

Klee Kai Standards
Revised
Effective April 1, 1993
(Subject to Change)

Mask: the facial mask is a distinctive trait of this breed and must be clearly visible due to contrasting colors. Different combinations of mask or markings are possible, ranging from a full mask which is most desirable, with color extending down the bridge of the muzzle, and under the eyes, to a widow's peak which is the least desirable. The color of the head area above the eyes must be darker than the contrasting facial area below the eyes. The contrasting facial area must be the lighter color and must extend back to cover the jawbones and down to cover the area under the chin. It is not mandatory, but is desirable to have light spots above the eyes. A blaze centered in the middle of the forehead is allowed. It is also desirable to have a dark strip down the center of the muzzle, and a dark strip under the eyes. The fur on the inside of the ears should be of the same contrasting color as the facial mask.

Faults: - if the dark area under the eyes is deeper than 1 / 2 of the length of the muzzle.

Disqualifications:

- if the dark strip on the center of the muzzle is so wide it extends down the sides of the muzzle.
- an open, bald face, in which no mask markings are visible forward of the ears.

Color: the color and coat can vary, but all markings must be symmetrical. The lighter undercoat blends with the darker outer coat, resulting in highlights, however, definite contrasting spots anywhere on the coat, other than over the eyes, a blaze in the middle of the forehead or a white tip at the end of the tail would be a disqualifying factor.

Faults: - white tip on the tail.

Disqualifications:

- a white colored cape that goes completely around the shoulders.
- any markings on the coat that are not symmetrical.
- a dog of any solid color so as not to have mask, legs, and undertrim of a contrasting color.

Head: the skull and muzzle should be of medium size and in proportion to the body. The stop should be clearly defined, yet not too steep. The muzzle should gradually taper to the nose. The nose must be black. The lips should be tight fitting over a scissors bite. A cross bite, or bite at however slight an angle would be a major fault and should be given serious consideration as to genetics. And possibly the opinion of a veterinarian who specializes in dentistry, before breeding is considered.

Faults:

- a snow nose (pink streaked) is a major fault.
- a crossbite, or jaw at an angle.

Disqualifications:

- a nose any other complete color than black.
- a jaw that is either undershot or overshot.

Eyes: the eyes should be bright, wide and alert and oval to round in shape. Any color or combination of colors is acceptable. The eyes should not be set too close or too wide apart.

Faults: - eyes that bulge.

Ears: the ears should be moderately large, yet in proportion, triangular in shape, and well furred. The ears must be erect. When in an erect stance, the inside base of the ears should be straight up from between the center and inner edge of each eye.

Disqualifications: -ears that are not strongly erect.

Chest and front: the chest should be deep and strong, but not too wide. When viewed from the front, the legs should be moderately spaced, parallel and straight, with the elbows set close to the body and turned neither inward nor outward. Bones should be between fine and substantial, but never heavy. Paws should be in proportion to the general bone structure. The areas between the pads should be well furred. Dew claws may be removed at owner's discretion.

Faults: feet that turn either in or out.

Rear: when viewed from the rear, the hind legs should be moderately spaced and parallel. Rear dew claws are present in some at birth. These should be removed, but is not mandatory. A rear that is too wide, or too narrow, or cowhocked, would be a fault. However it should be understood that the hindquarters should exhibit some degree of power as the was originally developed from workings breeds in the arctic regions.

Tail: the tail should be well furred; set on just below the level of the top line. When up, the tail should form a full, loose but complete curl, which drapes to either side of the body. A heavily plumed tail is expected in longer haired dogs. A tail which is too short to form a full loose curl would be considered a minor fault. A tail which does not lie against the body at all

would be considered a serious fault. The hairs at the tip of the tail should be dark. A tail that is not long enough to curl up to touch the back would be a disqualification.

Faults: a white tip on the tail.

Disqualifications:

- a tail not long enough to reach the back.

Size: 10 pounds and under = toy.

10 plus to 15 pounds = miniature.

15 plus to and including 20 pounds = standard.

Height and length should be in proportion to the weight for good confirmation, the average length from the front of the shoulder to the back point the hindquarters is one inch longer than the height from the shoulder to the floor. Any over 18 inches at the shoulder or over 20 pounds would be disqualified.

Testicles: male dogs must have had, and have been able to retain both testicles in the scrotal sac. Absence of testicles in the scrotal sac, for any reason, calls for disqualification.

Scars: scars achieved in battle or accident are of no concern unless they prevent one from realizing the original size, shape, or structure of the animal. (example: a torn ear or broken tail could be called under question.)

Puppies: puppies are judged as close to adult standards as possible. One must note however, that puppies do not get their adult coat or coloring until approximately six months of age. The puppies tail can change dramatically when the adult coat comes in. The mask, however, should be in place much earlier.

Disqualifying factors:

Any disqualifications per this standard not only pertains to competition shows, but also is used to determine breeding status. Rules require any Klee Kai with one or more disqualifications to be deemed a pet quality Klee Kai which must be spayed or neutered so the probability of the disqualifying fault being passed on in the breed will be reduced. The goal for Klee Kai is to not only keep the breed as good as it was when it was made available to the public in 1988, but the primary goal is to make the breed increasingly better as the years go by. Knowing this can only be accomplished with the loyalty and co-operation of all breeders and owners, a copy of these standards must be given with each and every that transfers ownership and a pledge of loyalty and agreement is to be signed by each owner and returned to registration to be kept on file. It is the responsibility of the breeder or owner who transfers ownership to obtain the signed agreement and to supply a copy of these standards to the new owner.

My signature shows that I have read these standards set forth by Klee Kai of Alaska and that I will, to the best of my ability follow these standards in my breeding program. I understand that by following these rules I hope to assist in bettering the breed and that my own consciousness will be a benefit to my own reputation as well as the breed.

My signature also shows that I understand this is a newly developed breed and that I will comply with these standards and either euthanasia inferior or be personally responsible for seeing that they are spayed or neutered and will obtain written proof from that veterinarian that the animal was indeed altered and send a copy of that proof to registration to be kept on file. I believe that by doing this I will help prevent undesirable traits in future generations.

I understand that I am personally responsible for passing on these standards to anyone who purchases a from me, and that I am responsible for obtaining their signature on both the copy of standards and on the transfer of ownership form and for sending copies of these to registration.

And above all else, I promise to love and be proud of my dog and to care for it and protect it. I understand that a dog is not just a business or a status symbol and that this breed was developed for the sole purpose of being loved. Therefore, before I sell any I will be totally confident that person will be a responsible and loving owner.

Signature

Date