



# National Cocker Spaniel Council (Australia)

## DISCUSSION PAPER

To: National Cocker Spaniel Council (Aust)  
From: Constitution Working Group

<b>Topic:</b>	<b>Cocker Image on Dogs Australia Cocker Spaniel Breed Standard</b>
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### Issue:

The purpose of this discussion paper is to revisit concerns about the Cocker Spaniel image on the Dogs Australia Cocker Spaniel Breed Standard.

In that, contemporary opinion suggests that the image shown, does not match, as best it could, the description of the cocker spaniel outlined in the breed standard.



### Background

This issue arose during the review of the Constitution and while this matter is outside the remit of the Constitution Working Group it is not an issue that is new.

NCSC (Aust) [Minutes](#) of the Annual General Meeting held on **6 June 1998** in Adelaide state:

General Business: Breed Standard

*The Secretary presented the illustration of the Cocker Spaniel which accompanies the current Breed Standard. The meeting unanimously agreed that the Secretary write to the ANKC pointing out that the Standard quite clearly states 'a level topline' and that the extension of the Standard specifies our breed is free from exaggeration and therefore does not have angulated hind quarters. The photo of the Cocker Spaniel from 'The Complete Australian Dog Book' depicting the correct topline and hind quarters to accompany our complaint.*

This matter is further noted in NCSC (Aust) [Minutes](#) AGM **10 April 1999**.

### Discussion

In recent years this matter has also been raised in social media platforms such as 'Pondering the Cocker Spaniel' hosted by Kim Meyer.

Current advice from Dogs Australia about replacing the image is:

*Should the NCSCA wish to replace the image on the breed standard then please forward to this office an electronic copy (JPEG) of the preferred image together with a formal request*

*including the reasons why and this will be sent to the National Breed Standards Coordination Group for consideration.*

## Benefits

A picture is a very powerful learning tool and it's logical that the breed standard description matches the image.

## Questions for discussion

1. Should the image on the Dogs Australia Cocker Spaniel Breed Standard change?
2. If so, how might the NCSC (Aust) go about identifying a suitable replacement?

## Attachments:

Below are images used on the Cocker Spaniel Breed Standard in Australia, the FCI and Canadian Kennel Club. Note that the New Zealand Kennel Club uses the Australian image; and photo of the Cocker Spaniel from 'The Complete Australian Dog Book'.

### Cocker Spaniel

Last updated: 09 Oct 2012



Kennel Club, London 1994

FCI Standard No 5

### Dogs Australia Cocker Spaniel Breed Standard



CANADIAN KENNEL CLUB®



English Cocker Spaniel



FEDERATION CYNOLOGIQUE INTERNATIONALE (AISBL)  
SECRETARIAT GENERAL: 13, Place Albert 1<sup>er</sup> B-6500 Thuin (Belgique)

23.11.2012/EN

FCI-Standard N° 5

### ENGLISH COCKER SPANIEL



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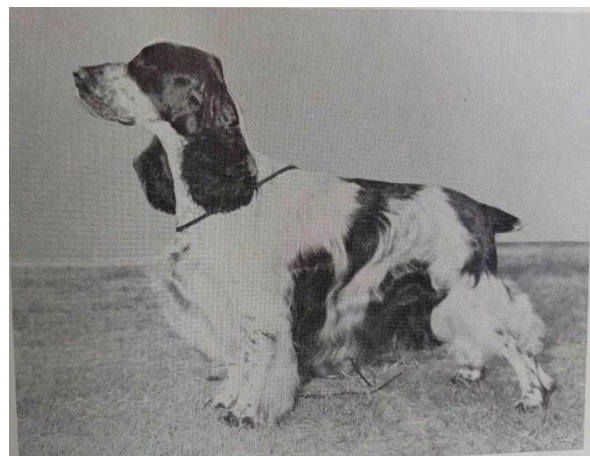


Photo of the Cocker Spaniel from 'The Complete Australian Dog Book'