

Nihonken Hozonkai (NIPPO)

Japanese Dog Standard

Foreword

NIPPO publishes many volumes of study material concerning the Japanese dog. Here I present my own translation into English of the 3 most important parts of this material - the basic 12-point standard, the additional 12-point judging standard, and the detailed judging resolutions, as published on the NIPPO website. The judging resolutions are periodically updated in response to whatever points of concern are most prominent in the 6 breeds at the time. The version of the judging resolutions presented on this site is the one extracted from the NIPPO website in 2018. It is important to note that NIPPO writes its basic standards with respect to the medium-sized dog, more particularly the Shikoku and Kishu breeds. The standard then includes annotations as to where the judge should pay attention to differences in requirements for the small dog (Shiba), the large dog (Akita), and the medium-sized Hokkaido and Kai which have slightly different type requirements.

The following translation is presented with the caveat that this is *not* an official translation from NIPPO, although NIPPO is aware of it and has acknowledged it with thanks. This is simply my own labour of love, as a passionate Shiba Inu enthusiast. I have made every effort to achieve the most accurate translation possible, and have given translator's notes (marked *T/N in italics)

where the original Japanese nuance was lost in translation to English. The link to this page may be shared but the content may not be copied and reposted on any other website. The content of this page may not be published in any book or various media. Do not translate this translation into another language; please only translate the original Japanese in order to maintain the best possible accuracy. This translation has been done without financial gain on my own part and is strictly **NOT to be used in any profit-making exercise**. This translation is for **educational purposes only**.

É. Ishii

Quick Links:

Part One: NIPPO Japanese Dog Standard

The overview of the Japanese dog. Also published under the title "Japanese Dog Standard Explanation".

Part Two: NIPPO Judging Standard

The concise standard giving guidance for the show-ring.

Part Three: Official NIPPO Judging Resolutions (2018)

An in-depth instruction for judges regarding show judgement and guidance for breed improvement.

Part One

NIPPO Japanese Dog Standard

or

Japanese Dog Standard Explanation

1. Essential qualities (type) and their expression

Kan'i, *Ryousei* and *Soboku* are the essence of the Japanese dog and are of immense importance. *Kan'i* is spirited vigour and dignified majesty; *Ryousei* is faithful devotion and gentle obedience; *Soboku* is rustic, sober and unadorned elegance. A good Japanese dog possesses and expresses these fundamental inborn characteristics by its very nature. In addition to this

expression, the small- and medium-sized dogs have a sharp intuition, nimble movement, jaunty gait and flexibility. The large-sized dog is massive, composed and dignified in its conduct. These are their respective definitions.

2. General appearance

The general appearance is that a male is masculine, a female feminine; the sexual dimorphism is very important. The body construction is balanced, the skeletal structure tightly-knit. The musculature is well developed; the height to length ratio is 100 to 110, giving a somewhat rectangular figure. The female is somewhat longer than the male.

★ How to measure the height of each breed

The height is measured from the point of the forefoot to the point just behind the uppermost part of the scapula, pressing down on the hair.

1. Small-sized division - height of the Shiba Inu

The male's standard height is 39.5cm, the female 36.5cm. On average males range from 38cm to 41cm, females from 35cm to 38cm.

2. Medium-sized division - height of the Kishu Ken, Shikoku Ken, Kai Ken and Hokkaido Ken

The male's standard height is 52cm, the female 49cm. On average, males range from 49cm to 55cm; females from 46cm to 52cm. *Within the medium-sized division, the height of the Kai Ken and Hokkaido Ken is 2cm lower.*

3. Large-sized division - height of the Akita Inu

The male's standard height is 67cm, the female 61cm. On average, males range from 64cm to 70cm, females from 58cm to 64cm.

3. Ears

The ear size is in harmony with the head. The inner ear line is straight. The outer ear line is somewhat curved. The shape is that of a scalene triangle. The ear is erect and inclined somewhat forward.

4. Eyes

Somewhat triangular, the outer corner a little upturned, with a strong gaze. It is not desirable that the iris should be black or light in colour. Very dark tea brown is ideal.

5. Muzzle

The muzzle is firm and tight, emerging from full cheeks, with a straight bridge of the nose. The base of the muzzle is round, moderately thick and with a moderate stop. The lips form a tight, straight line, without looseness. In coloured animals the nose leather is black; in white animals it is blackish-brown. There are 42 well-developed teeth; the bite and occlusion should be normal in both upper and lower jaws. Insufficient teeth or spots of colour on the tongue are undesirable.

6. Head and neck

The forehead is wide, the cheeks well developed, the neck moderate in thickness and length, with powerful musculature.

7. Forelimbs

The elbows are close to the body, the forelimbs coming in contact with the ground at the same width as the width of the body. The pastern angle is moderate, the paws tight with a strong grip.

8. Hindlimbs

The thigh is well developed, the hock is strong and powerful with moderate angulation. The hindlimbs come in contact with the ground at the same width as the width of the lower back. The paws are tight with a strong grip. Rear dewclaws, often seen in the Kishu Ken, are removed 2-3 days after birth.

9. Chest

The forechest is well developed. The ribs are moderately sprung, in an elliptical or oval shape. The depth of the breastbone is roughly half the height; not less than 45% of the height is required.

10. Spine and back

The topline is straight from the shoulder to the base of the tail. The loins are sturdy and firm. There is no horizontal or vertical movement of the back when the dog is in motion.

11. Tail

Moderate thickness, powerful, curled or shaped like a sickle. The length almost reaches the hock joint. The curled tail is expressively curled. The sickle tail is curved so it inclines toward the front, often seen in the Kishu Ken. The Akita Inu is required to have a curled tail.

12. Coat

The uppercoat is hard, straight and brightly coloured. The undercoat is fluffy, soft, thick, dense and light in colour, making it a double coat. The hair on the tail is somewhat longer and standing off. The hair colour of the Japanese dog is one of five colours - sesame, red, black, brindle or white. The Shiba Inu is ideally red, sesame or black in colour but the red comprises more than 80% of the breed. The overwhelming majority of Kishu Ken are white, while sesame, red and other coloured dogs number only a few. In Shikoku Ken, the majority are sesame, next is red, while the minority are black.

Standard published by Nihonken Hozonkai. Translation by É. Ishii.

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Part Two

NIPPO Judging Standard

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Medium Size

1. Essence (type) and its expression

Full of *Kan'i*, showing *Ryousei* and with a feeling of *Soboku*, senses strong and keen with sharp intuition, nimble movements, gait jaunty and elastic. (*T.N: See [Part One, Section One](#) for definitions of *Kan'i*, *Ryousei* and *Soboku*).

2. General appearance

Distinguishing characteristics between males and females clearly evident, body showing good symmetry, skeletal structure tightly-knit with good muscle and tendon development, males showing a height to length ratio of 100 to 110, females somewhat longer. Height for males is 52cm, for females 49cm; a variation of 3cm above or below these respective heights is permitted.

3. Ears

Small, triangular, inclining forward somewhat, standing strongly erect.

4. Eyes

Somewhat triangular with the outer corner upturned, the iris very dark brown.

5. Muzzle

Bridge of the nose straight, muzzle tight and solid, nose leather firm, lips tight, the teeth meeting in a strong, healthy, normal, vigorous bite.

6. Head and neck

Forehead wide, facial region well developed, neck sturdy.

7. Forelimbs

Shoulder blades moderately inclined, forelegs straight with tightly-grasping toes.

8. Hindlimbs

Strong with resilient action, hock joints tough and paws tightly grasping.

9. Chest

Deep, ribcage moderately sprung, forechest well developed.

10. Spine and back

Spine straight, loin strong.

11. Tail

Thick, strong, either a sickle tail or a curled tail, length almost reaching the hock.

12. Coat

A hard topcoat is desirable, with a thick downy undercoat, the hair on the tail a little longer and standing off. Hair colours are sesame, red, black, brindle (*T/N: *literally "tiger"*), white; the hair texture and colour are characteristic traits of the Japanese dog.

Faults (demerit marks)

1. Acquired damage and injuries; inadequacies of nutritional management. (*T/N: *"Inadequacies of nutritional management" = Dog over/underweight or showing developmental damage caused by incorrect feeding*).
2. Nose colour not appropriate for the body colour. (*T/N: *Dudley nose; see Judging Resolutions for more on this*).
3. Pinto or piebald coat markings.

Disqualifications

1. Lacking the correct type and characteristics of the Japanese dog. (*T/N: *This in principle covers dogs with dropped tails as they are deficient in Kan'i*).
2. Lower jaw significantly protruding or retrograde. (*T/N: *Undershot or overshot jaw*).
3. A malformed or short tail.

N.B.

Rear dewclaws should be removed wherever possible. (*T/N: *The illustrations of the correct paw anatomy in the Judging Resolutions document include the front dewclaw, which is referred to as the first toe, and as such the implication is that the front dewclaws are not meant to be removed, especially when contrasted with the explicit instruction to remove the rear ones*).

Large Size (differences from the medium size standard as follows)

1. Essence (type) and its expression

Full of *Kan'i*, showing *Ryousei* and with a feeling of *Soboku*, behaviour must be composed and dignified.

2. General appearance

Distinguishing characteristics between males and females clearly evident, body showing good symmetry, skeletal structure sturdy with good muscle and tendon development, males showing a height to length ratio of 100 to 110, females somewhat longer. Height for males is 67cm, for females 61cm; a variation of 3cm above or below these respective heights is permitted.

11. Tail

Thick and strongly curled, length almost reaching the hock.

Extra Disqualification

4. Tail not curled. (*T/N: *In the large-sized dog (Akita), a sickle tail is disqualified*).

Small Size (differences from the medium size standard as follows)

2. General appearance

Distinguishing characteristics between males and females clearly evident, body showing good symmetry, skeletal structure tightly-knit with good muscle and tendon development, males showing a height to length ratio of 100 to 110, females may correspondingly be somewhat longer. Height for males is 39.5cm, for females 36.5cm; a variation of 1.5cm above or below these respective heights is permitted.

Addendum

1. Tail nomenclature

1. **Sashi-o** or sickle tail
2. **Maki-o** or curled tail (*taiko* drum curl, right curl, left curl, double curl)

2. Hair colour nomenclature

1. **Goma** or sesame (*goma* or sesame, *shirogoma* or white sesame, *akagoma* or red sesame, *kurogoma* or black sesame)
2. **Aka** or red (red, pale red, deep red)
3. **Kuro** or black
4. **Tora** or brindle (*tora* or brindle, *akatora* or red brindle, *kurotora* or black brindle) (*T/N: "Tora" literally translates to "tiger" but refers in dogs to the brindle colour)
5. **Shiro** or white.

Judging standard published by Nihonken Hozonkai. Translation by É. Ishii.

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Part Three

Official NIPPO Judging Resolutions (2018)

The NIPPO judging resolution document is too long for this page, so it is presented separately.

Please click [HERE](#) to view the complete translated Judging Resolutions, with illustrations exactly as provided by NIPPO.

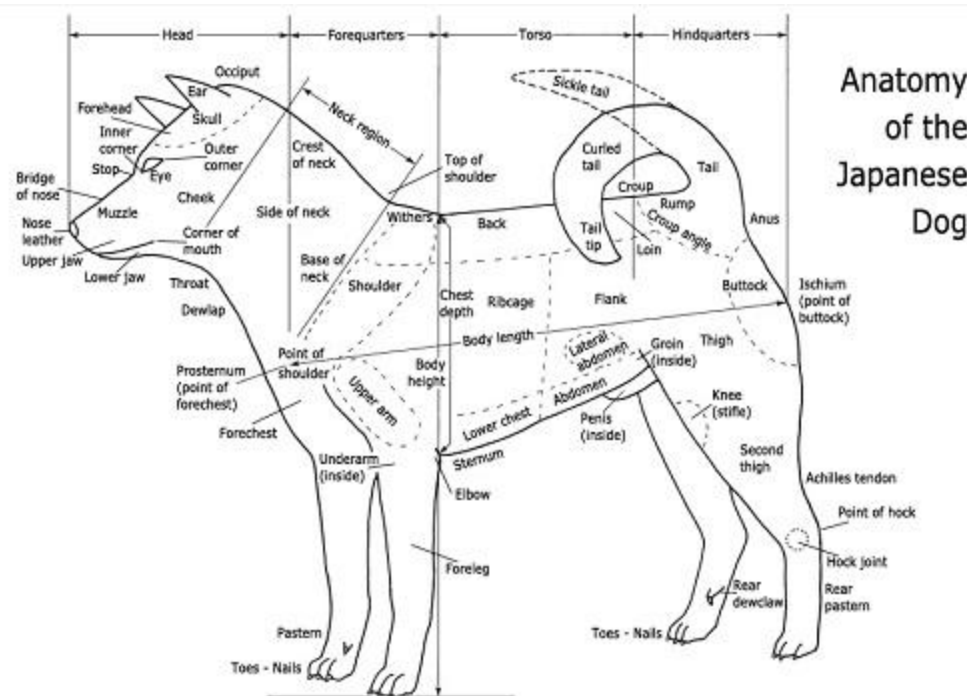
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Nihonken Hozonkai (NIPPO)

Official Judging Resolutions 2018

Foreword

This translation has been produced from the Judging Resolutions PDF file extracted from the NIPPO website on June 16, 2018. This version supersedes previous English translations available online from other sources, which were produced from material available in the 1970s-80s and contain discussions not present in the original standard but expressing opinions from individual judges. The standards to which NIPPO judges dogs have been considerably elevated since that time, so the most up-to-date material should be used as reference by breeders in order to achieve the highest standard of excellence.

NIPPO's standard illustrations are presented here in original format except that all labels have been translated from the Japanese into English. The original formatting of the text has been preserved as far as possible. Where a translator's note is necessary to clarify a statement in which the intended nuance is lost in translation, the mark *T/N is used and the note given in parentheses, using italic text. For ease of reference, a numbered clickable menu has been added, along with links to jump back to the menu after each section of the text. The text is offered **without interpretation, discussion or expansion by the translator** so as to facilitate better learning from the original instructional material, rather than learning from the opinions of others which may at any time become tainted by personal bias.

This is *not* an official translation from NIPPO, although NIPPO is aware of it and has acknowledged it with thanks. This is merely my own work, on my own initiative as an enthusiast. The link to this page may be shared but the content may not be copied and reposted on any other website. The content of this page may not be published in any book or various media. Do not translate this translation into another language; please only translate the original Japanese in order to maintain the best possible accuracy. This translation has been done without financial gain on my own part and is strictly **NOT to be used in any profit-making exercise**. This translation is for **educational purposes only**.

É. Ishii

Judging Resolutions

concerning the Japanese Dog Standard

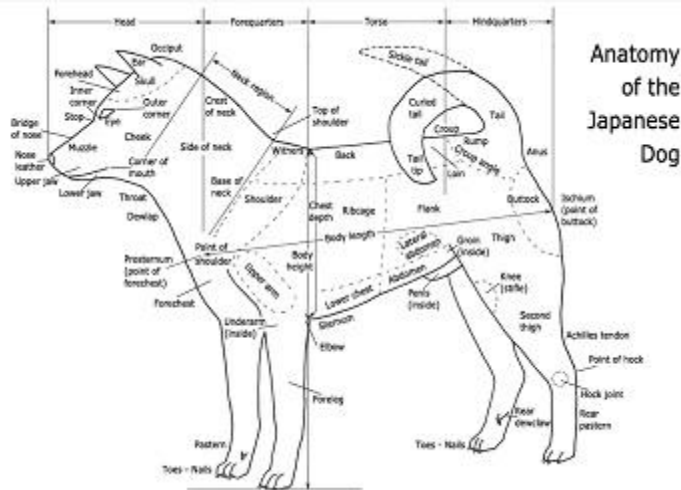
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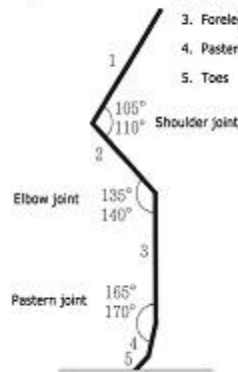
1. Diagrams

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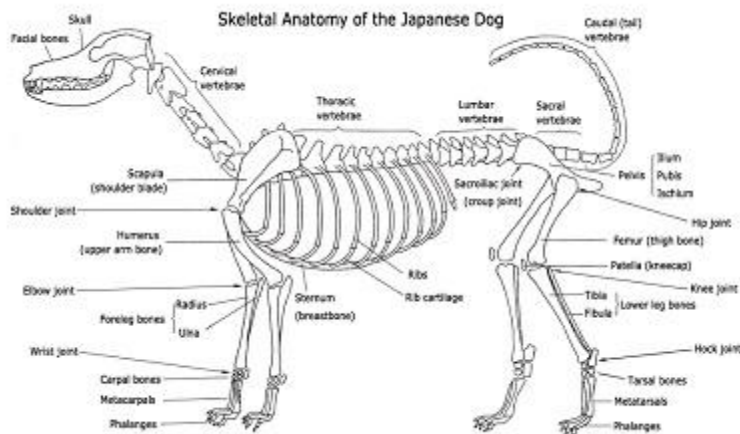
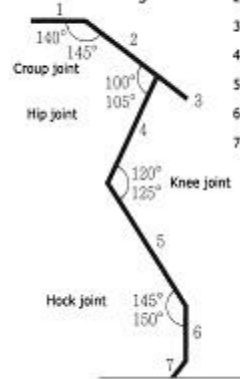
Forequarter angulation

1. Shoulder blade
2. Upper arm bone
3. Foreleg bones
4. Pastern
5. Toes

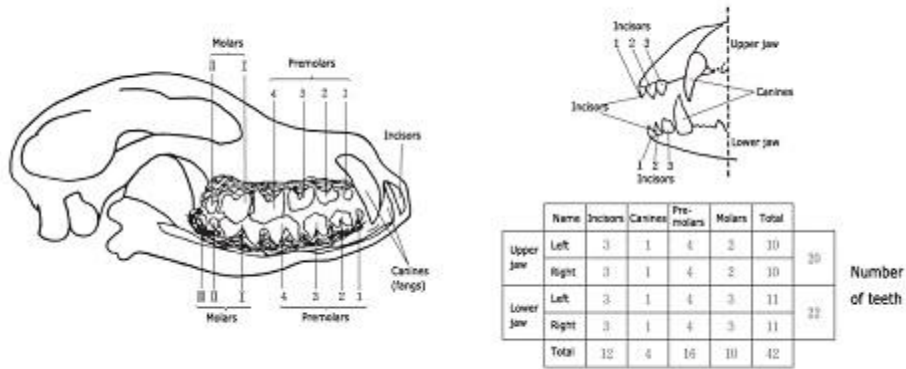


Hindquarter angulation

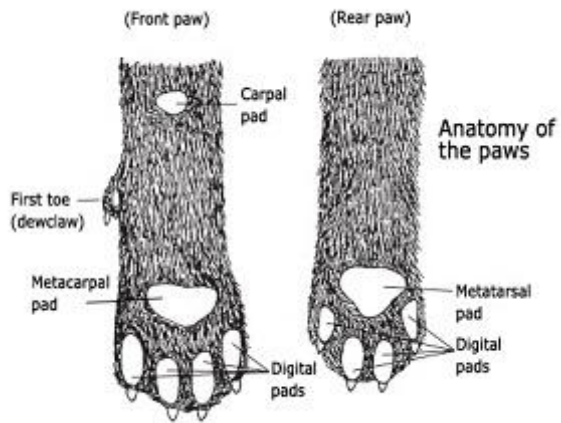
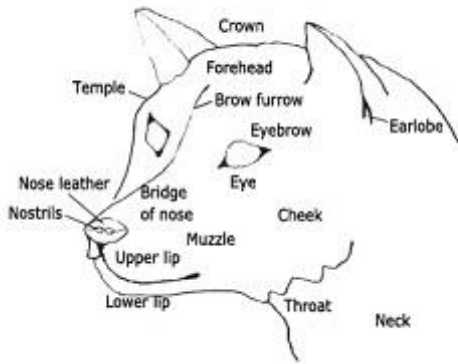
1. Lower spine
2. Hip bone
3. Pelvis
4. Thigh bone
5. Lower leg bones
6. Rear pastern
7. Toes



Dental Anatomy of the Japanese Dog



Facial Anatomy of the Japanese Dog



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2. Teeth

Standing on the premise that in the Japanese dog, the robustness, occlusion and number of the teeth are correct and normal, the following method is undertaken in order to try to correct missing teeth. (*T/N: In the population of the breed(s) at large).

1. Dogs with missing teeth are not given an "excellent" grading.
2. Teeth missing from birth and teeth lost later in life are treated identically.
3. Broken teeth, inferior quality teeth, weak small teeth, decayed teeth shall be evaluated by the judge in proportion to the degree of the fault, at their discretion.

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3. Regarding abnormalities of occlusion

1. A level bite and/or misaligned incisors shall not be graded "excellent".
2. Overshot and/or undershot shall not be graded "excellent".

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4. Eye colour

It is to be understood that a wide variety of distributions of pigmentation exist in the colour of the iris. Very dark brown, dark brown, light brown, amber, even as far as grey eyes exist. Very dark brown is the ideal, but it must not become a black eye.

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5. Judgement of eye colour

1. The standard colour is very dark brown, the iris and pupil appearing to be one dark colour throughout.
2. Those dogs with a faint amount of dark brown colour in the iris, which is a little paler than the standard colour, may be graded "excellent".
3. Those dogs with eye colour considerably paler than the standard, the iris being partially light brown or amber, giving a bullseye appearance, shall be given a demerit mark.
4. Those dogs whose eye colour is light yellow or grey shall be given a severe demerit mark.

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6. Eyes of the small-sized dog (*T/N: Shiba)

1. It is recognised that the triangular eye is shaped differently from that of the medium-sized dog.
2. Judges should instruct that the proportion of the iris and strength of the gaze must be given importance.

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7. Tolerance of pinto (piebald) spotting in the large-sized dog (*T/N: Akita)

An allowance or pardon is given for piebald markings, except in the case of large spots of pinto on the torso, and excessive or unsightly spots and speckles.

N.B. Large pinto spots on the torso are the so-called "peony flower spots". (*T/N: *This refers to a daub of white in a vaguely round shape with irregular edges, similar to the appearance of a peony flower in traditional Japanese art*).

Excessive or unsightly spots and speckles are defined as the so-called "Holstein type" pinto markings, considered contrary to the type of the Japanese dog. (*T/N: *This refers to a dog marked with islands of colour surrounded by white in a pattern similar to a Holstein Friesian dairy cow*).

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8. Regarding the distribution of *Urajiro* (white underside) of the coat colour

The white hair on the ventral portion of the dog is called "*Urajiro*", and is not considered pinto/piebald spotting.

1. The face and mouth region, except the bridge of the nose, and without a reverse mask.
2. The chin, the neck, the chest, the belly, and all underparts of the dog.
3. The forechest, extending as far as the shoulder joint, but not extending over the shoulder.

4. The forelegs as far as the elbow joints, the hindlegs as far as the knee joints. (*T/N: This means the *urajiro* extends from the inside of the leg as far as the joint; it does not mean the dog should have socks as far as the elbow or knee).
5. The outside of the tail.

Note 1: The *urajiro* is a defining characteristic of the Japanese dog, but judges must discourage the white hair of the *urajiro* from becoming expansive. (*T/N: Avoid too much *urajiro* or overly *flashy urajiro*).

Note 2: Those dogs with obvious speckles of colour on the leg, known as "*sarasa*", should be given a demerit mark. (*T/N: "*Sarasa*" is the name for the *chintz* pattern, but refers in animals to white with red spots, most commonly *goldfish*).

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9. Dirty white coat colour

1. Dirty white is defined as a faint reddish cast on a white dog, concentrated on the upperside of the ears, neck, spine, lower back, legs and tail. This is recognised but undesirable in the white colour.
2. Dirty white with obvious speckles or spots of colour which have a clearly-defined border is an unrecognised/unacceptable marking pattern.

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10. Coat in the medium- and small-sized dogs

1. The hair colour is bright, vivid and clear. The colour shall not be murky or muddy. Judges shall encourage a preference for strong colour pigment, so as to strive to prevent faded colours.
2. A reverse mask (bridge of the nose, the area above and surrounding the eyes all marked with white hair) is undesirable and shall be given a demerit mark.

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11. Coat colour of the medium-sized dog

1. The colours of the Kishu Ken and Shikoku Ken are sesame, red, black and white. However, in the Shikoku Ken the white is undesirable and shall be given a demerit mark.
2. The Kai Ken's coat colour is brindle.
3. The Hokkaido Ken's coat colours are sesame, red, black, brindle and white.

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12. Coat colour of the small-sized dog (*T/N: *Shiba*)

1. Red, sesame, black and white. However, white is undesirable and shall be given a demerit mark.

2. Good sesame colour shall consist of black hair, red hair and white hair moderately mixed over the whole body. It is undesirable that black hair should be strongly apparent on any part.
3. Black shall be the colour of rusted iron.
N.B. The rusted iron colour shall not be jet-black or lustrous shiny black. It shall have a somewhat brownish undertone giving a smoky effect.

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13. Black hair

1. Markings which disturb the dignity of the face;
2. Four-eyes markings (**T/N: the spots over the eyes*) in which the colour bleeds or is washed out;
3. Excessive brown colouration on the head, neck, back or body etc.;
4. Aubergine, deep bluish or ashy black colour in a mature dog;
all of the above are undesirable and shall be given demerit marks.

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14. Height

1. The height is measured just behind the upper tip of the shoulder blade, pressing down on the coat.
2. Those dogs with moderate height in the middle of the standard range shall be preferred over those at the extreme upper and lower limits of the standard. This shall be taken into account when awarding class placings.
3. Any dog outside the height ranges of the standard shall be given a demerit mark.

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15. Muzzle and stop characteristics

1. Emerging from full, tight cheeks.
2. It is important that the muzzle be firm, tight, round and thick.
3. Stop is neither shallow nor deep, but clearly defined. Dogs with a particularly shallow stop are undesirable and shall be given a demerit mark.
4. Dogs with any obvious bump or protuberance from the bridge of the nose shall be given a demerit mark.

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16. Regarding ears

Thin ears, ears narrow at the base, tall, long and narrow ears, ears curved at the tip, ears with an irregular edge, ears insufficiently inclined forward etc. are all strongly inherited and undesirable. Therefore, depending on the status of the ear, the dog shall be given corresponding demerit marks.

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17. Regarding nose colour

1. The reference in the standard to "Nose colour not appropriate for body colour" means that a coloured dog with a red nose should be given a demerit mark. White dogs are permitted to have a red nose.
2. Coloured dogs with faded pigment which is very pale or weak in shade are considered to represent a departure from the distinguishing characteristics of the Japanese dog, and therefore undesirable. This is a fault equal to a coloured dog having a red nose, therefore this should be given a demerit mark. The dirty white dog shall be assessed as a white dog and not as a coloured dog in this case.
3. Coat colour, nose colour, lips, anus, eye colour, skin colour etc shall be examined for pigmentation and given demerit marks as above.

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18. Regarding small speckles on the nose leather

In some cases, small flecks or speckles are seen on the nose leather. This can also be a temporary condition. Of course this is not desirable; however, the pigmentation as a whole should be taken into account and if there is only a small speckle it need not be given a demerit mark.

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19. Tongue spots

1. Tongue spots are undesirable. However, dogs with only a small amount are permitted.
2. A small amount is defined as a spot approximately the size of a fingertip in a visible area. Other sizes need to be evaluated with consideration as to their degree.

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20. Regarding the lower jaw

Dogs with a weak lower jaw like a duck's bill are undesirable. The dog shall be given a demerit mark in accordance with the degree.

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21. Regarding loose lips

Dogs whose upper lip overhangs the lower lip considerably shall be given a demerit mark.

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22. Chest depth

The chest should be approximately half the height of the dog. Even the shallowest chests should not be less than 45% of the height of the dog; outside of this the dog shall be given a demerit.

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23. Definition of "spine straight"

The back is defined as from the 1st to the 13th thoracic vertebrae. However, the anatomy described in the standard includes the 13 thoracic vertebrae through the 7th lumbar vertebra, and the single sacral bone (consisting of 3 sacral vertebrae). Externally, the line of the back, through the loin to the root of the tail, should be straight.

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24. Angulation of the limb joints and elbows

1. The joint angulations as presented in the **attached diagram** shall be considered correct for the Japanese dog.
2. Dogs with shallow shoulder angulation, incorrect angulation of the limb joints, poorly-developed forechest, elbows turning out and other such flaws should be assessed and given demerit marks according to the degree of the fault.

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25. Congenital deformities of the hip joints & other abnormalities of the pelvic region

1. Abnormalities and congenital deformities of the hip joints and pelvic region shall be given a demerit mark.
2. Dogs with weakness of the hip joints or general pelvic region should also be given a demerit mark.

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26. Regarding the tight grip of the paws

Dogs with a considerably weak grip of the paws are undesirable and shall be given a demerit mark.

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27. Acquired injuries

1. Those dogs with acquired injuries which significantly spoil the distinguishing characteristics of the Japanese dog should be given a demerit mark.
2. If this injury was deliberately inflicted it should be dealt with severely.

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28. Handler conduct

The handler should stand behind the dog in the ring, causing the dog to stand in a natural posture. In particular, the head shall not be raised up into an unnatural strained position or the dog caused to stand too closely to other dogs as a hostile or antagonistic act.

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29. Genitalia

1. Both testicles should be well descended.
2. Cryptorchid dogs shall be disqualified.
3. Dogs found to have polyps shall be disqualified. However, if the dog recovers completely, it is acceptable.

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30. Resolutions concerning judging

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31. Character and nature

When judging Japanese dogs, during the individual judging, one must constantly observe the nature of the dogs in the ring. Ring attitude, voice etc. require attention.

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32. Regarding the judgement of occlusion, missing teeth, interior of the mouth, height

Malocclusion, missing teeth, tongue spots, height etc. have a great effect on the evaluation of the dog, therefore the examination of these must be undertaken very strictly. Those dogs which cannot be examined even with the cooperation of the breeder or handler, are in contravention of the clause "full of *Kan'i*, showing *Ryousei*" as indicated in the standard. This is more important than the quality of the occlusion, number of teeth, tongue spots or height, as it indicates a fault or deficiency in the essence of the Japanese dog, and must be given a severe demerit mark.

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33. Regarding awarding the "excellent" grade

When awarding the "excellent" grade, make careful selection in accordance with the Japanese Dog Standard and Judging Resolutions.

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34. Judging the *Wakainu* (puppy) class

1. Do not award the "excellent" grade to dogs under the standard height.
2. Soft coat corresponding with age is inevitable and permitted. Judge coat colour based on current condition.
3. Judge aesthetic features based on current condition.

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35. Judging the *Youken* (minor puppy) class

In the *Youken* (minor puppy) class, naturally the dogs are still growing. When judging this class, take into account the age of the dog counted in days, the dog's condition on the day, essence (type), composition, body, development status, breeding/raising management, all forming a larger picture. Assess the superior dogs as "*youyuu*" (excellent youth), those behind this as "*youryou*" (good youth), and the inferior dogs as "*youka*" (passable youth), disqualifying those which do not possess the essence of the Japanese dog.

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36. Establishment of sexual characteristics

The standard indicates that the distinction between the male and the female should be clear and obvious. This affects the next generation so be conscious of evaluating sexual characteristics correctly in accordance with the standard when judging.

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37. Demerit marks and allowances

1. Those dogs which correspond with demerit clauses shall not be graded "excellent".
2. Even within the "excellent" gradings awarded, conditions are attached.
If allowances are given for dogs which have permissible faults, dogs of equal quality

which have not needed to have such allowances made should ideally not be placed lower in the class rankings.

(*T/N: *The dogs in the class are apparently being graded on a curve, in comparison with the general state of the breed as well as the bare standard*).

3. Regarding gradings of "very good" or less, dogs which are to receive demerits should be evaluated with regard to the magnitude of their faults, and the class placings determined by use of the demerit clause.

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38. Regarding cheating/foul play

Falsification of age or hair colour; artificial correction of missing teeth, occlusion, testicles, tongue spots etc. are unforgivable. Awards received by the use of such practices will be revoked if the fraud is discovered after the fact. The exhibitor concerned will be subject to discipline under Article 11 of the Articles of Incorporation.

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39. Regarding Kai Ken and Hokkaido Ken

Within the Japanese Dog Standard and NIPPO Judging Resolutions, take into account particular breed characteristics. Furthermore, the Kai Ken and Hokkaido Ken are subject to the following specific additional stipulations.

1. Judge using the Japanese Dog Standard (Medium Size). However, for the time being, the lower height limit is granted a 2cm allowance for males and females alike.
2. Tongue spots are permitted for the time being. However, the judge should give guidance towards eliminating those dogs with ink-like markings all over the tongue.
3. Dogs without *urajiro* are permitted, but dogs with a vivid coat colour are preferred.

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40. Regarding dogs with congenital deformities

Those with characteristics undesirable to the Japanese dog should be disqualified.

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