

# THE CAT FANCIERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.®

## 2021 Proposed Amendments and Resolutions

Virtual Annual Meeting • June 18, 2021

### CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

Deleted text is shown with a strikethrough and new text is under-scored. Unless otherwise stated, any Constitutional Amendments are effective immediately.

**NOTE: The following resolution (formerly #21) will be the first item considered due to the high level of importance for correct and current information in this document. All other pre-noticed items have NOT been renumbered and are still identified numerically as in previously published documents.**

#### **– Certificate of Incorporation – CFA Executive Board**

**RESOLVED:** Amend the Certificate of Incorporation of The Cat Fanciers' Association, Incorporated to reflect the current CFA business information as required by New York law. The changes required and the Restatement of the Certificate of Incorporation are presented below:

#### RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION OF

#### THE CAT FANCIERS' ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED

~~We, the undersigned, all being persons of full age, and at least two-thirds of us being citizens of the United States and at least one of us a resident of the State of New York, desiring to form a corporation pursuant to section 41 of the Membership Corporations Law of the State of New York, do hereby make, sign and acknowledge this certificate as follows:~~

~~SECOND~~ FIRST: The name of the corporation is to be THE CAT FANCIERS' ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED.

~~FIRST~~ SECOND: The particular objects for which this corporation is to be formed are as follows: The purposes for which the Corporation is formed are the registration of the pedigrees of cats and kittens; the promulgation of rules for management of shows; the promotion of the interests of breeders and exhibitors; and the improvement of the breeds of cats. ~~in the United States and Canada.~~

~~THIRD:~~ The territory in which its operations are to be principally conducted is the United States and Canada. The Corporation is a corporation as defined in New York Not-for-Profit Corporation Law Section 102(a)(5) and is a non-charitable corporation.

~~FOURTH:~~ Its principal office is to be located in the Borough of Brooklyn, City and State of in New York is located in the County of Monroe, NY. The address where books and records of the Corporation are maintained is 260 East Main Street, Alliance OH 44601.

~~FIFTH:~~ The number of its directors is to be seven (7).

~~SIXTH:~~ The names and places of residence of the persons to be its directors until its first annual meeting, are as follows:

[Names and addresses of the original seven directors]

~~SEVENTH:~~ The time for holding its annual meeting is to be on the last Thursday in February in each year.

~~FIFTH:~~ Paracorp Incorporated is designated as agent of the Corporation upon whom process against the corporation may be served. The street address of the registered agent is 2804 Gateway Oaks Drive #200, Sacramento, CA 95833. The Secretary of State is designated as agent of the Corporation upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process accepted on behalf of the Corporation is 260 East Main Street, Alliance OH 44601.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have made, signed and acknowledged this

~~certificate in duplicate I have made and subscribed this certificate and hereby affirm under the penalties of perjury that its contents are true this~~  
day of 2021.

~~Dated, the 1st day of October, 1919. [Signatures of the seven original directors]~~

Name: Darrell Newkirk

Title: President

The Certificate of Incorporation of the Corporation is restated as amended herein to read in its entirety as follows:

#### CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

OF

#### THE CAT FANCIERS' ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED

FIRST: The name of the Corporation is The Cat Fanciers' Association, Incorporated.

SECOND: The purposes for which the Corporation is formed are the registration of the pedigrees of cats and kittens; the promulgation of rules for the management of shows; the promotion of the interests of breeders and exhibitors; and the improvement of the breeds of cats.

THIRD: The Corporation is a corporation as defined in New York Not-for-Profit Corporation Law Section 102(a)(5) and is a non-charitable corporation.

FOURTH: Its office in New York is located in the County of Monroe, NY. The address where books and records of the Corporation are maintained is 260 East Main Street, Alliance OH 44601.

FIFTH: The Secretary of State is designated as agent of the Corporation upon whom process against it may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process accepted on behalf of the Corporation is 260 East Main Street, Alliance OH 44601.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have made and subscribed this certificate and hereby affirm under the penalties of perjury that its contents are true this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_ 2021.

Name: Darrell Newkirk

Title: President, The Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc.

**RATIONALE:** The CFA was originally incorporated in October 1919. Over the more than 100 years since the incorporation New York Not-For-Profit Corporation Law has changed as have our business address and our sphere of operations (e.g., we no longer only operate in the USA and Canada, as currently listed). Our Certificate of Incorporation is out-of-date and must be changed to comply with current law and our current business practices. Approval requires a majority vote of the delegates. The Board requests your strong support of these required changes.

### PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

#### **Board Sponsored Amendments to the CFA Constitution**

The Board has known for some time that our constitution is out of compliance with New York Not-for-Profit Corporate law (N-PCL) and has worked with our CFA attorney and our New York attorneys and to bring our constitution in line with New York law.

Mandatory changes to comply with New York law are amendment proposals #1 and #2 (starting on page 10 of this docu-

ment). These changes are mandatory, not optional. If we do not make the changes to our constitution the changes are deemed made because New York law will supersede our constitution. By approving the mandatory amendment proposals, we maintain control of our constitution. You will note, as you review each item, that there is little change to the content of the constitution. Those sections added are required to describe practices not currently covered by the constitution, even though they may be current practices of our association. Approval of these mandatory amendments requires a 2/3 majority vote of the delegates. We request and truly require the delegates' strong support of these changes.

Amendment proposals #3 through #7 are not mandatory changes but are "housekeeping" changes to update the constitution to reflect CFA's current practices and clarify terms, renumber sections as required by changes, improve the flow of the document and change the title of our constitution to comply with New York legal terminology. Again, you will notice little change to the content of the constitution. Constitutional amendment proposals require a 2/3 approval vote of the delegates. Although these changes are not mandatory, the board requests the delegates' strong support of these amendments.

For ease of reference, a ~~strickthrough~~ and underscored color coded version of the proposed constitution, in its entirety, follows. Each proposal states the color which relates to the proposal.

The CFA Constitution with proposed changes:

**CONSTITUTION OF THE CAT FANCIERS' ASSOCIATION, INC®**

**Effective [ ] 2020 (last amended [ ] 2020)**

Incorporated under the Membership Corporation Law of the State of New York, October 6, 1919

*(A vertical | line placed to the left of a section indicates a revision. A double vertical line appears where text has been entirely deleted.)*

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

ARTICLE I .....NAME  
 ARTICLE II .....OBJECTS  
 ARTICLE III .....MEMBERSHIP  
 ARTICLE IV .....ANNUAL AND SPECIAL MEETINGS  
 ARTICLE V .....FISCAL YEAR, REPORTS AND AUDIT  
 ARTICLE VI .....OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS  
 ARTICLE VII .....EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS AND VOTING  
 ARTICLE VIII .....REGIONS  
 ARTICLE IX .....INTERNATIONAL DIVISION  
 ARTICLE X .....CENTRAL OFFICE  
 ARTICLE XI .....BREED COUNCIL  
 ARTICLE XII .....SHOW LICENSES  
 ARTICLE XIII .....RULES AND STANDARDS  
 ARTICLE XIV .....JUDGES  
 ARTICLE XV .....DISCIPLINE  
 ARTICLE XVI .....GENERAL  
 ARTICLE XVII .....AMENDMENTS  
 APPENDIX A .....BREED COUNCIL STANDING RULES

**ARTICLE I – NAME**

The organization shall be known as THE CAT FANCIERS' ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED.

**ARTICLE II – OBJECTS**

The Association shall be a not-for-profit organization. Its objects shall be as follows: the welfare of all cats; the promotion and improvement of CFA recognized breeds of cats; the registering, recording or identifying by number or by other means the names and/or pedigrees of cats and kittens; the promulgation of rules for the management of cat shows; the licensing of cat shows held under the rules of this organization; and promotion of the interests of breeders and exhibitors of pedigreed cats.

The activities and objects of the Association shall be consistent with the foregoing purposes.

**ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1 – Eligibility**

Any non-profit club of not less than ten (10) club members organized for the purpose of holding or managing cat shows and/or any other purposes consistent with those of The Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc., may apply for membership.

**Section 2 – Application**

Application for membership shall be mailed to the Central Office of the Association and shall include the following:

- a. a copy of the club's Constitution and By-laws;
- b. a list of officers with their addresses;
- c. a list of the names and addresses of all club members in good standing at the date of application;
- d. a check for the current year's dues which is refundable if applicant is not accepted;
- e. a check in the amount of \$100.00 to cover the cost of processing the application, non-refundable whether applicant is accepted or not; and
- f. such other information as the CFA Executive Board may require.

**Section 3 – Election to Membership**

When the application and accompanying papers are received in proper form in the Central Office, it shall then be submitted to the CFA Executive Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting for consideration. Prior to consideration by the Board, the applicant shall be pre-noticed to the CFA community by electronic means so that comments regarding the applicant may be submitted. If negative information is submitted in writing regarding the applicant, the information will be provided to the applicant with enough time for the applicant to prepare a written rebuttal prior to Board consideration.

The Executive Board may vote to accept to membership, vote not to accept, or delay consideration pending receipt of additional information. Any applicant not accepted by vote of the Executive Board upon first consideration may appeal the vote to the delegates at the next scheduled Annual Meeting. The acceptance to membership by the delegation must be by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote of the total number of delegates seated at the beginning of the Annual Meeting. The Board shall, from time to time, formulate guidelines for the acceptance of new clubs based upon such factors as:

- 1. number of applicant's charter members;
- 2. extent of overlapping memberships in the applicant club and other CFA clubs;
- 3. extent of breeding or exhibiting experience and participation in CFA activities among members;
- 4. proposed geographical area of operation;
- 5. the effect of formation and acceptance on existing CFA member clubs; and
- 6. adequate limitation in the applicant's constitution upon distributions from the club treasury, both during its existence and in the event it disbands, it being the policy of the Association that club funds be disbursed only in manners consistent with the objects of the Association.

If a club appeals to the delegation after not being accepted by vote of the Executive Board upon first consideration, it must be prepared to distribute material to be reviewed by the delegation which answers the above listed questions prior to any vote of the delegation.

## Section 4 – Regional Assignment

New member clubs of the Association will be assigned to the Region in which is found the mailing address of the secretary of the new member at the time of application for membership. Any club, for which the secretary(s) has resided outside of the current assigned region for a period of five (5) years, and/or the activities of the club have been conducted outside of the current assigned region for a period of five (5) years, shall be reassigned to the region of the current secretary's residence. Member clubs that have reorganized outside the current assigned region, have conducted activities outside the current assigned region, and the secretary also resides outside the current assigned region, may petition the CFA Executive Board to be assigned to the new region.

## Section 5 – Dues and List of Members

Annual dues in the amount of \$80.00 (US) are due and payable each year on the first day of January for the ensuing calendar year. Dues shall be paid either by check drawn on a US bank, electronically by approved bankcard or by other means as the Board of Directors may approve.

Each [member club](#) shall, with the payment of dues, forward to the Central Office of this Association a complete list of [club members](#) together with their addresses, and a list of the then current officers of the club, which lists shall be certified by the Secretary of the member club.

A member club that has failed to pay its dues and submit the list of [club members](#) and officers by the first day of January of any year will cease to be a member in good standing and will so continue until the delinquent dues are paid and the list of [club members](#) and officers is filed with the Central Office. However, a [member club](#) that remains delinquent in payment of dues and/or fails to file a list of its members and officers past the first day of June shall be automatically dropped from membership.

## Section 6 – Member Secretary of Record

The name of the Secretary of each member club shall be recorded by the CFA Central Office and this Secretary of Record shall be the point of all official communication between the CFA Central Office and each member club. Designation of a new Secretary of Record for any [member club](#) shall be made in writing by the existing Secretary of Record or, if the existing Secretary of Record is unavailable or otherwise unable to make such designation, by receipt of a letter signed by all other existing officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer) of the member club designating a new Secretary of Record.

## Section 7 – Group Liability Insurance Premium

The Executive Board is authorized to purchase a group liability insurance policy covering the activities of the Association, the Regions and the Association's member clubs, and to charge the member clubs the premium cost as follows: the portion of said premium determined by the Executive Board to be applicable to non-show activities shall be divided equally among all clubs and assessed annually. Payment of said assessment and the consequences of non-payment thereof, shall be the same as set forth in Section 5 above. The portion determined by the Executive Board to be applicable to show activities shall be divided by the expected number of shows to be held, and the result shall be charged as a condition to the issuance of show licenses. The show license insurance charge may be waived by the Central Office in cases, if any, where the group policy is not acceptable to the lessor of show facilities.

# ARTICLE IV – ANNUAL AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

## Section 1 – Annual Meetings

The Annual Meeting of the Association shall be held commencing on the third, fourth or fifth (if applicable) Friday in June, or the first Friday in July, of each year in each of the regions listed

below successively (excluding the Japan and Europe regions), beginning in 1982 and in the following order: Midwest, Southern, North Atlantic, Northwest, Gulf Shore, Great Lakes, Southwest.

There shall be no change in the order of rotation, and each time an Annual Meeting shall have been held in each of the seven Regions, the order of rotation shall thereafter be repeated. A city within the eligible Region shall be chosen for the Annual Meeting to be held five years hence and announced to the delegates to the Annual Meeting of the Association. Electronic or written notice of the time and place of the Annual Meeting shall be made to member clubs by the Central Office not less than forty (40) nor more than fifty (50) days prior to the opening day of the meeting.

The Executive Board shall have authority by two-thirds (2/3rds) vote of the entire Executive Board to change the Annual Meeting date, location and/or manner of meeting if circumstances outside the control of the Association arise. Notice of such change shall be provided to member clubs by the Central Office as set forth above.

## Section 2 – Special Meetings

Special Meetings may be convened by the [Executive Board](#) for a date set by the Executive Board. The [members member clubs](#) entitled to cast ten percent (10%) of the total number of votes entitled to be cast at such meetings who may, in writing, demand the call of a special meeting specifying the date and month thereof, which shall not be less than two nor more than three months from the date of such written demand. [Such written demand shall be delivered to the Secretary who shall cause the](#) Central Office of the Association upon receiving the written demand shall [to promptly give notice of such meeting.](#)

## Section 3 – Notice of Member Meetings

[a. Written notice shall be given of all member meetings. The notice shall state the place, date and time of the meeting. Notice of a Special Meeting shall also state \(i\) whether the meeting is being called by the Executive Board or upon request of member clubs; and \(ii\) the purpose or purposes for which it is being called. No business shall be conducted at a Special Meeting that is not included in such notice.](#)

[b. Unless otherwise provided in this Constitution, a copy of the notice of any meeting shall be given, personally, by first class mail, by fax or by e-mail not less than ten \(10\) nor more than fifty \(50\) days before the date of the meeting. If notice is provided by another class of mail, notice shall be given not less than thirty \(30\) nor more than sixty \(60\) days before such date, to each member club entitled to vote at such meeting. If mailed, such notice is given when deposited in the United States mail, with postage thereon prepaid, directed to the member club at the address the member club provides to the Association. If sent by fax or e-mail, such notice is given when directed to the member club's fax number or e-mail address the member club provides to the Association; provided, that notice shall not be deemed delivered if: \(a\) the Association is unable to deliver two \(2\) consecutive notices to the individual by e-mail or fax; or \(b\) the Association otherwise becomes aware that notice cannot be delivered to the individual by e-mail or fax.](#)

## Section 3 4 – Eligibility

At each Annual or Special Meeting of this Association, each member club that has been in good standing for not less than fifty (50) days immediately prior to such meeting is entitled to cast one vote. For the purpose of determining whether a member is in good standing as required herein, the date of receipt of each [member club's](#) dues and list of [club members](#) and officers by the Central Office of the Association shall govern. Further, to be in good standing, the [member club](#) must not be under disciplinary suspension. The secretary of each member club shall communicate the names of the officers and delegate of such member club to the Central Office of this Association no later than May first of each year.



Notwithstanding the provisions of the first sentence of this Section, members, [member clubs](#), the delegates from which are not so notified to the Central Office of this Association, are disqualified from voting at the meeting for which no timely notification was made. The Central Office shall establish an electronic method for the submission of the notification of the club's delegate. For the purpose of determining compliance with this provision, the date on the postmark of the letter of notification or the date marking Central Office's receipt of an electronic notification, if any such notification exists, shall govern. The Central Office shall preserve ~~the container~~ [proof](#) of such notification until after the date of the next Annual Meeting.

#### Section 4 5 – Delegates

Each member [club](#) in good standing as set forth in ~~Paragraph 4 of Section 3~~ [this Constitution](#) shall elect one delegate from the [club](#) members of ANY member club to represent such member [club](#) at each meeting of members [member clubs](#). A delegate to any meeting may appoint a proxy from the [club](#) members any member club. Delegates or proxies may not be Officers or Board Members of any association or organization organized for purposes or objects similar to those of this Association.

No person acting as a delegate and/or proxy shall cast more than two (2) votes. ~~Regardless of the number of votes carried, each delegate or proxy to~~ [Each member club represented at](#) the Annual Meeting, [whether by delegate or proxy](#), shall pay a registration fee of forty dollars (\$40.00) for each vote carried [delegate or proxy representing the member club](#) to defray the costs of the Annual Meetings.

It shall be the duty of the secretary of each member [club](#) of this Association, upon notification of the time and place of any meeting of this Association, duly to inform the delegate of such meeting.

#### Section 5 6 – Parliamentary Procedure

The meetings of the Association shall be conducted in accordance with such rules of Parliamentary Procedure as the Association shall from time to time adopt.

#### Section 6 7 – Quorum

The presence of [a delegate or proxy from](#) one-half (1/2) of the members [member clubs](#) at any Annual or Special Meeting shall constitute a quorum.

### ARTICLE V – FISCAL YEAR, REPORTS, AND AUDIT

#### Section 1 – Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Association shall commence on May 1, and terminate on April 30 of each year, beginning on May 1, 1982.

#### Section 2 – Reports

~~a. The Directors shall present at the Annual Meeting a report, verified by the President and the Treasurer, or by a majority of the members of the Executive Board, showing the whole amount of real and personal property owned by the Association, where located and where and how invested; the amount and nature of the property acquired during the year immediately preceding the date of the report and the manner of the acquisition; the amount applied, appropriated, or expended during the year immediately preceding such date and the purposes, objects, or persons to or for which such applications, appropriations, or expenditures have been made; and the names and places of residence of the member clubs that have been admitted to membership in this Association during such year. This report shall be filed with the records of the Association and an abstract thereof entered in the Minutes of the proceedings of the Annual Meeting.~~

[a. The Executive Board shall present at the Annual Meeting of member clubs a report \(a\) verified by the President and Treasurer or by a majority of the Directors; or \(b\) certified by a firm of independent accountants, showing in appropriate detail the following:](#)

- [\(i\) the assets and liabilities, including the trust funds, of the Association, including where located and how invested;](#)
- [\(ii\) the principal changes in assets and liabilities, including trust funds, and the manner of the acquisition;](#)
- [\(iii\) the revenue or receipts of the Association, both unrestricted and restricted to particular purposes;](#)
- [\(iv\) the expenses or disbursements of the Association for both general and restricted purposes including the purposes, objects or persons to or for which such expenses or disbursements were made;](#)
- [\(v\) the number of member clubs of the Association as of the date of the report, together with a statement of increase or decrease in such number and a statement of the place where the names and places of residence of the current member clubs may be found;](#)

[The Annual Report needs to provide the above information as of the end of the twelve month fiscal period terminating not more than six months prior to the meeting at which the Annual Report is presented. The Annual Report shall be filed with the records of the Association and a copy included in the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the member clubs.](#)

[b.](#) The Directors shall also present profit and loss statements for the preceding fiscal year for (i) the annual meeting and (ii) any show produced in whole or in part by CFA, identifying in detail the sources of all income and the nature of all expenditures. These profit and loss statements shall be included in the delegate's bag at the Annual Meeting and [mailed provided](#) to the member clubs no later than June 30. NOTE: If corporate sponsorship contracts require confidentiality, all such sponsorships may be reported as one line item labeled "Corporate Sponsorships."

c. The Regional Directors of Regions 8 and 9 may maintain a treasury to defray the costs of regional activities in Regions 8 and 9. Contributions to any such regional fund shall be on a voluntary basis.

d. No later than May 25 of each year each Regional Director shall submit in writing to the Central Office a complete report of all receipts and disbursements of funds, if any, maintained by the Region for regional business, identifying in detail the sources of all income and the nature of all expenditures for the fiscal year which ended on April 30 of that year. The report shall include such detail as Central Office may require to enable Central Office to prepare and file appropriate tax returns for the Association and the incorporated Regions with the Internal Revenue Service and annual reports for the incorporated Regions in their states of incorporation.

#### Section 3 – Audit

Within ninety (90) days after the close of the fiscal year of the Association, the Executive Board shall direct the audit committee to [audit the books of the Association, and](#) obtain an independent audit [or review compliant with current New York law from an independent CPA or](#) firm with no conflicting interests in the finances of the Association [and to report back to the Executive Board when such audit is complete and whether any issues or concerns were identified.](#)

### ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

#### Section 1 – Titles

The officers of this Association shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

The Directors of this Association shall consist of nine (9) Regional Directors, representing the geographical regions herein specified, provided that not more than one person resident in any one of the Regions specified shall be elected a Regional Director, and five (5) Directors at Large.

No person may hold more than one office.

## Section 2 – Elections

a. General. The President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Regional Directors shall be elected in even numbered years. The Directors-at-Large shall be elected in odd numbered years. The term of office for every position shall begin on the Sunday following the close of the Annual Meeting of the Association.

All elections shall be conducted by mail or electronic ballot, each eligible member club having one (1) vote. The candidate receiving the most votes for an office or regional directorship shall be deemed elected, regardless of the number of candidates running. Once elected, an officer or director shall serve for a term of two (2) years, or until his/her successor is elected and qualifies, except as provided for in paragraph (f) of this Article.

b. Eligibility to vote. In order to be eligible to vote, a [member club](#) must be in good standing as of February 1 of the year in which the election is held. Additionally, only clubs assigned to a particular region shall be eligible to vote for the Regional Director for that region. Although International Division members will not vote for a Regional Director, they are eligible to vote for officers and Directors-at-Large if they hold a licensed CFA show within the previous show season. As used in this paragraph the previous show season shall mean the show season ending immediately preceding the election.

c. Candidates. Except as provided in Section 3 of this Article, any [club member](#) in good standing of any member club may run for any office or for Director-at-Large, and any [club member](#) in good standing of any member club assigned to a particular region may run for Regional Director from that region. No candidate may run for more than one office at a time.

d. Candidate Declarations. Persons intending to run for any office or directorship shall declare their intention to do so by written declaration, signed by the candidate and specifying the office or directorship intended. Declarations must be received by the Central Office by the close of business on March 15 of the year in which the election is held. Declarations shall not be accepted other than as provided herein and nominations shall not be made from the floor of the Annual Meeting.

e. Election Procedure. On or before April 25 of each election year, the Central Office shall send by electronic means or mail to all member clubs in good standing and eligible to vote, ballots listing all candidates for whom timely declarations were received. Central Office shall establish procedures, subject to approval by the Board of Directors, for optional electronic voting which shall include securing, printing, and appropriately destroying electronic ballots. Returned ballots must be received by the Central Office by June 1 of such year in order to be counted. Ballots returned by mail shall remain sealed until the Annual Meeting, at which time duly appointed inspectors will supervise the opening and counting of the ballots. Electronic ballots shall be individually printed by Central Office and brought to the Annual Meeting to be tabulated by the inspectors with the mailed ballots. Ballots that are illegible, incomplete or those containing write-in candidates shall be considered void. Ballots in elections for Directors-at-Large selecting less than five (5) candidates (or less than all declared candidates if fewer than five) shall be considered incomplete. Results shall be announced at the Annual Meeting as soon as the ballots have been tabulated. Ballots shall remain under the control of the inspectors until a motion to destroy the ballots is passed at which time the ballots shall be destroyed under the supervision of the inspectors. No person other than a duly appointed inspector shall have access to the ballots until after they are destroyed.

If the duly appointed inspectors are unable to conduct in-person tabulation of ballots, the Board shall establish a procedure to assure ballots are tabulated by a neutral audit firm with results reviewed and approved by a subcommittee appointed by the chair of the Credentials Committee.

f. Tie-Vote Procedure. In the event of a tie vote in voting for

any officer or Regional Directorship, or for the fifth position in Director-at-Large elections, a special ballot will be conducted as provided herein. No new candidates shall be eligible to run in the special election. Any club in good standing at the time the original election ballots were mailed shall be eligible to vote in the special election, whether or not it voted in the regular election. The Central Office shall [send by electronic means or](#) mail special ballot forms to each eligible member club on or before July 15 of the election year and shall establish procedures for optional electronic voting as in (e) of this section. Returned ballots must be received by the Central Office by September 1 in order to be counted. The opening, inspection for regularity (legibility, completeness, write-in candidate disqualification, etc.), counting of the ballots and reporting of the election results shall be conducted under procedures specified by the Executive Board of Directors, with any seated board member who is directly involved as a candidate in the tie vote being required to remove themselves from the determination of said procedure. In the event the special election also results in a tie-vote, the office in question shall be resolved by lot by the then presiding Chairman of the Board.

If the balloting for one or more Regional Director results in a tie-vote, the then presiding Chairman of the Board shall determine by lot, from among the tied candidates, which shall represent the affected region(s) from the time the tie-vote is declared until a winner is determined by the special mail ballot described above.

## Section 3 – Conflicting Memberships

No person shall be eligible to serve as an Officer or Director of this Association who is a member of a club or association affiliated with or a member of an organization organized for purposes or objects similar to those of this Association.

## Section 4 – Duties

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer and managing head of this Association and the Chair of its Executive Board. He or she shall preside at all meetings of [Members member clubs](#) and of the Executive Board. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall preside. In the absence of both the President and the Vice President, the meeting shall elect a presiding officer. The presiding officer at any time may request a delegate or proxy to take the chair to permit the presiding officer to take part in a meeting.

The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of all meetings.

The Treasurer, who shall be bonded, shall be the Chief Financial Officer and chairperson of the audit and budget committee(s) of the Association. In this capacity, he or she shall have the responsibility to oversee all financial management activities relating to the programs and operations of the Association, and to develop and maintain an integrated accounting and financial management system. This system will include financial reporting and internal controls which comply with applicable accounting principles, standards, and requirements of the FASB (Financial Accounting Standards Board) and other internal control standards. Although not required, candidates for this office should possess demonstrated ability in general management and specific knowledge, either by education or experience, in financial management practices.

Any approval for the expenditure of an amount of money that is greater than 5% of the average prior two year's net income cannot be authorized by any individual committee of the Board, but must be authorized by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

All other duties and powers of officers shall be such as the Executive Board shall from time to time determine.

In the absence of any officer except the President, or for any other good and sufficient reason, the Executive Board may delegate the duties and powers of such Officers to any other Officer or to any Director of the Association for such a period as it may designate.

## Section 5 – Vacancies

Vacancies in any office, except that of President and/or any of the Regional Directors, may be filled by the Executive Board for the balance of the unexpired term. until the next Annual Meeting at which elections will be held. Should the office of the President become vacant for any reason, the Vice President shall automatically succeed to that office.

Should a vacancy occur for any reason in the office of any of the various Regional Directors and nine (9) months or more remain in the term of that office, the Central Office shall immediately notify member clubs in the specific region of the vacancy and call for declarations from candidates to be submitted to the office within thirty (30) days of said notice. Within ten (10) days after the closing date for the acceptance of declarations, the Central Office will mail shall send by electronic means or mail ballots to eligible clubs in the region for voting and shall establish procedures for optional electronic voting as in Section 2(e) of this Article. Eligibility for voting will be limited to those member clubs in good standing not less than fifty (50) days prior to the date of the mailing of the ballots. The closing date for the return of the special election ballots to the Central Office will be sixty (60) days after mailing distribution from the Central Office – said date to be printed on the ballot. Dated postmark stamp (provided by a postal clerk) on either the ballot or on a separate paper enclosed in the mailing envelope or the date marking Central Office's receipt of an electronic ballot will constitute PRIME FACIE evidence of the mailing date by the voting club.

When less than nine (9) months remain in the term of a Regional Director whose office is vacated, such office shall remain vacant until the next regular election of Regional Directors as provided for in Section 2, Elections, of this Article.

## Section 6 – Resignations and Removal of Executive Board

a. Any Officer, Regional Director or Director-at-Large may resign at any time by giving written notice to the President or the Secretary. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein or, if no time be specified, then on delivery. The Executive Board is not required to accept the resignation for the resignation to take effect.

b. Any Regional Director or Director-at-Large may be removed with cause by vote of the member clubs, or by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Executive Board. "Cause" shall include, but not be limited to, the following: (1) failure to attend three consecutive Board meetings; (2) failure to attend four Board meetings during the course of the year; (3) violating policies and procedures of the Association; or (4) engaging in conduct detrimental to the best interests of the Association.

c. Any Officer may only be removed by vote of the voting member clubs with cause; provided that an Officer may be suspended from performing the Officer's duties by the Executive Board. "Cause" shall be defined as set forth in Section 6(b) above.

## ARTICLE VII – EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS AND VOTING

### Section 1 – Membership

The government of the affairs of this Association shall be in the hands of the Executive Board. The President, the Vice President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the nine (9) Regional Directors, and the five (5) Directors at Large of this Association shall be members of the Executive Board.

### Section 2 – Meetings

The Board shall meet from time to time at the call of its Chairman or of any ten (10) members of the Board. The call shall be mailed or provided by electronic means to each member of the Board at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting and shall specify the approximate agenda, time and place of the meeting, which, if held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting, may be held at any place; other Board Meetings to be held within the United States or

Canada.

### Section 3 – Quorum

a. The presence of ten (10) members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A majority of the Executive Board members present, whether or not a quorum is present, may adjourn any meeting to another time and place provided that notice is provided in accordance with Section 1(b) above.

b. Any one or more members of the Board may participate in a meeting of the Board by means of a conference telephone, electronic video screen communication or similar communications equipment allowing all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other at the same time. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting provided that all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time and each individual may participate in all matters before the Executive Board or committee, including, but not limited to, proposing, objecting to and voting upon a specific action taken at the meeting.

c. Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Executive Board may be taken without a meeting if all members of the Executive Board consent to the adoption of a resolution authorizing the action. The resolution and the written consents of the Executive Board shall be filed with the minutes of the Executive Board. Consents may be provided: (i) in a writing signed by the individual either in hard copy or by affixing a signature by any reasonable means (e.g., fax signature); or (ii) by e-mail that includes information from which the recipient can reasonably determine that the transmission was authorized by the individual.

### Section 4 – Delegation of Powers

The Executive Board may delegate to the Officers of this Association such of its duties and powers as it sees fit and as permitted by statute.

### Section 5 – Voting

a. Each member of the Executive Board shall have one vote. Executive Board members shall not vote by proxy. Every Board Member has the right to abstain, i.e., not vote, on a particular issue and such abstention shall be documented in the meeting minutes. For the purpose of tabulating votes only, a Board Member not voting for any reason will be considered absent from the meeting when calculating the total affirmative votes required for passing a particular proposal.

b. The vote of a majority of the Executive Board members present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall constitute action by the Executive Board, except as set forth in this constitution and required by applicable law.

c. The following actions require approval by two-thirds vote of the entire Executive Board:

- (i) the purchase of real property that will constitute all or substantially all of the assets of the Association once purchased; and
- (ii) the sale, lease, mortgage, exchange or other disposition of real property that constitutes all or substantially all of the assets of the Association.

d. The following items must be approved first by majority vote of the Executive Board at a meeting at which a quorum is present and then submitted to the voting member clubs for approval by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the voting member clubs at a meeting at which a quorum is present; provided that the total votes cast in favor of the action must also be at least equal to a quorum of members as provided in Article IV, Section 7 of this constitution:

- (i) amendment of the Association's Certificate of Incorporation;
- (ii) approval of a merger or consolidation;
- (iii) approval of dissolution of the Association; and
- (iv) approval of the sale of all or substantially all of the



## Association's assets.

### **Section 6 – Acceptance of New Breeds for Championship Competition**

Acceptance of any new breed for championship competition shall require the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Executive Board present.

Once a breed is accepted for championship status, it cannot have its registration status rescinded, placed back in A.O.V. status or moved to provisional status without 2/3 Breed Council approval.

### **ARTICLE VIII – REGIONS**

#### **Section 1 – Geographical Boundaries**

The United States, Canada, Bermuda, Mexico, Japan and Europe are divided into nine (9) geographical regions as follows:

##### **REGION 1 – NORTH ATLANTIC**

Bermuda, Canada (East of the 77th meridian), Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York (East of the 77th meridian), Pennsylvania (East of the 77th meridian), Rhode Island, and Vermont.

##### **REGION 2 – NORTHWEST**

Alaska, California (North of the 36th parallel), Canada (West of the Western border of Manitoba), Idaho, Montana, Nevada (North of the 37th parallel), Oregon, Utah and Washington.

##### **REGION 3 – GULF SHORE**

Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas (South of the 38th parallel), Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Tennessee (West of the Tennessee River), Texas, Wyoming, and the Mexican states of Aguascalientes, Campeche, Chiapas, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Colima, Durango, Federal District, Guanajuato, Guerrero, Hidalgo, Jalisco, México, Michoacán, Morelos, Nayarit, Nuevo Leon, Oaxaca, Puebla, Querétaro, Quintana Roo, San Luis Potosí, Tabasco, Tamaulipas, Tlaxcala, Veracruz, Yucatan, and Zacatecas.

##### **REGION 4 – GREAT LAKES**

Canada (East of the 90th meridian and West of the 77th meridian), Kentucky (North of the 38th parallel), Michigan, New York (West of the 77th meridian), Ohio, Pennsylvania (West of the 77th meridian), and West Virginia.

##### **REGION 5 – SOUTHWEST**

Arizona, California (South of the 36th parallel), Hawaii, Nevada (South of the 37th parallel), and the Mexican states of Baja California Norte, Baja California Sur, Sinaloa, and Sonora.

##### **REGION 6 – MIDWEST**

Canada (East of the Western border of Manitoba and West of the 90th meridian), Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas (North of the 38th parallel), Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

##### **REGION 7 – SOUTHERN**

Alabama, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky (South of the 38th parallel), Maryland, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee (East of the Tennessee River), the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Virginia.

##### **REGION 8 – JAPAN**

Japan.

##### **REGION 9 – EUROPE**

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Macedonia, Malta, Monaco, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, San

Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Spain, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

### **Section 2 – Organization**

Regions 1 through 7 shall (i) be incorporated as non-profit corporations in the United States, (ii) adopt and maintain a fiscal year for the corporation that corresponds with the Association's fiscal year, and (iii) apply for, obtain and maintain tax exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code, as amended from time to time.

### **ARTICLE IX – INTERNATIONAL**

There shall be an International Division of CFA for clubs not located in a region described in Article VIII. Clubs may be accepted into the International Division in accordance with such requirements or conditions as the Executive Board may from time to time adopt.

A club accepted into the International Division shall be designated an 'International Member' entitled to the rights and privileges and subject to the duties and obligations of members [member clubs](#), under the provisions of this Constitution, except that:

a. The provisions of Article III, Section 4 of this Constitution shall not apply to the International Division. The Board of Directors shall designate the country(s) within which a new international [member club](#) may carry on activities and thereafter have the right, in its discretion, to limit or expand such area.

b. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article III, Section 7 of this Constitution, the Board of Directors shall have the right to require an International Member to obtain and maintain, at its own cost, liability insurance covering the Association and such International member, in such limits as the Board deems adequate, with a company(s) approved by the Board.

c. Registration rules for cats in the International Division shall be the same as those adopted for the regions described in Article VIII of this Constitution.

d. Notwithstanding any of the provisions of Article IV of this Constitution, only those 'International Members' holding a licensed CFA show within the previous show season will be entitled to be a delegate and cast a vote at any annual or special meeting of members. Only those 'International Members' qualifying for entitlement to vote will be counted in computing the number of members required or members present for quorum purposes at a meeting of members.

e. Every two years, 'International Members' shall select two (2) representatives to participate in a council of the International Division, to consider matters particularly relevant to the 'International Members.' The Board shall adopt rules of procedure for the appointment or election of representatives. The Board shall also select the times and places for the International Council to meet, which meetings shall occur not less than once each year.

The President of the Association shall appoint a committee of at least two (2) members of the Board, one of which shall be designated as Chairman, to attend and conduct such meeting.

Within thirty (30) days following conclusion of the meeting, the committee will submit a writ- ten report to the President, with a copy to Central Office, setting forth the matters discussed and questions raised, with attached copies of writings submitted in support of and/or in opposition to any matter raised before the council.

The committee may include its recommendations to the Board for action to be taken.

The cost and expense of such council meeting shall be borne proportionately by all 'International Members.'

f. The provisions of Article XV – Discipline, shall apply to the International Division and 'International Members,' with the added provision that if the Board of Directors should schedule a formal hearing on charges, the Board may appoint a committee to conduct the hearing and report to the Board as to the testimony and

evidence received with its findings and recommended disposition. The Board shall not be bound by such findings or recommendations in reaching its own determination and the discipline, if any, to be fixed.

#### ARTICLE X – CENTRAL OFFICE

The operation of the affairs of this Association shall be carried out under the general direction of the Executive Board in such manner and place as may from time to time be determined by the Executive Board. The personnel of such office and the compensation of such personnel shall be as determined by the Executive Board. Such individuals in such office who may handle the money of the Association, and who may be authorized to sign checks drawn on the bank account or accounts of the Association, shall be bonded in such amounts as may be determined by the Executive Board. A representative of the Central Office, qualified to speak on the operations of the office and to answer questions of delegates or Board Members relative to these operations, shall attend each meeting of members of the Association and each meeting of the Executive Board, the out-of-pocket expenses of such person incurred in connection with such meeting to be paid by the Association.

#### ARTICLE XI – BREED COUNCIL

Breed Councils will be formed to serve the Executive Board in an advisory capacity regarding CFA Show Standards. The rules governing the operation of the Breed Councils are contained in the Breed Council Standing Rules listed below: [attached as Appendix A to this Constitution](#).

[All sections of the Breed Council article are moved to Appendix A with no changes.]

#### ARTICLE XII – SHOW LICENSES

The Executive Board shall have power in its full discretion to grant or to withhold from each member club of the Association a license to hold a cat show. No member club shall hold, sponsor, or manage a cat show not licensed by this Association; nor shall such a club hold, sponsor, or manage a cat show licensed by any other organization. No member club shall hold, sponsor, or manage a cat show in conjunction with one licensed by any other similar organization without the prior approval of the Executive Board, which may impose such conditions as the Board may deem appropriate. At the request of any Regional Director, a show license or licenses may be issued for a show or shows to be sponsored by his Region. No club shall be denied a show license because its show does not include Household Pets as a competitive category.

#### ARTICLE XIII – RULES AND STANDARDS

The Executive Board shall from time to time establish “Show Rules” and “Show Standards” under which shows licensed by this Association are to be held and shall determine the basis on which Championships, Grand Championships, Premierships, Grand Premierships, and other awards established by it for this Association shall be made.

Delegates and proxies to the Annual Meeting of the Association may change such Show Rules of the Association as have general applicability (but not those affecting specifically any color, breed, or division) by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote, provided that any such proposed Show Rules changes are noticed by the Association’s Central Office to all member clubs in good standing at least 45 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Proposed changes not included in such notice, or included but amended prior to adoption, or adopted by a vote of less than two-thirds (2/3), shall be advisory only. Show Rule changes so adopted shall be effective on May 1 of the year following adoption, unless a different effective date is specifically stated in the adopted change.

~~Once a breed is accepted for championship status, it cannot have its registration status rescinded, placed back in A.O.V. status or moved to provisional status without 2/3 Breed Council approval.~~

A CFA-sponsored awards program which shall include scoring

procedures, policies and awards shall be listed as an official part of the CFA Show Rules. Awards will be based on points accumulated throughout the show season subject to the rules and limitations set forth in the program. No other method of determining the winning cats shall be permitted.

#### ARTICLE XIV – JUDGES

The Executive Board shall from time to time adopt standing rules to govern the operation of the Judging Program.

The Executive Board shall have the sole right to approve and authorize judges of shows held under the license of this Association. Acceptance into the Judging Program, and advancement within it, shall require the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Executive Board present. Members of the Executive Board shall comply with all standing rules governing the operation of the Judging Program when they have personal knowledge concerning an individual presented before them for advancement or acceptance in the Judging Program. When voting on the acceptance or advancement of individuals in the Judging Program, the vote of the individual Board Members shall be reported in the public minutes of the meeting. Any individual not advanced as a result of a vote by the Board shall be informed of the basis of the Board’s action and, shall have the right to file a written “Request for Reconsideration”. A “Request for Reconsideration” filed with the Chairman of the Judging Committee within 30 days of receipt of written notice of the Board’s decision will maintain the judging status of the individual until final action by the Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

The Executive Board may indicate its approval of such individuals as an “Approved Judge” an “Approval Pending Judge,” or an “Apprentice Judge” and such approval may be for a specified period of time. In the case of “Apprentice Judges,” Apprentice Judges being on a probational status, such period of time need not be specified and the approval is terminable at the will of the Executive Board. In the case of an Approved Judge or an Approval Pending Judge, the Board shall vote to recertify on an annual basis. Recertification shall require the affirmative vote of a majority vote of the Executive Board present. Any judge failing to be recertified shall be informed of the basis of the Executive Board’s action and be cited to appear by the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting for hearing on the issue of recertification. The vote of the individual Board members resulting in the failure of a judge to be recertified shall be reported in the public minutes of the meeting. Any such judge not able to appear in person may present evidence by affidavit. The status of the judge shall remain unchanged until such hearing. After consideration of all evidence, the Executive Board may vote to recertify, to suspend temporarily or for such period of time as the Executive Board deems proper in its discretion, or to place such requirements or restrictions on the judge’s future participation in the judging program as the Board considers necessary and proper.

Until an individual reaches the status of “Approval Pending Judge,” each person going through the CFA Judging Program is in a probationary status. The Executive Board may suspend from the Judging Program any person in a probational status without notice or hearing.

With the exception of disciplinary action as defined in Article XV, any action to drop, permanently suspend, or reduce in status any individual in the Judging Program shall require the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Executive Board present. The vote of the individual Board members shall be reported in the public minutes of the meeting.

No judge may be an officer, director or judge of any other organization having objects similar to those of this Association.

Regardless of the status of any individual approved to judge shows held under the license of this Association, no person shall be authorized to judge any show held under the license of this Association until he has been specifically authorized to so act by the Executive Board or by the Central Office of the Association



under powers delegated by the Executive Board.

## ARTICLE XV – DISCIPLINE

### Section 1 – Powers of Board Members

The Executive Board shall have exclusive jurisdiction to discipline members [member clubs](#), judges, clerks, breeders, show officials, exhibitors, and all other parties who, by their voluntary participation in CFA activities subject themselves to its various rules, including those enumerated in this Article, in order to preserve the integrity of this organization in the accomplishment of its objectives.

Disciplinary power may be exercised only after due notice and opportunity to be heard is first given the party charged.

Disciplinary action shall require an affirmative vote of two thirds (2/3) of the Board Members present.

### Section 2 – Conduct of Members Subject to Board Discipline

The Board may reprimand, suspend, expel and/or fine any member club upon a finding of guilty for:

a. the enactment of any amendment to the Constitution or By-Laws of a member club in conflict with the Charter or Constitution of the Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc.

b. The holding of a cat show not licensed by the Association or the holding of a cat show in conjunction with one licensed by any other similar organization without the prior approval of the Executive Board, or in violation of any conditions placed on such prior approval.

c. The violation of any Show Rule.

d. Distribution of club funds in a manner inconsistent with the objects of the Association.

e. Any act or conduct seriously and patently detrimental to the best interest and welfare of the cat or The Cat Fanciers' Association.

### Section 3 – Conduct of Judges and Clerks Subject to Board Disciplinary Powers

The Board may reprimand, suspend, terminate and/or fine any judge or clerk found guilty of:

a. Violations of any standing rules governing the responsibilities and duties of judges or clerks as may be enacted from time to time.

b. The violation of any Show Rule.

c. Any willful conduct involving CFA or CFA activities which is seriously detrimental to the best interest of CFA or the welfare of the cats.

### Section 4 – Conduct of Club Officers, Breeders, Exhibitors, Show Officials and Other Participants Subject to Board Discipline

Any breeder, exhibitor, show official, or other participant in CFA activities may be reprimanded, prohibited from exhibiting, denied access to CFA services and facilities, including the registration of cats, transfer of ownership, placement of advertising in CFA publications, and/or fined upon a finding of guilty for:

a. Cruel or inhumane treatment in the breeding, keeping, showing, or otherwise dealing with felines.

b. Willful misrepresentation in connection with registration of a litter or cat.

c. Abuse of the services of CFA in connection with the advertising, sale, lease, or transfer of a feline.

d. Authorizing or participating in the distribution of club funds in a manner inconsistent with the objects of the Association.

e. Violations of CFA registration rules as promulgated by the Board from time to time.

f. The violation of any Show Rule.

g. Any act or conduct seriously and patently detrimental to the best interest and welfare of the cat or the Association.

### Section 5 – Procedure

The Board may consider any protest filed hereunder by any member of a member club or in any other manner brought to the attention of the Executive Board. The Board may delegate authority to one or more persons to review, investigate, and determine if probable cause exists for the filing of a formal protest.

Such determination as to probable cause shall be advisory only and not binding on the Board. Should the Board elect to proceed with a formal hearing, the party charged will be entitled to receive written notice of the particulars of the charges no less than thirty (30) days before the scheduled hearing date.

Any Board member who is the subject of a complaint, or who is a member of a club that is the subject of a complaint, or who by some other close association has an interest in the outcome of a protest, shall be duty-bound to disqualify himself from participation in consideration of the protest.

## ARTICLE XVI – GENERAL

### Section 1 – Adoption of Policies and Procedures

The Executive Board or designated committee of the Board, by resolution, shall adopt such rules, regulations, policies and procedures as it may deem necessary and appropriate to the operation of the Association, including, but not limited to, a Conflicts of Interest Policy and Whistleblower Policy; provided, however, that no rule, regulations, policy or procedure may be adopted by the Association that is contrary to this constitution and applicable law as may be amended from time to time.

### Section 2 – Books and Records

There shall be kept at the office of the Association: (1) correct and complete books and records of account; (2) minutes of the proceedings of the member clubs, the Executive Board and any committee of the Executive Board; (3) a current list of the members of the Executive Board of the Association; (4) a list of all member clubs including name and address; (5) a copy of this constitution; (6) a copy of the Association's application for recognition of exemption with the Internal Revenue Service; and (7) copies of the past three (3) years' information returns and Form 990-T's (if any) filed with the Internal Revenue Service.

### Section 3 – Loans to Directors and Officers

No loans shall be made by the Association to the members of its Executive Board, or to any other corporation, firm, association or other entity in which one or more of its Executive Board members are directors or officers or hold a substantial financial interest except as allowed by law.

### Section 4 – Certificate of Incorporation

The Executive Board may change the Certificate of Incorporation as needed to comply with law.

## ARTICLE XVI ARTICLE XVII – AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by an Annual or Special Meeting of members [member clubs](#) by two-thirds (2/3) of the votes entitled to be cast by the delegates present at the meeting in person or by proxy, provided that the proposed amendment, together with notice of time and place of the meeting, has been provided by the Central Office of this Association, or by a member club proposing the amendment, to each member club at least forty-five (45) days prior to the meeting.

## APPENDIX A BREED COUNCIL STANDING RULES

### PURPOSE

The CFA Breed Councils were established in 1970 to serve as advisory bodies on breed standards to the CFA Executive Board. The Breed Councils channel opinions and suggestions from the

individual breeder to the Board through the Breed Council Secretary elected by each specific breed.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUAL BREED COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

1. Have a CFA registered cattery name.
2. Are at least 18 years of age or older.
3. Have bred and registered with CFA at least three litters of the appropriate breed/division.
4. A judge or an officer of another cat registering association is not eligible.

In addition to the above requirements, membership is limited to individuals who have met either of the following qualifications:

Bred at least one CFA Grand Champion or Grand Premier of the appropriate breed/division, OR

Registered one litter of the appropriate breed/division within the previous two calendar years and, have exhibited a cat/kitten owned or leased by the applicant of the appropriate breed/division at a CFA show within the previous two calendar years.

A litter which has been reregistered to add an individual or individuals as additional breeders of the litter may not be used to qualify the additional breeder or breeders for Breed Council membership.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership by eligible individuals in any breed/division section may be obtained by submitting to the Central Office a completed membership application form together with the appropriate fee(s). A membership runs from May 1 to April 30. An optional two-year membership will be available in even numbered years for those members who have bred a CFA Grand Champion or Grand Premier of the appropriate breed/division. A two-year membership will begin May 1 of even numbered years and end on April 30 of the next even numbered year. When available for distribution, the Show Rules and Show Standards will be sent to each member. Membership applications for any given year will not be accepted after August 1 of that year.

## FEES

The annual registration fee shall be set by the Executive Board to help defray expenses for the operation of the Breed Councils.

### PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Members forward suggestions and opinions to the elected secretary of the specific breed council. The breed council secretary will evaluate these proposals and obtain the opinions of other members of the particular breed/division section. The weight of these opinions will form the basis for an annual poll taken prior to the Executive Board meeting in February when breed standard revisions are considered.

## BREED COUNCIL SECRETARY

1. Requirements for Eligibility –
  1. Current CFA membership in the specific breed council.
  2. Current CFA club membership.
  3. A secretary may not hold his/her position in more than one council at a time.

Election –

1. A secretary for each breed council will be elected FROM the membership and BY the membership of that breed council.
2. Elections will be held every two years in even numbered years during the month of December. Secretaries shall begin their two-year terms on May 1 of the following year, except that secretaries elected in December 2014 shall serve from January 1, 2015 – April 30, 2017.
3. A candidate must declare his/her intention to run for secretary

of a breed council by submitting his/her declaration in writing, signed by the candidate, to the Central Office by August 1 next prior to the December in which the election is held. Signed declarations may be submitted by mail, fax or electronic scanned file.

4. Ballots for the election of breed council secretaries must be mailed submitted to the Central Office in accordance with voting instructions printed on the ballot. ~~and must be returned in the official ballot envelope.~~

5. Only those breed council members who have paid their dues by August 1 next preceding the December in which the election is held shall be eligible to vote in the election.

6. In the event of a tie vote between/among the candidates for breed council secretary, the membership that was eligible to vote in the election that resulted in a tie shall be balloted again. The reballoting will be done within 2 weeks of the close of the prior election, allowing the voters 14 days to ~~return~~ submit the ballots to Central Office. If the vote is again a tie, the winner shall be determined by lot.

## Vacancies –

1. Any vacancy occurring in the office of a breed council secretary shall be filled by appointment by the President of CFA.

Notwithstanding the fact that the Councils shall serve the Executive Board in an advisory capacity, the Executive Board shall not alter or amend any part of the standards for any breed, or add thereto, without first obtaining (within the prior 12 months) the approval of 60% of the members voting of the specific Breed Council(s) affected. An unmarked item on an otherwise valid breed council ballot is an abstention, and an abstention does not count as a member voting for purposes of calculating 60%.

In no case will the Executive Board accept a new breed without providing the Breed Council Secretaries of any breed which has been used to establish a proposed new breed an opportunity to comment.

(End of CFA Constitution with proposed changes)

---

## – 1 – CFA Executive Board

**RESOLVED:** Amend the CFA Constitution, by adding to or adjusting current language, to comply with New York Not-for-Profit Corporation Law. *These are mandatory changes that must be made to comply with New York law.*

Changes to be made: **Pink Text**

Article IV Section 2 – clarifies that demand for a special meeting is to be delivered to the CFA Secretary. This clarification of process is required to comply with N-PCL Section 603(c).

Article IV Section 5 – clarifies that the delegate fee is for each delegate or proxy, not the vote. Paying for votes is illegal. This clarification is required to comply with N-PCL Section 609(a)(5) which prohibits the sale of proxies or votes.

Article IV Section 7 – clarifies what is required for a quorum. This clarification is required to comply with N-PCL Section 608.

Article VI Section 5 – describes that vacancies are to be filled by the Executive Board until the next Annual Meeting, rather than for the balance of the unexpired term. This clarification is required to comply with N-PCL Section 705(c).

Article V Section 3 – added language to comply with NY Executive Law Article Section 172-b

Article VII Section 3(a) – added language states how a meeting may be adjourned. This language is required to comply with N-PCL Section 711(d).

Article VII Section 3(b) – clarifies how meetings can be held

electronically (e.g., Zoom or telephonic conference calls). This language is required to comply with N-PCL Section 708(c).

**RATIONALE:** The above changes are required to bring CFA into compliance with New York law. We must pass these amendments by a 2/3 majority of the delegates.

#### – 2 – CFA Executive Board

**RESOLVED:** Amend the CFA Constitution by adding new sections in order to become compliant with New York Not-for-Profit Corporation Law. *These are mandatory changes that must be made to comply with New York law.*

Changes to be made: [Orange Text](#)

Article IV Section 3 – describes how and when members are to receive notice of meetings. This section is required to comply with N-PCL Section 605.

Article V Section 2(a) – the current language is replaced by new language describing the reports required to be presented at the Annual Meeting. The reports required are very similar to those currently listed, but more detailed. This section is required to comply with N-PCL Section 519.

Article VI Section 6 – this section is added to state the process at the resignation or removal of a board member. This section is required to comply with N-PCL Sections 706 and 714.

Article VII Section 3(c) – this section describes how the board can take action through fax or email voting if all members consent to the action. This section is required to comply with N-PCL Section 708(d).

Article VII Section 5(a-d) – the new language describes the voting rules for actions that can be taken by the board and those that require a vote of the delegates. This section is required to comply with N-PCL Sections 509, 510, 802, 903 and 1002.

Article XVI Sections 1-4 – the new sections describe how policies and procedures are to be adopted, books and records are to be kept and forbids loans to directors and officers. These sections are required to comply with N-PCL Sections 201, 715-A, 715-B, 716, 805 and IRS codes.

**RATIONALE:** The above changes are required to bring CFA into compliance with New York law. We must pass these amendments by a 2/3 majority of the delegates.

#### – 3 – CFA Executive Board

**RESOLVED:** Amend the CFA Constitution, by adding to or changing current language to clarify and/or update the constitution to reflect current CFA practices. *These are non-mandatory changes according to NY Law, however the changes must be made to continue to allow the CFA to remain in and execute business in this modern electronic era.*

Changes to be made: [Green Text](#)

Article III Section 3 – allows electronic communication and clarifies negative information about applicants is to be submitted in writing.

Article IV Section 1 – allows a process for changing the Annual Meeting date/location/manner or meeting, such as was necessary in COVID times.

Article IV Section 2 – clarifies that the board may call a special meeting of the board.

Article IV Section 4 – clarifies that the “proof” of notification is to be preserved, rather than the “container.”

Article IV Section 5 – removes the reference to “Paragraph 1 of Section 3” to simplify and clarifies clubs are represented by the delegate or proxy.

Article V Section 2(b) – replaces “mailed” with “provided” to allow for electronic communication.

Article V Section 3 – clarifies that the audit committee obtains, rather than completes the audit, and reports the audit information to the board.

Article VI Section 1 – adds (5) following the word “five” for consistency.

Article VI Section 2(f) – allows for electronic communication and tabulation of ballots when in-person tabulation by inspectors is not possible.

Article VI Section 5 – allows for electronic communication.

Article VII Title – adding “Meeting and Voting” to the title better describes the topics of the article.

Article VII Section 2 – allows for electronic notice.

Article XIII Paragraph 2 – clarifies delegates and proxies may vote to change show rules.

Article XIII – Paragraph 3 is deleted because it repeats the wording found in Article VII Section 6.

Article XV Section 1 Title – corrects a previous typographical error.

Appendix A Sections 4 and 6 – allows electronic submission of ballots.

**RATIONALE:** In the recent past, some language in the constitution has been changed to describe our more modern ways (e.g., including email as a means of communication) but there are still a number of areas where updating the language to describe current procedures is needed. This amendment proposes changes that will update the language of the constitution to describe our current procedures.

#### – 4 – CFA Executive Board

**RESOLVED:** Amend the CFA Constitution to change all notations regarding the word “member” to either “member club” or “club member.” *These are non-mandatory changes according to NY Law, however the changes should be made to make the constitution read more clearly.*

Changes to be made: [Blue Text](#)

Each occurrence throughout the Constitution.

**RATIONALE:** CFA members are the clubs. However, throughout the CFA Constitution, the word “member” is used to describe both clubs and members of the clubs. This amendment proposes using the terms “member club” or “club member” to clarify each reference and avoid possible confusion. This change makes no core change to the provisions of the Constitution.

#### – 5 – CFA Executive Board

**RESOLVED:** Amend the CFA Constitution by moving the Breed Council Standing Rules from Article XI to Appendix A of the CFA Constitution. *These are non-mandatory changes according to NY Law, however the changes should be made to make the constitution read more clearly.*

Changes to be made: [Purple Text](#)

Breed Council Standing Rules from Article XI are moved to Appendix A.

**RATIONALE:** Each article of the Constitution describes an aspect of the CFA organization and its procedures. The Breed Council Standing Rules apply only to the functioning of Breed Councils. Moving the Breed Council Standing Rules to Appendix A of the Constitution preserves the entire section while maintaining the flow of the articles as pertaining to the overall function of CFA as an organization. Moving Breed Council Standing Rules to the Appendix makes no core change to the provisions of the Constitution; it only changes the location of this section in the Constitution.



**– 6 – CFA Executive Board**

**RESOLVED:** Amend the CFA Constitution by renumbering articles and sections of the constitution as needed after amendments are passed. *These are non-mandatory changes according to NY Law, however the changes should be made to make the constitution read more clearly.*

Changes to be made: **Yellow Highlight**

Each occurrence where required.

**RATIONALE:** Once changes are passed, the articles and sections will require renumbering. Renumbering makes no core change to the provisions of the Constitution.

**– 7 – CFA Executive Board**

**RESOLVED:** Amend the CFA Constitution by changing all notations in the constitution of the word “Constitution” to the word “Bylaws.” These are non-mandatory changes according to NY Law, however the change brings us in line with NY Law.

Changes to be made:

Each occurrence throughout the constitution.

**RATIONALE:** To conform to New York law, this change results in a terminology change only. New York law uses the word “Bylaws” when referring to foundational documents rather than the word “Constitution.” Because we are subject to New York law, it is confusing to use the word “Constitution” when complying with New York law. In order to streamline research and match the laws of our registered state, we are proposing changing all references to the word “Constitution” in our constitution to “Bylaws” so that our terminology matches New York law. This change makes no core change to any of the obligations in our constitution, but just conforms the language to the language used in New York law. All the rights and rules in the constitution remain fully in effect with this change.

\*\*\*\*\*

**– 8 – Sophisto Cat Club**

To be considered only if the new constitution proposal does not pass.

**RESOLVED:** Amend the CFA Constitution, ARTICLE IV – ANNUAL AND SPECIAL MEETINGS, by adding Section 7 – Force Majeure, to grant the CFA Board of Directors the ability to implement emergency procedures in order to conduct the annual business meeting, as follows:

**Section 7 – Force Majeure**

If the provisions of the CFA Constitution and the CFA Articles of Incorporation, in accordance with the laws of the State of New York, cannot be met through due diligence, e.g. force majeure, the CFA Executive Board may adopt emergency measures to ensure the conduct of the Annual Meeting of the Association per Article IV and Article VI, Section 2e, Election of Officers, is accomplished. These emergency measures may include, but are not limited to, date and location of the annual meeting, the use of teleconferencing and live streaming, and the number of the proxy votes allowed per delegate to ensure a quorum to conduct the business of this Association.

**RATIONALE:** This amendment allows the organizational functions of CFA to continue in the face of disaster or other occurrences, which would preclude holding the annual business meeting (Annual Meeting).

**– 9 – Sophisto Cat Club**

To be considered only if the new constitution is accepted.

**RESOLVED:** Amend ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS, Section 2 – Elections, paragraph b., and ARTICLE IX – INTERNATIONAL, paragraph d. to read as follows:

**ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

**Section 2 – Elections**

~~b. Eligibility to Vote. In order to be eligible to vote, a club must be in good standing as of February 1 of the year in which the election is held. Additionally, only clubs assigned to a particular region shall be eligible to vote for the Regional Director for that region. Although International Division members will not vote for a Regional Director, they are eligible to vote for officers and Directors-at-Large if they hold a licensed CFA show within the previous show season. As used in the paragraph the previous show season shall mean the show season ending immediately preceding the election.~~

**ARTICLE IX – INTERNATIONAL**

~~d. Provisions of Article IV, Section 4 and Section 5 apply to member clubs in the International Division. Notwithstanding any of the provisions of Article IV of this Constitution, only those ‘International Members’ holding a licensed CFA show within the previous show season will be entitled to be a delegate and cast a vote at any annual or special meeting of members. Only those ‘International Members’ qualifying for entitlement to vote will be counted in computing the number of members required or members present for quorum purposes at a meeting of members.~~

**RATIONALE:** The original provisions were written and accepted at the 1998 Annual Meeting, twenty-three (23) years ago. Our member clubs in the International Division are full partners in CFA and deserve to be recognized as such. Many clubs in the International Division have been disenfranchised by national COVID-19 restrictions and by the restrictions on show production placed on all member clubs by the CFA Board of Directors in order to try to protect our cat fancy during this pandemic.

**– 10 – Sophisto Cat Club**

To be considered only if the new constitution proposal does not pass.

**RESOLVED:** Amend ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS, Section 2 – Elections, paragraph b., and ARTICLE IX – INTERNATIONAL, paragraph d. to read as follows:

**ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

**Section 2 – Elections**

b. Eligibility to Vote. In order to be eligible to vote, a club must be in good standing as of February 1 of the year in which the election is held. Additionally, only clubs assigned to a particular region shall be eligible to vote for the Regional Director for that region. Although International Division members member clubs will not vote for a Regional Director, they are eligible to vote for officers and Directors-at-Large if they hold a licensed CFA show within the previous show season. As used in the paragraph the previous show season shall mean the show season ending immediately preceding the election.

**ARTICLE IX – INTERNATIONAL**

d. Provisions of Article IV, Section 3 and Section 4 apply to member clubs in the International Division. Notwithstanding any of the provisions of Article IV of this Constitution, only those ‘International Members’ holding a licensed CFA show within the previous show season will be entitled to be a delegate and cast a vote at any annual or special meeting of members. Only those ‘International Members’ qualifying for entitlement to vote will be counted in computing the number of members required or members present for quorum purposes at a meeting of members.

**RATIONALE:** The original provisions were written and accepted at the 1998 Annual Meeting, twenty-three (23) years ago. Our member clubs in the International Division are full partners in CFA and deserve to be recognized as such. Many clubs in the International Division have been disenfranchised by national COVID-19 restrictions and by the restrictions on show production placed on all member clubs by the CFA Board of Directors in order to try to protect our cat fancy during this pandemic.

– 11 – *Ocicats International, New England Meow Outfit, The Crafty Cat, Maine Street Cat Club, Central Carolina Cat Fanciers, Texoma Cat Fanciers, New Vision Cat Club, Emerald Coast Cat Fanciers, Inc., Siouland Cat Fanciers, Show and Tell Cat Club, Rebel Rousers Cat Club, Keystone Cat Fanciers.*

**RESOLVED:** In order to allow the Breeds and Standards Chairs to correct grammatical, spelling and typographical errors within breed standards, amend the CFA Constitution, ARTICLE XI – BREED COUNCIL STANDING RULES, Section BREED COUNCIL SECRETARY, Vacancies, section 1, paragraph 2, as follows:

Notwithstanding the fact that the Councils shall serve the Executive Board in an advisory capacity, the Executive Board shall not alter or amend any part of the standards for any breed, or add thereto, without first obtaining (within the prior 12 months) the approval of 60% of the members voting of the specific Breed Council(s) affected, with the following exceptions: The Breeds and Standards committee as appointed by the president may make changes which do NOT affect a breed standard, without having it voted on as a ballot item. These changes are limited to grammatical, capitalization, tense, typographical mistakes and misspellings. The committee may not change existing terminology or descriptions of any breed. Any changes will be presented to the Breed Council Secretary for approval and then ratified by the board. In the event of disapproval of either Breed Council Secretary or board, the issue may be sent as a ballot item to the breed council at the next regular balloting period. An unmarked item on an otherwise valid breed council ballot is an abstention, and an abstention does not count as a member voting for purposes of calculating 60%.

**RATIONALE:** Our breed standards have evolved over several decades and many have significant grammatical, capitalization, tense, typographical mistakes, and misspellings, making them appear extremely unprofessional. These documents are official publications, represent the face of CFA and are referenced by the general public as well as the media. By allowing the Breeds and Standards Committee to correct the above-listed types of errors in a systematic way, we will improve our overall image without inundating the breed council with ballot items and overwhelming the system. We also create a process to maintain the quality of documentation over time for future committees, while guaranteeing the integrity and content of the standards remain unchanged by requiring a two-step review and approval of both the elected breed council secretary and the elected Board of Directors.

## PROPOSED SHOW RULE RESOLUTIONS

Deleted text is shown with a ~~strikethrough~~ and new text is under-scored. Unless otherwise stated any Show Rule changes are effective at the beginning of the next show season.

*NOTE: at the Board's request, information pertaining to the cost to implement resolutions have been provided by the Central Office after the rationale, if applicable.*

– 12 – 44 *Gatti, Felinus International, Feline Fanciers of Benelux, Universal Cats Club*

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rules 2.20.a., 6.16, 7.07, 27.01 to add a new title of "Kitten Winner (KW)" for the Kitten Class, as follows:

### 2.20 NON-CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES

a. The KITTEN CLASS is for any kitten, male or female, altered or unaltered, not less than 4 months but under 8 calendar months old on the opening day of the show, which, if an adult, would be eligible to compete in a Championship/Premiership Class. Any kitten that achieves 10 or more top 10/top 15 finals allbreed/specialty is eligible for the title of Kitten Winner (KW). At least 8 of these finals must be in Allbreed rings. There is no limit to the number of shows where the kitten can earn the 10 or more finals. Only shows with at least 20 kittens allbreed present (or 20

kittens longhair/shorthair present for specialty ring) will be considered for a final to count towards this award. This title will not appear in the show catalog and in the judge's book. Kitten Winner is listed in show catalog and in the judge's book as kitten. Kitten Winner competes in kitten class and counts as a kitten.

**6.16** The temporary registration number (TRN) is obtained for the exhibitor from the CFA Central Office via the Entry Clerk. Temporary Registration numbers will be issued by the entry clerk upon receipt of the appropriate TRN fee (which is in addition to the club's entry fee), application form, and a four generation pedigree (or whatever is required for registration of that breed if fewer than four generations are required, or a five generation pedigree if the cat/kitten is a Bengal) issued either by CFA or a cat registering body recognized by CFA, with all cats on the pedigree being acceptable for that breed per current registration requirements. This would include longhair Exotics shown as Persians (see rule 6.08). If both parents of the entry are registered with CFA, the CFA registration numbers of the parents are acceptable in place of a pedigree. The fee, application form, and pedigree (or CFA registration numbers, if applicable) must be provided to the entry clerk no later than the close of check-in for the show and these will be provided to Central Office in the show package. The Entry Clerk will not issue a TRN until they are in receipt of the application, fee, AND pedigree (or CFA registration numbers, if applicable). Upon review, which is done prior to the show being scored, the registration number will either remain valid for 60 days from the first day of the show, or be voided if CFA registration requirements are not met for the breed being registered. In cases where the TRN is voided, those cats will not be included in the Official Count for the associated category (C/P). Central Office will notify any exhibitor whose temporary registration number is voided with the basis for such decision. In the case of a Bengal pedigree deemed invalid because it contains an Asian Leopard Cat, the application will be forwarded to the Board for disciplinary action against the exhibitor for violating show rule 10.10 by bringing a non-domestic feline into the show hall. Note: wins will also be voided if a cat/kitten competes in a competitive category not otherwise eligible based on its permanent registration, e.g., offspring of a "not for-breeding" cat competing in Championship. Temporary registration numbers will be printed in the catalog as if they were permanent. Cats/kittens may compete and continue to earn points for 60 days from the first day of the first show where they have obtained a TRN. That number should be used on all subsequent entries after the first show for the 60-day period or until the cat obtains a permanent registration number within that 60-day period. At the end of this 60-day period, the cat/kitten may not be shown without a permanent registration number. For cats/kittens to receive credit for Kitten Winner, Regional, Divisional or National points earned during a specific show season with a TRN, the exhibitor must supply the associated permanent registration number to Central Office by the Monday following the completion of that show season.

**7.07** An official CFA championship claim form/kitten winner claim form and application to obtain a Household Pet Recording Number, or facsimiles thereof must be printed or inserted in the show catalog.

[Insert New Article XXVII and renumber subsequent articles and sections]

### Article XXVII

#### OBTAINING TITLES – KITTEN WINNER

**27.01** Any kitten that achieves 10 or more top 10/top 15 finals allbreed/specialty is eligible for the "Kitten Winner" title (abbreviated KW). All these finals must be in Kitten class.

At least 8 of these finals must be in Allbreed rings. Only shows with at least 20 kittens allbreed present (or 20 kittens longhair/shorthair present for specialty ring) will be considered for a final to count towards this award. The title of Kitten Winner will not appear in the show catalog and in the judge's book. Kitten Winner is listed in show catalog and in the judge's book as kitten. This award may be claimed by filing the appropriate form with the Central Office, and paying a fee. There is no time limit to claim the Kitten Winner title. This title will be automatically added to a cat's record once the requirements have been met, and is placed after the cat's name.

**RATIONALE:** The title of Kitten Winner (KW) is awarded to any kitten that achieves 10 or more top 10/top 15 finals allbreed/specialty. At least 8 of these finals must be in Allbreed rings. There is no limit to the number of shows where the kitten can earn the 10 or more finals. Only shows with at least 20 kittens allbreed present (or 20 kittens longhair/shorthair present for specialty ring) will be considered for a final to count towards this award. This title will not appear in the show catalog and in the judge's book, and only one competitive class for kittens will remain (kitten class, divided between Longhair and Shorthair). The title of Kitten Winner is placed *after* the cat's name and will not be confirmed to the cat's record (pedigree, Herman online, ...) until the Central Office has received a Kitten Winner claim form and appropriate fees. Kittens shown with a temporary registration number will have the title confirmed subject to a permanent registration number (they could either obtain KW title in one weekend with two one day 6 rings shows, as well as throughout the whole TNR timeframe).

To achieve the title of Regional Winner in kitten class is needed to join 6/7 shows on average. In some Regions, this can mean an economic burden that not all exhibitors are willing to undergo. Showing a kitten with the awareness of not achieving any title could give small scope for exhibitors only joining local shows. Actually there are many high quality cats only shown once or twice as kittens: although joining all or almost all finals in a small number of shows, they achieve no title for these results. The prospect of achieving a title for high quality kittens could lure in more local exhibitors at CFA shows, widening the potential number of exhibitors. Kitten Winner title proposed here sets a new reachable goal, which records the kittens' value and encourages exhibitors who only join local shows, and are not campaigning throughout the show season in their Region, to show their kittens, too, and only cats in championship/premiership class, where they are being rewarded with at least a title. The solution proposed here is the introduction of the Kitten Winner title (KW). The Kitten Winner title aims at certifying a kitten merit, an award to assign to all kittens that achieve at least 10 or more top 10/top 15 finals allbreed/specialty. At least 8 of these finals must be in Allbreed rings. The title of Kitten Winner doesn't appear in the catalog. In the catalog, kittens will always be in one competition class, the KITTEN class, with no one distinction. With the introduction of this title also exhibitors who are not planning to run for a regional/national title can however show their kittens with the aim of obtaining a title. Obtaining the title of Kitten Winner requires at least 10 finals. Generally, this target could be met in 2 or 3 shows (of course during the 4 month of a kitten age as set by show rules). This achievement is affordable also for occasional exhibitors who usually show in other associations. The introduction of this title could bring new exhibitors at CFA shows all around the world, especially in areas where other associations are widespread and already offer titles for kittens.

**CENTRAL OFFICE NOTE:** *the minimum estimated cost to implement the KW title is \$10,000-\$13,000 U.S. Although there is no significant programming to the scoring software needed since a claim form must be filed, all other programs will need to be modified to add the title to registrations, pedigrees, reports, etc. since there are no provisions to handle multiple titles @ the end of a cat's name.*

– 13 – **The Bengal Alliance, Almost Heaven Cat Club**

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rules 7.02, 8.03, and 28.03 to award additional Best Champion placements in class judging, as follows:

**7.02** The entry clerk or a designated representative is responsible for preparing the judges' books, including those for judging Best of the Bests competitions, which shall be in numerical, but not necessarily consecutive catalog order. A minimum of two (2) lines must be left between color classes. The color class number, age (indicated in years and months) and the class for each entry must appear in the judges' books. At least two (2) spaces should be left between each class (Champion and Grand Champion) to allow for transfers. Opens and Bronze/Silver/Gold level Champions and Premiers shall be listed as champions or premiers in the judge's book, as applicable. Champions (including Bronze/Silver/Gold Champions) and opens competing as champions shall be listed within each color class in sequence by age, youngest to oldest. Premiers (including Bronze/Silver/Gold Premiers) and opens competing as premiers shall be listed within each color class in sequence by age, youngest to oldest. When a color class includes entries of more than one color/tabby pattern, the exact color/tabby pattern indicated on the entry form must be entered in the judges' books unless the breed is Sphynx, in which case no color or tabby pattern will be listed in the judges' books. At the end of each breed, the show entry clerk shall type a form for the following awards: Best of Breed/Division, Second Best of Breed/Division for Kittens, Championship and Premiership, and where necessary, Best and when applicable, additional awarded Champion/Premier of Breed/Division.

**8.03** Permanent ribbon designations, ribbons, or rosettes in the color designated **MUST** be given for the awards listed below. If more than one type of memorial is listed, any one of the choices may be given.

....  
Best Champ/Prem of Breed/Div      Perm/Ribbon/Rosette ..... Purple  
Additional Champion of Breed/Div      Perm/Ribbon/Rosette ..... Any Color

**28.03** Breed and Division Points

a. Cats which receive the award of Best and when applicable, additional awarded Champion/Premier in each of the Breeds/Divisions currently recognized for Championship/Premiership competition (see rule 30.01) will receive one Grand Championship/Premiership point for every Champion/Premier defeated within the Breed/Division in accordance with the method for calculating champions and premiers present described in 28.02a.

b. Additional Champion awards will be awarded when the number of Open/Champion entries are as follows:

- 0-5 Open/Champion entries: Best Champion award
- 6-10 Open/Champion entries: Best and 2nd Best Champion awards
- 11-15 Open/Champion entries: Best through 3rd Best Champion awards
- 16-20 Open/Champion entries: Best through 4th Best Champion awards
- More than 20 Open/Champion entries: Best through 5th Best Champion awards

~~b-c.~~ In all cases an entry will receive the points from only one award per ring - that which carries the most points.

**RATIONALE:** We are starting to see increasing numbers of cats return to the show rings in popular breeds like Maine Coons, some divisions of Persians, Cornish Rex, and Siamese. This additional placement in class would give recognition to those breeders working hard to get their cats out in numbers and award grand points to those cats that may not make a final and encourage people to continue to show their cats beyond the champion



title

**CENTRAL OFFICE NOTE:** *the minimum estimated cost to implement the additional champion awards is in the range of \$11,000-\$14,000. The scoring software, the software to score the International Cat Show (currently the additional placements are for breed, not necessarily champion) and the entry clerk software (to produce the additional placement lines in judge's books and the catalog) will need to be modified. Printed show forms (master clerk and judge forms) will need to be modified and printed (minimal cost).*

**– 14 – The Bengal Alliance, Almost Heaven Cat Club**

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rules 11.07, 11.26.b. and 13.03, to allow cats who have left the show hall, to retain their awards from finals called after the advertised show hours, as follows:

**11.07** An entry must be present and available for class judging when the time for judging each entry is reached. An entry not so presented or available will be marked absent and the class will be judged as if such an entry had not been benched. In addition, for those cats marked MAB on the absentee/transfer sheets, those cats will also be marked absent even if that cat shows up to the judging ring for judging. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor or the exhibitor's agent to see that the cat or kitten is presented for class judging when the entry number is called the first time. **Only one call to the judging ring is required.**

**11.26** Voiding of Wins by the judge.

a. A judge must void any win, including any win in the finals, when in his opinion there is no entry with sufficient merit to receive it.

b. When an entry has been removed from the show hall and is not available to be present for a final taking place during advertised show hours for the finals, it is ineligible for a finals award. The judge must take one of the following actions:

1. The judge will void the win and leave the position open. The judge should announce that had the absent cat been present, it would have received the appropriate award; or,

2. The judge will void the win, move all lesser placing finalists up one position and select a substitute cat, which is mechanically eligible exclusive of the absent cat, for the last position (fifteenth, tenth, fifth, second or third, whichever is applicable). The judge should announce that had the absent cat been present, it would have received the appropriate award. The judge's finals sheet will show which cat's win was voided and which cat substituted.

c. When a final takes place after the close of advertised show hours, if a cat chosen for the final is no longer present in the show hall, the judge will hang its award on an empty cage.

In no case will a judge hang an award on an empty cage.

**13.03** All benched entries with the exception of kittens, Veterans and Household Pets, must remain in the show hall until the advertised closing hour. Failure to be present may cause all awards won in that show by that entry to be voided with the following exceptions:

a. Any entry absent from rings judged after the advertised closing time of the final day of the show shall retain awards previously won but shall not be eligible for any awards made after their removal provided the show manager is noticed of the entry's absence.

b. Entries chosen for a final that is posted after advertised show hours are eligible to retain the points for that final, even if they have left the show hall.

b. c. Household Pets may be removed at an earlier hour than the closing of the show as determined by the show manager.

**RATIONALE:** Exhibitors should not be penalized, forced to be present, or forfeit wins or potential finals when finals continue past the advertised ending time as printed on the show flyer, which is outlined in rule 5.01.g. Often exhibitors and judges alike have travel schedules that cannot be altered. At the very least this amendment will make show management, judges and exhibitors more focused on time constraints when planning and producing shows, and will allow exhibitors the choice of leaving the show, if finals continue past closing time, without penalty. If the club knows they are having a trainee at their show, then they can write the advertised show hours for exhibitors as needed. Clubs also have the option of having spectator show hours and exhibitor show hours advertised on their flyers. This is a part of the club's job in providing good customer service.

**– 15 – Anthony Wayne Cat Fanciers, Champagne Cat Club, Cleveland Persian Society, Illini Cat Club, Jazz Kats, Oakway Cat Fanciers, Southeastern Michigan Cat Fanciers, Stern-wheel Cat Fanciers**

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rule 11.11, fourth paragraph, as follows, effective June 21, 2021:

**11.11** ...

All Adult whole males or neuters, including Household Pets and kittens, must not be placed in adjoining cages at any time. For the purposes of this rule, two corner cages at a 90 degree or greater angle to each other are considered to be adjoining cages. When benching cats or kittens in the judging ring, clerks will, where possible, attempt to accommodate reasonable requests made by exhibitors.

**RATIONALE:** The kitten class is defined to include those who are 4-7 months of age. That would mean that some may be just a day short of the 8 month time frame to go into the adult class. Many of our shorthaired breeds mature much before that 8 month mark and sometimes take issue with another male being in close proximity. Although the current rule allows for accommodation, this means that each clerk would need to be approached to request such an accommodation. This takes time for the clerk to record and effectuate. Chief ring clerks are already used to the requirement for other classes, so it should not be a major effort to do the same for kittens.

**– 16 – The Bengal Alliance, Almost Heaven Cat Club**

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rules 11.28 and 11.29 to add additional Championship and Premiership finals spots once a threshold of entries has been reached, as follows:

**11.28** In Allbreed rings the Championship finals awards will be Best through 10th Best Cat when cat entries are less than 85, for Championship entries of 85 or more the final awards will be Best through 15th Best Cat; Best, 2nd Best and 3rd Best Champion, Best, 2nd Best and 3rd Best Longhair Champion, and Best, 2nd Best and 3rd Best Shorthair Champion for opens/champion entries less than 40. Best through Fifth Best Champion, Best through Fifth Best Longhair Champion, and Best through Fifth Best Shorthair Champion for opens/champion entries of 40 or more. Kitten finals awards will be Best through 10th Best Kitten when kitten entries are less than 75, for kitten entries of 75 or more the final awards will be Best through 15th Best Kitten. Premiership finals awards will be Best through 10th Best Cat when cat entries are less than 50, for Premiership entries of 50 or more the final awards will be Best through 15th Best Cat; Best and 2nd Best Premier, Best and 2nd Best Longhair Premier, Best and 2nd Best Shorthair Premier for open/premier entries less than 15. Best, 2nd, and 3rd Best Premier, Best, 2nd, and 3rd Best Longhair Premier, Best, 2nd, and 3rd Best Shorthair Premier for open/premier entries of 15 or more. Veteran

Class finals awards will be Best through 5th Best Cat or Best through 10th Best Cat as determined by show management.

- 11.29** a. In Longhair/Shorthair Specialty rings the Championship finals will be Best through 10th Best Cat when cat entries are less than 85, for Championship entries of 85 or more the final awards will be Best through 15th Best Cat; Best, 2nd Best and 3rd Best Champion for opens/champion entries less than 40. Best through Fifth Best Champion, Best through Fifth Best Longhair Champion, and Best through Fifth Best Shorthair Champion for opens/champion entries of 40 or more. Kitten finals awards will be Best through 10th Best Kitten when kitten entries are less than 75, for kitten entries of 75 or more the final awards will be Best through 15th Best Kitten. Premiership finals awards will be Best through 10th Best Cat when cat entries are less than 50, for Premiership entries of 50 or more the final awards will be Best through 15th Best Cat; Best and 2nd Best Premier for open/premier entries less than 15. Best, 2nd, and 3rd Best Premier, Best, 2nd, and 3rd Best Longhair Premier, Best 2nd, and 3rd Best Shorthair Premier for open/premier entries of 15 or more. Veteran Class finals awards will be Best through 5th Best Cat or Best through 10th Best Cat as determined by show management.
- b. In Breed/Division specialty rings the Championship finals will be Best through 10th Best Cat, Best and 2nd Best Champion; the Kitten finals awards will be Best through 10th Best Kitten; the Premiership finals awards will be Best through 10th Best Cat, Best and 2nd Best Premier. Veteran Class finals awards will be Best through 5th Best Cat or Best through 10th Best Cat as determined by show management. For the purpose of determining the counts listed in a. and b., AOV, Novice, Provisional, Miscellaneous and Veteran class entries will not be counted.

**RATIONALE:** We would like to see shows be more lucrative for quality cats that attend them. Awarding additional placements when the count warrants it is a value-added opportunity for deserving cats to earn grand points.

**CENTRAL OFFICE NOTE:** *the minimum estimated cost to implement the additional final placements for champions is in the range of \$11,000-\$14,000. The implementation is similar to resolution #13. The scoring software, the software to score the International Cat Show (currently the additional placements are for breed, not necessarily champion) and the entry clerk software (to produce the additional placement lines in judge's books and the catalog) will need to be modified. Printed show forms (master clerk and judge forms) will need to be modified and printed (minimal cost).*

**– 17 – Classy Cats Society, Rome Cat Forum**

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rules 27.03.a. and 28.01 to allow cats to earn the Grand Champion/Grand Premier titles based on grand points earned and not qualifying rings. In addition, it decreases the number of different judges needed for Champion/Premier confirmation, as follows:

- 27.03** a. Six (6) Qualifying Rings earned under at least two (2) ~~four (4)~~ different judges are required for Championship or Premiership confirmation. For cats residing and competing in Hawaii, Mexico, Central America, South America, the United Kingdom, Ireland, and the Maritime Provinces of Canada (New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island) four (4) Qualifying Rings earned under at least two (2) ~~three (3)~~ different judges are required for Championship or Premiership confirmation. For cats residing and competing in Russia (east of the Ural Mountains), Malta, and Asia (except China, Japan, Hong Kong, Indonesia, and Malaysia) four (4) Qualifying Rings earned under at least two (2) different judges are required for Championship or Premiership confirmation. Qualifying rings are not required for champion or premier if a cat

reaches the point requirements for the grand champion or grand premier title for the area in which the show is held.

- 28.01** Grand points for a cat that has completed requirements for Championship or Premiership will not be posted to a cat's record until the Central Office has received a Championship Claim form, appropriate fees, and confirmed that championship or premiership requirements have been met. In the case of cats that earned points with a temporary registration number, those points also will not be posted to a cat's record until the cat has received a permanent registration number. The following applies to a cat that has earned all of the required qualifying rings for its champion or premier title, or has qualified for the total number of points required to grand in its area of residence, but no claim form (champion/premier) has been received in Central Office:

**RATIONALE:** This is a show rule change that the CFA Board passed for the 2020-2021 show season. It allows cats to transfer to Grand Champion/Grand Premier when they have reached 200/75 points and submitted a championship claim form, even if they have not reached 6 qualifying rings. It has been in place for multiple shows now and proven to be popular. This proposal would make the change permanent.

**– 18 – Lilac Point Fanciers**

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show 28.02a to rank all Champions and Premiers in top 10 or 15 finals in both their Allbreed and Specialty placements and to award points for the highest award earned in the ring, as follows:

- 28.02** A cat eligible for and shown in the Champion or Premier Class will compete for Grand Championship or Grand Premiership points in any type of ring, e.g. Allbreed, Longhair/Shorthair or Breed specialty as follows:

a. Any Champion or Premier placing in the top ten (or fifteen, where applicable) finals awards may receive points towards Grand Championship or Grand Premiership. For each Champion/Premier in an Allbreed final, the cat will be ranked according to both its Allbreed Champion/Premier placement and Specialty Champion/Premier placement. For each Champion/Premier in a Specialty final, the cat will be ranked according to its Specialty Champion/Premier placement. Champions/Premiers will earn points from the final according to the remainder of this rule and 28.03b, which will apply to both the Allbreed and Specialty Champion/Premier placements in an Allbreed final.

**RATIONALE:** The remainder of 28.02a describes the 10% decrement scoring. 28.03b states that a cat will receive points from only one award per ring, that with the most points.

Because of the pandemic and lack of shows, we had a backlog of cats trying to grand leading to large classes of champions and premiers when shows started to come back. Shows had many more champions than grands and the top 15 final placements in all the rings were heavy with champions. The same was true of the premiership class. When there are so many champions in the top 15 placements of the finals and because of our 10% decrement scoring, it is mathematically possible for the Allbreed champion placement to be worth fewer points than what the cat would have earned with its rank in Specialty, sometimes far less, or less even than with a purple ribbon in a large enough breed class. Our 10% decrement scoring system is very disadvantageous to large classes of champions that make top 10/15 allbreed finals.

In a class of 80 champions evenly split between LH & SH with a top 15 final made up of all champions, 11th best AB champion would receive 4 points for defeating 68 cats. This is huge reduction and an unfortunate side effect of using 10% decrements. If the cat is the 4th highest ranked SH champion, that would be worth 27 points. What value should this cat be awarded from this final?

If you ask many exhibitors, they will answer 27 points for the SH placement. We intuitively believe the cat should get the award with the highest value, and we intuitively extend the Specialty champion placements as well as the Allbreed placements in an Allbreed final. Central Office says 4 points from the AB placement, they do not recognize the extension of the specialty placements. Exhibitors and CO are both looking at rules 28.02 and 28.03 and applying them differently.

As with many rules, when there is an ambiguity it is possible to justify multiple interpretations of that rule. For some rules, we can go decades before a situation arises that hits on that ambiguity. 28.02a is ambiguous because the words allbreed and specialty do not appear anywhere in that rule, yet CO infers that 28.02a applies to only allbreed placements in allbreed finals while exhibitors infer that it applies to both allbreed and specialty placements.

According to Central Office, their interpretation is how these awards have always been scored. And while is true, it is not what exhibitors expect with how we intuitively interpret the rule. 28.02a is ambiguous, and as with any ambiguity, there are always multiple interpretations. Which interpretation is correct? The best interpretation is what the clubs and exhibitors of CFA want, and when that differs from what CO does in practice, we need to fix the ambiguity. Nobody is wrong and everybody is right, which means the board or the clubs need to correct the show rules. We are never bound by "but that's how we have always done it."

This proposal corrects the ambiguity by making the shows rules say what many exhibitors already believe to be true. It does not create a whole bunch of easy points for cats to get, it does not require that we adjust the 200/75 point thresholds for the grand title. The cats that will benefit from this change will have earned the points by defeating many cats.

Will this change cheapen the grand title? No, unless you believe that specialty points are cheap points, in which case why do we have specialty finals. Cats in these finals have actually defeated many other cats. In a class of 80, 11th best cat defeats 68 other cats and gets just 4 points! Awarding 27 points instead does not mean an unworthy cat is getting a bunch of unearned points. It defeated 68 other cats!

Will this cause a situation where a higher ranked cat AB-wise in the opposite specialty receives fewer points than a lower ranked cat AB-wise? That can already happen! In the example above where 11th best cat received 4 points for being 11th Best AB champion, the award falls under the exception in rule 28.02a that says 11th thru 15th champions get 5% of Best's award. They tie at 5% because we cannot decrement further. Let's say that 11th Best was in a breed class of at least 6 and gets the purple ribbon. That purple ribbon is worth at least 5 points which is more than the points from the higher ranked 11th thru 15th placement awards. And the show rules do award the Purple ribbon rather than the placement in the final (28.03). There are many combinations of counts that could produce the result of a lower ranked cat getting more points than a higher ranked cat because of a lopsided specialty count. This is another one of those unfortunate math side-effects of having 10% decrements. It can even happen in an SSP final for National/Regional points with lopsided specialty counts. If we want to ensure that no lower ranked cat ever gets more points than a higher ranked (AB-wise) cat, then we would have to get rid of the decrements entirely. The current scoring system makes no guarantees that the situation will not happen, it is unavoidable because of the decrements in our current scoring system.

**CENTRAL OFFICE NOTE:** *this is essentially scoring an Allbreed ring for Specialty points and the minimum estimated cost to implement is in the range of \$9,000-\$13,000. An Allbreed ring will require additional scoring to determine Longhair and Shorthair placements and compared to the Allbreed placements to determine the highest point value for the Allbreed ring.*

## - 19 - Lilac Point Fanciers

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rule 28.03 to allow opens, champions and premiers to earn grand points from defeated grands with the Brown and Orange ribbons, as follows:

### 28.03 Breed and Division Points

a. Cats which receive the award of Best Champion/Premier in each of the Breeds/Divisions currently recognized for Championship/Premiership competition (see rule 30.01) will receive one Grand Championship/Premiership point for every Champion/Premier defeated within the Breed/Division in accordance with the method for calculating champions and premiers present described in 28.02a.

b. Opens, Champions and Premiers which receive the award Best of Breed/Division in each of the Breeds/Divisions currently recognized for Championship/Premiership competition (see rule 30.01) will receive one Grand Championship/Premiership point for every cat defeated (including grands) within the Breed/Division in accordance with the method for calculating cats present described in Article XXXVI Show Points Official Count.

c. Opens, Champions and Premiers which receive the award 2nd Best of Breed/Division in each of the Breeds/Divisions currently recognized for Championship/Premiership competition (see rule 30.01) will receive 90% of the points of Best of Breed/Division within the Breed/Division in accordance with the method for calculating cats present described in Article XXXVI Show Points Official Count.

b- d. In all cases an entry will receive the points from only one award per ring – that which carries the most points.

**RATIONALE:** If an open, champion or premier defeats a grand, why not earn a grand point from defeating that grand? This change would allow opens, champions and premiers that receive a brown or orange ribbon to earn one point from each cat defeated, including grands. At this time, we do not want to make this change for top 10/15 finals to include points for defeated grands. This resolution is intended to be a conservative step. We want to see the effect of this change before considering a change to points from finals since that might require adjusting the 200/75 point thresholds for the title.

This resolution was presented in 2019 and an argument against it was that it would require ring by ring scoring. That is not true. Ring by ring scoring means the point value of each award is determined per ring based on cats present in that ring only. This proposal does not attempt to implement that. For each award within a show (all ribbons and finals), the points for that award will still be calculated once per show based on the cats present in all the rings for that award just as it is now. Each cat will only get points from one award per ring, that which carries more points. So if a champion earns a Brown/Orange ribbon and the Purple ribbon but no final in a ring, it gets only the points from the higher award (presumably the Brown/Orange ribbon) in that ring. If the cat earns only the purple ribbon in another ring, it gets only the points from the purple ribbon in that ring. If the cat gets class ribbons and a final in some rings, it gets the highest pointed award from those rings. The values of the ribbons will be the same for all rings, but each cat's points will be determined by what awards it gets in each ring, just exactly as it is now. This will add two potential awards for champions & premiers in each ring – the brown and orange ribbons – and the point values for those awards will be determined once per show.

This change passed the delegation in 2019 with a large margin but since it was presented from the floor, it was advisory to the board. For reasons passing understanding, the board declined to implement it.

**CENTRAL OFFICE NOTE:** *the cost to implement is minimal, \$1,000-\$1,500 for the program change and testing.*



## – 20 – Lilac Point Fanciers, Superstition Cat Fanciers

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rules, Article XXXVI – NATIONAL/REGIONAL/DIVISIONAL AWARDS PROGRAM, DETERMINATION OF SHOW POINTS section, to remove the 5% decrements from scoring in all classes, as follows:

### DETERMINATION OF SHOW POINTS

Points are awarded in the following manner based on the wins achieved in each ring and the official show count of cats/kittens/household pets in competition.

#### Eligible Wins

1. Best cat/kitten/household pet – one point for each cat/kitten defeated. Each cat/kitten in each championship/premier-ship/kitten/household pet final – one point for each cat/kitten defeated.
2. 2nd Best cat/kitten/household pet (HHP) – 95% of the points awarded to best cat/kitten/HHP, 3rd best cat/kitten/HHP 90%, 4th best 85%, 5th best 80%, etc.
3. Best of breed/division – one point for each cat/kitten defeated within the breed/division.
4. 2nd best of breed/division – 95% of the points awarded to best of breed/division.
5. Points achieved in individual rings are added to determine an entry's total points for the show. In all cases an entry will receive the points from only one award per ring – that which carries the most points.

**RATIONALE:** This resolution removes the decrement scoring system for all classes in finals scored for National/Regional points. This does not change the decrement for the orange ribbon (2nd Best of Breed/Division) or for champion/premier points.

In a final of 101 cats, Best Cat defeats 100 cats and gets 100 points. 10th best cat defeats 90 cats but only gets 55 points. 10th best cat gets 55% of the points after defeating 90% of the cats, 15th best cat gets 30% of the points after defeating 85% of the cats. The math penalty gets worse in a top 20 final such as we have at the International Show in the kitten class. In a class of 101 kittens, 20th best kitten would defeat 80 kittens but get only 5 points, defeating 80% of the kittens and getting just 5% of the points. The bigger the class, the worse the penalty for being low in the final even though the cat defeats many other cats.

The biggest impact of this change would be for the cats that make a few finals in a show or make them low. The value of specialty rings would improve. Does this benefit the NW-campaigned cats? The top NW campaigners are already making finals high and already getting the “math” benefit from getting higher percentages of the finals, they would likely continue to rank almost the same as with the decrement system. Strategy might change for some, and some of the races might be closer for longer, but in the end, the cat that can make high finals consistently will still get the higher placement at the end of the season. Exhibitors vying for the NWs will adjust their strategy exactly as they did when we changed from the rpa system to top 100 rings.

The regional-campaigned cats would get the most benefit from this change. Cats looking for points for regional awards will see a difference in points kept from small shows, especially specialty rings. Most cats vying for regional wins do not get to 100 rings and do not benefit from substitution. With actual points, these cats will keep more points from every ring.

When this was proposed at the 2019 annual, one of the arguments against was that this would compress the point difference between placements, or as was said “squish” the point spread of the top cats. Dick Kallmeyer ran the scoring for the 2019 season for the top cats using this method and it did not “squish” the total points at the end of the season, in fact just the opposite. For some placements, the differential between placements was increased. Some cats swapped places in the standings, but only

two cats in championship in R1-9 would have fallen out of the top 25, replaced by two other cats whose owners were trying for those spots. One cat in premiership would have fallen out, but someone else would have gladly made it in. No HHPs or kittens would have fallen out.

We must be careful when looking at end-of-season results scored differently than the rules in place for the season. These statistical tests do not mean the rankings would have changed in reality. Exhibitors base their strategy on the scoring system in place at the time and the rankings from week to week. Those cats that look like they would have fallen out of the top 25 might have stayed in under any scoring system because they might have gone to different shows based on potential point gains. The point of this analysis is that changing the scoring of the top cats is not affected as was predicted in prior arguments. The actual points method does not “squish” the season-end totals.

Another argument against this in 2019 was that this would somehow hurt small shows. Most shows “are” small shows and we all have to go somewhere! We have very few big shows anymore, which is why we have twice in the past ten years lowered the requirement to have top 15 in the finals. If given a choice between a large distant show with the potential for one or two low finals and a smaller local show with a lower count on the same weekend even with a potential for more and higher finals, the argument is that the exhibitor would choose to travel or fly to the further large show because the cat would keep more points with this change to the scoring. This argument is flawed because exhibitors pick shows based on several criteria – location, location, location, lineup, and count. Most exhibitors consider only location and will pick the easiest show to get to, even when they are hunting points, because most exhibitors do not like to travel long distances or fly with a cat when they have a closer show. Traveling requires more time and a lot more expense, and to travel to a large show where every top cat will be is a huge gamble that most people will be reluctant to take when they have a closer smaller show that also fits their needs. In fact, more people would be happy to stay local when they know they can keep more points from the show, large or small. So the argument that this change would be detrimental to small shows is misplaced and ignores the reality of how exhibitors choose shows.

The scoring for the brown and orange ribbons remains the same since a class must have 20+ cats for actual points to be beneficial. Anything under 20 and the 5% decrement is more points. Very few breeds have 20+ cats in the class. Were we to make this change for the champion/premier placements, we would have to consider adjusting the 200/75-point thresholds. Points for champion/premier placements will remain the same.

**CENTRAL OFFICE NOTE:** *the cost to implement is minimal, \$1,000-\$1,500 for the program change and testing.*

---

## PROPOSED NON-SHOW RULE RESOLUTIONS

---

Deleted text is shown with a ~~strikethrough~~ and new text is under-scored. Any non-show rule resolutions only become effective if/when adopted by the CFA Board and effective on such date as the Board may set.

**Note: #21, Certificate of Incorporation, moved to beginning of document**

## – 22 – CFA Executive Board

**RESOLVED:** Amend Rules for Registration© (Revised November 15, 2015), **ARTICLE I – REGISTRATION, General**, to affirm CFA policy that cloned cats are not eligible for registration with CFA, as follows:

### ARTICLE I – REGISTRATION

**General:** a breed may have specific policies regarding allowable ancestry, import requirements, colors and other characteristics.

Cloned cats are not eligible for registration with CFA. For complete registration information regarding a breed you may visit our website <https://cfa.org/cfa-registration-rules/> or contact Central Office.

**RATIONALE:** CFA policy does not provide a mechanism for registration of cats produced via cloning. Recently CFA received an inquiry regarding the acceptance of cloned cats for registration, show, and breeding. This raises a number of issues relating to the ethics of cloning pets as well as practical considerations for their registration. There are currently few legal standards regarding retail animal cloning services. In the United States the Animal Welfare Act (AWA) would provide some minimal regulation of cloning operations. But, the standards under the AWA are intended for large, commercial, animal enterprises. Caging and environmental conditions allowed by the AWA are far below what home, hobby breeders provide. There are humane concerns about cats living in small, commercial cages, being used as surrogates and discarded once they are no longer needed. CFA would also have to consider the rights of parties having an interest in the cat. Should the current owner be able to clone the cat, or should the original breeder have some rights? How many copies of a cat could be registered? Finally, there are concerns that consumers grieving over the loss of a beloved pet may be vulnerable to businesses falsely implying they can recreate the original. Cloned cats are NOT identical copies of the original cat. Even if genetically the same, gene expression will be different in the clone. For example, human fingerprints have a genetic component, but identical twins express it differently. Personality will also be different since life experiences of the clone will be different. At the present time cloning pets is still an immature and evolving business. If there is sufficient interest in registering cloned cats the matter could be revisited in the future.

– 23 – *Lilac Point Fanciers, Midlantic Pers-Himmie Fanciers, Cats of the Rising Sun, Delaware River Cats Club, Liberty Trail Cat Fanciers, Metropolitan Cat Fanciers, Mount Laurel Cat Fanciers, New River Cat Fanciers, National Norwegian Forest Cat Breed Club, Nova Cat Fanciers Inc., Sign of the Cat Fanciers, Tarheel Triangle Cat Fanciers*

**RESOLVED:** Effective April 30, 2021 (start of current show season), amend Rules for Registration© (Revised November 15, 2015), **ARTICLE I – REGISTRATION, Section 4 – Cat Names**, paragraph following **Titles**, to reduce the requirement for males from 15 to 10 with a cutoff for retroactive application. Central Office will not automatically apply the new criteria to cats in prior seasons; owners must notify Central Office of their cats' eligibility if they meet the new requirement between January 1, 2016, and the effective date of the change:

## **ARTICLE I – REGISTRATION**

### **Section 4 – Cat Names: ...**

**Titles** – One or more official CFA titles, as outlined below, may appear as part of a cat's name.

**CH:** Champion, ... **DM:** Distinguished Merit, the title given to a cat which has produced the required number of Grand Champions, Grand Premiers or Distinguished Merit Cats (5 for females, 15 for males, and 10 for males that have produced a Grand Champion or Grand Premier after January 1st, 2016). **AC** (Agility Competitor), ...

**RATIONALE:** This will reduce the requirement for males to 10 for those males that have been actively producing grands within the last 5 years. We will not be able to get instant DMs for cats long removed from active breeding. Inactive cats found by pedigree line-chasers will still be able to qualify with 15 qualifying offspring.

Requiring a breeder to keep a male whole long enough to achieve 15 grands is no longer in the best interest of the male, nor is it in the best interest of the breed.

When this award was created, we had more breeders and it was easier to share studs. More breeders using the same stud made it

possible to grand 15 offspring within a reasonable amount of time. Our number of breeders has decreased significantly, and in a small cattery it is often only the owner of the stud that can grand offspring. 15 grands requires keeping the male whole much longer than his genetic usefulness for the breed, and this means he spends more of his life confined. No award should require keeping cats whole longer than we should for the best interest of the cat and/or breed.

Another consequence of the 15 requirement is a lack of genetic diversity within the breed. Having to keep a male whole long enough to get 15 grands means breeders will keep using that male before moving on to the next generation or before getting a diverse outcross, leading to "popular sire" syndrome. Sending the offspring to other breeders to grand them spreads the "popular sire" around. Years later, when we find out that the "popular sire" produced unwanted traits, like kidney and liver issues, it's too late. The cat is in nearly every pedigree and difficult to avoid. The decrease in the number of breeders of all pedigreed cats in CFA has exacerbated this problem because we have so few breeders to turn to for outcrosses. Many of our once large breeds now have a severe lack of genetic diversity, and more than a few "popular sires". The requirement for a male to produce 15 qualifying offspring does nothing to increase genetic diversity and with "popular sires" actually reduces it.

Please consider reading this article entitled "Genetic Consequences of Breed Formation":

<https://www.vin.com/apputil/content/defaultadv1.aspx?pld=12513&catId=51026&id=6976375&fbclid=IwAR20AOI1S0zZ6sX3-t04A-ZOLaRaTi2maEhuxF0YBJNFpbvYKEU47Xx5FTM>

From the article, "The popular sire syndrome is the single most influential factor in restricting breed gene pool diversity. There is a difference between a popular sire gaining significant average relationship to the breed population and that of an influential ancestor. The influential ancestor's contribution is continually evaluated with each generation of their descendants for the presence of quality and absence of defect. Each generational descendent must demonstrate their superiority over other individuals to maintain breeding status. A popular sire's genetic influence can only be evaluated after its genes have been widely disseminated; when its recessive influences are exposed. If there are issues with quality or defect, it is more difficult to reverse a popular sire's influence. Purging a popular sire's lines also results in the loss of influence of the assorted quality dam lines he was bred to."

Offering an award to males that produce 15 grands encourages the use of popular sires and requires that the breeders keep these males whole longer keeping more of their genes in the population, severely reducing the diversity in that population.

If a male can produce 10 grands, that male can certainly in time produce 15 grands. What is the value added in requiring the 11th thru 15th grand that outweighs the detriment to the cat and breed? If we are to keep males whole longer, locked in cages or if they are lucky in rooms, and if we are to sacrifice genetic diversity, surely there is some value to requiring those 5 more grands. What is it? Without significant value, surely we must treat our studs and breeds better than this. The title must be reduced to 10 for males.

To produce 10 grands, a male that averages 1 or 2 grands per litter would meet the requirement in 5-10 litters. This is certainly enough litters out of one male to make his mark on a breed. More litters than 10 does nothing for the breed except reduce genetic diversity to the breed's detriment, and requires that the male be kept whole and likely confined for much longer in his life.

As an association CFA must keep pace with current, scientifically accepted Best Practices and show due diligence by decreasing the necessity of "breeding for record" to earn titles. Reducing the number of Grand offspring required to DM a male from 15 to 10 would be a significant step towards increasing genetic diversity and improving the overall health of our breeds.