AMERICAN MANCHESTER TERRIER CLUB

Breed Seminar
HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

- Oldest of all identifiable Terrier Breeds
- 1570 - Dr. Caius Encyclopedia of Dogs mentioned Black & Tan Terrier as:
  - Rougher in coat & Shorter on leg

Early 1800’s – The Dog in Health and Disease, by J.A. Walsh, devoted a full chapter to the Black & Tan Terrier, giving them recognition as an established breed.

Mr. Walsh’s description might serve well today:

- Smooth Coated
- Nose- long, Tapering
- Skull-narrow and flat
- Eyes -small and bright
- Chest -rather deep than wide
- Color- ONLY black and tan
Early 1800’s

- Cities had poor sanitation-
  - Rats became a health menace
  - Rat killing became a popular sport
  - JOHN HULME- enthusiastic devotee of both the sports of rat killing and rabbit coursing bred a Whippet to a cross bred terrier to develop, for both sports, one breed of dog.
  
  - Perhaps the Whippet influence explains the unusual topline of the Manchester Terrier still required today. This cross proved so successful that it was repeated, resulting in the establishment of a definite type. Thus, the development of the Manchester Terrier came about as a direct result of the popularity of rat killing.

- 1827- The celebrated “Billy”, a dog with decided Manchester features, was said to have killed 100 rats in 12 minutes, in a rat pit.
The Breed developed a fighting spirit that made them equally handy in the Rat pit or along a hedge row. They could tackle an opponent twice their size, with silent determination!

They were often called the “Gentleman's Terriers” because of their dauntless spirit.

Ears were cropped to reduce the risk of having them torn in frequent scraps. This also enhanced the sharp appearance of the expression.

When rat killing became illegal in England, rat pits were supplanted by the dining halls of public inns, which were all infested with rats. Many Inns kept their own kennel. When the tap rooms closed, who do you think took command? The black & tan rat killing machines proved worth 100 fold to the Inn keeper.

By 1860- the Manchester district became the breed center for these “rat terriers” and the name Manchester Terrier surfaced. Smaller specimens gained appeal, leading to a concentrated effort to reduce size further, at any cost. They developed apple dome heads and size diminished to 2 ½ lbs. They became frail and sickly.

Two distinct breeds developed with completely different types. The smaller specimens became the English Toy (Black & Tan) Terrier while the larger ones remained as the Manchester Terrier. These two breeds remain separate in England today.
THE MANCHESTER TERRIER IN THE U.S.A

- 1886- Just two years after the A.K.C. was organized, the first Black & Tan Terrier was registered in the stud book.

- 1887- The first Manchester Terrier was registered

- 1923- The Manchester Terrier Club of America was recognized.

- 1934- Black & Tan Toy Terrier changed to Toy Manchester Terrier

- 1938- The American Toy Manchester Terrier Club was organized.

- 1952- The MTCA was without organized breed representation.

- 1958- To the credit of the ATMTC, the two breeds were combined as one with two varieties (Standard & Toy) with the formation of the American Manchester Terrier Club. (AMTC)
Note Differences from today's Toys:

- Skulls
- Muzzles
- Ears
- Eyes
- Lack of Substance
Ch. Grenadier Lord Diminutive

Photos from “The Complete Toy Manchester Terrier” by Dixie Dempsey

Photo from “Pet Manchester” by Janet Mack
And above all-

ELEGANCE

Note:
Heads
Skulls
Muzzles
Ears
Eyes
GENERAL APPEARANCE

- A small, black, short coated dog with rich mahogany markings
- Taper style tail
- Sleek, sturdy yet elegant look
- Wedge shaped long and clean head
- Keen, bright, alert expression
- Smooth, compact, muscular body for great power & agility
- Except for size and ear options, there are NO DIFFERENCES between the Standard and Toy varieties
**SIZE - PROPORTION - SUBSTANCE**

- **Size**
  - Toys - not to exceed 12 pounds
  - Standards - over 12 pounds and not exceeding 22 pounds
  - Over 22 lbs. to be DISQUALIFIED.

- **Proportion**
  Slightly longer than tall, measured vertically from ground to highest point of withers and horizontally from point of shoulders to rear projection of upper thigh.

- **Substance**
  Bone and muscle of sufficient mass to ensure agility and endurance
**HEAD**

- **Expression-** keen and alert
- **Eyes-** nearly black, almond shaped, set moderately close together, slanting upwards on outside, neither protruding or sinking into the skull.
- **Eye rim pigmentation must be black.**
- **Ears: Toys-** the ONLY CORRECT EAR for toys is the naturally erect ear. They should be wider at the base, tapering to pointed tips, and carried well up on the skull. Wide, flaring, blunt tipped or bell ears are a serious fault. Cropped or cut ears are a DISQUALIFICATION in the Toy Variety
- **Ears: Standards-** Naturally erect, cropped or button. NO PREFERENCE. The naturally erect and button ear should be wider at the base, tapering to pointed tips and carried well up on the skull. Same faults as above for erect or button ears. Cropped ears should be long, pointed and carried erect.
- **Head:** Long, narrow, tight skinned, and almost flat with slight indentation up the forehead. It resembles a blunted wedge in frontal and profile views. There is a visual effect of a slight stop as viewed in profile. Muzzle and skull equal in length. Muzzle well filled under eyes with no visible cheek muscles. Underjaw full and well defined. Nose is black. Tight black lips close to jaw. Jaws are full and powerful with full dentition preferred. Teeth are white and meet in a true scissor bite. Level bite acceptable.
GOOD EXAMPLES OF HEAD STUDIES
NECK, TOPLINE AND BODY

- Neck: Slightly arched, slim & graceful, of moderate length. Gradually becomes larger as it blends into sloping shoulders. Throatiness is undesirable.

- Topline: Shows slight arch over robust loins falling slightly to tail set. Flat back or roached back to be severely penalized.

- Body: Chest narrow between legs, and deep in brisket.

- Forechest moderate. Ribs well sprung but flattened in lower end to permit clearance of forelegs.

- Abdomen tucked up extending in arched line from deep brisket.

- Tail: Taper style is moderately short reaching no further than the hock joint. It is set on at the end of a sloping croup, being thicker where it joins the body. The tail tapers to a point. It is carried in a slight upward curve but never over the back.
FOREQUARTERS

- Shoulder blades and upper arm equal length
- Distance from elbow to withers approximately the same as distance from elbow to ground.
- Forelegs-straight, of proportionate length, placed well under brisket.
- Pasterns almost perpendicular.
- Front feet- Compact and well arched. Two middle toes slightly longer. with thick pads and black nails.
HINDQUARTERS

- Thigh- muscular with length of the upper and lower thighs being approximately equal
- Stifle- Well turned
- Hocks- Well let down turning neither in nor out as viewed from rear
- Hind feet- Shaped like those of a cat with thick pads and black nails.
COAT, COLOR AND MARKINGS


- Color – Jet black & rich mahogany tan with well defined lines of color. Small tan spot over each eye and on each cheek. Muzzle tanned to nose. Nose and nasal bone are jet black. Tan extends under throat ending in the shape of letter V.

  Inside of ears partly tan. Tan spots, called “rosettes”, on each side of the chest. These are more pronounced in puppies than in adults. There should be a black “thumbprint” patch on the front of each foreleg at the pastern. The remainder of foreleg shall be tan to the carpus joint. There should be a distinct black “pencil mark” running lengthwise on top of each toe on all four feet. Tan on hind legs continues from penciling on toes, up inside of legs to just below stifle joint. The outside of the hind legs should be black. There should be tan under the tail and on vent, but only of such size as to be covered by the tail.

- White on any part of coat is a serious fault and DISQUALIFIES if one half inch at longest dimension. Any color other than black & tan DISQUALIFIES

- COLOR AND/OR MARKINGS SHOULD NEVER TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER SOUNDNESS AND TYPE
COLOR AND MARKINGS
The gait should be free and effortless with good reach of the forequarters, showing no indication of hackney gait. Rear quarters should have strong, driving power to match front reach. Hocks should fully extend. Each rear leg should move in line with foreleg of same side, neither thrown in nor out. When moving at trot, legs tend to converge towards center of gravity line beneath the dog.
TEMPERAMENT AND DISQUALIFICATIONS

- The Manchester Terrier is neither aggressive nor shy. He is keenly observant, devoted, but discerning. Not being a sparring breed, the Manchester is generally friendly with other dogs. Excessive shyness or aggressiveness should be considered a serious fault.

- DISQUALIFICATIONS:
  - STANDARDS: Weight over 22 pounds
  - TOYS: Cropped or cut ears.
  - BOTH VARIETIES: White on any part of the coat whenever the white shall form a patch or stripe measuring as much as one half inch at its longest dimension.
  - Any color other than black and tan
REVIEW – HEAD (SKULL & EYES)

Skull & Muzzle & skull equal in length

Heads long, almost flat with slight indentation up the forehead.

Nose black

Muzzle well filled under eyes with no visible cheek muscles. Underjaw full and well developed

Resembles blunted wedge in frontal & profile view

Scissor bite preferred

Level acceptable

Lack of underjaw

Skull & Muzzle Faults

Apple heads. Too short

Skull too round, muzzle too short or thick

Lack of underjaw

Eye Faults-

Rather wide apart

Too large, too round

Too light in color

Eyes- Nearly black, almond shaped

Small, bright, sparkling

Set close together

Slanting upwards on outside

Neither protrude nor sink in skull

Rim pigmentation black
REVIEW - HEAD (EARS)

(Standard variety) Naturally erect ear, cropped ear, or the button ear. No preference is given to any of the ear types. The naturally erect ear, and the button ear should be wider at the base tapering to pointed tips, and carried well up on the skull. Cropped ears should be long, pointed and carried erect. (Toy variety) ONLY the naturally erect ear. They should be wider at the base tapering to pointed tips, and carried well up on the skull.

Ear faults: (Standard variety) Wide, flaring, blunt tipped, or “bell” ears set too low or too wide apart.
(Toy variety) All of the above plus cropped, or cut ears disqualify

Cropped too short  Incorrect hang of button ear  Incorrect “bell”, blunt ear
The slightly arched neck should be slim and graceful, and of moderate length. It gradually becomes larger as it approaches, and blends smoothly with the sloping shoulders.

The topline shows a slight arch over the robust loins, falling slightly to the tail set.

The chest is narrow between the legs and deep in the brisket. The forechest is moderately defined.

The ribs are well sprung, but flattened in the lower end to permit clearance of the forelegs.

The abdomen should be tucked up extending in an arched line from the deep brisket.

The taper style tail is moderately short reaching no further than the hock joint. It is set on at the end of the croup. Being thicker where it joins the body, the tail tapers to a point. The tail is carried in a slight upward curve, but never over the back.

**Neck, Topline, Body Faults:** Shoulders that are too wide, thick or bulging, not properly sloping, and therefore not blending smoothly with the neck. Short, thick necks with tendencies to throatiness.

A flat back or roached back is to be severely penalized.

Excessive width of chest between the legs, shallow in brisket

Lack of rib spring or barrel shaped chests

Tail too long or too high
REVIEW - FOREQUARTERS

Shoulder blades and upper arm should be relatively the same length. The distance from the elbow to the withers should be approximately the same as the distance from the elbow to the ground. Elbows should lie close to the brisket. Shoulders are well laid back.

Forelegs are straight, of proportionate length, and placed well under the brisket. The pasterns should be almost perpendicular.

The front feet are compact and well arched. The two middle toes should be slightly longer than the others. The pads should be thick and the toenails should be jet black.

**Forequarter Faults:** Crooked forelegs, out at elbows, excessive length of leg. Loose toed, splay feet which turn out. Weak pasterns
The thigh should be muscular with the length of the upper and lower thighs being approximately equal. The stifle is well turned. The well let down hocks should not turn in nor out as viewed from the rear. The hind feet are shaped like those of a cat with thick pads and jet black nails.

Hindquarters faults: Hind legs which turn in or out, cow hocks, excessive length of leg.
COLOR

Coat color should be jet black and rich mahogany tan, abruptly forming clear, well defined lines of color.

There shall be a very small tan spot over each eye, and a very small tan spot on each cheek.

On the head, the muzzle is tanned to the nose. The nose and nasal bone are jet black. Tan extends under the throat, ending in the shape of the letter V.

Inside of the ears are partly tan.

There should be tan spots called “rosettes” on each side of the chest above the front legs (more pronounced in puppies than adults).

There should be a distinct black “thumbprint” patch on the front of each pastern.

Tan on the hind leg should continue from the penciling on the toes up the inside of the legs to a little below the stifle joint. Outside of the hind legs should be black.

Tan under the tail, on the vent- but only of such size as to be covered by the tail.
REVIEW - DISQUALIFICATIONS

- Standards- over 22 pounds
- Toys- Cropped or cut ears
- Both Varieties- White on any part of the coat whenever the white shall form a patch or stripe measuring as much as one half inch at its longest dimension.
- Any color other than black & tan