There are a vast number of different breeding methods, some good, some bad. I should
never presume to try to tell fanciers what is the right method because there is no such thing.
Outstanding success can be achieved and has been achieved in a variety of different ways, so
all I am going to do is to make some suggestions which I think helpful and to warn against
certain pitfalls which trap too many of the unwary.

1. Don’t make use of indiscriminate outcrosses. A judicious outcross can be of great
value, an injudicious one can produce an aggregation of every imaginable fault in the breed.

2. Don’t line breed just for the sake of line breeding. Line breeding with complementary
types can bring great rewards; with unsuitable ones it will lead to immediate disaster.

3. Don’t take advice from people who have always been unsuccessful breeders. If their
opinions were worth having they would have proved it by their success.

4. Don’t believe the popular cliche about the brother or sister of the great champion being
just as good to breed from. For every one that is, hundreds are not. It depends on the animal
concerned.

5. Don’t credit your own dogs with virtues they don’t possess. Self-deceit is a stepping-
stone to failure.

6. Don’t breed from mediocrities; the absence of a fault does not in any way signify the
presence of its corresponding virtue

7. Don’t try to line breed two dogs at the same time; you will end by line breeding to
neither.

8. Don’t assess the worth of a stud dog by his inferior progeny. All stud dogs sire rubbish
at times; what matters are how good their best efforts are.

9. Don’t allow personal fellings to influence your choice of a stud dog. The right dog for
your bitch is the right dog whoever owns it.

10. Don’t allow admiration of a stud dog to blind you to his faults. If you do you will soon
be the victim of autointoxication.

11. Don’t mate together animals which share the same faults. You are asking for trouble if
you do.
12. Don’t forget that it is the whole dog that counts. If you forget one virtue while
searching for another you pay for it.

13. Don’t search for the perfect do as a mate for your bitch. The perfect dog (or bitch)
doesn’t exist, never has or never will!

14. Don’t be frightened of breeding from animal that have obvious faults so long as they
have compensating virutes. A lack of virtue is far the greatest fault of all.

15. Don’t mate together non-complementary types. An ability to recognize type at a glance
is a breeeder’s greatest gift; ask the successful breeders to explain this subject - there is no
other way of learning. (I would define non-complementary types as ones which have the same
faults and lack the same virtues.)

16. Don’t forget the necesity to preserve head quality. It will vanish like a a dream if you
do.

17. Don’t forget that substance plus quality should be one of your aims. Any fool can breed
one without the other!

18. Don’t forget that a great head plus soundness should be one of your aims. Many people
can never breed either!

19. Don’t ever try to decry a great Bull terrier. A thing of beauty is not only a joy forever
but also a great pride and pleasure to all true lovers of the breed.

20. Don’t be satisfied with anything but the best. The second best is never good enough.

Miniature Pinscher Club of America, Inc.