



MINUTES

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



Wednesday, 10 January 2018 at the Kennel Club, Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London

Present: Mr John Hansson - Chairman
Mrs Val Anderson Dr Bruce Bennett
Dr Gillian Bennett Dr Peter Collin
Mr Steve Crow Mrs Rosemary Fisher
Mrs Doreen Goadby Mr Thomas Goss
Mrs Shelagh Heavens Mrs Jen Lacey
Mrs Helen Marriott-Power Mrs Elaine Robinson
Mrs Lisa Robinson-Talboys

In attendance: Mr Mark Goadby - Office Manager
Mrs Sally Rainbow-Ockwell (IT Support)

BD3729 MEETING INTRODUCTION

- 1. Apologies for absence.**
1.1 Apologies were given on behalf of: the Vice Chairman, Mrs Lynda Ashmore and Mrs Hilary Dean.
- 2. Chairman's Opening remarks**
2.1 By 11.25 the meeting was quorate, though some members arrived later because of train delays, (11.50 latest). The Chairman wished those present a Happy New Year.
2.2 He noted that many items on the agenda would need IT input and asked those present if SRO could stay until all had been completed. It was agreed that she should by a majority, but that an item in which she had a personal concern should not be discussed until she had left.

BD3730 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- 1. The Minutes of the Board meeting of 15 November 2017**
1.1 These had been circulated in advance of the meeting and some corrections had been made.
1.2 There were no additional comments.
1.3 The minutes were approved with one abstention due to absence on the proposal of RF, 2nd GB.
1.4 The Committee Secretary thanked those who helped by careful proof reading.
Action: publication on the GCCF website **JL/RF**
- 2. Matters arising from the November minutes**
2.1 BD3716.2: It was queried if the Petsquare APP was going to plan and observed that a first release had shown several bugs, but these were being fixed and a second much better version was ready. Questions from Board members had not raised major issues, therefore the partnership was progressing as planned. There could be an invitation to a meeting at a later date.
- 3. Draft Minutes of the November Finance Committee meeting**
Included for reference only.

BD3731 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 1. Unregistered interests declared for the business of this meeting.**
1. No declarations were made.

BD3732 CLUB & BAC MATTERS (deferred from the previous meeting)

- 1. Update on club returns in 2017**
1. Mrs Goadby reported that eventually most clubs and BACs had made the required returns.
2. There were problems with just two clubs.
- 2. Action re clubs who had failed to complete.**
2.1 It was believed the Cornish Rex Society was no longer functioning. Some of those who had held officer positions, or supported the club had died during the previous year. As all attempts at contact had proved unsuccessful it was to ask if anyone could offer information by a given date, and if none was provided then the club's membership would be deemed to have lapsed.
Action: a notice to be prepared for the website **OM/RF**
2.2 The Russian & Abyssinian Club of Scotland could not provide the relevant bank information, but the reason they could not do so was unclear.
Action: The Chairman to be contacted directly **DG**
2.3 It was agreed the club would have no show licence until the information required was provided.

BD3733 IT INFORMATION

- 1. Update on the progress of the IT high priority items**

- 1.1 **GCCFI:** the online registration service had been completed, and applications had been taken from breeders for the final three months of 2017. Prior to that they had been processed by GCCF manually.
 - 1.2 It had been agreed that the contract between GCCF and GCCFI for registration services would be effective from 1 January 2018, and GCCF would retain online registration fees paid in the latter part of 2017 in lieu of the registry payment. A full accounting process for all transactions between the registries and facility to deal with Euro payments, was now in place. Approximately 500 GCCFI cats had been registered.
 - 1.3 The GCCF Office was assisting with setting up the schedule of a GCCFI show, but would not be taking online entries. It was possible that this was a service that could be offered to GCCFI in 2019.
 - 1.4 **Club returns:** the facility was almost ready for club officials to fill in the returns online for retention on the system. If they were provided on paper they would be transferred in the office.
 - 1.5 Accounts would need to be provided on paper in the usual format, but it would be possible for the process of membership reconciliation to be viewed from receipt through to clearance for transparency of action.
 - 1.6 **Breeder Scheme:** new features were at the development and testing stage as the BS was being integrated with the main computer system, following the update in November 2017. Membership already featured in the personal profile of breeders and any change of club membership would be able to be made from there. Breeders were also be able to download their own certificate and logo.
 - 1.7 There would be an automatic reminder process starting 28 days in advance of the renewal date, and enabling feedback to be taken from those not wishing to re-join.
 - 1.8 It was hoped that more functions would be possible taking up suggestions for enhancement. One put forward at the meeting was that a facility for online buyer feedback would probably encourage this.
 - 1.9 **Disciplinary:** there had been one training session for the IC/DC secretary and further liaison was planned. It was confirmed that she could now ascertain whether breeders were BS members or not. **INFO**
2. **Show processing - update and a decision on principles**
 - 2.1 The first shows had been held using the new process and taking online entries. There had been plenty to learn to make future improvements. The SM (Heather McRae) was thanked for her support and contribution, and it was noted there was plenty of exhibitor feedback that would be shared with the Board.
 - 2.2 20 more clubs had signed up for the service in 2018 for a range of different types of show. Because there were different types of Specialist Club it was agreed that those that catered for several breeds should be designated as multi-breed for process purposes and have the breeds listed.
 - 2.3 A range of services would be offered. It was agreed that in 2018 all should be free except where reimbursement for purchases made from third parties was required.
 - 2.4 It was agreed that FC should look at the detail of Office provision and determine costs. It was suggested that any payment taken for services from clubs could be directed back to contribute to future developments.

Actions: detailed list of services to be provided with Office input evaluated **MG**
this to be an item on the February FC agenda **JL**
 3. **Approach to 2018 IT strategy**
 - 3.1 Mrs Rainbow-Ockwell explained that she could not provide costing and staff requirements for IT (as at BD3736.3) until the projects it would be used for were clearly defined in the Business Plan for 2018. There had to be an overall strategy going forward put together by the Board that the IT Group could work from. At present she did not have the necessary information.
 - 3.2 It was agreed by the Board that there was not sufficient time in a Board meeting for strategic planning and a special meeting was necessary as a matter of urgency, if possible ahead of the February Council Meeting so that delegates could be informed of the outcomes and the 2018 budget could be adjusted if necessary.
 - 3.3 The date set of this was 31 January 2018 and SC volunteered to make the arrangements, and provide an agenda to those able to attend.

Action: meeting to be arranged **SC**
 4. **Decision on Business Plan Projects**
 - 4.1 The Vice-Chairman was not able to be present and no revised 2018 BP had been circulated with updates as suggested at the November FC meeting (FC752.2)
 - 4.2 The revisions would now be made at the meeting on 31 January. (see above action note).
 - 4.3 Reference to 2017 needed to be deleted. **INFO**
 5. **IT re the SOP Project**
 - 5.1 The OM confirmed that no further action had been taken to produce SOPs in a template format, as the office staff initially assigned to the project did not have sufficient knowledge.
 - 5.2 Mrs Fisher volunteered to take on the task as it was urgent. She would put the existing SOP for each breed into the new format and check with each BAC that it was acceptable. If she noted that there were omissions she would query whether they were intentional or if additional wording was required. She hoped to be able to do this by the end of March.

Action: BACs to be informed that this would happen and requested to consult electronically rather than wait for a meeting, so there could be a rapid response. **OFFICE**

 - 5.3 It was agreed that if BACs then wanted to make alterations these would be dealt with in the usual way, as and when submitted, rather than hold up completion.
 - 5.4 JL displayed the the template format with illustrations for KOR and TAI and it was agreed these were very suitable for an electronic format and should be encouraged. Colour illustrations could be printed, but coloured photos varied in the reproduction process which could cause confusion.
 - 5.5 It was hoped Leon could develop on APP for the SOPs for use on phones by June. SRO commented that once this was completed it could be kept up to date and it would then be possible for judges and stewards to receive regular updates if subscribed for this service. It was thought sensible if the SOPs were put together by section and then by grand group.

Actions: SOP restructure & circulation **RF**
programmer liaison **SRO**

6. **IT staffing proposals**
6.1 Deferred to follow the decisions of the Strategy Meeting. INFO

BD3734 BUSINESS MATTERS

1. **Revisions to the Business Plan**
1.1 As at BD3733.4
Actions: the Vice Chairman to be informed MG
The revised plan to be on the website and a report made at February Council SF

2. **General Data Protection Regulation Update**
2.1 The OM reminded the Board that the company's directors were responsible for ensuring the general strategy to ensure GDP regulation was compliant. It would be necessary to show a minute record that this had been considered followed by appropriate actions.
2.2 The Chairman reported that he and MG would attend a meeting to learn more. It was known that all Office processes would have to be assessed and it was hoped to be sure of the criteria for this.
2.3 It was now thought not essential that there should be director lead and responsibility for this, but that MG and SRO could assess Office and IT practices and report to the Board.
Actions: feedback to the Board following the meeting JH

3. **The GCCF partnerships - to receive any updates from Agria and/or Royal Canin**
3.1 Agria was currently dealing with computer problems following the update of its complete system. There were still difficulties in several departments, including its accounting process.
3.2 The Marketing Director who was a GCCF liaison had left the company and a new person appointed. It was intended that an introduction would be made at the February Council meeting.
Action: this to be noted on the agenda JL
3.3 RC was continuing with a company review. The new liaison for GCCF was Cerri Davies. It was noted that there was continued support for the Supreme.
3.4 There would be a review of the transfer incentive. It was hoped this would not be downgraded in value, as it was always reported as the company's most successful promotion.
3.5 There was continued progress with the 'heads of agreement' contract with Petsquire.
(see also BD3730.2). INF

4. **Report from the Canine & Feline Sector Group**
4.1 SC reported on the meeting held on 15 December.
4.2 The Kitten Buyers' Checklist compiled by the smaller group, of which he was member, had been discussed and should soon be finalised. GCCF would then be expected to publicise and promote it.
Action: to be prominent on the website RF
4.3 The subscription to the group would be due shortly (£500). It was agreed this should be paid.
4.4 There were no substantial changes to the licensing of pet vending, aimed primarily at pet shops and similar commercial establishments. The bill still had about two months of consultation, and was expected to go to parliament March/April and become law in October. There would then be a transition period in which local authority staff would be trained.
4.5 There was still no written definition from DEFRA of 'commercial'. Advice to breeders had to be that records should be kept to prove there was no profit made from their breeding. If they did then advice should be taken from their local authority.
4.6 The C&FSG would be the consultative body on puppy importation as it was expected that there would be further legislation. Advice would also be produced on grooming.
4.7 On 22 January there was would be a meeting on responsible cat breeding. SC believed that GCCF had support for its welfare practices and that this would not be an attack on breeders.
Action: 6 paper copies of the GCCF Breeding Policy and SOP Defects booklet were required OFFICE
4.8 It was probable that GCCF would take over ICC's (formerly FAB) testing records. There had been some discussion within the Genetics Committee. INF

BD3735 FINANCE

1. **Management accounts on 2017 business**
1.1 The OM had provided the accounts detail to the end of October. He observed that he had not taken this further as payments from Agria had not been received due to the computer problems in its accounting department.
1.2 Generally, the income level was looking good, though there had been a big drop in registrations in December.
1.3 It was noted that breeder pedigrees had been an area of particular growth and there were plans for developing this further so that breeders could purchase personal and illustrated pedigrees in addition to the purely factual ancestry record.
1.4 Expenditure had remained controlled within forecast limits.
1.5 A surplus was predicted for the end of year after depreciation had been factored in.

2. **Volume figures and transaction graphs for core business to the end of December 2017**
2.1 Prefix registrations the only disappointing statistic. It had seemed they would be level with the previous year. but had dropped sharply in December. 2016 was unusual as there had been no drop for the final month.
2.2 Growth had continued in all other areas with the record highs for import registrations, non-prefix registrations and prefix applications. The total number of transfers was also well above all previous recent years. It had risen by 8% on the previous year which had also been good. INF

3. **2018 Budget for management accounts**
3.1 The forecast budget was presented as revised by FC. The OM noted that he had considered worst case scenarios for most areas of expenditure, and included a high spend for IT.

- 3.2 Capital expenditure for a document sorter was also factored in.
- 3.3 Rail costs for travel to meetings were queried, but not increased as a buffer for the increase was already in place.
- 3.4 The amount earned from Agria had been reduced by 10%. It was acknowledged that this would not remain at its current rate indefinitely and further diversification for the future had to be considered.
- 3.5 A re-presentation of the depreciation figures was agreed.
- 3.6 The budget was agreed on the proposal of PC and 2nd by HMP.
- Action: to be included within the BP with any adjustment made if necessary as agreed on 31 January INF**

4. **Investment update**

- 4.1 The OM reported that he was transferring £40,000 from the current account to Cambridge & Counties as it gave the best rate of return and savings could be accessed with three months' notice.
- 4.2 About £75,000 remained with the Aldemore. **INF**

5. **Account protocols**

- 5.1 Lloyds Bank had confirmed arrangements could be made for others to authorise payment above an agreed amount, and it was agreed that it was protection for a sole signatory to have a check in place.
- 5.2 It was agreed that the OM should present the detail from Lloyds of 'good business practice' to FC the following month so protocol could be arranged.

Actions: bank information to be obtained to be on the agenda of the February FC meeting

**MG
JL**

6. **The re-introduction of regular contributions to the Cat Welfare Trust**

- 6.1 There was agreement for this and after discussion it was considered that the best way to do so would be to allocate a fixed percentage from the final surplus in any one year, so that it could fluctuate according to the level of profit achieved.
- 6.2 A vote was taken and 10% was unanimously agreed.

7. **The accounts for the 2017 Supreme Show**

- 7.1 There had been an excellent gate and ticket sales, but stall and entry income had been below the level achieved in 2016. Unfortunately, there had been a clash of events for stall holders.
- 7.2 Savings had been made, particularly on the hotel costs, (£8,000) and other expenses had been maintained as for 2016. A lot more detail would be itemised for expenditure, and further areas of saving for 2018 had been identified.
- 7.3 If a GCCF contribution (£6,000) was added as sponsorship from the Agria income (no other financial sponsorship directly from Agria in 2017) the deficit this year would be around £13,500, or just under £20,000 if not. There was an objection to it being included for this year as it had not been pre-planned and agreed by the Board.
- 7.4 However, if agreed for the future, with further savings made and a push for more income it was thought a near break-even bottom line could be achieved. **INF**

Action: The figures to be available for February Council

SC

BD3736 PREFIXES FOR APPROVAL

1. **Prefix applications**

- 1.1 23 prefixes were before the Board. It was noted that some were long, but there were no objections.
- 1.2 All first choices were approved

Action: the applicants to be informed

OFFICE

BD3737 SHOW STRUCTURE/BAC & JUDGE TRAINING REVIEW

1. **Report from the December meeting of all groups**

- 1.1 The notes from the meeting had been circulated. PC requested that it should be clear that exams would not feature in judge training (reference to 'open book' type made) though it was possible that the use of a work-book of some kind could be included.
- 1.2 One necessary decision made during the course of the meeting was to maintain the status quo as far as the breed allocations per section were concerned. Two objections had been received and it was considered sensible to give the SBI and SUF exhibitors a route to change after one year had passed, based on the provision of factual statistics.
- 1.3 The sections had been numbered according to the present pattern.
- 1.4 The dates of implementation had been agreed: June 2018 for the restructure and 2019 for judge training and BAC reform. These would be put to February Council.
- 1.5 It was noted that a BAC group meeting was planned for later in January or early February (prior to Council). The first Judge Training RG had been held (BD3722) and work had begun on judge training, the fast track transition and stewarding. **INF**

2. **Preparations required for structure change in June**

- 2.1 SRO reported that the class format necessary for schedules from 2018 had been prepared by Ian Macro they would be checked and then made available to SMS.

2.2 The system had been programmed to check results from the old and new structures.

Action: class list to be made available asap, definitely prior to Council

SRO

- 2.3 The judge lists had been out for checking to judges and BACs and several corrections had been made. They needed to be made available to SMS asap.

Action: published judge lists to be updated and a link to them to be circulated to SMS.

- 2.4 Minutes of the meeting to be circulated to BAC Secs and opinions sought for the BAC RG meeting.

Action: BAC circulation

JL

3. **Eligibility guidelines for the BIS/BOV awards**
 - 3.1 It was agreed it was not particularly desirable that a PJ for a breed should be asked to judge adults or neuters for BOV, as had happened.
 - 3.2 However, it was felt rules of guidelines could cause complications for SMs and BOV and BIS judging should remain a matter for their discretion. **INF**
4. **The position of Emeritus judges within the new show structure**
 - 4.1 There was discussion on whether an EM judge should be treated exactly as a FJ with regard to not being disadvantaged as an EM Judge had opted out of the mainstream in order to reduce their judging load, and not take on new responsibilities.
 - 4.2 It was agreed: a) that EM judges should currently be treated on a case by case basis if wishing to judge. Many would continue their current eligibility
b) The Judge Training RG should look at the system of Emeritus and retirement for judges, to clarify where possible, and to make recommendations for the future, if necessary.

Action: referral to the JTRG **PC**

BD3738 SHOW RULE REVISION

1. **Countersignatures**
 - 1.1 Possible notes to the countersignature rule had been drafted as requested (BD3722.8) in January. One removed the requirement in most cases, and the other draft dealt with emergency situations only.
 - 1.2 It was decided not to make any change. **INF**
2. **The exclusion of names and addresses from catalogues in accordance with DPR**
 - 2.1 This rule change was a necessity for compliance with the 2018 General Data Protection Regulations.
 - 2.2 The suggestion was made within the rule that a directory could be offered at show management discretion. This would allow exhibitors who wished to do so to opt in to having any contact details published.
 - 2.3 Two rule changes were required with the proposed wording:

Section 2:11 b

~~A list of the names and addresses of the entries and exhibitors together with the numbers of the pens allotted to them. Note: an exhibit may request in writing that the address provided on the entry form shall be omitted from the catalogue, and the show management should ensure that this instruction is followed.~~

A directory of exhibitors, together with the numbers of the pens allotted to them, may be included in the catalogue. Postal and/or email addresses shall be listed by exhibitor request. A small charge may be levied for this service.

Section 2:20c

The show management shall, within seven days of the closure of the show, send to the GCCF Office one fully marked, certified, copy of the catalogue, together with the details of any addresses that have been omitted from it by exhibitor request (Rule Section 2:11b) **a list of the names and addresses of all exhibitors**. The catalogue should be complete with Open **Breed**, Grand, Imperial Grand and Assessment class results. All Open **Breed**, Grand, Imperial Grand and Assessment class judge changes must be marked.

2.4 An amendment to the first removed 'shall be' and requested alternative wording.

2.5 The amendment '**unless GCCF show processing has been used**' to be added to the end of the first sentence, because addresses taken from the system would already be verified.

Action: amended wording to be circulated to the Board and, when approved, the rule changes to be added to the February Council agenda. **JL**

BD3739 OTHER SHOW MATTERS

1. **2017/2018 Show changes - for report**
 - 1.1 Preston & Blackpool CC- 24 March 2018. Assistant SM to be Candice Higgins. **INFO**
2. **2017/2018 Show Changes - for approval**
 - 2.1 Household Pet Club of Great Britain - 14 April 2018. Joint Show Managers now Lesley Szwed and Georgina Anderson-Keeble. Kay Short no longer a SM. This was approved

Action: the club to be informed **Office**
3. **2017/2018 Show Licence Details Still Awaited** **None.**
4. **2017-18 Late Show Licence Applications - for approval**
 - 4.1 Shorthair CC of Scotland - 14 April 2018. Kate Ekanger to be Joint SM with Sarah Davidson
 - 4.2 Central LH, Semi LH & All Breed CC - 6 May 2018. Keith Scruton to be Joint SM with Eileen Fryer, and change from Specialist to All Breed status.
 - 4.3 Nor'East of Scotland CC & Siamese CS of Scotland - 12 May 2018. Joint SMs to be Bruce & Gillian Bennett and Alan Watt, not Pina Bruno-Grieve. Assistant SM for both to be Sally Woolrich.

All approved. **Action: the club to be informed** **Office**
5. **2018-19 show changes for report**
 - 5.1 Siamese Cat Society of Scotland- 11 May 2019. Sally Woolrich to be Assistant SM, not Nybee Carter. **INFO**

6. **2018-19 show changes for approval**
- 6.1 The Erin CC - 1 September 2018. Date change requested to 15 September. Agreed by Board circulation.
- 6.2 Tabby CC, E Mau Club & Selkirk Rex Club - 6 October 2018. SM to be Jean Huyton, replacing Barbara Prowse. Venue change from Bloxwich Leisure Centre to Sky Sports Connexion Leisure Centre, CV8 3FL.
- 6.3 The Turkish Van CC - 6 October 2018. SM to be Elaine Robinson, replacing Lynette Cannel, with ASM Lyndsey Robinson.
- 6.4 Seal Point Siamese CC - 6 October 2018. Date change requested to 3 November 2018. This was not agreed by a majority vote (3/9) because it was a week following the Supreme.
- 6.5 Korat & Thai CA - 6 October 2018. SM change requested from Anne Murray-Brookes to Marlene Buckeridge.
- 6.6 Siamese CC - 3rd November 2018: date change requested to 1 September 2018. SM to be Barbara Prowse. Venue to be Perdiswell, sharing with the Tonkinese CC and Wyvern CC.
- 6.7 Kentish CS - 20 October 2018. The club had informed the Board that a booking had been made for this date and a deposit paid. This was agreed unanimously for 2018 only.
- 6.8 Household Pet Club of Great Britain - 23 February 2019. Joint Show Managers to be Lesley Szwed and Georgina Anderson-Keeble. Kay Short no longer involved.
- 6.9 Central LH, Semi LH & All Breed CC - 4 May 2019. Keith Scruton to be Joint SM with Eileen Fryer, and change from Specialist to All Breed status.
- 6.10 North East of Scotland CC & Siamese CS of Scotland - 11 May 2019. Joint SMs to be Bruce & Gillian Bennett and Alan Watt, not Pina Bruno-Grieve. Assistant SM for both to be Sally Woolrich.

All approved with exception of 6.4. **Action: the show managers to be informed** **Office**

7. **2018-19 show licence details still awaited**

- 7.1 White Persian CC - 6 October 2018. It was known change was intended.
- 7.2 Russian & Abyssinian CC of Scotland - 5 January 2019. Confirmation of SMs required. (No show licence if club returns not made). **INFO**

8. **2018-19 show licence details not yet received**

- 8.1 Abyssinian CA, Asian Group CS, Rex CC and Cornish Rex CS noted as sharing on SLA list with SHCS and others on 19 January 2019, but no applications received.
- 8.2 Caesarea CC having difficulty obtaining members therefore not applying for a licence at present. **INFO**

9. **Appeal on class splits for Siberians at the North of Britain LH & SLH CC**

- 9.1 An appeal against the Board's decision not to allow Siberian class splits at the North of Britain LH & Semi LH CC had been received from the SM
- 9.2 It was agreed that as the club was specialist multi-breed rather than a breed club the classes could not be split. **Action: letter to the club** **Office**

10. **Clarifications:**

- 10.1 It clarified that it was not acceptable to use 'to be announced' (TBA) for judges in schedules. The rules required names. **Action: the show manager concerned to be reminded** **Office**
- 10.2 There was discussion on the qualification needed for a judge to do the Olympian at a Specialist (multi-breed) show. It was agreed that neither the entitlement for a breed nor an all-breed show was necessarily applicable. It would be considered again at the next Board meeting. **Action: a basis for a qualification to be drafted for discussion** **PC**
- 10.3 It was agreed that 'upgrades' for a show could be taken at a show manager's discretion. This would be clarified in the rules by adding: to Section 2:7e and Section 4:11 '... on the GCCF website, **although upgrades after that date may be taken at the show manager's discretion.** **Action: to be on the agenda for the February Council meeting** **JL**

11. **Appeal against a biting certificate**

- 11.1 The biting certificate was not issued until some days after the show with no reason for this other than the judge felt the injury was worse later than on the day.
- 11.2 A majority of the Board (9/3) accepted the appeal because the procedure stated in the rules and on the certificate had not been followed. **Action: the certificate to be withdrawn from the exhibit's record** **Office**

BD3740 REGISTRATION, TRANSFER & SOP MATTERS

1. **Application for recognition of the BSH Golden Colourpointed as a new colour of an existing breed**

- 1.1 The BSGC had accepted the recommendation of the Board (BD3708.1) and applied for the Golden Colourpointed to be recognised as a new colour of an existing breed. It would go into the AC Colourpointed class.
- 1.2 This was agreed unanimously. **Action: to be on the agenda for the February Council meeting** **JL**

2. **Revised registration & breeding policies for the Suffolk**

- 2.1 It was agreed that the breeding policy for the Suffolk now listed possible genetic problems to alert breeders, as requested by the Board, and was now complete.

2.2 The registration policy had been revised to exclude future outcrosses to SIA n & a and RUS a, as requested by the Board.

2.3 There was a minor query re the use of Havanas that JH would take up with the Breeder Group.

2.4 It was noted that the application for championship status could not go to Council until June as the Breeder Group had no BAC until the Suffolk breed club gained full GCCF membership. It could apply from April.

Action: the Breeder Group to be advised

JL

3. **Revisions to the Tonkinese registration policy**

3.1 The purpose of the revisions was to clarify the requirement for 'negative' results in the existing DNA tests, and include testing for the Burmese Head Defect and PK deficiency as it was probable there would be more imported Tonkinese, and the risk of an unwanted recessive would increase.

3.2 The revisions were approved.

Action: the BAC to be informed & the policy to go forward to February Council

JL

4. **Minor revision to the BSH registration policy for clarification**

4.1 This was a clarification note for the registrar and had been displayed on the GCCF website for four weeks with no queries.

Action: this to be noted on the February Council agenda

INF

JL

5. **Revisions to the Australian Mist registration policy**

5.1 Red & Cream Burmese were not approved outcrosses, but it was not necessary to exclude them from the previous generations of BUR of approved colours since O could not be carried. Therefore, the note to this effect had been removed.

5.2 The recommendation for DNA testing when outcrossing to BUR or ABY had been revised to make the testing requirement mandatory.

5.3 The revisions were approved.

Action: the BAC to be informed & the policy to go forward to February Council

JL

6. **Correspondence from the Ocicat CC on the inclusion of genetic testing in the Ocicat and Aztec Registration Policies**

6.1 It was unclear why notes without the registration policies had been sent to the Board. There was a lot of justification for testing for diseases known to be in some Burmese populations without evidence that they were in GCCF Ocicats & Aztecs

6.2 It was noted that questions raised by the Board in January 2017 had not received a reply and thought that all the information submitted, and any additional, should be reviewed by the Genetics Committee before further Board consideration.

Action: the BAC to be informed

JL

7. **Amendment to the BSH SOP in respect of Red & Cream re tabby markings**

7.1 The purpose was to exclude the Red Self from being penalised for 'heavy tabby markings'.

7.2 The amendment was approved.

Action: the BAC to be informed & the annexed SOP section to go forward to February Council

JL

8. **Revisions to the Australian Mist SOP**

8.1 It was understood that the SOP included a number of revisions, but these had not been highlighted.

8.2 It was agreed to ask the BAC to submit paperwork that showed what had been changed clearly.

Action: request to the BAC

JL

9. **Amendment to the Egyptian Mau SOP**

9.1 The one word change for emphasis had been circulated to the Board.

Action: Notification on the GCCF website

RF

10. **The BSH variant re future registration and showing as a BLH by request**

10.1 The letter from the BSGC Chairman had been included for Board consideration, but not the correspondence from the BLH Breeder Group.

10.2 Electronic circulation was considered, but it was agreed to defer the discussion to the March Board meeting.

Action: to be on the agenda for the next meeting.

JL

BD3741 DISCIPLINARY

1. **Bye-Law Revision re relationships with other organisations for those with GCCF responsibilities**

This was deferred to the next meeting.

2. **Increase in fines and/or costs following a DC decision**

2.1 The request had been sent by the Disciplinary Committee who felt they no longer had a sufficient range of options to consider to reflect the seriousness of a case. There had been no increase for many years.

2.2 The Board agreed by a majority (8/1) to put forward the suggestion from FC that the limit for fines should be raised to £1000, and cost remain at the same figure of £1,000.

Action: to go forward as a Bye-law amendment to February Council meeting

JL

3. **Vaccinations before homing rule - to avoid routine exclusion contracts**

3.1 The rationale for the amendments was to ensure the rule applied to cats of all ages that were going to a new home and not only kittens, and remove contracts to avoid the rule as they had become a matter of routine for some breeders, and it was difficult to be sure the buyer understood the implications.

3.2 A note had been added to cover emergency situations.

3.3 The new wording was agreed with 1 abstention.

Action: to be on the agenda for the February Council meeting.

JL

4. Vaccination card checklist of a kitten's health & condition at first and second vaccinations

4.1 It was thought this suggestion from a club was a matter for further discussion with the VAC and possibly for the Breeder Scheme. It was not practical for the rules as it depended on veterinary practice.

4.2 It was noted that the checklist for buyers provided by the C&FSD (BD3733.4) would be on the GCCF website which would provide advice for buyer/breeder interaction and query.

INF

5. Support for mating certificates - legal advice

5.1 GCCF support for the contracts between breeders via mating certificate had been discussed with the GCCF Solicitor. She had advised against any GCCF intervention, or the supply of information, because of the risk of involvement in a legal dispute between those concerned.

Action: the club to be informed

JL

6. A matter of concern re use of Breeder Scheme membership

This was deferred to the next meeting.

7. Revised Code of Conduct for GCCF Judges

7.1 The revised code with the changes highlighted had not yet been circulated. Assurance was given that it was still at the draft stage and not yet in use.

Action: items 1, 6 & 7 to be returned to the March agenda.

JL

BD3742 STAFF & OFFICE

No business taken.

BD3743 EVENTS

1. The 2018 Supreme

1.1 There was general discussion at BD3739.6 on the principle of keeping the weekend before and after the Supreme clear of shows. One difficulty with this was that the Supreme could change date and would not necessarily be at the end of October for 2019-21.

1.2 It was agreed if it did change then other shows had to be given the chance to move as they could have contracts agreed for the year following. However, if a three year contract for the Supreme was signed then it gave time to ensure the weekends were clear in 2021 for the 150 year anniversary celebration with WCC.

1.3 The Chairman confirmed he would look at other halls in advance of a contract with NEC.

INF

2. Discussion on other events was deferred.

BD3744 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was requested that Board agenda should be posted earlier to give adequate time for reading and consideration of the business to be discussed. The OM replied that he aimed for at least a week, but the Christmas holiday and arrival of a number of late items had caused delays this time.

The meeting finished at 5.00pm with business completed or deferred as noted

NEXT MEETING: **TUESDAY**, 6 March 2018, at 11.00 for 11.15am, at The Kennel Club, Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London