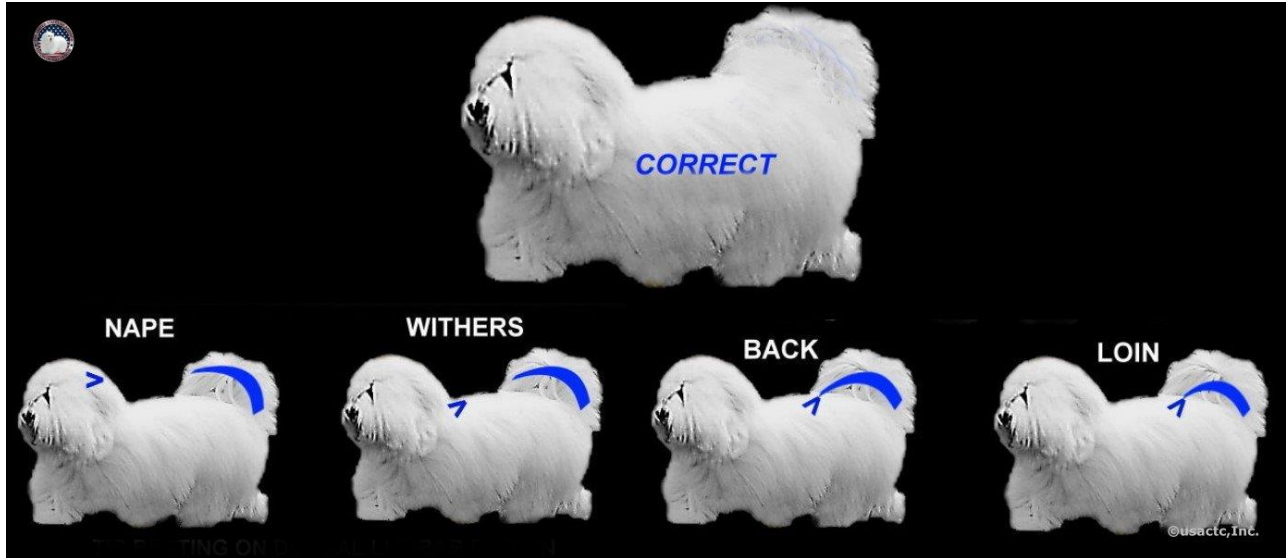


# COTON DE TULEAR TAIL SET AND CARRIAGE “ HALLMARKS OF THE BREED”



**AKC STANDARD-CORRECT TAIL CARRIAGE :** The tail is low set in the axis of the spinal column. At rest it is carried below the hock with the tip being raised. **On the move the tail is carried happily.** It is curved over the back so that the hair of the tail rests on the back with the point towards the nape, the withers, the back or the loin. In specimens with abundant coat, the tip may rest on the dorsal-lumbar region.

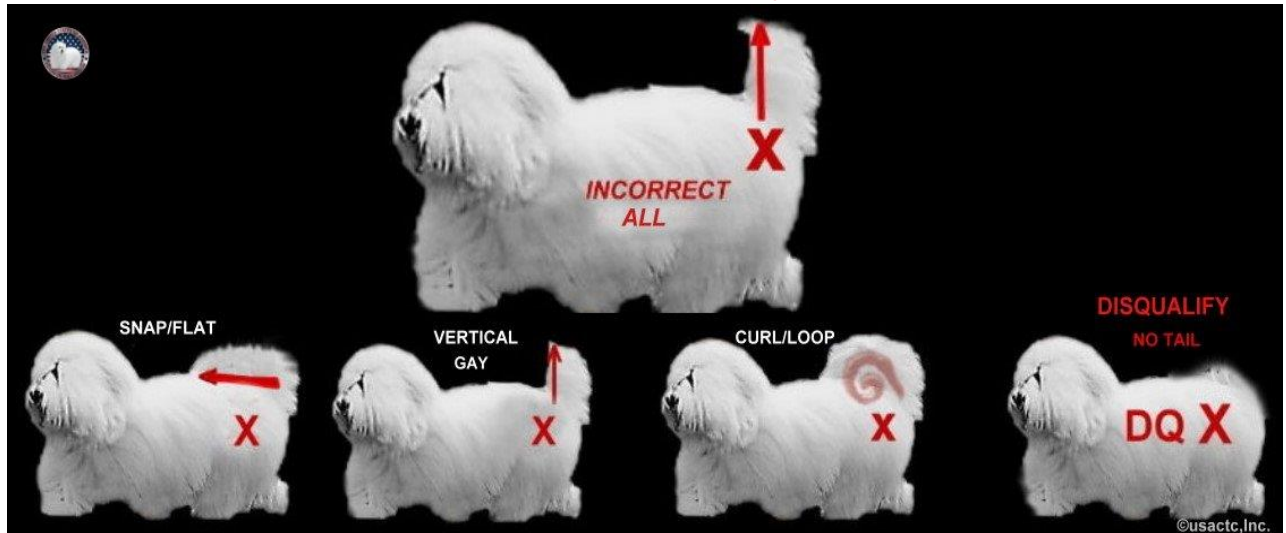
**CORRECT - KEY POINTS: ARC TAIL OVER BACK TIP POINTS to NAPE-WITHERS-BACK OR LOIN**



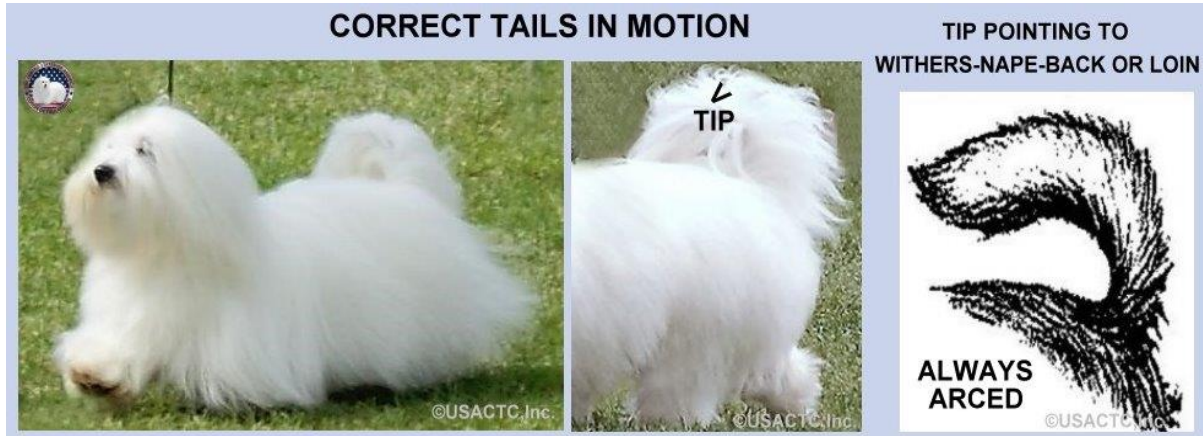
**AKC STANDARD - TAIL FAULTS:** Fault - A tail that does not reach the hock; a tail that has a complete curl loop; a gay tail; a tail that is carried completely flat over the body (snap tail). DQ: NO TAIL

**INCORRECT – KEY POINTS: VERTICAL – FLAT – NO ARCH – CURL/LOOP**

**DISQUALIFY-NO TAIL**



**CORRECT TAIL SET AND CARRIAGE, IN MOTION – RAISED – POINTING FORWARD – ARCED**

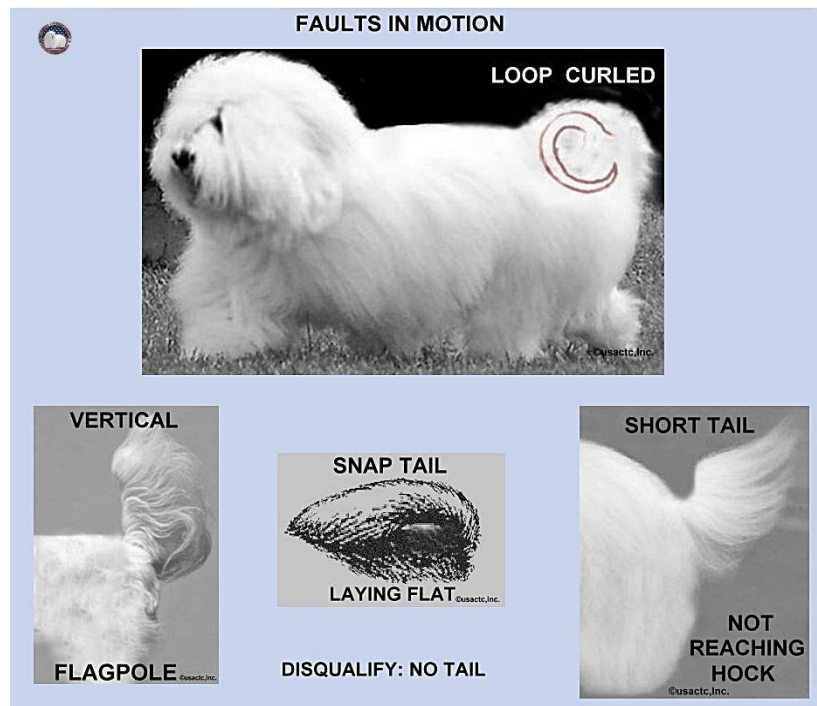


**IN MOTION:** The correct, low set and long Coton tail carriage **ALWAYS** creates a **discernable curve** over the back. **Some hair of the tail rests on the back** with the **point** towards the **nape, withers, back or loin**. On heavily coated dogs, the **tip may touch the dorsal-lumbar region**, due only to the weight of the hair., but it should still be arced.

The arc will deviate in proportion according to the acceptable locations of the point of **tail tip**, that point being to the nape, withers, back, or dorsal lumbar region of the loin. **NOTE:** Abundant hair on a well feathered tail can somewhat visually obscure the required arc of the tail from view.

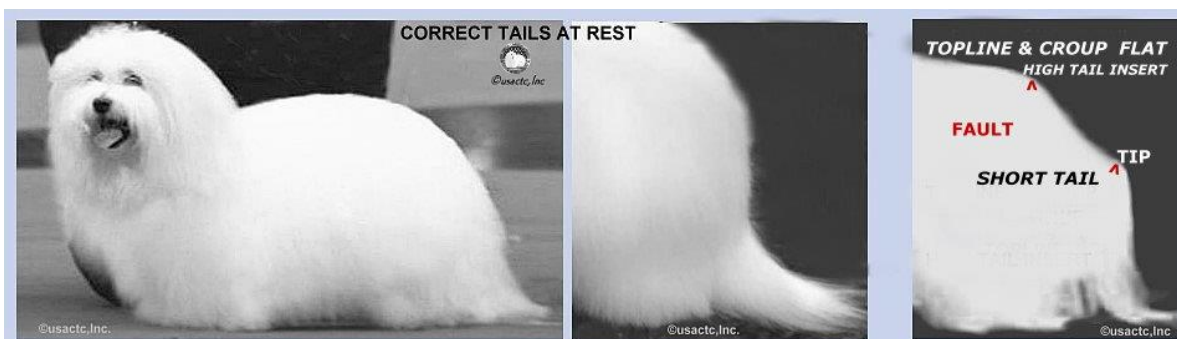
**FAULTS, DQs & DEVIATIONS IN MOTION**

**FAULTS:** A tail that does not reach the hock; tail that has a complete curl loop; a gay tail; a tail that is carried completely flat over the body (snap tail). **DISQUALIFICATION:** No tail.



**ELABORATION OF TAIL FAULTS:** Coton tail carriage **FAULTS** include, but are not limited to, tails carried vertically without the required “curve (**NO ARC pointing in the prescribe manner**) in the skeletal structure of the tail.”(**VERTICAL/ FLAGPOLE.**) Tails carried flat against the loin (**SNAP TAIL**) or any tails carried in a **CURL/LOOP**. Tails carried above the horizontal level of the back.(**GAY TAIL**) Tail not reaching the hock (**SHORT TAIL**). **AKC STANDARD: "Any deviation from the ideal described in the standard should be penalized to the extent of the deviation."** Tails not rising to any ideally described standard positions while in motion. **DISQUALIFY: NO TAIL**

**THE COTON DE TULEAR TAIL IS DOWN WHEN STACKED OR AT REST  
ALLOWING THE JUDGE TO FULLY APPRECIATE THE DISTINCTIVE TOPLINE AND TAIL SET**



**Coton de Tulear tails are “low set” and “long” reaching slightly below the hock! As per standard:** The ‘**TIP OF THE TAIL**’ is **ONLY SLIGHTLY RAISED AT REST**. The coat may be so heavy that the tip rests on the ground.

**CAREFULLY EXAMINE: THE TAIL THAT NEVER DROPS, OR THE TAIL THAT THE EXIBITOR HOLDS DOWN WHEN STACKED OR AT REST, FOR AN INCORRECT TIGHT OR SHORT TAIL.**

**CORRECT POINTS OF CONFORMATION PRODUCE CORRECT TAIL SET AND CARRIAGE**

The slight rise over the loin falls away into **an oblique croup** resulting in a low tail insertion. The tail is long with tip of tail reaching slightly below the hock allowing it to reach up and over the back to form the correctly carried arched tail.

Incorrect level toplines, short backs, and/or toplines that are high in the rear, produce high set tails that are unable to achieve the standard requirements of proper tail carriage. A short tail, not reaching the hock is a standard described “**fault**.” This fault impedes the dogs’ ability to carry the tail as prescribed.

**FOR A COMPREHENSIVE ELABORATION OF THE STANDARD, VISIT: <https://www.usactc.org/>**

The United States of America Coton de Tulear Club is your authoritative source for breed education and mentoring. We will be happy to assist you with the correct interpretation of the Standard. Our website Judges Education page also features informative articles and a list of approved, knowledgeable mentors.

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