Versatile family companion hunting retriever

Distinctive and most important features are the silhouette, smooth effortless movement, head type,

Scissors bite preferred, level bite acceptable
Severe faults: Wry, undershot, or overshot bites, noticeable gap

Neck moderately long. Topline strong and level, supple in motion. Tail extends to hock, fairly straight, in motion without curl

Coat solid black or liver. Straight, flat-lying, moderate length and fullness, high luster

DQ: Yellow, cream, or any other color than black or liver

Shown with as natural a coat as possible. Shaving or barbering of the head, neck, or body coat must be severely penalized

Gait balanced, free, efficient. Best appraised at trot, loose lead

Body slightly longer than tall, with length in ribcage. Deep chest and rib. Prominent prow, well-developed forechest; never loosely coupled

Medium bone, feet oval or round, medium sized, tight with well-arched toes and thick pads

Males: 23 to 24 ½”
Females: 22 to 23 ½”
Variation more than 1” either way not practical for work

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Flat-Coated Retriever Quick Study

Drawings © Marcia Schlehr