

# Illustrated Discussion of the Miniature Schnauzer Standard

Third Edition

American Miniature Schnauzer Club Prepared and Published by the Projects Committee

#### **PREFACE**

This booklet has been prepared by the Projects Committee of the American Miniature Schnauzer Club for the purpose of promoting better understanding of, and appreciation for, the Miniature Schnauzer. We have attempted to do this by clarifying certain points in the official Standard by use of written explanations and illustrations.

Further, in order to help the serious breeder relate the external appearance of the Miniature Schnauzer to the underlying reasons for this appearance some of the drawings depict the skeletal structure . . . the basic framework upon which the dog is molded.

We realize that there is a divergence of opinion on certain finer points. For this reason we have endeavored to avoid possible argumentative aspects. We believe, however, that this Illustrated Discussion will serve as a solid base upon which an individual may build his concept of the ideal Miniature Schnauzer.

Also, it should be kept in mind that a true appreciation for the breed must embody more than just an affinity for anatomy. Each Miniature Schnauzer is unique... a living being with the capacity for such emotions as love, fear, joy and loyalty. All these attributes must be considered when envisioning the ideal.

For ease of reference we have arranged each subject in the following order:

- 1. A section of the official Standard.
- 2. Faults and/or disqualifications as stated in the Standard which pertain to the section under consideration.
- 3. Explanation, discussion and illustration.

We express our gratitude to those people who contributed many long hours in the preparation of this booklet.

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

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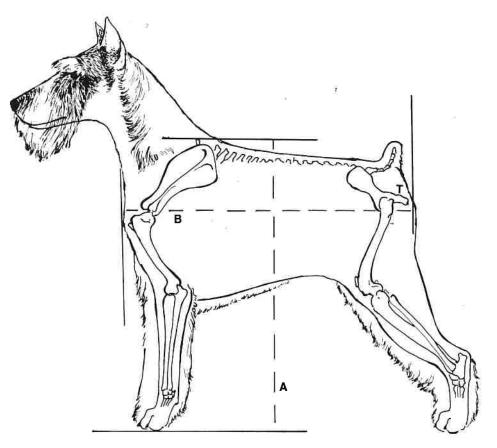
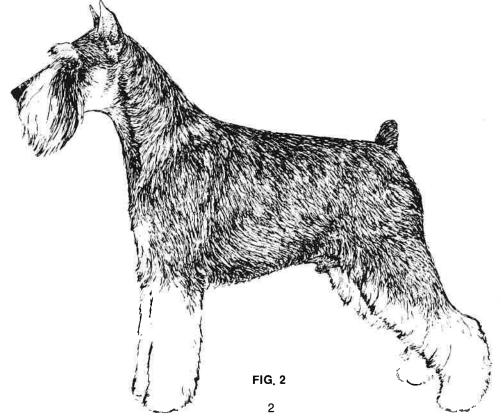


FIG. 1



# The Miniature Schnauzer

#### **GENERAL APPEARANCE**

The Miniature Schnauzer is a robust, active dog of terrier type,<sup>1</sup> resembling his larger cousin, the Standard Schnauzer, in general appearance,<sup>2</sup> and of an alert, active disposition.

Faults: Type: Toyishness, ranginess or coarseness.

- The word "terrier" is derived from the Latin word terra, meaning earth. To be
  of "terier type" a dog must possess those physical characteristics which
  enable him to go to ground to attack vermin of all kinds. He should be both
  fearless and proud and have a naturally happy temperament.
- Physical characteristics common to both the Miniature Schnauzer and the Standard Schnauzer are: eyebrows, thick whiskers, leg furnishings, hard wiry outer coat and color. The Miniature Schnauzer was recognized as a distinct breed by the American Kennel Club in 1926.

## Size, Proportion, Substance

#### SIZE

From 12 to 14 inches.

He is sturdily built, nearly square in proportion of body length to height¹ with plenty of bone, and without any suggestion of toyishness.

DISQUALIFICATIONS: Dogs or bitches under 12 inches or over 14 inches.

The height at the withers (A) is almost equal to the length of the body (B) which is the distance from the chest bone (the anterior end of the sternum) to the stern bone or tuber ischii (T) (Fig. 1). Note that the length of the dog is not measured from the point of the withers to the tail.

#### Note:

This measurement is made from the surface on which the dog is standing to the top of the withers (See Fig. 1).

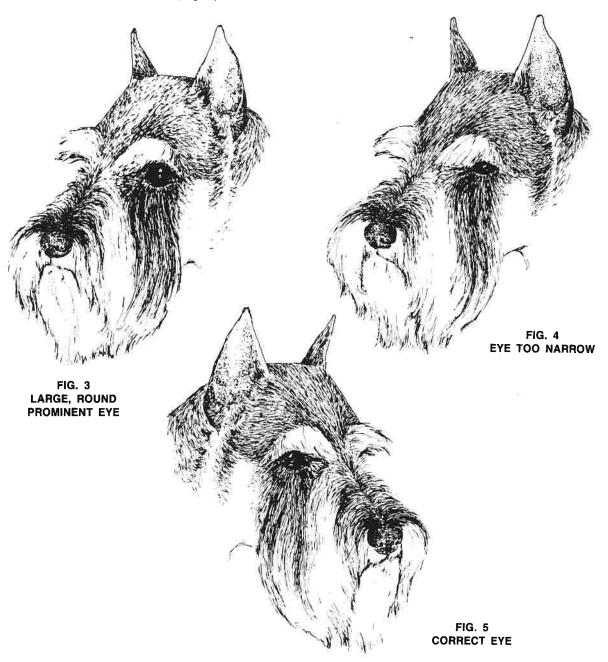
### Head

#### **EYES**

Small, dark brown and deep-set. They are oval<sup>1</sup> in appearance and keen in expression (Fig. 5).

Faults: Eyes — Light and/or large and prominent in appearance (Fig. 3).

1. The term "oval" indicates that the eyes should not appear round (Fig. 3) nor as narrow slits (Fig. 4).



#### **EARS**

When cropped, the ears are identical in shape and length, with pointed tips. They are in balance with the head and not exaggerated in length. They are set high on the skull and carried perpendicularly at the inner edges, with as little bell as possible along the outer edges. When uncropped, the ears are small and v-shaped, folding close to the skull (Fig. 11).

- The cropped ear is man-made, and it seems unjust to penalize the dog for a surgical error. However, the shape and the length of the ears are important to the over-all picture. An incorrect crop can accentuate undesirable skull structure.
- 2. An overly long ear (Fig. 7) disturbs the symmetry or balance. Too short or too wide an ear crop will cause the head to appear coarse.
- To obtain the correct crop, the skull must be correct. A skull that is round never has high-set ears (Fig. 9). In addition, the ears must be set properly and in the right proportions (Fig. 8). Without these two things, a really good crop cannot be obtained.
- 4. The **uncropped ear** is equally as acceptable as the cropped ear. The ears should be set high on the skull folding just above the top of the skull. They should be small, v-shaped and of moderate thickness. The flap should point toward the outside corner of the eye. A large ear hanging dead by the side of the head, like that of a hound, is undesirable.



FIG. 6
EAR LENGTH CORRECT
FOR GOOD BALANCE

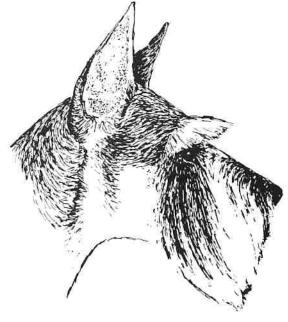


FIG. 7
EARS ARE TOO LONG
FOR HEAD



FIG. 8 CORRECT SKULL AND EAR PLACEMENT

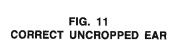


FIG. 9 ROUNDED SKULL AND INCORRECT EAR SET



FIG. 10 THICK, SKULLY HEAD







#### HEAD

Strong and rectangular, its width diminishing slightly from ears to eyes, and again to the tip of the nose. The forehead is unwrinkled. The top skull is flat and fairly long. The foreface is parallel to the top skull, with a slight stop, and it is at least as long as the top skull. The muzzle is strong in proportion to the skull; it ends in a moderately blunt manner, with thick whiskers which accentuate the rectangular shape of the head.

#### Faults: Head coarse and cheeky.

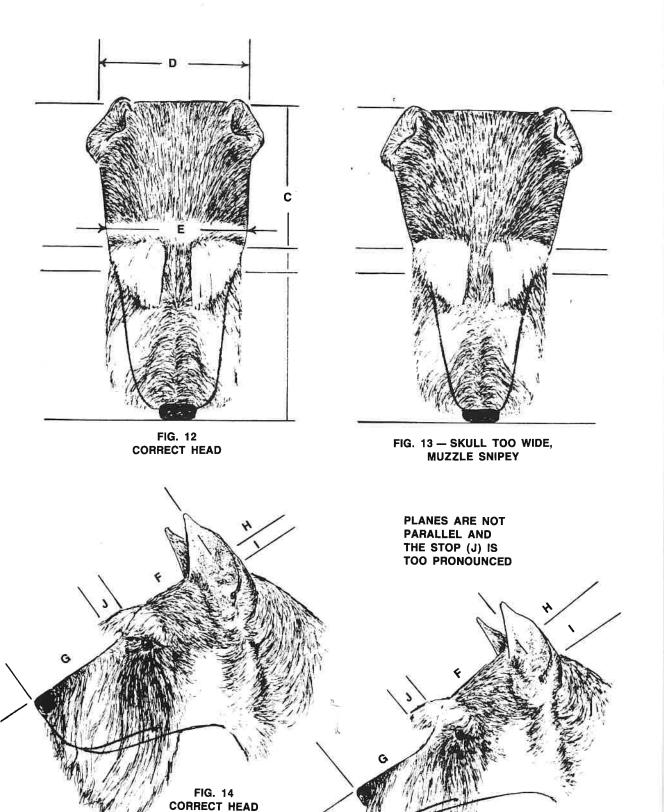
- Rectangular means that the overall length (C) is greater than the width of the skull at its broadest aspect (D). The head should be fairly lean with flat cheeks (E) (Fig. 12). A head that is coarse and cheeky is faulty (Fig. 13 and Fig. 10).
- 2. A flat and long top skull (F) is essential to get proper lenth of head and a lean, clean skull (Fig. 14). When this is not present, we find a rounded or apple skull (Fig. 9).
- 3. The parallel planes (H and I) are necessary to prevent a dish-face, which always has too much stop (J). Compare (Figs. 14 and 15).
- 4. This description means that there must be a certain amount of fill below the eyes. It also calls for sufficient underjaw and precludes a snipey foreface.
- 5. This wideness or squareness of upper and lower jaw is wanted so that there is enough bone for strength and enough room for proper tooth placement. Although a crowded mouth is not a fault, it usually detracts from the appearance of the dog.

#### Note:

The head is naturally carried high and with a slight arch of neck so that the nose is pointed downward. This helps to give the Schnauzer his sharp, down-the-nose expression.

The term "Schnauzer expression" is constantly referred to by breeders and judges. It is one of the distinguishing features of the breed. In essence, it is a sharp, down-the-nose, menacing look. Many factors, all of which are mentioned in the standard, contribute to form this expression. They are:

- A. A lean head with substantial muzzle.
- B. The keen, piercing look of dark, oval, deep-set eyes placed in proper proportion on the skull.
- C. The coloring of the head: the basic wiry, salt and pepper coat with contrasting silver white eyebrows and whiskers covered by gray or black mask hair.
- D. The shape and amount of eyebrows and whiskers.
- E. The stallion-like carriage of the head due to the well-arched neck.



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FIG. 15 — MUZZLE IS SHORT AND SNIPEY

#### TEETH

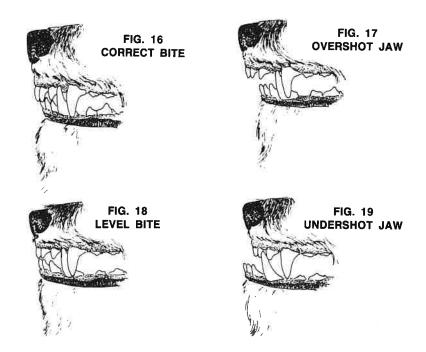
The teeth meet in a scissors bite. That is, the upper front teeth overlap the lower front teeth in such a manner that the inner surface of the upper incisors barely touch the outer surface of the lower incisors when the mouth is closed.

Faults: Bite — undershot or overshot jaw. Level bite.

- 1. There is only one correct bite (Fig. 16). All other bites are faults (Figs. 17, 18 and 19).
- There are to be six incisors, upper and lower, aligned evenly between the canines. A mouth with missing, improperly spaced or crowded incisors is undesirable.

#### Note:

Correct placement of the teeth is dependent upon the proper development and conformation of the muzzle and jaw bones. (Refer to footnote #5 under discussion of the head.)



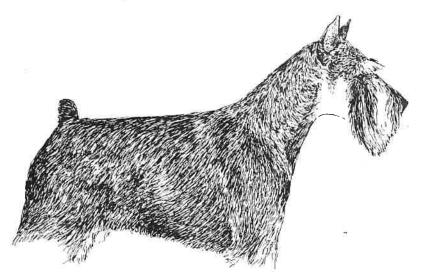


FIG. 20-WELL ARCHED NECK

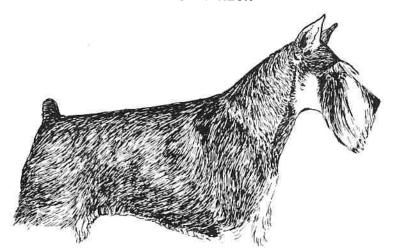


FIG. 21—NECK TOO SHORT, HEAVY AND THROATY

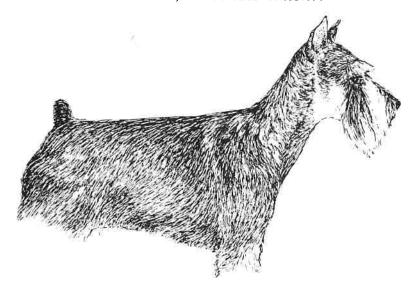


FIG. 22—A EWE-NECK

# Neck, Topline, Body

#### **NECK**

Strong<sup>1</sup> and well arched,<sup>2</sup> blending into the shoulders, and with the skin fitting tightly at the throat (Fig. 20).

- A strong neck is neither thin nor shallow, but of good substance. It broadens
  as it approaches the body and gradually blends into the shoulders. There
  should be enough muscle to provide this smooth blending of the neck into
  the body, and to cover the shoulder blades so that they are not prominent.
- The length of the neck varies depending on height, lay back of shoulders and length of back. However, the requirement of a well arched neck makes it mandatory that there be sufficient length, for a short neck cannot arch (compare Fig. 20 with Fig. 21).

#### Note:

A strong, well arched neck should not be confused with a short, thick, heavily muscled neck (Fig. 21) even though by its anatomy the latter neck must be convex on the top. "Well arched" indicates a good length of neck with a flowing top line that blends the top of the skull to the shoulders producing an elegant carriage. The opposite of a short, thick, bullish neck is a ewe neck (Fig. 22). Both are undesirable.

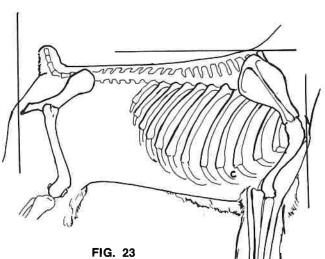


FIG. 23
CORRECT OUTLINE OF BODY
Note that there is NO accentuated tuck-up of the abdomen. Also note the small space between the last rib and the pelvic bone (short-coupled).



FIG. 24—TOP VIEW OF A WELL MOLDED BODY

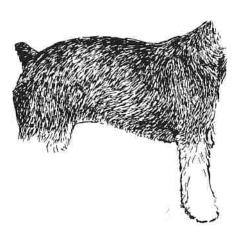


FIG. 25 — HOLLOW BACK WITH POOR TAIL SET



FIG. 26—LACK OF SUBSTANCE AND SPRING OF RIB

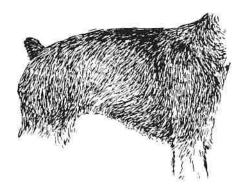


FIG. 27 — ROACH BACK WITH RESULTING TUCK-UP

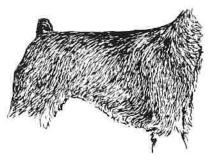


FIG. 28—STRAIGHT BACK AND GOOD TAIL SET BUT TOO MUCH TUCK-UP

#### BODY

Short and deep, with the brisket extending at least to the elbows.¹ Ribs are well sprung and deep, extending well back to a short loin. The underbody does not present a tucked-up appearance at the flank. The backline is straight; it declines slightly from the withers to the base of the tail.² The withers form the highest point of the body. The overall length from chest to buttocks appears to equal the height at the withers (Figs. 1, 2, and 23).

Faults: Chest too broad or shallow in brisket. Hollow or roach back (Figs. 25 and 27).

1. The chest extends down to the elbows. There is sufficient room between the forelimbs to allow this depth of chest without pinching it (Fig. 32). Although the ribs are well sprung and deep, the elbows are to be held tight to the body so that when viewed from the front the forelimbs fall in a straight line from the point of the shoulder to the paw. To provide room (so that the elbows are not thrown out during movement), the chest is molded with a depressed area of the costal cartilages where the elbows ride (Fig. 23C). Immediately behind the elbows the cartilages round out and mold into the uniform curve of the ribs. If the rib cage is barrelled starting with the first rib (or right behind the elbow), the forelegs will not be under the body and the dog cannot stand properly (Fig. 34).

The elbows will be thrown out and loose. This can easily be seen when the dog is gaiting. Dogs that have this structure will assume a bowlegged attitude on standing, when they let down, or when they are tired.

2. The backline is straight and declines slightly from the withers to the base of the tail. This is true when the dog is standing and moving (Figs. 1, 2, 23 and 47).

#### Note:

The word "level" should never be substituted for the word "straight" in describing the proper backline of a Miniature Schnauzer. A level topline is flat, horizontal and undesirable

#### TAIL

Set high and carried erect.<sup>1</sup> It is docked only long enough to be clearly visible over the backline of the body when the dog is in proper length of coat.

Fault: Tail set too low.

1. The tail is carried perpendicular to the topline. It is quite often impossible for a dog with a low tail set to raise the tail to the correct position.

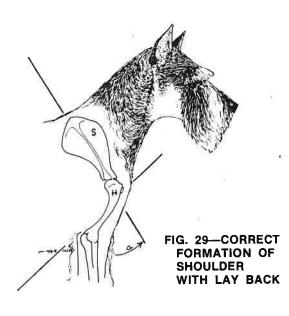




FIG. 32—CORRECT FORELEGS FALLING STRAIGHT AND PARALLEL

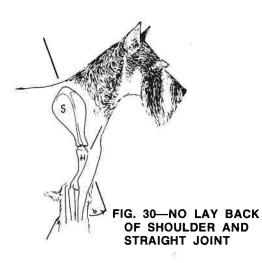




FIG. 33—ELBOWS
DRAWN TOO
CLOSE TOGETHER
CAUSING A
PINCHED FRONT.
THIS DOG LACKS
SPRING OF RIB
AND WOULD BE
SHALLOW IN CHEST.
THE FEET TOE OUT.





FIG. 34—BOWLEGGED FRONT. THIS DOG WOULD THROW THE ELBOWS OUT WHEN MOVING

#### **FOREQUARTERS**

Forelegs are straight and parallel when viewed from all sides. They have strong pasterns and good bone. They are separated by a fairly deep brisket which precludes a pinched front. The elbows are close, and the ribs spread gradually from the first rib so as to allow space for the elbows to move close to the body<sup>1</sup> (Fig. 32).

Faults: Loose elbows.

1. As noted under comments on the body, the forelimbs are straight and are separated by a fairly deep brisket (Fig. 32) which precludes a pinched front (Fig. 33).

#### **SHOULDERS**

The sloping shoulders are muscled, yet flat and clean. They are well laid back so that from the side the tips of the shoulder blades are in a nearly vertical line above the elbow. The tips of the blades are placed closely together. They slope forward and downward at an angulation which permits the maximum forward extension of the forelegs without binding or effort. Both the shoulder blades and upper arms are long, permitting depth of chest at the brisket (Fig. 29).

- Flat shoulders are never loaded. The degree of slope is not specified because there is a question of how much slope there can be and still retain high withers. It is important to note, however, that an upright scapula (or shoulder blade) will result in high shoulder placement and in turn will shorten the length of neck.
  - In addition to the shortness of neck, one of the following problems will be present:
- A. A wide angle between the scapula (S) and the humerus (H) will cause the upper limb to be almost straight (Fig. 30). With this arrangement, the legs come down in a straight line with the front of the neck and the brisket. Because of the anatomy of the joint, the head of the humerus is limited in its rotation with the scapula. Since the shoulder joint cannot extend more than 180 degrees, this dog cannot reach while gaiting. Therefore, the dog will have a short, mincing movement in front.
  - In addition to causing improper gait, the straight shoulder does not have the spring or shock absorbing action as does the shoulder with lay back.
- B. The alternative is a vertical scapula (S) with the humerus (H) attaching at the proper angle. This causes the legs to be placed too far under the chest, thus giving a "chicken breasted" appearance (Fig. 31). These joints are always bowed. By comparing the planes (shown by the lines) of the bones, one can see that this shoulder, as in the former condition, does not allow proper reach for a good working gait. (Compare a, b and c Figs. 29, 30 and 31.)

#### Note:

Viewed from the side the forelegs should be set back slightly but not so much that the sternum (or chest bone) obviously protrudes.

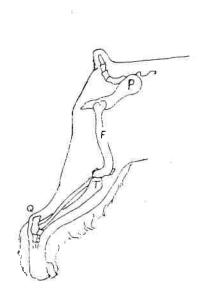


FIG. 35—CORRECT ANGULATION AND STANCE

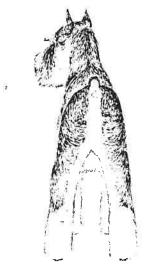


FIG. 36—GOOD STRONG REAR WITH STRAIGHT LEGS AND NICE WIDTH

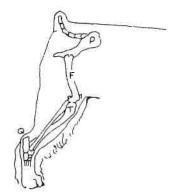


FIG. 37—LACK OF ANGULATION WITH THE HINDQUARTERS HIGHER THAN THE WITHERS

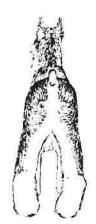


FIG. 38—BOWLEGGED AND TOEING IN

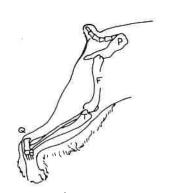
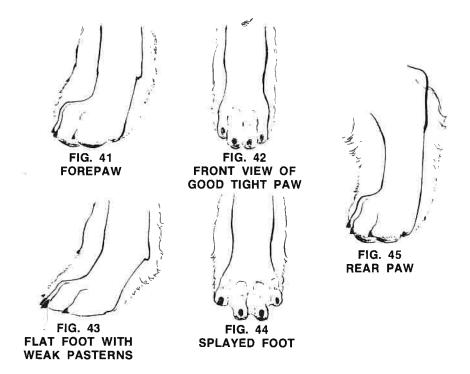


FIG. 39—OVER-ANGULATION



FIG. 40—COWHOCKED AND TOEING OUT



#### FEET

Short and round (cat feet) with thick, black pads. The toes are arched and compact (Figs. 41, 42 and 45).

#### **HINDQUARTERS**

The hindquarters have strong-muscled, slanting thighs.<sup>1</sup> They are well bent at the stifles. There is sufficient angulation so that, in stance, the hocks extend beyond the tail.<sup>2</sup> The hindquarters never appear overbuilt or higher than the shoulders.<sup>3</sup> The rear pasterns are short and, in stance, perpendicular to the ground and when viewed from the rear, are parallel to each other (Fig. 35 and 36).

Faults: Sickle hocks, cow hocks, open hocks or bowed hindquarters.

- 1. It is the strongly developed musculature which gives the dog a square look when viewed from the rear.
- To have proper angulation with correct action, it is necessary that the tibia (T) be longer than the femur (F) and the leg should be let down, or short, in hock (Q) (Figs. 35, 37 and 39).
- 3. It should be emphasized that this is true whether walking or standing.

#### COAT

Double, with hard, wiry, outer coat¹ and close undercoat.² The head, neck, ears, chest, tail, and body coat must be plucked. When in show condition the body coat should be of sufficient length to determine texture. Close covering on neck, ears and skull (Fig. 8). Furnishings are fairly thick but not silky.

Faults: Coat — too soft or too smooth and slick in appearance.

- The salt and pepper banding (Fig. 46) discussed under color is evident in the hard wiry outer coat only. This top coat should be plucked since clipping will remove the end color bands on each hair and will usually result in a solid color instead of the desired mixture.
- 2. When the outercoat is stripped off in normal grooming, the soft under coat remains. The function of this coat is to provide warmth. Under coats vary considerably in color (from white to tan) and in texture (from soft to fluffy to wiry). The color of the under coat is no indication of the color of the outer wire coat; however, the texture of the under coat can often be related to the texture of the outer coat.



FIG. 46 — A BANDED HAIR

#### COLOR

The recognized colors are salt and pepper, black and silver and solid black. All colors have uniform skin pigmentation, i.e. no white or pink skin patches shall appear anywhere on the dog.

#### **SALT and PEPPER**

The typical salt and pepper color of the topcoat results from the combination of black and white banded hairs and solid black and white unbanded hairs, with the banded hairs predominating. Acceptable are all shades of salt and pepper from light to dark mixtures with tan shadings permissible in the banded or unbanded hair of the topcoat. In salt and pepper dogs, the salt and pepper mixture fades out to light gray or silver white in the eyebrows, whiskers, cheeks, under throat, inside ears, across chest, under tail, leg furnishings, and inside hind legs. It may or may not also fade out on the underbody. However, if so, the lighter underbody hair is not to rise higher on the sides of the body than the front elbows.

#### **BLACK and SILVER**

The black and silver generally follows the same pattern as the salt and pepper. The entire salt and pepper section must be black. The black color in the top coat of the black and silver is a true rich color with black undercoat. The stripped portion is free from any fading or brown tinge and the underbody should be dark.

- The colors of black can vary, such as Blue Black, Slate Black, Velvet Black and Satin Black. They are all correct; however, the black must be a true black. Gray black and brown black in the topcoat should be penalized.
- 2. Brown and red discoloration may occur on the longer hair of the furnishings. Hair at the skin level must be a shade of black.

#### **BLACK**

Black is the only solid color allowed. Ideally, the black color in the topcoat is a true rich glossy solid color¹ with the undercoat being less intense, a soft matting shade of black. This is natural and should not be penalized in any way.² The stripped portion is free from any fading or brown tinge.³ The scissored and clipped areas have lighter shades of black. A small white spot on the chest is permitted, as is an occasional single white hair elsewhere on the body.

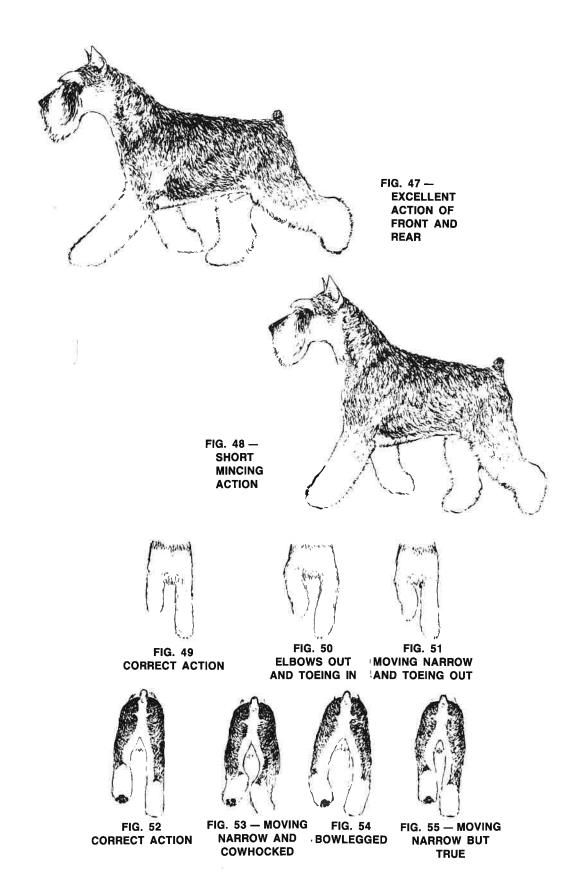
- 1. The colors of black can vary, such as Blue Black, Slate Black, Velvet Black and Satin Black. They are all correct; however, the black must be a true, black. Gray Black and Brown Black in the topcoat should be penalized.
- 2. The more undercoat present in the belly hair, leg furnishings and beard, the lighter they will be. As these areas are repeatedly scissored, they will (as in the Salt and Pepper and Black and Silver) lighten considerably.
- Sun, mineral content in water, salt air and food on the beard will cause discoloration, particularly on the scissored areas. Brown or red discoloration may occur on the longer hair of the furnishings. Hair at skin level must be a shade of black.

#### Note:

Sometimes deviations from the desired color in the clippered/scissored areas (e.g. belly hair, leg furnishings, beard, etc.) appear as brown, faded or gray. In weighing the seriousness of the deviation, it should be in proportion to the extent of the deviation.

DISQUALIFICATIONS: Color solid white or white striping, patching, or spotting on the colored areas of the dog, except for the small white spot permitted on the chest of the black.

The body coat color in salt and pepper and black and silver dogs fades out to light gray or silver white under the throat and across the chest. Between them there exists a natural body coat color. Any irregular or connecting blaze or white mark in this section is considered a white patch on the body, which is also a disqualification.



#### Gait

The trot is the gait at which movement is judged (Fig. 47). When approaching, the forelegs, with elbows close to the body, move straight forward, neither too close nor too far apart (Fig. 49). Going away, the hind legs are straight and travel in the same planes as the forelegs (Fig. 52).

NOTE: It is generally accepted that when a full trot is achieved, the rear legs continue to move in the same planes as the forelegs, but a very slight inward inclination will occur. It begins at the point of the shoulder in front and at the hip joint in the rear. Viewed from the front or rear, the legs are straight from these points to the pads. The degree of inward inclination is almost imperceptible in a Miniature Schnauzer that has correct movement. It does not justify moving close, toe-ing in, crossing, or moving out at the elbows.

Viewed from the side, the forelegs have good reach, while the hind legs have strong drive, with good pickup of hocks (Fig. 47).<sup>2</sup> The feet turn neither inward (Fig. 50) nor outward (Fig. 51).

Faults: Single tracking, sidegaiting, paddling in front, or hackney action.

Weak rear action.

- 1. When gaiting correctly, forelegs and hind legs move on the same planes, which means that each leg moves in line with the leg ahead of or behind it. When viewed from the front, the distance between the feet should be almost the same as the distance between the elbows (Fig. 49). Single tracking is incorrect, as is any movement that deviates from these planes.
- 2. The hind legs should have a forceful, driving motion which gives the impression of churning pistons (Fig. 47). Neither a rear that lacks angulation nor an over-angulated rear can give this piston action.

To get a free flowing, ground covering trot, good pick-up and action of the limbs are necessary (Fig. 47). A short, mincing gait cannot give this movement (Fig. 48). Excessive motion which wastes energy and shortens the stride (such as high hackney knee action and paddling) is faulty.

# **Temperament**

The typical Miniature Schnauzer is alert and spirited, yet obedient to command. He is friendly, intelligent and willing to please. He should never be over-aggressive or timid.

#### GLOSSARY

ANGULATION: The angles created by bones meeting at various joints (articulations) especially at the shoulder, stifle and hock.

APPLEHEAD: A brain case roof shaped like an inverted hemisphere, i.e., rounded or arched in all directions and in varying degrees.

BACKLINE: That portion of the entire topline of a dog, beginning at the rear end of the withers and ending at the tail.

BARREL: Rounded rib section, thorax.
BRISKET: The forepart of the body below The forepart of the body below the chest, betweeen the forelegs closest to the ribs.

BUTTOCKS: The muscular area surrounding the ischiatic tubers of the pelvis.

CAT-FEET: Round, compact foot with well-arched toes, tightly bunched or close cupped, the center toes being only slightly longer than those on the outside or inside.

CHEEKY: Bulging, fleshy or coarse in cheeks; cheeks prominently rounded, thick, protruding.

CHICKEN-BREASTED: The protrusion of forechest anterior to the point of the shoulder.

CLIPPED: A method of trimming the coat.

COARSE/COARSENESS: Applied to overall construction and especially bone, head, and/or muscle properties, meaning lack of refinement, heavier, plainer, larger or clumsier physique than desirable.

COWHOCKED: When the hocks turn toward each other.

CROPPED: Natural drop ears made to stand erect by the surgical removal of a portion of the ear lobe.

DOCKED: A tail from which a portion has been removed by surgical means.

EWE NECK: A concave neck, upside-down neck. A neck in which the topline is concave rather than convex, with a base circumference usually not much, if any, greater than that at the head and neck junction.

FLANK: The side of the body between the last rib and the hip.

FOREFACE: The front part of the head, before the eyes; the muzzle.

FURNISHINGS: The long, softer hair that covers the legs, underbody and appears on the face as whiskers and eyebrows.

HACKNEY GAIT: Characterised by exaggerated lift of pasterns and front feet.

HOCK: A joint on the hind limb, located between the lower thigh and rear pastern.

HOCKS WELL LET DOWN: When the distance from the hock joint to the ground is comparatively short. Hocks close to the ground.

LAY BACK OF SHOULDER: The angle of the shoulder blade as compared with the vertical.

LOADED SHOULDERS: Excessive development of the muscles on the outside surface of the shoulder blades.

LOIN: The lumbar area, extending from the end of the rib cage to the start of the pelvis.

MUZZLE: That portion of the skull in front of the brain case, comprising the foreward portions of both upper and lower jaws. The foreface.

OVERSHOT: In this form of bite the lower incisors are situated some distance behind the upper counterparts; hence no physical contact takes place between them.

OVERBUILT IN HINDQUARTERS: When seen in profile the hindquarters are higher than the shoulders.

PADDLING: Movement of the forequarters in which pasterns and feet perform circular, exaggerated motion, turning or flicking outwards at the end of each step.

PASTERN: The metacarpus, i.e., the region between the carpus (wrist) above, and the digits (foot) below.

PLANE: (Math.) A surface that wholly contains every straight line joining any two points lying in it.

POINT OF SHOULDER: The joint formed by the shoulder blade or scapula and the humerus.

RANGINESS: Tall, long in body, often lightly framed and high on leg. Usually lacking depth of chest. RIB SPRING: The fullness of the thorax or rib cage caused by the well rounded arc of the ribs.

ROACH BACK: A convex curvature of the back toward the loin.

SICKLE HOCK: The inability to straighten the hock joint on the back reach of the hind leg.

SIDEGAITING: Crabbing, forward movement in which the spinal column is not pointed in the direction of travel, rather, it deviates at an angle so that one rear leg passes on the inside of the front foot, while the other does so on the outside of its partner, insteading of travelling in line with them.

SINGLE TRACKING: When the paws, as seen by their imprint, travel in a single line.

SKULLY: Thick and coarse through skull.

SLOPING SHOULDER: The shoulder blade set obliquely or "laid back".

SNIPEY: A pointed, weak muzzle.

SPLAYED FOOT: A flat foot with toes spreading; not tightly knit.

STIFLE: A joint in the hind leg, formed by the articulation of upper and lower thighs.

STOP: The step-up from nose to skull, or the indentation between the eyes where the nasal bone and skull meet. SWAY BACK: Concave curvature of the back between the withers and the hipbones.

THIGH: The anatomical region between the hip joint above, and the stifle below, i.e., the muscle groups surrounding the thigh bone (femur).

TOP SKULL: That part of the skull between the stop and the back of the skull.

TOYISHNESS: Dogs characterized by very small size.

TUCK-UP: A markedly shallower body depth at the loin; small waisted.

UNDERSHOT: The front teeth (incisors) of the lower jaw overlapping or projecting beyond the front teeth of the upper jaw when the mouth is closed.

WITHERS: The first eight dorsal vertebrae to which the muscles of the shoulder blade are attached. These vertebrae should project above the top of the shoulder blades.