

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL KENNEL COUNCIL



Extended Breed Standard of
THE PERUVIAN HAIRLESS DOG

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Fig.1: Showing outstanding outline of the breed

HISTORY OF THE PERUVIAN HAIRLESS DOG

“PERRO SIN PELO DEL PERU”

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When the Spaniards arrived at the Tahuantinsuyo they encountered a different civilisation. It was socially and politically organised by the vision and concept of the Andean man, without the influence of the advanced societies that were developing on the old continent. They discovered a rich variety of fauna and flora. “strange” species, never seen before by the European eye rapidly captivated their interest and curiosity.

Many of these species were taken to Spain as souvenirs of the New World and among them some strange dogs without hair.

An original and unpublished manuscript, kept in Madrid, contains the observations of Francisco de Hernandez where he reports that "... in New Galicia there is a breed of dog without hair, of smooth coloured skin, similar to the lebrels, although they are taller and have a different way of barking than the others, and of which Prince Charles, our lord, has one".

In more recent times, the Peruvian writer Guillermo Gallardo narrated "... when Philip the Beautiful of Spain arrived, they presented him with some souvenirs brought from the occidental lands recently discovered. On Wednesday 22 June of 1502 the son-in-law of the Catholic Kings stayed in his lodgings, but they showed him two very new things. One was a totally black dog with no hair at all that stretched out his snout like a black woman. The other a green parrot hardly bigger than a small monkey, talking of what is credible".

These statements collected and narrated by the first chroniclers who arrived with the expeditionary hosts of Francisco Pizarro, are the first news we have about the existence of the Peruvian Hairless Dog. Nonetheless, its origin is a story not yet told that takes us back more than two thousand years, into the distance of time.

During the formative period of the Andean societies, the regional development predominated along the Peruvian coast and the mountain areas. Once the influence of agriculture started, theocratic feudal states emerged and extended in time until after the beginning of the Christian era. The union between man and dog initiated thousands of years ago, also acquired importance for the former inhabitants of the Andes. Probably one of the oldest demonstrations of this is the discovery in the cove of Puémape of San Pedro de Lloc, of dog's burials sharing the cemetery with the inhabitants of the time. These belong to the Salinar culture, whose remains show an antiquity of approximately 300 years BC.

During this period, the Chavín culture (1200-400 BC) flourished. Most archaeologists considered it the oldest Andean society and its centre was located in Huanter, La Libertad. Archaeologist Marco Curatola finds certain relationship between Chavín's iconographic representation of the Tello Obelisk and the Achkay legend. He tells us that once upon a time when famine was all over the territory, two children, a brother and sister, arrived to Chavín de Huanter, where Achkay and his daughter Oronkay feigned to be kind with them. However, during the night they killed the boy and fortunately the girl, who was alerted by a frog, escaped with her brother's remains. Then she arrived in the Kullkush's territory and the boy was turned into «kashmi» (white dog) and became her companion in the flight to the high plateau. Finally, they reached the sky. One version says that he became «Ongoy» there (the Pleyades constellation), and the other that he became «Achachi Ururi» (Morning Star). On the other hand, the girl became «Apachi Ururi» (Night Star). And since that time, these stars have been the guide to travellers, shepherds and farmers.

The dog's significance also had an effect in the artistic expression of the Nazca Culture (100-700 AD). During the second phase the ceramics were characterised for being particularly naturalistic, very simple and refined, reddish with plant, fruit and animal designs. Sculptural representations of polychrome fruits and animals were also common, where the hairless dog is represented with an admirable realism.

Besides, we must point out that dogs appear in the repertoire of the petroglyphs of Pampa de Ingenio.

This fact is related to the existence of the Pampas de Nazca, famous for the lines that form different zoomorphic figures, particularly, the petroglyph that has been interpreted as a dog. It is not strange since this animal was always considered a servant of the mountain deities. Not far from Nazca town, people still believe that dogs go with death spirits to the mountain Coropuna.

The Vicus culture (500 BC-400 AD), who owe their name to the hill situated on the grounds of the former Pabur Farm, about 50 kms east of Piura, did not stay behind in this sense and through their ceramics showed us the same characteristics that the dog conserves to our day. Its ceramics express an exceptional skill in sculptural or plastic art because the modelled figures and other sectors of the receptacle were painted with red designs and/or with the technique called negative decoration. Anthropomorphic, phytomorphic and zoomorphic sculptures are frequent. The image of ceramics with a globular handle, where the top part is crowned by the head of a hairless dog is shown for a better understanding.

More than 1000 years before the Tahuantinsuyu, a people today called Mochica. (100 BC-700 AD) reached its maximum development in the coastal plain of Perú. Although they did not know anything about writing, the Mochicas transmitted the representation of their activities and environment through their art. Pottery is the most common and best-known artistic expression of the Mochica. More than 90% are ceramics and almost all the scenes represented in any other technique also appear under the form of fired clay receptacle.

The Moches were famous for portraying in their huacos the different aspects of their society, the personality of their master, their traditions and rites, human expressions of their different states of mind, birds and others animals. Here we point out the hairless dog with whom he coexisted and kept as a faithful companion, and who deserved a place within the family.

Dogs, in general, appear in almost all the representations of Mochica's activities in the Moche iconography, and it usually appears next to the priest or warrior or the main character. This fact, which until that time was only observed in scenes painted in ceramic, was confirmed in 1987, when archeologist Walter Alva discovered in the centre of a clay platform known as "Huaca Rajada", the tomb of a Moche governor, warrior and priest who was called "Señor de Sipán". The first finding was a guardian with his feet amputated, symbolising his obligation to stay forever in this place. Then in a funeral box was the Señor de Sipán who was surrounded by eight servant's skeletons, two concubines and one dog.

A great part of the unearthed ceramics that represented the hairless dog were found in the developing centers of the Sicán Culture (900-1100 AD), called with this name by the Archaeological Project of Sicán.

Observing them, we can point out the knowledge that they had of the canine species showing it in its different attitudes and stages of development. This way we can observe them while mating, in alert attitude or feeding.

They were represented as wind instruments like cornets and whistles, to mention the most frequent. Some ceramics show him carrying collars, which can be interpreted as a way of identification, allowing perhaps -without intending to do so- a sort of selection, which combined to the genetic strength, enabled it to bridge centuries of oblivion to these days.

The decline of the Moche Culture gave way to the Chimu Culture (1100-1470 AD), which comprised a period of transition between the Wari (700-1200 AD) and Inca (1100-1470 AD) hegemony. The largest amount of ceramics belongs to this culture. Like the Moches they portrayed the different stages of life, breastfeeding a reduced number of their young, as is the case today, resting placidly, and many other moments. Accepted in the homes, they would retribute with their service, alerting its dwellers of the incursion of neighbours seeking to conquer land and also exterminating rodents and bugs that threatened the harvest.

Other regional states in pre-Inca times moulded the hairless dog into their artworks. The Chancay Culture (1200-1470 AD) with its beautiful recipients in their black on white style depicted the life cycle of the hairless dog. Perhaps the two most characteristic ones are those showing the coitus on a bi-spherical container, where the extremities of the male are handles. The other shows the hairless dog in a watchful attitude.

Once the Tahuantinsuyu was established, the Incas carried out its political and social organisation, where the expansion of the state was based on the reciprocity, redistribution system, and in a lesser scale, on the exchange existent particularly in the Coast. In several cases, territorial annexations were carried out in a specific way, since it was better to accept the offerings of reciprocity of the Inca than a doubtful war with fearsome consequences for the losing ethnic group. This was beneficial for a fast Inca's expansion that obliged its governors to look for new supply sources for rewarding local matters. However, the enormous extension of the state had very fragile foundations that gave rise to its collapse when Pizarro's army appeared.

In the North they expanded until Loja and in the Southeast until Tucumán and La Plata, in the current Ecuador and Argentina. It was indispensable to repopulate these new territories with immigrants or «mitmaq» from ethnic groups closely related to the Incas, so that they could fulfil tasks in favour of the state. Therefore, Chimu's artisans were moved to Cuzco so that they could work in silver and goldsmith's art for the Inca and the nobleness. Since they arrived with their belongings and domestic animals, there was a broad spread of the hairless dog in South America, known in Bolivia as Bolivian "ccala", and in the North of Argentina as dog "pila".

In ceramics, despite its affinity to some Mochicas and Chimu's glasses, it showed more advanced techniques, which is not the case of the artistic level in this early stage, since there was a high degree of stereotyping and a decrease in quality and realism of the representations in this stage. The Inca culture contributed with new forms, but neither the manufacturing technique nor the decorative models, which became the Chimu-Inca style.

When Melchor Verdugo, grocer and member of the Peruvian hosts arrived to the calm beaches of the afterwards baptised province of Trujillo in 1534, a huge mass of hairless dogs surrounded him, barking until their jaws dislocated. Next to him he had brought “Bobo”, his greyhound. Of horse-like rather than canine dimensions, “Bobo” with just one bark scared the «viringos» and with only one bite took at least a couple of heads. A few years later the damned greyhound would enter history for eating the son of the chief of Cuismanco.

Undoubtedly, the survival of the Peruvian Hairless Dog during the vice royalty and the rising republic is due to the coastal farm people. They kept for themselves their old traditions and customs, where it was used as an efficient remedy against rheumatism and all sort of maladies, which are detailed in the essay by Hermilio Valdizán, called “Popular Medicine” published last century. It was not only accepted for its curative qualities but also for its capacity to exterminate rodents, which caused great prejudices during the crop. Likewise, its distrust and suspicious nature shown to strangers made it an extraordinary guardian. Nowadays, when it is raised in the countryside, it develops its hunting instinct; besides it is an excellent pet dog, qualities inherent since ancient times. This is why talking of a living relic is not that far from reality.

Today its future depends on us; the Peruvian Kennel Club has the chief responsibility of defending and protecting our unique race, recognised worldwide.

In October 2001, the government of Peru elevated the Peruvian Hairless Dog, or Perro sin Pelo del Peru, to National Heritage status. The goal was to ensure that the breed never becomes extinct. The Agriculture Ministry next ordered the conservation, breeding, and export of this endangered breed. Peruvians are now in many countries around the world.

BRIEF HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

According to certain experts, this dog was introduced in Peru during the Chinese immigration, soon after the promulgation of the law abolishing the slavery of blacks by the President of Peru, Don Ramon Castilla. On the other hand, other searchers suppose that this dog comes from the African continent through the intermediary of nomads who arrived in America accompanied by their hairless dogs. Another possible explanation is that the presence of this dog would be due to the migration of men and their dogs from Asia to America through the Bering Strait.

However, there are certain proofs such as the representations which appear on ceramics of different pre-Inca civilisations (Vicus, Mochica, Chancay, Chancay under Tiahuanacoid influence, Chimu); in many cases the hairless dog has replaced the puma, the snake or the falcon, this in particular and in a more evident way in the Chancay culture. As we can gather from the reproductions, the hairless dog appears during the pre-Inca archaeological periods, i.e. between the years 300 BC and the years 1400 AD.



Fig. 2: Four months old puppies – large size

● GENERAL APPEARANCE

Going by his general conformation, it is an elegant and slim dog, whose aspect expresses speed, strength and harmony without ever appearing coarse. He is of noble and affectionate nature with those nearest to him. He is reserved towards strangers, lively, alert and a good guard dog.

The breed is very rare and very primitive. They possess the sighthound-like characteristics of speed, keen vision and hearing. The dog needs to have long limbs and elegance. The Peruvian Hairless Dog most resembles the greyhound with its structure and speed.

Important proportions: The ratio between the height at the withers and the length of the body is of 1:1; the body of the females can be slightly longer than that of the males.



Fig. 3: Athletic and fast showing the similarities to other hunting hounds

The Peruvian Hairless Dog should be relatively square-like and should look elegant and long-limbed. The bitch may be slightly longer, due to length of loin, not ribcage, but will still retain a square look.

● CHARACTERISTICS

This breed has, as a fundamental characteristic, the absence of hair all over the body. Another particular feature is that the dentition is nearly always incomplete.

The Standard points out two fundamental characteristics of the breed, the absence of hair all over the body and incomplete dentition. Scientific experiments on another hairless breed suggests a dominant semi-lethal gene to be responsible for both the hairlessness and the defective teeth in the dog.

- **TEMPERAMENT**

Noble and affectionate at home with those close to him, at the same time lively and alert; he is wary. A good guard in the presence of strangers.



Fig. 4: Typical of the breed

This dog can be very shy at first; Peruvians need time to trust new people and things. Do not expect to be overwhelmed by wagging tails and kisses. Approach the dog with a no nonsense attitude and pat him. If you approach slowly with hands out, the dog assumes the worst and backs away. Performing in a show ring is not at all natural for a Peruvian because cautiousness towards all new things and people is in its character. The cautiousness of the breed appears as timidness, because the dog does not want a strange person touching it particularly on the head. The Peruvian demands a great deal of time to learn the routine of the show ring. A dog that is too afraid to move in the ring and is clearly trembling with fear should be heavily penalised. Also, biting attempts or the showing of teeth towards the judge or other exhibits should not be accepted as normal behaviour. Such a dog should not receive any award. Normal cautiousness is accepted in a young dog but mature dogs should be able to perform normally in the show ring.

• HEAD

The head is of lupoid [wolf] like conformation

Skull: Of medium breadth. Orthoid, i.e. the upper axis of the skull and muzzle are parallel; a slight divergence is accepted. Seen from above, the skull is broad and the head tapers toward the nose. The superciliary arches are well developed. The occipital crest is hardly marked.

Stop: Cranial-facial depression barely marked (approximately 140 degrees).

Nose: The colour of the nose must be in harmony with the different colours of the skin.

Muzzle: Seen in profile, the nasal bridge is straight. Lips: They must be as tight as possible and close to the gums

Cheeks: Normally developed.

According to the FCI Lupoid refers to a kind of dog whose head has the form of a horizontal pyramid, with erect ears and a long muzzle that grows narrower and with short and dry lips. The upper lips cover the insignificant lower jaw. Cheeks are not strong. The dog has parallel planes of the head. The skull is broad and tapers to the nose. A very slight stop is present and little occipital protuberance is shown. The superciliary ridges, over the eyes, are well developed. Nose colour must be in harmony with the colour of the skin.

• EYES

Alert and intelligent expression. The eyes must be of average dimensions, slightly almond shaped, neither deep-set nor prominent, normally and regularly placed, i.e. neither too close together nor too wide apart. The colour can vary from black, going through all shades of brown up to yellow, in harmony with the skin colour. In any case, both eyes must be of the same colour. The colour of the eyelids may go from black to pink in subjects with a light coloured face. The light pink colours are admitted but not sought after.



If a dog has a patched or clown face and the patches do not cover the eye then the eyelids may well be pink, as that part of the skin contains no melanin this is permitted but not preferred.

Fig.6: Showing the patterned face



Fig. 5: Good head shape (Side View)

- **EARS**

The ears must be pricked when the dog is attentive, whereas at rest, they are laid towards the back. The ears are of medium length; broad at the base, tapering progressively towards their tip, ending almost pointed. The ear set starts on the upper part of the skull to end laterally and obliquely. In the erect position, the axis of the ears forms a variable angle near 90 degrees.

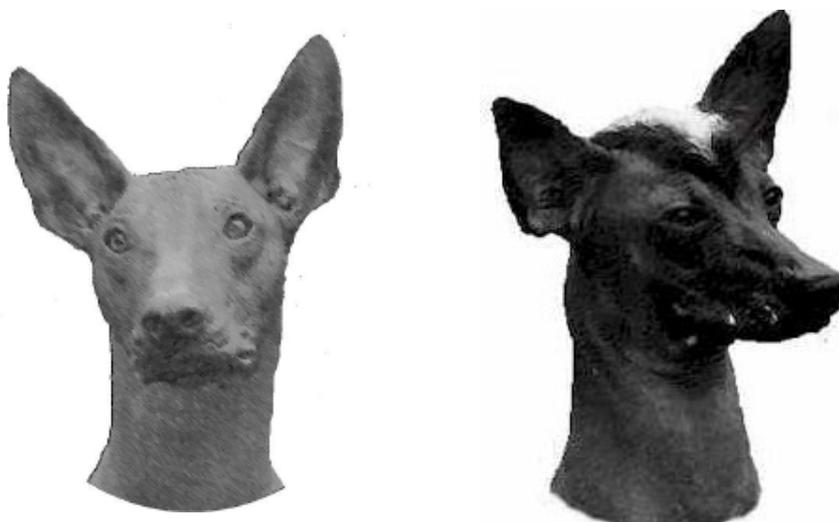


Fig. 7: Correct ear positions dog and bitch head

Ears are not at 90 degrees but NEAR 90 degrees. Ears should be placed a little on the side the head.

One should pay attention to the size of the ears – they should be RELATIVELY LARGE and erect, rather than small. The ears should not be dropped or be rose-shaped. The judge should see the dog in the ring, at least once, with its ears erect. The Standard only approves erect ears and while at rest, lay towards the back. The ears should be thin. Normally they are thin and even soft but they should stay up. Under faults the Standard names semi-erect, hanging or cropped ears as faults.

- **MOUTH**

The incisors are in a scissor bite and the canines developed normally. The absence of one or all the pre molars and molars is accepted. The lower jaw is only slightly developed.



The dogs normally have some premolars; it is sufficient if the dog has 4+4 incisors. Many do not have canine teeth as required by the Standard. It is a rarity to find dogs that have plenty of teeth and are still a TRUE hairless! Dogs with too much hair often have all teeth like the coated version. There is however a lot more to a dog than its teeth.

Fig. 8: Missing teeth are a fact of any hairless dog

The dogs in Peru rarely have full mouths - the lack of teeth is real and the breeders cannot make miracles in a second.

If one has to decide between an over-hairy dog with teeth or a true hairless with fewer teeth, the hairless is absolutely better. Some individuals lose some of their teeth during the years and others don't even get some of their teeth. It is often that young dogs lose their permanent teeth because the root of the tooth doesn't develop properly.

Even at 8-9 months old they can start to lose teeth a 1-2 years old dog does not normally have many teeth.

A scissor bite is the goal. An even bite is a flaw divergence from the Standard; it is counted as a flaw related to the gravity of the flaw.

There are some individuals that hang their tongue outside their mouths and that is not a pretty sight. Tongue hanging causes the dog pain because the tongue dries. Normal eating and drinking is very hard. According to the new F.C.I. rules, divergences from the Standard are failing flaws. Aggression and unhealthy dogs are also failing flaws and they are not compared to the Standard, but to a normal dog.

Tongue overgrowth or tongue paralysis is a disease that most likely is inherited polygenetically. You can never know which one of the puppies has inherited the hanging tongue.

• NECK

The upper line is curved (convex). The length is approximately the same length as the head. The shape is near to a truncated cone shape, supple, with good musculature. The skin on the neck is fine, smooth and elastic, really close to the subcutaneous tissues. No dewlap.

The neck is well arched and of a length which balances with the head and the body. With good musculature the shape is as of a truncated cone. Skin is tight without dewlap.

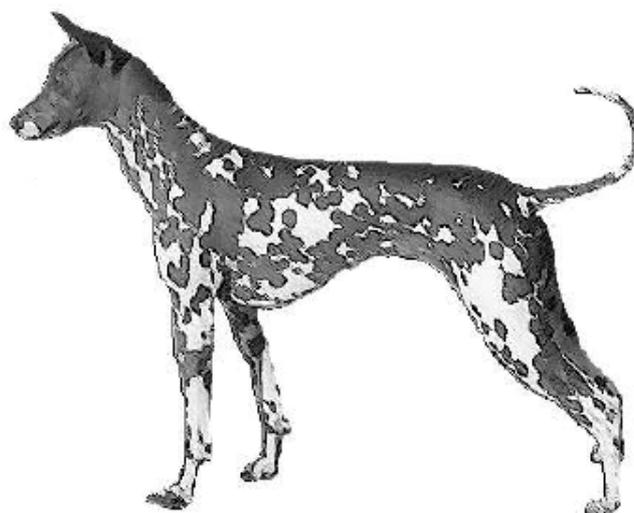


Fig. 9: Showing the beautiful length of neck and also the slightly longer body of the female.

● FOREQUARTERS

Well united with the body. Seen from the front, they are perfectly vertical and the elbows are not turned out. The angle at the shoulder joint varies from between 100 degrees and 120 degrees. Seen in profile, the angle formed by the pastern and the vertical will form 15 degrees to 20 degrees.

Students of the breed should note minimum angulation is required in this breed. Perfectly straight when viewed from the front, together with a distinct angulation in pastern are the requirements of the Standard.



Fig. 10: A good front showing the well set elbows



Fig. 11: Body must be elegant

● BODY

ELEGANT (not robust) with a muscular body

Topline: Straight, although certain subjects show dorsal-lumbar convexity which disappears at croup level.

Withers: Barely accentuated.

Chest: Seen from the front, the chest must have good amplitude, but without excess; come down almost to the elbow. The ribs must be lightly sprung, never flat. The girth of the chest, measured behind the elbows, must exceed by about 18% the height at the withers.

Back: Topline straight, with well-developed back muscles often forming all along the back a muscular bi-convexity, which extends to the lumbar region.

Lumbar region: Strong and well muscled. Its length reaches approximately 1/5th of the height at the withers.

Croup: Its upper profile is slightly convex. Its slant compared to the horizontal is about 40 degrees. Its solid and well-muscled conformation assures a good impulsion.

Underline and Belly: The lower profile draws an elegant and well-marked line which goes from the lower part of the chest and rises along the belly which must be well tucked up, but without excess.

The chest should nearly reach the elbows. Viewed from the front the ribs separate from the dog as a slight roundness.

The lower line should be clearly rising, the dog cannot resemble a straight bar.

The Peruvian Hairless Dog should be relatively square-like and even with the bitch the length of the body should not be too long because the dog has to look elegant and long-limbed. The body should be muscular but the dog cannot be too fat or too thin. Ribs cannot be seen nor are the hipbones detractively high but they can be felt under the skin when touched. The dog should look balanced and firm.



Fig. 12: A typical exhibit.

●HINDQUARTERS

The muscles are rounded and elastic. The curve of the buttocks is well marked. The coxal-femoral angle varies between 120 degrees and 130 degrees. And the femoral-tibial angle must be of 140 degrees. Seen from behind, the hindquarters must be vertical. Dewclaws must be removed.



The angulation of the hindquarters should clearly balance that of the forequarters. The curve of the buttocks is clearly defined. When viewed from the side or behind the rear pastern should be vertical.

Fig. 13: The curve of the buttocks is well marked

- **FEET**

The forefeet are semi-long and look like hare-feet. The pads are strong and heat-resistant. The interdigital membranes are well developed. The black dogs have preferably black nails. The lighter dogs light nails the hind feet are the same as the forefeet.

The feet of a Peruvian are webbed, as you would expect in a water dog, yet the breed was developed on the western side of Peru where little rain falls. The webbing along with the short step enables the dog to run up sand dunes after prey. Black dogs can have some white nails too, but black is preferred. All nails, however, must be very strong and long. The dogs have a massive nail growth and if the nails are not clipped often the toes “spread” and the shape of the paw alters and lowers. Dewclaws are not allowed on the hind legs.

- **TAIL**

The tail is set on low. Of good thickness at its root, it tapers towards its tip. When excited, the dog can carry the tail raised in a round curve above the back line, but never as curved as being rolled up. At rest, it hangs with a slight upward hook at the tip. Sometimes carried tucked in towards the abdomen. In length it almost reaches the hock. The tail must not be docked.

It is acceptable for the tail to be tucked in towards the abdomen. The tail can have a few longer hairs. One should pay attention to the length of the tail. It must not be too short nor should the hair be taken into account when estimating the length of the tail. A self-confident male carries its tail up and the tip of the tail can form a loop, but the tail rolling up to a ball or resembling the letter O is not allowed.



Fig. 14: It is acceptable for the tail to be tucked in towards the abdomen

● SKIN

The skin must be smooth and elastic all over the body, but can form rounded almost concentric lines on the head and round the eyes and the cheeks. It has been checked that the internal and external temperature of these dogs is exactly the same as other breeds. The absence of hair leads to an immediate and direct emanation of heat, different from the hairy subjects, where the heat filters through the coat by natural ventilation.

The term hairless means that a few single hairs are allowed on the body of the dog, but on top of the head hair should be short and it should appear as little as possible. The dog should have normal whiskers and they should not be shaven off. It is also normal to have single hairs under the eyes and on the throat. The borders of the hair are seldom clear and sharp. If it is so, there is reason to believe that the dog has been shaven or otherwise handled. Also in other areas where there is hair or single hairs you cannot have clear borders. There are also genuinely hairless dogs, which have only a few hairs on the head, toes and body. It is allowed that the toes have hair but it should not be abundant or rise high in the limbs. The skin is warm, soft and flexible. There are allowed to be scars and marks on the skin.

It must be remembered that the more hairless the dog is, the better.

● GAIT/MOVEMENT

Given the structure and angulations of the above-mentioned quarters, these dogs move with a rather short step, but fast and at the same time quite soft and flexible.

There are two types of movement that are approved:



1. Short and fast movements when the dog moves with flexible steps.

2. Other dogs move like the Paso Fino horses, lifting their legs high and that is also approved for this breed. This gait is designed for the dog to run through sand dunes in the most effective and efficient way assisted by the webbed feet. A Peruvian should never move with long steps, even if it looks great. Neither should the dog have a hackney gait. Nor are the wrists loose or soft. The angulation should be minimal in both the front and the rear, especially the rear angulations which should not be too strong.

Fig. 15: Showing the slight lift of the pastern and the short step



Fig. 16: Correct gait coming in

- **COAT**

To deserve the name of hairless dog, the coat (hair) must be non-existent. Vestiges of hair on the head and on the extremities of the legs and tail are admitted and, sometimes, a few rare hairs appear on the back.

There are also genuinely hairless dogs, which have only a few hairs on the head, toes and body. It is allowed that the toes have hair but it should not be abundant or rise high on the limbs. Hair on the tail can be abundant but it is not hoped for. With other dogs the hair can be long. At least one third of the tail's root should be hairless. You must remember that the more hairless the dog is the better.

- **COLOUR**

The colour of the hair can vary from black in black dogs, slate black, elephant black, bluish black, the whole scale of greys, dark brown going to light blonde. All those colours can be uniform or show pinkish patches at all points of the body.

The Standard is clear as to the colours allowed. The breed reveals itself as a variety of colours, with a solid coloured body being more common than a multi coloured body, but neither being the exclusive rule. No preference should be shown in the judging ring in this regard.

● SIZE AND WEIGHT

There are three sizes in males and females.

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Small | from 25 to 40 cms (9 ³/₄ to 15 ³/₄ inches) |
| Medium | from 40 to 50 cms (15 ³/₄ to 19 ³/₄ inches) |
| Large | from 50 to 65 cms (19 ³/₄ to 25 ³/₄ inches) |

The weight in the size of the males and females

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Small | from 4 to 8 kgs (8.8 to 17.6 lbs) |
| Medium | from 8 to 12 kgs (17.6 to 26.4 lbs) |
| Large | from 12 to 25 kgs (26.4 to 55.1 lbs) |

THREE SIZES



Fig. 17: Large Size

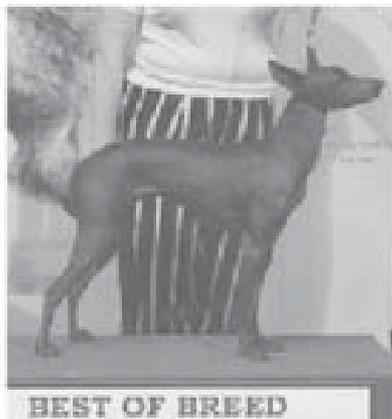


Fig. 18: Medium Size



Fig. 19: Small Size

● 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.

Semi-erect ears

Presence of dewclaws on the hindquarters

DISQUALIFYING FAULTS

Upper or lower prognathism.

Deviated jaw

Hanging or cropped ears

Tail-less, short tail, docked tail.

Excessively hairy on the parts of the body authorised by the Standard.

Presence of hair on other parts of the body not authorised by the Standard

Albinism.

N.B.: Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.

“Deviated jaw” means a “Wry mouth”.

JUDGING THE PERUVIAN HAIRLESS DOG

When judging, judges should pay more attention to the true hairless qualifications than to the lack of teeth. What is a true hairless?

The Peruvian is ALLOWED to have a little hair on the top of the head, on the tail and on the tip of the toes. Some single hairs are also allowed on the body as long as they don't form a united patch. THAT IS ALL the Standard allows! The dog is allowed to have more hair on the top of the head as long as it is clearly and NATURALLY defined on the top of the head and doesn't cover the structure of the skull.

Many times judges ponder on true hairless dogs, considering if they are shaven or if they have very little hair. Normally if the dog is a true hairless, you don't have to think hard to see it is a true hairless. With those individuals that have a lot of hair on the head, neck, tail and feet (especially if you can see that the hair is shortened), the judge has to make the decision if THEY think that the dog is truly hairless and what is the amount of hair/hairlessness acceptable. Many individuals grow hair on the side of the ear and they are usually cut off. Single hairs under the eyes and in the body are allowed. You can have single hairs on the throat but no long neck hair or the remnants of a shaved neck! Every dog is born with whiskers and they will only be removed with shaving! The Standard doesn't say that one should shave the whiskers. That custom which has been brought in from the Chinese Crested dogs should not be approved. Normally the line of hair rises high in the limbs with over-hairy dogs, even showing longhairs. If the individual is really over-hairy there are normally some hairs on the spine. There are also some dogs whose face is entirely covered with hair. The hair should be short but NOT SHORT-SHAVEN/CLIPPED/CUT. One should learn to tell the difference between a true hairless and a shaven dog. Over-hairy dogs should not be given a prize under any circumstances.



Fig. 20: A beautiful head showing some hair

Bite flaws should certainly be taken into account in dog shows and absolutely the tongue problem, which should not be approved as normal. Even just a hanging tongue should be evaluated as a failing fault; otherwise some breeders would not consider it as a serious problem.

Movement is another consideration that judges need to examine. Do not expect a correct Peruvian to move with great reach and drive. The shoulder construction tells you that the dog cannot and should not move like this. The action is short with the dog pulling the pastern back quickly. It is NOT a hackney action. As we have said previously this was bred into the dog to facilitate moving up and down sand dunes. A dog that reaches excessively cannot maintain his swiftness going up a sandy slope. The webbed feet are another feature of the breed and should be present in all Peruvians. This is also an adaptation for moving up and over dunes.

Some amount of timidness and cautiousness has to be allowed in the dog- but it must never be a fear-biter. It is not typical for the breed to “mouth off” in the ring although males will rise to a challenge from another male dog.

This is the ideal Peruvian – and this is what we hope the breed will stay like.

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