

Cursinu, the Corsican Dog Breed



Jean-Louis Guidoni's *Torcu*

The [Cursinu](#) is a well-proportioned dog, now officially recognised in France (since 2003), although originating in the sixteenth century.

It is amazingly adaptive. The Cursinu can be hyper-active when required, but also be a calm sedentary creature near his master. Traditionally the Cursinu was a shepherd's dog, guarding the flock and his master's house, but also could hold a sheep or working a hunting mode. Nowadays the typical use is in wild boar hunting.



Antoine-Pierre Guerrini's *Turchettu*

The basic colouring is brindled, often with a white blaze on the chest. I'd describe the race as a medium-sized dog – 46-55 centimetres for the female and 46-58 for the male. He has a shortish neck and flat strong head and is very alert; he is very muscular and spare. The coat is short to medium in length.

There are currently about 2 000 Cursinus in Corsica., and they are growing in number in Continental France; a few have been purchased in other European countries. Conformity is controlled by the Club Cursinu (affiliated to the [Société Centrale Canine](#)), presided over by Jean-François Andreozzi and secretary Jean-Dominique Rossi. These two run the Ajaccio branch (04 95 23 26 01).

The vice-president plays a similar role for the Bastia/Tavagna region (04 95 59 81 55) and other regional contacts are: Centre (Pierre Benedetti – 06 95 47 43 10); Casinca (Dominique Fieschi – 06 09 83 67 57); Balagne (Jean-Louis Guidoni – 06 33 57 99 57 or Marika Spinelli – 04 95 65 09 61; Fiumorbu & East Coast (Marc Gambotti – 04 95 57 36 86); Moïte Verde (André Ferrari – 06 85 65 97 28).

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