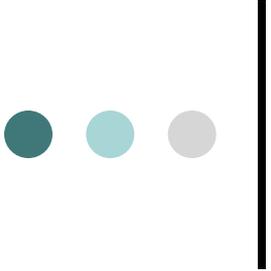




MCP: Maine Coon Polydactyl

In Championship May 1st, 2015

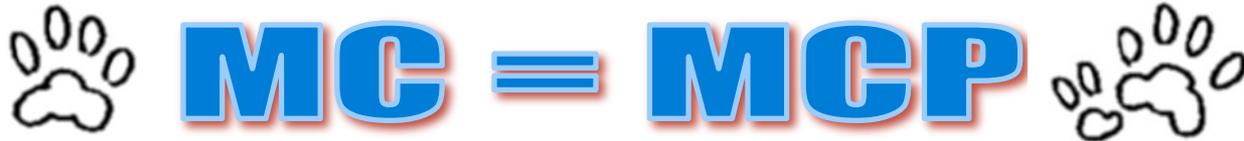




Maine Coon Breed Group

- As of May 1st, 2015, Maine Coons are divided into:
 - Maine Coon (MC)
 - Maine Coon Polydactyl (MCP)
- Will be judged separately, with only difference being the feet
- From a standpoint of points and titles:
 - First, Second, and Third of Breed for MC *and* MCP
 - Finaled and titled as either a MC or a MCP
 - Regional/International wins as either a MC or a MCP

MC Polydactyl Standard



- The MCP Standard is identical to the Maine Coon (MC) except for the feet.
- Point allotment:
 - Head – 40 points
 - Body – 35 points
 - Torso, tail, boning & musculature = 32 points
 - **Feet and legs = 3 points**
 - Coat/Color/Pattern – 25 points

MC versus MCP



- The difference in the feet?
 - **MC**: Large, round and well-tufted.
 - **MCP**: Large, well-tufted. Additional toes allowed on either fore or hind paws or both. Paws may be mitten or patty foot. Symmetrical expression preferred. Maximum of 7 toes on any foot.

Additional toes allowed on either fore or hind paws or both

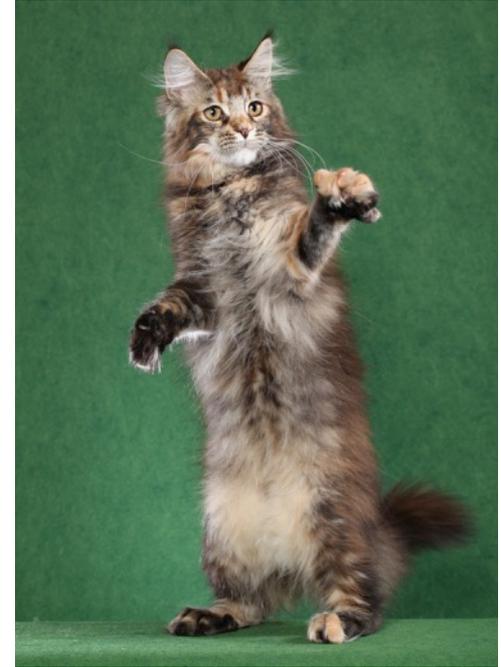


○ Distribution of Polydactyly?

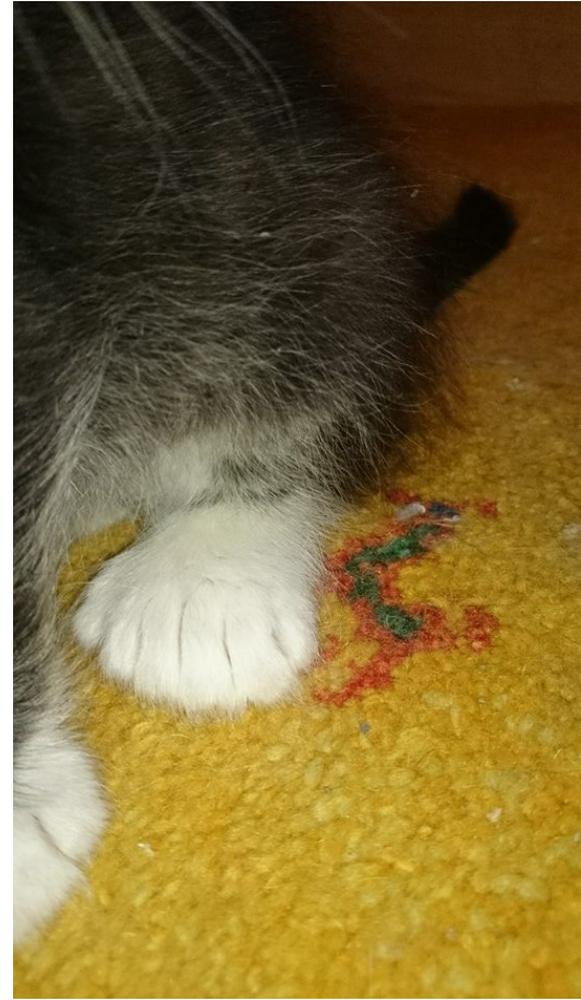
- Greater than 90% of MC polydactyls are poly on both front feet (“2 WD”) or all 4 feet (“4 WD”)
- Less common:
 - One paw only (<1%)
 - Three paws (~ 6%)
 - Both back paws (~ 1%)

(Data from PolyTrak analysis of 740 polydactyl kittens)

● ● ● | Poly forepaws only



Poly on all paws



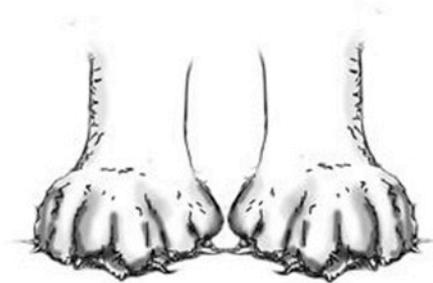
Foot conformations



Mitten (extended thumb)



Mitten (closed thumb)



Patty (Snowshoe)

- A variation of the mitten is the most common
- Can be open or closed
- Thumbs may be functional (Beware!)
- Patty foot resembles a very large standard foot without a dewclaw

● ● ● | Patty paws



● ● ● | Mitten paws



Symmetrical expression preferred



- Top picture: asymmetrical forepaws with one patty foot and one mitten foot.
- Symmetrical appearance may change with foot position and/or motion
- Bottom picture: appears asymmetrical because one paw is spread and the other isn't. Identical structure.

Symmetrical expression preferred



- Normal expression of the polydactyl trait may produce different numbers and/or configuration of toes side to side, or front to back
- Similar to pattern – may not be a mirror image
- Asymmetry that is not obvious with visual inspection should not be penalized

Maximum of 7 toes per foot

- Should Judges count each toe on each foot? Yes, if there's any question!
- Statistically?
 - Guinness Book lists a cat named Jake as the record holder for most toes.
 - Jake has 28 toes – 7 on each foot



Seven Toes

Allowances

- Polydactyly is a trait with variable expression and may produce anything from a single extra dew claw to extra toes on each paw
- Any of these expressions are acceptable and there is no preference for more rather than fewer additional toes

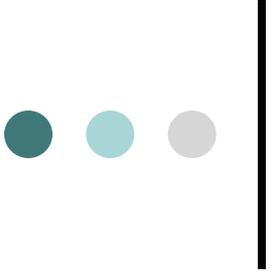


Allowances

- Mitten paws may appear to toe out



- Hand/Paw naturally turns out (similar to a human walking on hands)
- Not a penalty

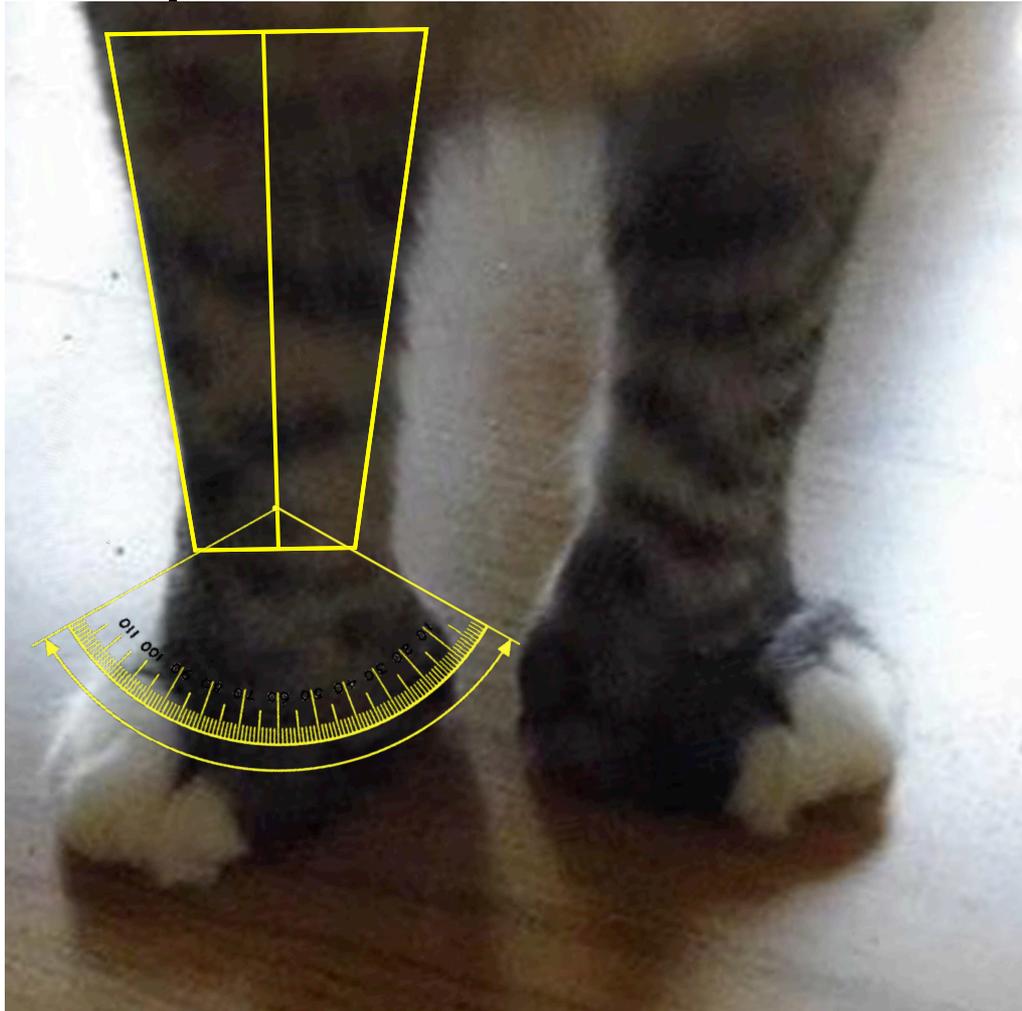


Allowances

- Much concern over toeing out
- Rare to actually have too much – balanced by the position of the “thumb(s)”
- May have subtle rotation of the leg to accommodate the larger paw, but...
- Just as with non-poly Maine Coons:

LEGS NEED TO BE STRAIGHT!

Evaluating “toe out”

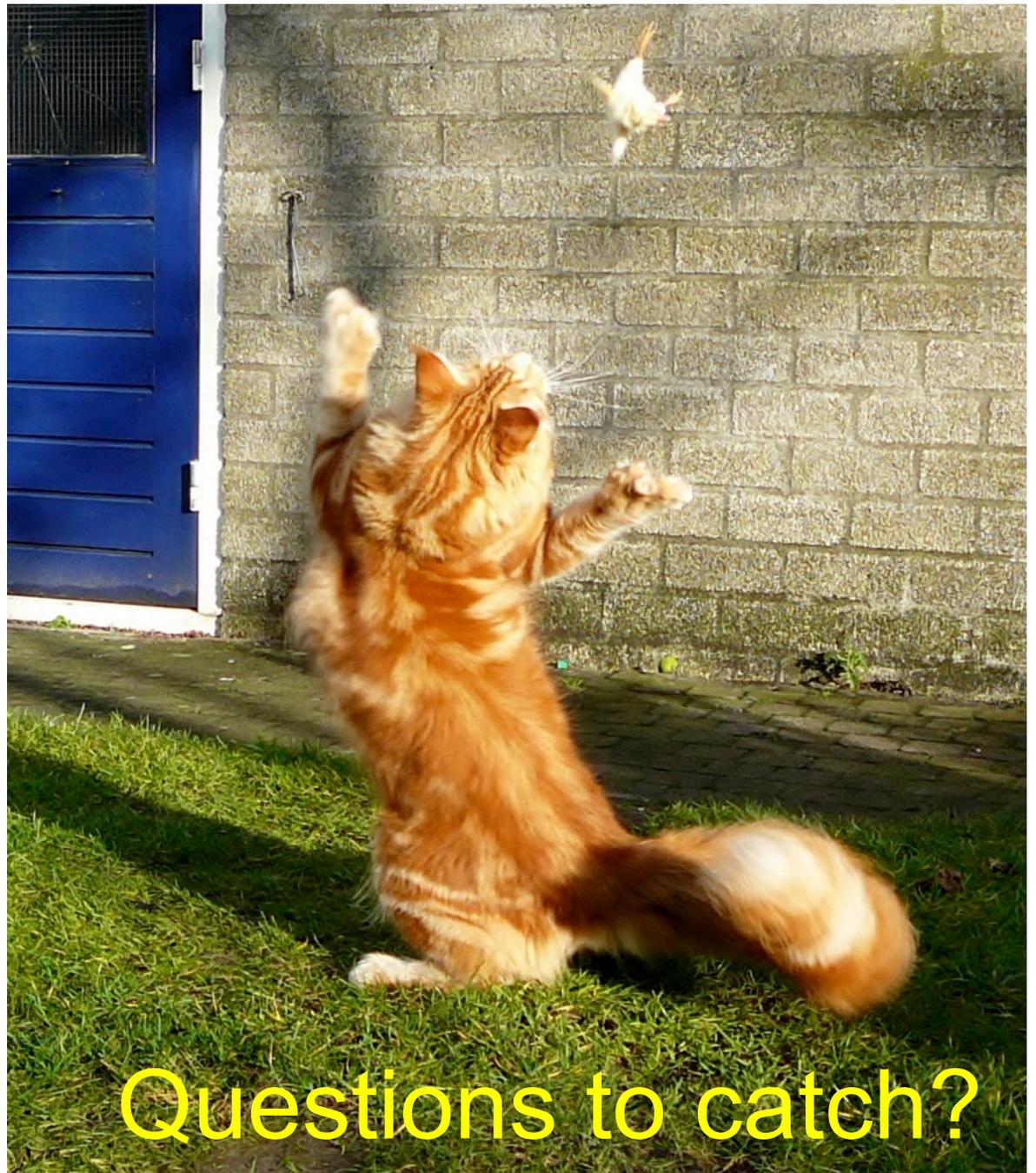


- Imagine a line down the leg
- Imagine an angle measure
- Is the distance balanced?
- Within 60 degrees off the center line?

Penalties - Toes (excluding dewclaws) not touching the table

- Toes may appear short when paw is raised
- All should touch ground with weight applied
- Dewclaws are an exception, and just as with standard paws, will not “touch down”





Questions to catch?