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 visit our website http://www.cfa.org/Registration/OnlineIndividualregistration.aspx or contact CFA Central Office.

Section 1 - Litter Registration: A litter application MUST be completed and submitted by the breeder of the litter (see Section 11), with the following exceptions:

Exception #1: A litter application may be submitted by the new owner of record of the dam of the litter, provided the proper breeder information and signatures are completed on the application.

Exception #2: Someone other than the breeder may submit a litter application if a letter of permission and instruction, signed by the breeder, accompanies the litter application.

Both sire and dam must be registered or recorded with CFA. More than one sire can be recorded for any one litter (see Section 10).

Litter forms may be obtained at no charge from the Central Office.

CFA will question any litter where a parent cat is under the age of 7 months (210 days) at the time the litter is born.

Although there is no limit on the number of litters allowable per year from any one female, each litter must be at least 65 days apart.

The breeder of a litter is the registered owner of the dam at the time of mating, or the lessee of the dam.

LEASES RECORDED: A lease must be recorded with CFA if the owner(s) of record leases a sire or dam to an individual(s) with the intent the registered owner’s name(s) be excluded from all transactions during the specified lease period. The lease recording fee and a copy of the lease agreement to include the name and registration number of the cat, name of lessee(s), lease period (from-to) and signatures of ALL registered owner(s) must be sent to CFA prior to or in conjunction with the processing of the first transaction.

LEASES NONRECORDED: Complete the lease section on the litter application form only, it is not necessary to file a formal lease for this purpose (no additional fee is required). All current registered owners of dam to be included.

Section 2 - Individual Registration/Transfer: The name of the owner of a cat is limited to 30 spaces, including punctuation and blanks. Long names or more than one owner must be abbreviated as necessary.

The owner of a cat can be shown as actual persons only, no company names, Mr. and Mrs., or “and family.” The designation “and/or” may not be used when there is a co-ownership.

A cat/kitten will be registered as a breeding cat ONLY if the pin number is provided by the breeder in the appropriate section of the blue and/or yellow slip. If the pin number is not present, the cat will be registered as “Not For Breeding” regardless of whether the breeder is also the owner. The pin number or the breeder’s signed and notarized permission is required to remove a Not For Breeding restriction. The breeder’s and a veterinary signed and notarized statement is required to change an altered cat (neutered or spayed) to unaltered.

To ensure the correct recording of the owner for a cat leaving the U.S., CFA recommends that the U.S. breeder/owner complete and submit any registration or transfer application. The cat will then already be registered to the new owner when the papers are sent overseas. The Central Office will send the completed Certificate of Registration directly to the overseas owner, if requested by the applicant.

Section 3 - Registration via Certified Pedigree: Under certain circumstances, a cat registered with another recognized association may be eligible for CFA registration without prior CFA litter registration by the breeder. Application for registration can be made via certified pedigree from an approved organization*** with the appropriate number of generations included with the application. Note: these rules apply only to cats being transferred to CFA from other associations/registries recognized by CFA.

*Except LaPerm and Selkirk Rex. LaPerm and Selkirk Rex registered in another cat registry are eligible for CFA registration. A copy of the registration certificate must be provided to CFA with the request for registration. The “registration via pedigree” fee applies. To obtain registration for cats eligible under this policy, a 5-generation certified pedigree with the required number of generations for the breed, (see “Note” for exceptions to the 5-generation requirement), issued by the registrar of the association in which the cat is currently registered, must be submitted for CFA files. Pedigrees used for this type of registration will be accepted only from previously certified associations. The parents of the cat to be registered are considered to be ‘generation one.’

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RECORDED CATS: Cats with one less generation of ancestry than required for the breed may be individually recorded for breeding purposes only. The requirements for recording are identical to those for individual registration via pedigree, except that one less generation of ancestry is required. Recorded cats may not be shown at CFA shows. The following breeds require the full number of generations for registration by pedigree (recording for breeding only does not apply): Abyssinian, Bengal, British Shorthair, Colorpoint Shorthair and Persian.

NOTE The following breeds require certified pedigrees for the number of generations indicated in parentheses after the breed name: Abyssinian (8), American Wirehair (4), Balinese* (3 or 5), Chartreux (4), Colorpoint Shorthair (3 or 5*), Devon Rex (3), European Burmese (8 from North American registries; 5 from all other registries), Korat (3), LaPerm (no pedigree required, see * at beginning of Section 3), Oriental (3), Persian (8), Ragdoll (3), Russian Blue (8), Scottish Fold (3), Selkirk Rex (no pedigree required, see * at beginning of Section 3), Siamese (8), Siberian (3), Tonkinese (3) and Turkish Angora (3). All other breeds require 5 generations.

*Only certain outcrossed Balinese/Javanese and certain Colorpoint Shorthairs are eligible to be registered using a 3 generation pedigree. Contract the CFA Central Office for details.

Individuals planning to import a cat or register a cat from a domestic association should contact the Central Office for information regarding requirements and documentation needed to begin the registration process.

Titles and awards won in other associations will not be recorded or shown on CFA records.

Section 4 - Cat Names: A cat’s entire name, including cattery prefix and suffix (see Section 6), if any, letters, punctuation, spaces, numbers, titles and awards such as “of,” “de,” “the,” etc., may not exceed 35 spaces.

Changes to a registered cat’s name may be made only if: 1) The cat has never earned a title (e.g. CH, PR, GC, GP, DM) or received a National/Regional award; 2) No national/regional points have been earned in the current show season; 3) No litters have been CFA registered listing the cat as a parent; 4) You are the current registered owner of the cat. If the cat was previously individually registered in the breeder’s name, you must provide CFA with a signed statement of agreement from the breeder allowing the name change.
Section 5 - Cattery Names: The purpose of a cattery name is to identify the breeder and/or owner of a cat or kitten and to identify the line of breeding.

Cattery names will not be duplicated. A newly registered cattery name must be at least a minimum of two letters different from any existing registered cattery name. Double letters (tt, ee, ss, etc.) count as one letter. The use or non-use of an “s” indicating plural at the end of a word does not constitute a letter difference.

Cattery names will be registered and shown on all certificates in capital letters, no lower case.

Section 6 - Use of Cattery Names: PREFIX: The breeder’s registered cattery name, if any, is required as a prefix to a cat’s name. At no time can a cattery prefix be removed or changed even with the permission of the breeder.

SUFFIX ADDITION/DELETION: The new owner of record of a cat may add his/her cattery name as a suffix (preceded by “of”) provided that the cat’s name will not then exceed the limit of 35 spaces. An already existing suffix will automatically be removed at the time the new suffix is added or if a new owner(s) is not the owner of the existing suffix.

No more than two cattery names (one prefix, one suffix) are permitted with any cat name.

An identifying word or name may not be used as either a cat name suffix or prefix unless registered with CFA as a cattery name.

Abbreviations or variations of a registered cattery name are not permitted. The word “of” must be used with a cat name suffix, and cannot be shortened or changed to “de” or other foreign designations denoting “of.” To avoid misinterpreting certain phrases as a cat name suffix, dashes are used in conjunction with the word “of” in a cat’s name (e.g., Duke-of-Earl).

When the dam of a litter is co-owned by two or more breeders each having a registered cattery name, only one cattery name prefix may be used in naming all kittens in any one litter.

RENEWAL: Cattery names issued after January 1, 1988, are subject to a renewal fee every 5 years. Cattery names not renewed by the required date will not be eligible for use as either a cat name prefix or suffix until the renewal fee has been received by the Central Office. Cattery names not renewed are subject to reassignment to another breeder. Application for a permanent cattery name can be submitted.

PERMANENT CATTERY NAMES: The owner(s) of an existing CFA registered cattery name can apply for permanent registration.

Section 7 - Corrections/Duplicate Certificates: When a certificate is issued that is incorrect due to Central Office error, or if the cat name issued is different than the two choices requested by the registrant, the certificate should be returned with corrections noted. If possible under the CFA Rules For Registration, the changes will be made and a new certificate issued. Request for correction should be made as soon as possible after the date of issue. Correction without incurring a fee cannot be guaranteed after 6 months from the date of issue.

Correction to an existing CFA record due to changes from the original application may be made by the applicant by contacting the Central Office detailing the changes to be made, returning the incorrect documents, submitting corrected documents and signatures where required, and paying the appropriate correction fee.

DUPLICATE BLUE and/or YELLOW SLIP: If lost or destroyed, a duplicate may be requested from the Central Office by the breeder at no charge. A duplicate will be issued to the breeder only and not sent to any other person, even with the permission of the breeder.

DUPLICATE CERTIFICATE: A duplicate cat certificate may be requested only by the registered owner of the cat accompanied by the appropriate fee.

When a request is submitted for a correction to a litter record, CFA will issue new blue slips only in the number of slips submitted to the Central Office for correction.

Section 8 - Certified and Reverse Pedigrees/Cattery Offspring Reports: A complete Certified Pedigree will be issued only when three or more generations of ancestry are registered or recorded with CFA.

A Certified Pedigree will be issued on an individually registered cat only, not on a litter. A Certified Pedigree can be issued to any applicant. The owner’s permission is not required.

A Reverse Pedigree can be obtained for an individually registered cat only by the registered owner(s), unless signed permission of the owner is obtained.

Only the registered owner of a cattery may obtain a Cattery Offspring Report, except with signed permission of the registered owner.

Section 9 - Signature Requirements: LITTER REGISTRATION: Litter applications
must be signed by both the owner of the sire and the owner of the dam. If a parent
cat is co-owned, the signature of only one owner is required. When the sire of a litter
is on lease, a copy of the lease agreement signed by all registered owners of the cat
must be sent to CFA prior to or in conjunction with the processing of the litter applica-
tion.

TRANSFER: All owner signatures are required to effect the transfer of a cat.

CATTERTY: The signatures of all current registered owners are required in order
to add an owner to an existing cattery record. The written permission of the person
being removed is required in order to remove an owner from the record.

In the case of a deceased person, CFA can complete a service at the signed
request of the person handling the estate upon receipt of proof of authority to sign
and/or proof of death, which can include:
1. A copy of the death certificate.
2. Public notice of death (newspaper).
3. A copy of the will detailing cat ownership and executor.

Section 10 - Registration Screening: Registration for a kitten of an accepted char-
acteristic (such as color, pattern, coat length) for that breed, but occurring from par-
ents whose genetic makeup would not be expected to produce that characteristic, will
be issued a restricted Not For Breeding registration.

Registration requested for a kitten demonstrating a recessive characteristic not
accepted within the breed will not be registered based upon the assumption that
recessive characteristics demonstrate hybridization other than that permitted for that
breed.

Registration requested for a kitten demonstrating a dominant characteristic which
would not be expected to occur within a specific breed will not be registered. How-
ever, littermates with permissible characteristics within the breed will be regis-
tered, but those kittens will be registered with a Not For Breeding restriction.

Effective January 1, 2009 the CFA allows for the registration of litters with more
than one sire. Parentage must be determined using an accepted DNA testing facility
prior to registration. The procedure for the registration of a multiple-sired litter or for
any litter with questionable parentage is as follows:

Once the DNA test results have been received and parentage has been deter-
mined, submit the DNA test results for the sires, dam and all kittens to CFA along with
appropriate litter registration applications. Regular registration fees apply. If the litter
has two or more sires, complete two different litter applications, listing the different
sires on each application.

Section 11 - General: The Cat Fanciers’ Association, Inc. reserves the right to cancel
or correct any registration erroneously recorded or recorded in violation of these
rules, together with any registrations that have been issued for any descendants of
said cats.

Application for registration must be made on the official CFA application form.
Other documents required for registration, such as export certificates, certified pedi-
grees, and lease agreements must be attached to the CFA application form. Keep a
copy for your records. If you wish the return of an original document other than the
CFA application, the original plus one photo copy should be submitted. Notarized
photocopies will also be accepted.

CFA has made every effort to protect the purity of bloodlines through its system
of registration, but the purity of bloodlines for cats registered by certified pedigree
from other associations and their descendants cannot be guaranteed. The possibility
does exist that a throw-back to another breed or color will occur. In such cases, the
throw-back is non-registerable. The remainder of the litter that does conform to the
accepted standard is registerable.

When the ancestry of a hybrid litter might permit registration of the kittens in more
than one breed classification, the breeder must list the breed under which the kittens
are to be registered, and all kittens in that litter and future litters will be registered
under the originally designated breed.

Incorrect or incomplete applications or applications with insufficient fees will be
returned uncompleted by the Central Office.

There are no rules against closely related breedings of any kind nor any restric-
tions on the pedigree relationship of the prospective sire and dam. This includes
mother/son, sire/daughter, siblings, etc.

There is no rule pertaining to the maximum age allowable for breeding.

There is no time limit requirement for the submission of cat registration applica-
tions, litter applications, or transfer requests.

ARTICLE II - BREED CLASSIFICATION

The word BREED is used in all these rules to mean natural breeds, established
breeds, mutations, and hybrids.

General: a breed may have specific policies regarding allowable ancestry, import
requirements, colors and other characteristics. For complete registration information
regarding a breed, contact the CFA Central Office.

Section 1 - Natural Breeds: Both parent cats and all ancestors must be of the breed
as the cat to be registered. The following natural breeds are recognized for registra-
tion: Abyssinian, American Shorthair, Chartreux, Egyptian Mau, Japanese Bobtail
(shorthair and longhair), Kho Manee, Korat, Maine Coon Cat, Manx (shorthair and
longhair), Norwegian Forest Cat, Persian, Russian Blue, Siamese, Siberian,
Singapura, Turkish Angora, and Turkish Van.

Section 2 - Established Breeds: The result of the mating of two or more specified
breeds that may be continued by breeding between specimens of the particular
established breed. Both parent cats must be specimens of the established breed, and
the pedigree may show only specimens of the established breed and/or breeds used
to produce the established breed. The following established breeds are recognized
for registration: Birman, British Shorthair, Burmese**, European Burmese, Havana
Brown**, Ragdoll and Tonkinese. "Certain outcrossing is permissible – Tonkinese
through December 31, 2021; imported Southeast Asian Cats; sable Bombay through
December 31, 2021. **Certain limited outcrossing is permissible for the Burmese and
Havana Brown. Contact the CFA Central Office for details.

Section 3 - Hybrids: The result of the mating of two or more specified breeds
specified or unspecified in the rules, whether medially or immediately. The pedigree
may show only the breeds used to develop the particular hybrid and/or specimens of the hybrid
listed in the breed-specific rules of registration which are available from CFA.

Balinese and Javanese, Bengal, Bombay, Burmilla, European Burmese, Colorpoint
Shorthair, Exotic, Ocicat, Oriental (longhair and shorthair), Ragamuffin.

Section 4 - Mutations: The natural offspring of a natural breed showing definite char-
acteristics that may be continued by breeding between specimens of the mutation
and/or the natural breed from which it originated. A pedigree may show only the
breeds listed in the breed-specific rules of registration (contact CO).

American Bobtail (longhair & shorthair), American Curl (shorthair and longhair),
American Wirehair, Cornish Rex, Devon Rex, LaPerm (longhair and shorthair),
Lykoi, Scottish Fold (shorthair and longhair), Selkirk Rex (longhair and shorthair),
Somali, Sphynx, Toybob.

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**ASSOCIATIONS FOR REGISTRATION BY PEDIGREE**

**WORLD CAT CONGRESS MEMBERS**

1. ACF  Australian Cat Federation
2. CFA  The Cat Fanciers’ Association, Inc.
3. CCC of A  Coordinating Cat Council of Australian
4. FIFe  Fédération Internationale Félíne
5. GCCF  Governing Council of the Cat Fancy
6. NZCF  New Zealand Cat Fanciers
7. SACC  Southern Africa Cat Council
8. TICA  The International Cat Association
9. WCF  World Cat Federation

**ADDITIONAL REGISTRIES ACCEPTED**

1. ACA  American Cat Association
2. ACFA  American Cat Fanciers Association
3. ANCATS  Australian National Cats, Inc. (formerly Waratah)
4. ASC  Association of Super Cats Russia
5. CATZ Inc.  New Zealand
6. CCA  Canadian Cat Association
7. CFF  Cat Fanciers Federation
8. ICU  International Cat Union Russia
9. LOOF  Livre Officiel des Origines Félines France
10. RUI  Rolandus Union International