

## Early History of the Lowchen

The Lowchen breed can be traced back in history as far as the 1400's. Although the official country of origin is France, and there has been speculation that the Lowchen originates from the Mediterranean, we know that the breed has strong roots in both Germany and Holland since most of the breed's early evidence stems from these two countries.



*Study done for the portrait of Anna de' Medici  
Justus Sustermans, 1622 oil*

The Lowchen over the centuries obviously appealed to artists, for they were featured in dozens of woodcuts by German artist Albrecht Durer dating back to the mid-14<sup>th</sup> century, 15<sup>th</sup> century tapestries from Lyon, and paintings from Belgium, such as Goya's 1795 portrait of the Duchess of Alba. It is through following the life of the artists that historians of the breed have been able to piece together their history.



*Stained-Glass Panel  
From the Zurich workshop of Zeiner 1500-1505*

## Is a Lowchen for You?



an off leash run in the countryside.

The Lowchen is robust and energetic but adapts well to town or country. Although it requires minimal space for its exercise needs, he will enjoy regular walks in the park or

They are intelligent, affectionate and easily trained. Lowchen are friendly with everyone, showing no signs of aggression and although gay and boisterous, are generally kind and playful with no vices. They make an admirable house pet and friend of the family. They are very good with children and other household pets.

The Lowchen has no known drawbacks, other than perhaps the need for skillful clipping. A daily brushing will keep him looking handsome. They do not shed, come in any color and pets can be kept in the traditional lion clip or clipped into the teddy bear clip if desired.

### For Breed Information contact Area Directors:

**BC:** Nadine Baldwin  
[chenoka@telus.net](mailto:chenoka@telus.net)

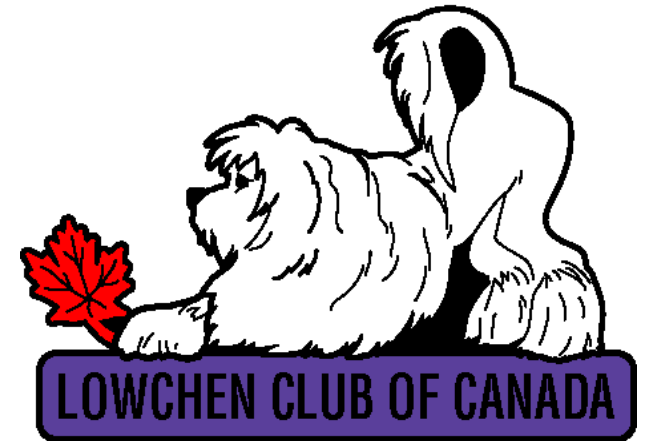
**Prairies:** Kim Schmidt  
[kschmidt@canopycanada.net](mailto:kschmidt@canopycanada.net)

**Ontario:** Gillian Robertson  
[gillian17@gmail.com](mailto:gillian17@gmail.com)

**Maritimes:** Madonna Rideout  
[nfpugs4@yahoo.com](mailto:nfpugs4@yahoo.com)

### For LCC Membership Information contact:

Ken Berman  
[Ken\\_Berman@umanitoba.ca](mailto:Ken_Berman@umanitoba.ca)



[www.lowchenclubofcanada.com](http://www.lowchenclubofcanada.com)

## The Lowchen in Canada

Although history of the Lowchen can be found in the chronicles of European history for centuries, their history in Canada started in the late 1970's with the importation of foundation stock from England. During the past thirty years the Lowchen breed has slowly gained popularity in Canada.

In 1994 Lowchen were officially recognized by the Canadian Kennel Club and entered the show rings in 1995 as part of Group Six (Non-Sporting). Also in that year, the Lowchen Club of Canada was founded and recognized by the C.K.C.

Since 1996 to the present, more Lowchen have been imported from England, France, Australia and the United States to strengthen our gene pool and establish new Lowchen breeders/exhibitors. From these imports and the Canadian bred Lowchen, a strong foundation has been built.



## Canadian Breed Standard

**General Appearance:** Strongly built, active, well balanced and alert little dog whose presentation (i.e. coat and tail clipped in traditional lion clip) gives the "little lion" appearance.

**Head:** Short. Skull wide in proportion, flat between the ears, head carried proud and high. Well defined stop. Short, strong muzzle.

**Eyes:** Round, large and intelligent, dark in colour. Unbroken pigmentation of eye rims, pigment to be in accordance with coat colour.

**Ears:** Pendant, long and well fringed, set on level with the eye, close hanging.



*Littlecourt Pippin*

**Mouth:** Jaws strong, with perfect, regular and complete scissors bite, i.e. the upper teeth closely overlapping the lower teeth and set square to the jaw.

**Nose:** Black or brown according to coat colour.

**Neck:** Good length; proudly arched.



*Cluneen Adam Adamant*

**Forequarters:** Forelegs straight and fine boned. Shoulder well laid back.

**Body:** Short, strong, well proportioned. Level top line. Ribs well sprung; strong loin with moderate tuck up.

**Hindquarters:** Hind legs well muscled with good turn of stifle; straight when viewed from the rear.

**Feet:** Small, round.

**Tail:** Of medium length, clipped with a tuft of hair to resemble a plume. Carried gaily on the move.

**Gait/Movement:** Free, parallel movement fore and aft. No hackneyed action.

**Coat:** Fairly long and wavy but not curly. Fine and silky. Clipped in the traditional lion clip.

**Colour:** Any colour or combination of colours permissible.

**Size:** Height 10-13 inches (25-33 cm) at the withers.

**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. Note: Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.

## The Prince of Beasts

Groomed and trimmed to resemble a lion in miniature, the Lowchen too symbolized leonine courage, though on a slightly lesser degree than the King of the Beasts. It is said that when knights were bold and got killed in battle, the custom was to decorate their tombs with a representation of a lion to commemorate their courage. If they survived a lifetime of skirmishes and succumbed to something less heroic like disease, old age or jealous husbands, their sarcophagi might bear the likeness of a Lowchen.



*Albrecht Durer woodcutting mid-14<sup>th</sup> century*