

# **CALUPOH Mexican Wolfdog**

## **Breed Standard**

**ORIGIN:** Mexico.

**UTILIZATION:** Group 1 Sheepdogs and Cattle dogs. A versatile dog and great companion which, due to its exaggerated tolerance and nobility, adapts to any activity. It is ideal as a companion dog.

**BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY:** The Mexican Wolfdog has its origins as the result of the hybridism between the dog and the gray wolf in pre-Hispanic Mexico since the beginning of our era and until the 15th century. This was due to the huge genetic similarity between these two species and, thanks to an intense archaeozoological work, it was possible to identify the first specimen in 1999. The reason for this hybridism was not only because the ancient dogs and wolves shared the same territory and the crossings just happened naturally. The remains found in places of such importance as the Temple of Quetzalcoatl used as ornaments worn by the elite, in the Pyramid of the Moon as offerings, and in the Templo Mayor in México-Tenochtitlan associated with sacrifices, suggest that these were animals of a very high spiritual meaning and that the crossings were not casual but intentional. The wolf was symbolically associated with sacrifices in which blood ran in large quantities, the military, and the night because of its condition as a powerful predator with great capacity for confrontation, a social animal that works in teams, and a nightlife entity; while the dog was considered a high-fertility animal whose reproductive cycle overlapped with that of the rain and the agriculture, aspects that resulted in the religious association with water, agriculture, fertility, and good fortune. A Wolfdog hybrid would; therefore, be the sum of these symbolic values, hence it would be used in rites where its dual condition proved to be fundamental, for example, those dedicated to the most important economic activities: agriculture and war. To formally resume the genetic project that was once part of our daily life was extremely important because, without it, the canine pool that represents the history of the continent would not be complete. As part of a genetic work that has been in progress since the mid-90s, we gladly present the Calupoh Mexican Wolfdog, which completes the original proposal of the dog fancy that was practiced by the North Americans for more than 2000 years.

**GENERAL APPEARANCE:** A strong and agile dog of great size resembling an American wolf, where males are notoriously more masculine, slightly taller than long, but very balanced and evoking a wolf in nature.

**IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS:** A balanced dog slightly long-legged resembling the structure of the wolf with powerful head and skull, and with a strong neck that in maturity develops a mane

also typical of a wolf. A marked chest depth that also broadens after reaching three years of age. The height at the withers for males is 62- 75 cm, females 58-70 cm.

**BEHAVIOR/TEMPERAMENT:** The Calupoh is a very agile and dynamic dog yet very stable and easy to handle that is accustomed to all kinds of activities, it is a loyal and noble dog with the family, it easily coexists with other dogs and is always willing to please its owner but can appear as aloof before strangers.

**HEAD:** The skull and snout are proportional in length and, although in puppies they are narrow and elongated, the skull becomes notoriously broader than the snout once maturity is reached showing a well marked naso-frontal depression, always erect ears at an angle between 85 and 95 degrees taking the middle line of the eyes as the axis, just like the wolves.

**FACIAL REGION:** In proportion to the skull and robust in the adults with a well pigmented black nose, the same as the lips that are preferred dark especially in the adult. The mandibular region of the Calupoh denotes strength and power, full dentition with scissor bite, pincer bite acceptable with strong and well cemented white teeth; well-defined cheeks that in maturity become part of the mane making a visual impression of a very strong dog. The eyes of the Calupoh are clear in yellow tones, almond shaped, very expressive, as a wolf. Because of the presence of his cousin the dog in the genetic base, eyes may also be dark. Ears are erect, big, thick, and triangular like a wolf.

**NECK:** Strong, well formed with high insertion but in a continuous upper line from the occipital crest. When maturity is reached, a mane grows similar to that of the wolf giving it an elegant and strong appearance.

**BODY:** The Calupoh denotes elegance and dynamism but strength and equilibrium similar to a wolf, its top line in motion or on the prowl shows uniformity and harmony. The withers higher than the rest of the back and a strong rump slightly rounded with the insertion of the tail below the dorsal line but that, when attentive or expressing dominance, can be carried high without curling on the back.

**FOREQUARTERS:** Strong and well-angled shoulders that allow a free and elegant gait but also support the movement of an agile dog. Strong and firm elbows next to the body, firm and straight pasterns, strong and round feet. The full view of the arm is uniform, rectilinear.

**MOVEMENT:** As a whole, the Mexican Wolfdog has an elegant and fluid movement of a heavy and primitive dog, with a wide stride that does not extend far beyond the natural. the front end of the anterior foot does not exceed an imaginary line perpendicular to the nose, the reach of the posterior foot shows thrust force, at the same time, it shows harmony but also the efficiency of a dog able to trot large tracts of land.

**HINDQUARTERS:** Good pelvic angulation that can bear the weight of an adult dog up until old age and allows for a firm movement. Well muscled for a ground covering stride or a prolonged trot, straight hocks in motion.

**COAT:** Well adhered to the body but loose enough to allow for a lot of flexibility.

**HAIR:** The hair is double layered, medium length, with a rough texture on the outside and soft on the inside, weather resistant. The preferred color is black or smoky black, some adults turn silver like their ancestor the wolf. Some Wolfdogs will be born white/sable or completely sable as the wolf and can be accepted although these are not desirable colors. White spots on the chest and feet are permitted as well as brown socks but never on another part of the body.

**SIZE:** The height at the withers for males is 24-29 inches (62-75 cm), females 22-27 inches (58-70 cm). The weight should not cause a disproportion to the size or show a health problem, either obesity or low weight.

**FAULTS:** Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog

- Cows hocks or crooked limbs.
- Non-typical coats.
- Lack of pigmentation in the lips or any fault that implies risk for the genetic health of the breed

**SEVERE FAULTS:**

Pink colored lips or eyelids.

- Cryptorchidism.
- Occlusion other than the recommended.
- Missing teeth.

**DISQUALIFYING FAULTS:**

- Aggressive or overly shy dogs.
- Eyes of any other color not specified in the standard.
- Any dog showing clear signs of physical or behavioral abnormalities shall be disqualified.