

A contest to crown “The World’s Ugliest Dog” may appear mean to dogs. However, that is not the intention of the organizers of the Sonoma–Marin Fair where the popular event has been held for the past 28 years. They view the unusual event as a celebration of the spirit and imperfections that make the dogs loveable and adoptable. The winner was the seven–year–old miniature wire–haired Dachshund, who now lives with her mom in Santa Rosa, CA, was rescued from a cage at a pet store in Japan. She loves to eat and steal and hide her owner’s belongings. Of course, while these unconventional looking dogs have found loving families, there are scores more that are not as fortunate. The fair organizers hope that this contest will help people realize that even the not–so–perfect pooches can be as loving and .loyal as their better–looking counterparts, and encourage more people to adopt them