Intelligent, independent, affectionate, alert
Temperament & Character

May be aloof with strangers
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Temperament, peculiarities and judging tips: These little dogs are intensely curious and are genuinely interested in you. They want to know who you are, where you’ve been and what you had for breakfast this morning.

Greet them pleasantly and introduce yourself with a smile and an extended hand. They are also extremely food-oriented.

If you ever have a Basenji pull back or express uncertainty, especially with a puppy, take your time and consider asking the exhibitor for a piece of bait (they all carry it) and offer it to the dog. You may find you now have a new best friend forever.
Temperament & Character

Basenjis do not bark. They can, and do, make a wide variety of other sounds but will not spend the afternoon barking at the neighbor’s cat. They may, however, spend that afternoon constructing a tunnel under the fence that separates them from that pesky feline.
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Basenji bitches usually come in season only once a year, in the fall in the northern hemisphere, which is equivalent to springtime in Africa. Basenji dogs inevitably follow the bitches into a form of rut as it seems that all the bitches are in season at the same time.

Our National is always held during the late-summer/fall months as only then are the previous year’s crop of puppies old enough to show but, as you can imagine, hormones and feelings are flying high!
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Thank you!