

193 FCI	Borzoï standard 2006	Borzoï standard 2019
UTILIZATION	Hunting sighthound, racing and coursing hound.	<p>Hunting sighthound, racing and coursing hound.</p> <p>Borzoï is a hunting sighthound to be used mostly for chasing hare and fox, less for wolf hunting.</p> <p>Combines high agility with endurance and the ability to tackle a game deftly at once. Successfully used for coursing and racing.</p>
BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY	<p>The Russkaya Psovaya Borzaya has been an integral part of the national culture and Russian history for 9 centuries. The French Chronicle of the XIth century shows that three Borzois accompanied the daughter of the Grand Duke of Kiev, Anna Iaroslavna when she arrived in France to become the wife of Henri I. Among the owners and breeders there were many famous people including Tsars and poets: Ivan the Terrible, Peter the Great, Nicolas II, Pushkin, Turgenev. The creation of the famous kennel « Pershinskaya okhota » by the illustrious breeders the Grand Duke Nicolai Nicolaevitch and Dimitri Valtsev had great importance. From the end of the XIXth century, the Borzoï is seen in the biggest breeding kennels of Europe and America.</p>	<p>The history of the Borzoï dated from the XV century, to the Mongol invasion. The Tatars used sighthound of Arab origin – Koutsï, while the Russian hunters did not have sighthounds; when hunting they used extraordinary strong Loshaya dogs, who were able to catch and kill a deer or even an elk.</p> <p>Koutsï and Loshaya crossbreed dogs became the prototype of the Borzoï. These dogs were depicted on the prayer book belonging to Grand Prince Vasily III, Ivan the Terrible father. In XVI–XVII centuries new bloods of Polsky Chart (Polish Greyhound) added the nobility to their descendants. Having grown the fame of these dogs crossed the borders of the Russian Empire.</p> <p>Further development of the breed was influenced by crossbreed with the Klock – a huge, strong and fierce bearded Courland Sighthound. Their descendants became dogs without beards, with long, fine hair. They marked the beginning of “Gustopsovy” Borzoï type.</p> <p>The bloods of Greyhound added to the breed at the same time initiated the appearance of “Chistopsovy” Borzoï type. Bloods of Mountain (Gorsky) and Crimean Sighthounds known by their endurance were used later.</p> <p>The Borzoï became the result of this multi-breed crossing. The vigilance, agility and expedition of the Borzoï in pursuing the game, its ability to flash-like rush, to tackle the game deftly at once, its savageness and courage, all these important qualities proved out to be very useful when hunting the game in short in irregular terrain. The Borzois were also successfully used for hunting in steppes, where it was required to work on longer distances.</p> <p>Hunt with large packs of sighthounds and hounds and with special horses – “hunters” – appeared in the XVIII–XIX centuries. Such hunts consisted of up to several hundred dogs and differed from one another in type and working abilities. The Pershino hunt by Grand Duke Nikolai Nikolaevich was especially renowned, for both the exquisite beauty of the dogs, and their speed and passion for the game.</p> <p>The first Congress of Borzois lovers was organized in 1874, but only in 1888 the Moscow Hunting Society adopted the first standard of the Borzoï, where a type of the Borzoï was unified after all.</p>

		N.P. Yermolov was the author of this standard. The fundamental principles of this standard still remain the same despite changes made in the XX and XXI centuries – in 1925, 1939, 1951, 1963, 1969, 1980, 1993, 1995 and 2006 years.
<b>GENERAL APPEARANCE</b>	Dog of aristocratic appearance, of large size, of lean and at the same time robust constitution, of a very slightly elongated construction. Females are generally longer than males. Strong bone structure but not massive. The bones are rather flat. Muscles lean, well developed, especially on the thighs, but not showing in relief. Harmony of form and movement is of prime importance.	Dog of aristocratic appearance, tall, lean and strong, harmoniously built, rather high-legged, fairly narrow in body. Slightly elongated format. Females are longer than males. Skin is thin, elastic, without folds. Muscles lean, elongated, very well developed. Bone structure is strong but not massive.
<b>IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In males the height at the withers is equal or barely superior to that from the summit of the croup to the ground.</li> <li>• In females these two heights are equal.</li> <li>• The height at the withers must be slightly inferior to the length of the body.</li> <li>• The depth of the chest is approximately equal to half the height at the withers.</li> <li>• The length of the muzzle, from the stop to the tip of the nose, is equal or slightly superior to that of the skull, from the occiput to the stop.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In males the height at the withers is equal or 1–2 cm more than the height at the point of sacrum.</li> <li>• In females these two heights are equal.</li> <li>• The length of the body somewhat exceeds the height at the withers.</li> <li>• The depth of the chest is equal to almost half of the height at the withers.</li> <li>• The height at elbows is slightly superior to half of the height at the withers.</li> <li>• The length of the muzzle, from the tip of the nose to the stop, is slightly superior to that of the skull, from the stop to the occipital bone.</li> </ul>
<b>BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT</b>	In its everyday life the Borzoi has a quiet and balanced character. At the sight of game it gets suddenly excited. It has a piercing sight, capable of seeing very far. Its reaction is impetuous.	Temperament is calm; visual response is well evident. Typical gaits: before the game to be found – slow trot and even walk; in chasing the game – full gallop. The attitude towards people is neutral to friendly.
<b>HEAD</b>	Viewed from above as well as from the side, lean, long, narrow, aristocratic. Seen in profile, the lines of the skull and muzzle form a long, slightly convex line, the line of the sagittal crest being straight or slightly oblique towards the well marked occipital protuberance. The head is so elegant and lean that the principal veins show through the skin.	Aristocratic, narrow, long, in proportion to the general appearance; the head is so lean that the principal veins are shown through the skin. Viewed from the side the top lines of the head form a long, slightly convex line. Superciliary arches and zygomatic arches are not pronounced.
<b>CRANIAL REGION</b>	Skull: Narrow; seen from above: elongated into an oval shape; seen in profile, almost flat.  Stop: Only very slightly marked.	Skull: Seen from above, narrow, elongated, oval-shaped. Seen in profile, almost flat. Occiput is well pronounced.  Stop: Hardly visible.

FACIAL REGION	<p>Nose: Large, mobile, considerably prominent in relation to the lower jaw.</p> <p>Top of muzzle: Long, filled out in all its length, slightly arched near the nose.</p> <p>Muzzle: The length of the muzzle from the stop to the tip of the nose is equal or slightly superior to that of the skull, from the occiput to the stop.</p> <p>Lips: Fine, clean, well fitting. The eye-rims, the lips and the nose are black whatever the colour of the coat.</p> <p>Jaws/Teeth : Strong underjaw. Teeth white, strong; scissor bite or pincer bite.</p> <p>Eyes : Large, very slightly prominent, expressive, dark hazel or dark brown, almond-shaped, but not slit-eyed, set obliquely.</p> <p>Ears : Small, thin, mobile, set on above the eye level and backwards, pointing almost towards the nape of the neck when not alert. The tips of the ears are situated near each other or directed downwards along the neck and close to it. When the dog is alert, the ears are carried higher and on the sides, or forward; sometimes one or both ears are erect like horse ears.</p>	<p>Nose: Large, always black in any coat colour, considerably prominent in relation to the lower jaw.</p> <p>Muzzle: Long, lean, well filled out in all its length, straight or slightly downfaced, slightly arched near the nose. The length of the muzzle, from the tip of the nose to the stop, is slightly superior to that of the skull, from the stop to the occiput.</p> <p>Lips: Tight, well fitting, fine, with black edging whatever the coat colour.</p> <p>Jaws / Teeth: Teeth white, strong, incisors are closely spaced; canines are not too wide apart. Scissor bite. Level bite is permitted but not desirable. Complete dental formula. The absence of 3rd molars (M3) and one or two P1 is acceptable. Cheeks: Flat, not pronounced.</p> <p>EYES: Large, almond-shaped, dark brown to brown; eyelids are with black edging, tight-fitting.</p> <p>EARS: Small, thin, mobile, pointed-tipped, covered with short hair. Set on above the eye level, set closely and backwards, pointing towards the nape of the neck. The tips of the ears are placed near each other, directed downwards along the neck and close to it. When the dog is alert, the ears are carried higher on the cartilages; their tips are directed sideward or forward. Sometimes one or both ears are erect like horse ears.</p>
NECK	Long, clean, flattened laterally, muscled, slightly arched, never carried high.	Long, dry, muscled, slightly arched, oval-shaped (slightly flattened laterally), of medium set.
BODY	<p>Withers: Not marked.</p> <p>Back: Broad, muscled, elastic, forming with the loin and croup a curve which is more pronounced in the males. The highest point of this curve is situated ahead of the middle of the loin or in the region of the 1st or 2nd lumbar vertebra.</p>	<p>Topline: Is a smooth arch.</p> <p>Withers: Not marked.</p> <p>Back: Broad, muscled, supple, flexible.</p>

	<p>Loin: Long, prominent, muscled, moderately broad.</p> <p>Croup: Long, broad, slightly sloping. The width of the croup measured between the two hip bones (iliac crests) must not be less than 8 cm.</p> <p>Chest: Of oval cross-section, not narrow, yet not wider than the croup, deep, well developed in length, spacious, reaching down almost to elbow level. The region of the shoulder blades being flatter, the chest gets gradually wider towards the false ribs, which are short; seen in profile, it forms a change in slope. The ribs are long, slightly prominent. The forechest is slightly prominent in relation to the scapular-humeral articulation.</p> <p>Belly: Well tucked up, the underline rises abruptly towards the abdomen.</p>	<p>Loin: Rather long, arched, muscled, broad. Together with the back forms the smooth arch, which is more pronounced in males, than in females. The highest point of this arch is in its middle, that is the region of the 1st or 2nd lumbar vertebrae.</p> <p>Croup: Long, broad, moderately sloping. The width of the croup measured between the two iliac tubers must not be less than 8 cm.</p> <p>Chest: Oval in cross-section, deep, not narrow, yet not wider than the croup, let down almost up to the elbow-joints. Viewed from the side the forechest is somewhat prominent and places almost at humeroscapula level. In shoulder blades region the chest is rather flat, but towards the false ribs gets gradually wider. Definitely shortened false ribs.</p> <p>Underline and belly: Abruptly tucked up towards the flanks.</p>
TAIL	<p>In shape of sickle or sabre, low set, thin, long.</p> <p>Passed between the hindlegs, it must reach up to the hip bone (iliac crest), furnished with abundant feathering.</p> <p>When the dog is standing naturally, the tail hangs downwards. In action, it is raised, but not above the level of the back.</p>	<p>Sickle or sabre-shaped, thin, long, with dense and abundant feather.</p> <p>Passed between the hind legs and flanks, it must reach up to the iliac tuber.</p> <p>When the dog is standing naturally, the tail hangs downwards. In movement it is raised, but not above the back level.</p>
LIMBS		
FOREQUARTERS	<p>General appearance: Forelegs clean, muscled, seen from the front perfectly straight and parallel.</p> <p>The height of the forelegs from the elbow to the ground is equal or a little superior to half the height at the withers.</p> <p>Shoulders: Shoulder blades are long and oblique.</p> <p>Upper arm: Moderately oblique; its length is barely superior to the length of the shoulder blade. Angle of the scapular-humeral articulation well pronounced.</p>	<p>General appearance: Forelegs lean, muscled, seen from the front perfectly straight and parallel. Shoulder muscles are well developed.</p> <p>The height at elbows slightly superior to half of the height at the withers.</p> <p>Shoulder: Shoulder blades are long and oblique.</p> <p>Upper arm: Long, moderately oblique. Angle of the scapular-humeral articulation is well pronounced.</p>

	<p>Elbows: In parallel planes to the median plane of the body.</p> <p>Forearm: Clean, long, of oval cross-section; seen from the front, narrow, seen in profile, broad.</p> <p>Metacarpus (pastern): Slightly oblique in relation to the ground.</p>	<p>Elbow: In parallel planes to the median plane of the body or slightly turned out (“in field”).</p> <p>Forearm: Long, clean, of oval cross-section; seen from the front, narrow; seen from the side, broad; points of elbows strongly developed.</p> <p>Metacarpus (pasterns): Rather long, slightly oblique.</p> <p>Forefeet: Lean, narrow, of elongated oval shape (called “harefeet”); toes long, arched, tight; nails long, strong, touching the ground.</p>
HINDQUARTERS	<p>General appearance: Seen from behind: straight, parallel, set slightly wider than the forequarters. When the dog is standing naturally, the vertical line dropping from the ischiatic tuberosity (point of buttocks) must pass in front of the center of the hock joint and of the metatarsals.</p> <p>Upper thigh: Well muscled, long, placed obliquely.</p> <p>Lower thigh: Long, muscled, placed obliquely. The femoro-tibial and the tibio-tarsal articulations well developed, broad, clean; the angles must be well marked.</p> <p>Metatarsus (rear pastern): Not long, placed almost vertically.</p> <p>All the articulations are well angulated.</p>	<p>General appearance: Lean, bony, muscled; well angulated. Seen from behind, straight and parallel, set slightly wider than the forequarters. When the dog stands naturally placed slightly behind. The vertical line dropping from the point of buttock (sciatic tuber) must run along the front edge of the hock and rear pastern (metatarsus).</p> <p>All the articulations are well angulated. The hindquarter muscles are very well developed especially on upper thighs.</p> <p>Thigh: Long, of approximately equal length.</p> <p>Lower thigh: Long, of approximately equal length.</p> <p>Hock joint: Wide, dry, with well-developed heel bone (calcaneum).</p> <p>Metatarsus (rear pasterns): short, placed vertically, straight.</p> <p>Hind Feet: Lean, narrow, of elongated oval shape (called “hare feet”); toes long, arched, tight; nails long, strong, touching the ground.</p>
FEET	Lean, narrow, of elongated oval shape (called « harefeet »); toes arched, tight; nails long, strong, touching the ground.	
GAIT / MOVEMENT	<p>When not hunting, the typical gait of the Borzoi is the extended trot, effortless, very supple and lifting;</p> <p>when hunting the charging gallop is extremely fast, with leaps of great length.</p>	<p>In everyday life the typical gait is the extended, free, easy trot.</p> <p>When hunting the gait is full rushing gallop.</p>
SKIN	Supple, elastic.	Thin, elastic, tight fitting (with no wrinkles).
HAIR	HAIR: Silky, soft and supple, wavy or forming short curls, but never small tight curls.	Hair: Long, supple, silky, light, wavy or forming large curls. Small curls are permitted.

	<p>On the head, the ears and the limbs, the hair is satiny (silky but heavier), short, close lying.</p> <p>On the body, the hair is quite long, wavy; on the regions of the shoulder blades and the croup, the hair forms finer curls; on the ribs and thighs, the hair is shorter; the hair which forms the fringes, the « breeches » and the feathering of the tail is longer.</p> <p>The coat on the neck is dense and abundant.</p>	<p>The hair of different length on different parts of body:</p> <p>on the head, the ears and the interior side of the limbs the hair is very short, close lying;</p> <p>on the back and the neck the hair is longer and often wavy; on the outer side of thighs and the sides is shorter and may form finer curls.</p> <p>The feathering is rather long and shining.</p> <p>The feather is located on the neck (forming a “muff”), on the lower side of the chest and belly, on the back side of the forelegs and thighs.</p> <p>The feather is from below the tail; at the tail root the curls are usual.</p>
COLOUR	<p>All colour combinations, but never with blue, brown (chocolate) and any derivatives of these colours.</p> <p>All the colours may be solid or pied. The fringes, « breeches », featherings of the tail are considerably lighter than the ground colour. For the overlaid colours a black mask is typical.</p>	<p>White; pale of different shadings (red-fawn, grey-fawn, silverfawn: pale with light-grey shading); light red or light gray at the root of the hair with darker red or grey main colour; red with black overlay hair often combined with dark muzzle (sable); grey (from ashy to yellowish-grey); brindle: pale, or red, or grey main colour with dark stripes, like stria on marble; red; black; transitional colours between red or black.</p> <p>All the colours may be solid, pied and with tans. Typically, any colour tends to lighten up downwards.</p> <p>Any colours from white to black in any combination are acceptable, except of brown, blue, isabella (lilac) and their shadings, i.e. dilute colours with not black nose.</p>
SIZE	<p>Desirable height at the withers: dogs: 75 - 85 cm, bitches: 68 - 78 cm.</p> <p>In males, the height at the withers is equal or barely superior to that from the summit of the croup to the ground. In females, these heights are equal.</p> <p>Subjects exceeding the maximum height are acceptable provided the typical morphology is preserved.</p>	<p>Desirable height at the withers: males: 75–85 cm females: 68–78 cm</p>
FAULTS	<p>Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and 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, especially:</p>	<p>Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and 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 its ability to perform its traditional work.</p>
	<p>Teeth: Small, abnormally worn teeth. Absence of one PM2.</p>	<p>Teeth small; diastemas between teeth; absence of one or two PM2.</p>

	PM1s and M3s are not taken into account.	Absence of one or more incisor(s) due to injure, if the bite is clearly evaluated.
	Colour: Flecks of the same shade as the ground colour.	Abundant flecks on the body of the same shade as the base color.
		Over- or undersize by 2 cm against indicated in the Standard.  The length of the body more than 10% or less than 5% superior to the height at the withers.  Eyes not big enough; deep set; round in shape; light (all shades of hazelnut).  Topline is not smooth enough. Pronounced withers. Arch not symmetrical. The highest point of the topline evidently shifted towards the croup.  Belly insufficiently tucked up; paunchy, pendulous.  Tail a bit short, too high in carriage, with lateral deviation, with curled end. Too straight, furry, dull, tousled coat; fringes and featherings poorly developed; lacking in feathering. Equal length of the coat all over the body; coat too harsh in shedding.
SEVERE FALUTS	General appearance : • Stocky appearance ; short trunk. • Heavy, round bone.	
	Head : • Soft tissues. • Blunt muzzle. • Very pronounced stop. • Very pronounced zygomatic arches. • Occiput not pronounced.	Head coarse with loose, thick skin; pendulous lips. Seen from the profile, blunt muzzle due to the nose not prominent enough. Very pronounced stop.
	Teeth : • Lack of one PM3, one PM4 (lower jaw), one M1 (upper jaw), one M2.	Absence of any teeth not mentioned under “Faults”.
	Eyes : • Deep set; yellow or light; slit eyes (too narrow palpebral aperture); showing haw.	• Eyes small; yellow; weak-sighted; with third eyelid too much developed.
	Ears : • Thick, coarse, with rounded tips.	Ears low set; not placed closely directed downwards along the nape of the neck; set wide apart; too big; thick, heavy, coarse with tough cartilage; with rounded tips.

	<p>Neck :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presence of dewlap.</li> </ul>	Neck set high or low, round in cross-section.
	<p>Back :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sagging; straight back in males.</li> </ul>	<p>Sloping topline from well pronounced withers towards the root of the tail; pronounced roached back, straight back in males.</p> <p>Loin narrow, short, too long (the length of the loin is comparable to the length of the back), straight.</p>
	Croup : • Goose rump.	
	Belly: • Pendulous, insufficiently tucked up.	• Belly not tucked up.
	Tail: • Coarse; in action, falling downwards	• Tail short, thick, with no feathering.
	<p>Forequarters: • Scapular-humeral angle too open (straight shoulder)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In or out at elbows</li> </ul> <p>Forearm: Of round cross-section. Any deviation of the forearm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knuckling over. • Weak in pasterns.</li> </ul>	• Fore arms massive, with bones round in cross-sections.
	<p>Hindquarters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over angulated or too straight angulation.</li> <li>• Close behind or spread hocks.</li> </ul>	
	Feet: • Tendency to broad, round, thick feet; cat feet, flat feet; spread toes.	• Fleshy feet rounded or flat, splayed toes.
	<p>Coat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colour: Flecks on the body of another shade than the ground colour.</li> </ul>	<p>Abundant coat on entire body, excessive undercoat, rough, hard, bristle coat not in shedding, lack of featherings.</p> <p>Vivid flecks on the body of different colour than main colour; colour on the body not lighted up downwards.</p> <p>Bleached (not dark enough) colour of nose, eyelids or lips in all colours. Partly depigmented (pink) nose, lips, eyelids (without signs of injuries).</p>
		<p>The length of the body is the length of the body more than 12% or less than 3% superior to the height at the withers.</p> <p>Over- or undersize by more than 2 cm.</p>
DISQUALIFYING FAULTS	<p>Aggressive or overly shy.</p> <p>Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified.</p>	<p>Aggressive or overly shy.</p> <p>Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities.</p>
	<p>Teeth:</p> <p>Overshot or undershot mouth.</p> <p>Wry mouth.</p> <p>Lack of one incisor, one canine, one carnassial tooth (PM4-upper jaw – M1-lower jaw), lack of more than 4 teeth (any four teeth).</p>	<p>Teeth:</p> <p>Overshot or undershot;</p> <p>wry mouth.</p> <p>Uncomplete incisors if densely spaced; missing at least one canine, if not broken.</p>



	Faulty position of one or both canines of the lower jaw which, when the mouth is shut, can damage the upper gums or the palate.	Lack of correct interlock of upper and lower canines. Jaws nonlocking.
	Eye: Wall eye.	Eyes: of all shades of grey, green, blue; eyes of different colours.
	Tail: Corkscrew tail, broken tail (fused vertebrae), docked, even partially.	Tail: corkscrew, broken (fused vertebrae); docked, even partially.
	Colour: Brown (chocolate), Blue.	Colour: brown (including cocoa, coffee, chocolate); blue, Isabella (lilac), dilute colours with the tip of the nose other than black in colour.
	Hindquarters: Presence of dewclaws.	Legs: knuckling over. Presence of dewclaws.
		Completely depigmented (pink) nose, eyelids, lips.
N.B.	Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum. Only functionally and clinically healthy dogs, with breed typical conformation should be used for breeding.	Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum. Only functionally and clinically healthy dogs, with breed typical conformation should be used for breeding.