

American Pigmy Pouter Standard of Perfection

GENERAL: The Pigmy Pouter is intended to be a miniature English Pouter. The importance of a graceful sweep of outline in a Pigmy Pouter in full show cannot, with any degree of correctness, be reduced to figures. The excellence of the specimen depends upon the harmonious combination of the properties enumerated, rather than their values taken separately. Therefore, reaching conclusions by scale and judging by points alone is held to be impractical and is discouraged. However, to designate relative values to the various properties of a specimen, a scale of points is offered as an aid to the judging process.

There are three views: Front, side and rear.

Front View: The Globe should be well extended showing a sharp line at junction with the body. The waist should be very narrow with the wings well tucked in, and the wing butts well hidden. The limbs are to be straight and close together from junction of the body to the knees. The shanks from knees to foot are to be slightly turned out, allowing room enough for the feet to clear each other. The toes must be well spread out, not turned under.

Side View: The eye should be plumb over the ball of the feet. The globe should appear round, showing a slight fullness at the back of the neck. The wings narrow, carried well up. The legs slightly bent at knees, set well back on the body, showing a long waist. The tail carried in a line with the back and just clearing floor when in action.

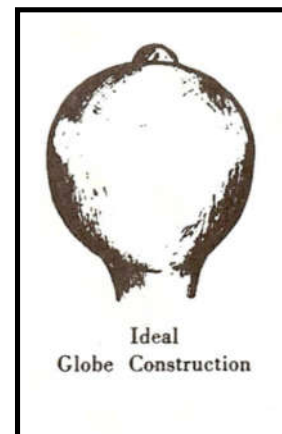
Rear View: The back at the shoulders hollow, very narrow, gradually tapering to the end of the tail. The tail folded closely, appearing as one feather.

Globe: 15 points

The globe should be round in shape; proportionately large in comparison with the size of the bird and equally distended at all parts without over-inflation so that the beak can rest comfortably upon it. It should emerge from the waist with a sudden angle and show a slight fullness at the back of the neck.

Globe Faults:

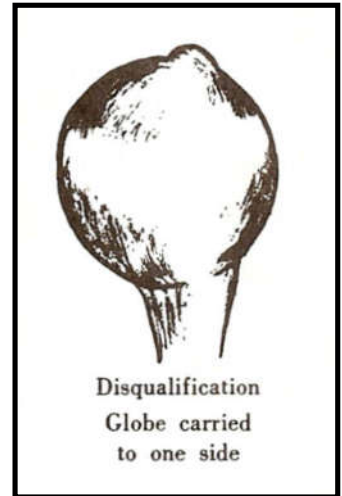
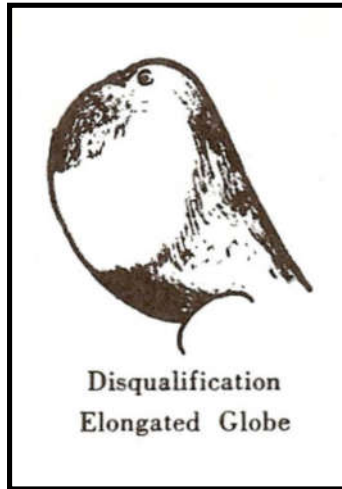
- Flat globe.
- Lack of globe (no globe while being judged or after reasonable coaxing by the judge).



- Over-inflated globe (globe filled so full it causes the bird to lose control of motion and stagger forward or fall backward).

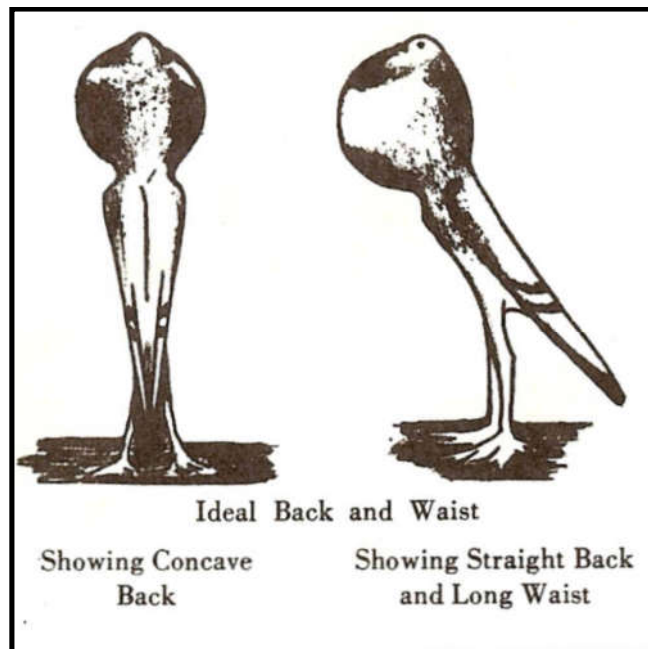
Globe Disqualifications:

- Elongated globe.
- Globe carried to one side.



Waist: 15 points

In profile, starting at the inset of the globe to the inset of the limbs, the length of the waist or keel should be long and straight. The greater the length from globe inset to limb inset, the better. A front view should exhibit a long, slim, straight and well defined "keel" that is convex or v-shaped, not round.

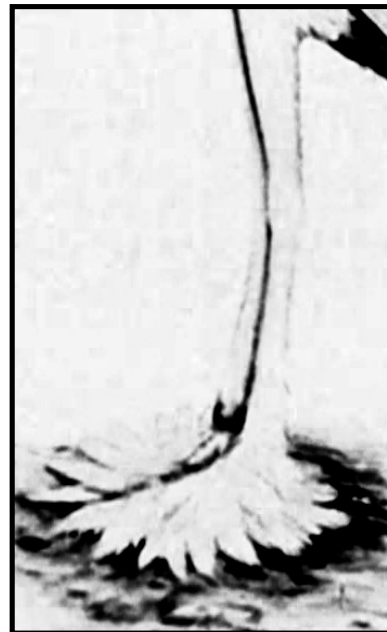


Waist faults:

- Front view:
 - round or barrel-shaped with no v-shaped keel.
 - thickness of girth.
- Side view:
 - short waist.
 - legs set too far forward on body.

Limbs: 15 points

Long, straight and close together from junction of body to hocks; set back on body sufficiently far to allow for the much desired long waist. The limbs should be fine boned. In profile the bird must stand tall, stretchy and upright without being tilted forward by it's tail, there should be a slight bend at the hocks. The thighs in profile should be as one, close together and starting from a position well back on the body so that the joint between thigh inset and body is completely concealed when the bird is standing at "attention", giving the appearance of a continuous sweep from junction of globe with waist along the keel through the limbs to the feet.



The shanks (that part of the leg from hock joint to feet), should be adequately long and turned slightly out, allowing enough room for the feet to clear each other.

The limbs should be "stocking legged", with feathers fitting close to the limbs, forming a complete cover for the entire limb with only enough covering at the hock to conceal the joint itself from view.

The feet should incline slightly outward, (opposite of "pigeon-toed"), with toes spread, not doubled under or cramped. The feet should have longer feathers so thickly set as to leave no bare spots on the toes. Feathers should spread from the feet rather suddenly forming what is know as the "slipper".

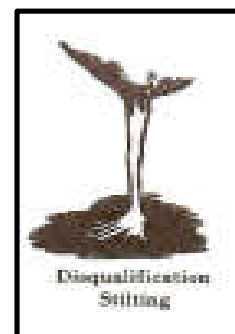
Limb Faults:

- Feathers on limbs too downy and fluffy.
- Short shanks - inadequate length from hocks to feet.
- Rough limbed - long feathers all the way down the limbs.
- Spare limbed - feet or legs not perfectly covered with feathers.
- Bent toes - one toe bent back on either one or both feet.
- Under-angulation or overly bent at the hocks.



Limb Disqualifications:

- Rickett-knees/cowhocked: Legs which are set wide apart at inset of body, then come close together at the hocks, then spread wide apart at the feet, giving an X appearance when viewed from front to back and making the bird look knock-kneed.
- Buckling: Legs which knuckle forward at hock joint.
- Straddling: Legs which due to weakness or deformity are set so that they spread excessively or slip sideways when the bird walks or stands. This prevents the bird from standing at it's full height and from having proper action when in motion.
- Stilting: Legs which when viewed from the side are straight from the inset of the body to the feet, thus showing no bend at the hocks.
- Club foot/deformed foot: two or more toes on either foot bent back under.



Station and Showmanship: 10 points

Free, lively, stretchy, and graceful upright carriage when in motion; the eyes aligned as close to plumb as possible over the balls of the feet; bird to stand erect and comfortable upon it's toes, ball of foot clears the ground. The bird should walk with elasticity of movement with limbs close together, free from straddling or rolling. The globe should be inflated, extended and in full control with wings held tightly to body when in action.

Station and showmanship faults:

- Birds not showing after reasonable coaxing by judge.
- Birds that won't settle while being judged.

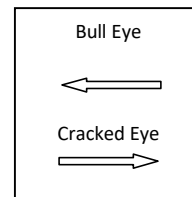
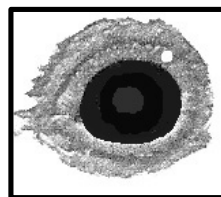
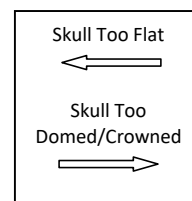
Head: 5 points

The head itself should be fine, narrow and in proportion to the body; smooth on top and blending into the contour of the globe. The eyes should have a full and alert expression. White birds have "bull eyes", pied birds have colored eyes. The ceres should be fine and thread-like. The wattle should be fine in texture. The beak should be fine with mandible straight, upper curved at tip and just over-reaching the lower. Beak color is black in blues and blacks, flesh colored in whites and yellows, horn colored in others.

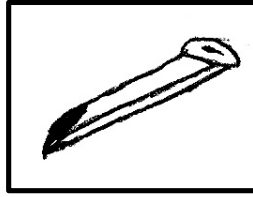


Head faults:

- Head features generally too coarse.
- Skull too flat on top.
- Skull too domed or crowned
- Pied birds having:
 - bull eyes
 - cracked eyes
- White or light areas in beak of blues, blacks, others.
- White birds having other than bull eyes must class with AOC's.



- Stained or marked beaks in whites put them in Any Other Color class.



Stained or
Marked Beaks
In Whites or
Colored Birds



Neck: 5 points

Proportionately long, almost one third the length of the bird.

Neck Faults:

- Neck too short to allow for good globe.
- Too short to allow for "stretchy" appearance of bird.

Back: 5 points

Narrow and long; slightly concave with a grooved line from base of neck to rump. Rump-short, narrow and tapering sharply to vent, free from excessive "fluff".

Back Fault:

- No groove down back.

Back Disqualification:

- Roach or humped back.



Ideal Back



Disqualification
Roach or
Humped Back

Roach/Humped Back
Disqualification

Wings: 5 points

Folded close and narrow, carried well up and tucked close to the body to show plenty of waist and upper part of thigh. Bottom line of folded wing is parallel to the keel. Wing butts should be small, flat and well hidden. The wings should taper into narrow, webbed flights, meeting at a point directly over the center line of the tail, folding close to the tail and extending near to the end of the tail.



Ideal Tail and
Wing Carriage

Wing Faults:

- Scissor wings/roach wings.
- Primary flights which cross too high over the tail and/or back.

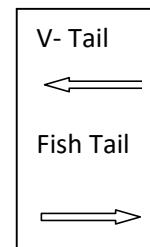


Tail: 5 points

Should be short. Carried clear of the ground when not performing; very narrow and tightly folded, giving the appearance of a single feather. The presence of an oil or pineal gland is desirable as it's absence is closely related to improper tails.

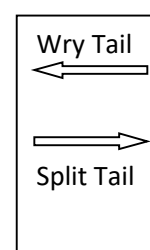
Tail Faults:

- V tail: tail which is too broad and always spread without muscular control.
- Fish-tail: tail which flares at it's end, resembling the tail of a fish.



Tail Disqualifications:

- Wry tail: tail carried to one side.
- Split tail: tail feathers that divide and show a distinct V-shaped parting in the tail.



Size: 5 points

The smaller and more slender the bird, the better, provided everything is in proportion. The ideal Pigmy Pouter should not be more than 12 inches in height; measured perpendicularly from floor to top of head.

Size Fault:

- Bird taller than 12 inches but less than 13 inches.

Size Disqualification:

- Bird taller than 13 inches.

Colors: 5 points

The recognized colors of Pigmy Pouters are:

- **Blue Bar** - should be a clear sky blue with intense black bars on wings and tail. Green or pink sheen
- **Brown Bar** - should be a clear fawn shade with dark brown bars on wings and tail. Pink sheen.
- **Red** - should be a rich dark red color free from bars or checkering. Green or pink sheen.
- **Yellow** - should be a rich yellow color, free from bars or checkering. Green or pink sheen.
- **Black** - should be an intense jet black, free of bars and checkering. Green or pink sheen.
- **White** - should be a pure white throughout with a satin-like appearance on neck and free from any color tingeing.
- **A.O.C. (Any Other Color)** - is a class for any color, pattern or factor not previously listed. Colors, patterns or genetic factors other than the six standard colors are to be shown under the AOC class. If a sufficient number of a color, pattern or genetic factor is entered in a show, a separate class may be offered at the discretion of the show committee. Small color classes may be combined to improve competition or expedite the judging procedure.

Color faults:

- Blue sheen on blacks.
- Bluish or slate tinge on reds.
- Reds or yellows with open, checkering pattern instead of smooth red or yellow color.
- Yellowish tint to feathers of whites.

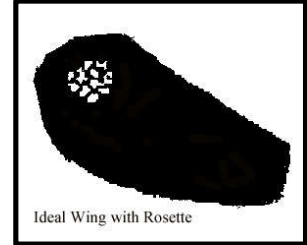
Color disqualification:

- Artificial coloring or alteration.

Markings: 5 points

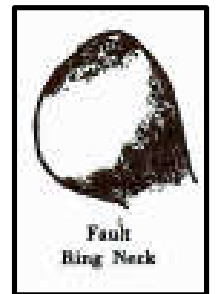
In pied Pigmy Pouters (Blue Bar, Brown Bar, Red, Yellow, Black and some AOC's), the designated color covers the entire bird except as follows:

- White crescent on globe, horns reach to one-half inch from each eye.
- Several white feathers (7) on each shoulder in the shape of a rose; white feathers fall separately and do not reach edge of wing.
- Primary flight feathers in all colors, patterns and factors are white.
- White on all of body below a line encircling the center of the waist. Reds and yellows to have white or very light ash tails; other tails to be same color as body color.



Marking Faults:

- Colored flight/primary feathers.
- Colored feathers in white portions of bird.
- White feathers in colored tails.
- Swallow throat-crescent running up to lower mandible.
- Snip - white feathers on forehead above wattle.
- Bishop wing - rose markings too gay extending down to edge of wing butts or over edge.
- Ringneck - crescent meeting behind neck.



Mis-marked standard colored birds, either too gay or no markings, must class with their color and take cuts for bad markings. Whites with colored feathers must be classed as AOC.

Feathers and Condition: 5 points

In all colors, feathers should be a soft silky texture, close, with an abundance of sheen indicating good health; clean and complete in plumage. In the show pen a bird should be in good physical condition and display vigor and alertness.

Feather and Condition Faults:

- Broken or missing flight or tail feathers.
- Dirty or stained plumage.
- Mite or louse damage.

Feather and Condition Disqualifications:

- Ruffled or sick acting.
- Lice or mites visible anywhere on body of bird.

Judging

Any Pigmy Pouter that exhibits a disqualification is to be removed from the judging cage and **not** placed in it's class. If the disqualification is observed after judging the class has begun, the bird is to be removed immediately and any birds placed below the disqualified bird will move up in placing.

American Pigmy Pouter Standard of Perfection
Faults and Disqualifications
Quick Reference Chart

SCALE OF POINTS			
	Point Value	Major Faults	Disqualifications
Globe	15 points	Flat globe. Lack of globe. Over-inflation.	Elongated globe. Globe carried to one side.
Waist	15 points	Round, barrel-shaped. Short waist. Thickness of girth. Legs set too far forward on body.	
Limbs	15 points	Feathers on limbs too downy and fluffy. Short shanks. Rough limbed. Spare limbed. Bent toes. Under-angulation or overly bent at the hocks.	Hinged leg. Stilting. Buckling. Straddling. Ricket-knees. Cow-hocked. Club foot/deformed foot.
Station & Showmanship	10 points	Birds that won't show after reasonable coaxing by judge. Birds that won't settle while being judged.	
Head	5 points	Head features generally too coarse. Skull too flat on top. Skull too domed or crowned. Pied birds having bull eyes or cracked eyes. White or light areas in beak of blues, blacks, others.	
Neck	5 points	Neck too short to allow for good globe. Too short to allow for "stretchy" appearance of bird.	
Back	5 points	No groove down back.	Roach back Humped (Hog) backed.
Wings	5 points	Wing butts not well hidden Scissor wings Roach wings.	
Tail	5 points	V-Tail Fish tail No oil gland	Wry tail Split tail
Size	5 points	Over 12" but less than 13"	Over 13"
Color	5 points	Washed out appearance. Blue sheen on blacks. Bluish or slate tinge on reds. Reds and yellows with open, checkering pattern instead of smooth red or yellow color. Yellowish tint to feathers of whites.	Artificial coloring or alteration.
Markings	5 points	Colored flight/primary feathers. Colored feathers in white portions of bird. White feathers in colored tails. Swallow-throat Snip Bishop wing. Ringneck.	
Feathers & Condition	5 points	Broken or missing flights or tail feathers. Dirty or Stained Plumage. Louse or mite damage in Plumage	Ruffled or sick-acting. Lice or Mites Visible on Body of Bird.