



MINUTES

For the Meeting of the **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** **THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE CAT FANCY**



Wednesday, 15 November 2017 at the Kennel Club, Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London

Present: Mr John Hansson - Chairman
Mr Sean Farrell - Vice-Chairman
Mrs Lynda Ashmore Dr Bruce Bennett
Dr Gillian Bennett Dr Peter Collin
Mr Steve Crow Mrs Hilary Dean
Mrs Rosemary Fisher Mrs Doreen Goadby
Mr Thomas Goss Mrs Shelagh Heavens
Mrs Jen Lacey Mrs Lisa Robinson-Talboys

In attendance: Mr Mark Goadby - Office Manager

BD3713 MEETING INTRODUCTION

1. **Apologies for absence.**

1.1 Apologies were given on behalf of: Mrs Valerie Anderson, Mrs Helen Marriott-Power, Mrs Elaine Robinson and Mrs Sally Rainbow-Ockwell (IT support).

2. **Chairman's Opening remarks**

- 2.1 The Chairman opened the meeting at 11.25 once it was quorate. Some members had been delayed by late trains.
- 2.2 He informed the Board that legal advice had been sought on the style of minutes and the procedure at Council Meetings. The GCCF's solicitor had advised reference should always be made to the GCCF Articles of Association and Byelaws. These were in line with Company Law. If other additional procedures were cited they needed to be received in writing with the appropriate reference, preferably in advance of the meeting, so that they could be checked.
- 2.3 It was noted that Council minutes went onto the website as soon as they had Board approval, but agreed that it would be ideal if each delegate could receive the link so they had plenty of time to read them in advance and send in corrections and/or amendments.

BD3714 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

1. **The Minutes of the Board meeting of 24 August 2017**

- 1.1 These had been circulated in advance of the meeting and some corrections and amendments had been made.
- 1.2 There were no additional comments.
- 1.3 The minutes were approved with five abstentions once a sufficient number of members had arrived who were present at the previous meeting.

Action: publication on the GCCF website

JL/RF

2. **Matters arising from the August minutes**

- 2.1 BD3691.2: The Bombay & Asian Club show date should have been listed. It was agreed the show would take place on 31.3.18, sharing a venue with the Cambridge CC and others.
- 2.2 BD3698: This was agreed as an acceptable note explaining absence.
- 2.3 BD3700: It was queried whether the register of interests were now completed. The OM replied that he had the required information from new Board members. He expected existing members to update if necessary.
- 2.4: BD3706.6 Additional wording to ensure Maine Coons were assigned to the correct show class was discussed with the MCBAC between Board meetings. There was agreement to keep it as simple as possible, and it was then passed to the office for circulation to show managers.
- It was observed that there had been no Show Managers' pack for some time, and whether paperwork was still going to be posted out. The OM replied that the presentation was currently being reviewed. It was stated that most useful information was class allocation for certain breeds (MC particularly) in a spreadsheet format and the most recent edition should be available.

Action: this to be put onto the website.

OM

- 2.5 BD3708.5 A letter had been received from the Chairman of the BSGC replying to the points made by the Board concerning BSH breeding and BSH variants. Also, one from the club representing the BLH breeder group commenting on the retention of BSH variants. As these had arrived close to this meeting the discussion would be held at the January Board meeting, and both parties had been informed. **INFO**

3. **Minutes of the 4 October Council meeting**

- 3.1 These had been circulated and corrections made. There were no amendments proposed.
- 3.2. C2178: It was acknowledged that the amendment did not have context as minuted, but when reference was made to the Byelaws listed it was clear that the subject was the Standing Committees.

4. **Bye Law amendment**

Addition to Byelaw 9 (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 Byelaw fourteen days' notice only shall be required. **This business shall include any proposed substantive amendments (those requiring more than one sentence of addition and/or deletion) to the minutes of the previous Council meeting, for the consideration of all who attended.**

4.1 The additional words '**or any query on meeting procedure**' were proposed to follow 'the previous Council meeting, and agreed.

4.2 It was agreed unanimously that this should go forward to February Council, but that the final sentence of the rationale should not be used.

Action: to be on the agenda of the February Council Meeting

JL

5. Protocol for decision making between meetings

5.1 After discussion of different types of email format it was agreed this should be kept simple.

5.2 a) The information would be circulated.

b) It would need to carry a response date

c) It would be actioned once a simple majority was achieved.

INFO

BD3715 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1. Unregistered interests declared for the business of this meeting.

1.1 BD3724.10: Mrs Lacey had an exhibit that would benefit from a change to the rule.

INFO

2. Personal associations with other organisations

2.1 The Chairman stated that he had received a complaint that some Board members/delegates seemed to be actively promoting TICA. Some examples were given, some of which were refuted.

2.2 There was some consensus that exhibiting and judging with other members of WCC was acceptable and covered by WCC protocol, and that no one could be an official of more than one organisation because of a definite conflict of interest, but there was a grey area between these positions.

2.3 It was agreed that this should be debated further in January, with some consideration of any Byelaw changes so that there could be structured discussion at a future Council meeting.

Action: an item to be on the January Board agenda

JL

BD3716 IT INFORMATION

1. Update on the progress of high priority items

1.1 Mrs Rainbow-Ockwell was unable to be present, but had sent full notes with details of current and planned projects, GDPR concerns, resourcing and staffing.

1.2 The OM believed the IT group were on target to complete 2017 maintenance and updates

INFO

2. IT support & development for the remainder of 2017

2.1 The IT system had provided effective management of the online entry and paperwork processes.

2.2 The first pilot for the club process had started. This was proving more difficult than initially envisaged, but it was covering two shows back to back, the most difficult format.

2.3 The disciplinary management system was at the testing stage, and staff training and review were about to begin.

2.4 The new software was live and being used to monitor judge report publication, with judges and show managers not affected in any way. They had only to continue with the usual procedures. It was adequate, but needed some fine tuning, so liaison was required between the users for fine tuning.

2.5 It was expected that Breeder Scheme renewal would be able to be carried out online in 2018.

2.6 Development continued to improve phone and tablet views and system access.

2.7 The Office would have a new server and cloud based email system by the end of November via migration to Office 365.

2.8 The OM confirmed that the email system had the full support of the IT group. Money could have been saved by not having the new server, but in his estimation the poor function of the existing one was high risk.

2.9 Integration with Agria's new IT system was planned for early December.

INFO

3. IT support & development for 2018

3.1 There would be a continued roll out of the club show process. Two more pilots were planned and other clubs would be invited to participate.

3.2 Development of the Breeder Scheme to offer additional services and be more interactive would make it more attractive to breeders.

3.3 It was hoped to offer further services to clubs and BACs so that returns could be made online, and they could be responsible for their own personnel updates.

3.4 Online mating certificates, inbreeding coefficient calculation and line chasing services were new projects to expand the breeder services.

3.5 Also, additional online ordering facilities and a customer Helpdesk would be of benefit to all users.

3.6 It was concluded that if all of the developments were to be made it would provide a significant amount of work for Leon. However, he was expensive at £60k per annum, though not as much as an outsourced service at £80k, and any newcomer would need to spend a considerable amount of time to become familiar with the system.

3.7 A new employee for support and development (£45k) was estimated as best value long term, but there would need to be training period overseen by Leon.

3.8 The OM observed that GCCF benefitted considerably from Leon's continued interest. It was agreed unanimously that Leon should be employed until at least the end of March. FC would consider the budget and recommend a strategy for transition in 2018 to internal support and development.

Action: IT staffing plans to be on the FC and January Board agendas

JL

4. Office enforcement of mating contract agreements

- 4.1 Mating certificates were discussed again as there was concern that with the present information asked for (last two figures of the stud's UIN) there could be some cheating if breeders were using a stud (or alleging they had done so) on more than on occasion.
- 4.2 The OM acknowledged there were some problems, but after initial difficulties in the early stages, checks were being made. New registration certificates were issued free of charge if there was a request for a new number, and mating certificates were called in randomly. A paper mating certificate was still a requirement, although it could be scanned and sent as a pdf.
- 4.3 The Southern British SH Club had made a request that the active/non-active status of kittens was visible to enable the stud owner to check contract terms were complied with. The OM gave it as his opinion this would not be contrary to GDPR, though was unsure whether it was practical.
- 4.4 It was agreed there should be further investigation of any implications for GCCF and the information fed back to the club.

Action: assessment of practicality and legal/business implications

OM

5. Notification of the breeder if a cat on the active register is transferred to a new owner

- 5.1 This was also a request from the Southern British SH Club following welfare concerns when active cats had been sold by an owner who was not the breeder.
- 5.2 The OM confirmed supplying information on a third party would definitely breach the GDPR.
- 5.3 There was some discussion on the situation when a cat was jointly owned. There was confirmation that a joint owner would be informed about any transfer.

Action: information to be fed back to the club

SH

BD3716

BUSINESS MATTERS

1. New partnership for an APP - heads of agreement document

- 1.1 The OM presented the heads of agreement document. It expressed intent for the GCCF and Petsquare to work together in mutual support without obligation or financial cost to either party.
- 1.2 The collaboration would be on the special expertise and information held by both parties to complement the business and marketing plans of each and so offer new opportunities.
- 1.3 There was no guarantee of exclusivity on either side.
- 1.4 It was observed that there were other similar companies, but the OM considered that only PS had such a wide variety of links, including to veterinary support.
- 1.5 It was agreed that PS should be invited to the January Board meeting if there were pre-set questions to be raised.

Action: An invitation to PS to attend the meeting if required.

OM.

2. General Data Protection Regulation

- 2.1 The OM repeated that the deadline for compliance with the GDPR was 25 May, and there were significant penalties and risk of legal action for failure.
- 2.2 The biggest shift was the necessity that people were asked to opt in to providing their personal data, rather than having to opt out.
- 2.3 This was discussed in relation to show catalogues. It was suggested that the rule requiring published list of names and addresses had to be removed. Clubs could provide 'Breeder Directories' as an alternative for those exhibitors who wanted this facility (about half according to a club survey).
- 2.4 It was doubted that giving the owner and breeder name in a catalogue would be a contravention, but stressed that this was the sort of information GCCF should have. The OM said he had not the time to become familiar with all the intricacies, but neither was there a Board volunteer for this responsibility.

Actions: preparations of rule changes for the January Board meeting

JL

Heather McRae to be contacted to see if she was implementing GDPR and could advise

JH

3. Report from the Canine & Feline Sector Group

- 3.1 There had been no additional information following the report given in Council as there had been no new meeting. The next would be January and feedback given at the February Council meeting.
- 3.2 Pet vendors operating for a profit would require a licence, and it would be the responsibility of hobby breeders to keep accounts and prove they were not benefitting financially in the event of an HMRC query.
- 3.3 Steve Crow was involved in writing the guidance for local authorities, and knew that most GCCF breeders would not qualify for light touch occasional inspections as a qualification in animal husbandry would be one necessary requirement for this.
- 3.4 He believed it was unlikely the legislation would be ready by the summer of 2018, more likely the autumn or later, and this would be followed by a preparation period.
- 3.5 It was acknowledged that HMRC had made a specific enquiry on one breeder, but a response had not yet been made.

4. The GCCF partnerships - to receive any updates from Agria and/or Royal Canin

- 4.1 Agria would be closing down their online access for a time during the transition to a new computer system. Breeders would be informed. It was thought it was unlikely that it would impact the GCCF system.
- 4.2 Commissions continued to rise, and there had been some adjustments on the GCCF website to give the company the greater presence it requested. It was agreed a logo was sufficient for any breed information page. Marketing information would not be placed there.
- 4.3 A GDPR conference call was booked for 23 December and the next meeting was planned for January.
- 4.4 The next meeting with Royal Canin would take place in early December. The company had indicated it would definitely support the 2018 Supreme Show.
- 4.5 It was known they wished to change the terms of the transfer incentive, but this was extremely beneficial to GCCF so an effort would be made to minimise any changes.

INFO

1. **Management accounts on 2017 business to date**

- 1.1 The OM had provided the accounts detail for September, and remarked that August and September had both been excellent months
- 1.2 Income for the month was 2% better than in 2016, and the total income for the year to date at the end of September was 108%, showing continued growth.
- 1.3 Income from Agria continued to be exceptionally strong. The September figure had exceeded £6000.
- 1.4 The total expenditure for the year was £275,144.13, 2% lower than at this point in the previous year, and in September costs had been just 92% when compared to the 2016 figure. This was below the forecast.
- 1.5 There was a nett surplus for September and for the year to date on the operational accounts, and this currently exceeded the forecast both before and after depreciation was factored in.
- 1.6 There were no questions, but Board consensus was that FC should budget to allow services to continue to develop rather than store money.

INFO

2. **Volume figures and transaction graphs for core business from June to October**

- 2.1 Prefix registrations were overall just a little lower than for 2016, though had improved slightly over the summer.
- 2.2 Growth continued in all other areas with the record highs continued to be shown for import registrations and prefix applications being maintained.
- 2.3 Cumulative transfer totals were at a record level. The monthly figure had slipped slightly and then picked up again after the summer.
- 2.4 The overall picture continued to be extremely positive. The OM said he believed there were rumours circulating that GCCF was going bankrupt, but he certainly couldn't see any indications.
- 2.5 One cloud on the horizon was the possibility of the non-continuation of EU pet passports if there was no deal arrived at on this as part of the Brexit negotiations.

INFO

3. **Membership (capitation) fees - clarification**

- 3.1 It was confirmed that 30p was the capitation fee, not 40p as had been stated at a previous meeting. This meant a club with 50 members would be paying £15 to GCCF as its annual subscription.
- 3.2 It was agreed this (rather than £20) would be the minimum for all clubs with full GCCF membership, regardless of whether they had as many as 50 members.

Action: to be reported at the February Council meeting

OM

4. **Investment accounts report**

- 4.1 The OM reported £75,000 remained invested in the Aldemore account and £250 per month was being paid in to the Cambridge & Counties as saving towards the WCC event in 2021.
- 4.2 It was agreed a check should be made on interest rates of each to ensure GCCF was getting a good deal now that the rate rise had risen very slightly.

Action: checks on the respective accounts to report to FC

OM/RF

5. **Staff bonuses for 2017 - guidelines for FC**

- 5.1 It was confirmed that the allocation of these from the total pot was to be performance based. However, assessments were not yet complete so that the OM could not give any indication of outcomes.
- 5.2 It was agreed that the report would be made to FC and FC members would format recommendations that would be circulated to the Board for confirmation asap, so that bonuses could be paid with the pre-Christmas salary.

Action: to be on the agenda of the FC meeting on 29 November.

JL

6. **Rewards at the end of the year for GCCF volunteers - report from FC**

- 5.1 The committee Secretary was not present for this discussion.
- 5.2 The decisions made in FC were reported and confirmed.

INFO

BD3719 PREFIXES FOR APPROVAL

1. **Prefix applications**

- 1.1 52 prefixes were before the Board. Some were discussed as being close to existing prefixes, but these were not prefixes that were in use.

- 1.2 All first choices were approved

Action: the applicants to be informed

OFFICE

BD3720 EVENTS

1. **Report on the 2917 Supreme Show**

- 1.1 The notes from the debrief meeting held on 7 November had been circulated. A lot of time had been spent considering how things could be improved and an analysis made of the necessary actions to achieve this.
- 1.2 There had been plenty of positives on the day. The change of rosettes, the undercover car park and the atmosphere in general had been remarked on, and the catalogue upgrade was considered outstanding. Georgina Anderson-Keeble was complimented on her work and it was hoped it could take the form of a GCCF year book in the following year.
- 1.3 The pre-event marketing had proved a success with the gate the best ever in recent years.
- 1.4 There were fewer stalls, but work had begun on booking for next year, and there was the good gate to offer as an incentive. Mark Goadby, as hall manager, had plans to improve the lay-out and make better use of space to avoid use of the offices for certificate signing. Liaison with the NEC had been good.
- 1.5 It was noted from the meeting that show codes needed to be used and the GCCF and logos were being used without permission.

- 1.6 Steve Crow reported that accounts were being finalised, and this year a very detailed breakdown of both income and expenditure would be possible.
- 1.7 There was a report of and a discussion on the abuse one judge had experienced on social media following the show, where she had covered classes for a scheduled judge who was unable to attend. The threats had been reported to the police who could not act on the words alone.
- 1.8 It was considered that a complaint should be made to IC and the Show Manager should be officially informed so that she could follow through on it.

Action: the judge concerned to be advised accordingly

OM

2. The National Pet Show - a report on the November event

- 2.1 Dianne Taylor had supplied a detailed report to the Board.
- 2.2 It was agreed by all present who had attended that it had been a very busy, but worthwhile event that was informative for the public and had an excellent atmosphere.
- 2.3 The Animal Welfare Officer had been extremely satisfied with GCCF's welfare codes and practice for the event, and vetting-in had been a smooth procedure.
- 2.4 The team who participated on the day and in the preparation were thanked, and it was considered that the efforts in branding and publicity were now paying off to create the desired effect. The one disappointment had been the siting of the World of Cats next to TICA and a request had been made that this should be avoided the following year.
- 2.5 The next year there would only be the one NPS and that would be in Birmingham on the same weekend. It was possible there could be additional costs, but Mrs Taylor had been informed by the organisers that they wished GCCF to continue being involved, and she recommended it to the Board as too good an opportunity to miss as it proved an excellent showcase. **INFO**
- 2.6 Board opinion was that the NPS was an event that was worth supporting and there would be money in the budget for this purpose. It was acknowledged that it would be preferable if it did not follow the Supreme so closely, but both shows had to negotiate with the NEC for the facilities they required.

BD3721 2018-19 SHOW LICENCES FOR APPROVAL

1. 2018/2019 Show Licence Applications referred back to the Board

- 1.1 Abyssinian Cat Club - 9 June 2018. A request received to include SLH & SH Somalis in all colours as this had been omitted from their application.
- 1.2 Scotia cat Fanciers - 14 July 2018. The Show managers would be Suzanne Griss and Lesley Coyne.
- 1.3 London Cat Club - 21 July 2018. A change from 28 July as requested by the Board, and approved by email.
- 1.4 Southern British Shorthair - 3 March 2018. This was show cancelled, and a request received to share with the London CC (see BD 3722.1.1). **All agreed.**

Action: the clubs to be informed

Office

2. 2018/2019 Show Licence Applications (continued from BD3706.10)

- 2.1 The list of show licence applications was considered page by page.
- 2.2 A request from the Chinchilla, Silver Tabby & Smoke CS and the Red, Cream & Tortoiseshell Society to move from 17 November 2018 to 9 February 2019 to avoid the Colourpoint, Rex Coated & AOV Club was agreed.
- 2.3 It was agreed that the two clubs with a show within a week of the Supreme (either side) should be contacted and asked if they could obtain another date.
- 2.4 The Capital LH CA plans were noted, but a license could not be granted until an application was received.
- 2.5 It was queried why the Cameo, Pewter & Smoke Society would exclude the green-eyed varieties and thought this could be a misprint, as with 'Tories'!
- 2.6 The North of Britain LH & SLH CC was sharing with the Siberian CC, but as a specialist club would not be allowed the same Siberian class splits as the breed club.
- 2.7 The Somali CC Show Managers, Shelagh Heavens and Kit Game, were incorrectly listed as ASMs.
- 2.8 A request from the Burmese Cat Association move to 13 April 2019 was expected.
- 2.9 It was noted Black and White CC were listed for two different dates, 20 April and 11 May 2019. This to be checked with the club and the May date advised.
- 2.10 General observations:
 - it would be useful to have an indication on the list when clubs had changed date
 - the Bracknell Sports and Leisure Centre had new owners. This could possibly affect the clubs who used it.

Action: contact with the clubs concerned

Office

BD3722 OTHER SHOW MATTERS

1. 2017/2018 Show changes - for report

- 1.1 Southern British Shorthair - 3 March 2018. Show cancelled. A request made to share with London CC on the 21 July 2018 (see 5.1 below)
- 1.2 The British Ragdoll CC - 21 April 2018. Assistant SM to be Sonia Scowcroft. **INFO**

2. 2017/2018 Show Changes - for approval

- 2.1 Ulster Siamese & All Breed CC - 18 November 2017. Show Managers to be changed to June Ferguson and William Graham. Heather Hawthorne to be ASM.
- 2.2 North of Britain LH & SLH - 3 February 2018. A request was made to split all their Siberian classes to be the same as the Siberian CC whom they hoped to share with. It was queried if specialist clubs had the same rights as a breed show in this respect.
- 2.3 Burmese C A - 31 March 2018. A date change requested to 14 April to avoid the Cambridge CC. Also, a venue change to the memorial Hall, Wootton Bassett to be confirmed.

Action: the clubs to be informed

Office

3. **2017/2018 Show Licence Details Still Awaited**
 3.1 Russian & Abyssinian Cat Club of Scotland - 6 January 2018. Still awaiting venue & Show Manager.
 (Post meeting note: Heather McRae has been appointed as SM). **INFO**
4. **2017-18 Late Show Licence Applications - for approval**
 4.1 Siberian CC - 3 February 2018. New show license application. Show Manager to be Linda Dutton & the ASM
 Doreen Dobson. Show to be shared with the North of Britain LH & SLH at the Doncaster Deaf College,
 Leger way, Doncaster DN2 6AY.
Action: the club to be informed **Office**
5. **2018-19 show licences not yet received**
 5.1 Caesarea CC: a letter from the club indicated difficulty with sufficient membership. **INFO**
6. **Back to back with a GCCFI club request**
 6.1 The Erin CC and Northern Ireland CC had been asked by a club from Eire to consider running a back to back
 show, which would mean covering GCCF and GCCFI jurisdictions.
 6.2 It was hoped the award of International Certificates would give all shows a boost of exhibitor enthusiasm.
 6.3 The Board were agreed in principle to this. It was thought it would prove an interesting experiment. It was
 suggested that the certificates should be interchangeable.
Action: the show managers to be informed **Office**
7. **Cats Eligible for exhibition**
 7.1
 Exhibition only classes can be provided for cats on any register belonging to any of the breeds which are permitted to be registered
 by GCCF, i.e. new breeds granted registration only status or breeds with preliminary or full recognition, **and titled pedigree or non-
 pedigree pets.**
**Note: cats present by invitation as club, promotional and/or charitable exhibits, may not necessarily be GCCF registered,
 but must not be, or have the appearance of, a breed not yet recognised by GCCF.**
- 7.2 This was referred to the Genetics Committee for further discussion on which cats were excluded.
Action: to be on the agenda of the next GC meeting **JL**
8. **Discussion on Rule Section 2:10 in respect of counter signatures and judging engagements**
 8.1 It was thought that when countersignatures were required they could be made on behalf of the show in the
 Office, rather than by another judge at a show. Other eligible judges were not always available.
 8.2 This could only happen once per title for each exhibit.
Action: the rules to be redrafted accordingly for the January Board meeting **JL**
9. **Proposed revision to the 13 day rule**
 9.1 The Progressive Singapura Cat Club were proposing to changes to the second part of the show entry
 form declaration. The words 'or living at the same address' and 'or following' (referring to the show date)
 were omitted, though this was not indicated in the proposal.
 9.2 It was agreed the PSCC should be asked to indicate the proposed deletions in the standard form,
 and give a brief rationale for each for the February Council agenda
Action: letter to the PSCC **JL**
10. **Complaints re handling & show procedure**
 10.1 It was noted that the complaint had been referred to the appropriate Show Managers and had been
 copied to the Board
 10.2 No comments were made. **INFO**

BD3722 SHOW STRUCTURE/BAC & JUDGE TRAINING REVIEW

1. **Update on show structure revision**
 1.1 A meeting of the group had been arranged for 6 December. **INFO**
2. **Judge training revision plans**
 2.1 The minutes of a meeting held on 10 October had been circulated, and Peter Collin gave a brief report saying it
 had been a successful meeting generating positive ideas.
 2.2 The starting point was a survey of all judges for comment on the outlines presented by the Show Structure
 Review Group which were summarised.
 2.3 Conclusions presented were:
 • Less emphasis on critique writing and more on the reasoning for placement
 • BAC provision of core topics relevant to judging the breed
 • Reduced costs for candidates
 • No written examinations
 • Removal of time constraints
 • Removal of the need for those already Full Judges to steward when going on the list of a new breed
 • Tutorials to provide an opportunity for the candidate to say what has been learned
 • An alternative to assessments which were not thought satisfactory in their current form.
 • Acceleration for judges currently able to do higher certificates within a group.
 2.4 These conclusions were to be circulated to judges for comment. **INFO**

3. **Update on judge for new breeds**
 3.1 It was reported that all Full Judges working (not on the Emeritus List or having time out) in the British Section had been contacted individually about being on the British Longhair and Chartreux list.
 3.2 Two had responded to say they were reducing commitments and did not wish to take on more. Several had responded positively. The lists had been updated for the GCCF website. **INFO**

BD3723 REGISTRATION, TRANSFER & SOP MATTERS

1. **Application for Championship status for the Suffolk**
 1.1 The Breeder Group had supplied the necessary information, but it was agreed that the application had to be deferred until the club had been accepted as a Full Member of GCCF and could form a BAC.
 1.2 The Genetics Committee had considered the breeding and the registration policies submitted. The breeding policy needed to give detail on genetic conditions known to occur in Orientals to advise breeders to be alert. The registration policy needed to be amended to remove the option of outcrossing to Siamese, which had been planned for when the Suffolk achieved championship status.
 1.3 It was noted that most of the cats achieving merits belonged to a small number of breeders, but that the required number had been achieved.
Actions: the breeder group to be informed of the deferment and advised to amend their policies the club rules to be considered and advice given **JL GB**
2. **Revisions to the Persian Longhair registration policy**
 2.1 The intention of the revisions was to make minor corrections in line with GCCF rule changes, and add to the lists of approved breeds for full and supplementary registration for clarification. A summary list of changes was included with the application.
 2.2 It was observed that new colours and patterns would not necessarily mean reference registration. This would depend on the recognition route determined by the BAC. It was agreed that the final wording for the new colour/pattern paragraph should be 'as directed by the BAC'.
Action: the BAC to be advised of the change & the policy to then go forward to February Council **JL**
3. **Revisions to the Exotic registration policy**
 3.1 The purpose of the revisions were to tidy the policy in line with GCCF rules, note BAER testing, and bring the registration policy in line with that for Persian Longhairs to ensure full or supplementary registration for Longhair Exotics which were now classified as Persians.
 3.2 It was agreed that the changes made would do this and the revision was agreed.
Action: the BAC to be informed & the policy to go forward to February Council **JL**
4. **Revisions to the SOP for Exotics**
 4.1 There were minor changes in relation to the amount of body colour on cameo and tipped bicolour,
 4.2 There were no queries and the revisions were agreed.
Action: the BAC to be informed & the policy to go forward to February Council **JL**
5. **Revisions to the Russian registration policy**
 5.1 The DNA testing requirements for imports and outcrosses had been revised.
 5.2 There had been one query on the need for blood type testing, but it was understood that UK Russians were type A and the introduction of type B should be avoided.
 5.3 The revisions were agreed.
Action: the BAC to be informed & the policy to go forward to February Council **JL**
6. **Oriental SOP - confirmation of a minor change**
 6.1 The word 'pricked' had been removed from the ear description to bring the SOP in line with the Siamese SOP.
 6.2 This had been approved by circulation and was now on the GCCF website. **INFO**
7. **Registration queries**
 7.1 It was agreed that the British Shorthairs that had in the background a Persian outcross (made a shortly after the date when such outcrosses were allowed) should retain breed status. The registrar error made at time had no impact on the progeny or future generations.
 7.2 It was agreed that the Bengals descended from a non-approved outcross to a British SH should not retain breed status, but should be reregistered as XSH. The BAC Chairman had confirmed that such an outcross had never been permitted, and was unwanted because of the possibility of the introduction of a different blood type.
Action: the registrar to be informed **JL**
8. **Breeding from tortie males**
 9.1 A geneticist at Langford had confirmed that DNA testing (for parentage, disease, colour/pattern genes carried) could not be validated because of the possibility that a fertile (XY) tortie male was a chimera.
 9.2 Any offspring would require registrar registration (not online) as the programmed genetic codes would not necessarily be applicable
 9.3 It was agreed that because of these complications any breeder wishing to use a tortie male would have to make a case for this to the Board and permission would be given on a case by case basis, with expert advice if necessary.
Action: to be reported on the agenda for the next Council meeting. **JL**

9. **An alternative to the requirement for three generations of registered cats to confer eligibility for show competition classes**
 9.1 The changes were proposed to assist minority breeds who imported foundation cats and/or included domestic outcrosses. Progeny of these would be allowed in competition classes more quickly.
 9.2 It was agreed that this proposal should go forward to Council with emphasis on it being an option for a BAC's registration policy that would need Board approval, and definitely not be mandatory.
Action: to be on the agenda for the next Council meeting. JL

BD3724 DISCIPLINARY

1. **Administrative procedure for dealing with the non-publication of judge reports**
 1.1 It was observed that the proposals would not change current procedure for submitting reports and judges who sent them in time would not be aware of any changes. Also, that it was intended to be operated with a light touch.
 1.2 The fixed penalty for persistent lateness was removed as the reports could now be monitored on a weekly basis and reminders given immediately. Therefore, there should be no build up. Very few had been necessary since June and the judges concerned had responded promptly.
Action: judges to be made aware of the changes made JL
2. **Vaccinations before homing rule - to avoid routine exclusion contracts**
 3. **Vaccination card checklist of a kitten's health & condition at first and second vaccinations**
 (These items were deferred)
4. **Breeder Scheme re-instatement after suspension**
 4.1 it was agreed that there should not be automatic re-instatement, even if the person concerned had been accepted as agreed club member once again.
 4.2 It was hoped to be able to link Breeder Scheme membership more closely into the disciplinary system so that recommendations could be made. INFO
5. **Revised Code of Conduct for GCCF Judges**
 (Deferred as the revised code with the changes highlighted had not yet been circulated) HD

BD3725 CLUB & BAC MATTERS

1. **2017 club and BAC returns report** (deferred)
2. **Application for Full GCCF Membership from the Suffolk Breed Cat Club**
 2.1 This could not be considered as the club would not have completed three years of membership until April 2018.
Action: the club to be contacted (see BD3723.) JL
3. **Response to the refusal for dispensation from the Progressive Singapura Cat Club**
 3.1 The club had appealed against the decision that a BAC representative who had become President of CFA UK should be given dispensation to continue as BAC and club committee member.
 3.2 The Board noted the comments made but did not consider these mitigated the possibility of a conflict of interests and saw no reason to change its decision which was consistent with that for a FIFe official.
Action: the club to be informed JL
4. **Application to become an all-breed club from the Central Longhair and Semi-Longhair CC**
 (Deferred to be discussed by circulation) OM

BD3726 STAFF & OFFICE

1. **Staff report**
 1.1 Performance assessments were to be carried out and would be reported to FC. (See BD3718.5)
2. **General office update**
 2.1 Server and email changes would take place on 24 November as reported in the IT note. (See BD2716.2.8). INFO

BD3727 ANY OTHER BUSINESS None

The meeting finished at 5.15pm with business completed or deferred as noted

NEXT MEETING: **WEDNESDAY**, 10 January 2018, at 11.00 for 11.15am, at The Kennel Club, Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London