh movement is in the manner of Whippets and Greyhounds, pure reach without any lift (no joint flexion desired).





Property of IHCUS

Here and above are various phases of the “**Joint Flexion**” we want in proper Ibizan Hound side movement. This is not restricted or hackneyed, it is the action that the Ibizan uses in the front to achieve proper balanced reach, often out front as far as the dog’s nose.





## Head:

**Head: Long and narrow in the form of a sharp cone truncated at its base. Finely chiseled and extremely dry fleshed.**

This and the next several pages show many excellent heads, varying in the details of style.

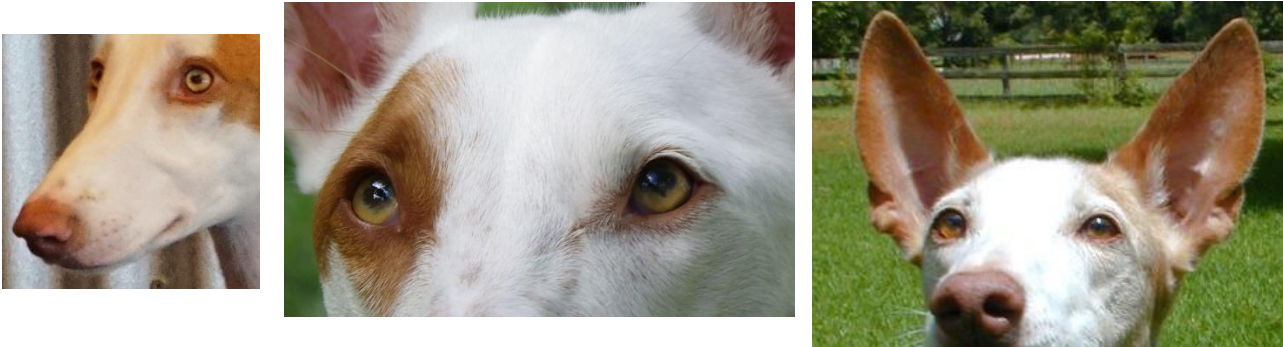






**Expression:** The Ibizan has an elegant, deer-like look. The eyes are oblique and small, ranging in color from clear amber to caramel. The rims are the color of the nose and are fully or partially pigmented. The appearance of the eye is intelligent, alert and inquisitive.

Eyes “**Clear amber to caramel**” in color. This is a feature which certainly contributes to the Ibizan Hound’s unique look. Eyes darken with age, so puppies may have lighter amber eyes, veteran’s eyes will be darker caramel. Adult (i.e. showable ages) eye color which verges over to green or yellow-green is undesirable.



Eye color ranging from: “**Clear amber to caramel**”

**Skull-** Long and flat, prominent occipital bone, little defined stop; narrow brow.

The *muzzle* is elongated, fine, and slender with a very slight Roman convex. The length from the eyes to point of nose is equal to the distance from eyes to occiput. The muzzle and skull are on parallel planes. The nose is prominent, extending beyond the lower jaw. It is of a rosy flesh color, never black or liver, and tends to harmonize with that of the coat. Pigment is solid or butterfly. Any pigment color which is not as described is a disqualification.

Nostrils are open. Lips are thin and tight and the color of the nose. Flews are tight and dry fleshed. Bite-- The teeth are perfectly opposed in a scissors bite; strong and well set.







Property of IHCUS

Pigment and nose color is never black, there is no black pigment in the breed and judges must disqualify any pigment which is not of “**a rosy flesh color**”. Some of the Podenco breeds have black or gray pigment. Black pigment in an Ibizan Hound indicates either mixed heritage or an undesirable mutation. Ibizan Hound pigment is “**never black or liver**” or grey or anything other than “**a rosy flesh color**”.



On the left is a **Portuguese Podengo Grande** with a smooth coat. At first glance he just seems like an Ibizan with a coarse foreface. However, his eye rim and nose pigment is grey/black not our desired **rosy flesh** color. He is not an Ibizan Hound.

This is our **rosy flesh** color  
And can be solid (as shown)  
or butterfly:



Nose pigment can be butterfly (or broken) and incomplete eye rim fill is also allowed.

Below are all nice (wire) heads!

It may be necessary to be more “hands on” in your evaluation of wire hair covered heads.





**“Long, Narrow, finely chiseled” “Long and flat” “little defined stop”  
“Elongated Muzzle” “Dry Fleshed”**

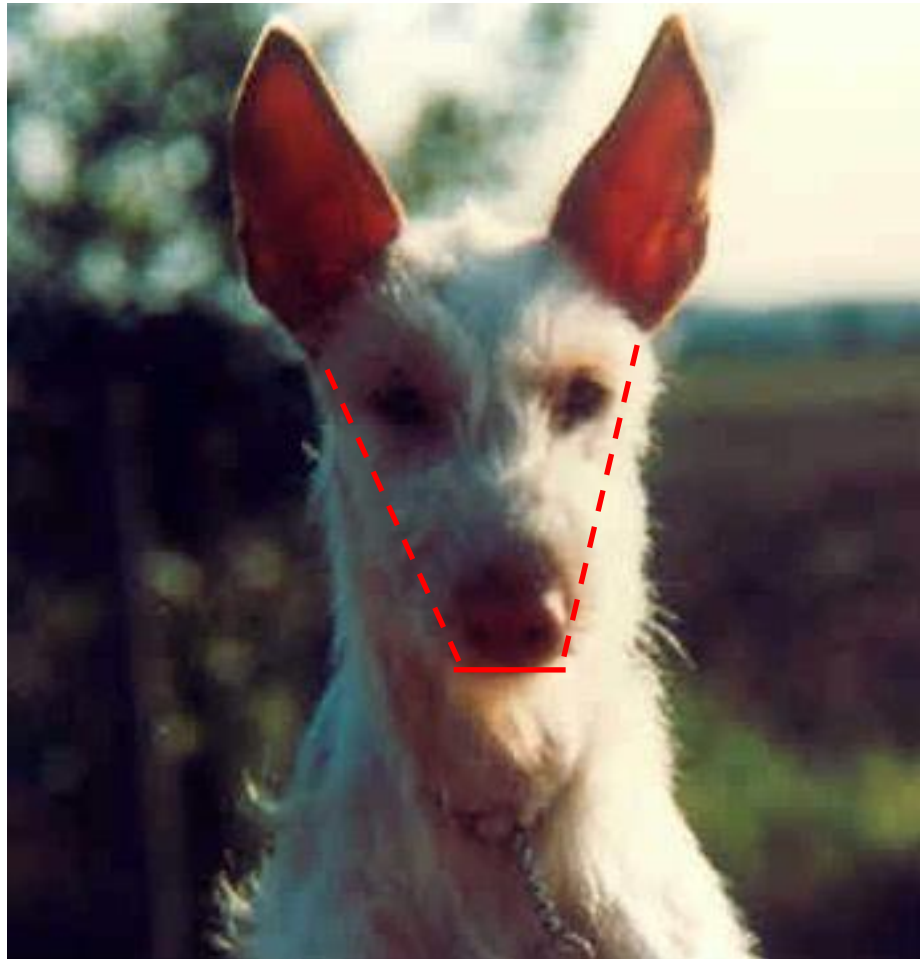
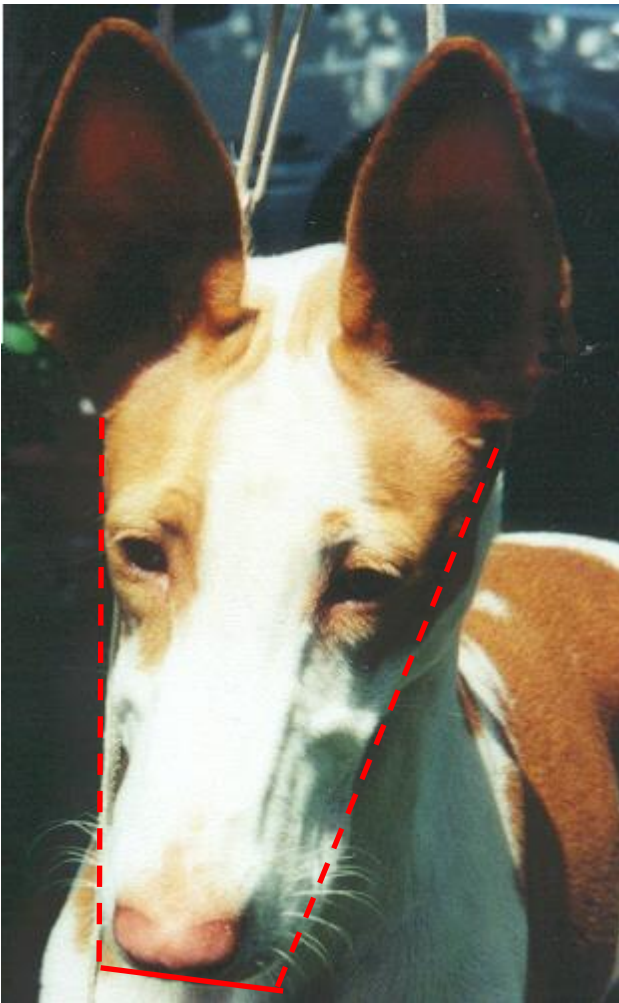
**ALL NICE HEADS  
(smooths)**





## Head

**Long and narrow in the form of a sharp cone truncated at its base. Finely chiseled and extremely dry fleshed.**



The description of a “**sharp cone truncated at its base**” suggests that some muzzle strength should be present out to the end of the slender muzzle, not coming to a point. Also, that the head does not broaden too much under the backskull. Function is the important guiding factor.

You'll have to use your hands to evaluate heads on Wires.

The Pharaoh Hound asks for a “blunt wedge” comparatively broader in backskull than an Ibizan.





The ears are large, pointed, and natural. On alert the ear should never droop, bend, or crease. The ears are more wide open than just a tall triangle. The inner edge of each ear is not a straight line but has an obtuse angle or curve between the base and tip which gives the ear a slight inside corner. The overall shape resembles an elongated geometric rhomboid with its bottom third cut-off. Highly mobile, the ear can point forward, sideways, or be folded backward, according to mood. On alert, the lowest point of the base is at level of the eye. Ears that do not show the ability to be erect are a serious fault. On alert, the lowest point of the base is at level of the eye so the ears are positioned above the eyes, neither off the side of the head nor too high set and coming close to each other.

On frontal examination, the height of the ear is approximately 2½ times that of the widest point of the base.



The ears should be large in proportion to the head. Height 2 ½ times the rather broad width at the base is a large ear! The illusion is that of a deer. An Ibizan Hound should not be expected to hold its ears erect at all times. Think about a horse who defines his moods by the use of his ears.

Are these the Hallmark of our breed? **Yes, but not alone.** While the ears are the first thing people notice, overall expression, movement type, our characteristic outline in profile and athleticism are also key breed characteristics.

***Too many judges make Ibizan Hound judging into a contest of who can hold their ears up the longest. This is not good judging and it does our breed a disservice.***

Ear shape, position, and carriage should be evaluated during the judging, but it is not nearly the only thing.



Property of IHCUS

We want a wide open ear, as opposed to a strictly triangular one. We have described the ear shape in three consistent ways:

- 1) Descriptively: **“more wide open than just a tall triangle”**
- 2) By the shape of the inner edge: **“The inner edge of each ear is not a straight line but has an obtuse angle or curve between the base and tip which gives the ear a slight inside corner.”** And
- 3) Geometrically: **“The overall shape resembles an elongated geometric rhomboid with its bottom third cut-off.”**

The erect position should be high on the head, pointing skyward rather than outward. Even for puppies the erect ears should not touch in the middle.

These examples are all GREAT ears:



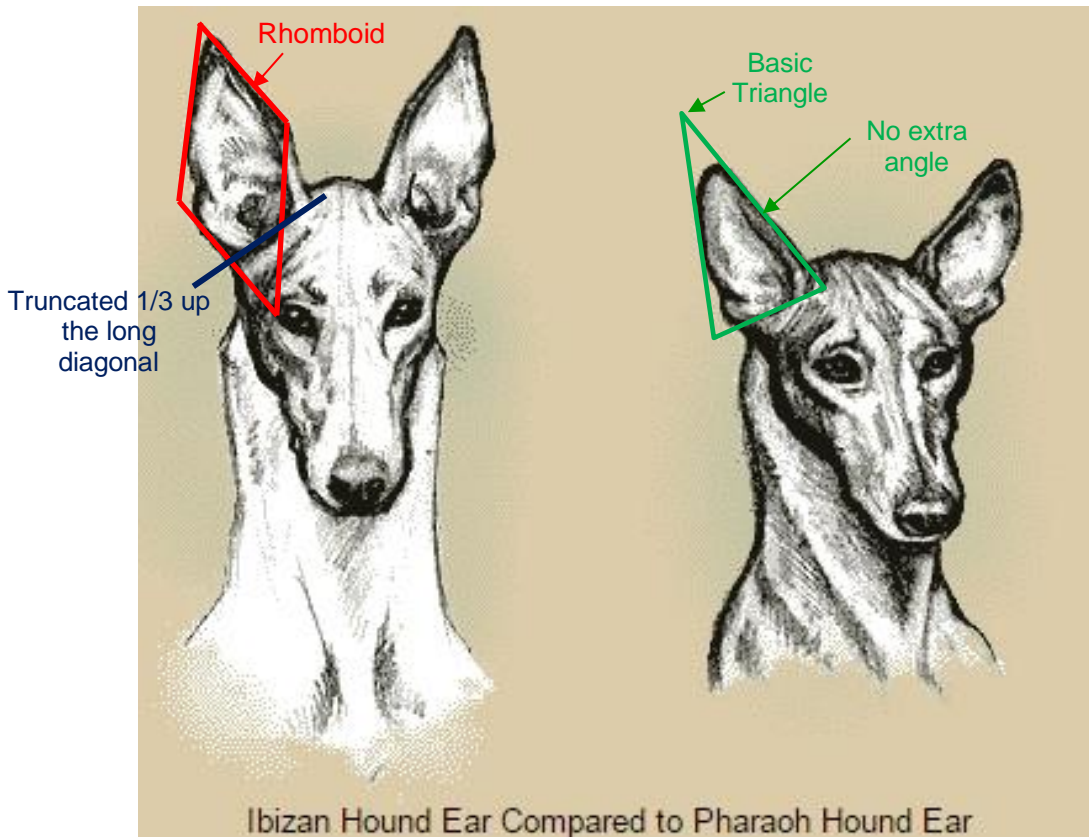


A previous version of our standard was quite specific in this geometric description of the desired ear:

“in the form of an enlarged rhomboid truncated at a third of its longer diagonal.” -1978 Standard

A rhomboid is:

**rhomboid**  
*n.* 1) An oblique angled parallelogram  
with only the opposite sides equal.  
(The American College Dictionary, Random House, 1966)







As extreme as this geometric explanation seems, comparing this shape to the great ears shown in the pictures above and below shows that it is an important breed type trait.

Note that these examples are “**more wide open**” than a triangle and have a “**curve**” between the base and the tip of the inner edge.

Dogs whose ears are never erect **should not** be rewarded. “**Ears that do not show the ability to be erect are a serious fault**”. By six months of age the ears should be developed, so young show dogs should be able to put their ears up at least once during the judging. Since the standard describes “**highly mobile**” ears that can be folded backwards remember that you only need to see the ears erect once during the judging.

Please don't turn Ibizan Hound judging into a contest to see which one can concentrate on a piece of bait or a squeaky toy the longest time!





Good  
Ears



**BAD**  
**EARS!!!**

Ears that are permanently Rose (like a greyhound), that never come up, that have permanent crinkles, that are tipped over or that are hanging limp “**do not show the ability to be erect**” which is a serious fault. Age is not an excuse. In the unlikely case that these are all you have in an entry, you should withhold awards based on this serious fault.





On the other hand, it is entirely normal for a dog to put perfectly good ears down sometimes, even sometimes when the judge is looking.





**Coat:**

**There are two types of coat; both untrimmed.**

**Short--shortest on head and ears and longest at back of the thighs and under the tail.**

**Wire-haired can be from one to three inches in length on all or part of the body with a possible generous moustache.**

**Both types of coat are hard in texture and neither coat is preferable to the other.**

Short:



Wire-haired:



Wire-haired:



The various coats and allowable colors are all equally correct. One to three inch length allowance for the wire coat is a large range and makes for different appearance, all equally correct.

In the United States we cross breed smooth and wire Iberian Hounds to keep the breed as one breed. Neither coat is dominant nor recessive so we can get a less profuse heterozygous coat (a broken coat) with some areas more profuse than others. This coat is acceptable as it meets the 1 to 3 inch description in the wire-haired standard. Examples of all coats can occur in the same litters. All of the coats and their variations are equally functional.



**Both types of coat are hard in texture and neither coat is preferable to the other.**



The hard coat is designed to protect the dog from harsh vegetation while hunting. The hard wire coat, unlike a soft coat, tends to break off instead of catching and snagging in the brush-covered terrain of Ibiza.



We are one breed in two coats and any red & white color pattern





**Color:**

**White or red, (from light, yellowish-red called "lion" to deep red), solid or in any combination. No color or pattern is preferable to the other.**

*Disqualify any color other than white or red.*



Colors may be solid or combined, and the pattern may be in any combination of red and white. All patterns are equally acceptable. Lion has become rarely seen but various shades of lighter or darker red are all OK (as is white).







Property of IHCUS

Whites may be unmarked or marked with lion, light red or dark red. Reds may have distinctive white markings or not. Solid reds (as in a Pharaoh Hound) are perfectly acceptable. No color or pattern (or allowable coat variety) is preferable.

***Disqualify any color other than white or red and any pigment color which is not as described.***

There is no black hair, black nose or black pigment in Ibizan Hounds and its presence indicates that the dog may not be pure bred. It and any other undescribed pigment or coat color should be disqualified.





**Tail:** The *tail* is set low, highly mobile, and reaches at least to the hock. It is carried in a sickle, ring, or saber position, according to the mood and individual specimen.

**Ring:** This type of tail curves in a circular fashion. It can be held low, or it can be held up over the back.



**Sickle:** This tail is carried over the back in a loose semi-circular fashion.







**Sabre:** This tail can be carried either up or down in a slightly curved fashion.



Tail position is quite variable. All of these tail carriages are equally correct, and no one type of carriage is preferable to the other.

**Not preferred:**  
A tail that curls over the back and rests below the topline. Or a ring which goes around more than once.







## Disqualification

**Any color other than white or red and any pigment color which is not as described.**

There is no black (or liver) nose or black pigment in Ibizan Hounds and its presence indicates that the dog may not be a pure bred Ibizan Hound. It and any other undescribed pigment color (Blue, liver, other) should be disqualified.



(Examples shown are Podenco Canarios and Portuguese Podengo Medio and Grande )

There is no Black or Blue in Ibizan Hounds.  
Color or pigment other than as described should be disqualified.



The Standard used in this presentation was approved May 4, 2022

**Review the AKC Ibizan Hound Breed Standard for a complete description of the breed.**

**General Appearance:** The Ibizan's clean-cut lines, large prick ears and light pigment give it a unique appearance. A hunting dog whose quarry is primarily rabbits, this ancient hound was bred for thousands of years with function being of prime importance. Lithe and racy, the Ibizan possesses a deerlike elegance combined with the power of a hunter. Strong, without appearing heavily muscled, the Ibizan is a hound of moderation. With the exception of the ears, he should not appear extreme or exaggerated. In the field the Ibizan is as fast as top coursing breeds and without equal in agility, high jumping and broad jumping ability. He is able to spring to great heights from a standstill.

**Size, Proportion, Substance:** *Size* - The height of dogs is 23½ to 27½ inches at the withers. Bitches are 22½ to 26 inches at the withers. There is no preference for size within this range. Sizes slightly over or under the norms are not to be regarded as demerits when other qualities are good. *Weight* - Average weight of dogs is 50 pounds; bitches, 45 pounds. *Proportion* - Slightly longer than tall. *Substance* - The Ibizan possesses clean, fine bone. The muscling is strong, yet flat, with no sign of heaviness.

**Head:** Long and narrow in the form of a sharp cone truncated at its base. Finely chiseled and extremely dry fleshed. *Expression* - The Ibizan has an elegant, deer-like look. The *eyes* are oblique and small, ranging in color from clear amber to caramel. The rims are the color of the nose and are fully or partially pigmented. The appearance of the eye is intelligent, alert and inquisitive. The *ears* are large, pointed, and natural. On alert the ear should never droop, bend, or crease. The ears are more wide open than just a tall triangle. The inner edge of each ear is not a straight line but has an obtuse angle or curve between the base and tip which gives the ear a slight inside corner. The overall shape resembles an elongated geometric rhomboid with its bottom third cut-off. Highly mobile, the ear can point forward, sideways, or be folded backward, according to mood. Ears that do not show the ability to be erect are a serious fault. On alert, the lowest point of the base is at level of the eye so the ears are positioned above the eyes, neither off the side of the head nor too high set and coming close to each other. On frontal examination, the height of the ear is approximately 2½ times that of the widest point of the base. *Skull* - Long and flat, prominent occipital bone, little defined stop; narrow brow. The *muzzle* is elongated, fine, and slender with a very slight Roman convex. The length from the eyes to point of nose is equal to the distance from eyes to occiput. The muzzle and skull are on parallel planes. The nose is prominent, extending beyond the lower jaw. It is of a rosy flesh color, never black or liver, and tends to harmonize with that of the coat. Pigment is solid or butterfly. **Any pigment color which is not as described is a disqualification.** Nostrils are open. Lips are thin and tight and the color of the nose. Flews are tight and dry fleshed. *Bite* - The teeth are perfectly opposed in a scissors bite; strong and well set.

**Neck, Topline, Body:** The *neck* is long, slender, slightly arched and strong, yet flat muscled. The *topline*, from ears to tail, is smooth and flowing. The back is level and straight. *Body* -The chest is deep and long with the breastbone sharply angled and prominent. The ribs are slightly sprung. The brisket is approximately 2½ inches above the elbow. The deepest part of the chest, behind the elbow, is nearly to or to the elbow. The abdomen is well tucked up, but not exaggerated. The loin is very slightly arched, of medium breadth and well muscled. The croup is well-sloped with bone structure visible. The *tail* is set low, highly mobile, and reaches at least to the hock. It is carried in a sickle, ring, or saber position, according to the mood and individual specimen.

**Forequarters:** Angulation is moderate. The shoulders are elastic but never loose with moderate breadth at the withers. The shoulder blades are well laid back. At the point of the shoulder they join to a rather upright upper arm. The elbow is positioned in front of the deepest part of the chest. It is well held in but not so much as to restrict movement. Legs -The forearms are very long, strong, straight, and close, lying flat on the chest and



continuing in a straight line to the ground. Bone is clean and fine. The pasterns are strong and flexible, slightly sloping, with well developed tendons. Dewclaw removal is optional. Feet: hare-foot. The toes are long, closed and very strong. Interdigital spaces are well protected by hair. Pads are durable. Nails are white or red.

**Hindquarters:** Angulation is moderate with the hindquarters being set under the body. Legs The thighs are very strong with flat muscling. The hocks are straight when viewed from the rear. Bone is clean and fine. There are no rear dewclaws. The feet are as in front.

**Coat:** There are two types of coat; both untrimmed. Short-shortest on head and ears and longest at back of the thighs and under the tail. Wire-haired can be from one to three inches in length on all or part of the body with a possible generous moustache. Both types of coat are hard in texture and neither coat is preferable to the other.

**Color:** White or red, (from light, yellowish-red called "lion" to deep red), solid or in any combination. No color or pattern is preferable to the other. **Disqualify any color other than white or red.**

**Gait:** An efficient, light and graceful single tracking movement. A suspended trot with joint flexion when viewed from the side. The Ibizan exhibits smooth reach in front with balanced rear drive, giving the appearance of skimming over the ground.

**Temperament:** The Ibizan Hound is even-tempered, affectionate and loyal. Extremely versatile and trainable, he makes an excellent family pet, and is well suited to the breed ring, obedience, tracking and lure-coursing. He exhibits a keen, natural hunting instinct with much determination and stamina in the field.

**Disqualification:** *Any color other than white or red and any pigment color which is not as described.*