

Miniature Pinscher Club of America, Inc.

Maturity Stake Rules and Regulations

INTENT

The Intent of the Futurity and Maturity events are to encourage the breeding the best Miniature Pinschers and rewarding the MPCA members who breed for their efforts. The Maturity will focus on the mature Miniature Pinscher, where the Futurity focuses on the puppy. The stakes, as in the Futurity will weigh highly on the breeder, as they are the ones who will nominate the bitch before whelping, and often pay entry fees for the puppies as well.

PURPOSE

The main purpose of the Maturity is to provide encouragement and incentive to member breeders and owners of those Miniature Pinschers who have maintained their eligibility to compete in the Futurity, to meet and compete a year later in the Maturity, as mature Miniature Pinschers. To further demonstrate that their mature Futurity Miniature Pinschers have in fact matured into outstanding specimens of the breed and to reward the breeders for their efforts.

The Maturity is held in conjunction with the National Specialty and Futurity each year. Individually nominated Futurity puppies are eligible to be nominated and compete at the first Maturity Event following the Futurity Event in which they are eligible to compete. Accordingly, Maturity entries will range in age from approximately 18 months old to approximately 30 months old, depending upon the actual date of the Maturity Event.

NOMINATION & ELIGIBILITY

Nominations to the Maturity are open only to members, in good standing, of the MPCA and to those Miniature Pinschers who have been nominated and eligible to compete in the previous year's Futurity. For a Miniature Pinscher to be eligible to qualify and compete in the Maturity, it must meet all of the following requirements:

- Be nominated and eligible to compete at the previous year's Futurity. This requirement does not mean that the Futurity puppy must have been entered or competed at the previous year's Futurity, but rather, it was eligible to be shown at the Futurity.
- Has been nominated to the Maturity by the age of 6 months and is owned or co- owned by a member, in good standing, with the MPCA.
- Or, have the option of paying a penalty fee, as set by the MPCA, equal to twice the 6 month old fee. This penalty fee is only good for up to 12 months of age. All other deadlines and conditions must still be met.
- Be entered in one of the regular classes of the National Specialty in either Conformation and/or Obedience Trial.
- Not be bred, owned, co-owned or handled by the judge or a member of his or her immediate family, nor sired by or out of a Miniature Pinscher owned, co-owned or leased by the judge or a member of his or her immediate family.

PROCEDURE FOR QUALIFYING A FUTURITY PUPPY FOR THE MATURITY & FEES

For a Futurity puppy to be eligible for nomination to the Maturity, it must have met ALL the Futurity requirements. The nomination and qualification of a Futurity puppy to the Maturity must be made, after or at the same time the Futurity puppy has been individually nominated to the Futurity but prior to the Futurity puppy attaining six (6) months of age. The post mark (or the date of receipt if sent by overnight courier) containing the Maturity nomination, must be dated on or before the Futurity puppy attains six (6) months of age. The Maturity nomination must be made on an official Maturity nomination form together with a Maturity nomination fee of \$20 and mailed to the Futurity Chairperson.

A person may nominate a puppy after the 6 month deadline, providing all the requirements have been met. They must send an additional late fee of \$20.00 along with the Maturity nomination form to the Futurity/Maturity chair before the dog is 12 months old.

Maturity nomination forms are available, upon request, from the Futurity Chairperson.

If ownership changes after the individual dog nomination is made, the Maturity Chairman must be provided with correct information regarding (a) name of dog; (b) registration number; (c) color; (d) sex, and (e) new owners name and address. If this information has not been received by the Maturity Chairman at least one month prior to the date of the Maturity, the dog in question shall be disqualified.

NON-MEMBERS

Persons who are not a member of the Miniature Pinscher Club of America who wish to nominate a dog for the Maturity may submit an application for membership with the nomination form for the dog nomination. In the event that the application for membership is accepted by the MPCA, the nomination will be dated as valid according to the date received. If the application for membership in the MPCA is not accepted, the nomination of the dog will be null and void, the nomination fee and membership dues will not be refunded. The Board of Directors of the MPCA shall decide any dispute that should arise pursuant to this Maturity Stake at its earliest convenience.

LAPSING OF DUES

Any member who, having nominated a litter fails to remain an active member in good standing with the MPCA by lapsing of dues, or indebtedness to the club, or by suspension or expulsion, and has not been reinstated 30 days prior to the Maturity, shall lose all rights in the Maturity. Dogs nominated by the lapsed or suspended individual but transferred to the ownership of another individual prior to said lapse of dues, suspension or expulsion, or indebtedness may be shown as eligible. Monetary awards will be made in such instances only to the owner of the individual dog pursuant to Maturity prize rules.

DEATH

If a member shall nominate a litter and subsequently dies before the Maturity, the nomination shall be valid and the dog will be considered as eligible for nomination, entry and judging, provided all subsequent fees are paid to date.

CLASSES

- 18 months and under 21 months
- 21 months and under 24 months
- 24 months and under 27 months
- 27 months and under 30 months (If the Class needs to be held because of time frame of the event as compared to the last event)
- Dogs and Bitches – Classes are divided by color, Black & Rust, Chocolate & Rust and Red.
- Winners of each of these classes will compete for Best Maturity and Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Maturity

MONETARY AWARDS

1. NOMINATION FEES:

- 35% shall be deducted from the total nomination fee purse to be used for Maturity expenses.

This will be deposited in the MPCA Treasury. This fund shall cover all expenses incurred by the Maturity Stake i.e. judges, printing, mailing, etc.

- The remaining 65% will be awarded as follows:
 - 60% - Best in Futurity
 - 60% - Breeder of Record
 - 40% - Owner of Record
 - 40% - Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Futurity
 - 60% - Breeder of Record
 - 40% - Owner of Record

2. ENTRY FEES

35% shall be deducted from the total entry fee purse to be used for Futurity expenses and will be held in the MPCA Treasury. The remaining 65% will be awarded as follows:

- Entry... .40% - First
- Entries40% - First, 30 % - 2nd
- Entries40% - First, 30 % - 2nd, 20% - 3 rd, 10% -4 th.
 (If less than four competitors, the balance will be divided among placements in that class. All placements will be divided such: 60% Breeder of Record, 40% Owner of Record.)

3. Ribbons shall be awarded through fourth place in each class. Rosettes shall be given to Best in Maturity and Best of Opposite in Maturity. The cost for each to be covered from the Miniature Pinscher Treasury. Trophies may be given. Trophy solicitations for the Futurity Stake shall be the responsibility of the Futurity Chairman for each MPCA Specialty.

4. Monetary awards which are provided for, but cannot be given, whatever the reason, shall be retained by the club.

SELECTION OF JUDGES

The selection of judges will be that of the Futurity. The breeders of the Futurity of that year will also be selecting the same person to judge the Maturity of the same year. (See rules for the Futurity judge selection process.)