



Judges' Education Seminar

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SBCA Judges' Education Chair

History of the Saint Bernard

The Cross of the Hospice



History of the Saint Bernard



Hospice du Grand Saint Bernard



The Author's Daughter and Her Four-footed Protector





Earliest Depictions of the Breed





Life Saving Companions



THE STANDARD: General Appearance

POWERFUL

**PROPORTIONATELY
TALL**

**STRONG &
MUSCULAR**

POWERFUL HEAD

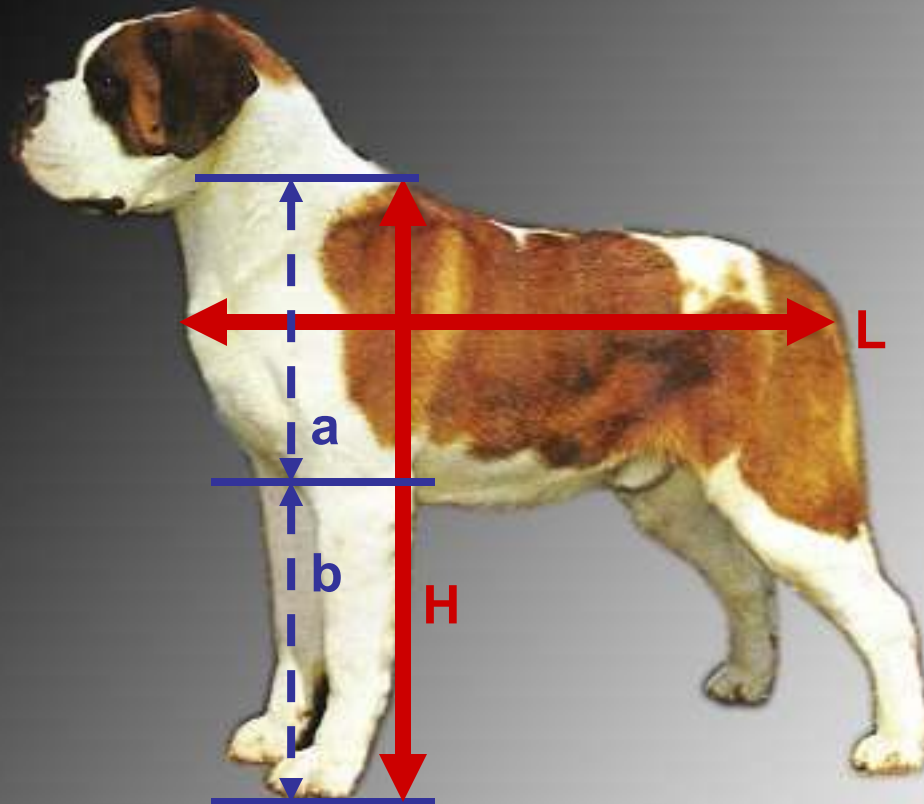


THE STANDARD: Proportions

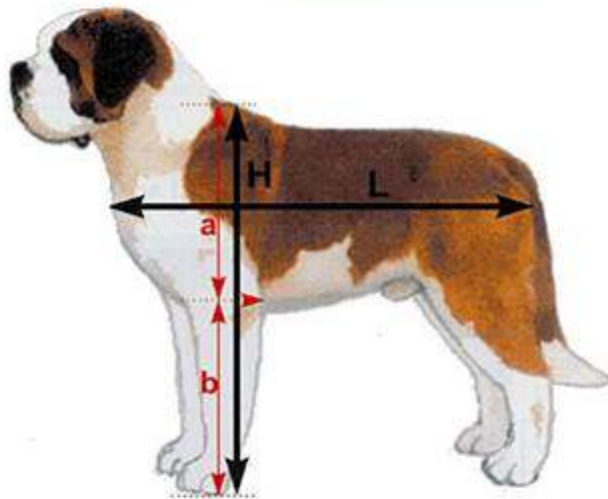
Height = **H**

Length = **L**

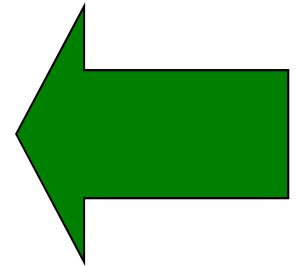
b >= **a**



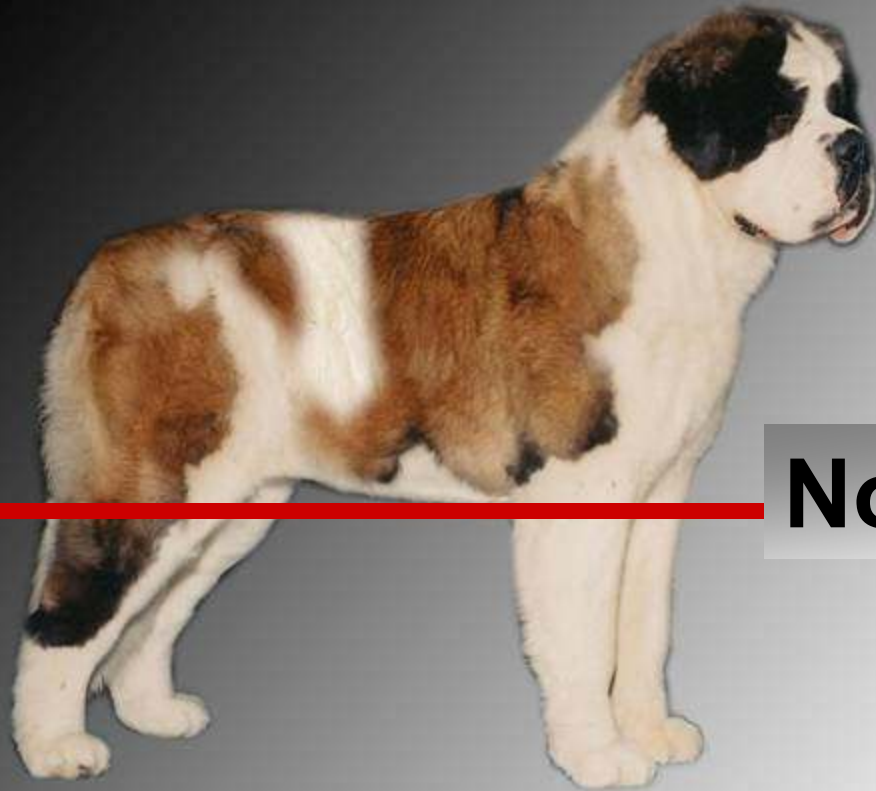
STANDS LIKE A HORSE



NOT LIKE A COW*



THE STANDARD: Depth of Chest



Not Below Elbow



Torn Mantle



Splash Coat



BODY MARKINGS

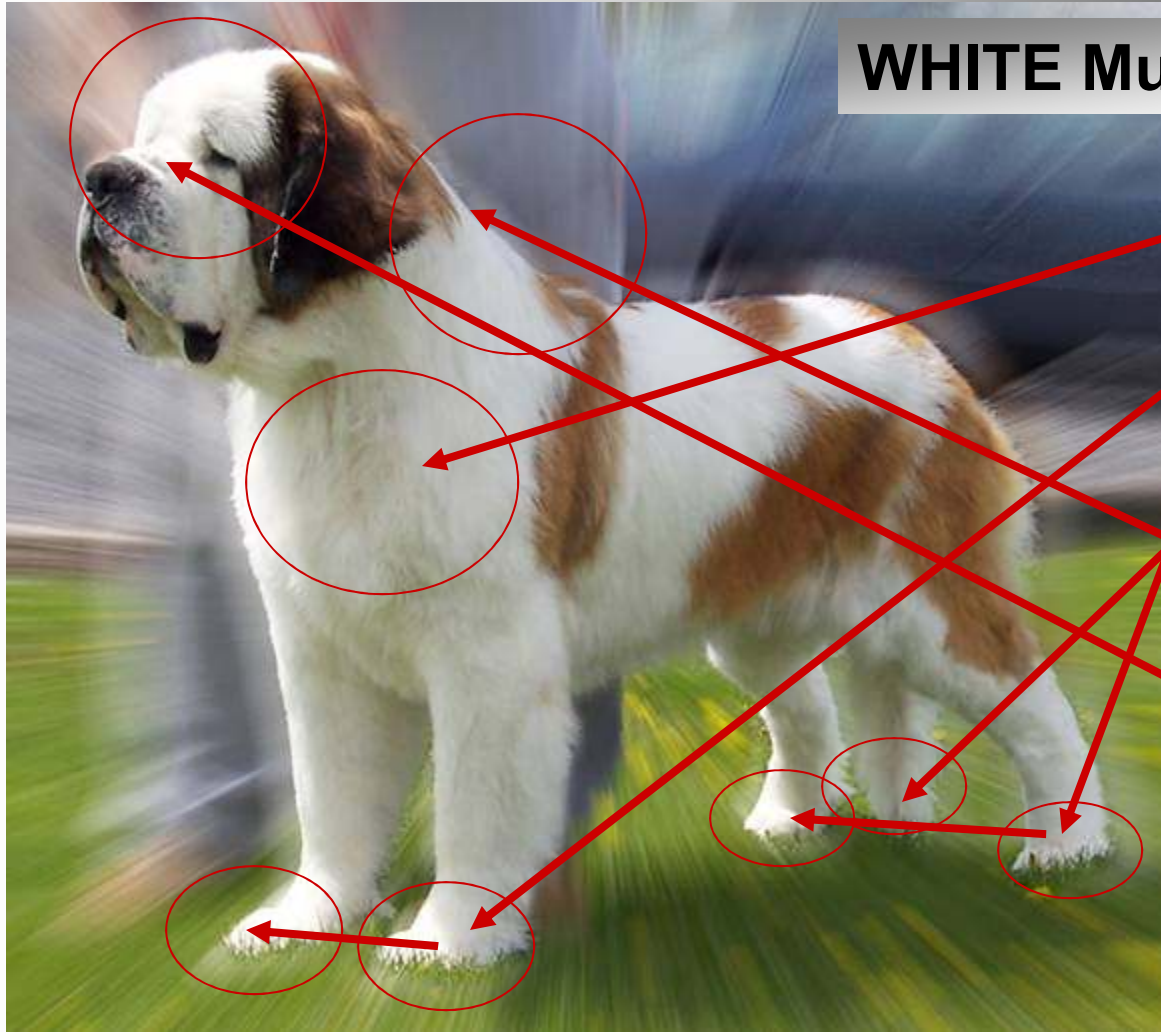
Full Mantle



Full Mantle Extended



THE STANDARD: Necessary Markings



WHITE Must Appear on:

Chest

All Feet

Tip of Tail

Collar

Nose Band



THE STANDARD: The Head

POWERFUL

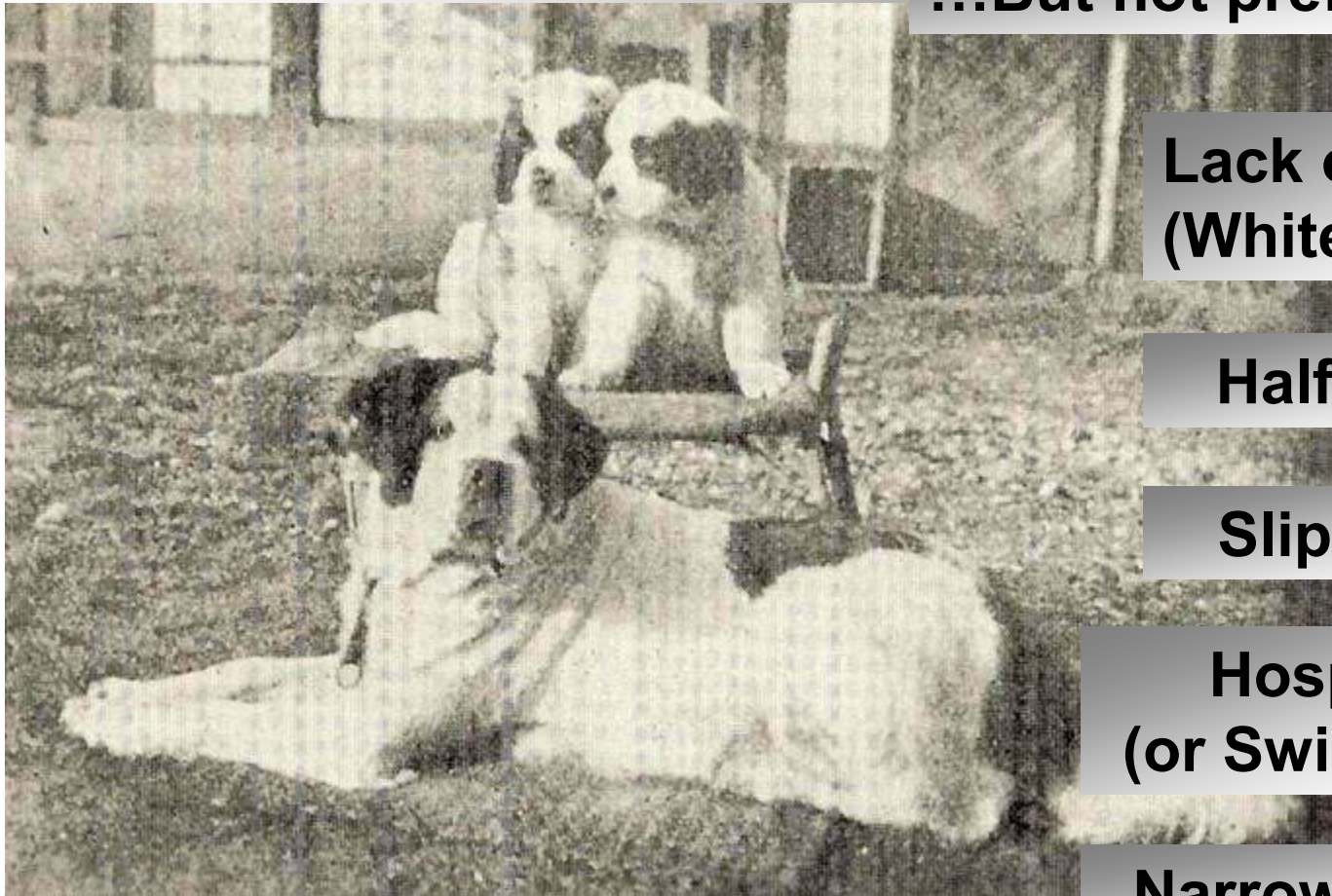
IMPOSING

**The beauty of
the correctly
proportioned
Saint head is
breathtaking**



THE STANDARD: Acceptable Markings

...But not preferred



Lack of Mask
(White Face)

Half Mask

Slip Mask

Hospice
(or Swiss) Ear

Narrow Blaze



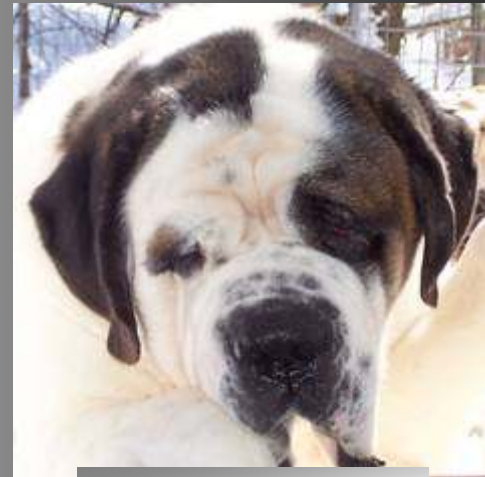
THE STANDARD: Acceptable Markings...but not preferred



White Face



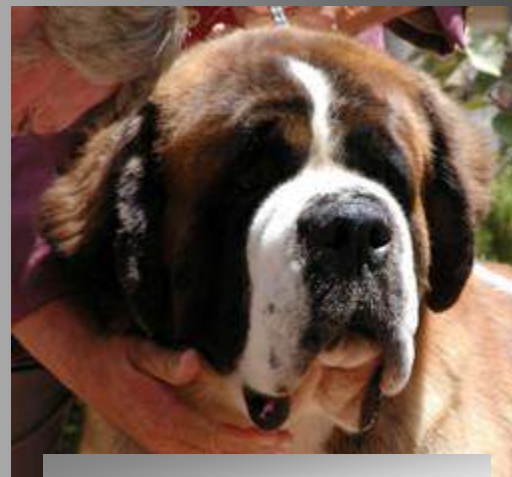
Half Mask



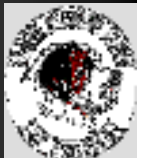
Slip Mask



Swiss Ear



Narrow Blaze



Marking Deviations Include:

Excessive Pink on lips or nose plate

Freckles or Black on Muzzle

Narrow Blaze causing a stern
expression

**Mask pulled too far
forward** on muzzle



THE STANDARD: Well Marked Head



THE STANDARD: The Skull

Wide, Slightly Arched

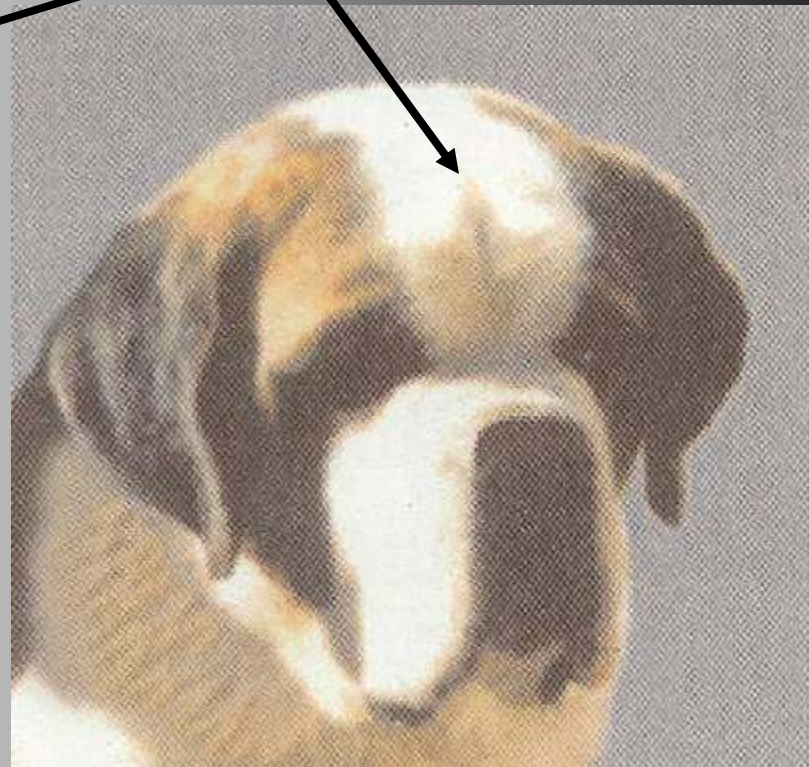
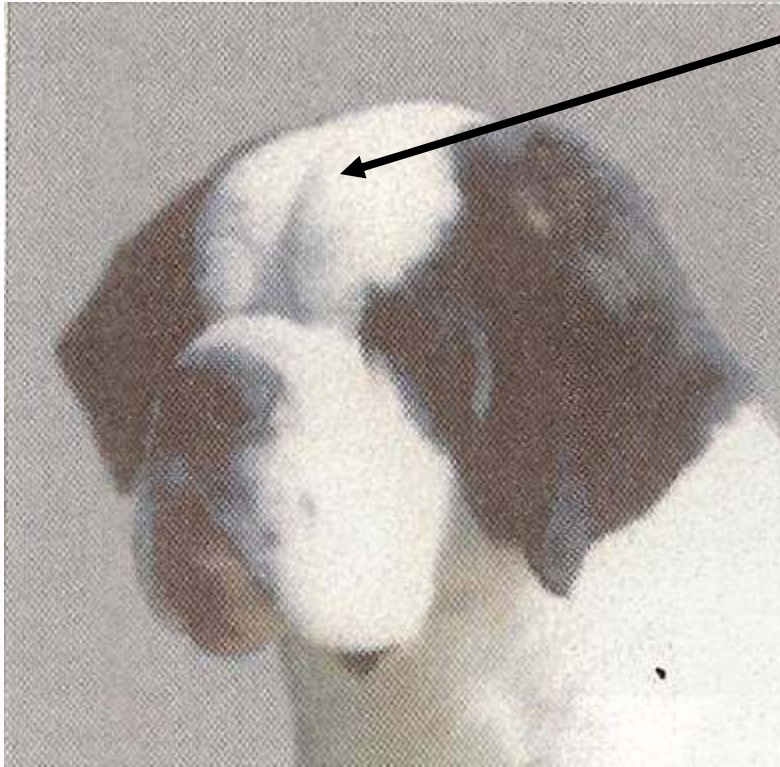
**Strongly Developed
High Cheek Bones**

**Occiput only Slightly
Developed**



THE STANDARD: The Furrow

...Skull Furrow



THE STANDARD: The Muzzle



...Flat Muzzle



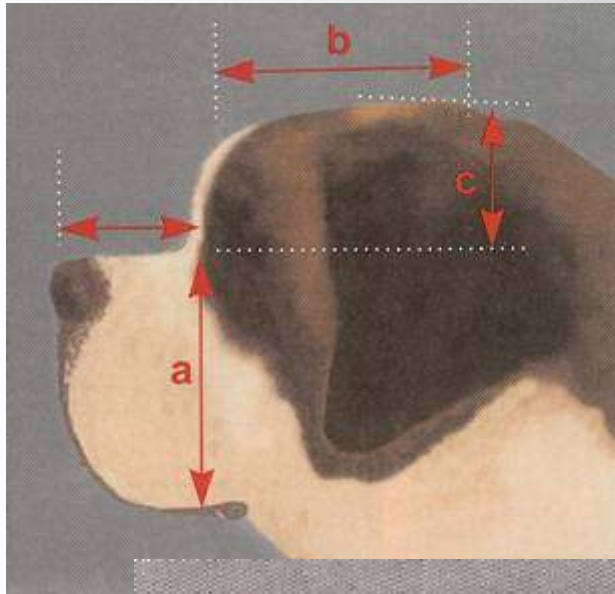
THE STANDARD: The Muzzle



...Flat Muzzle

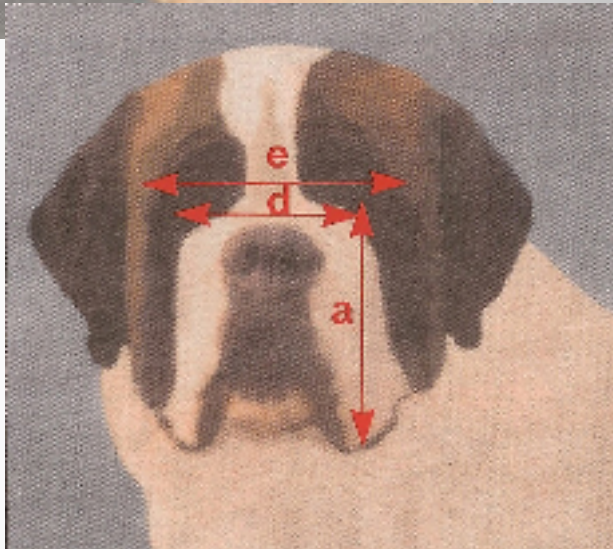


THE STANDARD: Proportions of the Muzzle



a) The flews of the upper jaw are approximately twice as deep as the muzzle is long.

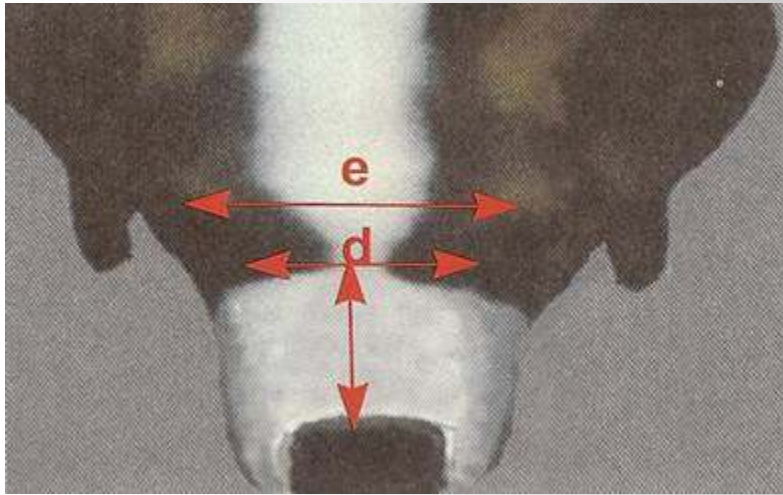
b) The length of the head is approximately twice the length of the muzzle.



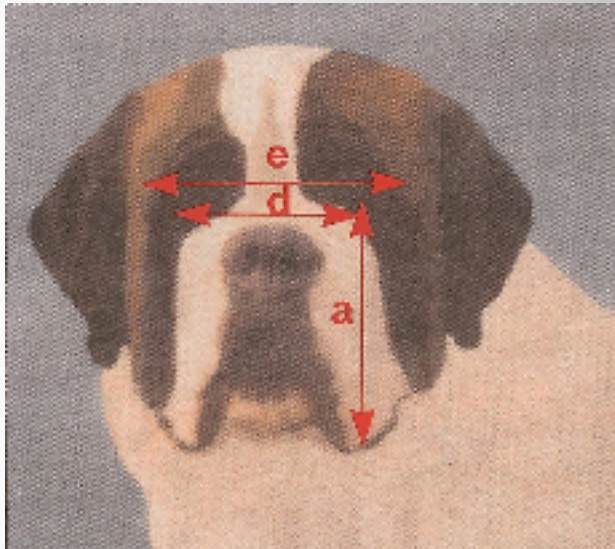
c) The rise of the skull above the top of the muzzle is approximately equal to the length of the muzzle.



THE STANDARD: Proportions of the Muzzle



d) The width of the muzzle at its base is approximately the same as the length of the muzzle.



e) The width of the skull, measured at the widest point of the cheekbones, is approximately twice the length of the muzzle.



THE STANDARD: Proportions of the Muzzle

Flews strongly developed, not sharply cut, but turning in a beautiful curve



Bottom of flew, after the curve, should be level



THE STANDARD: Head Comparisons



Newfoundland

Saint Bernard

Great Pyrenees



THE STANDARD: The Nose (*schwamm*)



Very Substantial

Broad, Wide Nostrils



Black



THE STANDARD: Ears

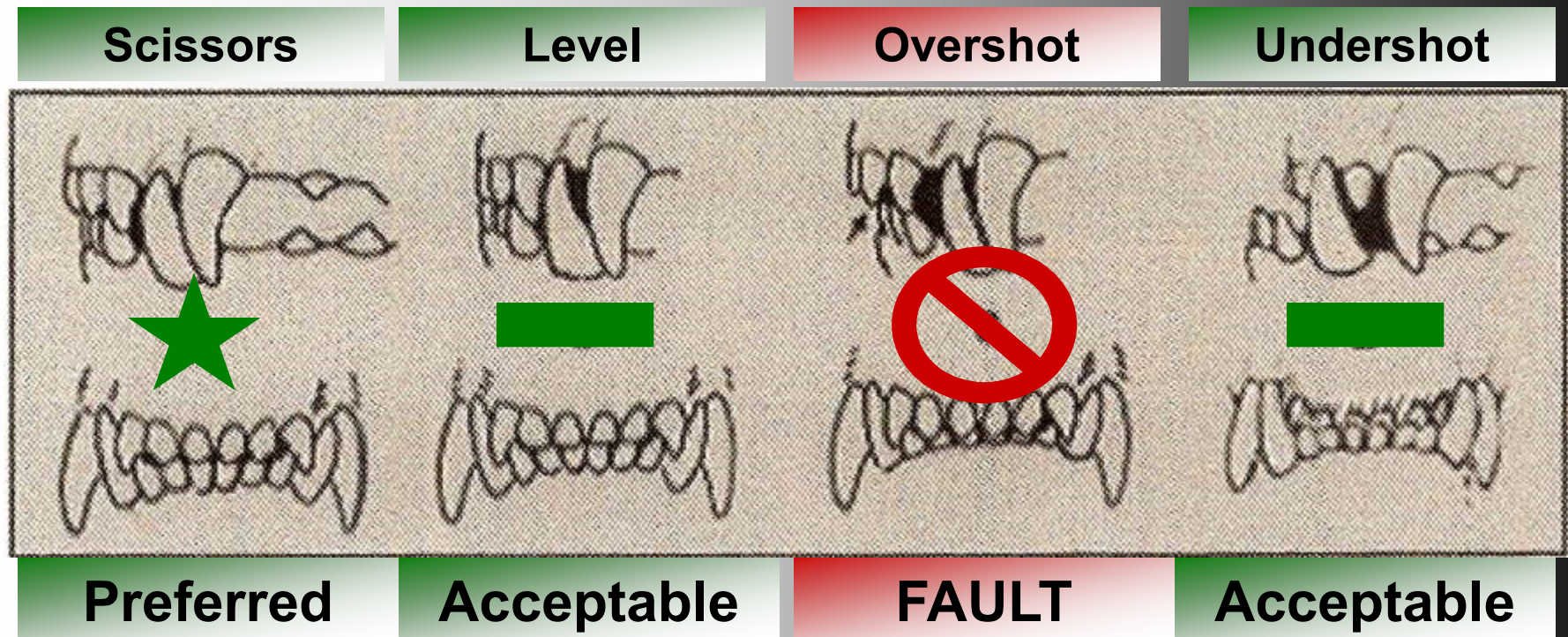


Medium Size

**Very Strongly
Developed Burr
(muschel) at base**

Rounded Triangle

THE STANDARD: Bite & Teeth



THE STANDARD: Eyes



Medium Size

Dark Brown

**Intelligent,
Friendly
Expression**

The lower eyelids do not close completely

THE STANDARD: Body Structure



Proper Moderate Angulation

THE STANDARD: Back



Broad Back – Straight Topline

THE STANDARD: Neck



Set High – Very Strong

THE STANDARD: Shoulders



Sloping & Broad

THE STANDARD: Front Legs



Straight, Strong & Muscular

THE STANDARD: Hindquarters



Well Developed – Legs Very Muscular

THE STANDARD: Feet



Broad, Strong Toes

COAT: Shorthaired (*Stockhaarig*)

Very Dense, Lying Smooth

Tough but not feeling Rough

Thighs slightly bushy

Tail at root has longer and denser hair which becomes shorter at tip

Tail appears bushy – not forming a flag



COAT: Longhaired

**Completely resembles the
shorthaired dog, but is
medium length**

Plain to Wavy

Never Rolled, Curly or Shaggy



THE STANDARD: Tail (Longhaired)



Bushy & Dense

Moderate Length

Faults include:

Rolled or Curly Hair, Parted Hair, Flag Tail

Faults Include:

All Deviations from the Standard

Disproportionately Long Back

Cowhocks & Weak Pasterns

Hocks Too Much Bent

Straight Hindquarters

Out at Elbows

Sway Back



Upwardly growing hair in spaces between the toes



IMPORTANT NOTES: Pigment

- The standard calls for black lips, but not too many Saints today have totally black lips – most have some breaks in the color.
- However, dogs with a majority of pink lips or pink on the noseplate should be faulted.
- Interesting to note is that Saints with ½ mask or white face, usually have excellent pigment.
- A Black roof of the mouth is called for in the standard, but it is not vital to check (in the ring) if the pigment appears good.

IMPORTANT NOTES: Head Markings

- Markings can influence a judge at first glance...
 - Check the Head Structure with YOUR HANDS
- Half Masked & White Faced Saints are acceptable in the show ring...
 - Many early Saints had no masks
 - They are not as desirable as the “favorite dark shadings”

REMEMBER: A poorly marked **CORRECT** head is superior to a well marked **FAULTY** head.

THE SAINT BERNARD



Thank you for your interest...

...I hope you share the love of our breed

