ARTICLE I — NAME
This 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 the promotion of the interests of breeders and exhibitors of pedigreed cats.

ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 — Eligibility
Any non-profit club of not less than ten (10) 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 members in good standing at the date of application;
d. 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. If all required information is submitted regarding the applicant, the information shall 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 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 regularly scheduled Annual Meeting. The acceptance to membership by the delegation must be by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote of the eligible Region. The application of a new club shall be considered by the Board of Directors prior to its presentation to the delegates. If negative information is submitted regarding the applicant, the information will be provided to the delegates at the next regularly scheduled meeting for consideration. If, after presentation of any such negative information, the Board of Directors determines to recommend acceptance, the recommendation shall then be submitted to the CFA Executive Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting for consideration. If the Board of Directors recommends acceptance, the recommendation shall then be submitted to the CFA Executive Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting for consideration. If the Board of Directors recommends acceptance, the recommendation shall then be submitted to the CFA Executive Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting for consideration. If the Board of Directors recommends acceptance, the recommendation shall then be submitted to the CFA Executive Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting for consideration.

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 the promotion of the interests of breeders and exhibitors of pedigreed cats.

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 in the order listed: Midwest, Southern, North Atlantic, Northwest, Gulf Shore, Great Lakes, Southwest.

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 in the order listed: Midwest, Southern, North Atlantic, Northwest, Gulf Shore, Great Lakes, Southwest.

Section 2 — Special Meetings
Special Meetings may be convened by the members 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 time thereof, which shall not be less than two nor more than three months from the date of such written demand. The Central Office of the Association upon receiving the written demand shall promptly give notice of such meeting.

Section 3 — 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’s dues and list of members and officers by the Central Office of the Association or by the Secretary shall be used. Further, to be in good standing, the member must not be under disciplinary suspension. The secretary of each member shall communicate the names of the officers and delegate of such member 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, the delegates from which are not so notified to the Central Office of this Association, are disqualified from voting at any 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 of such notification until after the date of the next Annual Meeting.

Section 4 — Delegates
Each member in good standing as set forth in Paragraph 1 of Section 3 shall elect one delegate from the members of any member club to represent such member club at each meeting of members. A delegate to any meeting may appoint a proxy from the members of any member club. Delegates or proxies may not be Officers or Board Members of any association or organization organized for purposes similar to those of this Association, unless the offices of such officer and/or member are filled with the Central Office. No person acting as a delegate and/or proxy shall cast more than two (2) votes. Regardless of the number of votes cast, each delegate or proxy to the Annual Meeting shall pay a registration fee of forty dollars ($40.00) for each vote cast to help defray the costs of the Annual Meetings.

Section 5 — 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 — Quorum
The presence of one-half (1/2) of the members at any Annual or Special Meeting shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE V — REPORTS AND AUDIT

ARTICLE VI — OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

ARTICLE VII — EXECUTIVE BOARD

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 — AMENDMENTS

CONSTITUTION OF THE CAT FANCIERS’ ASSOCIATION, INC®
Effective July 2020 (last amended June 2019)

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 recent revision. A double vertical line appears where text has been entirely deleted.)
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 whole amount of all the income and all the expenditures; the profit and loss statements; and the reports of the annual independent audit of the books of the Association, to be authorized by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

b. The Directors shall also present profit and loss statements for the preceding fiscal year for: (1) the annual meeting and (2) 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 to the members club 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 such regional fund shall be on a voluntary basis.

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 from a CPA firm with no conflicting interests in the finances of the Association.

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 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.

b. Term of office. The term of office for each position shall begin on the Sunday following the close of the Annual Meeting of the Association.

c. 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 qualified, except as provided for elsewhere in this Article.

d. 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 for regional business, 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 to the members club 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 such regional fund shall be on a voluntary basis.

Section 3 – 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 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 in the United States or Canada.

Section 4 – Quorum

The presence of ten (10) members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Any one or more members of the Board may participate in a meeting of the Board by means of a conference telephone 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.
Section 4 - Delegation of Powers

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

Section 5 - Voting

Every Board Member has the right to abstain, i.e. not vote, on a particular issue. 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.

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 Board 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, Hidalgo, Jalisco, Mexico, Michoacán, Morelos, Nayarit, Nuevo León, 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, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, 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 within 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, under the provisions of this constitution, except that:

b. The provisions of Article III, Section 3 of this Constitution shall not apply to the International Division.

c. The Board of Directors shall designate the country(ies) within which a new international member may carry on activities and thereafter have the right, in its discretion, to limit or expand such area.

d. Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles I–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 appropriate, with a company(s) approved by the Board.

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 Articles 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 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 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 written 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 recommendation 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 shall 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.

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 breed 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,

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 reentered 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 membership 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

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.

Elections
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.

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ARTICLE XII - SHOW LICENSES

The Executive Board shall have power in its full discretion to grant or to withhold from each member 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 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 members 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 part of the CFA Show Rules. Awards shall 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 an “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 recently on an annual basis. Reconsideration shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of Board Members present. Any judge failing to be reconfirmed shall be informed of the basis of the Board’s action and be cited to appear by the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting for hearing on the issue of reconfirmation. The vote of the individual Board members resulting in the failure of a judge to be reconfirmed 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 such evidence, the Board may vote to recently, to suspend temporarily or for such period of time as the 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 he 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 probationary 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 Boards

The Executive Board shall have exclusive jurisdiction to discipline members, 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, suspend, 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.

d) 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.

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

Section 4 — Conduct of Club Officials, 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 Cat Fanciers’ 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.

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 — AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by an Annual or Special Meeting of members 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.