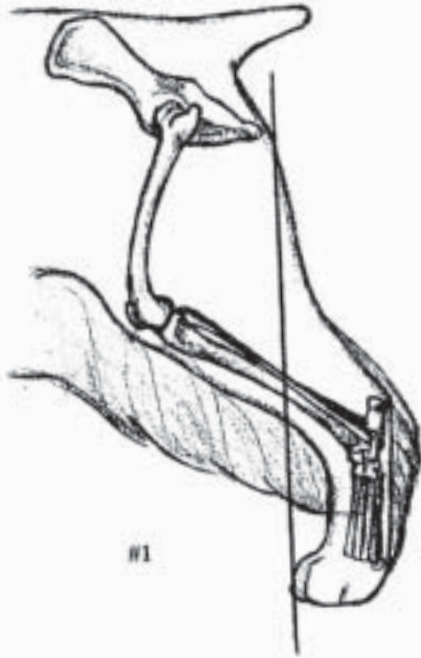


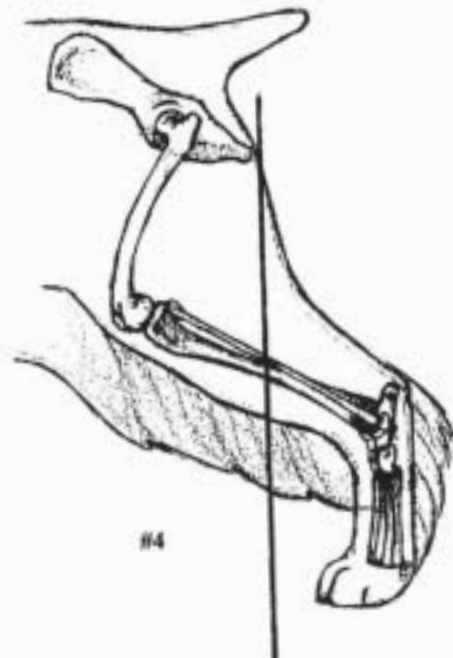
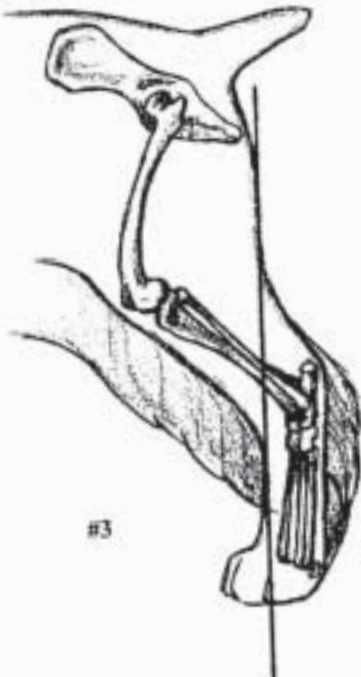
REAR ANGULATION

Sketches by Eileen Weston

(Presented by the Judges' Education Committee of the English Cocker Spaniel Club of America, Inc.)



Drawings #1 and #2 show two dogs with correct rear angulation and balance. Both dogs have moderate angles at the hip and the stifle (approximately 100 degrees) and well let-down hocks. Note also the approximately equal lengths of the upper and lower thighs. With the rear pastern set perpendicular to the ground, note that a straight plumb line dropped from the point of the hip to the ground falls just touching the front part of the foot. In addition, Drawing #1 shows a dog with a fairly heavy coat trimmed in a typical manner. Drawing #2 shows a dog with a sparser coat. Both are angled correctly, but can APPEAR quite different due to coat growth patterns, trimming, etc.



Drawings #3 and #4 show dogs with incorrect proportions. Drawing #3 shows a rear that is too straight in the stifle joint with a very high hock joint. Clever trimming and a more extreme setup of the rear leg can disguise these things to the casual glance, but the plumb line dropped from a properly set rear will reveal the truth. Drawing #4 shows an overangulated rear which also includes an overly long lower thigh out of balance with the shorter upper thigh. This extra length in the lower thigh can sometimes be accompanied by a lack of development and strength in the musculing of that area.

