



# THE CAT FANCIERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.®

World's Largest Registry of Pedigreed Cats

## The Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc. 2015 BREED COUNCIL POLL

### PERSIAN – GENERAL

Breed Council Secretary: Carissa Altschul – Joshua, TX

Total Members: 221

Ballots Received: 158

- 1. PROPOSED:** Prohibit the showing of Longhair Exotics in Persian Color Classes effective May 1, 2016. Agree to the showing of Longhair Exotics in the Exotic divisions or breed classes as established by the Exotic breed.

CFA shall make the following changes to applicable Show Rules and Persian Rules of Registration in order to remove the showing of Longhair Exotics in Persian color classes (note: changes relating to the Exotic standard, the Exotic Listing within Article XXXII, Rule 32.01 of the Show Rules, and the Exotic Rules of Registration will be addressed by the Exotic BC):

a. Revise Show Rule 2.04 to read as follows (text to be deleted in strike out): ~~With the exception of qualifying longhair Exotics (which may be shown in Persian classes),~~ Each cat must be entered in the breed under which it is registered, and each kitten must be entered in the breed under which it is registered or eligible to be registered.

b. Revise Article XXXII, Rule 32.01 of the Show Rules effective May 1, 2016 to eliminate the note at the end of the Persian listing. Revisions to the show rule are shown below (deletions are in strike out – there are no changes to the divisions and color classes included in the Persian listing).

#### PERSIAN\*

~~(See Note at End of Persian Listing)~~

~~Note: Longhair Exotics that meet Persian color descriptions are eligible to compete in Persian color classes. These cats, also referred to as AOV Exotics, are identified by a registration prefix of 7798-7799, 7698-7699 and 7598-7599. A longhair division for Exotics will be created for scoring purposes only and National/regional points accumulated by longhair Exotics shown in Persian color classes will count towards longhair Exotic breed and color class wins, not towards Persian wins.~~

The Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc.,  
260 East Main Street ~ Alliance, OH 44601

Phone 330-680-4236 | Fax 330-680-4633 | [www.cfa.org](http://www.cfa.org) | Follow @CFAcatlover on Twitter |  
[facebook.com/CFAinc](https://facebook.com/CFAinc) |

c. Add a note to the “Significant Acceptance Dates” section and add notes to the “Breed Notes” section of the Persian Rules of Registration indicating Longhair Exotics no longer accepted in competition in Persian classes.

**RATIONALE:** This same question was on the Persian and Exotic Breed Council ballots in 2013 and 2014. It was passed by 69% of the Persian Breed Council membership (93/138) in 2013 and 64% in 2014 (114/179). LH Exotics are currently shown as Persians but receive national and regional breed awards as LH Exotics even though the Exotic Standard does not include a description of a LH Exotic. With this proposal, the Persian BC asks the Exotic BC to modify the Exotic Standard and color classes to permit the showing of LH Exotics in a LH Division of the Exotic Breed.

Given the positive vote of the Persian BC to this question in 2013 and 2014, the Persian BC again requests that the Exotic BC be asked to put a question on their ballot modifying the Exotic Standard to include a description of LH Exotics since LH Exotics receive national and regional LH Exotic breed wins. It should not be possible for a LH cat to receive a LH Breed win in a Breed whose Standard only describes a shorthair cat. The Persian BC also requests that the Exotic BC put a question on their ballot that would create a LH Exotic Division with LH Exotic Color Classes in which LH Exotics would be shown.

The background for this proposal is as follows. In 2008, the Board required the Exotic and Persian Breed Council Secretaries to reach a compromise that would permit the showing of Longhair Exotics. The Board also informed the two BC secretaries that they did not want a solution that permitted the showing of cats in separate breeds that would look alike to spectators at CFA shows. Consequently, the compromise proposed and approved in 2009 permitted Longhair Exotics that meet Persian color descriptions to be shown for championship status in Persian color classes. A Longhair Division of Exotics was created for scoring purposes only – all national and regional points accumulated by Longhair Exotics shown in Persian color classes count towards Longhair Exotic Division wins, not towards Persian Division wins.

Permitting LH Exotics to be shown should have eliminated the complaint of some CFA Exotic breeders that they could not show their LH Exotics. It also should have enabled Persians not able to be registered with CFA because they are registered with another association and have Exotics within their five-generation pedigree to be registered and shown in CFA as LH Exotics.

In February 2013, the Board approved a compromise allowing pointed Orientals in Colorpoint and Balinese colors to be shown in Shorthair and Longhair Pointed color classes within the Oriental breed. In order to maintain its credibility with breeders, the Board should resolve similar issues among subsets of breeds in the same way. Consequently, since the Board has now approved the showing of “mimics” within their own breed instead of within their parent breed as mandated in 2008 to the Persian and Exotic BC secretaries, it is only appropriate Longhair Exotics should be shown in color classes within a Longhair Division of the Exotic breed, not in Persian color classes.

**The Cat Fanciers’ Association, Inc.,  
260 East Main Street ~ Alliance, OH 44601**

Phone 330-680-4236 | Fax 330-680-4633 | [www.cfa.org](http://www.cfa.org) | Follow @CFAcatlover on Twitter |  
[facebook.com/CFAinc](https://facebook.com/CFAinc) |

This change will have no significant impact on the Exotic breed since Longhair Exotics can still be shown and receive LH Exotic Breed wins. This change simply requires LH Exotics to be shown in LH Exotic color classes instead of in Persian color classes. Furthermore, this change permits Longhair Exotics of any approved Exotic color to be shown for championship status, not just those conforming to an approved Persian color.

YES: 102

NO: 55

ABSTAIN: 1

**STANDARD CHANGE (passes)**

Votes: 157

60% of Voting: 95

- 2. PROPOSED:** Prohibit the showing of Longhair Exotics in Persian Color Classes effective May 1, 2016. Agree to the showing of Longhair Exotics in their own breed, separate from both the Persian and Exotic breeds, as created by the CFA Board of Directors.

The CFA Board of Directors shall create a new breed to be called Longhair Exotics.

- The Board shall appoint an interim Longhair Exotic Breed Council Secretary.
- Shorthair kittens in Exotic litters would be registered as Exotics and longhair kittens in Exotic litters would be registered as Longhair Exotics effective immediately.
- Cats currently registered as Exotic Longhairs will be eligible for transfer to the newly created Longhair Exotic Breed via payment of a nominal fee to be set by the Board to cover the cost of issuing new registration papers for such cats.
- Cats registered as either Exotic Longhairs or as Longhair Exotics shall be eligible to be shown for championship status as Longhair Exotics.

The CFA Board shall create color classes for the Longhair Exotic Breed that mirror those for the Exotic Breed.

The CFA Board shall make the Standard for the newly created Longhair Exotic Breed the same as the Exotic Standard with the following exceptions:

***Current Exotic Standard:***

*GENERAL: the ideal Exotic should present an impression of a heavily boned, well balanced cat with a sweet expression and soft, round lines. The large, round eyes set wide apart in a large round head contribute to the overall look and expression. The thick, plush coat softens the lines of the cat and accentuates the roundness in appearance.*

*COAT: dense, plush, soft and full of life. Standing out from the body due to a rich, thick undercoat. Medium in length. Acceptable length depends on proper undercoat.*

*Note: Longhair Exotics that meet Persian color descriptions are eligible to compete in Persian color classes. Refer to the Persian section for a complete list of colors. These*

**The Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc.,  
260 East Main Street ~ Alliance, OH 44601**

Phone 330-680-4236 | Fax 330-680-4633 | [www.cfa.org](http://www.cfa.org) | Follow @CFAcatlover on Twitter |  
[facebook.com/CFAinc](https://facebook.com/CFAinc) |

*cats are identified by a registration prefix of 7798-7799, 7698-7699 and 7598-7599. A longhair division for Exotics will be created for scoring purposes only and National/Regional points accumulated by longhair Exotics shown in Persian color classes will count towards longhair Exotic breed and color class wins, not towards Persian wins.*

*Exotic allowable outcross breeds: Persian.*

***Proposed Longhair Exotic Standard:***

*GENERAL: the ideal Longhair Exotic should present an impression of a heavily boned, well balanced cat with a sweet expression and soft, round lines. The large, round eyes set wide apart in a large round head contribute to the overall look and expression. The long thick coat softens the lines of the cat and accentuates the roundness in appearance.*

*COAT: long and thick, standing off from the body. Of fine texture, glossy and full of life. Long all over the body, including the shoulders. The ruff immense and continuing in a deep frill between the front legs. Ear and toe tufts long. Brush very full.*

*Longhair Exotic allowable outcross breeds: Exotic and Persian.*

The CFA Board shall make the following changes to applicable Show Rules and Persian Rules of Registration in order to remove the showing of Longhair Exotics in Persian color classes (note: changes relating to the Exotic Standard, the Exotic Listing within Article XXXII, Rule 32.01 of the Show Rules, and the Exotic Rules of Registration will be addressed by the Exotic BC):

- a. Revise Show Rule 2.04 to read as follows (text to be deleted in strike out ): ~~With the exception of qualifying longhair Exotics (which may be shown in Persian classes),~~ Each cat must be entered in the breed under which it is registered, and each kitten must be entered in the breed under which it is registered or eligible to be registered.
- b. Revise Article XXXII, Rule 32.01 of the Show Rules effective May 1, 2016 to eliminate the note at the end of the Persian listing. Revisions to the show rule are shown below (deletions are in strike out – there are no changes to the divisions and color classes included in the Persian listing).

**PERSIAN\***

~~(See Note at End of Persian Listing)~~

~~Note: Longhair Exotics that meet Persian color descriptions are eligible to compete in Persian color classes. These cats, also referred to as AOV Exotics, are identified by a registration prefix of 7798 7799, 7698 7699 and 7598 7599. A longhair division for Exotics will be created for scoring purposes only and National/regional points accumulated by longhair Exotics shown in Persian color classes will count towards longhair Exotic breed and color class wins, not towards Persian wins.~~

**The Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc.,  
260 East Main Street ~ Alliance, OH 44601**

Phone 330-680-4236 | Fax 330-680-4633 | [www.cfa.org](http://www.cfa.org) | Follow @CFAcatlover on Twitter |  
[facebook.com/CFAinc](https://facebook.com/CFAinc) |

c. Add a note to the “Significant Acceptance Dates” section and add notes to the “Breed Notes” section of the Persian Rules of Registration indicating Longhair Exotics no longer accepted in competition in Persian classes.

**RATIONALE:** At the February 2015 CFA Board meeting, the Persian Breed Council Secretary asked the Board to create a Longhair Exotic Breed that is separate from both the Exotic and Persian Breeds. The Persian Breed Council does not want Exotic Longhairs shown in Persian color classes. The Exotic Breed Council does not want to create a Longhair Exotic Division, permitting Exotic Longhairs to be shown in Exotic Longhair color classes as part of the Exotic Breed. Thus, it would seem that the only way to satisfy both the Persian and the Exotic Breed Councils would be to create a new Longhair Exotic Breed.

In response to the request that the CFA Board create a new Longhair Exotic Breed, CFA’s legal counsel said the CFA Board could not create a new breed without first consulting with both the Exotic and Persian Breed Councils.

Currently, Exotic Longhairs are shown as Persians but receive national and regional breed awards as Longhair Exotics even though the Exotic Standard does not include a description of a Longhair Exotic. With this proposal, the Persian BC asks the Exotic BC to approve the creation of the breed “Longhair Exotic,” using the Exotic breed standard as the template for the new breed, with changes to the description of coat length.

Given that the Longhair Exotics are already given their own Breed Wins, it follows they should have their own breed. There are precedents for the CFA Board of Directors creating new breeds to settle disputes, including the Malayan (dilute Burmese), the Cymric (longhair Manx), the Somali (longhair Abyssinian), and even in the original creation of the Exotic breed (a split-off group from the American Shorthair). In two of those cases, breeders of both breeds eventually worked toward a mutual acceptance, but in the case of the Abyssinian/Somali, these two breeds are still kept separate with no intention of acceptance for the shorthair mimics by the parent breed. The CFA Board of Directors has a long history of respecting the wishes of parent breeds in how to handle hybrid mimics; the Persian BC asks for that same respect. The Persian BC is not asking for the return of the Longhair Exotics to the Exotic AOV division; simply a removal of the hybrid mimics from the Persian breed classes.

The background for this proposal is as follows. In 2008, the Board required the Exotic and Persian Breed Council Secretaries to reach a compromise that would permit the showing of Longhair Exotics. The Board also informed the two BC secretaries that they did not want a solution that permitted the showing of cats in separate breeds that would look alike to spectators at CFA shows. Consequently, the compromise proposed and approved in 2009 permitted Longhair Exotics that meet Persian color descriptions to be shown for championship status in Persian color classes. A Longhair Division of Exotics was created for scoring purposes only – all national and regional points accumulated by Longhair Exotics shown in Persian color classes count towards Longhair Exotic Division wins, not towards Persian Division wins.

**The Cat Fanciers’ Association, Inc.,  
260 East Main Street ~ Alliance, OH 44601**

Phone 330-680-4236 | Fax 330-680-4633 | [www.cfa.org](http://www.cfa.org) | Follow @CFAcatlover on Twitter |  
[facebook.com/CFAinc](https://facebook.com/CFAinc) |

Permitting Longhair Exotics to be shown should have eliminated the complaint of some CFA Exotic breeders that they could not show their Longhair Exotics. It also should have enabled Persians that are not able to be registered with CFA because they are registered with another association and have Exotics within their five-generation pedigree to be registered and shown in CFA as Longhair Exotics.

In February 2013, the Board approved a compromise allowing pointed Orientals in Colorpoint and Balinese colors to be shown in Shorthair and Longhair Pointed color classes within the Oriental breed. In order to maintain its credibility with breeders, the Board should resolve similar issues among subsets of breeds in the same way. Consequently, since the Board has now approved the showing of “mimics” within their own breed instead of within their parent breed as mandated in 2008 to the Persian and Exotic BC secretaries, it seems only appropriate that Longhair Exotics should be shown in color classes within a Longhair Division of the Exotic breed, not in Persian color classes. However in 2014, the Exotic Breed Council voted that they did not want to create a Longhair Division of the Exotic breed.

The Exotic and Persian Breed Councils are at an impasse. Neither Breed Council wants to accept Longhair Exotics. Thus, it would seem that the only viable solution is to create a separate breed for Longhair Exotics.

The creation of a Longhair Exotic Breed will have no significant impact on the Exotic Breed. Longhair Exotics will still be able to be shown for championship status, they will still receive Longhair Exotic Breed wins, and they will be permitted to outcross to Exotics and Persians. Unlike the current solution to the impasse between the breeds, this solution will make Longhair Exotics eligible to receive Color wins and it will permit Longhair Exotics of any approved Exotic color to be shown for championship status, not just those conforming to an approved Persian color.

YES: 96

NO: 61

ABSTAIN: 1

**REGISTRATION ISSUE (passes)**

Votes: 157

> 50% of Voting: 79

- 3. PROPOSED:** That CFA increase the requirement for registration of a Persian cat or kitten in CFA from another registering association via certified pedigree from five (5) to eight (8) generations.

**RATIONALE:** The Persian Breed Council respectfully asks the Board to reconsider its prior actions and allow this request which has previously been granted to the Siamese, Burmese, Abyssinian, and Russian Blue breeds. Despite overwhelming approval by the Persian breed council members in prior votes (2014 ballot – 69%, 2005 ballot – 71%, 2002 ballot – 78%, 2001 ballot - 70%), the Persian has been held to a different standard and has not been given equal treatment in such an important ballot item which ultimately affects the future of the breed as a whole. In addition to Exotics, the Selkirk Rex, the Ragamuffin, and now Burmilla, are allowed to outcross to Persians which could potentially create problems for our breed in the future. As the world’s largest registry of pedigreed cats, CFA takes pride in offering the

**The Cat Fanciers’ Association, Inc.,  
260 East Main Street ~ Alliance, OH 44601**

Phone 330-680-4236 | Fax 330-680-4633 | [www.cfa.org](http://www.cfa.org) | Follow @CFAcatlover on Twitter |  
[facebook.com/CFAinc](https://facebook.com/CFAinc) |

recorded history of individual cats that a pedigree provides. We are an organization of breeders, and as such, Persian breeders should also have our voice recognized and expect to be given the same tools and level of respect as other CFA Breed Councils.

YES: 104

NO: 52

ABSTAIN: 2

**REGISTRATION ISSUE (passes)**

Votes: 156

> 50% of Voting: 79

**4. Do you support accepting the Bengal breed in CFA?**

**RATIONALE:** While the Bengal is unlikely to ever outcross to the Persian, the possible acceptance of a wild-hybrid resonates for all breeds currently accepted in CFA. This question is on the ballot because the Board of Directors have allowed for any Breed Council who wanted to be polled to include this question; the large majority of those who responded to a quick informal poll wanted to have a chance to weigh on the acceptance of the Bengals. Many feel accepting the Bengal would be beneficial in terms of entries and registrations; others feel that accepting the Bengal would be detrimental due to ethical considerations and contrary to CFA's stance to promote the welfare of all cats.

YES: 80

NO: 66

ABSTAIN: 12

**INFORMATION ONLY**

**The Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc.,  
260 East Main Street ~ Alliance, OH 44601**

Phone 330-680-4236 | Fax 330-680-4633 | [www.cfa.org](http://www.cfa.org) | Follow @CFAcatlover on Twitter |  
[facebook.com/CFAinc](https://facebook.com/CFAinc) |