The Cat Fanciers’ Association, Inc.
2015 BREED COUNCIL POLL

ABYSSINIAN

Breed Council Secretary: Meg Lambert – Attleboro, MA
Total Members: 74
Ballots Received: 39

1. **PROPOSED:** Under “Abyssinian Colors,” change the color name “Red” to “Cinnamon.” Delete the parenthetical “cinnamon gene.” In “Ears” and under “Disqualify,” change the wording from “red” to “cinnamon;” however, leaving the words red within the color description itself.

**Current:**

**ABYSSINIAN COLORS**

…

**RED** *(cinnamon gene)*: coat rich, warm glowing red, ticked with chocolate-brown, the extreme outer tip to be dark, with red undercoat. …

**EARS:** … Hair on ears very short and close lying, preferably tipped with black or dark brown on a ruddy Abyssinian, chocolate-brown on a red Abyssinian, slate blue on a blue Abyssinian, or light cocoa-brown on a fawn Abyssinian.

**DISQUALIFY:** … Any black hair on red Abyssinian. …

**Proposed:**

**ABYSSINIAN COLORS:**

…

**RED** *(cinnamon gene)*: **CINNAMON:** coat rich, warm glowing red, ticked with chocolate-brown, the extreme outer tip to be dark, with red undercoat. …
**EARS:** … Hair on ears very short and close lying, preferably tipped with black on a ruddy Abyssinian, chocolate-brown on a red **cinnamon** Abyssinian, slate blue on a blue Abyssinian, or light cocoa-brown on a fawn Abyssinian.

**DISQUALIFY:** … Any black hair on red a cinnamon Abyssinian. …

**RATIONALE:** The color is genetically cinnamon. Other CFA breeds (Ocicat, OSH) use the word cinnamon. Other registries recognize self-red (sex-linked) Abyssinians and they are called “red.” Calling the cinnamon Abyssinian by its correct genetic name should help avoid any future confusion.

YES: 23  
NO: 16  
ABSTAIN: 0

**STANDARD CHANGE (fails)**

Votes: 39  
60% of Voting: 24

2. **PROPOSED:** In the “Ticking” section, change, “with dark colored bands contrasting with lighter colored bands.”

**Current:**

Ticking: distinct and even, with dark colored bands contrasting with lighter colored bands on the hair shafts.

**Proposed:**

Ticking: distinct and even, with dark (tail tip color) colored bands contrasting with lighter undercoat colored bands on the hair shafts.

**RATIONALE:** Specifically describing the darker and lighter bands clarifies how a correctly ticked coat looks; darker and lighter being slightly vague.

YES: 27  
NO: 12  
ABSTAIN: 0

**STANDARD CHANGE (passes)**

Votes: 39  
60% of Voting: 24

3. **PROPOSED:** In the Ruddy color description, change, “various shades of darker brown or black” to “black.”

**Current:**

RUDDY: coat ruddy brown (burnt-sienna), ticked with various shades of darker brown or black; the extreme outer tip to be the darkest, with orange-brown undercoat.

**Proposed:**
RUDDY: coat ruddy brown (burnt sienna), ticked with various shades of darker brown or black; the extreme outer tip to be the darkest, with orange-brown undercoat.

RATIONALE: 1) “Various shades of” is unnecessarily confusing. 2) The two recessive colors do not have this wording. The color descriptions should be identical, save for the actual colors involved.

YES: 24  NO: 14  ABSTAIN: 1

STANDARD CHANGE (passes)
Votes: 38
60% of Voting: 23

4. PROPOSED: In the Blue color description, drop “various shades of”.

Current:

BLUE: coat warm beige, ticked with various shades of slate blue, the extreme outer tip to be the darkest, with blush beige undercoat.

Proposed:

BLUE: coat warm beige, ticked with various shades of slate blue; the extreme outer tip to be the darkest, with blush beige undercoat.

RATIONALE: 1) “Various shades of” is unnecessarily confusing. 2) The two recessive colors do not have this wording. The color descriptions should be identical, save for the actual colors involved.

YES: 25  NO: 12  ABSTAIN: 2

STANDARD CHANGE (passes)
Votes: 37
60% of Voting: 23

5. PROPOSED: In the “Ears” section, delete “or dark brown” from the ear tipping for a ruddy Abyssinian.

Current:

EARS: … Hair on ears very short and close lying, preferably tipped with black or dark brown on a ruddy Abyssinian.

Proposed:

EARS: … Hair on the ears very short and close lying, preferably tipped with black or dark brown on a ruddy Abyssinian.
RATIONALE: Tail tip color and ear tipping should be the same. Only the ruddy color currently has a variation. If “darker brown” is removed from the ticking description, it needs to be removed from the ear tipping description.

YES: 23
NO: 14
ABSTAIN: 2

STANDARD CHANGE (passes)
VOTES: 37
60% of Voting: 23


Current:

Eye color: gold or green, the more richness and depth of color the better.

Proposed:

Eye color: gold or green or copper, the more richness and depth of color the better.

RATIONALE: There is historical and genetic evidence supporting copper eye color and we now see it more often.

YES: 19
NO: 18
ABSTAIN: 2

STANDARD CHANGE (fails)
VOTES: 37
60% of Voting: 23

7. Do you feel the acceptance of the Bengal would be detrimental to the Abyssinian?

RATIONALE: The Bengal breed has applied for acceptance to CFA. The CFA Board of Directors voted to allow any breed that feels it is affected by the Bengal breed to ballot their Breed Council members. Sufficient BC members felt that the Abyssinian breed is affected or may be affected in other ways and wished to voice their opinions by voting on the question.

YES: 17
NO: 19
ABSTAIN: 3

INFORMATION ONLY

8. Do you support accepting the Bengal breed in CFA?

RATIONALE: The Bengal breed has applied for acceptance to CFA. The CFA Board of Directors voted to allow any breed that feels it is affected by the Bengal breed to ballot their Breed Council members. BC members felt not only that the Abyssinian breed is directly affected but may be affected in other ways and wished to voice their opinions by voting on the question.
YES: 13  NO: 22  ABSTAIN: 4

INFORMATION ONLY