

1. Appearance

Markings:

- Black nose to the center of the head
- Black encompassing the eye area connecting with the black of the nose, no gap is permitted
- Black ears – black should meet the white of the head
- Black hooves and ankle area ('black socks')
- Black spots on knees and hocks (this can be non-symmetrical and can be smaller than a five pence piece)
- Females are desired to have a black tail spot. There must be a finger-width gap of white on the tail.
- For females missing a marking feature i.e. knee spot, a point deduction might be made depending on overall conformation and wool.
- Males must not have a tail spot
- Male scrotum may be black, this is fine, but the black must not spread upward into the belly area and fleece

Spitti: On occasion a purebred Valais Blacknose may produce offspring marked in reverse colour /markings which are referred to as 'Spitti' (a name adopted here in the UK from Swiss Blacknose breeders). However, in Switzerland the 'Spitti' may be referred to by different names in the varying villages and areas of Valais. Spitti rams should be castrated and not used for breeding purposes.

Head & Neck:

- Well proportioned, compact head
- Roman nose, wide mouth, broad forehead
- Pronounced, regal head shape in rams. Mature rams often develop protuberance behind horn base
- Short, straight well-muscled neck

Horns:

- Spiral outward from head, horizontally away from cheeks (You should always be able to fit a flat hand comfortably between the horn and cheek)
- Black stripes in the horns are acceptable

Chest, Shoulder & Withers:

- Wide, deep, chest area
- Shoulders line naturally with neck and chest
- Well-spaced, wide withers
- Rib cage curvature is well proportioned and rounded

Back & Loin:

- Long, straight top line
- Wide back and loin

Pelvis, Abdomen & Hindquarters:

- Medium sized belly with small belly hollows/pits (paralumbur fossa)
- Wide and medium-length pelvis
- Well-muscled hindquarters

Withers (from two years):

- Female: 72 - 78 cm
- Male: 75 - 83 cm

Weight (over two years):

- Female: 70 - 90 kg
- Male: 80 - 125 kg