A BREEDER & JUDGE PERSPECTIVE

THE NEWFOUNDLAND AT THE CROSSROADS

Type, proportions and movement
in modern Europe



ARE WE STILL BREEDING TO THE STANDARD?

THE PERSPECTIVE

Why this conversation matters

I live with the breed.

I breed it. I show it.

And I judge it.

ONE QUESTION

Are we rewarding the dogs that best preserve the breed?

Winning a dog and preserving a breed are not always the same thing.

The standard has not changed. Have we?

MASSIVE
not oversized

COMPACT
not square

WELL MUSCLED
not simply heavy

WELL COORDINATED
not theatrical

“The problem begins when fashion replaces interpretation.”

Longer than tall — never stretched

Three teaching silhouettes, not measurements or individual dogs



A / BALANCED

longer, yet compact



B / TOO LONG

excessive length



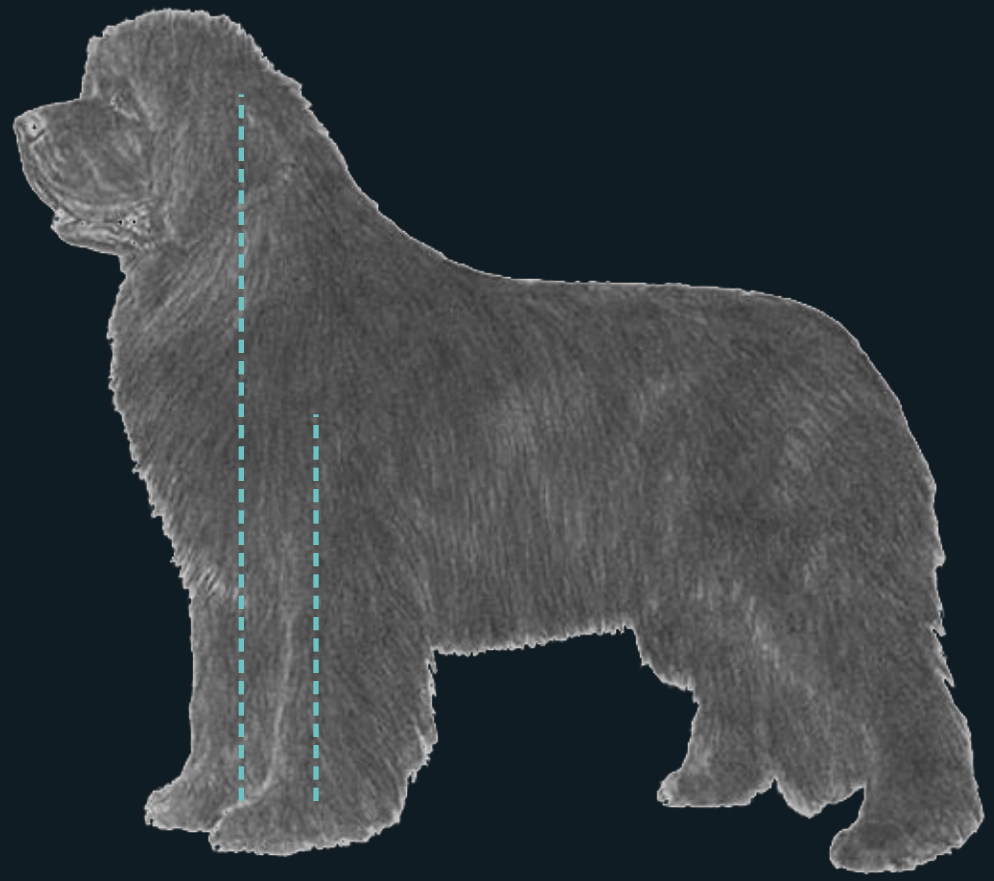
C / TOO LOW

reduced leg impression

Length alone is not type. Balance is.

PROPORTION II

Depth is not the same as being low



LOOK BELOW THE COAT

Withers → lower chest

Lower chest → ground

Elbow position

Forearm length

Balance of front and rear

Substance is built —
not achieved by removing leg.

Strength without exaggeration

MASSIVE
≠ COARSE

POWERFUL
≠ HARSH

STRONG HEAD
≠ OVERDONE

SOFT EXPRESSION
≠ WEAK

Strength must still communicate kindness.

HEAD & EXPRESSION

The face should still say Newfoundland



Broad skull and balanced muzzle

Appropriate stop

Eye shape and placement

Small, correctly placed ears

Benevolent, gentle expression

Power softened by kindness.

Movement tells us the truth



REACH

front

DRIVE

rear

BALANCE

between

COORDINATION

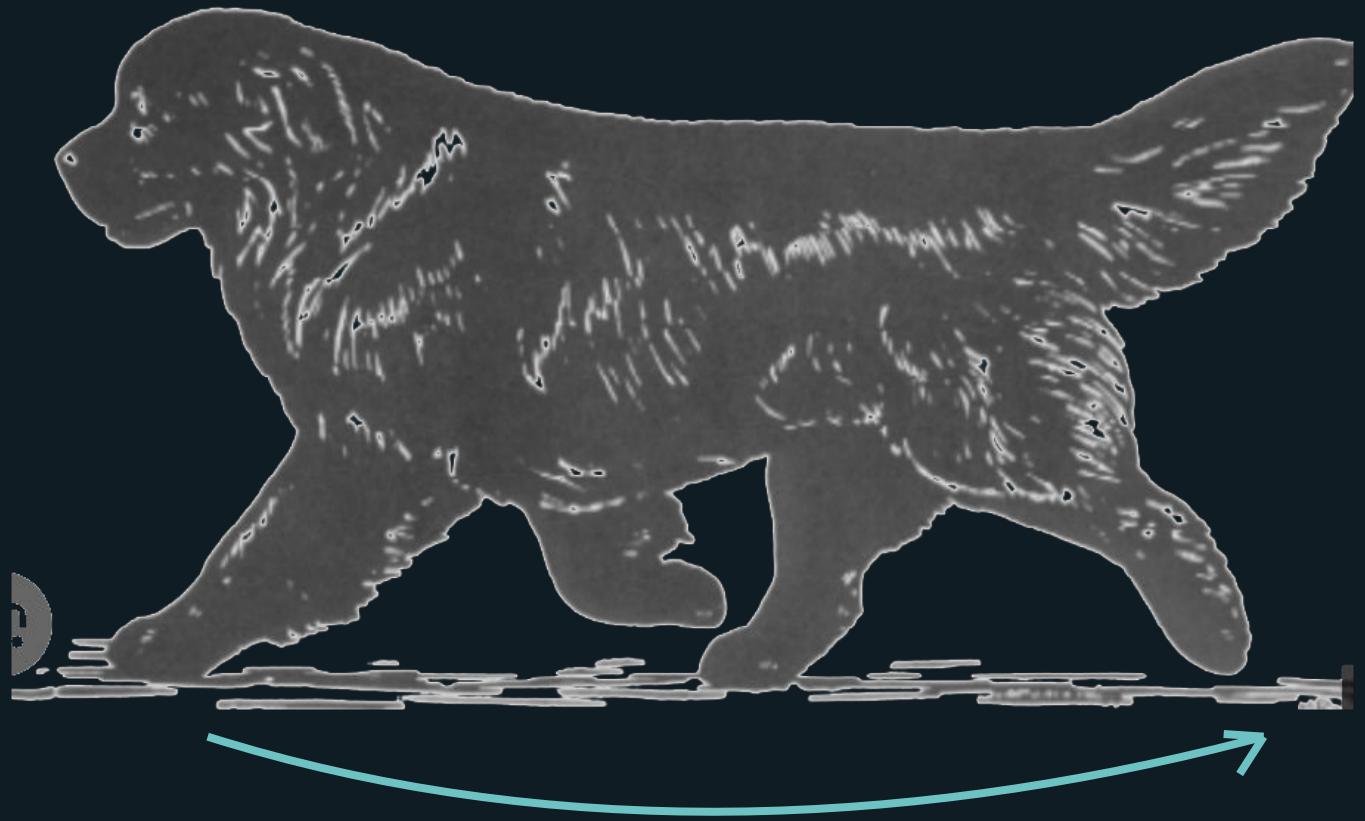
throughout

Static impact does not guarantee functional movement.

GAIT

EFFORTLESS POWER

Efficient movement. Not merely impressive action.



REACH + DRIVE

BALANCE + RHYTHM

Level, firm topline

Ground coverage

No wasted action

SELECTION

What wins today? What survives tomorrow?

SHOW IMPACT	BREED TYPE
EXTREME HEAD	CORRECT EXPRESSION
MASS →	BALANCE
COAT	STRUCTURE
ACTION	EFFORTLESS MOVEMENT

As breeders, we choose our future with every generation.

LOOKING FORWARD

The Newfoundland I want to see in 2035

Massive — not exaggerated

Heavy bone — functional structure

Longer than tall — yet compact

Powerful — yet balanced

Deep — but never low

Sound — before spectacular

Strong head — soft expression

Effortless — never laboured

Breed type is not a trend. It is a responsibility.

NOT MORE.

JUST MORE CORRECT.



The goal is not to create more Newfoundland.
The goal is to preserve more of the Newfoundland
in every dog.

SOURCE: FCI Standard No. 50 • fci.be/nomenclature/Standards/050g02-en.pdf

All canine illustrations are based on the supplied Newfoundland drawings, including the movement study on gait slides.