

SPANISH WATER DOG CLUB OF AMERICA (SWDCA)

In April 2011, the American Kennel Club (AKC) selected the Spanish Water Dog Club of America, Inc. as Parent Club for the breed as it progressed towards Miscellaneous Class and full recognition status, expected as of January 1, 2015. The breed will be part of the Herding Group.

The SWDCA extends a membership invitation to all SWD fanciers with the goals of forming a strong national breed club and continuing its efforts toward improving the well-being and status of the breed.

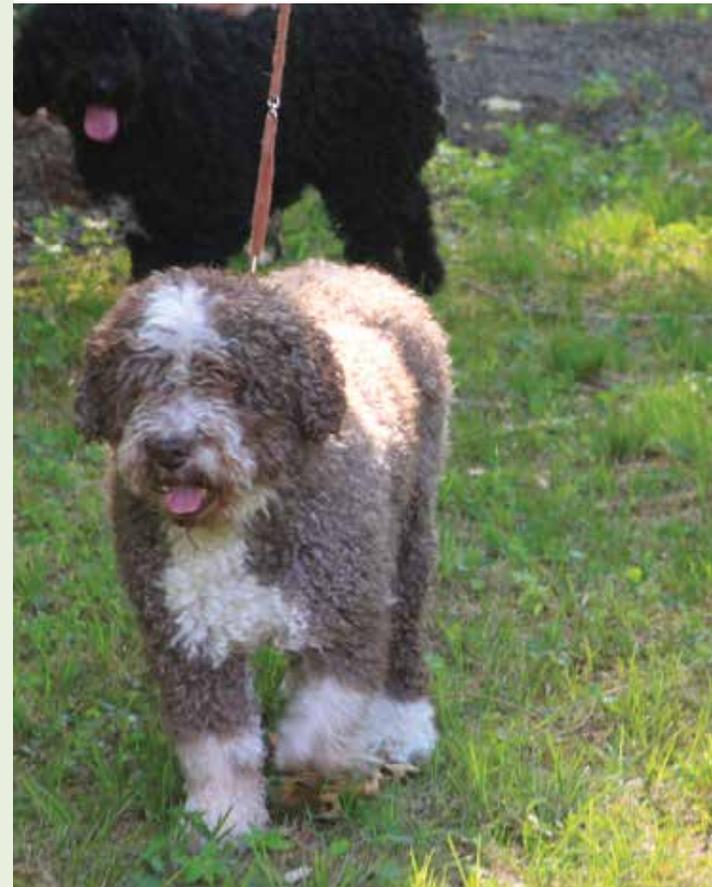


Spanish Water Dog Club of America

We welcome you to obtain more
information about
the breed and the Club at
WWW.SWDCLUB.ORG.

You may solicit other information
from the Club not included on the
website by using the Contact Us
section on the website and filling
out the form.

([HTTP://WWW.SWDCLUB.ORG/
INDEX.PHP?PAGE=CONTACT-US](http://WWW.SWDCLUB.ORG/INDEX.PHP?PAGE=CONTACT-US)).



GENERAL APPEARANCE



The Spanish Water Dog (SWD) is a versatile herding dog that has also served as an assistant to fishermen and that at times has been used for hunting. Many SWDs enjoy water sports. The SWD has a distinctively single, curly coat that may be solid shades of black, brown, beige or white as well as bi-color with one of the colors being white. Its coat has a woolly texture that is never brushed or sculpted and may form cords when long. Dogs may be clipped the same length all over, depending on the owner's preference as to the length of coat. Traditionally the SWD has a docked tail, but some are born with a naturally short tail that can vary in length. In many parts of Europe, the dog is left with a long tail.

The SWD is a medium-sized dog and females are usually smaller than males. Females can be from about 16-18 inches and males can be 17 to 20 inches. Females are usually between 30 and 40 pounds and males are between 40 and 50 pounds.

A LOOK BACK

The SWD's origins are not clearly known and continue to be debated by many experts. What is known is that this rustic multi-purpose breed was developed in Spain many centuries ago to fulfill a variety of purposes, including herding, hunting, water work and companionship. Starting in 1975, the breed was brought out from obscurity and, in 1985, it was recognized by the Real Sociedad Central de Fomento de Razas Caninas en España. Today's Perro de Agua was developed in Spain as a herding dog.



IS THE SWD THE RIGHT BREED FOR YOU?

The SWD is faithful, obedient, lively, hard working and watchful. He is highly intelligent with an outstanding learning ability. His loyalty and protective instincts make him a self-appointed guardian to his owner, his family and his property. He is not timid or shy, but is naturally suspicious of strangers. Properly introduced, and given time, the SWD will accept strangers. He is very affectionate with his own people.

While the SWD can be a great family dog if properly socialized, it should not be left unattended with small children. SWDs may try to herd anything that moves, including small children!



The SWD requires both physical and mental stimulation. As herding dogs, they were bred to do a "job." They do need to be active and will require daily exercise. They are especially well-suited to companion activities such as agility, rally and obedience. The rustic and robust SWD will typically enjoy hiking, swimming, boating and more. If properly exercised, they are also quite content to sit by your side as you relax in your living room.