



## MINUTES

### For the Meeting of the Board OF DIRECTORS THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE CAT FANCY

Tuesday, 9 May 2017 at the Kennel Club, Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London

Present: Mr Steve Crow - Chairman  
Mr John Hansson - Vice-Chairman

Mrs Valerie Anderson	Mrs Lynda Ashmore
Dr Gillian Bennet	Mrs Rosemary Fisher
Mrs Doreen Goadby	Mr Thomas Goss
Mrs Shelagh Heavens	Mrs Jen Lacey
Mrs Heather McRae	Mrs Pat Perkins
Mrs Sally Rainbow-Ockwell	Mrs Lisa Talboys

In attendance: Mr Mark Goadby - Office Manager

#### BD3666 MEETING INTRODUCTION

1. **Apologies for absence.**

1.1 Apologies were given on behalf of: Mr Sean Farrell, Mrs Catherine Kaye and Mrs Helen Marriott -Power,

2. **Chairman's Opening remarks**

2.1 The Chairman opened the meeting at 11.17am, and welcomed those present. The Board expressed sympathy, and condolences were put on record for Mrs Marriott-Power who had recently lost her husband.

2.2 Mr Crow reported that he'd had a conversation with Mrs Shingleton, the GCCF delegate, about the World Cat Congress meeting in Las Vegas. It had been agreed that she would make a brief presentation to Council to share the news of a successful meeting.

2.3 One idea put forward for the 2021 event to celebrate 150 years of the Cat Fancy, to be hosted by GCCF, was that there should be a commemorative stamp for use by the UK and Commonwealth countries. It was known that applications had to be made some time ahead and were not free of charge, but it was agreed that the process and cost should be investigated.

**Action: to be referred to the next FC agenda.**

JL

2.4 The Chairman observed that many members from the organisation would be present at the Royal Canin event near Montpellier in June. He and two members of the Board (JL & SRO) would be representing GCCF, attending a seminar with Prof Lyons as the main speaker, and visiting the RC Campus. A programme of events had been received. GCCF would incur no costs.

INF

#### BD3667 MINUTES OF THE APRIL BOARD MEETING

1. **The Minutes of the Board meeting of 13 April 2017**

1.1 These had been circulated in advance of the meeting with some requested amendments made.

1.2 A final amendment after publication was reported with the insertion of BLH before progeny for sense at BD3662.2.3

1.3 The minutes were then approved with three abstentions.

**Action: the minutes to go for publication on the GCCF website**

JL/RF

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

2.1 The Chairman reviewed the actions of the meeting.

2.2 BD3651.2.3 Mr Crow reported that he was unable to circulate the synopsis of Ms Stone's thesis as he had a paper copy only. He would get it scanned in and sent if any Board member particularly wished to have it.

2.3 BD 3641.2.3 SRO also reported that the judge list was now almost ready, and within another week or so should be available to replace the list that had been manually maintained with a report produced from the system. The new report would always be up to date.

2.4 BD3652.2.5 Dr Bennett had received club rules that needed updating and queried the subsequent procedure. It was agreed she should send comment to the club(s) concerned together with a copy of the appropriate GCCF generic rules and suggest they were used as a model for any amendments necessary.

2.5 BD3654.5 The OM reported the opening of a savings account for 2021 was in hand.

2.6 BD3655.1.4 Agria had produced new leaflets for use on GCCF stalls.

2.7 BD3655.2.5 It was confirmed that it was clearly stated in the publicity for HHP registration that exhibitors did not have to register in order to enter a cat and they could continue to use titles already gained. Several strategies would be used to circulate information. The HHP advert would be changed, leaflets put on pens, emails sent out, and the GCCF website front page would carry the message. SMs would be informed of what was involved, and also that the system could be used to check registered HHP and PP details.

**Action: continued publicity on the changes for HHP exhibitors**

OFFICE

2.8 BD3657.1 It was thought users would like to see photos of the office staff, Officers and Board on the website.

This was for the newly elected Board to action, and the OM would seek staff opinion.

**Action: consultation with the staff at Bridgwater**

OM

2.9 Other actions were confirmed as completed.

#### BD3668 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

1.1 Club, show and previously declared commercial interests were as on record. Mrs McRae declared a possible interest in a future BLH BAC. She would be able to put this on record at the time.

INFO

### 1. Presentation of the 2016 GCCF accounts

- 1.1 Mr Goadby reported that the 2016 accounts had now been agreed with Monahans and the reasons for challenge were removed. It had been agreed that nothing in Sage would be moved in future without first obtaining GCCF consent, so it was hoped that the issues that had been resolved would not be repeated.
- 1.2 The Chairman observed that it would be necessary for depreciation to be properly explained to delegates in the presentation of the accounts. The £50,000 surplus on turnover was present in the bank, but not shown in the year's final outcome because of an accounting convention to spread capital spending costs over a period of years. After 2016 the amount of depreciation would reduce.
- 1.3 The amount of corporation tax was thought high when compared to that paid in 2015, although interest rates were very low. This was explained by the timing of investments.
- 1.4 It was noted that the amount to be repaid to clubs had moved its position in the accounts because repayment was now due rather than falling due at a later date.
- 1.5 There were queries in the lack of detail to breakdown some of the expenses in the Supreme accounts. It was explained that some figures could be estimated after investigation, but the previous SM was known to have disposed of detailed records immediately after the last show. It was agreed that it would be inappropriate to use estimates as the accounts were a record of fact. Therefore the totals would be for 2016 as known, and 2015 figures would be presented with the same combined breakdowns used, to enable delegates to make proper comparisons in the accounts presented to Council
- 1.6 It was agreed that consideration could be given to build up funds specifically to replace equipment in the future.

**Action: this intention to be passed on to FC for discussion and recommendation**

**JL**

1.7 The accounts were agreed after noting some typographical errors to be amended in the Directors' Report.

**Action: Monahans to be asked to make the necessary adjustment and corrections**

**OM**

### 2. Management accounts on 2017 business to date

- 2.1 The OM presented the accounts detail for March reporting that it had been an exceptional month for income. There had been a 24% increase on the previous year, reversing the previous trend of 2017 to bring the total year to date earnings to 105% of the same period in 2016.
- 2.2 However, he noted that Easter had occurred in March last year. This year the holiday was in April and there seemed to be an 'Easter period' effect, with March and April exchanging final outcomes.
- 2.3 Expenditure had been affected by the expense of the Appeal (£5,548.62). All costs for this were not shown yet in the final figure as the bill from Marshalls had arrived after the end of the month. It was agreed by the Board that this figure should be included to show in April so that delegates were aware of the total costs.

**Action: the necessary bookkeeping convention to be arranged**

**OM**

### 3. Volume figures and transaction graphs for core business to date

- 3.1 Prefix registrations were still down on 2016, but were levelling off rather than continuing to fall. Interest was expressed in ascertaining if there had been a fall in registrations for particular breeds or if it was general across most of them. This information could be taken from the computer system.

**Action: breed registration figures and trends to be extracted and presented**

**OM/SRO**

- 3.2 Non-prefix registrations were still outstripping those of previous years so the monthly registration total had remained much the same. The number of litters was down, but litter size had increased.
- 3.3 Transfers had dipped quite sharply around Easter, but maintained a good overall performance.
- 3.4 Imports had also slowed a little, but prefix applications remained very strong.
- 3.5 It was queried whether those who had registered non-prefix litters in the previous months were now responsible for the prefix applications.

**Action: this information to be extracted and circulated**

**OM**

### 4. 2017 insurance schedule

- 4.1 The schedule and costs had been circulated to the Board in April and renewal agreed.
- 4.2 There had been some discussion on the need for comparison between companies to be made, but it was noted that the current payment was only two thirds of that of 2012 as the current broker was exceptionally competitive.
- 4.3 In 2018 the company would be scheduling a 'combined office' policy for charities and not-for-profit companies. It was intended to compare the cost of this with similar policies and expected that it would be favourable. It could yield a further saving of 10-15% overall.

**Action: insurance policy review to be on the first FC agenda of 2018**

**JL**

- 4.4 Over 90% of judges had responded to give a date of birth and the age range had been logged with the insurers. The youngest judge was 37, the oldest 92, with the average at 66.

**INFO**

### 5. Club loan repayment

- 5.1 41% of the clubs, BACs and individuals who had loaned money had made a response, and most had asked for their money to be refunded. Two had left it on loan with GCCF. A new agreement would be necessary.
- 5.2 Over half of the loan (£29,000) had now been repaid.
- 5.3 There was discussion on what should be done with sums lent by clubs that no longer existed. Some had given instructions. It was agreed that contact should be made if possible with a previous club official, but if this proved difficult then any sum should be given to the Cat Welfare Trust.
- 5.4 The memo expressing thanks to the lenders was approved after a minor change.

**Action: this to go on the website and be sent out with Council papers**

**OM**

### 6. Investment accounts report

- 6.1 Mrs Fisher reported that United Trust had a variable account which allowed for payments in and money out with 100 days notice. The interest rate was 0.9%.

6.2 The OM thought a better deal could be obtained from Cambridge & Counties and would investigate.

**Action: rate to be obtained for a 95 day account with C & C.**

**OM**

**BD3670**

## **BUSINESS MATTERS**

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

- 1.1 The OM commented that the GCCF site was prepared for the one stop insurance button to set up five week free kitten cover notes, but Agria's system upgrade was not yet ready.
- 1.2 Agria were planning a new initiative that targeted clubs to introduce insurance to members, but it wasn't clear yet how this would operate. Some concern was expressed because Agria could irritate by sending inappropriately frequent email. It was agreed that when the scheme was known it should be monitored.
- 1.3 It was understood that Agria would not be insuring Scottish Fold, Munchkins and Manx, and more information on this policy was required.
- 1.4 The company had also reported that HMRC had requested its breeder database. This provoked discussion on HMRC's apparent sudden interest in breeders, and the need to advise if possible. It was thought there could be practical bookkeeping assistance offered, and liaison with HMRC to gain understanding of its definition of commercial activities.

**Action: Liaison with Agria at the next meeting on 23 May**

**SC/OM**

**Scheme for breeder accounts advice/assistance to be on the next FC agenda**

**JL**

1.5 RC's transfer incentive was under revision to make it completely digital.

1.6 There were ongoing discussion on the company's support for the Supreme.

**Action: continued liaison with RC at the next meeting on 1 June**

**OM/SC**

### **2. IT development and online report**

- 2.1 Mrs Rainbow-Ockwell reported that it had been a really busy month for the IT team.
- 2.2 The work on the lists for GCCF and non-GCCF judges had been completed and was accessible to SMS. It would be updated on a weekly basis as judges were approved via the website. There was the possibility of putting it into Excel rather than it being pdf based, but an assessment of how useful this would be had to be made. There were now weekly changes.
- 2.3 HHP registration continued so that records could be kept of show successes and titles. Pedigree Pets would have separate records and a facility for a pet name, but the record would be linked to any existing recorded pedigree information.
- 2.4 Work continued to ensure readiness for Agria's new system.
- 2.5 There was now a slicker procedure for ordering and despatching medals.
- 2.6 Preparation continued to be made for the Supreme procedures and a GCCF online show scheme.
- 2.7 It was possible that the next project would provide club access.
- 2.8 SRO pointed out that Leon's contract with GCCF would finish at the end of June and consideration would have to be given to a transitional period as the next Board would not meet until July. An assessment of the requirement of his services and expertise balanced with his availability and cost would be made.

**Action: circulation of transitional options**

**SRO**

### **3. Planning for the introduction of licensing**

- 3.1 The Chairman commented on whether the imminent General Election would make a difference. His opinion was that it could delay legislation slightly, but should not be relied on for indefinite postponement. As Council was after the election more would be known than about any government and ministerial changes.
- 3.2 A CFSG meeting was planned for the end of June. There had been discussions on bringing this forward, but that was now unlikely. It was important that he clarified with CFSG what was known of DEFRA's position on the definition of commercial breeding and the standardisation of local authority action. He understood that the first had not yet been decided and, although costs could be varied locally, the second had always been the intention. Correspondence from a DEFRA official published on social media gave contrary information which was disconcerting and there was a need to establish whether this was opinion or fact.
- 3.3 There had been a meeting with Ian Ronksley of UKAS on 2 May (SC & JL). It reinforced the information given previously that accreditation was possible to achieve, but it would take considerable commitment and planning to develop a scheme, standards, testing and employ and train staff to operate it.
- 3.4 The figures given at the previous meeting of £6-8,000 to prepare, and around £4,000 to maintain the scheme, were what would need to be paid to UKAS. Money would also have to be found to fund any additional employees and processes. Therefore it could only be of benefit if there were a sufficient number of breeders interested in participation. They would have to pay an annual fee, but have the benefit of being an accredited breeder and being able to advertise as such.
- 3.5 Inspection was essential to the scheme and this had to be standard and factually based, and able to be proven as such. It was agreed by the VAC and ICC that a domestic setting provided many benefits for rearing and socialising kittens, but space and conditions in a home were difficult to measure and quantify objectively.
- 3.6 The Board agreed that there should be continued exploration of the accreditation process, but GCCF could not spend many thousands of pounds supporting a very few breeders. It would have to be something that a considerable number felt would benefit them.
- 3.7 It was unlikely that it would prevent the need for registration with a local authority, but it would be essential to achieve a scheme similar to that planned by the Kennel Club. That ensured accredited breeders were rarely or never inspected by the local authority to acquire any necessary licence.

**Action: a report to be made to delegates at June Council**

**SC**

3.8 The Chairman had also attended a Cat Group meeting on the microchipping of cats. The conclusion was that mandatory microchipping by direct legislation was not particularly desirable or workable, but requirements could be introduced into the Animal Welfare Act establishing it as best practice for owned cats, and therefore an obligation to establish ownership.

3.9 It had also been agreed that all participating organisations in the Cat Group would encourage it, and the Chairman believed it would be appropriate for GCCF to consider the obligatory microchipping of all cats used for breeding, not only the males. This was already standard practice in FIFe and GCCF also needed to give thought to best practice.

**Action: this matter to be returned to the July agenda** **JL**

4. **Byelaw change at 11(1) to give greater stability in company governance**

4.1 This was re-presented from the April meeting with additional wording to establish what would happen if a Board member was not reappointed as a delegate by a club during the three year term of a directorship.

4.2 It was proposed that the director would have to stand down from the Board unless appointed as a delegate by another club. The costs of Council attendance could not be a GCCF responsibility.

4.3 After minor amendments to the wording the proposal was agreed. **2 against 0 abstentions.**

**Action: to be on the June Council agenda and taken prior to the 2017 Board elections** **JL**

5. **Director responsibilities**

1. It was agreed that the most suitable way to have a Board representative responsible for finance was that FC should appoint one of its members who was also a director to this position.

**Action: to be on the FC agenda for the first meeting after June**

2. Sample paperwork had been prepared that gave the role description for Board membership, and asked candidates to indicate their interests in current Board projects. There were no queries.

**Action: to be in the delegate's pack.** **OM**

**BD3671 STAFF & OFFICE**

1. **Staff report - current staffing**

1.1 The OM reported the new staff had settled in well and were making a difference to the atmosphere as well as the amount of business completed.

1.2 They were quick to accept new processes. **INFO**

2. **General office update**

2.1 There had been another period of change to provide better services to customers. The ordering process for medals and bars was quicker and the despatch process had been adapted

2.2 The OM gave an alert that there were issues with the main server that was now five years old and not always functioning reliably due to the age and the software use. IT would review the current provision.

**Action: an assessment to be made of the server provision** **OM/SRO**

2.3 The Committee Secretary could no longer access stored files due to recent security updates. Her system was 8 years old and could not be upgraded. The OM suggested GCCF funding so that she could carry out the role efficiently and there was no dissent.

**Action: agenda item for the next FC meeting** **JL**

**BD3672 PREFIXES FOR APPROVAL**

1. **Prefix applications**

1.1 23 prefixes were considered and all were accepted unanimously.

**Action: the applicants to be informed** **OFFICE**

**BD3673 THE SUPREME SHOW**

1. **Report on preparation for the Supreme Show Event in 2017**

1.1 The Vice-Chairman reported that there was now a contract with the hotel and 49 of the 51 rooms had been reserved. He was going to try and secure the other two.

1.2 Judge invitations were planned, but had not yet been sent until the final allocation of classes. When the SM had considered class revision it had proven complex and it was thought exhibitors could be deterred from entry. Therefore, in conjunction with the Event Manager (JH), a decision had been taken to retain the structure of the previous year, with BOB as agreed. Exhibitors would be warned of major changes for 2018.

1.3 It was observed that IT needed notification of the change urgently and that all of the Supreme Committee should be informed. The SC minutes would need a post meeting note.

**Action: circulation of the information to the SC members** **LA**

1.4 It was noted that 'Bricklive' had not responded positively to any mutually supportive activity.

1.5 Judge lunch costs had been set for £10. It was not known if this was a saving on the previous year, but thought that it would be sufficient.

1.6 It was agreed that as Richardsons had not responded to enquiries the SM should approach an alternative supplier for ribbon samples.

1.7 A float of £20,000 was agreed to the show account to meet the second payment on hall hire and other bills.

**Action: SC meeting arranged for 27 June.** **SC**

**BD3674 OTHER SHOW MATTERS**

1. **2016/2017 Show changes - for report** None.

2. **2016/2017 Show Changes - for approval** None

3. **2017/2018 Show changes - for report**

3.1 South Western Counties CC- 23 September 2017: SM reported as Jane Truscott

4. **2017/2018 Show Licence Changes -for approval**
  - 4.1 Cambridgeshire CC - 28 April 2018: Show postponed. The club planned to share with Bucks, Oxon & Berks CS in the next show season and would apply for 15 September 2018. It had been informed that no commitment on this date could be given in advance as it would depend on other licence applications. **INFO**
  - 4.2 At present the information was that the clubs planning to share with Cambridge in 2018 would go ahead with their shows in September 2017. **INFO**
5. **2016-17 Late Show Licence Applications - for approval** None
6. **2017/2018 Show Licence Details Still Awaited**
  - 6.1 Northern Birman CC - 7 April 2018: It was understood the venue would be as last year.
7. **2017/2018 Show Licence Applications not yet received**
  - 7.1 Scottish CC. This was expected after the club's AGM.
  - 7.2 Russian & Abyssinian CC of Scotland - no information. **INFO**
8. **Late judge reports - removal of the Fixed Penalty for late reports and revision of the procedure re the non-publication of judge reports, removing the reminder and recording process**
  - 8.1 It was observed that it was possible now that the computer system could produce automatic reminders to judges by email. A warning could be given that the deadline was approaching at 21 days and when it had passed.
  - 8.2 It was agreed to wait until there was confirmation that this could be put into practice effectively in a matter of weeks before any decision was taken on the procedure for the application of fixed penalties. It was thought that this should be done in way that applied equally to all rather than relying on exhibitor discretion.

Action: **Information to be provided at the July meeting** **SRO**
9. **HHP Judges**
  - 9.1 Following the previous discussion it was queried whether HHP judges were subject to sanction if reports were not produced, but thought only if they had signed to agree to GCCF rules.
  - 9.2 Concern was raised on insurance cover for HHP judges if they had no contractual obligation and the suggestion was made that there should be a code they could sign which could also include reports. It was thought that one had been drafted by Mrs Gregory, but not put into use. If it was found it could be updated.

Action: **file search and existing code of conduct for HHP judges to be circulated if available** **JL**
10. **Proposal to raise the minimum age for kitten exhibits from 14 weeks to 4 calendar months**
  - 10.1 This was discussed, but it was thought more evidence should be provided of the extent of the problem before any change was made.

Action: **a request to Dr Moreland for further information and data** **JL**

**BD3675 REPORT FROM THE JOINT MEETING OF THE SSRG AND BACRG**

1. **Decline in judge numbers**
  - 1.1 Exhibitors sometimes complained that they were encountering the same judges at many different shows. It was acknowledged that this was partially due to declining judge numbers and lack of eligible judges for certain higher certificate classes, but acknowledged there was an element of SMs wishing to secure judges known to be popular.
  - 1.2 By reducing the number of lists it was intended to allow judges to become more useful to show managers more quickly, thus also making them more familiar to a greater number of exhibitors.
  - 1.3 It was agreed that there should be the addition to the proposed revisions that when a new breed entered a section all Full Judges in the section went onto the breed list, unless opting not to do so.
2. **Show section restructure**
  - 2.1 Mrs Kaye had provided details of the FIFe option (Option One) as requested. The breeds were listed in four sections with the grand groups and the proposed certificate trail for each shown. The show day had been outlined. There were no miscellaneous classes and judge reports would be written on the day.
  - 2.2 It was agreed that the Olympian Award should not be removed from this format. If necessary awards could be reviewed at a later date.
  - 2.2 It was noted that all information relating to this format had to be labelled very clearly as Option 1, or it would cause confusion in Council that would result in lengthy explanations having to be provided.
  - 2.3 The alternative GCCF model was also shown in diagrammatic format that made the structure and certificate trail clear. The show day would not differ from the existing GCCF format.
  - 2.4 It would be emphasised that no judge would be disadvantaged. The grand classes they were eligible to judge could shift in structure or position, but they would not lose anything.
  - 2.5 Useful statistics and pie charts had been produced for presentation to evidence the numbers of each breed shown currently with GCCF.

Action: **to be revised for presentation in Council** **CK**  
**there would be a paper ballot held giving the options** **OM**

### 3. Revision of judge and steward training

- 3.1 The detail of the schedule of training for judges and stewards remained unchanged from the presentation in April.  
3.2 The information for the Option 1 outlined the 'Group Panels' that would oversee the training of candidates in each of the competitive sections, though the schedule would remain as given for Option 2.  
3.3 Option 2 provided for 14 BACs overseeing the training for each of the Grand Groups. **INFO**

## BD3676 YOUNG EXHIBITOR SCHEME

1. **Mentor form**  
1.1 Mrs Ashmore had circulated information about the revised form. **INFO**
2. **Progress on revitalising the scheme**  
2.1 It was agreed that YES classes should be mandatory at all shows.  
2.2 They were to be judged at roughly the same time as assessment classes and not left until late in the afternoon.  
**Action: this information to be sent to Show Managers** **OFFICE**  
2.3 The website was to be updated and new material produced for younger scheme members. **INFO**

## BD3677 VETERINARY MATTERS

1. **Revision of rule Section 1:10b - vaccinations required prior to kittens going to new homes**  
1.1 It was thought the suggested wording still left a loophole that would be made use of by those wishing to sell very young unvaccinated kittens, and it was the GCCF's intention that they should remain with their breeder unless there were exceptional circumstances.  
1.2 It was suggested there could be a note to the rule and a form that could be downloaded from the website to explain any move prior to second vaccination. This could be provided before or after the move in an emergency situation. If the breeder did not provide the information and kittens were allowed to go to new homes unvaccinated action could then be taken.  
1.3 It was agreed that this should be deferred to allow the drafting of the rule note and form and further discussion with the Veterinary Officer.  
**Action: preparation of necessary rule and paperwork** **GB/JL**
2. **Report from the VAC meeting of 26 April**  
2.1 It was hoped that there would be a positive outcome to enabling breeders access to contraceptive pills for queens if they chose to use them. Injections were still available, but not tablets for short term use.  
2.2 It was noted that the list of possible withholding faults for Persians and Exotics was suitable for the general list of defects rather than particular to the SOPs for these breeds. **INFO**

## BD3678 REGISTRATION, TRANSFER & SOP MATTERS

1. **Application for the promotion of the Silver Bengal to championship status**  
1.1 This was proposed by the Bengal BAC, putting forward the Silver Bengal as a new colour of an existing breed.  
1.2 There were no queries raised on the registration policy or SOP provided, and the application was supported by judges present.  
1.3 The promotion to championship status for the Silver Bengal was unanimously agreed.  
**Action: this proposal to be on the agenda for June Council** **JL**
2. **Application for preliminary recognition of the British Longhair**  
2.1 It was queried whether this should be deferred until issues had been discussed at the BSH BAC meeting, but confirmed that the BAC remit was to discuss the future of the BSH v and not the progress of the new breed of BLH.  
2.2 The BLH Breeder Group would be asked to provide a list of cats registered as BLH, not inclusive of those registered as BSH v.  
2.3 It was considered that the judge list supplied did not have sufficient names on it. Two of those rarely judged and a third was not eligible as he was not qualified for any list within the British section.  
2.4 'Alternatively' rather than 'previously' was required on line 2 of the first definition and 'full' and 'supplementary' used rather than 'cs' and 'cssr', as this lettering was no longer used in the registration program (table). (The Board's amendments sent in April had not been used).  
2.5 The Breeder Group had also been requested on previous occasions to use GEMS code for the ticked tabbies in the SOP and an 'over-long flowing silky coat' appeared twice in the list of faults.  
**Action: the club to be informed that preliminary status could not be proposed until the information on cats and judges was provided and the registration and SOP amendments made.** **JL**
3. **The revised Suffolk registration policy**  
3.1 The Suffolk Breeder Group wished to extend their choice of outcrosses as at present there was thought to be insufficient genetic diversity in the breed. Some breeders had retired and their lines had been lost.  
3.2 However, they had not listed the breeds they wished to use, but removed the final policy clause and all outcrossing restrictions.  
3.3 This was considered unnecessary and the policy would be returned for amendment with guidance offered.  
**Action: the Breeder group to be informed that John Hansson would offer assistance** **JL/JH**
4. **The revised Tonkinese registration policy**  
4.1 The BAC had accepted the requirements sent by the Board in April and amended their policy accordingly.  
4.2 It was unanimously agreed to propose the revised policy to Council.  
**Action: the proposal to be on the agenda for June Council** **JL**

5. **A revised SOP for all Persian Longhairs**  
 5.1 The policy gave a template with the scale of points for the type and structure of all Persian Longhairs. The colour descriptions for selfs were also included.  
 5.2 Pattern descriptions were unchanged except for the torties, blue-cream and lilac-cream.  
 5.3 There were no queries and the revised SOP was unanimously agreed.  
**Action: the SOP to be on the agenda for June Council** JL
6. **A registration query from the Australian Mist BAC**  
 6.1 The Australian Mist registration policy was contradictory as it gave the phenotype of the outcross as the criterion for choice in the list of approved outcross cats, but with the reference register terms excluding orange and silver series cats for three generations, although genetic inheritance of these colours was not possible if no cat with a red or silver phenotype was used.  
 6.2 It was agreed that the BAC should make the necessary policy revision, but that it was not a problem to register the progeny of an outcross acceptable by phenotype, regardless of non-approved colours in the two preceding generations.  
**Action: the BAC to be informed** JL
7. **SOP template (office update)**  
 7.1 The OM reported this was an ongoing project.  
**Action: circulation to BACs when completed** OM
8. **Revisions to the Asian Registration Policy and SOP**  
 8.1 This was received shortly before the meeting and did not show the amendments according to the GCCF format, partly because they had not been made where a lot had changed and there was reference back to the previous policy, and also because the format had been stripped from the email and wasn't printed. As there were complicated changes required several Board members were in favour of a delay.  
 8.2 However, it was agreed that as the SOP alterations chiefly consisted of GEMs Code insertions and minor alterations to withholding faults this could forward to June Council if a version showing the changes in the usual way could be submitted to circulate with the Council agenda.  
 8.3 There was a requirement in the registration policy for the DNA testing of imports to prevent the introduction of the Burmese cranio-facial defect. It was agreed that as cats already registered with GCCF could be bred from this amendment should go to Council as a matter of urgency, and other minor amendments to make corrections and clarify definitions could be included if shown in the standard manner in a version to be circulated with the Council agenda.  
 8.4 It was agreed that changes to hypokalaemia testing programme, and a request for the inclusion of Burmese patterned cats in Asian self classes should be deferred.  
**Action: paperwork in the correct format to be circulated asap** HM  
**the proposed changes to be on the Council agenda if the required paperwork was received** JL

**BD3679 CLUB AND BAC MATTERS**

1. **2017 club and BAC returns**  
 1.1 Mrs Goadby reported that 46 clubs returns were still outstanding, and 11 BACs still had to submit their returns. Six clubs so far had requested dispensation. It was agreed these would be listed on the June Council Agenda with their membership numbers stated. It was possible there would be more applications. INFO
2. **Amendment to the Judge Appointment Scheme at 13a re the circulation of paperwork**  
 2.1 There were contradictory statements in articles 11 and 13 of the JAS. The finance section stated that the BAC was responsible for copying to clubs, but 13a mentioned 'sufficient copies for all representatives' and did not state whether this was a club or BAC responsibility.  
 2.2 The amendment clarified that documents could be circulated electronically or by paper, but where there were copying and/or postal cost for sending out to the representatives this had to be met by the BAC if there were sufficient funds, or by the clubs.  
 2.3 It was agreed that it was not a GCCF responsibility to meet these costs.  
**Action: to be on the agenda for June Council for notification.**
3. **Application for full membership of GCCF for the Egyptian Mau Society**  
 3.1 The relevant paperwork had been completed. There were no changes to the rules which had been approved with the granting of provisional membership in 2014.  
 3.2 The application was approved and would be put to the June Council meeting.  
**Action: to be on the agenda for June Council** JL
4. **An application for Provisional Membership from the Bengal Cat Association**  
 4.1 Dr Bennett pointed out that the rules submitted by the BCA were not the GCCF generic breed club rules, and she could see several problems that could arise in their implementation.  
 4.2 It was agreed that it would be quicker and simple if the club used the generic rules than made various amendments and this would be pointed out to them.  
 4.3 They would also be told that this did not mean a delay in the application as the date of the first submission was the baseline for provisional membership.  
**Action: the club to be informed and sent a copy of the GCCF generic breed club rules** JL
5. **An application for Provisional Membership from the British Longhair Cat Society**  
 1. The club had used the GCCF generic breed club rules. The one suggestion made was as they had chosen to be a society rather than a club this term should be used throughout.  
**Action: the BLCS to be informed and the information to be given at the June Council meeting** JL

