

To All AKC Approved Miniature Pinscher Judges

The Miniature Pinscher Club of America, Inc. would like to ask judges to take a moment to review the Miniature Pinscher standard as we wish it to be judged. Our standard has four (4) disqualifications. These are not faults, but as written and approved in the standard, are disqualifications.

SIZE: UNDER 10" AND OVER 12 1/2" in HEIGHT. This disqualification applies without regard to the age or class entered. Judges should always measure if there is any question as to the size of the exhibit. Ignoring an entry because it is "thought" to be too large or small does a disservice to the breed and the exhibitor. **Judges are responsible for upholding our breed standard.**

ANY COLOR OTHER THAN LISTED. The Miniature Pinscher standard clearly allows only the accepted colors of Red, Stag Red, Black with rust/red markings and Chocolate with rust/red markings. If a Min Pin of any other color appears in the ring, it **must** be disqualified.

THUMB MARK (PATCH OF BLACK HAIR SURROUNDED BY RUST ON THE FRONT OF THE FORELEG BETWEEN THE FOOT AND THE WRIST: ON CHOCOLATES, THE PATCH IS CHOCOLATE HAIR). Often misunderstood in judging Miniature Pinschers, the important thing to remember is that the patch of black or chocolate hair must be **completely** surrounded by the rust/red coloring. Exhibited dogs may have black or chocolate markings running down the foreleg, sometimes all the way to the toes. This is a deviation from correct markings, but **not** a disqualification. If the black or chocolate hair on the wrist or pastern is connected in any way to the black or chocolate hair above, it may **not** be disqualified. Conversely, if judges find the black or chocolate hair on either wrist or pastern to be completely surrounded by red or rust hair, the dog **must** be disqualified. Remember too that sometimes only one leg may be thumb marked; this is also a disqualification.

WHITE ON ANY PART OF DOG WHICH EXCEEDS ONE-HALF (1/2) INCH IN ITS LONGEST DIMENSION: White markings are most often seen on the chest and feet, but can appear in other places. Judges may check the throat, belly and insides of the legs if white markings are suspected in these areas. A scattering of white hair, or "frost" seen on the chest is **not** a disqualification.

In conclusion, we wish to emphasize positive judging: rewarding proper structure, movement and soundness. Deviations should be penalized to the extent of the deviation. We also recommend that all approved, provisional and aspiring Miniature Pinscher judges read the "MPCA Illustrated Breed Study Guide" for a more complete discussion of the Miniature Pinscher standard.