

The Danish club for Kleine Münsterländer (DMK) has learned of proposed changes to the FCI Standard Nr. 102 for the Kleine Münsterländer. Apparently, the proposed changes have already been implemented in Germany.

The changes were proposed by the board of the German Verband für Kleine Münsterländer in the Verbandzeitschrift für Kleine Münsterländer Vorstehhunde, Januar-Februar 2014, page 7<sup>1</sup>. From the minutes of meeting of their General Assembly in March of the same year, it appears the proposed changes were approved in Germany. This was published in the Verbandzeitschrift für Kleine Münsterländer Vorstehhunde, Juli-August, page 239, second column<sup>2</sup>. We understand that the changes have already been implemented in Germany, as they are included in a supplement to their rules in the same publication (after page 262). However, the proposed changes are so far not approved by the FCI.

We are concerned about a number of the changes. The way we hunt, and thereby use our dogs, varies greatly between countries for a number of reasons: differences in terrain, the occurrence and type of game, national legislation, and not least tradition. We feel that the proposed changes to the standard do not allow the individual countries to continue breeding and using the Kleine Münsterländer in the way that is optimal for each country.

We are particularly concerned about the changes to the standard mentioned below.

#### KURZER GESCHICHTLICHER ABRISS

The German club wants to change the historical summary to reflect their wish that the Kleine Münsterländer is now a versatile hunting dog instead of a pointing dog. But is it possible to change history? We do not believe so. We can accept that the many references to historical persons are removed, but not the history of the breed as a pointing dog. The Kleine Münsterländer is a Group 7 dog, and therefore it is important to maintain the historical reference to its pointing abilities.

The final sentence in the proposed historical summary reads

*“Heute ist der Kleine Münsterländer ein vielseitig verwendbarer Jagdhund, der wegen seiner Leistungsfähigkeit weltweit bei Jägern sehr beliebt ist.”*

This sentence has nothing to do with the history of the breed, and the standard already states under ‘Verwendung’ that the Kleine Münsterländer is a ‘Vielseitig einsetzbarer Jagdgebrauchshund’. Therefore, we propose that this sentence is deleted.

#### VERHALTEN/CHARAKTER (WESEN)

The German club wants to include the following at the end of the passage

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.kleine-muensterlaender.org/images/stories/mitteilungshefte/KLM\\_1-2014.pdf](http://www.kleine-muensterlaender.org/images/stories/mitteilungshefte/KLM_1-2014.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.kleine-muensterlaender.org/images/stories/mitteilungshefte/KLM4-2014.pdf>



*"Er muss die notwendigen Anlagen haben, um in guter Zusammenarbeit mit dem/der Führer/in Wild im Feld, Wald und Wasser zu bejagen und ihn/sie in den Besitz des bejagten Wildes zu bringen (Vielseitigkeit)."*

Notwendigen Anlage = required aptitudes are country specific and based on national hunting traditions and national legislation. Kleine Münsterländer is a continental versatile pointing hunting dog. It need not be elaborated any further.

## GLIEDMASSEN

Schulter: Gut anliegendes Schulterblatt, kräftig bemuskelt. Schulterblatt und Oberarm bilden einen guten Winkel von etwa 90°.

The German club wants to change the angle to **110-120°**.

Due to well-monitored breeding restrictions internationally, as well as in the Scandinavian countries, the Kleine Münsterländer is a healthy population with limited cases of HD, OCD, AD. The proposed change is unnecessary and could lead to future health issues. Furthermore, we do not understand the motivation for the change.

## DISQUALIFIZIERENDE FEHLER

- **Mangelnde jagdliche Eignung durch das Fehlen von für den vielseitigen Jagdeinsatz nötigen Anlagen vor dem Schuss und nach dem Schuss.**
- **Stumm und/oder Waidlaut**

The above amendments are not acceptable to us for several reasons. First, we do not believe that hunting abilities belong in a standard. In the FCI Model Standard it is stated that

'A breed standard is

- A document which is a methodical description of the archetype of a breed
- A document which only describes what can be assessed by the human eye'

Second, under the headline 'Faults' in the same document, it says '...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 and (for hunting breeds) its ability to perform its traditional work'.

Hunting traditions differ from one country to another. Therefore, in some countries 'Laut' is an important attribute, in others, pointing is preferred, and in others again, retrieving may be the most important. Under 'Verwendung' the Kleine Münsterländer is a versatile dog, and therefore we do not believe that the standard should emphasize the lack of any specific hunting attributes as disqualifying faults.

Third, we fear that a number of Danish dogs will be excluded from breeding, if the two proposed amendments are implemented as disqualifying faults. Dogs, which otherwise possess the qualities desired by the Danish hunter.



Finally, we do not see how 'Laut' can be tested in such a way that it can be used as a breeding criterion in the individual countries.

We sincerely hope that the FCI will include our concerns, when considering the proposed changes to the standard.

Yours sincerely,

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Chairman, Dansk Münsterländer Klub



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LÄNDER KLUB