

My Love for Pointers

Knut Sigurd Wilberg





BIS at National Gundog Association

It started for me when I judged the New Zealand National in 2005 and fell in love with Breeze, which later followed me to the UK. He stayed for 18 months and won more in these months than any Pointer has ever done before or after.



Sh Ch, Aus & NZ Ch Chesterhope Lets Be Serious at Kanix (Breeze)



Breeze and Joanne won!



BOB Crufts 2007

Sh Ch Kiswahili Martin at Kanix UK's male record holder



Winner at the Champion Contest in 2010



BIS - SKC 2013

Top winning Pointer in the UK 2008, 2010 & 2011

General Appearance Symmetrical and well built all over, general outline a **series of graceful curves**. A strong but graceful appearance.

Characteristics **Aristocratic**. Alert with appearance of strength, endurance and speed.

Temperament Kind, even disposition.

Head and Skull Skull of medium breadth, in proportion to length of foreface, **stop well defined, pronounced occipital bone**. Nose and eye rims dark, but may be lighter in the case of a lemon and white coloured dog. Nostrils wide, soft and moist. **Muzzle somewhat concave**, ending on level with nostrils, giving a **slightly dish faced appearance**. Slight depression under eyes, cheek bones not prominent, well developed soft lip.

Eyes **Same distance from occiput as from nostrils**, bright and kindly in expression. Either hazel or brown according to colour of coat. Neither bold nor staring, not looking down the nose.

Ears **Leathers thin, set on fairly high**, lying close to head, of medium length, slightly pointed at tips.

Mouth Jaws strong, with perfect, **regular and complete scissor bite**, i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws.

Neck **Long, muscular, slightly arched**, springing cleanly from shoulders and free from throatiness.

Forequarters Shoulders long, sloping and well laid back. Chest just wide enough for plenty of heart room. **Brisket well let down, to level with elbows**. Forelegs straight and firm, with good **oval bone**, with back sinew strong and visible. Knee joint flat with front leg and protruding very little on inside. **Pasterns lengthy, strong and resilient**. Slightly sloping.

Body Well sprung ribs carried well back gradually falling away at strong muscular and slightly arched loins. Short-coupled. Haunch bones well spaced and prominent, not above level of back.

Hindquarters Very muscular. Well turned stifles. Good expanse of first and second thigh. Hocks well let down.

Feet Oval, well knit, arched toes, well cushioned.

Tail Medium length, thick at root, tapering gradually to a point. Well covered with close hair, carried on a level with back, with no upward curl. In movement, tail should lash from side to side.

Gait/Movement Smooth, covering plenty of ground. Driving hind action, elbows neither in nor out. Definitely not a hackney action.

Coat Fine, short, hard and evenly distributed, perfectly smooth and straight with decided sheen.

Colour Usual colours are lemon and white, orange and white, liver and white, and black and white. Self colours and tricolours are also correct.

Size Desirable heights at withers: dogs: 63-69 cm (25-27 ins); bitches: 61-66 cm (24-26 ins).

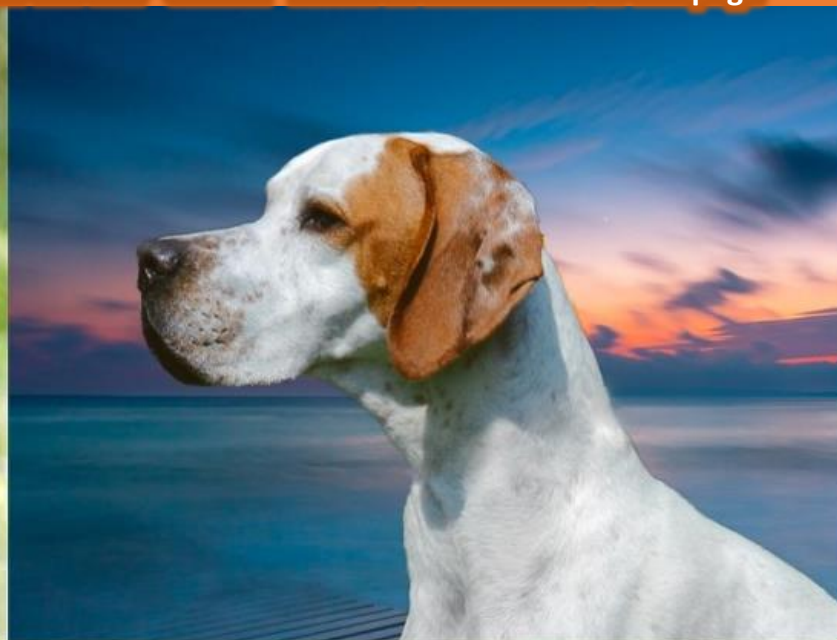
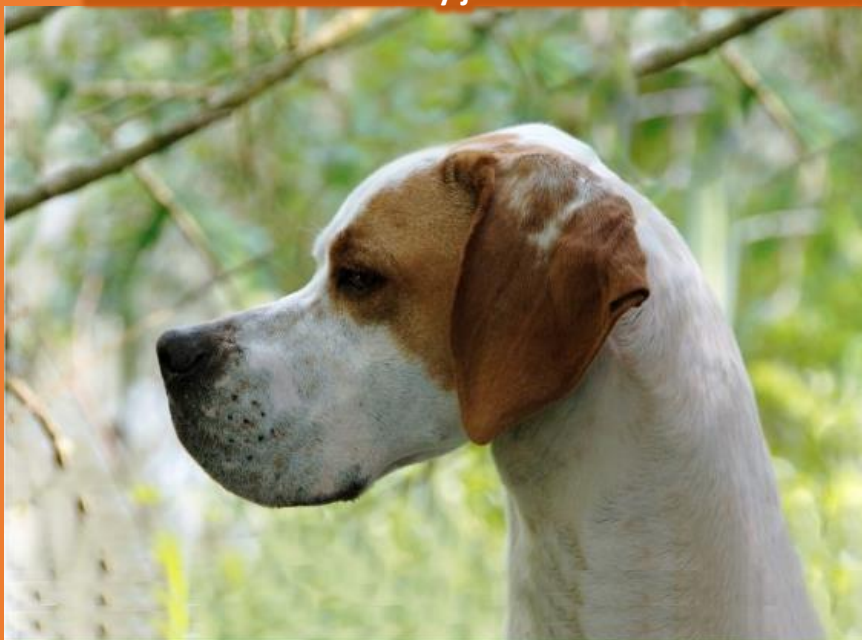
The Pointer is the Aristocrat of the Gundog world. His general outline is a series of graceful curves with a strong but graceful appearance.

I can't think about any dog which demonstrates this better than the dog below.



Sh Ch Afterglow Bare Face at Kanix

The Pointer is an English breed and should be judged in line with the English standard as it is published by the FCI. This is what it says about the muzzle: Somewhat concave, giving a *slightly dish faced appearance*. The only exception to this is the American Pointer standard which is adding: Parallel planes of the skull and muzzle are equally acceptable! Nowhere can we find any justification for the outline of the two "Griffon" heads at the bottom of this page





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The Pointer

TWO of the four Pointers illustrated have done well under multi-breed judges. They serve to represent what is taken to be two different but universally acceptable Pointer types. Which one would you place first and which one second?

The two remaining illustrations represent certain departures from type. Awareness of these departures strengthens appreciation for the Pointer's ability to function in the field, as well as some of the finer points important to type.

DOG A

This coarse example departs in 18 different ways from what is correct for the Pointer: skull and muzzle (4); neck (2); body (4); front legs and feet (5); tail (2); hindquarters, aside from feet (1).

An exaggerated scooped-out muzzle has given this dog an upturned nose. Invariably dogs with scooped-out muzzles and upturned noses also have this dog's prominent cheek bones and bony skull. This dog has a faulty oblique eye (it should be rounded). The ears are set too low, are folded, have rounded ends (and are probably thick). The neck is both thick and wet (pendulous skin under throat).

The body has too much depth and is too powerful. There is too much forechest and the loin has too much "slight arch". There is insufficient tuck-up.

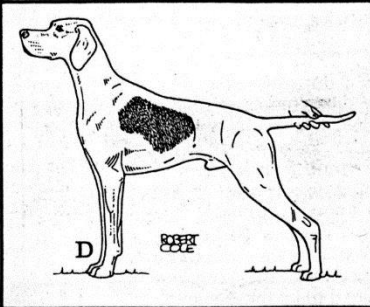
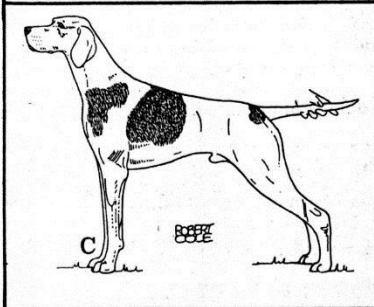
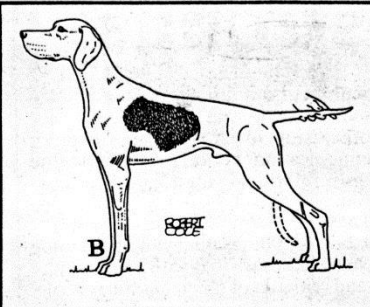
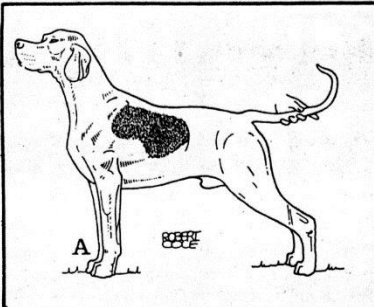
The front legs appear short and the dog has less agility because of the heavy deep body that drops below the elbow. Thick and round, rather than oval, bone also takes away from required agility. The front pasterns are incorrectly short and thick. The feet are round cat feet rather than the required oval.

The tail sets on too high and is too long. Not here, but a long tail is often associated with an overly long back. Early breeders believed a long tail indicated outcrosses to Greyhound or Foxhound. The hindquarters are overly powerful and thick through the first and second thigh.

DOG B

This over-refined example departs in eight ways: head (2); neck (1); body (2); additional tail (1); forequarters (1); equally faulty hindquarters (1).

The muzzle is too long and this dog's skull lacks pronounced occipital bone. The neck is too thin, the body shallow and there is too much tuck-up. He is still sound — the attempt here is to illustrate a degree of departure from required power.



The hand-held tail is correct; the tail indicated by a broken line is incorrect. The tail indicated by a broken line is longer than the maximum "no greater than to hock" length. This length or a docked tail must be penalised. A Pointer's tail carried between the legs would be sacrilege.

The front and hind legs are muscular but lack the desired substance for this dog to excel in the field.

DOG C

This dog has done well under multi-breed judges even though his muzzle is not the shape described as typical in the Standard. You may not like the set-on of his ears. Compare the subtle differences between real-life dog C and real-life dog D and decide on first place.

DOG D

This well built, symmetrical example presents a strong, but lissom, aristocratic appearance. Built for both endurance and speed, he is clean limbed, lithe and muscular without being coarse. His fine, short, evenly distributed coat is perfectly smooth and straight with a decided sheen. He has a kind, even disposition, never showing timidity toward man or dog.

His head is different from the head of dog C in one major way. The muzzle of dog D is concave ending on a level with the nostrils, giving a slightly dish-faced appearance. The muzzle of dog C is on parallel planes with the skull. In the

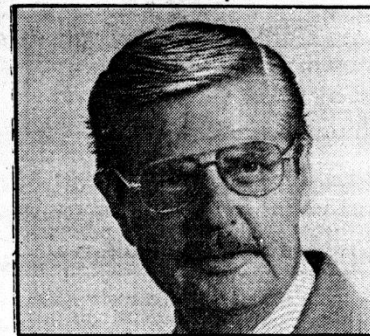
United States both types of head are equally acceptable. In Britain, the Standard only specifies the "somewhat" concave muzzle. In Canada, the Standard only specifies parallel planes.

Regardless of which type of muzzle, the skull is like a Norman arch viewed from front or side. The length of skull is in proportion to its breadth, the breadth in proportion to length of foreface. The stop is well defined, the occipital bone pronounced. Nose and eye rims are dark (but may be lighter in the case of a lemon or a white coloured dog). Nostrils are wide, soft and moist. There is a slight depression under eyes. The muzzle is deep, the soft lip well developed.

This dog has a correct scissor bite. His dark eyes are bright and kindly in expression, neither bold nor staring, not looking down the nose. The muzzle is the same length as skull. Ears are medium length, leathers thin, slightly pointed at tips, lying close to head and set fairly high.

I have drawn the neck long, muscular, dry and slightly arched. The long shoulders are well laid back and on. The brisket is level with the elbow. Forelegs are straight, the same length as depth of body, the bone oval. The pasterns are slightly sloped and perceptibly finer in bone than the leg. The breastbone is bold without being unduly prominent.

The body is approximately as long as height to the withers, measured from breast bone to buttocks. This Pointer's



You be the judge

with **ROBERT COLE**

girth, just behind the elbow, measures about eight inches greater than height. Girth at the loin approximates height at withers.

There is a slight rise from croup to shoulders. Close coupled, the loin is slightly arched and the croup falls away only slightly to the base of tail. Muscular, well turned stifles complement the front. There is a good length and expanse of first and second thigh. Hocks are well let down. The feet are oval with long, well knit, arched toes, well cushioned underneath.

FIRST AND SECOND

I chose dog D over dog C for first place because of his better shoulders, slightly more forechest, elbow more level with brisket, smoother and stronger topline and better balance front with rear.

The difference in the set on-of ears between these two dogs makes for interesting discussion. The dog I prefer just happens to have ears set on high, higher than the corner of the eye. This conforms to the wording "The ears should be set on fairly high". The ears of my second place example, dog C, are set on at eye level. In Canada and the USA, the ears are to be set on at eye level. ■

Pointers are bred for showing, hunting and for joy. In the UK Pointers are very popular as family dogs.



Sh Ch Kanix Beatrice

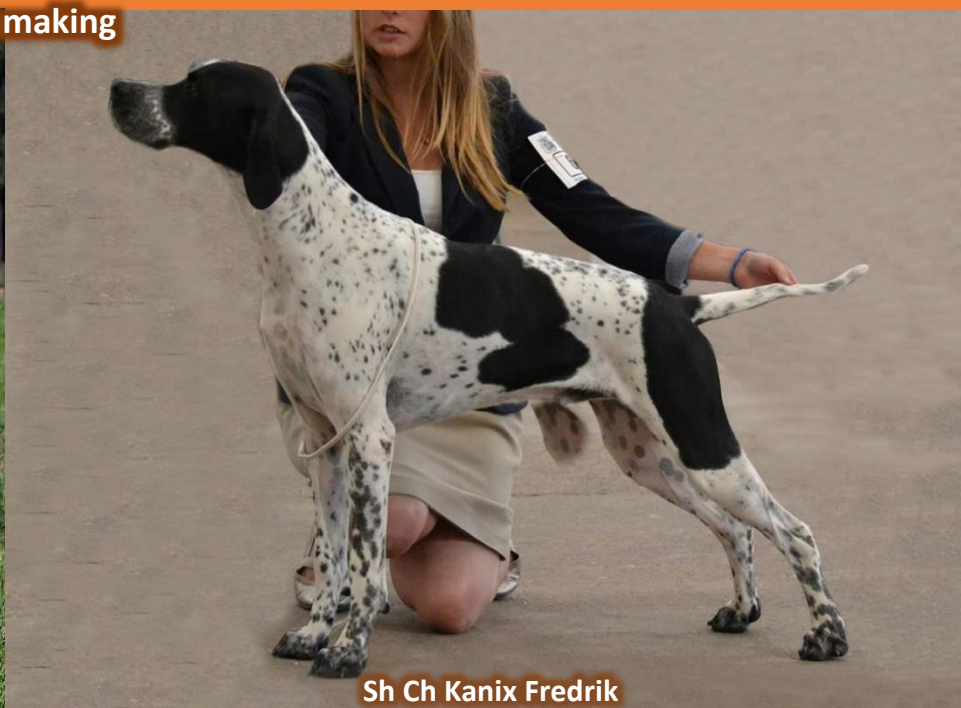


Sh Ch Kiswahili Martin at Kanix

Two Champions in the making



3 months



Sh Ch Kanix Fredrik



10 weeks



Sh Ch Coralwood Kanix Mr T – 2 Years



Kanix Electra



Mr T at 6 months & Martin

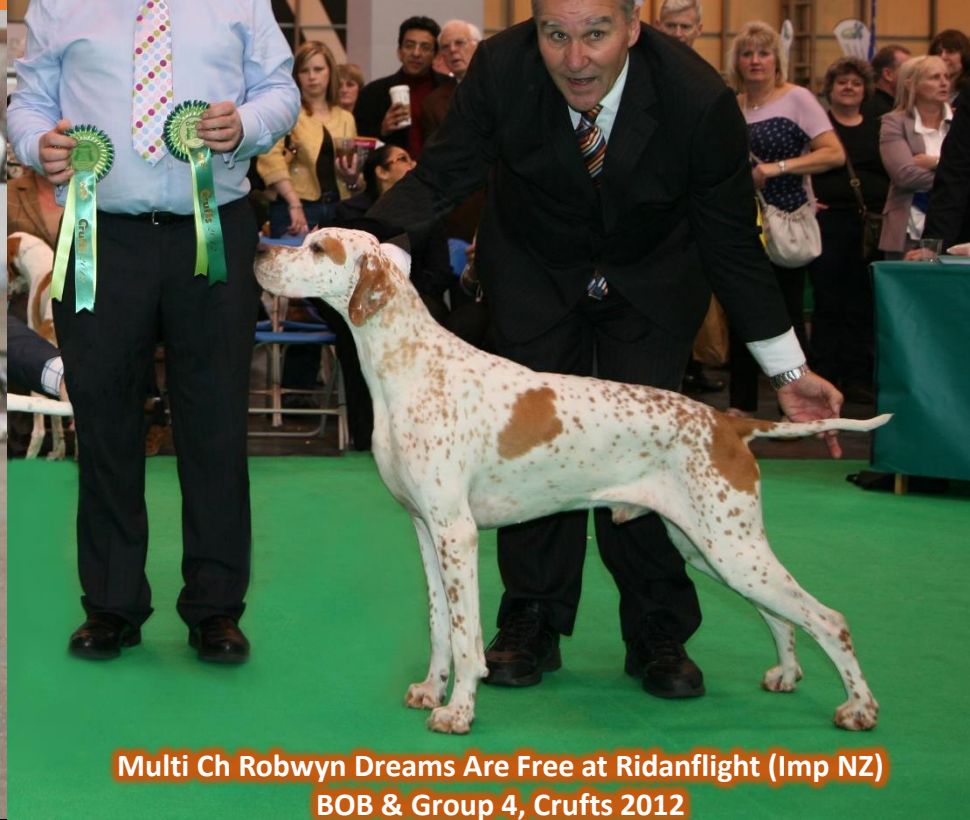


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Sh Ch Lokmadi Martina at Kanix and Martin, her father



Sh Ch Kanix Fredrik



**Multi Ch Robwyn Dreams Are Free at Ridanflight (Imp NZ)
BOB & Group 4, Crufts 2012**



Sh Ch Kanix Beatrice



Kroner



**Ir Sh Ch Kanix Kroner at Sevenhills
Ireland's top winning Pointer 2015 & 2016**

Daniel Horan



Sh Ch Millpoint Heat Wave - UK's Top winning male 2015 & 2016



Int Ch Kanix Irene
BIS Holland Cup 2015
Top winning Pointer in Norway 2015 & 2016

You find some extremely nice Pointer in America and here are two of the very best:



**GCh Tahari's To Wild To Be Serious
US' number One Pointer in 2010.**

**2010 & 2011 - BOB at American Pointer Club's National Specialty
2012 BOB at Westminster KC**



**GCh Cookieland Seasyde Hollyberry
US' top winning Pointer of all time**

**US' number One Pointer in 2007 & 2008
2007 & 2008 - BOB at American Pointer Club's National Specialty
2008 BOB & Group 2 at Westminster KC**



Multi Ch Sáregresi Infinite Love in the Mist
BIS Int All breed show
2 X BIS – Hungarian Pointer Club Show
BIS - Setter and Pointer Club show of Austria



GCh Robwyn Smell The Roses
3 BIS at All Breed Ch shows – No 1 Pointer in NZ in 2015



Am Ch Coralwood Kanix A New Ballgame

Sh Ch Sharnphilly Juici Cuture
UK's Breed Record holder
1 BIS at All Breed Championship Show
Top winning Pointer in 2015 & 2016.





Sh Ch Wilchrimane Ice Maiden
UK's Top Pointer 2012, 2013 & 2014



Sh Ch Chesterhope Lets Bee Serious at Kanix – Martin’s father



Sh Ch Kiswahili Martin at Kanix



Sh Ch Lokmadi Martina at Kanix – Martin’s daughter



Sh Ch Coralwood Kanix Mr T – Martin’s son

Does the English show Pointer hunt?
Yes they do, here is Breeze in action





I gave Sh Ch Sharnphilly Juici Culture BIS at SCCA in 2015



I hope you have enjoyed my presentation and that you now have a better understanding of what the English Pointer should look like. The Pointer is a tall Aristocratic gundog (up to 69cm) and he needs to present a picture of style, pride, strength and be a series of graceful curves.