



# Judges' Education Seminar On **The Chinook**

*An Official Presentation  
by the  
Chinook Club of America*

# Form Following Function

In The Chinook

**The Chinook is a working breed.**



**The Chinook is an American Breed.**

**The Chinook Breed originated in  
New Hampshire in the early 1900's.**



# Arthur Walden's Chinook





**Chinook was a working dog and a family dog.**





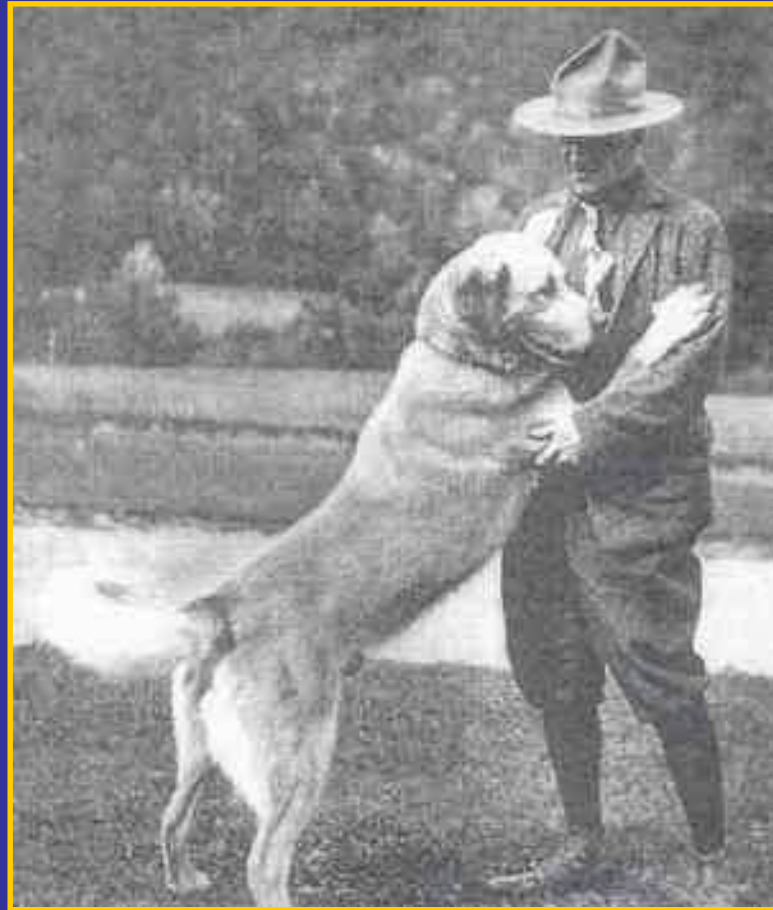
**Walden's Chinooks combined the power of freighting breeds with the speed of the lighter racing sled dogs.**



**In 1928-29, Chinook and 15 of his sons went to Antarctica with Admiral Byrd.**



How big were the first Chinooks?



**Walden and Chinook**





## Herding Breed Influence

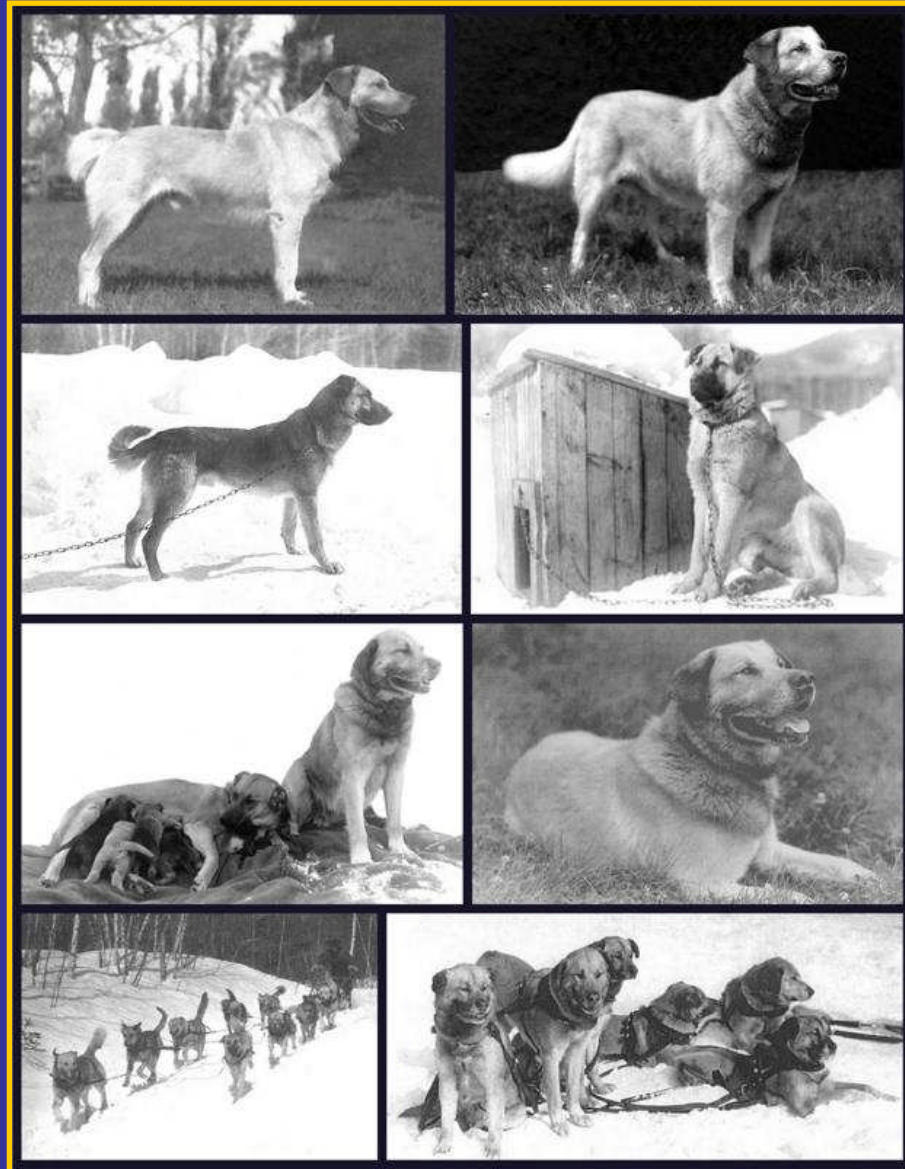


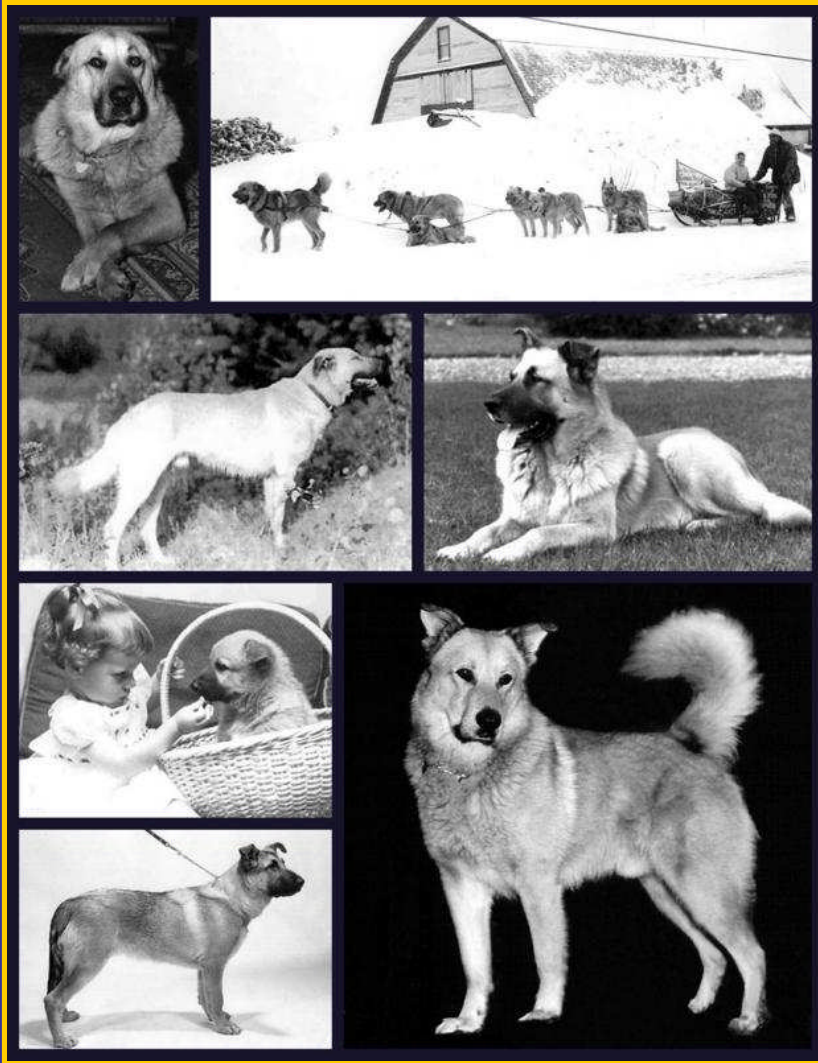
2291. "Koltag," Chinook Kennels, Wonalancet, N. H.

Historic Photo: early 1900's



**Chinook**  
**With his**  
**progeny**





## Perry Greene Era Chinooks

Photos circa 1940 -1966



**1981**

**11  
breedable  
Chinooks  
remained.**



**Fifth generation AKC FSS listed female**



# Breed Standard



# Essence of the Chinook



- Power plus Speed
- Tireless Gait
- Impressive
- Dignified and Affectionate



The Chinook is distinctly different from  
Spitz and Northern breeds.



**Size**  
**Proportion**  
**Substance**







**The Chinook  
is a slow  
maturing  
breed.**

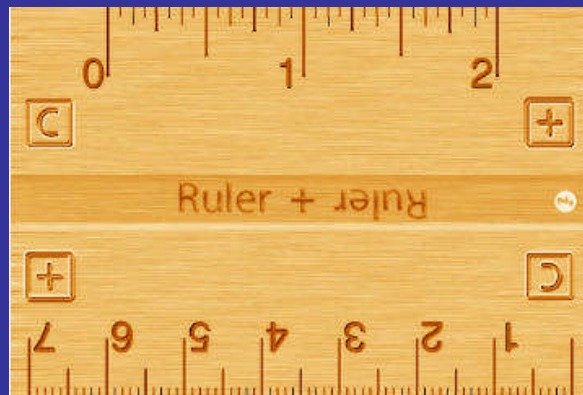


## SIZE

**The Chinook is of medium size.  
Ideal height at the withers:**

Males: 24 to 26 inches

Females: 22 to 24 inches



## Proportion

**Body: slightly longer than tall**



**SUBSTANCE**

**Muscular with Moderate Bone**



Male Chinook



**Males should appear unquestionably masculine;  
females should have a distinctly feminine look.**



## HEAD

- Broad
- Wedge-shaped
- Impressive



Male Chinook



## CHEEKS

Well-developed  
and slightly  
rounded



Male Chinook

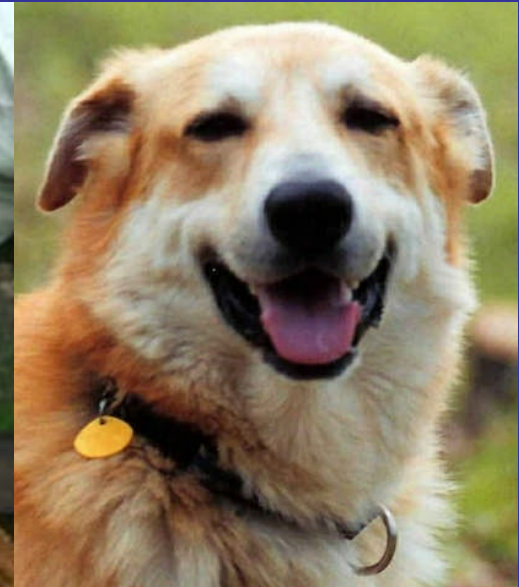


## EXPRESSION

◆ Intelligent

◆ Inquisitive

◆ Kind





## EYES

**Any shade of brown**

- Medium in size
- Almond in shape
- With black rims



## EYES

Desirable: Dark markings around the eye



## EYES

### Disqualification:

Any eye color other than Brown



## EARS

Set near the top line  
of the skull

Preferred:  
Dropped and Matching  
but any ear type  
is allowed



## EAR S

## SHAPE

- Medium sized
- V-shaped
- Tips slightly rounded



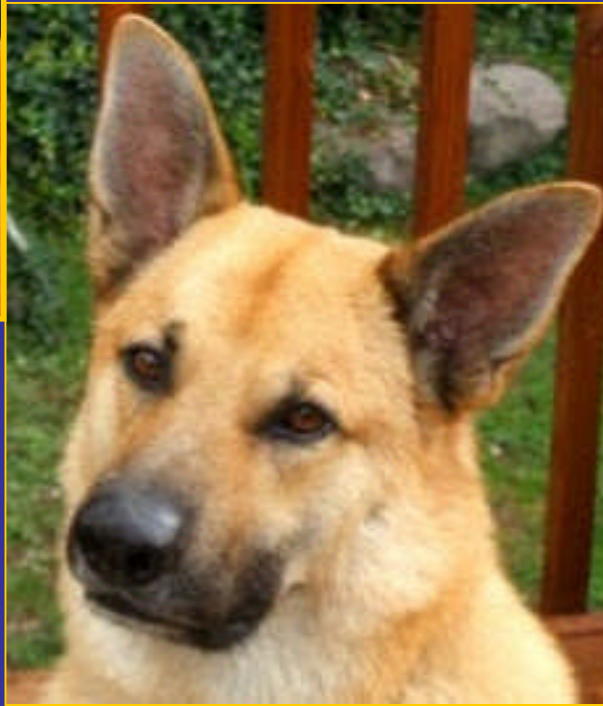
Examples of Ear Types



## Ear Types



Drop Ears  
(preferred)



Prick Ears



Propeller Ears  
also called  
Helicopter Ears



## TOPSKULL

Broad and slightly arched between the ears



**STOP**

## The Stop Is Moderate





**STOP**

The stop is marked  
with a central  
furrow extending  
up the topskull.



# Central Furrow Markings



# MUZZLE



The Muzzle is aquiline, shorter in length than the topskull



# NOSE



The nose is large and prominent  
and the leather is solid black.





**BITE**

Scissors or Level

Full compliment of strong teeth



## THE HEAD

**Disqualification:**  
**Eye color other than brown.**



**Neck**

**Topline**

**Body**



## NECK

Strong, arched, balanced in length



With a protective ruff





NECK

Fault

The skin on the neck is pliable,  
but a pendulous dewlap  
is a fault.



## TOPLINE



The back is straight, strong, and level.



## TOPLINE



**The withers form the highest part of the topline and slope smoothly into the level back.**



TOPLINE

## Faults

Sloping Topline

Roach or Sway back



**BODY**

**Well muscled and hard**



Male Chinook





## CHEST

Moderately broad

Well filled and deep



## BODY

### The Prosternum is Prominent



The brisket reaches to,  
or nearly to the elbows.



## LOIN



Loins are muscular with a slight arch





The underline has a moderate tuck up



Young Chinook female



## CROUP



**The croup is muscular, slightly sloping, broad and without exaggeration.**



**BODY**

## **Faults**

Narrow or Barrel Chest

Dropped Croup



## TAIL

### Saber Tail

Moderately set just below the topline



The tail reaches to the hock with a slight curve at the tip when relaxed.



## TAIL

### When alert or moving:

The tail is carried in a graceful sickle curve.



# TAIL



**Alert Chinooks**



**TAIL**

## **Fault**

- **Low or high set tail**





# Forequarters



## SHOULDERS



**Shoulders  
have  
moderate  
layback**





## FORELEGS

**Straight**

**Well  
muscled**

**Moderate  
oval bone**



## PASTERNS

**Flexible**

**Slightly  
sloping**

**Moderate  
and  
strong**



## FOREQUARTERS

### Front Feet

may turn slightly  
out when standing.



# Hindquarters



## HINDQUARTERS



**Muscular and Strong**



## HINDQUARTERS

**Moderately angulated and  
Balanced with the forequarters**





## REAR PASTERNS

**Parallel to each other**



**Perpendicular  
to the ground  
When viewed  
from any angle**



# Coat



**COAT**

**Thick double coat,  
lying close to the body**



## COAT



The coat is never so long as to obscure the clean-cut outline of the Chinook.



## COAT

**A winter coat feels soft and plush with coarser hair following the topline.**



## COAT

**A summer coat may be thinner, feel coarser, and should not be penalized.**



Female Chinook



## COAT

The tail is well-furred with feathering starting about four to five inches from the root.



Female Chinook



**COAT**

**There is slight feathering of shorter hair along the back of the forelegs.**



Female Chinook





# COAT

## Faults

- **Thin, sparse, or excessively short coat**
- **Long, rough, or shaggy coat**
- **unprotected belly and/or groin**



COAT

## Coat Faults

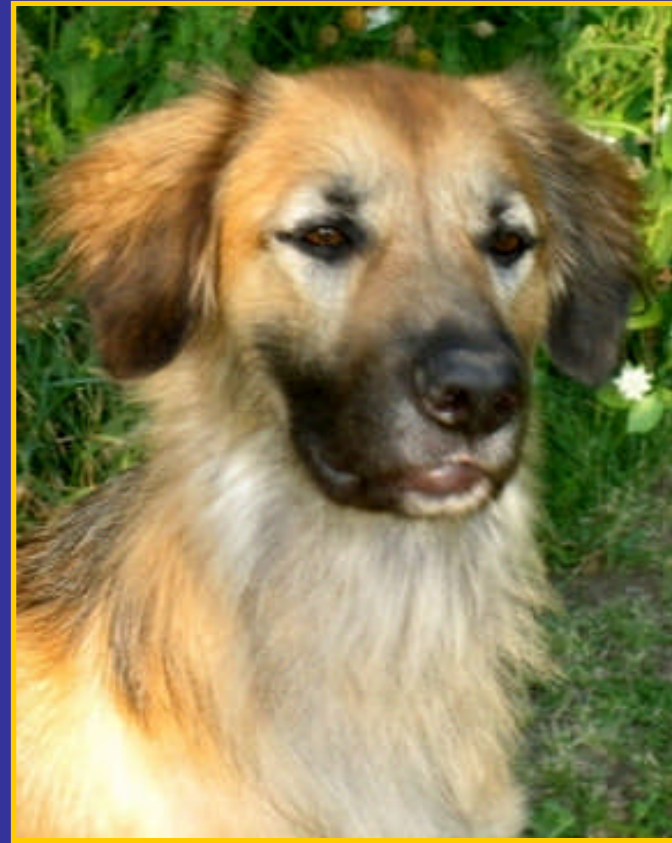
**Long, rough, shaggy coats**



**COAT**

## Coat Faults

**Long, rough, shaggy coats**



# Color



## COLOR

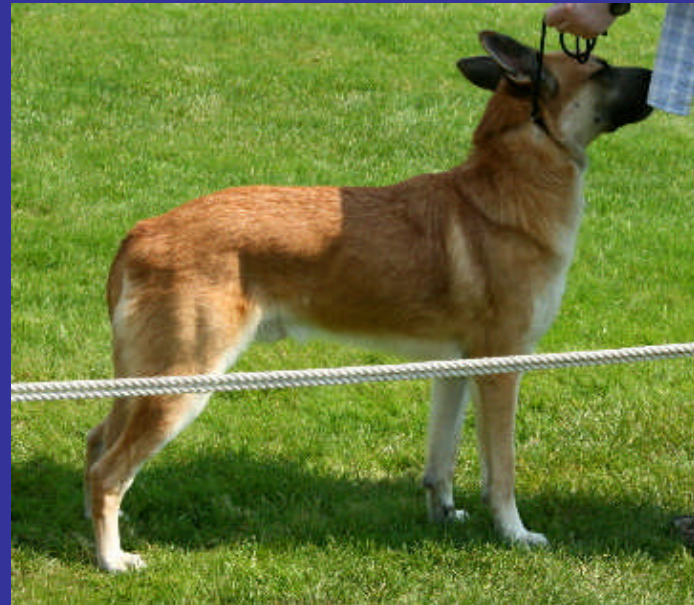


Tawny coloration, ranging from a pale honey to a deep reddish-gold, is a distinguishing characteristic of the Chinook.



**COLOR**

## Examples of Tawny Shades



## COLOR - MARKINGS

Symmetrical  
white or cream  
to pale gold markings  
are acceptable on  
the cheeks, throat,  
chest, breeches, and  
underside.



## Color - Markings

Cream to pale gold markings





## Color - Markings



Lighter coat color markings are acceptable on the Cheeks, throat, chest, breeches, and underside.



## Color - Markings

Any other white markings are undesirable including blazes, socks, and scarves.



Blaze along muzzle

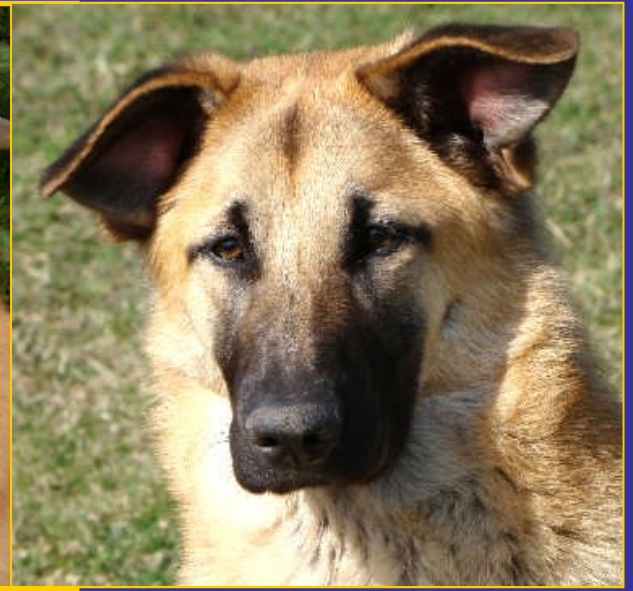


Scarf around the neck



## COLOR MARKINGS – EYES

A black apostrophe shape mark at the inner corner of each eye is desirable.



## Color - Overlay

Some tawny coats have extra black hairs that may darken the tail and also produce an overlay effect.



Black overlay on red-tawny coat



## Color Dilution



**Dilute tawny is acceptable  
but not preferred.**





**Pigment as well as fur is diluted in color.**



**Muzzle, eye and ear color markings will also be diluted to shades of gray.**





## Examples of coat color dilutions



COLOR

## Disqualification

**Any color other than tawny  
as described.**



**COLOR**

## Examples of Color Disqualifications



## Color Disqualifications

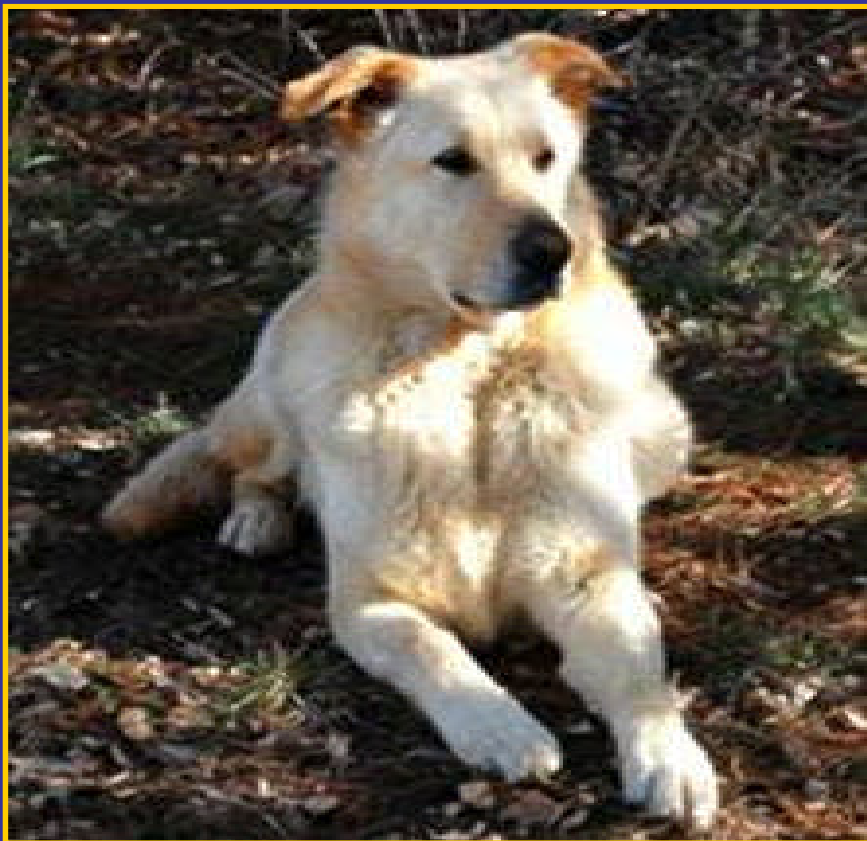


COLOR

## Color Disqualifications



## Color Disqualifications



# Gait



## GAIT

The Chinook's gait is smooth, easy, and seemingly tireless.





**When viewed from the side, there should be good reach in the front and good extension in the rear.**



Female Chinook



## GAIT

**Viewed from behind, the rear pads should be fully visible.**



Female Chinook



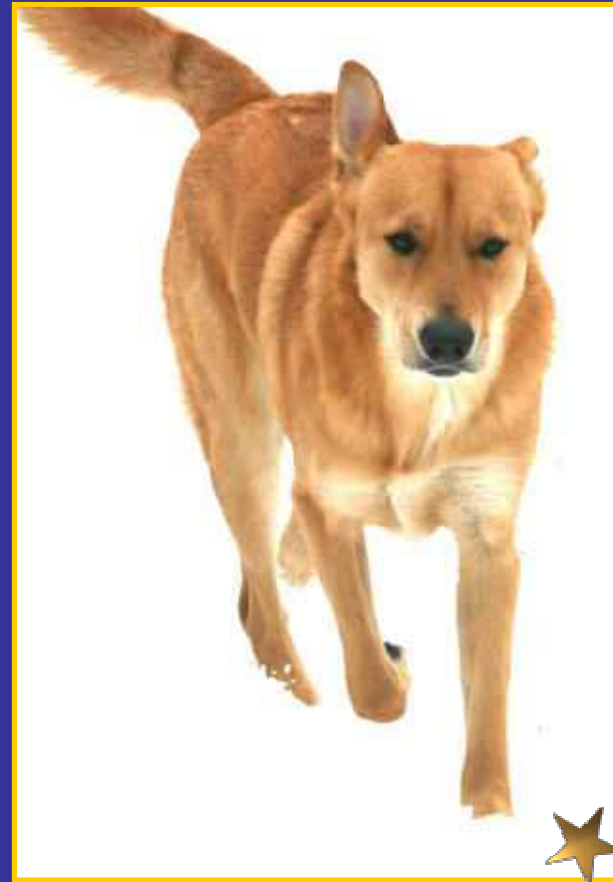
## GAIT

**The back is strong and level when gaiting.**



## GAIT

As speed increases, the feet tend to converge toward a center line of gravity.



# Temperament



## TEMPERAMENT

The Chinook is an affectionate and playful family companion.



The Chinook is a willing worker who is eager to please and enthusiastic to learn.



Gregarious with other dogs, the Chinook works well in teams and within family packs.





## TEMPERAMENT



**The Chinook is a dignified dog.**



## **Standard in Summary**

Variations are penalized to the extent of the deviations.



## Disqualifications

Eye Color other than Brown.

Any Coat Color other than Tawny or dilute Tawny.





The Chinook is a hard-working all purpose dog who thrives on activities such as sledding, skijoring, hiking and biking, obedience, agility, herding and lure coursing.





Above all else, the Chinook is cherished  
as a loving family companion.

