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## BIRMAN

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Breed Council Secretary: Karen Lane – Delray Beach, FL

Total Members: 61

Ballots Received: 34

- 1. PROPOSED:** Reinstate AOV Color Class Codes and revise the Rules for Registration to allow for the registration of AOV Birman colors/patterns.

**Current:**

**REGISTER AS AOV:**

None			
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**Proposed:**

**REGISTER AS AOV:**

<u>None Any color not recognized in the Birman color standard.</u>			
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YES: 12

NO: 21

ABSTAIN: 0

**REGISTRATION ISSUE (fails)**

Votes: 33

> 50% of Voting: 17

**No Action.**

- 2.** If Proposal #1 passes, **PROPOSED** to assign an AOV Color Class number:

**Current:**

*The following information is for reference purposes only  
and not an official part of the CFA Show Standard.*

**Birman Color Class Numbers**

**Chocolate Point .....**0180      0181

...

**AOV.....**None      None

**Proposed:**

*The following information is for reference purposes only*

*and not an official part of the CFA Show Standard.*

### **Birman Color Class Numbers**

<b>Chocolate Point .....</b>	0180	0181
...		
<b>AOV.....</b>	None	None
<b>AOV.....</b>	XXXX	XXXX

**RATIONALE:** Unfortunately, our breed continues to decline in registered numbers in a time when CFA is seeing a large increase due to the expansion in the International and Asia areas of our world. One of the responsibilities of the Breed Council is to insure the future of our breed, both in numbers and in health.

By reinstating AOV in our “Color Class Numbers”, thereby, allowing Birmans in colors we do not recognize to register their Birmans and exhibit their cats in the AOV class in CFA, we are opening the door to Birman breeders in other countries and associations to come to CFA. We are making no change to our breed standard.

Some of our newer members might not know, “What is an AOV?”

AOV is defined in CFA Show Rule 2.19c: *The AOV (Any Other Variety) CLASS is for any registered cat or registered kitten, the ancestry of which entitles it to Championship or Premiership competition, but which does not (colorwise; coatwise; sexwise; as in the case of naturally tailless or naturally partially tailless breeds, tailwise; or earwise) conform to the accepted show standard.*

These breeders can then have a path to start the acceptance process of getting their cats to championship status if they desire.

The process to championship status is a **separate process** from reinstating AOV in our standard. The process to championship status for any new color will have to be approved by this breed council, after certain CFA requirements have been accomplished.

The AOV class will allow us to see the new colors, obtain greater understanding of the color genetics and at least formulate an opinion about them. AOV registry has the same exact pedigree requirements as any Birman for registry. They will need the same five-generation pedigree to register any color not presently accepted by CFA.

Breeders/owners of AOV-registered cats will be allowed to show their cats as AOV only and not in the championship classes; and they will compete against each other. The AOV cats are not eligible to win rosettes or to accrue points toward any title or award. In order for any offspring of an AOV cat to qualify for championship, no AOV cat can appear in the five-generation pedigree.

This is a positive step to **reverse the decline** in our breed numbers. Presently all major registries have accepted colors that CFA does not. This list includes TICA and Fife. This is a step for making it easier to import or bring cats from other associations into our breeding

programs. We all know that increasing the gene pool of our cats improves the health and the vitality of our cats.

The definition of insanity is: "Doing things the same way and expecting change".

YES: 15

NO: 17

ABSTAIN: 2

#### **REGISTRATION ISSUE (fails)**

Votes: 32

> 50% of Voting: 17

**No Action.**

**3. PROPOSED:** Add the following statement to the Disqualify Section:

**Current:**

DISQUALIFY: lack of white gloves on any paw. Kinked or abnormal tail. Structural defects or abnormalities. Crossed eyes. Incorrect number of toes. Areas of pure white in the points, if not connected to the gloves and part of or an extension of the gloves. Paw pads are part of the gloves. Areas of white connected to other areas of white by paw pads (of any color) are not cause for disqualification. Discrete areas of point color in the gloves, if not connected to point color of legs (exception, paw pads). White on back legs beyond the hock. Eye color other than blue. White tail tips or chin spots.

**Proposed:**

DISQUALIFY: lack of white gloves on any paw. Kinked or abnormal tail. Structural defects or abnormalities. Crossed eyes. Incorrect number of toes. Areas of pure white in the points, if not connected to the gloves and part of or an extension of the gloves. Paw pads are part of the gloves. Areas of white connected to other areas of white by paw pads (of any color) are not cause for disqualification. Discrete areas of point color in the gloves, if not connected to point color of legs (exception, paw pads). White on back legs beyond the hock. Eye color other than blue. Areas of pure white on the body. White tail tips or chin spots.

**RATIONALE:** This change will address only "**pure white**" spotting in any area of the cat's body. We see many of our cats with pure white chest spotting and the ever-popular pure white stripe running from the chest through the belly, most often easily seen in adulthood on our darker colors. This change does **not** address the covering of the penis in adult males. Nor will this change the present white shading on the chest and belly which is only penalized. There is difference between white shading and "pure white" spotting.

CFA is now an International Cat Registry. CFA has people in judging programs where English is not their first language. Many things can be lost in translation and this addition will be helpful for training new judges in foreign countries.

YES: 8

NO: 25

ABSTAIN: 1

**STANDARD CHANGE (fails)**

Votes: 34

60% of Voting: 21

**No Action.**