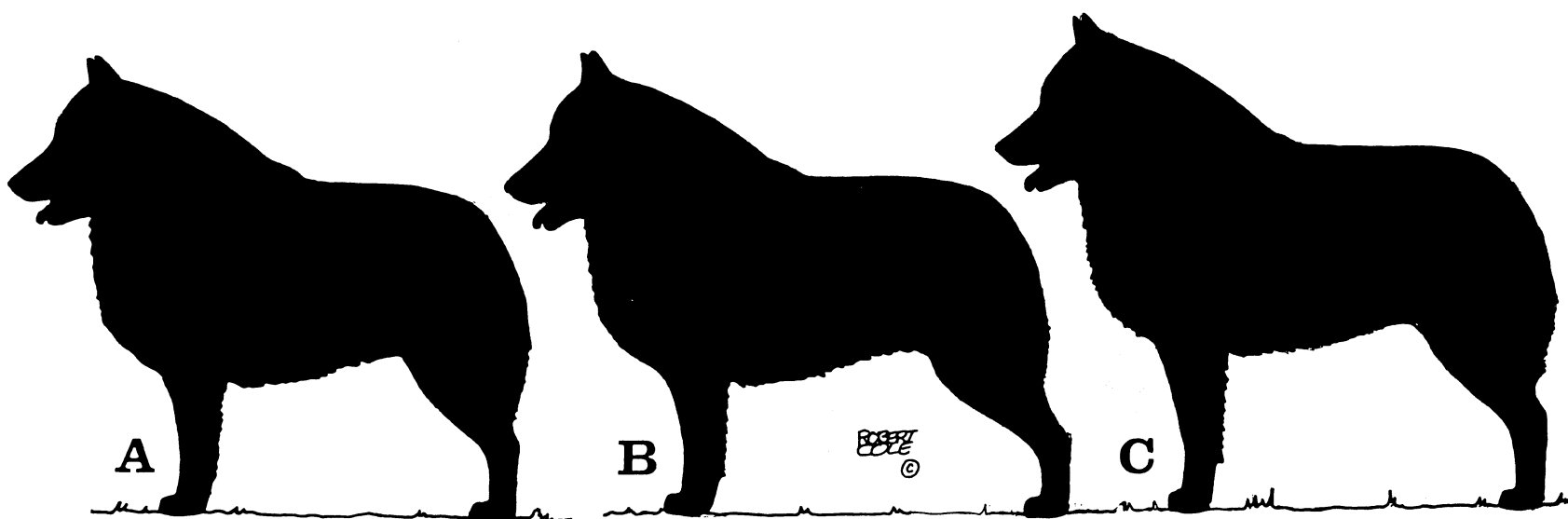


You Be The Judge

■ THE SCHIPPERKE

Based on the revised
AKC Standard, effective
January 1, 1991



Dog A, Dog B Or Dog C?

Which one of these three male Schipperke comes closest to representing the correct silhouette for this Non-Sporting breed? The revised Standard calls the Schipperke silhouette "unique." All three of these silhouettes conform to this uniqueness but only one is correct. Which one?

A judge who has assessed Schipperke for fifty years stressed that the most important thing in judging this breed is the correct silhouette: "I first look to see if the dog has the correct silhouette. If not, he is nothing and I look no further. If he has, I look into further details beginning with bone structure."

The American Schipperke Club members on page 1 of *The (draft)Schipperke, An Illustrated Guide* 1998, compliment Anita Fredrick's drawings with the advice to judges: "The distinctive silhouette and coat pattern are the things that set the Schipperke apart from other breeds. These are very important when judging the Schipperke." The coat pattern will be discussed later in detail. For this scenario the coat pattern can be said to be correct for all three of these dogs, however, only one possesses a correct, balanced Schipperke silhouette. Which one?

Proportions

The difference between these three examples is one of proportions (and height). For the silhouette to be correct a Schipperke must have a certain ratio of body length to height and body depth to leg length. The Standard advises that the Schipperke is "square in profile" and "cobby."

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