

Mailed to All ARC Members - 14 Feb 2022

Hello All,

Soon a ballot will be mailed out by the American Rottweiler Club to vote on a single revision to the tail section of the Rottweiler standard. Every member vote is important, and we ask you to please vote yes to this addition. Discussions on natural tails showing in AKC have been ongoing for more than 20 years and the time has come to resolve this issue by adding just *23 words to the standard*.

Tail: The set of the tail is more important than its length. Properly set, it gives an impression of elongation of the topline; carried slightly above horizontal when the dog is excited or moving. Docked, the tail is short, close to the body leaving one or two tail vertebrae. *Undocked, the tail is carried straight or upward curved and may hang at rest. Faults: Tails with kinks, strong lateral deviation, or ringtails.*

As members of American Rottweiler Club, the national breed club and stewards of our standard, we owe it to all Rottweiler Owners, Breeders and Competitors to assure all dogs be judged and recognized in a fair manner. Well over 250 ARC club members signed the petition and join us in seeking this change.

Since 1998 most of the world has been able to see and evaluate what an undocked tail should and should not look like. Beginning in 2005, previous proposed standard changes included language for a severe penalty or serious fault for an undocked dog. Each of those ballots were defeated. This is the first opportunity for ARC members to provide a complete description of the Rottweiler tail added to the standard without severe consequences.

Why this Update is Needed?

1. Judges must have a description for an undocked dog when one is presented in their ring.
Excerpt from the AKC... What is an AKC breed standard

"Each breed's ideal physical traits, movement, and temperament are set down in a written document called a "breed standard." ... Once approved by the AKC, a standard becomes both the breeder's "blueprint" and the instrument used by dog show judges to evaluate a breeder's work.

2. AKC approved the language that accurately describes the undocked Rottweiler tail and closely follows the language in the FCI and other standards around the world
3. By voting no you are in essence voting to continue to support the deliberate bias against those Rottweiler owners and breeders who choose to show undocked Rottweilers and we remain heading down the road of separation.
4. To clarify, there has been no negative impact on owners or breeders who choose to own, breed or show docked dogs. The recent changes in other breed club standards indicate there is no risk to those who wish to continue docking with such changes being made in a standard.

We sincerely appreciate you taking the time to read this information and urge you to vote yes on the revision to the standard. Reach out to others who are members of the club and encourage them to learn about this very important matter and vote.

If you hear from or are contacted by anyone with information contrary to what is written here or you simply have questions, feel free to email rottweilerpetition@gmail.com