

# ***Info shared by Pitbull SA.***

***Manjaro APBT kennel.***

***South Africa.***

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## ***NOSE EYES EARS COAT FEET & TAIL.***

### **Nose.**



The nose is large with wide, open nostrils.

The nose may be any colour - Nose colour does not matter.



Red nose leather



Butterfly nose - ark with lighter patches.

### **Eyes.**

Eyes are medium size, round to **almond-shaped**, and set well apart and low on the skull.

All colours are equally acceptable **except blue.**



Correct round eyes -



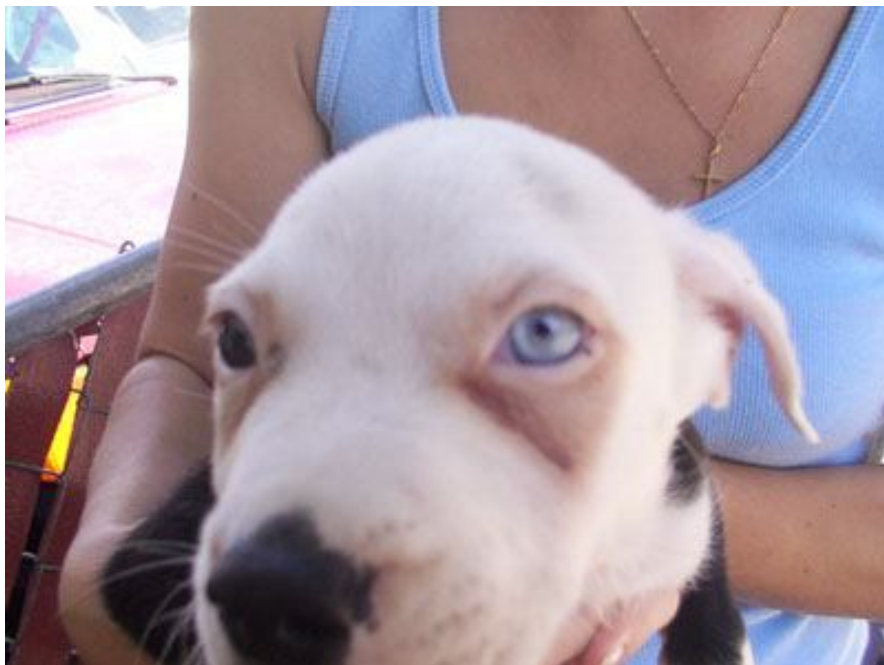
**If the eyes are any rounder (as the photo above) it is not preferred.**

More **squinting and not desired** – but the sun can cause squinting which should be taken into account.

Blue eyes - **serious fault:**

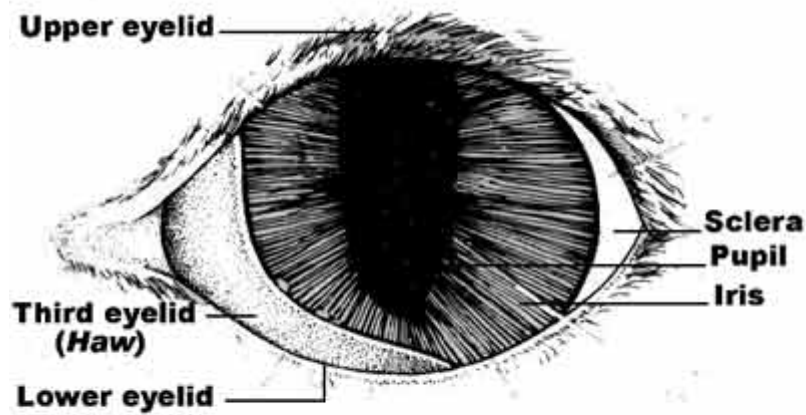


Blue eyes - **serious fault**:



**Fault** Bulging eyes.  
Different colour eyes **serious fault**

## Third eyelid (haw)



### Serious faults

Haw should not be visible – see different colour eyes photo with haw fault as well.

### **Ears.**

If natural, semi-prick or rose are preferred.

Ears should be high set and may be natural or cropped (cropping not allowed in South Africa or frowned upon).



Cropped ears *frowned upon in South Africa.*



Half pricked ears - the half-prick ear is a perfect preferred shape (according to the breed standard).

This said ... half pricked ears is not often recognized by judges even those very familiar with the APBT.



Half pricked ears - with minor fault.



Natural rose ears of different lengths.

This is a more common acceptable ear by most judges.

In the past the cropped ear was "pit bull" image and because of this many excellent dogs "conformation" were overlooked by judges.

## **Coat.**

The coat is glossy and smooth, close, and moderately stiff to the touch.

**Faults:** Long hair, curly, wavy, or sparse coat on the APBT **is a definite disqualification.**

The place where hair tends to be longest is in the hackles or be blades.

As a general rule 12.5 mm or less is a good short coat from hair measured at the shoulders, beyond a 12.5 mm in length and in my opinion you are verging on medium coat.

Coat colour.

Any colour, or colour pattern, or combination of colours is acceptable,

**Except for merle, albinism and blue (some judges disqualify blue).**



***Merle - disqualification:***



***Blue***



***Red and white red nose***



***Black & tan***



***Black brindle***



***Black***



***Black***



***Black***



***Blue brindle***



***Brown***



***Brown brindle***



***Chocolate brindle***



***Chocolate red nose***



***Chocolate red and white***



***Chocolate and white red nose***



***Cinomin***



***Chocolate fawn red nose***



***Fawn***



**Red and white red nose**



**Red white faun black mask black nose**



**Red brindle red nose**



**Mahogany & white red brindle**



Red red nose



Red red nose



Red & white black mask black nose



Sable brindle

### **Feet.**

The feet of the APBT are round proportionate to the size of the dog, well arched, and tight. Pads are hard, tough, and well cushioned.

### **Dewclaws.**

Dewclaws is not a fault but for the show ring it should be removed – contact your vet when such pups are born.



Dog with nice round tight feet



Flat pasterns feet



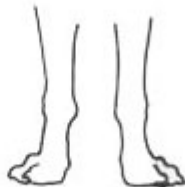
A



B



C



D



E

A correct B Flat feet C pasterns

*Fault* D out pasterns E in



correct foot nice high arch



flat feet



tight round feet



splayed toes

The two above left figures are correct.  
The two right figures are the common faults that are overlooked.



*Fault:* Splayed feet

Feet are a vital part of this breed as strength and speed of movement originates in a solidly constructed foot.

**Tail.**

The tail is set on as a natural extension of the top line, and tapers to a point.

When the dog is relaxed, the tail is carried low and extends approximately to the hock.



This photo depicts the often descriptive phrase that the APBT tail is "shaped like a pump handle"



The proper tail length and carriage for a relaxed dog.

The relatively short tail is set low, thick at the base and tapers to a point.

UKC judges and APBT breeders actually "feel" to determine tail set. There are many dogs in the breed that are so muscled or fat in the rump that the eye cannot tell "the actual set in relation to the spine" ..

Same goes for the little dip in the withers.

Only feeling the spine will tell the true story.

"The tail is set on as a natural extension of the top line, and tapers to a point."

*Argumentative* and a poorly worded statement - the apparent tail set "will" vary with the condition on the dog,

but the "actual" tail set will never vary with respect to the spine.

When the dog is moving, the tail is carried level with the backline.



This shows a dog moving with tail in acceptable preferred positions - carried level with the backline.

When the dog is excited, the tail may be carried in a raised, upright position, **but never curled over the back**



This female in the first picture is displaying an excited/challenge tail - the tail shows a slightly exaggerated curl with a slightly higher tail set which would take away a point but is not considered a fault.



These dogs have preferred version of the challenge tail no points deducted.

About terminology of the breed standard concerning the tail.

"Tail should not be measured to the hock.

Tail should be judged in comparison to overall body length as was once stated in the standard.

The reason - length of hock can distort the appearance of the tail length.

Short hock can make *a good tail* appear short....Long hock can make *a short tail* appear correct or *even long*.

Overall balance between parts is necessary in the APBT - so tail length and body length are in direct correlation and both good and bad can be carried on an incorrect wheel base".

Graphics depicting gay tails.

**Serious fault:** Gay tail (not to be confused with challenge tail)



**Serious fault -** lower tail set.

This drawing shows a dog with a lower tail set, which is more correct, but the tail is curled up and over the back of the dog which is still a

**serious fault.**



A merle coloured dog with a gay tail.

Notice the curl up and over the back.  
This is very different from a challenge tail.  
Notice the tails curls completely over the back.  
The graphic shows a low tail set with a curl over the back.  
The photo is a very high tail set with a serious "over the back" curl.  
A serious fault 5-10 pts depending on severity.



***Fault:*** Long tail (tail tip passes beyond point of hock) by about an inch when stretched down.



Shows a dog with a long tail with a **serious curl** at the end (great natural stack position though).



**Fault** -kinked tail, a serious fault 10 pts



**Disqualification:** Bobbed tail.

