



*The official website of*  
**Miniature**  
**HORSES BC**

**About “Minis” The Miniature Horse**  
**A Unique Breed of Equine!**

An elegant, scaled-down version of the large-size horse. The Miniature horses of today are well-proportioned and the product of nearly 400 years of selected breeding.

Because of their gentle, affectionate nature and small size, a Miniature horse is an excellent companion. They are ideal pets for young children, adults, senior citizens and the handicapped. A small child may be intimidated by a large horse, yet that same child will show an eagerness to embrace and hug a Miniature foal. The foals are particularly lovable due to their small size, ranging from 16 to 21 inches in height at birth. Handicapped people have found the Miniature horse an excellent substitute for the full-size horse they may not be able to physically handle.

Because their size prohibits any but the smallest children to ride them, many people wonder what you can do with a Miniature horse. Although many people enjoy Miniatures as pets, many owners show their horses at the more than 250 AMHA sanctioned horse shows nationwide.

There are a variety of driving classes at each of the shows. In addition, there are a number of great jumping classes, costume classes and much more. We have a wide variety of special Amateur classes, AOTE (Amateur owned and Trained) Classes, and a lot of popular Youth Classes. Many shows across the nation have as many as 80-110 different classes! The competition is fun and challenging as more and more people join the AMHA and join in the fun!

## THE AMERICAN MINIATURE HORSE OFFICIAL STANDARD OF PERFECTION

**GENERAL IMPRESSEION:** A small, sound, well-balanced horse, possessing the correct conformation characteristics required of most breeds. Refinement and femininity in the mare. Boldness and masculinity in the stallion. The general impression should be one of symmetry, strength, agility and alertness. Since the breed objective is the smallest possible perfect horse, preference in judging shall be given the smaller horse, other characteristics being approximately equal.

**SIZE:** Must measure not more than 34 inches at the withers, at the last hairs of the mane for AMHA or 38" for AMHR. **HEAD:** In proportion to length of neck and body. Broad forehead with large prominent eyes, set wide apart. Comparatively short distance between eyes and muzzle. Profile straight or slightly concave below the eyes. Large nostrils. Clean, refined muzzle. Even bite.

**EARS:** Medium in size. Pointed. Carried alertly, with tips curving slightly inward.

**THROAT LATCH:** Clean and well defined, allowing ample flexion at the poll.

**LEGS:** Set straight and parallel when viewed from front or back. Straight, true and squarely set, when viewed from the side with hooves pointing directly ahead. Pasterns sloping about 45 degrees and blending smoothly, with no change of angle, from the hooves to the ground. Hooves to be round and compact, trimmed as short as practicable for an unshod horse. Smooth, fluid gait in motion.

**COLOR:** Any color or marking patterns, and any eye color, is equally acceptable. The hair should be lustrous and silky.

**SHOW DISQUALIFICATIONS:** Excess height. Monorchidism in Senior Stallions. Any unsoundness or inheritable deformity. If in doubt, the show Judge may request the opinion of the show Veterinarian. Non-disfiguring blemishes not associated with unsoundness, or injuries which are temporary, should not be penalized unless they impair the general appearance and or action of the horse