JUDGING THE FIELD SPANIEL
FOREQUARTERS

• Shoulder blades are oblique and sloping

Straight shoulders are a serious fault for a dog used in the field. The shoulder blade should be about the same length as the upper arm in order to give the dog proper reach and prevent sidewinding, pounding and/or a hackney gait. Muscling is smooth and there should be no over muscling (bulges) apparent when the hand travels over the body.
• The upper arm is close-set;

• Elbows are directly below the withers, and turn neither in nor out.

There is good width of chest between the front legs 4 to 5 inches.

Leg tapers very little from elbow to foot adding to the overall solid look of the dog.
In previous years the Basset-Queen Anne front was often seen. This thankfully has been pretty well bred out of Fields and if seen should be severely faulted. The field should have a straight front and be well up on leg.

- Bone is flat
PASTERN & FEET

- Pasterns are moderately sloping but strong.

When viewed from the side the legs are straight to the pastern. Starting at the pasterns there is a moderate slope to the foot. This acts as a shock absorber for the dog. Straight pasterns contribute to excessive concussion of the shoulders. The pastern should not be so sloped that it no longer provides the solid support required.

- Dewclaws may be removed

Dewclaw removal is optional but is recommended for a dog who worked in the field as the can snag and cause serious injury.

Some young Fields go down in the pasterns when teething but this is normally corrected by time time and good nutrition.
• Feet face forward and are *large*, rounded, and webbed with strong, well arched relatively tight toes and thick pads.

The feet should not turn in or out when viewed from the front. Toes should not spread and feet should not be flat.
The Fields’ feet are one of their unique traits. They are large, larger in proportion to the dog than that of the other spaniels. The feet are hairy and the soft hair should be left between the toes when the dog is groomed. These feet make the Field the Hobbit of the spaniel world.

• There is short, soft hair between the toes.
HINDQUARTERS

- Strong and driving
- Hocks well let down
- Hips moderately broad and muscular
- Stifles and hocks only moderately bent.
The hindquarters should immediately convey the impression of great strength as they propel the body in movement.
• Pasterns relatively short, strong and parallel when viewed from the rear.
When viewed from the rear or from above, the width of the hips matches the good width of the chest. Narrowness can be an indication of immaturity or incorrectness and the latter should be penalized.
- Upper thigh broad and powerful; second thigh well muscled.

The thighs both upper and second should give an impression of solidness and power. The Field is not a small dog and must have substantial running gear in order to carry him.
• Bone corresponds to that of the forelegs.
• No dewclaws.
• Single; moderately long, flat or slightly wavy; silky and glossy; dense and water-repellent. Quality of the coat important. Fuzziness, a sleek hound coat, a wiry or cottony coat is incorrect.

• Moderate setter-like feathering adorns the chest, underbody, backs of legs, buttocks, and may also be present on the second thigh and underside of the tail.
Amount of coat or absence of coat should not be faulted as much as structural faults.

The key word here is “moderate” Puppies and young dogs will normally have less coat than an adult and bitches generally carry less coat than a male.
• Pasterns have clean outlines to the ground.

However, today’s exhibitors are leaving hair on the back of the pastern like an ESS. This is fine but do check the pastern to make sure the dog has proper bone.
The Field Spaniel should not be “sculpted.” Putting a Field down groomed like an English Springer or English Cocker is incorrect.

- Over abundance of coat or cottony texture, impractical for field work, **should be penalized**.
- Trimming is limited to that which enhances the natural appearance of the dog.
Field Spaniels come in a variety of colors and:

**ALL ARE EQUAL UNDER THE STANDARD**
BLACK

GOLDEN LIVER

LIVER

BI-COLORED

ACCEPTABLE COLORS
Liver may be of any shade and intensity (dark or light).

Golden Liver is the color of a Sussex Spaniel and nothing else.
•Bi-colored dogs must be roaned and/or ticked in white areas.

A Bi-colored dog is white with color on the white. The amount of color on the white is irrelevant. Any combination of ticks, flecks, freckles or any patch of color of any size is acceptable.
If a dog does not appear to have color in their white, ruffle back the hair. Roaning and/or ticking may well show underneath. This is known by some as a “closet roan”
This is a color that you may see.

It appears to be a recessive red.

It is a color found in spaniels and was in the Field Spaniel standard until 1990. At that time it disappeared and no one seems to know why. As there are no disqualifications in the breed each of you must decide what you wish to do if you come across this color.
Tan points are acceptable on the aforementioned colors and are the same as in any normally tan pointed breed. However, a chest bar of tan is not required. Penciling on the toes is allowed.
WHITE MARKINGS ON SELF COLORED DOGS

• White is allowed ONLY on the throat, chest, and/or brisket of a self-colored dog.

- It may be just a touch
- or a streak
- or a good sized patch
- or a shirt front
•The white MAY be clear, ticked or roaned.

But in any case the white on the chest should never extend past the point of shoulder. nor should it extend up onto the side or top of the neck in any way.
please remember
all colors are equal

DO NOT
DISCRIMINATE
And remember

Color is not as important as Type, Structure, Soundness or Movement

after all

“SYMMETRY, GAIT, ATTITUDE AND PURPOSE ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN ANY ONE PART”