



AusRFS (NSW) Show Guidelines for Mice Version 1.2

General

All animals brought to the show, whether being entered or not should, should be of good health and condition. There should be no signs of illness or parasite infestation. Animals should be at least 5 weeks old.

Class Entry Rules

Introductory

This class is limited to new exhibitors not having shown with AusRFS (NSW) before. It is a place to learn about showing and how to show (including what not to show). New exhibitors may enter 2 entries per show for 3 shows only.

Junior Pet Class

The junior pet class is reserved for exhibitors aged 15 year and younger, with a limit of 2 entries per exhibitor.

Pet Class

The Pet Class is open to all exhibitors. There is a limit of 2 entries per exhibitor.

Standards Based Classes

The standards based classes are open to all exhibitors. There is no limit on the number of entries an exhibitor may enter in each class.

Use of Breeder Prefix

Breeder Prefix's are only to be attached to entries which are a result of a mating between your doe and a buck (either your own buck or someone else's). Class results are used to calculate Yearly "Best" awards and incorrectly attaching a Breeder's Prefix will skew the results. Entries with Breeders Prefixes may need to be backed up with Pedigree's and should be made available to an official on request.

Appeals and Clarification of Decisions

Appeals and Clarification requests are to be lodged with either the Show Secretary or a Steward within a timely fashion. Exhibitors are not to approach the Judges whilst they are in the process of judging.

Animal Entry Guidelines

Show Condition

Fancy Mice should appear happy and healthy. There should be no sign of illness, injury or parasites. Their breathing and movement should be normal showing no signs of distress. They should be clean and neat with no missing body parts. Their nails should be clean and not be of excessive length. Their weight should be sleek, firm and slightly rounded, not being fat or too thin. All animals presented should be tractable and easy to handle.

Conformation

The mouse should be of good size, and the body should be long slim and racy in appearance. Animals should neither be too fat, nor too thin, and the coat should be smooth and glossy over the entire body, excepting in rex, hairless and long haired varieties. The muzzle should show a slight downward curve when viewed from the side.

Head

The head should be wide and long, but not excessive in any way, with the distance between the eyes and ears being proportionate. The head shall not be too fine or pointed at the nose. The nose must be clean.



Eyes

The mouse should have large, round eyes with no signs of discharge, irritation or cataracts. The eyes should not look squinty; and by the same token they should not look bug-eyed.

Coat and Whiskers

The coat should have a healthy shine and lay flat. Males may have slightly longer and coarser fur than the females, but not enough to distract from the mouse's overall beauty. Shorter, thinner fur should exist on the feet, toes and tail. Whiskers should be lined as evenly in the whisker bed as possible. Whiskers should be long. A few shorter and thinner whiskers should be found over the eyes as well. Appropriate adjustments should be made for the various coat types when applying these guidelines.

Teeth

Their incisors should be growing evenly and not overgrown. They should appear properly aligned from the front.

Tail

The tail must be free from kinks and should appear as a graceful extension of the spine, being thick at the base and gradually tapering to a fine end. The tail should be cylindrical and not bony. The tail shall not appear "stuck on" or lack the gradual tapering. The length of the tail shall be about equal to that of the mouse's body.

Faults

The following generic conditions will incur a loss of points at judging time. These are in addition to the standard specific faults for the class that the entry is being judged under.

- Stained or dirty coat
- Too fat or too thin
- Nicked ear, scaly skin, kinked or short tail, or lack of whiskers

Disqualifications

The following conditions are considered suitable grounds for disqualification from judging and are in addition to the standard specific disqualification criteria. Disqualification is at the discretion of the Judges, Stewards and Show Secretary, and may not necessarily be for a reason listed below.

- Pregnant or nursing females
- Respiratory problems, excessive scabs, mites or lice, abscesses, wounds or eye infections
- Obvious ill health and tumours
- Biting or Intractability
- Animals under 6 weeks of age
- Missing body parts
- Surgical alteration
- Any dyeing, plucking or trimming intended to alter natural condition
- Any obvious physical abnormality