



April 4, 2008

Dear Judge Applicant,

The American Rottweiler Club would like to thank you for your interest in judging our breed. It is our belief that judges' conscientious selections contribute greatly to the continued quality and integrity of the Rottweiler in this country.

The standard says, "Tail docked short, close to body, leaving one or two tail vertebrae". The docked tail is an essential breed characteristic.

We are grateful that the American Kennel Club supports a judge's decision to excuse if the judge feels that the dog is not in accordance with the breed standard (CHAPTER 7, Section 15 AKC Rules Applying to Dog Shows).

As stated in past AKC Judges Newsletters and in the AKC Gazette, it is completely up to the judge whether to judge or excuse and AKC will support either decision. While it is understood that you as judge have a choice, the American Rottweiler Club prefers that you consider a natural tail to be a serious deviation from the standard and prioritize it accordingly.

The Rottweiler is a medium large, strong, handsome, and easily recognized breed and one of its defining characteristics is the docked tail. It is an important attribute of breed type.

We appreciate your consideration with respect to maintaining the integrity of our breed standard.

Sincerely,

American Rottweiler Club Board of Directors  
[www.amrottclub.org](http://www.amrottclub.org)