

# THE CAT FANCIERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.®

## 2024 Proposed Amendments and Resolutions

Annual Meeting • Coralville, Iowa • June 28, 2024

### PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS

Deleted text is shown with a ~~strikethrough~~ and new text is underlined. Unless otherwise stated, any Bylaw Amendments are effective immediately.

#### – 1 – CFA Executive Board

**RESOLVED:** Amend the CFA Bylaws, ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP, Section 2 – Application, to increase the application fee and to change “check” to “payment”, as follows:

#### ARTICLE III – 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 Bylaws;
- 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 payment~~ for the current year's dues which is refundable if applicant is not accepted;
- e. ~~a check payment~~ in the amount of ~~\$100.00~~ \$200.00 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.

**RATIONALE:** Increased administrative costs. The last time the fees were increased for club applications was in 1995 from \$50 to \$100.

#### – 2 – CFA Executive Board

**RESOLVED:** Amend the CFA Bylaws, ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP, Section 5 – Dues and List of Members, to increase annual club dues, as follows:

##### Section 5 – Dues and List of Members

Annual dues in the amount of ~~\$80.00~~ \$140.00 (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.

...

**RATIONALE:** Increased administrative costs. The last time the fees were increased for club dues was in 1998 from \$50 to \$80. Adjusted for inflation, \$80.00 in 1998 is equal to \$152.14 in 2024.

To be considered only if the prior resolution does not pass.

#### – 3 – CFA Executive Board

**RESOLVED:** Amend the CFA Bylaws, ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP, Section 5 – Dues and List of Members, to increase annual club dues, as follows:

##### Section 5 – Dues and List of Members

Annual dues in the amount of ~~\$80.00~~ \$120.00 (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.

...

**RATIONALE:** Increased administrative costs. The last time the fees were increased for club dues was in 1998 from \$50 to \$80. Adjusted for inflation, \$80.00 in 1998 is equal to \$152.14 in 2024.

– 4 – *Country Faire Cat Fanciers; Fancy That Cat Club; Greater NW Cat Fanciers; Lewis and Clark Cat Club; Longhair Japanese Bobtail Cat Club; North American Blues Allbreed CF; Wenatchee Valley Cat Club; Muskogee Cat Club; Vieux Carre Feline Fanciers; Pfanciers United For Fun, Inc.*

**RESOLVED:** Effective June 28, 2026, amend the CFA Bylaws, (1) ARTICLE VIII – REGIONS, Section 1 – Geographical Boundaries, to redefine regional boundaries and names; (2) amend ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS, Section 1 – Titles and (3) ARTICLE VII – EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS AND VOTING, Section 1 – Membership, to reduce the number Regional Directors from nine to eight, and (4) amend ARTICLE IV – ANNUAL AND SPECIAL MEETINGS, Section 1 – Annual Meetings, to adjust the regional names and order of meetings, as follows:

#### ARTICLE VIII – REGIONS

##### Section 1 – Geographical Boundaries

The United States, Canada, Bermuda, Mexico, Japan and Europe are divided into ~~nine (9)~~ eight (8) 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 2/5 – NORTHWEST WEST

Alaska, Arizona, California (North of the ~~36th parallel~~), Canada (West of the Western border of Manitoba), Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada (~~North of the 37th parallel~~), Oregon, Utah, and Washington, and the Mexican states of Baja California Norte, Baja California Sur, Sinaloa, and Sonora.

##### 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, Yucatán, 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.

### 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)~~ eight (8) 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.

### 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)~~ eight (8) Regional Directors, and the five (5) Directors at Large of this Association shall be members of the Executive Board.

### 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~~ 2026 and in the following order:

North Atlantic, West, Gulf Shore, Great Lakes, ~~Southwest~~ Midwest, and Southern.

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~~ six 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.

**RATIONALE:** Due to the ever-changing world, CFA must take a hard look at itself and incrementally start to make changes that will benefit ALL of CFA. Initially, the regions were likely determined based upon its distribution of exhibitor population. We are learning through registration and exhibition numbers that the far western United States has fewer exhibitors and breeders. Now is the time to make hard choices that ultimately will require sacrifices from pockets of exhibitors and breeders across the U.S.

1. By combining two regions, thus reducing the size of the board (while not significant, is still meaningful) will save CFA approximately \$3200 annually.
2. The resulting region of combining regions 2 and 5 will be called 2/5 to help maintain some identity and will save renumbering all subsequent regions.
3. The current lower number of exhibitors in regions 2 and 5 result in regional awards being awarded to exhibitors with small number of points.

**– 5 – Kentucky Colonels Cat Club; Great Lakes Abyssinian Devotees; Huntsville Cat Club; Tigers Lair Cat Club; Lucky Tomcat Club**

**RESOLVED:** Amend the CFA Bylaws, ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS, Section 2 – Elections, Paragraph e. Election Procedure, effective with the 2025 elections, as follows:

#### Section 2 – Elections

e. Election Procedure. On ~~or before~~ April 25 or closest business date 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 Executive 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.

**RATIONALE:** At season end, club members are also faced with a slate of delegates for the upcoming election. These two forces meet and sometimes badly clash. In some races, Regional Directors may be running for office or prominently supporting a candidate involved in a multiple candidate race.

Also, club members, who are also exhibiting, have to vote for a slate of candidates. As it is now, our ballot can be sent out on or before April 25. The ballot slate is complete as of March 15. Our ballot could be delivered to the clubs anytime between March 16 and April 25. The longer the time frame from ballot arrival to Central Office receipt, the greater the perception of retaliation. Voting in

clubs is not always a secret process and exhibitors' votes may have become known to the general population. Tightening the time frame for ballot submission to the clubs lessens the concerns and perceptions that there could be any type of retribution involving a judge and their cat at season's end. While the time for sending ballots is reduced, the clubs still have at least 5 weeks to discuss candidates and submit their ballot to the Central Office by June 1st. Electronic ballot submission makes this easy. Snail mail, if desired, could still be submitted in this time frame.

– **6 – Kentucky Colonels Cat Club; Great Lakes Abyssinian Devotees; Show and Tell Cat Club; Kittyhawk Feline; Siouland Cat Fanciers; Huntsville Cat Club; Lewis & Clark Longhair Specialty Cat Club; Greater Northwest Cat Fanciers; Longhair Japanese Bobtail Breeders; Wenatchee Valley Cat Club; Vieux Carre Feline Fanciers; Wichita Cat Fanciers, Inc.; Pfanriers United For Fun, Inc.; Muskogee Cat Club; Fancy That Cat Club; County Faire Cat Fanciers; Tigers Lair Cat Club; Show and Tell Cat Fanciers; Siouland Cat Club**

**RESOLVED:** Effective June 29, 2025, amend the CFA By-Laws ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS, Section 1 – Titles, to reduce the number of Directors-at-Large from five (5) to three (3), and ARTICLE VII – EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS AND VOTING, as follows:

#### **ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

##### **Section 1 – Titles**

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

The Directors of the 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)~~ three (3) Directors-at-Large

No person shall hold more than one office.

#### **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)~~ three (3) Directors-at-Large of this Association shall be members of the Executive Board.

**RATIONALE:** The size of the current Board remains too large by almost any measure. With review of Board of Directors' minutes, the normal work seems to be getting completed, without difficulty, since the last reduction in Directors-At-Large, from seven (7) to five (5). In addition, an expectation is that as CFA becomes more global, the number of regions will continue to increase (possibly the International Division, perhaps China). That would add two more Regional Director spaces.

While this may seem to be well into the future, things change and recent budget reports indicate a decline in revenue that is present and significant. We must examine all areas where savings might be accomplished. This is an opportunity to save money on in-person Board meetings so we grow in some areas and mitigate cost cuts to others. While unable to obtain specific data regarding an average Board member cost to attend the meeting in person, common sense tells us two (2) less people would save money.

It would seem reasonable that some of the Director-at-Large projects could be put into Committee format with a Board liaison.

– **7 – Sternwheel Cat Fanciers, United Singapura Society, Mohawk Trail Cat Club, Johnny Appleseed Feline Fanciers**

**RESOLVED:** Amend the CFA Bylaws, ARTICLE VIII – REGIONS, Section 1 – Geographical Boundaries, to move all of the State of

Kentucky into the Great Lakes Region and out of the Southern Region, as follows:

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

The United States, Canada, Bermuda, Mexico, Japan and Europe are divided into (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, Yucatán, 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 and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Monaco, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Spain, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

**RATIONALE:** Currently Kentucky is split into 2 regions by use of the 38th parallel, Great Lakes Region and the Southern Region. The 38th parallel intersects 2 of the 3 largest cities (by populous) in the state of Kentucky, Lexington and Louisville. This creates confusion to determine regional assignments as well as difficulty

to locate a show hall within the region the club is assigned, example is that Main Street in both Lexington and Louisville is the 38th Parallel. This makes looking for a show hall difficult if you try to stay withing the constraints of your region. If a club can only find a show hall South of Main Street in either city, it would technically be in another region and would be required to get special permission to hold their show in that location. This can sometimes create unnecessary red tape for a club to work through before they can plan and produce their show. This can also create confusion for new exhibitors to understand what region they reside in. In closing, there has been confusion surrounding the cities broken up by this border for many years. This is hopefully the best step we can take in correcting what has been a subject for many in the past. This change has no impact on member clubs in the CFA, and to me personally, makes the best sense in how this issue can be corrected.

**– 8 – Kentucky Colonels Cat Club; Great Lakes Abyssinian Devotees; Tigers Lair Cat Club; Lucky Tomcat Club; Siouxland Cat Club; Show and Tell Cat Club; Huntsville Cat Club**

**RESOLVED:** Amend the CFA Bylaws, ARTICLE VIII – REGIONS, Section 1 – Geographical Boundaries, to move Kentucky out of the Great Lakes Region and into the Southern Region, as follows:

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

The United States, Canada, Bermuda, Mexico, Japan and Europe are divided into (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 REGION**

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 REGION**

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, Yucatán, and Zacatecas.

#### **REGION 4 –GREAT LAKES REGION**

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 REGION**

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 REGION**

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 REGION**

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 and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Monaco, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Spain, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

**RATIONALE:** Most of Kentucky lies south of the 38th parallel, as is the current dividing line between Region 4 (Great Lakes Region), and Region 7 (Southern Region). Therefore, it makes sense to put all of Kentucky in the Southern Region.

**– 9 – Russian Blue Fanciers; National Siamese Cat Club; Worldwide European Burmese Society; Global Egyptian Mau Society; Lilac Point Fanciers; United Colorpoint Shorthair Fanciers; All States Burmese Society; International Havana Brown Society; Santa Monica Cat Club; The Cats Meow; Cuyahoga Valley Cat Club; Western Reserve Cat Club; Havana Brown Fanciers; Southeastern Persian Society; Southern Dixie Cat Club; International Egyptian Mau Society; That's My Point; Ocicats of North America; Classy Cats Society; Rome Cat Forum; CanUsa Cat Club; Genesee Cat Fanciers; Land of Oz Cat Club; Hugger Mugger Feline Society; Monroe Shorthair Club; Crown City Cat Club; Golden West Cat Club; Cats Ink; RagaMuffin Cat Fanciers; Malibu Cat Club; Marina All Breed Cat Club; Hemet Feline Fanciers; Paul Raines California Solid Color Cat Club; Mary Hantzmon Abyssinian Cat Club; Great Lakes Great Maines; Show and Tell Cat Club; Siouxland Cat Club; Japanese Bobtail Fanciers; Willamette Valley Cat Club; Manx Ltd.; Houston Cat Club; Garden State Cat Club; Morris and Essex Cat Club; Americans West; RagaMuffin Cat Society; Ragdolls Around The Globe**

**RESOLVED:** Amend the CFA Bylaws, ARTICLE XI – BREED COUNCIL, to require Breed Council input to breed specific registration rules, as follows:

#### **ARTICLE XI – BREED COUNCIL**

Breed Councils will be formed to serve the Executive Board in an advisory capacity regarding CFA Show Standards and Breed Registration Rules. The rules governing the operation of the Breed Councils are contained in the Breed Council Standing Rules attached as Appendix A to these Bylaws.

AND

**RESOLVED:** Amend the BYLAWS OF THE CAT FANCIERS' ASSOCIATION, INC., Appendix A, BREED COUNCIL STANDING RULES, BREED COUNCIL SECRETARY, Vacancies, Paragraph 1, as follows:

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 breed standards or registration rules specific to a 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.

**RATIONALE:** According to the current Rules for Registration (Effective February 7, 2022):

#### ARTICLE I - REGISTRATION

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

Section 11 – General, “CFA has made every effort to protect the purity of the bloodlines for cats registered by certified pedigree from other associations...”

In spite of the statement that CFA has made every effort to protect the purity of bloodlines for cats registered by pedigree from other associations, at the April 2, 2024 meeting, the CFA Board of Directors intended to vote on a non-show rule resolution to be presented at this Annual which would have reduced the current eight (8) generation pedigree requirement to a five (5) generation pedigree requirement for the following breeds: Abyssinian, European Burmese, Persian, Russian Blue and Siamese. There had been NO prior notification to the affected breed councils. Instead, breed council members only became aware of the resolution after perusing the compiled reports which accompanied the official announcement of the board meeting. Objections were made by representatives of the breed councils, and the board issued a statement that the matter “has been withdrawn until the Board has the opportunity to consult with the Breed Councils and review other relevant data.”

That consultation was via a Board Member who is also a Breed Council Secretary who then wrote to the Breed Council Secretary group list and asked for input...apparently looking for justification for requiring 8 generations and suggesting that DNA testing and recording of the results could allay concerns regarding cats coming from non-CFA registries. There are actually various and differing reasons for requiring more than 5 generations in the pedigree of a cat to be registered by pedigree and not all apply to each of these five breeds. DNA testing certainly helps breeders select cats for their breeding programs, but it does not necessarily define our breeds.

Note that, unlike in the past, the affected Breed Councils were NOT asked to ballot their members regarding changes to their registration rules. Breed Council Secretaries felt pressured to try to poll their members via email and pressured to respond prior to the next scheduled board meeting in May. The CFA Board has previously and historically allowed breed registration rules to be balloted and voted on by Breed Council members, though not always following their wishes. Reducing the eight (8) generation pedigree requirement to five (5) generations, without prior notice and over the objection of the affected breed councils, flies in the face of CFA’s assertion that they have made every effort to protect the purity of the bloodlines for cats registered by certified pedigree. While this amendment preserves the advisory capacity of breed councils to the board as it relates to breed standards, the amendment also extends the same courtesy to registration rules, including requiring a vote of a breed council for any change to the rules of registration of a specific breed.

Lest one think this the current issue only applies to five breeds (Abyssinian, European Burmese, Persian, Russian Blue, Siamese), it’s a concern that without passing this amendment to protect the registration rules of our breeds, breeds with other specific registration rules may be subject to change, reduction or limitation in the future.

Please help us ensure that the very guardians and protectors of our breeds - our Breed Council members - will be allowed to have their wishes heard.

### PROPOSED SHOW RULE RESOLUTIONS

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

#### – 10 – Southern Dixie Cat Club; Southeastern Persian Society

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rules – Article IV – LICENSING THE SHOW, Paragraph 4.03.e, regarding releasing traditional show dates for one year, as follows:

**4.03** No show license shall be denied because the same date has been scheduled by one or more other clubs with the following exceptions: a. No other show within the same region will be licensed on the weekend as a regional show held in conjunction with a region’s annual awards ceremony.

...  
e. Clubs that hold traditional dates and do not plan to hold a show for one year should let the Show Scheduling Committee know as soon as possible. The club must notify CFA at least 100 days in advance of their date that they will not produce show that year. The date will be considered “vacant” for the one year only and will become available to the region or other club(s) for a one-time only show date. With the permission of the Show Scheduling Committee, another club may hold a one-time only show on the vacant weekend. When a traditional date is released 120 days or fewer before the traditional weekend, a club with permission to assume that weekend will be given a two week grace period on penalty fees for late licensing (90 day penalty would apply at 76 days from the show date, the 60 day penalty on day 46, etc.).

...  
**RATIONALE:** In the last few years, a number of clubs have not held shows on their traditional weekends, but have not freed the dates for use by other clubs. As a result, there have been significant holes in the show schedule even when there are clubs seeking dates to hold shows. Freeing a traditional weekend for a year will not cause a club to lose that weekend for future years. By freeing up the date for one year use by others, the club helps other clubs seeking a show date and provides benefit to CFA exhibitors seeking shows.

A club stepping in to fill another club’s weekend for one year may have limited time to confirm show hall and judges. The fourteen day waiver of late licensing penalties in this instance acknowledges this challenge, as well as the benefit to CFA for the show to be produced.

#### – 11 – German Phoenix - Cat Friends Europe; Palatina Blue Cat Club; American Shorthair Lovers of Europe

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rules, ARTICLE V – ANNOUNCING THE SHOW/SHOW FLYER, Paragraph 5.01, to require that the printed show flyer be provided in both English and the applicable local language, as follows:

**5.01** There must be a printed show flyer published on the CFA website no less than 30 days prior to the show, ~~and it must be written in English and, if applicable, also in the language of the country where the show will be held.~~ The show flyer must include the following:

**RATIONALE:** This rule has probably been in place since shows were held only in the USA/North America. In Europe, Asia and even China we have hundreds of different languages. In order to provide equal opportunity for all exhibitors to enter a show, the show flyer must be written in English along with any other local language.

#### – 12 – Sainly City Cat Club; Twin City Cat Fanciers; Cats of Wisconsin Cat Club; Cenla Cat Fanciers; Illini Cat Club; Pfansiers United for Fun, Inc.; World Wide Feline Fanciers

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rules – ARTICLE IX – PROCEDURES PRIOR TO BENCHING/ CHECK-IN, Paragraph 9.08, to focus on the judging of cats, by the addition of subparagraph q. as follows:

**9.08. q.** Decorations in rings and on the judging tables must not block the view of seated or standing spectators from observing the judging of cats, or cats in cages behind the judge. Decorations may not be taller than the judging platform (approximately 12 inches) nor can they interfere with work space of the judge or ring clerk. Decorative items must be movable to allow for repositioning or removal if they interfere with the work of the judges or ring clerks, or if deemed to be visual obstacles for spectators.

**RATIONALE:** The most important things one should see in a judging ring are the judge, the cat being judged, and the cats in the cages behind the judge. Decorations may be placed in many other places, such as the front vertical plane of the table, at the entrance to the show hall, on an information table, and other locations around the show hall as permitted by the facility. This allows many options for themed decorations. Focus of judging rings is the cats and judging.

**– 13 – International Toybob Cat Club**

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rules – Article XI – DURING THE SHOW – JUDGING AND AWARDS, Paragraph 11.16, to ensure fewer cats miss finals and to help save judges from having to take the time to find additional cats for their finals or having to void wins, by adding a third paragraph as follows:

**11.16** The judge is in complete charge of his ring. He will make every effort to adhere strictly to the published show schedule. Judges are not encouraged to judge classes in advance of the schedule and must not do so except in an emergency as provided in rule 11.05, with public announcement of any change made to the exhibitors well in advance.

Class judging takes priority over finals except in cases of an emergency, i.e. a judge is put in a position of missing their plane, and needs cats from another ring(s) to complete their finals. In this case the show manager is to be notified by the judge requesting a change in schedule (see show rule 11.05) so this can be arranged. It will be expected that the judge doing their finals in this situation will do so in a timely manner so not to hold up class judging unduly in the other ring(s).

In the event a judge is required to postpone his finals, the numbers assigned to the cats included in the final shall be announced or they shall be posted in the ring at the time the final should have been conducted.

**RATIONALE:** Because of the increasing number of judges' finals that need to be postponed due to scheduling conflicts (especially prevalent in six-ring shows), exhibitors (particularly new or inexperienced ones) may easily forget that a particular judge has not yet conducted a final that may include their cat.

This change will help exhibitors stay on top of where they are in every ring, and it will also save judges from having to find an additional cat to use or to void a final win. It will help ensure that the cats that each judge determines to be the most deserving receive their award, despite inexperience, confusion, or language challenges, on the part of the exhibitor.

**– 14 – Southern Dixie Cat Club; Southeastern Persian Society**

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rules – Article XI – DURING THE SHOW – JUDGING AND AWARDS, Paragraph 11.24.c. to clarify use of DISQ/BITE, as follows:

**11.24** Disqualified by the judge.

...

c. A judge must disqualify and dismiss from his ring any cat or kitten that bites, cannot be judged in the judging ring, or that is, in his/her judgment, behaving in a recalcitrant or threatening manner. This rule does not apply to cats after the completion of judging of color classes. When a judge makes a disqualification based on having in fact been bitten, the judge shall record on the judging color class sheet

“DISQ/BITE,” otherwise indicate just DISQ if the disqualification is based on recalcitrant or threatening behavior. (See paragraphs 11.19.c and 11.19.d). “BITE” shall not be recorded in instances in which the cat was not behaving in a recalcitrant manner, for example when the cat hits a hand when attempting to grab a toy. Judges shall have discretion to not record BITE if there are extenuating circumstances that cause a fear response in the cat – e.g., fire alarms going off, cages falling over, or extreme public address system feedback.

The Central Office shall record the DISQ/BITE on each cat. When three judges have recorded “DISQ/BITE” for any cat deemed to behave in a manner that injures the judge, the cat shall not be eligible for entry at any CFA show.

...

**RATIONALE:** Cats that deliberately bite need to be removed from the show hall, but allowing the DISQ/BITE to be used when not appropriate opens the door to very inappropriate and unfair results. One should not be allowed to say, “That cat was thinking of biting me, and so I gave him DISQ/BITE”. There is a difference between a cat that is indeed recalcitrant and dangerous to others and a cat that goes for a toy and gets a hand by mistake, or a cat that is on the table that responds in fear when something scary happens, like cages falling over, public address systems shrieking, or the cat next door having a loud meltdown. Cats should be handled with understanding of their natural responses to scary situations. This amendment allows judges discretion to excuse incidents that are not the result of recalcitrant behavior, but rather of extenuating circumstance.

**– 15 – Sainly City Cat Club; Twin City Cat Fanciers; Cats of Wisconsin Cat Club; Cenla Cat Fanciers; Illini Cat Club; Pfanciers United for Fun, Inc.; Show Me Cat Fanciers; World Wide Feline Fanciers**

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rules – ARTICLE XI – DURING THE SHOW – JUDGING AND AWARDS, by the addition of a new Paragraph 11.39, to eliminate disturbing noise and distraction during a show, as follows:

**11.39** Ring activities in which noise or crowding is generated, such as presentation of finals, cat costume and/or stuffed toy contests must be respectful of judges, cats and exhibitors benched nearby. A representative of the club should direct spectators on the appropriate responses such as applause and/or raising of hands instead of cheering and yelling. Minimize loud noise and remind spectators to keep an open pathway to prevent blockage of aisles.

**RATIONALE:** As attendance at cat shows has increased, so have numbers of observers of events taking place in the rings. Along with this, blockage of pathways to and from rings has become problematic, creating safety hazards for people moving about the area and delays for cats getting to other rings. In addition, often near-deafening levels of crowd noise during these activities is uncomfortable to many exhibitors and frightening to cats. These distractions inadvertently result in excess stress to cats in competition. Judging in other rings frequently pauses during these activities because the extreme noise level and crowding makes it difficult to continue judging. These delays can lead to running past advertised show hours, which exhibitors rely upon to schedule travel after the show. The addition of this show rule facilitates safe and pleasant surroundings for cats and people.

**– 16 – JA Club**

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rules – Article XX – RESPONSIBILITIES OF SHOW TREASURER – SHOW FEE PAYMENTS, Paragraph 20.03.a., to allow for an increase in judges payments, as follows:

**20.03** Judging fees are as follows:

a. Approved judges will receive \$1.25 per scheduled paid entry a per-scheduled paid entry fee as described in the table below with no minimum.

2025-2026 Show Season	\$1.30
2026-2027 Show Season	\$1.35
2027-2028 Show Season	\$1.40
2028-2029 Show Season	\$1.45
2029-2030 Show Season and beyond	\$1.50

**RATIONALE:** CFA judging fees were last changed 16 years ago in 2008. Since then, the scope of shows has changed. In an effort to increase both show revenue and awareness of our breeds, clubs have added education and entertainment aspects to their shows for spectators and exhibitors. To assist with this outreach judges are now interacting more with spectators during judging and while performing other outreach activities, while continuing to handle cats in a respectful and professional manner.

Basing estimates on a 160 cat count show, this proposal would only increase fees by \$8 per ring the first year, and gradually increase fees to \$40 per ring by the 2029-2030 season. Adjusted for inflation, \$1.25 in 2008 is equal to \$1.83 in 2024.

**- 17 - JA Club**

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rules – Article XX – RESPONSIBILITIES OF SHOW TREASURER – SHOW FEE PAYMENTS, Paragraph 20.03.g., to allow for fees for additional responsibilities, as follows:

**20.03** Judging fees are as follows:

...

g. The fees for ~~Best of the Bests~~ judging additional responsibilities are as follows:

Best of the best judging	\$20 per class
Kittens	\$20.00
Premiership	\$10.00
Championship	\$60.00
Household Pets	\$10.00
Costume Contests	\$20.00
Super Specialty Rings	\$10.00 per additional final
Bay Check in	\$20.00
OCP Rings	\$10.00 per additional final
Breed Summit	\$10.00 per additional final

These Other Activity fees may be negotiated directly between the club and the judge.

**RATIONALE:** Over the past several years, CFA clubs have worked hard to discover more ways of outreach to spectators and exhibitors. A large portion of these outreach efforts rely on our CFA judges, who accommodate these requests in addition to handling their contracted duties of professionally handling and evaluating the cats in competition. We feel that it is reasonable for a judge to be compensated for these additional duties when the club asks for him or her to do so.

Additionally, we believe that the current fee schedule for best of the best judging is illogical and that compensation for judging should be the same across classes.

**- 18 - German Phoenix - Cat Friends Europe; Palatina Blue Cat Club; American Shorthair Lovers of Europe; Rolandus Cat Club; Jardin Des Korats; Khao Manee Cat Club; Orange Cat Club**

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rules, ARTICLE XXVIII – OBTAINING TITLES – GRANDS, Paragraph 28.04.b., to reduce the grand point requirements for Region 9, as follows:

**28.04** b. Grand Point Requirements for the Grand Champion and Grand Premier title are as shown in the following table based on location of cat ownership:

Country/Area	GC Points Required	GP Points Required
Regions 1-9 <del>1-8</del> except as noted	200	75
Maritime Provinces of Canada, United Kingdom, Ireland, Malta, Hawaii, Russia east of the Ural Mountains, International Division (except Hong Kong, China, Malaysia, Thailand, Taiwan, Vietnam, & Indonesia)	75	25
Hong Kong	125	75
Thailand, Indonesia	125	25
Malaysia, <u>Region 9 (except as noted)</u>	125	50
<del>Ukraine</del>	200	25
Taiwan and Vietnam	90	40

**RATIONALE:** Due to the dramatic global crises, the situation for Region 9 has developed significantly to the detriment of ID in particular. The requirements of 200/75 points to achieve a Grand title are no longer in proportion in terms of show count, number of shows and number of champions/premiers. For many exhibitors it is almost impossible to achieve a Grand title for their cats with reasonable financial means.

A reduction of the points to 125/50 for GC/GP would be a great show of support and appropriate appreciation for Region 9.

These Show statistics give the numbers for show season 2023-2024 through 11/19/23

	Shows			
	2023-2024	2022-2023	2021-2022	2020-2021/Covid
USA/Canada	54	114	108	16
Japan	11	16	22	12
Europe/R9	4	15	14	3
China	16	26	26	24
Asia	34	73	37	3
<b>AB Championship Count</b>				
USA/Canada	2570	6023	6268	1147
Japan	588	892	1110	568
Europe/R9	174	819	876	78
China	494	1917	666	880
Asia	1351	3542	1698	78
<b>AB Premiership Count</b>				
USA/Canada	1594	3358	3014	500
Japan	205	325	356	147
Europe/R9	23	198	118	43
China	219	166	261	200
Asia	484	889	470	24
<b>All Grand Champions Count</b>				
USA/Canada	225	490	814	110
Japan	37	59	129	36
Europe/R9	19	75	113	2
China	33	86	30	29
Asia	160	354	194	2

**– 19 – German Phoenix – Cat Friends Europe; UK Cat Fanciers; Palatina Blue Cat Club; American Shorthair Lovers of Europe**

**RESOLVED:** Amend Show Rules, ARTICLE XXXVI – NATIONAL/REGIONAL/DIVISION-AL AWARDS PROGRAM, AWARDS Section, Regional Awards subsection, Regional Definition paragraph, to allow points earned by Region 9 exhibitors outside of Region 9 to count for regional awards in Region 9, as follows:

**Regional Awards**

...

**Regional Definition:** Regions are based on the regions listed in CFA’s bylaws. To the extent not already provided in the bylaws, regional assignments for scoring purposes may be made from time to time by the CFA Executive Board. To date, the CFA Board has ruled that exhibitors whose principal residence is in either Puerto Rico or the Bahamas will be scored in the Southern region.

Each CFA region, as well as Hawaii and the International Division presents its own set of awards based on the points a cat receives using the rules outlined in the “Scoring” section, with the following exceptions:

1. All regional awards given in regions 1-7 and region 9 are based only on points earned in regions 1-7 and region 9 by exhibitors residing in regions 1-7 and region 9. Cats/kittens/household pets may be shown in more than one of these regions and the points earned in shows outside the owner’s region of residence will be included in the scoring

process. No cat/kitten/household pet may receive awards in more than one of these regions. Points at the CFA International show may also be used toward these awards.

2. ...

3. All awards given in Hawaii ~~or Region 9~~ are based only on points earned in Hawaii ~~or Region 9~~ by exhibitors residing in ~~those areas, respectively.~~ this area. Points at the CFA International show may also be used toward these awards.

**RATIONALE:** Regions 1-9 compete together for NW and BW awards. Shows in region 9 are going down, and we have lost several countries where shows were formerly held. The show season in region 9 does not usually begin until September or sometimes October. Many exhibitors and breeders must travel to shows in the USA in order to compete for NW and BW awards. We support cat shows in the USA in this way, but the points our cats achieve do not count for our regional wins. This seems unfair as we are still part of regions 1-9. We understand that region 8 has a unique situation as well due to quarantine, but region 8 cannot be fairly compared to region 9. Region 8 has more shows, many more judges and more clerks, allowing them to be more independent from the other regions.

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**PROPOSED NON-SHOW RULE RESOLUTIONS**

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Deleted text is shown with a ~~strikethrough~~ and new text is underlined. 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.

*None.*