

THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE CAT FANCY

RULES & BYE-LAWS

Approved by the Council on 23rd February 1972
Revisions (undated) incorporated to 31st October 1999
Revisions (dated) incorporated to 31st October 2003
Revisions (dated) incorporated to 31st October 2005
Revisions (dated) incorporated to 31st October 2008

1. NAME

The company is The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy (hereinafter referred to as 'the` Council').

2. OBJECTS

The objects of the Council shall be to protect the welfare of cats and the interest of cat owners generally, to improve cat breeding, to provide for the registration of cats and cat pedigrees, to classify cat breeds, to approve cat shows, to exercise disciplinary powers and to procure to be written and printed, published, issued and circulated gratuitously or otherwise any such reports or periodicals, books, pamphlets, leaflets or other documents as may be determined by the Council.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Eligible Members shall be the affiliated clubs and societies (hereinafter called "the affiliated clubs") who shall be entitled to appoint representatives (hereinafter called "the delegates") to speak and vote on their behalf at General Meetings of the Company (hereinafter called "Council Meetings"). The National Cat Club shall be entitled to appoint FOUR delegates. Each other Affiliated Club shall be entitled to appoint one delegate provided it maintains a minimum of 100 members with the exception of Breed Clubs who must maintain a minimum of 50 members; an additional delegate if its membership exceeds 200 members and a further delegate if its membership attains 500 or more. The Council shall grant representation to the following Clubs by virtue of their historical association whatever their membership shall be:- (Amended 22.6.05/effective 1.1.06)

1. Black and White Cat Club
2. Blue Persian Cat Society
3. Chinchilla, Silver Tabby and Smoke Cat Society
4. The Red, Cream, Tortoiseshell, Tortoiseshell and White, Blue Cream and Brown Tabby Society
5. Short-Hair Cat Society (of Great Britain and Manx Club inc.)
6. Abyssinian Cat Club
7. Siamese Cat Club

4. REQUIREMENTS FOR AFFILIATION

To be eligible for affiliation a Club or Society (hereinafter called a Club) must have at least 50 paid up ordinary and life members as verified by the club's last examined accounts, and shall have been in existence, as a registered pre-affiliation club, for at least three years and its Rules must provide that in the event of affiliation being granted, the Council shall have disciplinary powers according to its Constitution over the Club and the members thereof. No Club may be affiliated to both the GCCF and to any other organisation whose activities include the registration and/or licensing or holding of shows for pedigree cats. An application for affiliation must be accompanied by:- (Amended 23.2.00, 24.10.01)

(1) A copy of the last accounts of the club which have been examined and signed by a suitable independent person in which the subscription income is analysed to show the number of members who have paid a full subscription for the year covered by the accounts and the number of life members.

(2) A list of the names of the Club's Officers and Committee Members none of whom may be an officer or committee member of any unaffiliated organisation whose activities include the registration and/or licensing or holding of shows for pedigree cats, without the prior consent of the Executive Committee.

(3) A copy of the Club's Rules, certified by the Chairman of the Committee and the Secretary of the Club, to be fully up to date.

(4) Have submitted a completed application to become a member of the Company, The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy.

If all these requirements are fulfilled to the satisfaction of the Council, it may in its discretion grant affiliation to the applicant Club.

5. DUTIES OF AFFILIATED CLUBS

(1) Before the first day of May each year, an Affiliated Club shall remit to the Council Office an Affiliation fee on a per capita basis of membership at a rate from time to time in force. In addition, the Affiliated Clubs shall be required to pay a fee at a rate from time to time in force for each appointed delegate. (Amended 18.2.04)

(2) If it is so entitled, it may elect a delegate or delegates to represent the Affiliated Club at Council Meetings. Except in the first year of representation, delegates shall be elected by postal ballot of all members of the Club or at the Annual General Meeting of the Affiliated Club and shall serve one year but shall be eligible for re-election subject to the Rules of the Affiliated Club concerned. An Affiliated Club with one delegate may elect and nominate to the Council a substitute delegate, and a Club with two or more delegates may elect and nominate to the Council a maximum of two substitute delegates. A substitute delegate of an Affiliated Club may attend Council Meetings in the unavoidable absence of an elected delegate of that Club. Paperwork shall be supplied by the Council Office only to the nominated delegates and it is the responsibility of the Club to forward paperwork to substitute delegates if required. If any delegate should die or resign, or otherwise vacate his/her seat at Council Meetings the Club concerned shall be entitled to elect or appoint, in such manner as the Club decides, another delegate to fill the vacancy so caused. (Amended 22.6.05/effective 1.1.06)

A delegate so elected or appointed shall hold office until the next Electoral meeting.

The rules of all affiliated Clubs shall include a rule requiring that any member (including life and honorary members) suspended under Article 12 of the Constitution and wishing to rejoin after expiration of the suspension, must apply for re-election to the Club Committee.

(3) Every Affiliated Club shall send to the Council Office before the 1st May in any year:-

(a) A copy of the accounts of the Club which have been examined and signed by a suitable independent person for the previous year in the form of an Income and Expenditure Account with a supporting Balance Sheet, including an analysis of the subscription income and a statement of paid up members including life members.

(Note: 'Previous year' in this context means the Club financial year completed prior to 1st May.)
(Amended 18.2.04)

(b) The names of the Officers and Members of the Committee of the Club for the current year, none of whom may be an officer or committee member of any unaffiliated organisation whose activities include the registration and/or licensing or holding of shows for pedigree cats, without the prior consent of the Executive Committee.(Amended 23.2.00; 20.6.01)

(c) An up-to-date copy of the Club's Rules or if no alterations have been made since the last return, a statement to this effect.

(d) The name of the Club's delegate or delegates and any substitute delegate or delegates for the next Council year which shall run from 1st June each year. Amended 22.6.05/effective 1.1.06)

*If any Affiliated Club without due reason acceptable to the Council fails to comply with this sub-paragraph the Club shall not send a delegate or delegates to the Council during the following year.

(4) Every Affiliated Club shall comply with the requirements of the Articles of Association and the Rules and Bye-Laws; any failure to do so shall make the offending Club liable under the Council's Disciplinary powers to all or any of the appropriate penalties provided for in Bye-Law12(2). (Amended 18.2.04)

6. DUTIES OF DELEGATES

Subject to Bye-Law 12(4) the only official publication of the deliberations and decisions of the Council shall be that issued by the Council Office with the approval of the Chairman.

A Delegate may be a Delegate of only one Affiliated Club at a time.

A Delegate may not be an officer or committee member of any unaffiliated organisation whose activities include the registration and/or licensing or holding of shows for pedigree cats, without the prior consent of the Executive Committee. (Amended 23.2.00, 20.6.01, 18.2.04).

7. POWERS OF THE COUNCIL

The Honorary Officers of Council shall itself or through its Committees properly appointed have the following powers in addition to all other powers vested in it by the Articles of Association, Company Law or by these Bye-Laws:-

(1) To deal with the property belonging to and vested in the Council together with the finances of the Council, including full power to mortgage charge or use the property of the Council as a security for the purposes of obtaining any loan or mortgage which the Council shall from time to time authorise.

(2) To make and amend Rules for the Registration and Exhibition of cats.

(3) To grant licences for Shows and Exhibitions of cats to be held under the auspices of the Council and to charge such fees therefore as the Council may from time to time decide.

(4) To make such awards at such Shows and Exhibitions as it shall deem fit.

(5) To keep a register of the pedigrees of cats and kittens.

(6) To issue certificates of pedigrees of cats and kittens in its register.

(7) To issue a Stud Book whenever necessary as ordered by the Council.

(8) Upon the motion of the Executive Committee to recognise breeds of cats and allot breed identification names and numbers for registration and show purposes and to approve standards of points by which the various breeds shall be judged.

(9) To appoint such Committees in addition to those detailed in Bye-Law 11 as it thinks fit and to delegate thereto such powers as it considers proper, subject to the provisions of these Bye-Laws.

(10) To exercise disciplinary powers in accordance with these Bye-Laws.

(11) To disaffiliate any Club not conforming to Articles of Association, Bye-Laws or to any Rule made by the Council.

(12) To engage a Solicitor or Solicitors or other person or persons of specialist knowledge, honorary or otherwise.

(13) To issue to the Press such information and/or notices as it may deem desirable.

(14) To require any Affiliated Club to amend any of its rules if in the opinion of the Council this is necessary in the interests of the Fancy or its objects.

(15) To appoint judges on the recommendation of the Breed Advisory Committee for the relevant Judges list or the Council Committee of Judges. In the case of a new breed, prior to the formation

of a BAC, recommendations for the Judges list will be considered from a representative group of breeders. (Amended 23.2.00, 20.6.01,20.02.02)

(16) To remove a Judge from the list of Judges on a proper cause being shown by the relevant Breed Advisory Committee.

(17) To arrange for the hearing by the Appeals Committee of any appeal against a decision of the Disciplinary Committee.

(18) To set up a committee of judges to consider the recommendation of candidates to Council for appointment as judges at the request of the Disciplinary Committee.

8. OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS OF COUNCIL

Original 1 relating to Trustees deleted

(1) The Honorary Officers of the Council shall be a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and such other Honorary Officers (including a President and up to three Vice-Presidents) as the Council may from time to time decide. With the exclusion of the President and Vice-Presidents, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and such other honorary officers as Council may decide shall be eligible to be directors and shall be known collectively as the board of directors(hereinafter called the "Executive Committee"). The President and Vice Presidents shall hold office until death or resignation unless removed from office by a resolution of Council. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be elected from amongst the delegates or Honorary Officers. On election as Chairman or Vice-Chairman a delegate shall cease to be a delegate but shall resume that office immediately a new Chairman or Vice-Chairman has been elected in his place, subject to his election as a delegate for the ensuing year by an Affiliated Club. Should there be more than two candidates for the office of Chairman or Vice-Chairman a primary ballot shall be held to reduce the number of candidates to the two gaining the greatest number of votes and the final ballot shall be between these two persons. The Chairman shall not be entitled to vote except where the votes for or against a proposal are equal when he shall have one vote. The Vice-Chairman shall have one vote unless acting as Chairman, in which case he or she shall not be entitled to vote except where the votes for or against a proposal are equal when he shall have one vote. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be elected annually by a paper ballot. Neither the Chairman nor the Vice-Chairman shall be eligible for re-election if this would result in his remaining in the same office for more than three consecutive years. If the office of Treasurer, if one is appointed, shall at any time become vacant, the accounts of the Council shall be audited immediately. (Amended 1.6.02, 18.2.04; 22.6.05)

(2) (a) The Chairman and/or Vice-Chairman together with one or more members of the Executive Committee may appoint a Manager of the Council Office and a Treasurer, whose responsibilities, remuneration, if applicable, and conditions of service shall be determined by the Executive Committee. The Manager of the Council Office, with the approval of the Chairman on behalf of the Executive Committee, may appoint other office staff.

(b) An officer of Council may not be an officer, committee member, official, judge, show manager or functionary of any unaffiliated organisation in the United Kingdom whose activities include the registration and/or licensing or holding of shows for pedigree cats, without the prior consent of the Executive Committee.

9. MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

(1) The Council shall meet three times a year or more often if required. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in June each year in London and shall be called the "Electoral Meeting". One meeting each year may be held outside London if it is the wish of the majority of the delegates. All dates to be fixed by the Chairman. The Chairman shall have powers to direct that a meeting of any Council committee or sub-committee take place within one month. An additional meeting shall be called whenever the number of agenda items outstanding reaches more than six. (Amended 18.2.04)

- (2) Business to be transacted at the Electoral meeting shall include:-
 - (a) Receipt of the reports of Committees and a statement of audited accounts relative to the preceding year.
 - (b) Election of the Honorary Officers.
 - (c) Election of the Standing Committees hereinafter mentioned.
 - (d) Appointment of the Auditor or Auditors for the ensuing year.
 - (e) Any other business specified in the notice convening the meeting or accepted by the Chairman as an Emergency.

(3) Special Meetings of the Council shall be convened by the Council Office on a request in writing made by the Chairman or by not less than 15 delegates; such request shall state the business for which the meeting is convened, and no other business shall be transacted at the meeting. (Amended 18.2.04)

(4) At least twenty-eight days notice in writing shall be given by the Council Office to the Honorary Officers and to all delegates of all Council Meetings and of the business to be transacted thereat, but in the case of Special Meetings called under this Bye-Law fourteen days notice only shall be required. (Amended 18.2.04)

10. PROCEDURE AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

(1) The quorum at Council Meetings shall be thirty including Officers

(2) At all Council Meetings, resolutions shall be decided by a simple majority except in cases where a particular majority is required by the Articles of Association and/or Rule and Bye-Laws.

(3) Any Resolution put to the vote at any meeting shall be decided by a show of hands of those present and voting, unless a poll, taking the form of a paper ballot is demanded by not fewer than six delegates or called for by the Chairman in which case the same shall be taken at such time and in such manner as the Chairman may direct. The Chairman's declaration that a resolution submitted to a show of hands or on a poll has been carried or lost shall be conclusive evidence of that fact. Scrutineers shall be appointed by the Chairman.

(4) Minutes shall be taken at all Council Meetings, and shall be circulated to the delegates.

(5) Subject to the Articles of Association, Company Law and the Rules and Bye-Laws, the Chairman's decision on the conduct of business at all meetings shall be final.

11. STANDING COMMITTEES

The following Standing Committees shall be set up and shall be responsible to the Council. They shall meet as directed and Minutes shall be kept of all meetings.

(1) Executive Committee

(a) The Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex-officio, Treasurer and one or more representatives from the Council Office ex-officio together with fifteen delegates elected by the Council at its Electoral Meeting. The Committee shall meet six times a year or more often if required. The meetings shall be held at places to be decided by the Executive Committee. Nine members (including the Chairman and Vice-Chairman but excluding the Treasurer and representatives from the GCCF Office) shall constitute a quorum. The Treasurer and GCCF Office representatives shall have no vote. (Amended 18.2.04; 22.6.05)

(b) It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to take executive action on matters which arise in connection with the day to day working of the Council. In all its actions and decisions it shall conform with the Articles of Association and the Rules and Bye-Laws and shall be governed by the general policies laid down by the Council.

(c) If it considers it necessary or desirable to do so it may refer any matter to the Council for decision. The Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee shall be circulated to the Council delegates for information. Since they are records of the proceedings of the Executive Committee they will not be subject to confirmation by the Council, and the Council may rescind, alter or amend any decisions made by the Executive Committee only if it is shown to the satisfaction of the Chairman that these have been taken contrary

to the provisions of Articles of Association and/or the Rules and Bye-Laws or contrary to policies laid down by the Council and a resolution to rescind has been duly proposed and seconded and passed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

(d) The following, amongst others, are matters which shall be dealt with by the Executive Committee, subject to the provisions above for reference to the Council:-

- (i) Correspondence
- (ii) Day to day control of the finances of the Council
- (iii) Interpretation of and disputes arising from the Rules referred to in Bye-Law 7(2) for the registration and exhibition of cats
- (iv) Show matters including the granting of Show dates
- (v) Any matters connected with the annual returns of Affiliated Clubs including power to suspend any Club which fails to supply annual returns by the required date, until the necessary information has been received
- (vi) Preliminary examination of applications for breed or variety recognition, prior to submission to the Council. In this matter, the Executive Committee may seek the views of the Genetics Committee
- (vii) To appoint the staff of the Council Office and any other paid Officials of the Council (Amended 18.2.04)
- (viii) To select Appeals Committees, as required, from the Council List of Judges). (Amended 22.6.05)
- (ix) To arrange co-ordination of welfare and rescue services.

(2) Board of Management

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman ex officio, the Treasurer and three members elected by the Council at its Electoral Meeting and one or more representatives from the Council Office ex-officio. Three voting members shall constitute a quorum. The Council Office representatives shall have no vote and the Chairman shall not be entitled to vote except where the votes for and against a proposal are equal when he shall have one vote. The Board of Management shall administer the income and expenditure policy of the Council.

(3) Disciplinary Committee

Nine delegates elected by the Council at its Electoral Meeting. The Committee shall elect its own Chairman and shall meet as required and shall deliver its findings to the Council. Five delegates shall form a quorum. A Barrister or Solicitor appointed by the Council may be present at meetings to advise. In matters of breaches of the Articles of Association, Bye-Laws or Rules or matters within Clause 12 (where admitted) the Committee may issue an advising letter to the persons or Affiliated Club concerned subject to the right of any Affiliated Club or person concerned to have (on demand being made within 14 days of the letter being issued) a formal hearing as provided by Clause 12 para (13) of the Rules and Bye-Laws.

(4) Investigation Committee

This Committee shall consist of five delegates, not members of the Disciplinary, or Appeals Committee as hereinafter constituted, elected by the Council at its Electoral Meeting. Three members shall be a quorum to examine any complaint.

(5) Appeals Committee

This Committee shall consist of seven delegates (not members of the Disciplinary or Investigation Committees) elected by the Council at its Electoral Meeting together with the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Council. Appeals against the decisions of the Disciplinary Committee shall be decided by simple majority. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final. Five members shall constitute a quorum. The Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee (or member of that Committee appointed by him) shall be present at all hearings of the Appeals Committee but shall not speak (unless asked so to do) and shall not vote.

If so required, the Disciplinary Committee shall give in writing its findings as to the facts of any complaint heard by it. Such findings shall be presented to the Appeals Committee by the Chairman of Disciplinary Committee or another member of the Disciplinary Committee nominated by the said Chairman.

In addition to hearing appeals against the judgement of the Disciplinary Committee, the Appeals Committee shall have the power to act as Arbitrator in disputes between individuals and/or organisations within the Fancy, and shall also be empowered to hear and adjudicate upon Appeals lodged under any permitted section of the Show Rules, its jurisdiction being limited only by the constitutional powers of the Council within the limits of which the decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final and shall be binding upon all the parties concerned.

(6) Genetics Committee

Seven delegates appointed by the Executive Committee. The Council shall seek the advice of the Genetics Committee in all cases where application is made to the Council to give recognition to a new breed or variety. The Committee shall appoint its own Chairman and Secretary and shall meet as required and report its findings to the Executive Committee.

(7) Substitute Committee Members

Two members of the Council shall be elected by Council at the Electoral Meeting to each of its Committees (except the Disciplinary Committee and the Appeals Committee where four members shall be elected) as Substitute Members to fill vacancies arising from any cause whatsoever.

In the case of the Disciplinary and Appeals Committees 'vacancies' shall include absence from any meeting as the case may be.

(8) Council Committee of Judges

The Council Committee of Judges shall consist of 9 members, all of whom shall be Full Council judges of at least 3 years standing; the quorum shall be 7 members. The 9 Committee members shall be selected when required from the list of Council Judges by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall select 2 substitute committee members to attend in the case of absences. The nominees may not be members of the Investigation, Disciplinary or Appeals Committees of the Council. (amended 23.6.04)

12. DISCIPLINARY POWERS

- (1) Any affiliated Club, any Breed Advisory Committee or any person who is or was, at any time, bound by Bye-Laws or any Rule made by the Council thereunder shall be liable to disciplinary action in accordance with the Bye-Law whether or not in the case of an Affiliated Club it was affiliated or in the case of a person he was so bound at the time of the occurrence giving rise to the liability to disciplinary action. Liability to disciplinary action will arise in respect of any of the following:

(a) Any breach of Bye-Laws or of any of the Rules made by the Council thereunder and any breach of the Rules of any Affiliated Club or Affiliated Clubs to which such person belongs.

(b) Any act, conduct, default or omission arising out of, connected with or relating to the keeping, breeding, exhibiting or judging of cats which is or may be discreditable or prejudicial to the welfare of cats or the interest of cat owners or the breeding or exhibiting of cats.

It shall be discreditable conduct (i) to supply or (ii) to be concerned in the supply of animals with a view to profit or gain for the purposes of scientific or other research, 'to be concerned' to include (a) acting as an agent for such supply or (b) any act leading to a profit or gain being derived from such supply.

(Paragraph 3 re pet shops rescinded 26.6.86)

The Council strongly recommends members of the Cat Fancy not to sell to pet shops because such action may lead to cats being treated in a way that would be prejudicial to the cats' welfare, so rendering themselves liable to be called upon to answer a complaint of discreditable and/or prejudicial conduct brought under Bye-Law 12(1).

(c) Any conviction by a Court of Justice of any offence against any act, statute, by-law or regulation relating to the protection, treatment or welfare of any animal or animals.

(d) Any act, conduct, default or omission in any way connected with cats, the Council, any Affiliated Club or any member or members thereof or any other person or Affiliated Club,

which is or may be discreditable or prejudicial to the interests of the Council or any Affiliated Club or to any member of any of them.

- (2) (a) It shall be the right of any person, Affiliated Club or any Committee of the Council (hereinafter called 'the complainant') to bring to the attention of the Council Office or the Chairman of the Investigation Committee any facts or matters indicating that an Affiliated Club or any person (hereinafter called 'the defendant') may have become liable to disciplinary action as aforesaid and it shall be the duty of the Council Office or the Chairman of the Investigation Committee forthwith to lay such facts and matters before the Investigation Committee. (Amended 18.2.04)
- (b) Where any such fact or matters have been laid before it the Investigation Committee shall have power to call for and it shall be the duty of every Affiliated Club or any person mentioned in sub-Bye-Law (1) hereof to provide such further information as the Committee may consider necessary to enable it to carry out its duties under this Bye-Law. The Investigation Committee shall provide the defendant with details of the complaint and then give him an opportunity to make written representations.
- (c) The Investigation Committee shall thereupon decide whether a prima facie case has been made out against the defendant and, if so, it shall prefer a complaint to the Disciplinary Committee and shall send to such Committee a summary of the facts and matters which were before the Investigation Committee together with a copy or summary of any representations made to it by the defendant.
- (d) In the event that the Investigation Committee finds that no prima facie case has been made out against a defendant it may at its absolute discretion require the complainant concerned to make a contribution towards to cost of processing the complaint not exceeding £100 (one hundred pounds). Failure without good cause to pay a contribution so required shall be deemed to be discreditable conduct within the meaning of paragraph (1)(d) of this Bye-Law.
- (3) (a) Upon receipt of a formal complaint from the Investigation Committee, the Council Office on behalf of the Disciplinary Committee shall arrange to notify the defendants of the terms of the complaint and as soon as practicable thereafter of the time and place fixed for the hearing. The Disciplinary Committee shall give the defendant the opportunity of being heard before it. (Amended 18.2.04)
- (b) The Investigation Committee shall appoint one of its number or a member of an Affiliated club to present the formal complaint before the Disciplinary Committee or shall allow the complainant to present such complaints, if he so wishes.
- (c) The Disciplinary Committee may instruct a Solicitor or brief Counsel to act or advise it on the hearing of a formal complaint.
- (d) The complainant, if required, shall attend the hearing of the formal complaint together with any witnesses who have agreed to appear to give evidence in support of the complaint. Failure to do so may render the persons concerned liable to a fine of £100 (within the meaning of Bye-Law 12(4)(c)(ii)), such fine to be decided by the Disciplinary Committee at that time. (Amended 1.1.02)
- (e) All witnesses required shall be notified not less than fourteen days before the date fixed for the hearing of the formal complaint by the Disciplinary Committee and those witnesses called by the Committee of the Council aforesaid shall be paid their travelling and subsistence expenses and loss of remuneration by the Council.
- (4) If the Disciplinary Committee is of the opinion that the complaint has been proved in whole or in part it shall make a finding to that effect and in that event it may make one or more of the following orders against the defendant as it considers appropriate:
- (a) If the defendant be an Affiliated Club: Disaffiliation.
- (b) If the defendant be a person at any time bound by these Bye-Laws and the Rules made thereunder:

(i) Suspension of the defendant concerned from exhibiting at, taking part in or having connection with any Cat Show. During any period of such suspension a defendant shall not be eligible to become or remain a member of any Affiliated Club. Except where the Disciplinary Committee orders otherwise the Council shall not register any cat or the progeny of any cat owned by a defendant suspended in accordance herewith and similarly the Council shall not register the transfer of any cat to or from the ownership of any such defendant during the period of suspension. No such progeny born during the period of suspension shall be registered at any time. Provided always that the Executive Committee may in its absolute discretion allow the registration of any cat aforesaid or the transfer from the ownership of such defendant of any aforesaid where it is satisfied that not to do so would be deleterious to the welfare of the cat or would cause hardship or injury to an innocent third party who had acted at all times in good faith.

(ii) Disqualification from all shows held under the Rules of the Council of all cats owned by the defendant or registered by him or owned or registered by him jointly with another or others or owned or registered in the name or names of a nominee or nominees respectively.

No cats disqualified in accordance herewith shall be eligible to be shown during the period of such disqualification

(iii) Disqualification from holding office in an Affiliated Club.

(iv) Disqualification from being a member of the Committee of an Affiliated Club.

(v) Disqualification from being concerned in the management of any Show held under the Rules of the Council.

(vi) Disqualification from officiating as a Judge at any Show held under the Rules of the Council.

Any suspension or disqualification hereunder may be imposed for such a period or periods as the Disciplinary Committee shall order.

(c) In the case of any defendant:

(i) That the said defendant be censured and warned.

(ii) Imposition of a fine not exceeding £500 payable in such a manner and at such a time or times as the Committee may order. Failure to comply with any order imposing of fine hereunder shall cause the defendant to be automatically disqualified and suspended under the terms of (b)(i) and (ii) hereof, or disaffiliated as the case may be for so long as the failure to comply continues.

(d) In the case of a Breed Advisory Committee:

(i) The Disciplinary Committee may refer the decision of the Breed Advisory Committee on the appointment/promotion of a judge to the Council Judges' Committee.

(5) Any order of the Disciplinary Committee may be made upon such terms and condition (if any) as the Committee may deem appropriate, but if notwithstanding its finding that a complaint has been proved the Disciplinary Committee is of the opinion that in all circumstances of the case no such order as aforesaid is appropriate it may make an order that no further action be taken on the complaint.

(6) An order of the Disciplinary Committee shall take effect from the date of the order. Notice of the order shall be given forthwith to the defendant and the Council.

(7) Any person knowingly supplying a cat to anyone so suspended in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (4)(b)(i) of this Bye-Law shall be liable to disciplinary action hereunder.

(8) An appeal may be made from any finding of the Disciplinary Committee to the Appeals Committee upon any point of law or procedure or against any order or finding made by the

Disciplinary Committee but not a finding of fact. Notice of appeal shall be given to the Council Office within twenty-one days of such finding; any such notice shall set out in reasonable detail the ground or grounds of appeal and such ground or grounds shall not afterwards be varied except with the leave of the Appeals Committee. (Amended 18.2.04)

- (9) (a) The Appeals Committee through the Council Office shall arrange to notify the parties to the appeal of the time and place fixed for the hearing of the Appeal.

The Appeals Committee shall give the parties the opportunity of being heard.

(b) The Investigation Committee shall appoint one of its number or a member of a club affiliated to the Council to appear for it on an Appeal. (Amended 18.2.04)

(c) The Appeals Committee may instruct a Solicitor or may brief Counsel to advise it on the hearing of any Appeal.

- (10) (a) On any Appeal the Appeals Committee shall take into consideration the record of the evidence given before and the documents produced to the Disciplinary Committee on its hearing of the formal complaint but may in its absolute discretion rehear any witness called before the Disciplinary Committee and may on special grounds (as to which the Appeals Committee shall be the sole judge) admit and receive any fresh evidence which was not capable of being produced to the Disciplinary Committee.

(b) On any Appeal the Appeals Committee may affirm, vary or rescind any order of the Disciplinary Committee including any order as to costs and may substitute any other order or orders, which the Disciplinary Committee might have made on the original formal complaint. An order of the Appeals Committee shall take effect as from the date thereof. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final.

(c) Notice of any order of the Appeals Committee shall as soon as practicable be given to the parties and to the Council.

- (11) (a) Where the Disciplinary Committee finds a complaint against a defendant proved wholly or in part it may in addition to any order made under the provisions of this Bye-Law including an order that no further action be taken, direct that the defendant pay a sum not exceeding £1000 by way of costs.

(b) Any such costs shall be paid within one month of the date of the service upon the defendant of the order save that subject to paragraph (c) below if notice of appeal is given such costs shall not be payable until the determination of the appeal and then subject to any order made by the Appeals Committee thereon.

(c) Where the appeal is from an order of the Disciplinary Committee that the defendant be suspended or the defendant's cats disqualified, any costs ordered by the Disciplinary Committee shall be paid forthwith and failure so to do shall invalidate any notice of appeal which may thereafter be given.

(d) No appeal shall lie solely on the question of costs.

(e) Where the Appeals Committee dismisses wholly or in part any appeal it may in addition to any order made by it under paragraph (10) above against a defendant, direct that the said defendant pay a further sum not exceeding £100 by way of costs of the appeal. Any costs ordered by the Appeals Committee together with any costs directed to be paid by the Disciplinary Committee varied if such be the case by the Appeals Committee shall be paid within one month of the date of the order of the Appeals Committee. Failure to do so shall automatically cause a defendant Affiliated Club to be disaffiliated and any other defendant to be suspended for such a period as the Appeals Committee shall direct.

- (12) (a) Whenever the Disciplinary Committee finds that a formal complaint has been proved in whole or in part it shall subject to paragraph (d) hereof cause its order to be published as soon as practicable in the official publication of the Council or on the Council website

provided that where the Disciplinary Committee has ordered that no further action be taken on the complaint the order shall not be published unless the defendant so requests.

(b) The Appeals Committee shall likewise cause any order made by it to be published as soon as practicable in the official publication of the Council or on the Council Website provided that if the Appeals Committee has ordered that no further action be taken on the complaint the order shall not be published unless the defendant so requests.

(c) Unless the Disciplinary Committee, or as the case may be, the Appeals Committee in its absolute discretion otherwise directs, any such publication shall state the name of the defendant, the substance of the complaint, and the order or orders made against such defendant, but need not include the name of any person concerned in the complaint or appeal.

(d) No publication under paragraph (a) hereof shall be made until after the expiry of the appeal period aforesaid and in the event that notice of appeal as aforesaid is received by the Council no publication under paragraph (a) hereof shall take place but publication shall be under paragraph (b) hereof.

(13) (a) The Executive Committee may make provision for certain breaches falling within Bye-Law 12(1) of this Constitution or the Rules to be dealt with by way of fixed penalty. (Added 25.6.03)

(b) The breaches in question, the fixed penalty applicable thereto and the consequences of non payment shall be as published by the Executive Committee from time to time. The maximum level of fixed penalty per breach shall not exceed £100. (Added 25.6.03)

(c) The Investigation Committee shall decide whether a breach or breaches shall be dealt with by way of fixed penalty; such decision may be made by way of a general direction in advance or on a case by case basis. (Added 25.6.03)

(d) Any defendant upon whom a fixed penalty is imposed may, within 28 days of the date of the fixed penalty letter, request that the case be referred to the Disciplinary Committee whereupon the Investigation Committee shall prefer a complaint to the Disciplinary Committee under Bye-Law 12(2)(c). (Added 25.6.03)

(14) (a) At any hearing before the Disciplinary Committee or the Appeals Committee respectively, any complainant and any defendant may if they or any of them shall so desire, be represented by a member of the Cat Fancy other than a witness to the complaint or by a Solicitor or Counsel and paragraphs (2)(b), (3)(a), (3)(b), (8) and (9)(a) hereof shall be construed accordingly.

(b) The Investigation Committee may instruct a Solicitor or cause Counsel to be briefed upon its behalf to advise it or to represent it at any hearing before the Disciplinary Committee or the Appeals Committee as the case may be.

(15) In this Article unless inconsistent with the subject or context:

(a) The masculine gender where used shall include the feminine.

(b) 'Hearing' in relation to a complaint or appeal shall mean a meeting of the relevant Committee for the purposes of considering a complaint or appeal and include the making of an order or finding upon or in connection with the complaint or appeal and also where appropriate include a rehearing.

(c) 'Order' includes any finding term or condition in consequence of which the order is made.

(d) 'Affiliated Club' shall include any Affiliated Club, Association or Society.

(e) 'Cat' and 'Cats' shall include kitten and kittens respectively and shall include neuters and spays respectively.

13. BYE-LAW CHANGES

The Council shall have power to amend these Bye-Laws or the Rules for the registration and exhibition of cats by resolution passed by a majority of two-thirds of those present and voting at a meeting of the Council, of which not less than twenty-eight days notice of the intended alteration has been given, setting out the amendments which are to be proposed. Amendments to the Bye-Laws shall take effect immediately after they are approved and the effective date of any amendment to the Rules shall be stated as an integral part of the amendments.

14. WINDING UP

If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Council there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any cash or assets whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of Company, but shall be given or transferred to some other Company or Charity having objects similar to the objects of the Company, and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property.

15. STANDING ORDERS

The Council shall have powers to make Standing Orders from time to time as it may see fit and to appoint a Standing Orders Committee of which the Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be ex-officio members. (Amended 18.2.04)

16. These Bye-Laws, were approved by the Council on [] in substitution for and to the exclusion of the existing Constitution of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, except that Honorary Officers, Delegates and Officials in office on that date shall be deemed to have been elected or appointed under these Bye-Laws.

Amendments to 31.10.99

09.05.73	24.10.79	01.06.83	24.02.88	01.03.95
24.04.74	23.04.80	15.06.83	27.04.88	28.02.96
22.10.75	25.06.80	01.09.83	08.02.89	25.06.97
21.04.76	22.10.80	25.04.84	27.06.90	24.06.98
17.04.77	28.04.82	24.10.84	26.06.91	23.06.99
26.10.77	23.06.82	17.04.85	24.06.92	27.10.99
05.04.78	20.10.82	23.10.85	23.06.93	01.11.05
21.06.78	20.04.83	25.06.86	20.10.93	01.11.08