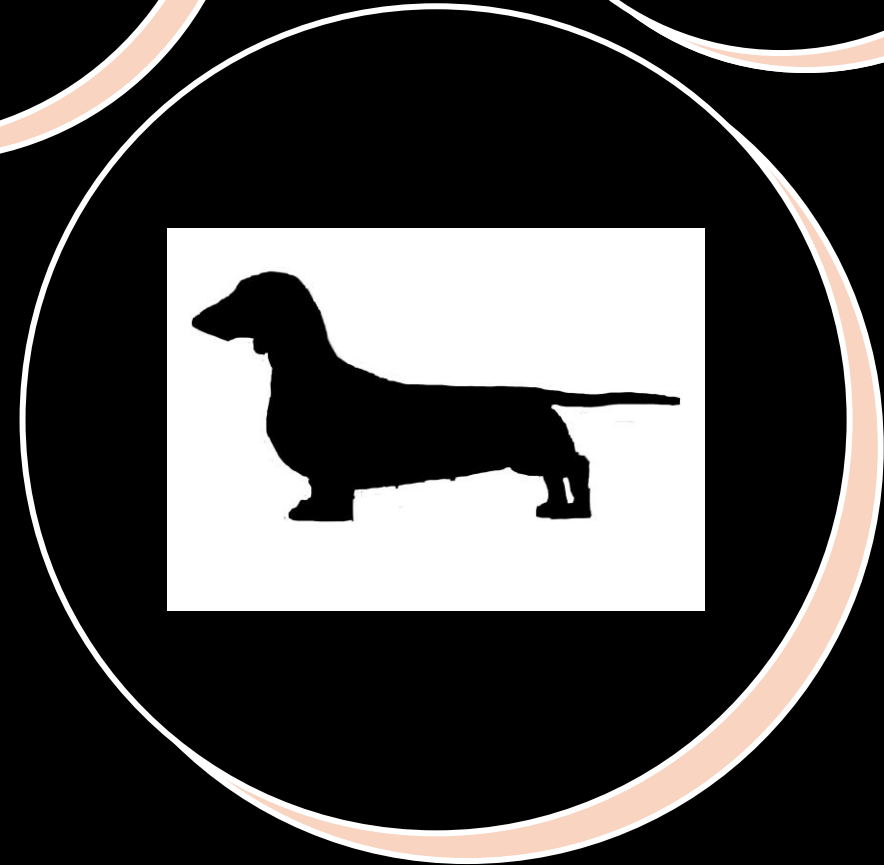




# Breeding to the Standard

Presented by the Dachshund  
Alliance of Southern Ontario



# One of a Kind Breed

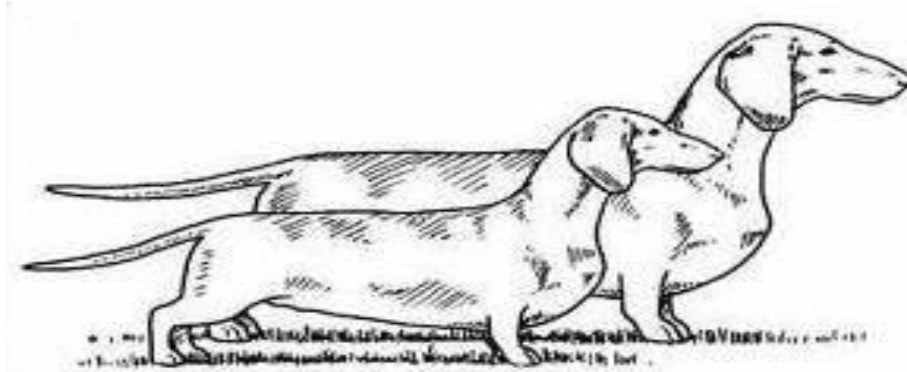
- **Goes to Ground**
- **Flushes Game**
- **Retreives**
- **Tracks**



**\*\*Wirehairs\*\* were first recognized in 1812, with **\*\*Longhairs\*\*** emerging shortly thereafter. In the early days of the breed, distinct coat varieties were less significant compared to the emphasis on hunting ability and a coat suited to local terrain. Shortly after the **\*\*Standards\*\*** were established, **\*\*Miniatures\*\*** evolved to specialize in hunting rabbits and other small game, particularly in sandy terrains.**



## **HISTORY OF THE DACHSHUND**



- **Miniatures** are not a separate breed but a category or division within a dog show or competition where smaller dogs, specifically those weighing 11 pounds or under at 12 months old, compete. This is common in some dog competitions where the same breed may have different divisions based on size or weight.
- **Standards** weighs between 16 and 32 pounds.
- **Size is indeed important** for Dachshunds, as they were originally bred for hunting badgers and other small burrowing animals. Their long, low bodies are perfectly suited for digging and maneuvering through narrow tunnels. The smaller size of Dachshunds allows them to chase and corner their prey in these tight spaces, making them effective hunting dogs. Additionally, their sturdy build and strong paws are designed to help them dig and navigate underground. So, when it comes to performing their traditional job, the Dachshund's size and shape are essential to their success.

# The Musthaves in Dachshunds

**Breed Type:** The dachshund must be recognized from all other breeds.

**Balance:** The dachshund must have efficient movement. That requires proper structure and balance along with front and rear angulation.

**Soundness:** Dachshunds are a combination of structure, movement and temperament. Those three requirements allow the dachshund to do its job with the least amount of effort.

# Fitting It All Together

**Courageous Temperament**

**Long, low and well angulated**

**Distinctive Headpiece**

**Unique Forequarters**

**Powerful Hindquarters**

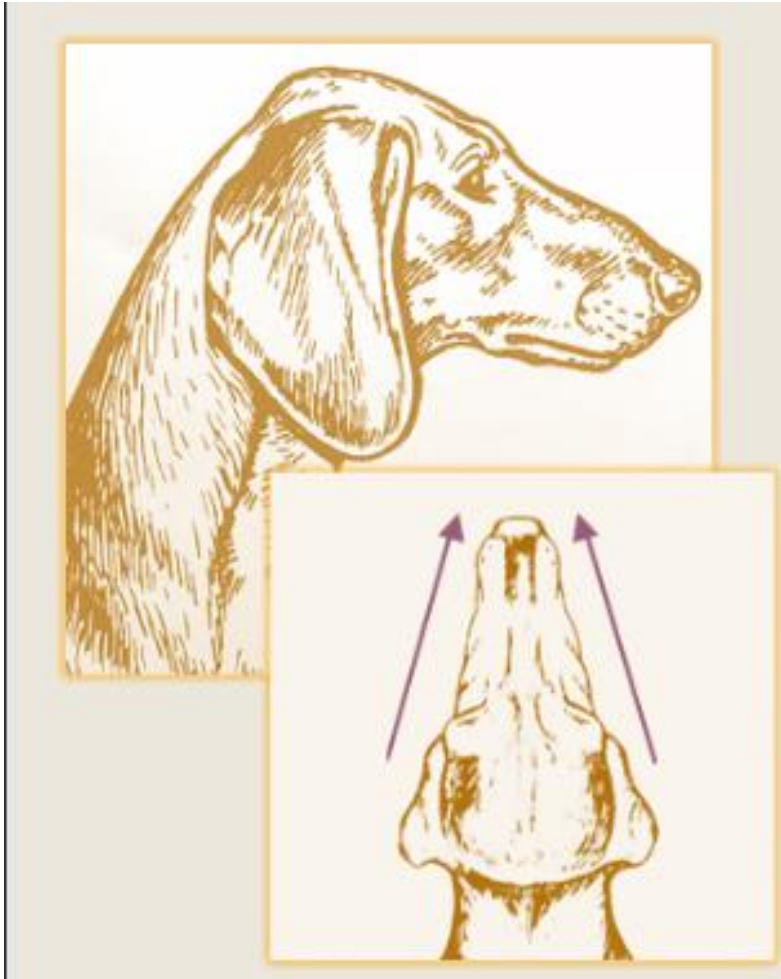


# TEMPERAMENT

- **The Dachshund is clever, lively and courageous to the point of rashness.**
- **He perseveres in above and below ground work.**
- **All senses are well developed.**
- **Any display of shyness is a serious fault!**



# The Head



**The Nose is black with well open nostrils**

**Muzzle is slightly arched**

**Eyes are medium size, almond shaped and dark rimmed. There should be a prominent bridge bones over the eyes.**

**The skull slopes gradually with little noticeable stop.**

**The head tapers uniformly to the tip of the nose.**



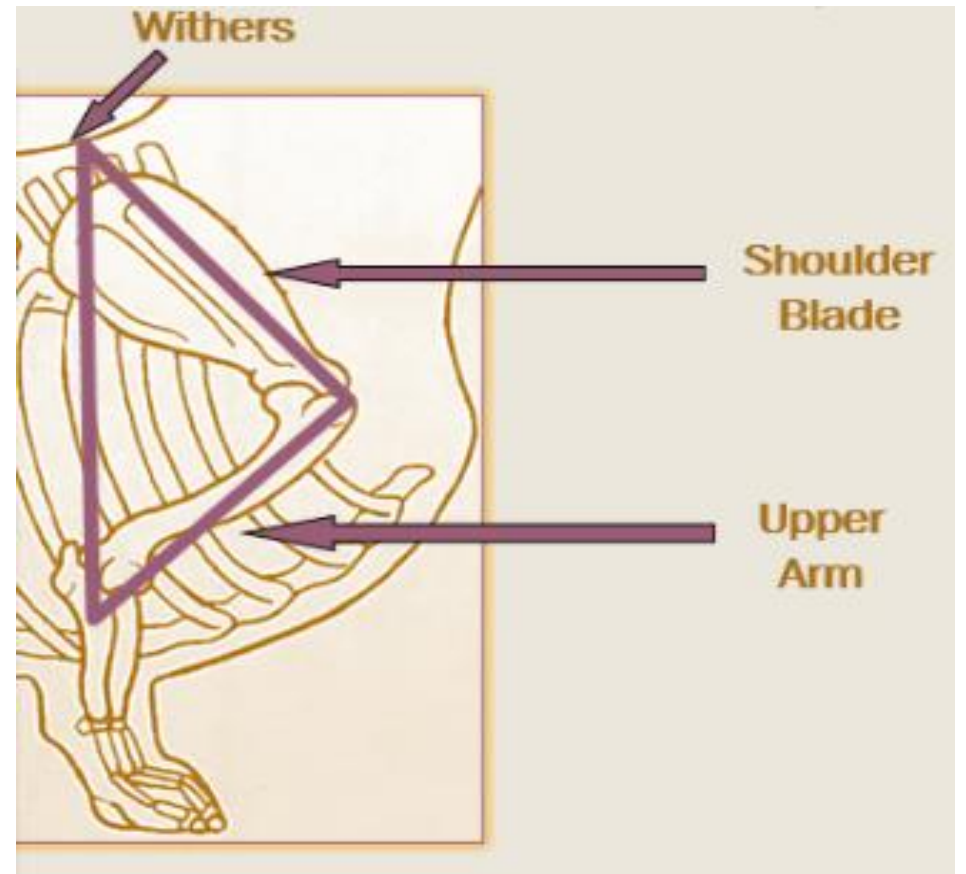
# The Head Continued

- **The Ears are set near the top of the head, not too far forward and of moderate length.**
- **When animated, the forward edge of the ear just touches the cheek, so that the ear frames the face.**
- **Scissors bite(a level bite is a minor fault).**



# Forequarters

- **Shoulders are well laid back and closely fitted at the withers, which are clean of excess fat or skin.**
- **Upper arm ideally is the same length as the shoulder blades. Elbows should be close to the body.**
- **Shoulder blades and the upper arm at right angles to each other.**



# Forequarters 2



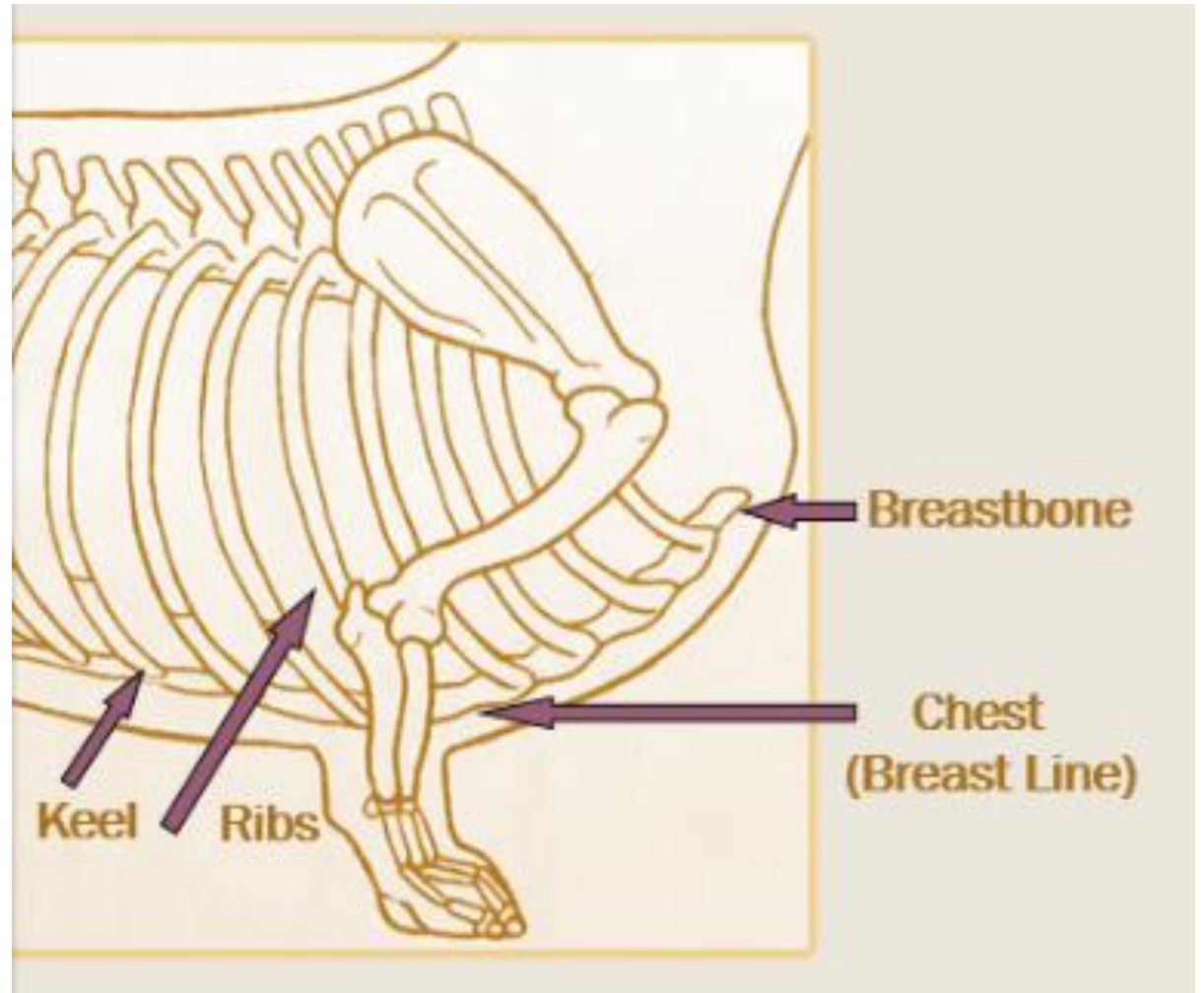
**A correct front will have the deepest point of the chest covered by the front leg, and the shoulders lay well back over the withers.**



**In forward set fronts, the deepest point of the chest sits behind the front legs due to a short upper arm. As a result, the shoulders lie at the base of the neck not the withers.**

# Forequarters 3

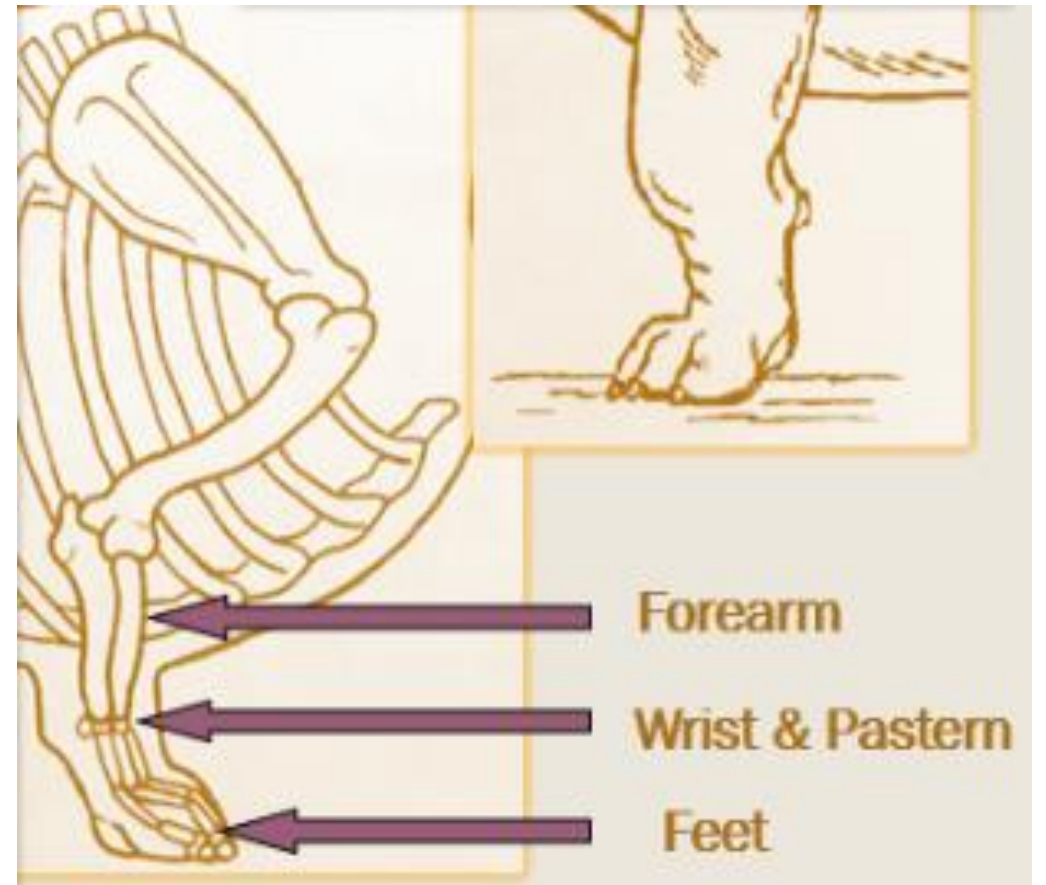
- Prominent breastbone with dimples on both sides.
- Deepest point of the breast line covered by the front leg
- Keel extends well past the front legs, then merges gradually into the abdomen.
- Ribs well sprung.



# Forequarters 4

- The Forearm is short and curves slightly inward.
- Wrist and pastern are short without wrinkles.
- The front paws are full, tight and compact with well arched toes and thick pads. They may be equally inclined a bit outward.

- Knuckling over of the front legs is a disqualification!



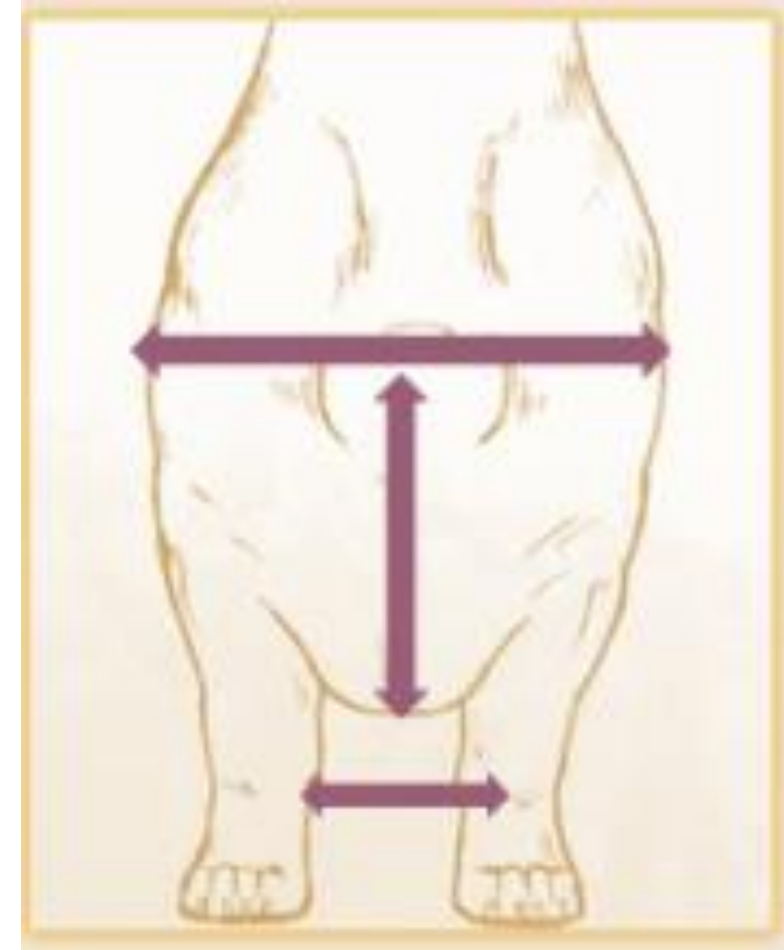
# Forequarters 5



- The shoulder blades, upper arms and forearms form a "Parenthesis" around the ribcage.

## "Wraparound Front"

Wrist joints are closer together than the shoulder joints, so the front does not appear absolutely straight.



- The front is oval and extends down to the mid point of the forearm.

# TEST YOURSELF

In addition to movement and temperament, what is the key component of soundness?

Breed Type - Structure or Balance

# TEST YOURSELF

- In addition to movement and temperament, what is a key component of soundness?

Breed Type - Structure or Balance

✓ **The Combination of structure, movement and temperament that allows the dachshund to do its job with the least amount of effort possible.**



Dogs with poor temperaments may still be bred if they have desirable physical attributes?

TRUE

FALSE

# TEST YOURSELF

Dogs with poor temperaments may be bred if they have desirable physical attributes?

TRUE

FALSE

**Poor temperament is a serious fault which has a genetic and environmental component. Only breed good temperaments to good temperaments.**

# TEST YOURSELF

Choose the dog with the best head

A



B



C



# TEST YOURSELF

Choose the dog with the best head

A



A is incorrect. The head planes are not parallel, creating a "downfaced" appearance.

B



✓ B is correct. The head planes are parallel and of equal length, slightly arched and with minimal stop.

C



C is incorrect. There is more stop between the skull and muzzle.

# TEST YOURSELF

Choose the dog with the better front angulation



# TEST YOURSELF

Choose the dog with the better front angulation



**A is Correct. Shoulders and upper arm are of equal length and at the right angle. Shoulders lay back over the withers.**



**B is incorrect. Shoulders and upper arm are not of equal length. The shoulders lay at the base of the neck.**

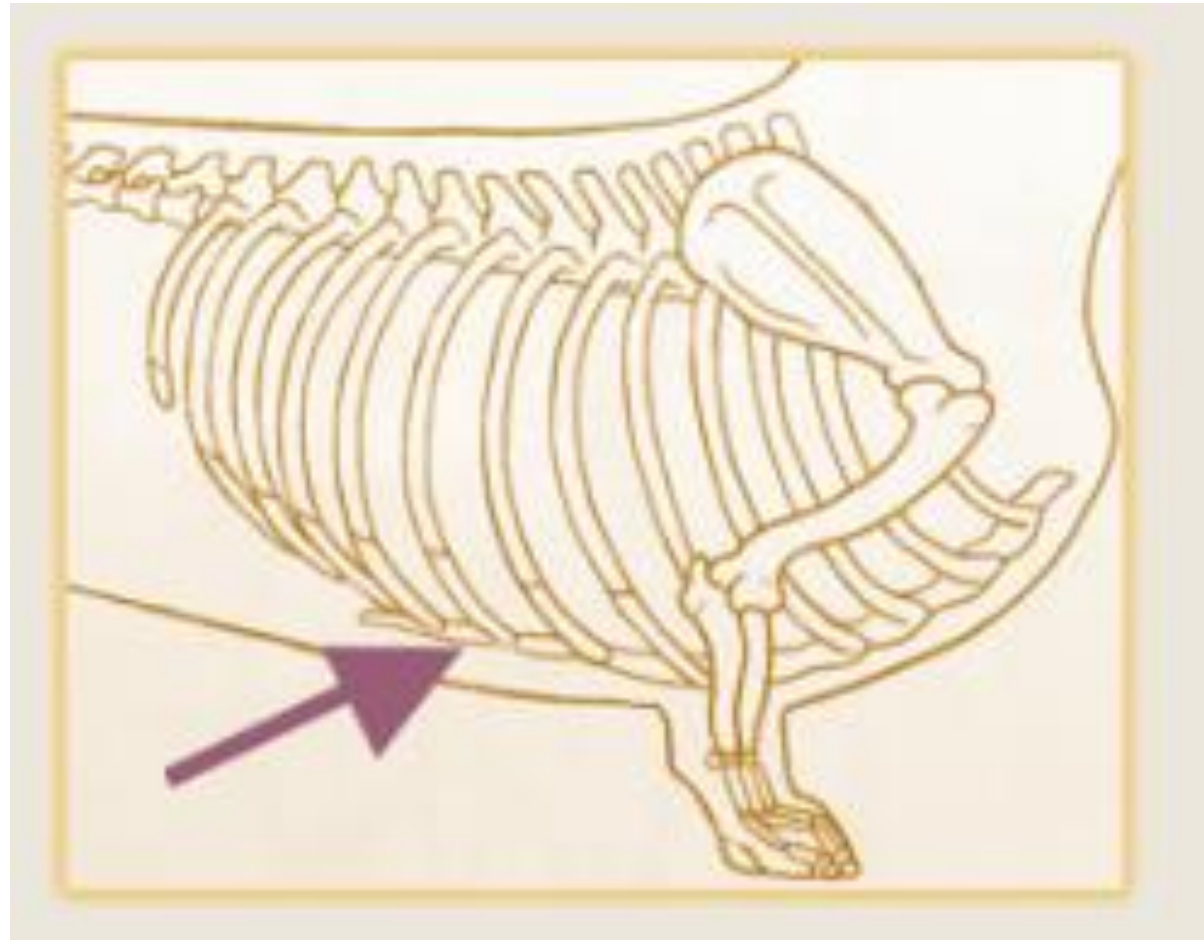
# TEST YOURSELF

• The highlighted area of this dachshund skeleton is called the:

• BREASTBONE

• BREAST LINE

• KEEL



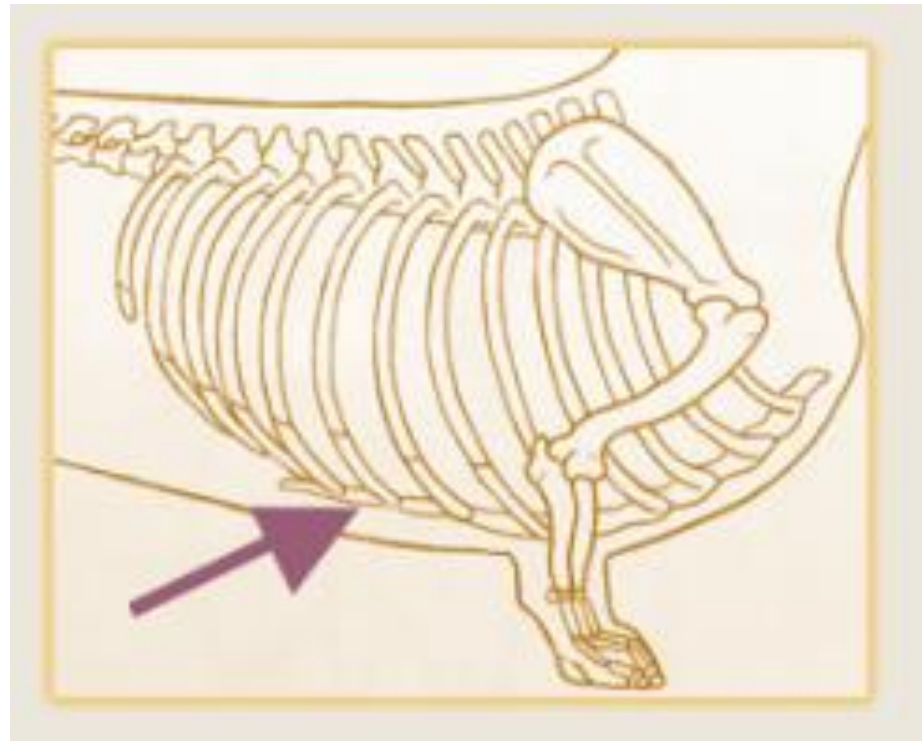
# TEST YOURSELF

• The highlighted area of this dachshund skeleton is called the:

• BREASTBONE

• BREASTLINE

• KEEL



The Keel extends well beyond the front legs and then merges gradually into the abdomen.



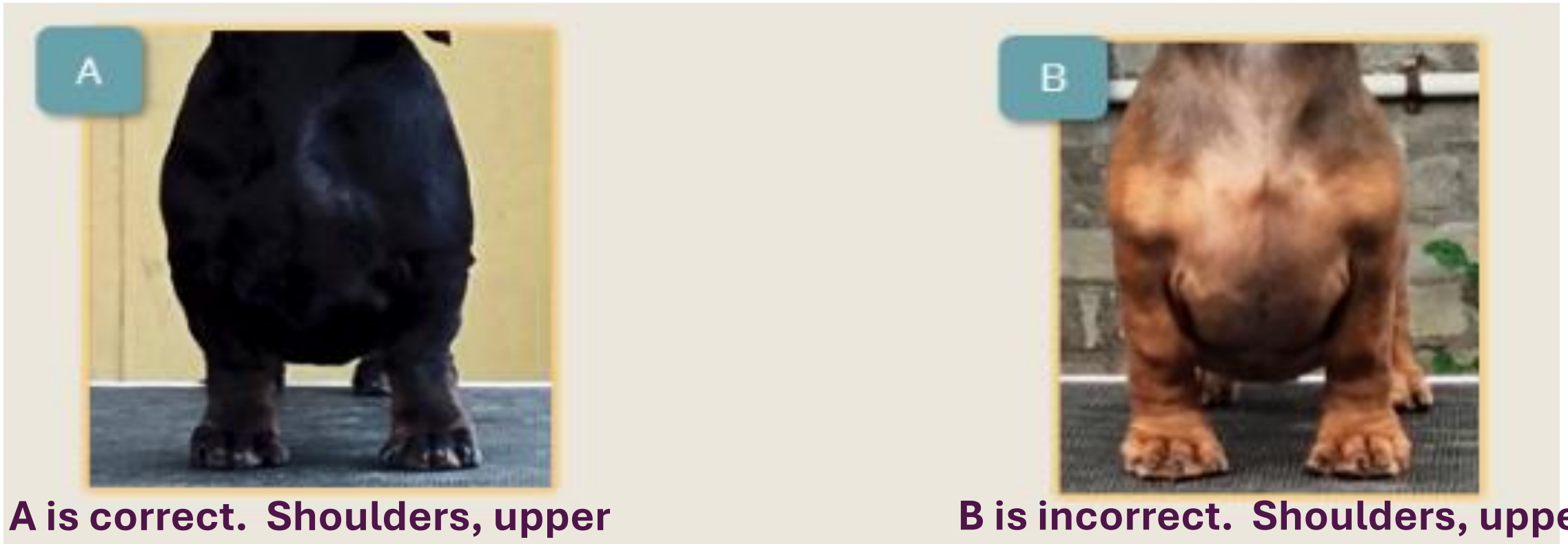
# TEST YOURSELF

Choose the dog with the "wraparound front".



# TEST YOURSELF

Choose the dog with the "wraparound front".

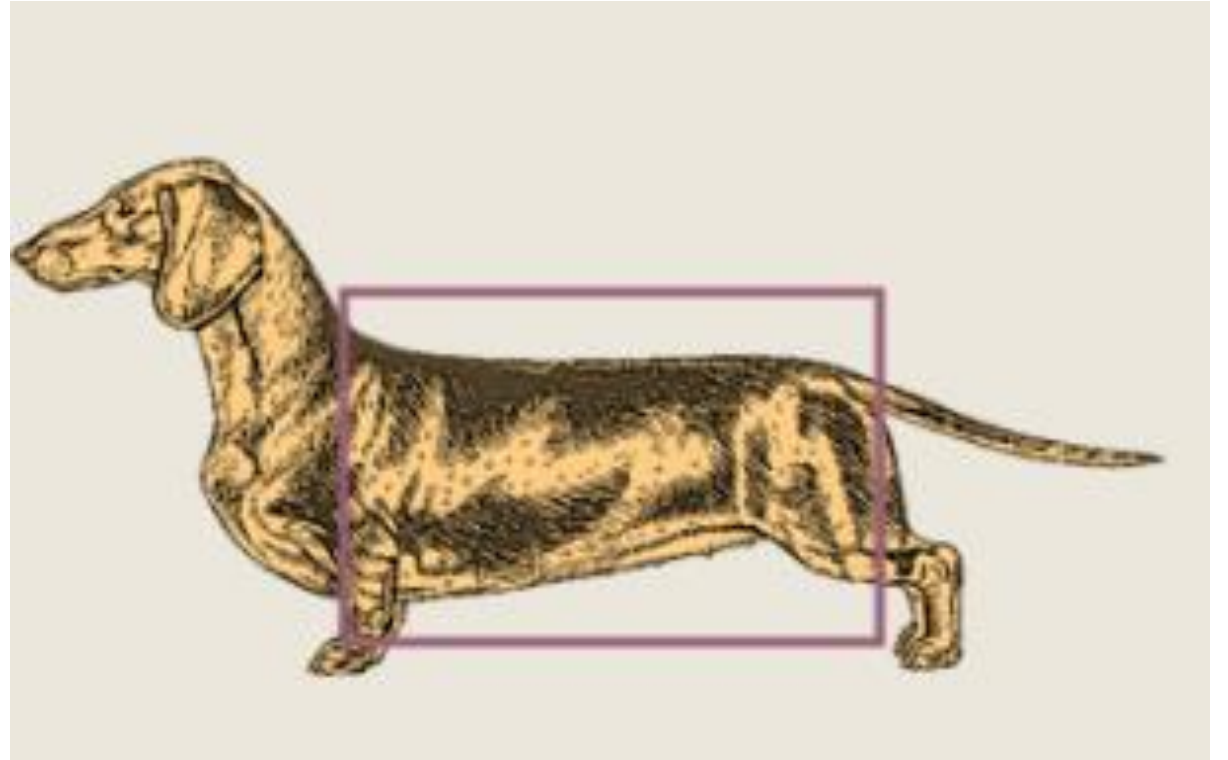


**A is correct. Shoulders, upper arm and forearm form a parenthesis around the ribcage.**

**B is incorrect. Shoulders, upper arm and forearm form a straight line vs wrap around the ribcage.**

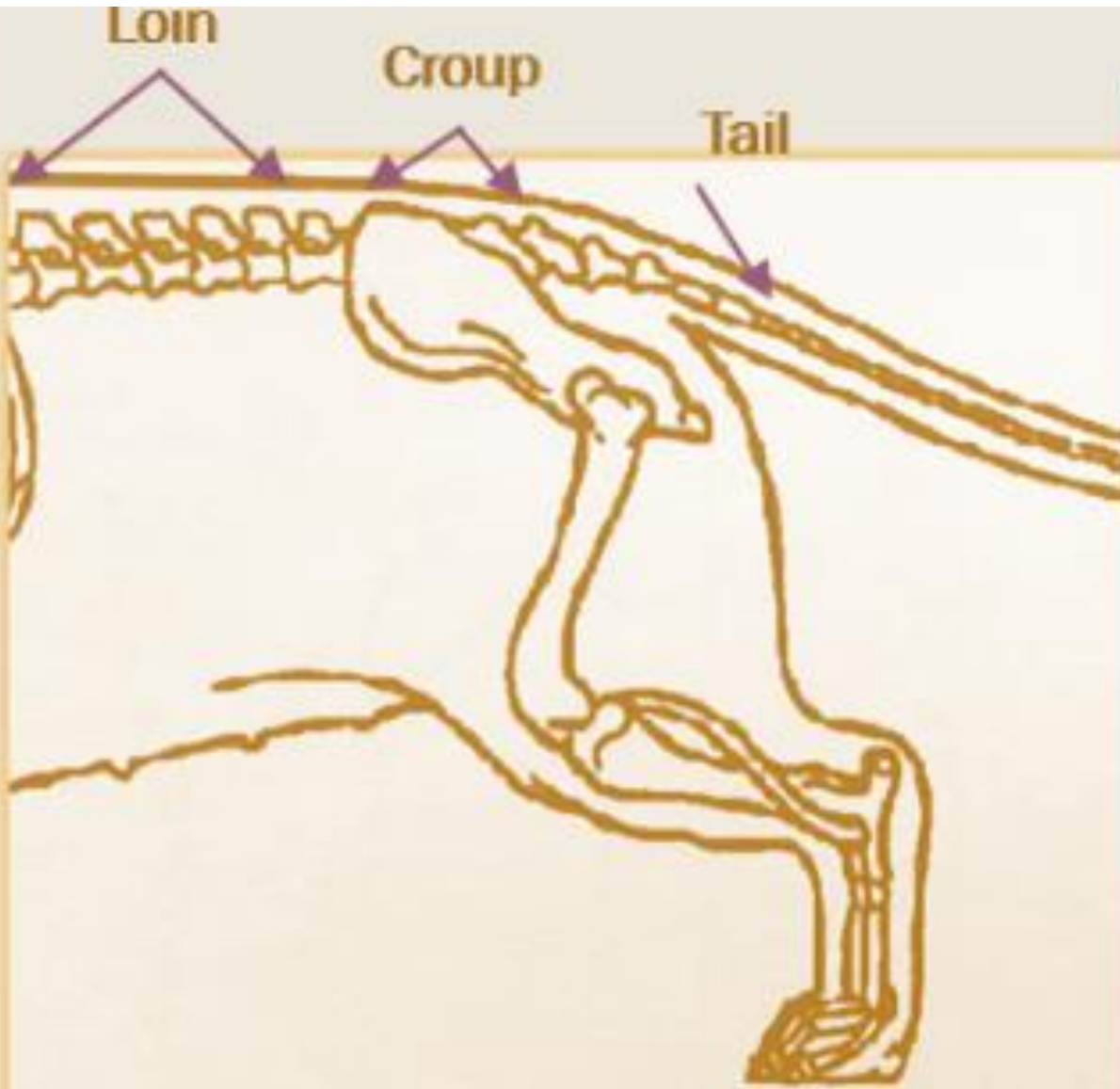
# TRUNK

- **Trunk is long and fully muscled.**
- **In profile, the back lies in the straightest line between the withers and the slightly arched loin.**
- **Abdomen is slightly drawn up.**



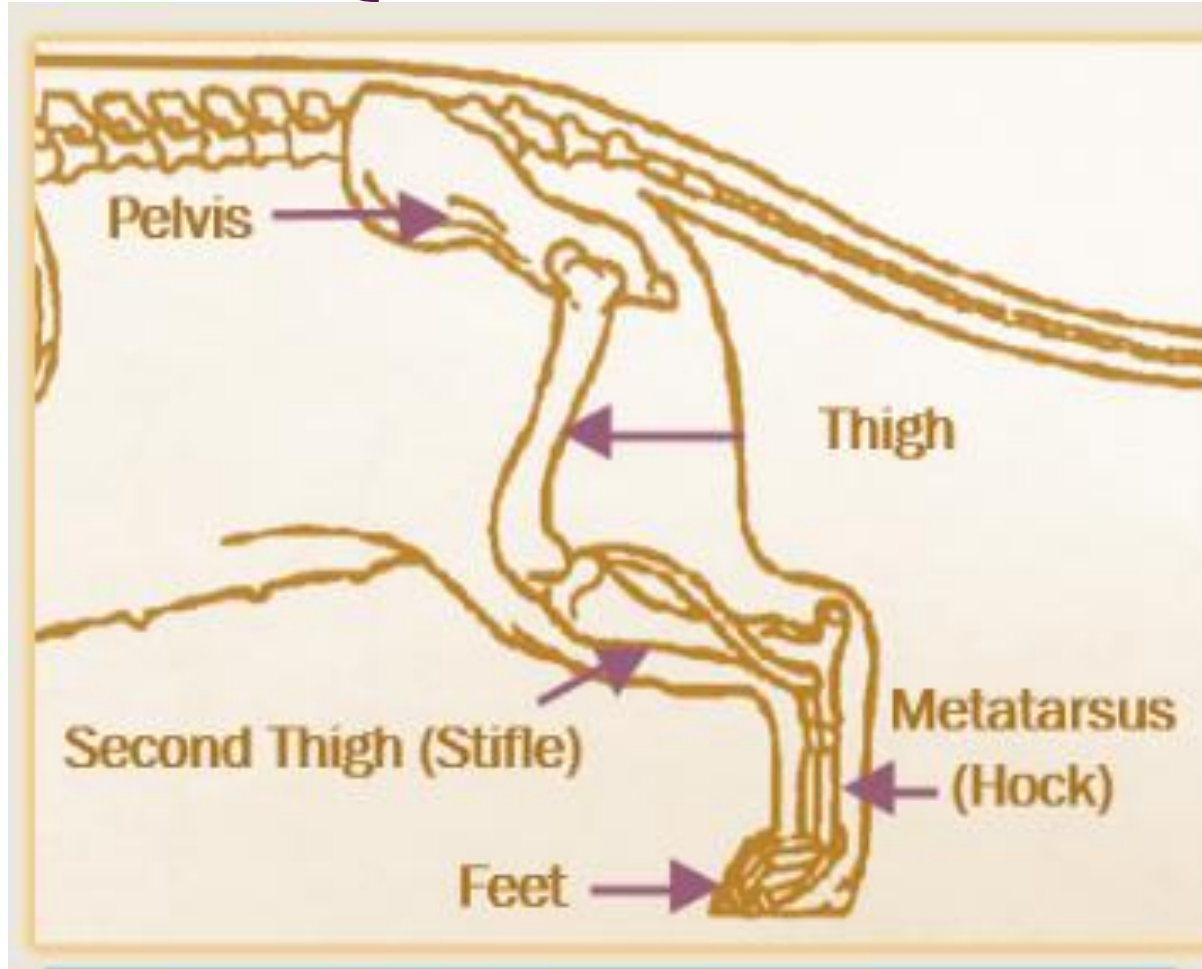
- **A body that hangs loosely between the shoulders is a serious fault!**

# HINDQUARTERS



- The Loin is slightly arched, compact and strong.
- The croup is rounded and no higher than the withers.
- The tail is strong and in line with the spin. Carried not too gaily.

# HINDQUARTERS 2



- Hind paws are smaller than front paws with rough, thick pads.

- The pelvis, thigh, second thigh and hock are ideally the same length and form a series of right angles.
- The hock is short strong and at right angle to the second thigh.

# HINDQUARTERS 3



Correct

- From the rear, the thighs are strong and powerful.
- The legs turn neither in or out.

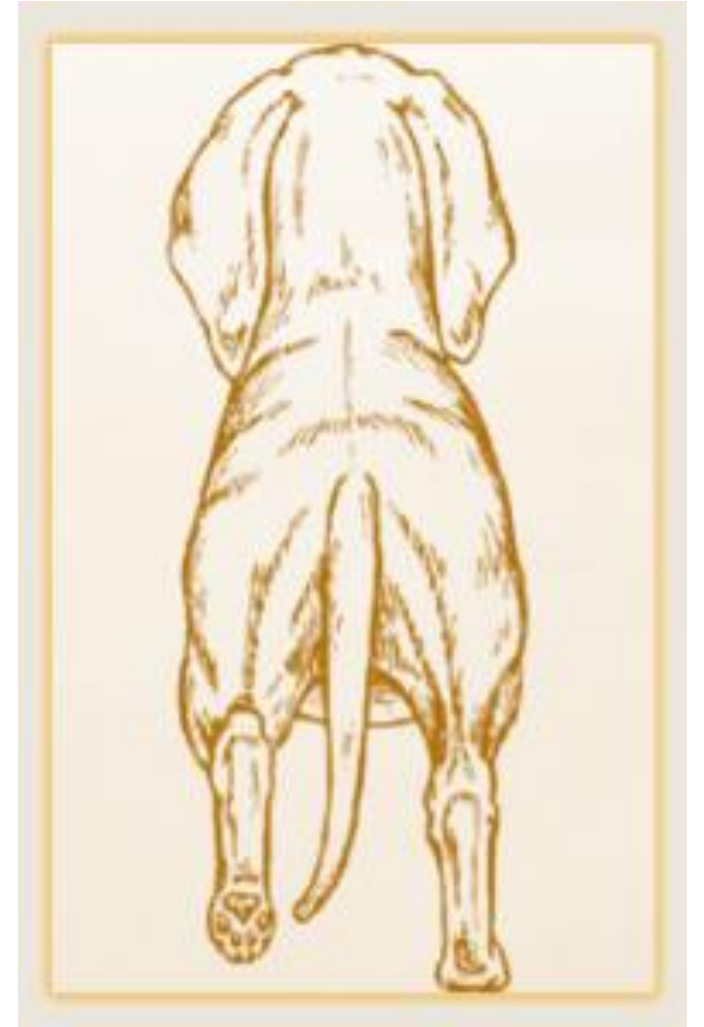


Incorrect

# GAIT

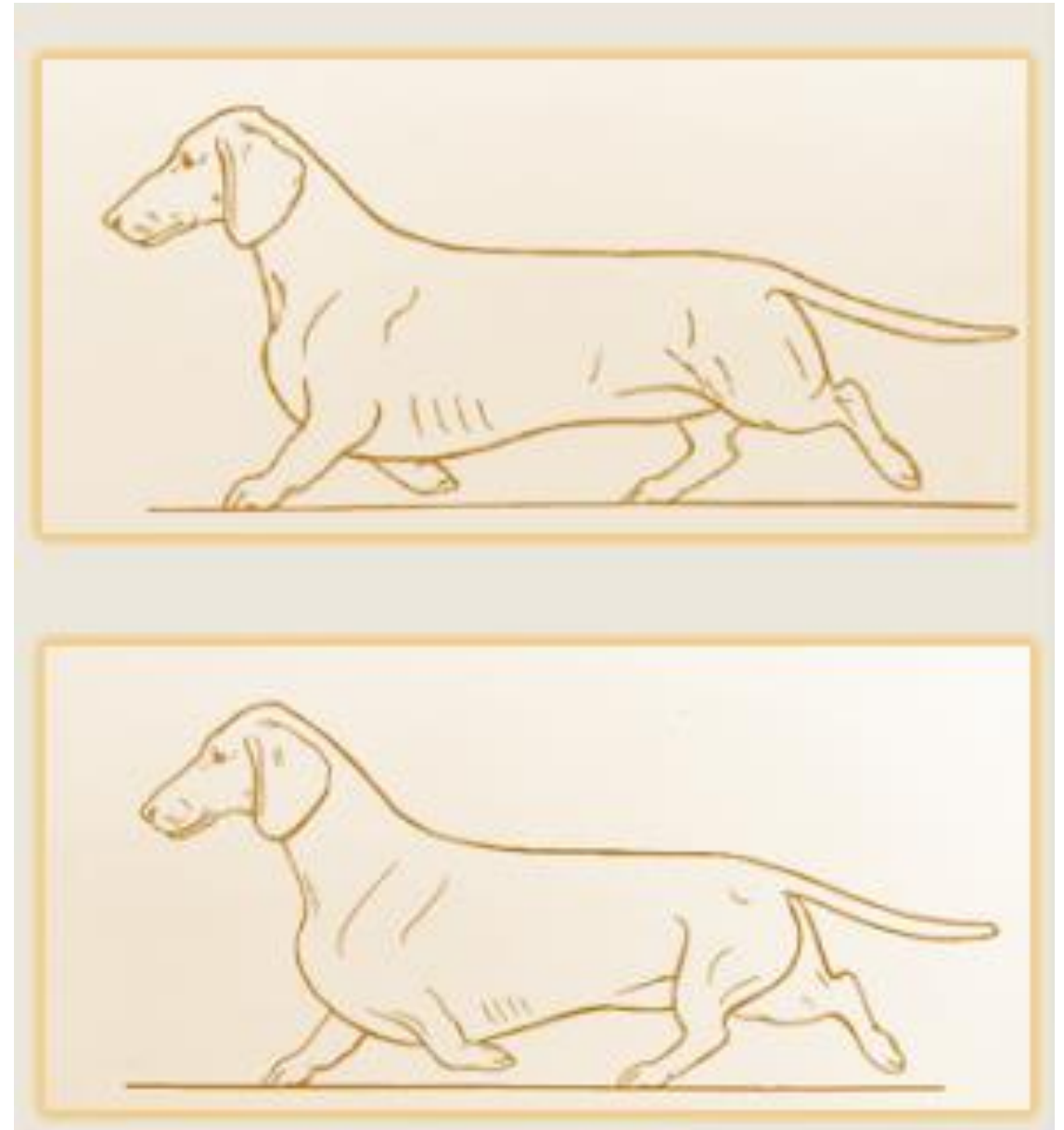


- **Front legs do not move in parallel, but converge slightly to the middle (or inward)**
- **Rear pads are clearly exposed during rear extension.**



# GAIT 2

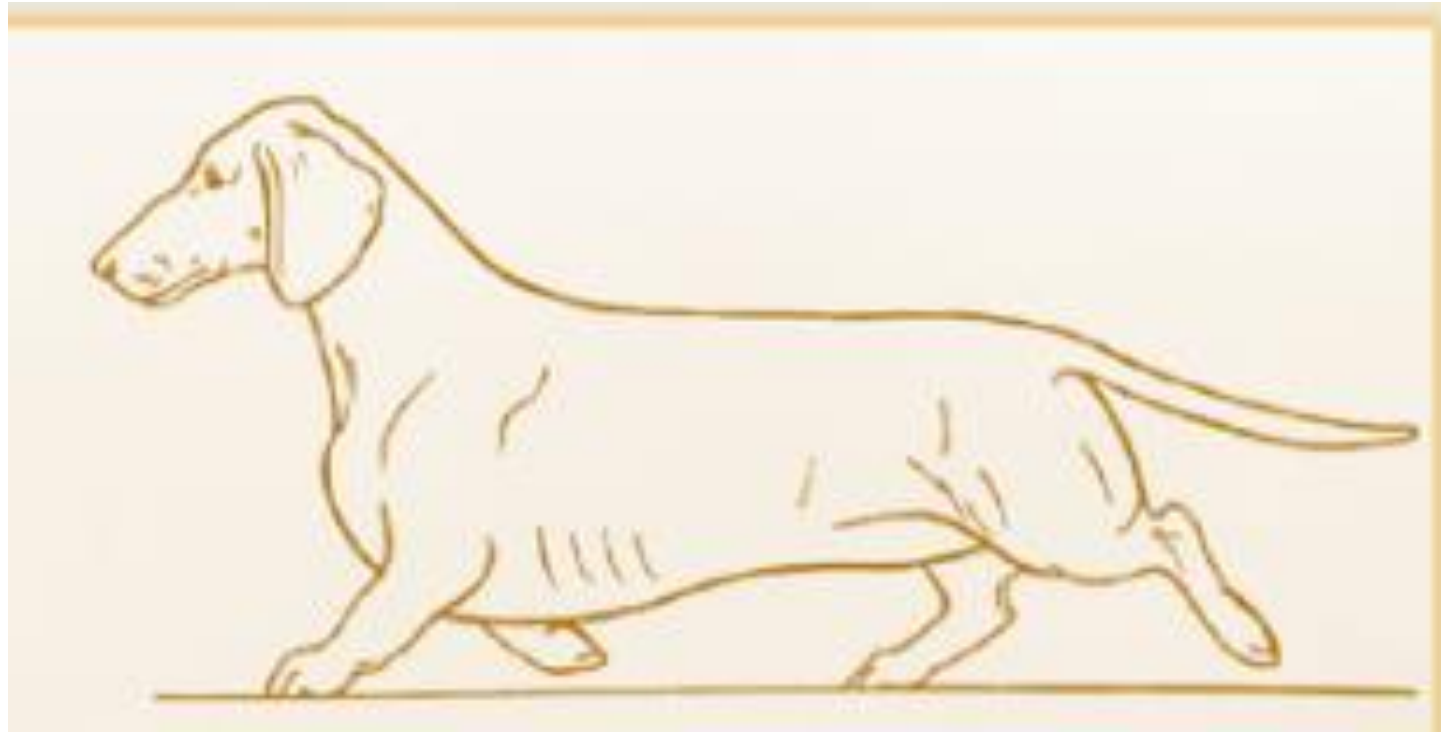
- **The Dachshund must have agility, freedom of movement and endurance to do the work for which he was developed.**
- **Forelegs reach well forward, with driving action of hind legs.**
- **Rear pads are clearly exposed during rear extension.**





# GAIT 3

- **MIS-STEPS!!**
- **Short steps.**
- **High-stepping gait.**
- **Sloppy movement.**
- **Close or overly wide movement, coming or going.**
- **Rear feet reaching toward the abdomen(belly tapping).**
- **Walking on the rear pasterns.**
- **Exaggerated reach and drive.**



# TEST YOURSELF

- In profile, the back lies in the straightest line possible between the withers and the :

**CROUP**

**LOIN**

**TAIL**

# TEST YOURSELF

- In profile, the back lies in the straightest line possible between the withers and the:

**CROUP**

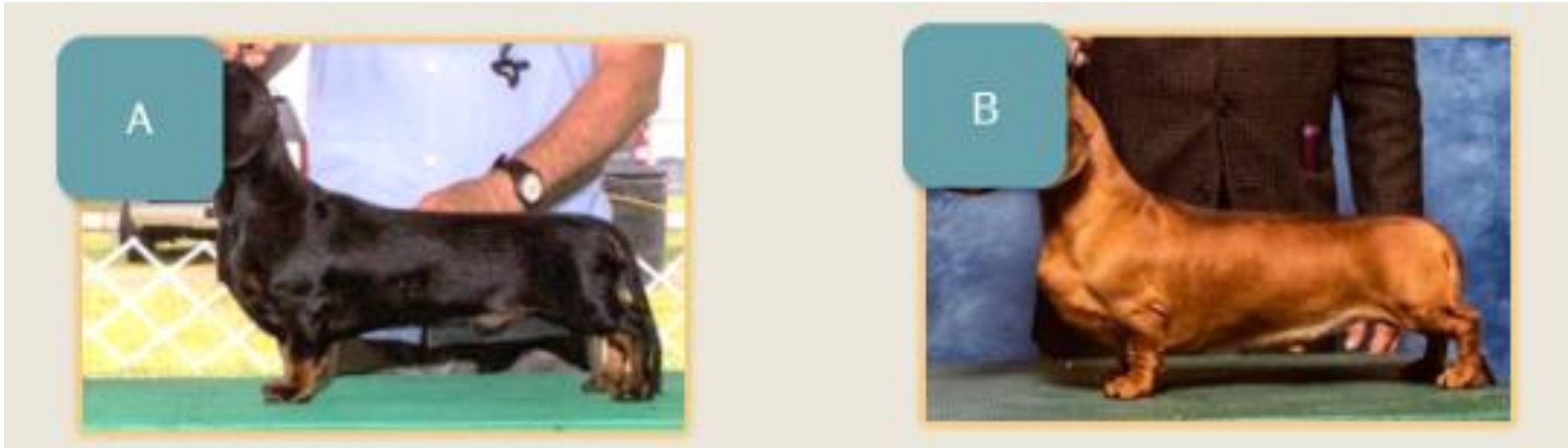
**LOIN**

**TAIL**

**The loin is slightly arched, compact and strong and forms a connection between the forequarters and the hindquarters.**

# TEST YOURSELF

- Choose the dog with the best underline:



# TEST YOURSELF

- Choose the dog with the best underline:



**A is incorrect. The keel stops just behind the front legs.**



**B is correct. The keel extends well beyond the front legs.**

# TEST YOURSELF

- When moving the front legs move in parallel with the hind legs?

TRUE

FALSE

# TEST YOURSELF

- When moving the front legs move in parallel with the hind legs?

**TRUE**

**FALSE**

Front legs incline slightly inward (converge to the middle) and do not move in parallel with the hindlegs.

# TEST YOURSELF

- Choose the dog with the best rear angulation:





# TEST YOURSELF

- Choose the dog with the best rear angulation?



**A is incorrect. The second thigh is shorter than the hock, thigh and pelvis.**

**B is incorrect. The second thigh is longer than the hock, thigh and pelvis.**

**C is correct. The pelvis, thigh, second thigh and hock are at right angles and of equal length.**

# TEST YOURSELF

- Faulty movement where the rear feet reach toward the abdomen is called?

• **Short Stepping**

**Belly Tapping**

**High Stepping**

# TEST YOURSELF

- Faulty movement where the rear feet reach toward the abdomen is called?

• **Short Stepping**

**Belly Tapping**

**High Stepping**

**Belly Tapping is the result of a short second thigh, (stifle) which prevents oorrect rear extension.**

# Test Yourself

- Choose the dog with the best hock placement:



# TEST YOURSELF

- Choose the dog with the best hock placement:



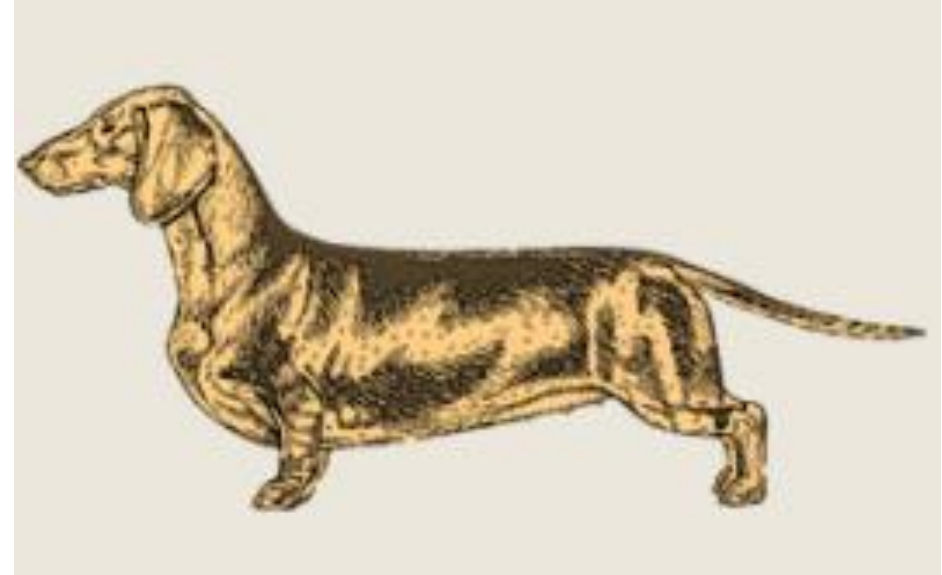
**A is incorrect. The hocks are narrow and turning slightly in. (Cow hocked)**

**B is correct. The hocks don't turn either in or out.**

**C is incorrect. The hocks are wide, sitting outside the hip socket.**

# SMOOTH COAT

- **Single Coat, short, smooth and shining. Not too long or too short.**
- **Ears not leatherly.**
- **Tail gradually tapered to a point. It should be bushy or too thin.**

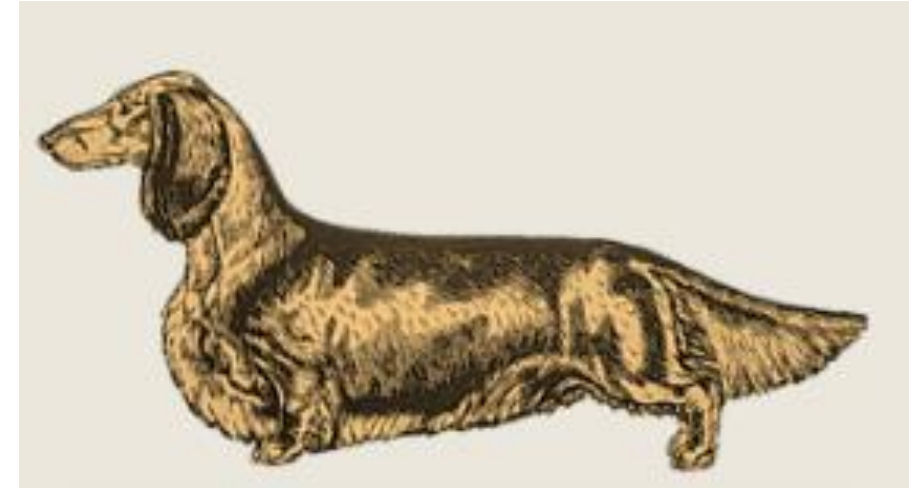


## Coat Faults

- **Brush Tail**
- **Partially or wholly hairless tail**

# LONGHAIR COAT

- **Double-coated, sleek glistening, often slightly wavy hair, is longer under the neck and on the forechest.**
- **Coat gives the dog an elegant appearance.**
- **Hair is longest on tail and forms a flag.**



## Coat Faults

**Too profuse a coat which masks type.**

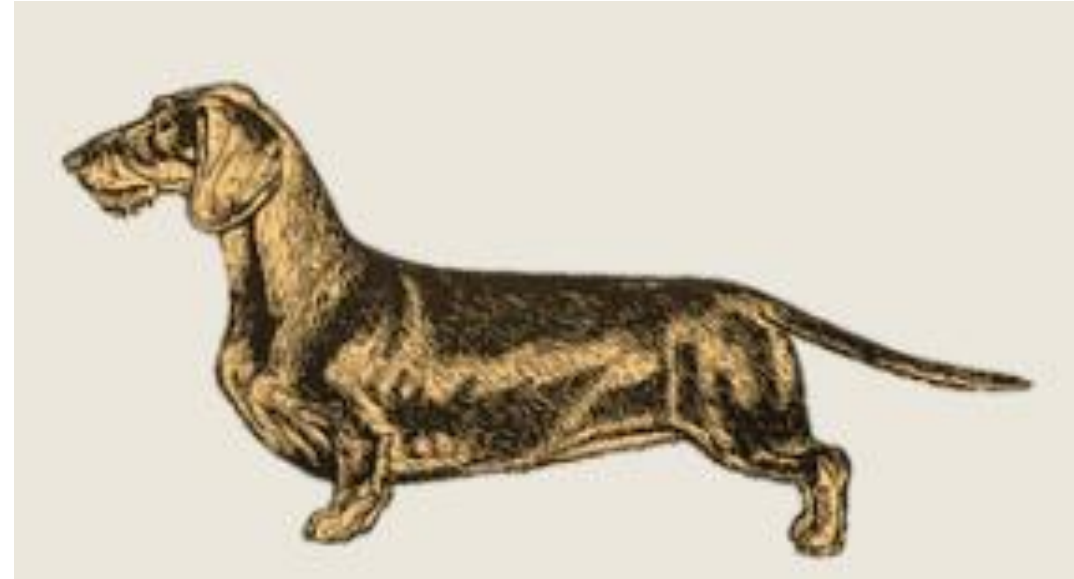
**Equally long hair over the whole body.**

**A curly coat**

**A pronounced part down the back.**

# WIREHAIR COAT

- Double-coated with a hard, short, thick, rough outercoat and undercoat distributed between the coarser hairs.
- Beard and eyebrows.
- Resembles a smooth from a distance.



## Coat Faults

**Single Coat.**

**Soft outercoat, especially on the top of the head.**

**Long, wavy or curly hair.**

**Absence of beard or eyebrows.**



# COLOR & PATTERNS

- **Single color:** red, cream
- **Two-color:** black, chocolate, gray or fawn- each with tan markings.

**Dapple:** lighter color areas that contrast with a darker base color – neither color predominates.

**Brindle:** black or dark stripes over the entire body.

**Wildboar:** a banding of individual hairs that create a grizzled effect.

**Sable:** uniform dark overlay double pigment on red dogs, with the tip of each hair much darker than the base color.

**Except for dapples and piebalds,** a small amount of white on the chest is acceptable but not desirable.

# TEST YOURSELF

- The Smooth color and pattern descriptions apply to:

**All three coats**

**Smooths & Longs**

**Smooths only**

# TEST YOURSELF

- **The Smooth color and pattern descriptions apply to:**

**All three coats**

**Smooths & Longs**

**Smooths only**

**Colors and  
patterns apply  
to all three  
coats.**

# TEST YOURSELF

- Select the most correct longhair coat:



# TEST YOURSELF

- Select the most correct longhair coat:



**A is correct. The coat gives an elegant appearance, but is not so profuse that it masks breed type.**

**B is incorrect because it is lacking longer hair, especially on the neck and forechest.**

# TEST YOURSELF

- **Soft hair in the outercoat of the wirehair is acceptable but not desired?**

**TRUE**

**FALSE**

# TEST YOURSELF

- **Soft hair in the outercoat of the wirehair is acceptable but not desirable?**

**FALSE**

**Softhair  
anywhere in  
the outercoat is  
a fault.**

**TRUE**

# TEST YOURSELF

- Choose the Dachshund with the dapple coat pattern:





# TEST YOURSELF

- Choose the Dachshund with the dapple coat pattern:



**A is a brindle pattern.**

**B is correct. The dapple pattern is lighter-color areas contrasting with the darker base coat.**

**C is the Piebald pattern**

# TEST YOURSELF

- The pattern that appears as stripes over the base color is called?

**Black & Tan**

**Brindle**

**Sable**

# TEST YOURSELF

- **The pattern that appears as stripes over the base color is called?**

**Black & Tan**

**Brindle**

**Sable**

**The stripes are black or dark in color and appear over the entire body.**

# The Role of Responsible Breeding

**The breeder's role in ensuring that the Dachshund maintains its characteristic form and function.**

- Importance of adhering to breed standards set by organizations like the CKC.
- Avoiding breeding purely for appearance or trends that deviate from the breed's functional traits.
- **Potential modern threats to the Dachshund's integrity.**
  - Overemphasis on certain physical features, like exaggerated long backs or overly short legs, which can lead to health problems like intervertebral disc disease (IVDD).
  - Breeding for extremes in size (e.g., miniaturization) without considering the dog's overall structure and health.
- **How trends in breeding can diverge from the original intent of the breed, focusing more on aesthetics than on maintaining working abilities or health.**

# The Future of the Dachshund: In Our Hands

- **Why it's essential for today's breeders to consider long-term impacts.**
  - **The balance between keeping the breed's form and ensuring health and longevity.**
- **The responsibility of breeders to educate prospective dog owners about the history and needs of the Dachshund.**
  - **The importance of maintaining ethical breeding practices and avoiding puppy mills or unethical breeders.**

# Conclusion

The Dachshund Alliance of Southern Ontario hopes that you have found value in this educational program.

Please feel free to offer feedback to our club or to suggest future educational topics.

Thanks and Good Breeding



