

**GUIDELINES FOR JUDGING PYGMY GOATS**

DOE	BUCK	NGPA BREED STANDARD - IDEAL TRAITS	REASONING & EVALUATION OF FAULTS RANGING FROM MODERATE TO VERY SERIOUS	DISQUALIFYING TRAITS
GENERAL APPEARANCE	14 14	BODY MEASUREMENTS meet specifications for age group Genetically HORNED (disbudding permitted) BALANCED & well blended; showing style PROPORTIONS typically cobby; wide in relation to length & height CONDITION optimal for age & frame of animal; HEALTH PERFECT	See: BREED STANDARD - BODY MEASUREMENTS chart Polled pairs produce high percentage of hermaphrodites & infertile males Consider degree of deviation from cobby (compact) type; also see NECK Extreme single characteristic that sacrifices the balance & proportion of the entire animal <b>VERY SERIOUS</b> Evaluate extent of over- or under-conditioning: emaciated or obese <b>VERY SERIOUS</b> fault; underweight (except for lactating does) or moderately overweight <b>MODERATE</b> to <b>SERIOUS</b> depending on extent Check coat & skin condition; apparent health	<b>NON-CONFORMITY TO SIZE</b> <b>NATURAL HORNLESSNESS</b> <b>GENETIC HERNIAS</b> (scrotal, umbilical)
HEAD & EXPRESSION	10 12	HEAD typey; medium-short; profile dished JAWS broad, strong, well muscled, symmetrically aligned BITE even; neither over- nor undershot  EYES bright; set well apart, brown in color, prominent but not protruding EARS firm, medium sized, alertly erect MUZZLE broad, full, rounded; nose short, wide, flat EXPRESSION alert, animated	Long or level head is not true to Pygmy type <b>SERIOUS</b> Weak, misaligned jaws are poor feed processors; check general condition In kids: undershot bites are common <b>MODERATE</b> ; overshot bites (rare) <b>VERY SERIOUS</b> In adults: misalignment is a <b>SERIOUS</b> fault; noticeably over or undershot <b>VERY SERIOUS</b> Eyes protruding or set too far apart (or too close) <b>VERY SERIOUSLY</b> disturb facial balance Ear shape, size and carriage greatly contribute to overall alert appearance Scant, snipey forehead is not harmonious with breed type See: EYES; EARS; HEALTH	<b>ROMAN NOSE</b> <b>FACE CROOKED</b> <b>DISFIGURING MALOCCLUSION</b>  <b>TOTAL BLINDNESS</b> <b>EYE COLOR OTHER THAN BROWN</b> <b>EARS PENDULOUS or</b> <b>HELICOPTER</b>
COAT	4 6	COAT dense, hair straight; medium long; abundant in bucks	Coat too short & sparse provides poor insulation <b>MODERATE</b> ; Coat too long, curly or silky <b>VERY SERIOUS</b>	
BREED MARKINGS	8 12	BREED SPECIFIC MARKINGS distinct: light accents on muzzle, forehead, ears, around eyes & tail; contrasting darker crown, dorsal stripe, cannons, hocks, hoofs OPTIONAL MARKINGS: light girth areas are acceptable	Weak or missing markings, or markings other than those specified, detract from pygmy type & may challenge breed identity; evaluate extent of detracting as MODERATE, SERIOUS to VERY SERIOUS	<b>COMPLETE LACK OF ALL BREED SPECIFIC MARKINGS</b>
NECK	3 5	NECK strong, full-throated, muscular, round, blending well into withers	Weak, thin neck <b>VERY SERIOUSLY</b> detracts from strong, balanced outline	
SHOULDERS	5 5	SHOULDERS well laid back & angulated; blades firmly attached WITHERS nearly level with spine	Poorly articulated, poorly placed shoulders <b>SERIOUSLY</b> handicap locomotion & stamina. High withers can mean poor shoulder layback & attachment <b>MODERATE</b> to <b>SERIOUS</b> fault	
CHEST	10 10	CHEST floor wide; forchest prominent; HEART GIRTH large, full at the elbows; RIBS long, well sprung, wide apart	Pinched, slab sided, shallow chest, confined by ribs that are short & close <b>SERIOUSLY</b> reduces heart & lung capacity/size; i.e. longevity; Ribs overly sprung <b>SERIOUSLY</b> handicap mobility/agility	
BARREL	8 8	BARREL symmetrical, broad, deep, widening toward low-set flanks	Disproportionately narrow, shallow barrel <b>SERIOUSLY</b> reduces capacity; overly rotund barrel can be <b>SERIOUS</b> burden	
BACK	8 8	BACK strong, broad, straight; level along chine & loin	A weak, swayed or roached back <b>SERIOUSLY</b> correlates with early aging; prevents efficient motion	
RUMP	8 8	RUMP medium long, medium wide, neither level nor steep HIPS wide, nearly level with back THURLS high & wide apart; PINBONES well apart, prominent TAIL symmetrical, set & carried high	Rump too short & steep, or too long, means less than optimal pelvic structure <b>SERIOUS</b> Steep, narrow hips & closely spaced thurls <b>SERIOUSLY</b> reduce pelvic basin capacity for delivering kids Wry or broken tail is a <b>MODERATE</b> , mainly cosmetic fault	
LEGS & FEET	10 12	LEGS strong, well-muscled, wide apart, squarely set FORELEGS straight; CANNON BONE short; ELBOWS close to ribs HINDLEGS well-angulated, short-hocked, parallel & aligned with hips; femur & tibia long, well-muscled; stifle joint pronounced PASTERNS short, strong, resilient FEET well shaped, symmetrical; heels deep; soles level GAIT smooth, balanced, ground covering & effortless	Considered separately & as a total assembly; any unsound component of limbs can <b>SERIOUSLY</b> affect activity level, grazing/browsing, breeding/carrying ability, skeletal normality & gait, general health & longevity. Leg shape, placement, muscling, angulation; foot shape & symmetry, resiliency of pasterns, healthy joints, all contribute to the appearance, agility, endurance & balance of a well built animal. Unbalanced, inefficient, labored, or stiff locomotion strains the entire system <b>VERY SERIOUS</b>	<b>FRONT CANNON OVER/UNDERSIZED</b> <b>EYE COLOR</b>
REPRODUCTIVE SYSTEM (Bucks)	No Points	TESTICLES normal, equal in size; both fully descended	Cryptorchidism (un-descended testicle) is an inherited trait	<b>FAILING TO DISPLAY TWO NORMAL, FULLY DESCENDED TESTICLES</b>
MAMMARY SYSTEM (Bucks)	No Points	TEATS: Two single, normal, non-functional Devoid of multiple orifices Free from deformities		<b>MULTIPLE/ FUNCTIONAL TEATS, , BIFURCAL TEATS</b> <b>MULTIPLE ORIFICES</b>
MAMMARY SYSTEM (Does)	12	TEATS: Cylindrical, symmetrically shaped & placed, milkable, functional Free from deformities & obstructions Devoid of multiple orifices UDDER functional, balanced, firm, elastic, rounded, small to medium sized, well-attached; high in rear, well forward in front	Deviations from normal set of teats may cause problems in hand milking & kid rearing; fault small, close, uneven teats <b>MODERATELY</b> ; multiple teats & orifices <b>SERIOUSLY</b>  Poorly attached udder breaks down; pendulous, lumpy, unbalanced udder can cause <b>SERIOUS</b> health problems (mastitis) & proneness to injury	<b>NON-FUNCTIONAL, BLIND TEATS</b> <b>BIFURCAL TEATS</b>  <b>NON- FUNCTIONAL, BLIND UDDER</b>
BUCK & DOES		SEX CHARACTERISTICS pronounced, either masculine or feminine		<b>HERMAPHRODITISM</b>
TOTAL POINTS	100 100			