



MINUTES

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

Tuesday, 5 March 2019 at the Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, Holborn, London



Present: Mr John Hansson - Chairman
Mr Sean Farrell - Vice-Chairman
Mrs Lynda Asmore Mr Steve Crow
Mrs Hilary Dean Ms Sarndra Devereux
Mrs Rosemary Fisher Mr Thomas Goss
Mrs Jen Lacey Mrs Lisa Robinson-Talboys

In attendance: Ms Denise Williams - Office Manager

BD3840 MEETING INTRODUCTION

1. **Apologies for absence.**

1.1 Apologies for absence were given on behalf of: Mrs Valerie Anderson, Drs Bruce & Gillian Bennett, Dr Peter Collin, Mrs Shelagh Heavens, Mrs Catherine Kaye and Mrs Elaine Robinson. Mrs Ashmore was late due to train problems.

2. **Chairman's opening remarks**

2.1 The meeting was opened shortly before 11.30am, and the Chairman welcomed Denise, the new Office Manager to her first Board meeting.

2.2 Mr Hansson sought Board opinion on a recent judge withdrawal as a letter had been forwarded from the Office.

2.3 It was concluded that as the judge had not followed the advice sent prior to the Council meeting, but given a specific instruction to leave his name on the agenda, any re-instatement would be a matter for Council.

Action: the judge to be informed of the Board's decision **OM**

BD3841 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

1. **The Minutes of the Board meeting of 9 January 2019**

1.1 These had been circulated after the meeting, and minor typographical errors had been corrected.

1.2 They were approved as presented with no queries or objections as proposed by SC and 2nd by TG.

Action: publication on the GCCF website

JL/RF

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

2.1 BD3836.1 Neocat had sent thanks to GCCF for recognition as a bona fide club.

2.2 It was observed that it was very difficult for the Office to validate clubs, particularly in Germany where there were many small independent clubs who did not have affiliation to a WCC member. Mrs Fisher reported that she had ascertained that these could have an official status from the government, (e.v.) but this would be in respect of their business practice rather than pedigree record keeping. It was agreed that pedigrees from the clubs with this status should be accepted, provided there was no reason to suspect their records were inaccurate.

Action: a website notice to importers to check their pedigrees would be acceptable prior to import **JL**

3. **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27 February 2019**

3.1 These had been circulated electronically and corrections and amendments were made as suggested.

3.2 It was agreed they should be published as 'draft' on the GCCF website for delegate consideration.

Action: to be sent to RF for the website

JL

BD3842 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

1.1 BD3847 The Committee Secretary had a possible pecuniary interest. This was declared and she was not in the room for the discussion.

1.2 BD3852.1 LA was not present for discussion on the Supreme SM.

INFO

BD3843 FINANCE

1. **Draft minutes of the February Finance meeting**

1.1 There were no questions raised on these to be put to the Finance Committee.

1.2 The bookkeeper was on compassionate leave, but doing some work from home. It was agreed that if the next FC meeting could be a week later than planned (27 March) it would be helpful.

INFO

2. **The preparation of the 2018 accounts for an audit**

2.1 Monahans had sent a quote for a full audit (£8,000), but when they received the accounts had stated that it had not been confirmed that this was acceptable.

2.2 It was agreed that it was a full audit that was required and the accountants should be asked to carry this out even if it meant that there was delay in the finalisation of the 2018 accounts.

2.3 It was observed that there had been no audit since incorporation in 2011 and several staff changes during 2018. It was considered best practice at this time for both reasons.

- 2.4 The Chairman reported that quotes were still being obtained for revaluation of the property. However, it would not be done in time for the audit and could now wait until after planned redecoration.
Action: Monahans to be instructed **OM**
3. **Profit/loss account for January**
- 3.1 Mrs Penwell had supplied the profit/loss figures for January, and JL had put these into a table to make comparison with January 2018, and set them against the provisional 2019 budget.
- 3.2 Registrations and transfers were as could be expected, though it was disappointing that prefix applications had taken a dip. Income from IC/DC was also significantly lower. However, there were some increases, and the Agria income for the month was substantially up on that for the same period in 2018. (It was noted that after improved IT links there should no longer be the fluctuation in monthly totals).
- 3.3 Expenditure was as expected and the total was 90% of the previous January as a result of a reduced salary total (no OM in position).
- 3.4 The one exception was the cost of bank charges. It was more than double than in the previous year, with the same level of core business. It was conjectured that this could be as a result of card charges via STAR, but Mrs Penwell would have to confirm.
- 3.5 It was noted that there was a small increase in profits with income steady and expenditure reduced, but no grounds for complacency. It was agreed there should be close monitoring of core business and price increases should be considered for the following year. **INF**
4. **Supreme 2018 accounts**
- 4.1 Steve Crow reported that he there had been a check of each line of expenditure made in the Office before the accounts had been submitted for audit. It had been easy to check this as all invoices had been retained with records of payment.
- 4.2 Income was lower because of VAT payments on entry fees and the 20% commission taken by the Ticket Office. Monahans had confirmed the necessity for VAT and it was anticipated that it must have been paid in previous years as there was no change in accountants.
- 4.3 The final cost to GCCF was £24,836.72. **INF**
5. **The 2019 budget for approval**
- 5.1 The budget had been prepared by considering the outcomes in 2018, together with any known changes, and hoping that it would be a year in which there would be no major variations.
- 5.2 Some concern was expressed that income from imports would fall as it could be more difficult to import from Europe without a PETS passport, but it was recognised that imports arrived from other places and many were new to the GCCF register, but UK domiciled. Therefore no change was made to the estimate.
- 5.3 It was agreed that an additional £2000 should be added to the amount for Office maintenance to allow for redecoration and refurbishment.
- 5.4 With this adjustment the budget was approved, proposed by LA and 2nd by TG.
Action: adjustment to made in the business plan **SC**
6. **Euro Account update**
- 6.1 SH was unable to be present to give an update on her liaison with Lloyds in respect of the Euro account. It had been ascertained that there would be a monthly payment, but agreed that both the OM and bookkeeper needed to have online access to monitor the transactions.
- 6.2 It was queried whether there was a conversion to £s, following a set amount of income into the account, that was then transferred, but this seemed to conflict with information that there was no direct links between the accounts. Certainty was also needed on whether there were charges being made for small transactions in Euros as the account had been set up to avoid this happening .
- 6.3 Another point raised concerned the repayment of Euros after money had been withdrawn for overseas judges who had been at the Supreme.
Action: questions to be raised with LP and SH when possible. **JH**
7. **New card processing provider**
- 7.1 The transaction volume involving card use was now known, enabling comparison between the different types of cards. Currently with Netbanx the charge was 1.8% plus 20p per transaction. With two other providers (Stripe and Paypal) the 20p transaction payment remained, but at a 1.4% rate. That would mean an approximate saving per annum with either of around £1700.
- 7.2 The disadvantages were that the customer needed a Paypal account to use Paypal, and Stripe stated its rate was for European cards, and it was not known whether this would be offered in the UK after 29 March.
- 7.3 There was thought that Paypal should be offered alongside one of the other two, and enquiries should be made with Stripe to check if it could be established that the 1.4% would not be subject to change.
Action: further investigation and to be on the agenda for the next FC meeting **RF/JL**
8. **Investment account update**
- 8.1 £74410.30 was held on deposit at the Aldermore, with an annual interest of 1.49%
- 8.2 This was due to mature on 18 March, but FC had agreed a roll over, particularly as the interest rate would rise to 1.85%, and there was no better rate available for a UK based account.
- 8.3 There was £42180.42 at the Cambridge & Counties, a three month notice account. £500 monthly was being paid into C&C as saving towards the 2021 WCC event.
- 8.4 There was a suggestion that further money should be moved from the current accounts at Lloyds to C&C to earn interest, as it was reasonably accessible if required. It was agreed that an assessment of the cash flow should be made to see what was viable, and that the monitoring of the cash flow and the transfer of money between accounts should be on the agenda of each FC meeting.
Action: discussion to plan transfer of funds to be on the agenda of the March FC meeting **JL**

1. **The 2019 Business Plan for approval**

- 1.1 SC explained that he had updated the Business Plan so that it remained current and to give the OM information on the company, its aims and business targets.
- 1.2 The revised goals had been circulated and some suggested amendments were included. Following on from this the delivery plan had been restructured.
- 1.3 The SWOT analysis contained some shift in emphasis in the strengths, weaknesses and opportunities; and the aims of some activities had been revised.
- 1.4 Board discussion focused on the risk assessment. It was agreed that in the short term the risk of sudden failure was low, and that there was management in place to reduce the risk of system failure. There was a new team in the Office that were receiving support, but agreed that overall the active leadership at Board level could be improved and therefore was high risk level.
- 1.5 It was felt too that concern for the level of active judges should be set at red and the impact, if there were to be failure and shows had to be cancelled, was also high. The 'accelerated scheme' would be underway shortly and the new training scheme for judges was at the planning stage. The outcomes of these needed to be monitored and assessed to consider if the desired results were achieved.

Action: amendments made and the revised plan circulated with 7 days for review then website publication.

SC

2. **Report from the Feline & Canine Sector Group**

- 2.1 Considerable time had been devoted in the F&CSG in planning for Brexit, particularly if there was no deal with the EU. Fortunately, there had been no intimation that any form of quarantine would be reintroduced, but there would be delays if there were lengthy inspections, and probably more complex paperwork.
- 2.2 Veterinary medicines, anaesthetics and junior staff could be in short supply. It was expected that there would then be price rises.
- 2.3 The use of pets to avoid loneliness had also been discussed. GCCF would support pressure on landlords to allow a single neutered pet in rented accommodation.

INFO

3. **Breeder Scheme Review**

- 3.1 JL reported that there had not been as much feedback from the consultation as expected, and that it had come mainly from breeders. A few had sent some detailed analysis of the scheme's strengths and weaknesses.
- 3.2 Almost without exception every contributor had mentioned that some sort of premises inspection should be introduced at some point, preferably before people were accepted as members. It was stated or implied that for membership to have meaning it had to be earned and applicants should undergo a more rigorous vetting procedure.
- 3.3 In addition, those who were members should not expect automatic renewal on annual payment of a fee. There should be monitoring as well as the feedback forms, even if this consisted only of an annual veterinary sign off if no cause for concern had been received.
- 3.4 The other issue that had been mentioned by more than one person was better promotion of the GCCF's BS to the general public. The Kennel Club's website was mentioned more than once as an excellent example.
- 3.5 A fair general summary of comments would be to report that something closer to the KC Accredited BS was required.
- 3.6 This would be the starting point for the meeting planned for 12 March. GC and guests with particular expertise would discuss these aims, how to put them into practice and finance them.
- 3.7 It was noted that a report from a local authority was still awaited before a decision could be made on approval for one applicant. It was thought better to have factual information from an independent source than discuss allegations.

INFO

4. **The GCCF Partnerships**

- 4.1 It was acknowledged that the reduced offer made by Royal Canin in connection with transfers could be responsible for a slight transfer volume downturn, but it was an RC business decision. The company liaison with GCCF was also more infrequent and less effective than in earlier years of the partnership.
- 4.2 There would be support for the WCC from RC, but this would be arranged by RC in Europe and GCCF would have no direct control.
- 4.3 The Agria partnership continued smoothly, and Agria was willing to support in return for GCCF promotion and general breeder encouragement.
- 4.4 It was agreed it was a good time to look for another partnership and there should be an approach made to Pets At Home. RF would assist office staff in making the first contact.

Action: an approach to PAH

OM/RF

1. **Report from the February meeting**

- 1.1 There had been a meeting that gave the IT team an opportunity to meet the OM, and those present had agreed it useful to have an actual meeting as well as use Skype.
- 1.2 Caroline Turner-Russell had worked with Leon Barrington on system update and stabilisation, plus bug fixing and testing were ongoing.
- 1.3. Staff had been re-enabled in system access and bug reporting. CTR was assisting with their training in this respect and they were gaining in confidence and becoming more adept at solving minor problems.
- 1.4 No major projects were planned. The aim remained to stabilise and make effective use of what was already developed or needed completing. No enthusiasm was shown for developing a site search engine.

INFO

2. **IT staffing for maintenance & development in 2019**

- 2.1 It was probable that Leon would continue in full time employment until June, as had been agreed by the Board previously. As well as his work on the system he would be involved in training a new member of staff.
- 2.2 CTR had been asked if she was interested in adding GCCF work to her employment portfolio, but did not wish to take on a permanent role.
- 2.3 Therefore a job description was being prepared for a part time system manager for two days per week. It was agreed that once this was completed the post should be advertised. It would include system documentation.

Action: a meeting report to the Board

SC

3. **STAR Services**

- 3.1 The STAR system needed to be finalised before launch. It had to be stable before services were offered to show managers. It was hoped this could be done by the beginning of June, but this would depend on progress.
- 3.2 CTR had looked in detail at the amount of time spent in the Office on each phase of the process. She thought it practical to offer three different price levels depending on how much work the show team required the Office staff to carry out.

Action: to be on the agenda of the next FC meeting

JL

BD3846 PREFIXES FOR APPROVAL

1. **Prefixes circulated**

- 1.1 24 prefixes in total had been circulated in advance on two occasions.
- 1.2 The Board agreed that it was not acceptable to use an existing prefix as a single word hyphenated to another. A prefix was refused because of this, and other applicants were granted their second choice in instances where the major part of the new prefix was an existing one.

INFO

2. **Prefix amendments**

- 2.1 It was noted that in instances where breeders had a change of mind on their prefix they should pay the full price (£30) for the amendment, and this would require the usual checks and circulation.
- 2.2 There would be a reduced fee of £10 for amendment on the death of one holder of a joint prefix, but evidence of this circumstance would be required. An electronic copy of the death certificate would be acceptable.
- 2.3 A request by joint prefix holders ending their partnership for any other reason would need to be signed by both parties, and would also be £10.

Action: to be noted for Office processes

OM

BD3847 STAFF & OFFICE

1. **General Update on the staff and Office**

- 1.1 The new Office Manager reported that after almost one month she was just beginning to get a feel for the role. She thanked RF and SC for all the information and support they had given, particularly necessary as there had been no hand over notes. The most overwhelming thing had been the volume of emails.
- 1.2 Denise reported that she was putting together a list of suppliers for utilities, services and stock and it was her intention to review these and establish when contracts were due for renewal and whether there were alternative suppliers who could give a better deal.
- 1.3 Her next induction would be to shows. Mrs Chapman-Ber was due to visit the Office to explain the role of the show manager and they would then go to the back to back shows at Exeter on 30 March.
- 1.4 She had undertaken some staff monitoring and reported that there was a good response to customers. The staff were polite and friendly and did their best to deal with enquiries. They would benefit from more in-depth knowledge of GCCF matters and training in this respect would boost confidence. Personal responsibility and initiative needed to be allowed to develop.
- 1.5 The phones were now on from 10am to 4pm to provide the level of service expected by customers. A staff rota was in place so all shared in taking the calls.
- 1.6 It was agreed that the OM did not need to attend every Board meeting. It would depend on the agenda items and other commitments. It was important to make best use of her time.

INFO

2. **Office premises - security & repair**

- 2.1 It was agreed that the priority was clearing out rubbish and storing safely the items that needed to be kept. Outsourcing storage of archives and microfiche storage should be investigated as soon as time allowed. There had been preliminary discussion with the county archivist.
- 2.2 Colour samples had been obtained and there had been discussion on complete redecoration. It was agreed that quotes for the work should be obtained and noted that SF had volunteered to paint.
- 2.3 The CCTV had now been installed, although one camera was not yet working properly, and the company would be returning to fix it. A contract for annual maintenance was approved.
- 2.4 It was agreed that quotes should be obtained for a 'GCCF' sign on the outside of the building.

3. **Committee Secretary**

- 3.1 SF proposed that the committee secretary should receive an honorarium for the work done for GCCF. Whether it was paid as money, vouchers or some other form depended on what was convenient.
- 3.2 An amount was agreed and JL returned to the room

Action: JL to be informed of the outcome by the Chairman

JH

BD3836 REGISTRATION, TRANSFER & SOP MATTERS

1. **Balinese Registration Policy**

- 1.1 The rationale for the policy amendments was stated as to allow outcrossing to other breeds to increase genetic diversity, and there was approval of the intent.

- 1.2 It was thought there should be clarification on whether this included all pedigree breeds registered by GCCF. If it did, then an approved list to be recommended, and the route of progression from the initial outcross to Balinese eligible to be shown needed clearer definition, such as that given in the Asian registration policy.
- 1.3 It was queried whether 'smoke' as listed with Oriental patterns at B1 would be better defined as 'silver'.
Action: the BAC to be requested for clarification on these points JL

2. **Cornish & Devon Rex Registration Policies**

- 2.1 The changes in each registration policy were the same, and so both were considered together.
- 2.2 No rationale was supplied for the removal of the American SH as an outcross allowed in import pedigrees, but it was thought probable that the A-SH type was becoming more extreme and it was most unlikely to be in the background of imports anyway. Therefore the deletion was acceptable.
- 2.3 The use of exhibition with critique classes to promote cats of good breed phenotype from the reference register to the supplementary (GCCF rules, section 1:12c ii) was noted to be consistent with changes made by the Joint Rex BAC to the LaPerm policy. This was approved.

Action: the Joint Rex BAC to be informed of the Board's decision JL

3. **Oriental Bicolour registration policy**

- 3.1 It was noted that the section on the 'Experimental Register' had not been removed and this needed to be done.
- 3.2 The use of 62 with reference to eye colour was queried as there were not orange eyed Oriental cats. It was thought its use could be because it was genetically possible, or occurred in import policies, but it needed to be checked that it was an intentional use.
- 3.3 The registration policy was approved after the correction (3.1) was made and information required was provided.

Action: The Oriental Joint BAC to be contacted JL

4. **Oriental Bicolour Standard of Points**

- 4.1 There were no queries on the extensive changes made to the SOP in respect of pattern definitions and the use of GEMS to replace GCCF numbering.
- 4.2 A point was raised that as it was stated that an amber cast in the green eyes of red, cream or apricot orientals was unacceptable and other colours were not specified. Therefore, was an amber cast allowable in the green eyes of all colours other than pointed? The implication was that it would be.

Action: the Oriental BAC to be informed of approval for the amended SOP and the query put JL

5. **Request for information on imports**

- 5.1 The Burmese BAC had requested the pedigrees of Burmese imports onto the GCCF registers so that these could be studied and database checks made to see if there were other foundation cats in the background to those already known. The intention was to ascertain if the genetic diversity of the breed had been enhanced by the imports, as was the intention.
- 5.2 There was comment that it was disappointing that the Burmese BAC had not included an outcross and/or foundation cats as both could improve diversity in what was known to be a narrow gene pool. This would be in line with GCCF breeding policy and was followed by most breeds. It did not mean there would be frequent if any use of the outcross, but there should be provision for the prevention of a 'genetic bottleneck' in future.
- 5.3 It was agreed that the information requested should be provided if it was possible for the Office to do it.

Action: Office investigation into the practicality OM

6. **Certified pedigrees on paper and online**

- 6.1 The practice of accepting electronic pedigrees supplied to the GCCF Office directly from other registries had been agreed in principle in Council on 27.2.2019
- 6.2 It was proposed that a definition of an acceptable certified pedigree should be included in the GCCF rules, (Section 1:7fi) and 1:7gi).
- 6.3 This was agreed following an amendment to the wording to use 'an electronic copy' rather than 'a pdf'.

Action: a notice to be published on the GCCF website. JL/RF

BD3849

SHOW MATTERS

1. **Show changes 2018-2019**

1.1 Venue change from Godmanchester to Ware for the Bombay & Asian Breed Club, Bucks, Oxon & Berks CS & Cambridgeshire CC on 30.3.19

1.2 Ms Lesley Simpson to replace Mrs Margaret Walkden as SM for the British Ragdoll CC on 20.4.19.

1.3 Venue change within Bracknell for the Balinese CC, Caramel Apricot Federation & Tabby Pointed Siamese CS on 18.5.19.

1.4 Cancellations: Ocicat Club, Colourpoint Society of GB and South West British SH on 30.3.19; Manchester & District CC on 27.4.19 and Chocolate Point Siamese CC 4.5.19.

1.5 The Board had been circulated this information (1.1-1.4). No queries had been raised.

1.6 At the meeting it was agreed that Ms Lyndsey Robinson should be an ASM at Suffolk & Norfolk on 18.5.19. **INFO**

2. **Show Changes 2019-20 for approval**

2.1 Change of date and venue for the Southern British Shorthair CC, moving from 20.7.19 and sharing with the London CC, to 22.9.19 to Worplesdon GU3 3RF to share with the Tonkinese CC with SM Mrs Caroline Roberts.

2.2 Ms Lesley Simpson to replace Mrs Margaret Walkden as SM for the British Ragdoll CC on 18.4.20.

2.3 Change of date for the North of Britain LH and SLH from 8.2.20 to 1.2.20.

The same change for the Siberian CC who are back to back with the North of Britain.

- 2.4 Change of date for the Tonkinese BC to from 14.12.19 to 7.12.19 as sharing with the National CC.
2.5 Change of date for the Tabby Cat Club from 5.10.19 to 12.10.19 with a new venue to be confirmed. Plan to share with the Egyptian Mau Club, with Jean Huyton as SM for both.
2.6 These were circulated in advance (1 & 2) or presented at the meeting. All were approved. **INFO**

3. **Show licence applications**

- 3.1 **20.7.19 Airedale Agricultural Society** (Exemption). Myrtle Park, Bingley, BD16 1HB with SM Miss Frances-Elizabeth Evans
3.2 **7.9.19 Wyvern CC** Perdiswell Leisure Centre, Bilford Road, Worcs WR3 8DX with SM Mrs Barbara Prowse.
3.3 **12.10.19 Edinburgh & East of Scotland CC.** Academy Park Sports Centre, Edinburgh EH13 5PL, with SM Mrs Isobel Walker and ASM Mrs Sharon Casey.
3.4 **9.11.19 Blue Persian CS.** Hartlebury Parish Hall, Hartlebury Worcs DY11 7TQ with SM Mrs Grace Wylde. Request for Persians & Exotics of all colours. Sharing with UCA.
3.5 **9.11.19 United Chinchilla Assoc.** Hartlebury Parish Hall, Hartlebury Worcs DY11 7TQ with SM Mrs Grace Wylde. Request for Persians & Exotics of all colours. Sharing with Blue Persian CS.
3.6 **16.11.19 Selkirk Rex CC** Sutton Leisure Centre, St Helens, Merseyside WA9 5A, with SM Mrs Pat Parrish. Sharing with Cheshire Area CC.
3.7 **7.12.19 Trans-Pennine Oriental & Siamese CC.** Stockport Masonic Guildhall, Stockport SK1 3UA with SM Mr Ross Davies.
3.8 **25.1.20 Celtic LH & SLH CS.** Chepstow Leisure Centre, Chepstow NP16 5LR, with SM Mrs Debbie Newman.
3.9 **22.2.20 Coventry & Leicester CC.** Warwickshire Exhibition Centre, Leamington Spa, CV31 1XN with SMs Lesley Swzed and Georgina Anderson-Keeble, sharing with the HHP Pet Club of GB and the Sphynx CA. Ms Helen Champion would not be an ASM in 2020.
3.10 **30.5.20 Durham County CC** Temple Park Centre, South Shields NE34 8QN, with SM Miss Elizabeth Watson. Sharing with Northern Counties CC.
3.11 **Somali CC.** The date required was **21 March 2020** and not 22 March 2020 as originally stated.
3.12 **9.11.19 Cumberland CC** The Dome, Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN4 7PD with SM Lynda Ashmore. Sharing with Yorkshire CC.
3.13 **12.10.19 The Egyptian Mau Club** at a venue tbc, with SM Jean Huyton, and sharing with the Tabby CC.
Action: the clubs to be informed of the Board's decisions and the licences processed **OM**

4. **Update on show licence issues**

- 4.1 It had been noted that the process for receiving applications, listing them for Board circulation and filing them for record could be improved. It was usually possible to track payments, and believed that all applications received had now been put to the Board, but there had been uncertainty.
4.2 The other problem had been that many licences had been issued with the same back to back show. It was planned that there would be a reprint with the newly approved licences included.
Action: review of processes and licence issue **OM**

5. **Request for a section transfer**

- 5.1 The Suffolk BAC had requested a transfer from Section 6 Group A to Section 4 Group A and provided a detailed rationale.
5.2 There was some sympathy expressed for them, but it was thought that the application was premature. A review of the sections had been promised after a year (not nine months) and there needed to be some consideration of whether the Judge Acceleration Scheme' would provide the breed with additional experienced judges within Section 6.
Action: the BAC to be informed of the Board's decision **JL**

6. **Show guidance on exhibit presentation**

- 6.1 The notes provided were worked upon to ensure they could be on the website, included in schedules and/or be printed and displayed in the show hall.
6.2 It was agreed that for safety the following should not be used:
• sprays that could alter the behaviour of the cat (like Feliway) or could cause physical distress
• teepees or blankets arranged as teepees
• catnip and valerian filled toys
6.3 A sentence to state that if, in the opinion of a judge, an exhibit could not be removed safely then it would not be judged, was to be highlighted.
Action: to be circulated and then published for use in schedules **JL/OM**

7. **Signatories for applications on paper and online**

- 7.1 The intention was that a show manager's signature alone would be acceptable on a show licence application form for the next show season.
7.2 Club officials would confirm electronically.
7.3 It was queried whether there was a list of show managers, and noted that show managers were tagged in the database so that they could be contacted as a group. It wasn't known if a spreadsheet could be extracted from this, but thought probable.
Action: a check to be made with Leon **OM**

8. Website note revision

8.1 An assessment had been made of the existing notes and they were outdated and muddled. It would take time to revise them. Therefore, it was a work in progress.

8.2 There was some discussion on cats of breeds that would not be acceptable to GCCF (descended from a species outcross other than the ALC) being present in the HHP section. It was observed that the rules relied on the knowledge and observation of the Duty Vet (for rejection) and the judge (to exclude from judging). Currently there were suspicions and allegations, but if details were supplied to IC via a Show Manager's report then checks could be made.

Action: the unacceptable breeds to be listed with illustrations if possible

GC

9. GDPR - query on show paperwork requirements

9.1 The GCCF's solicitor had supplied information at the time when GDPR came into effect. Shows were held under GCCF licence and exhibitors signed to agree to GCCF rules. Each of these aligned show management and exhibitors to the GCCF's rules and Byelaws that stated that information was shared. Therefore any additional statement on show paperwork was unnecessary, but could be used by choice.

9.2 The Board was informed that the explanation had been passed on to the person who made the enquiry, **INFO**

BD3850

JUDGE TRAINING & BAC REVIEW GROUPS

1. Implementation of the proposals as agreed in Council re judge fast track

1.1 Peter Collin was unable to be present at the meeting and take question on implementation. HD informed those present that the next meeting of the JTRG would take place on 21 March and it was expected that a timetable for implementation would be devised and published.

1.2 There was comment that it was expected to happen swiftly as this was the commitment that had been made in Council. Some judge queries had already been received.

1.3 JL reported she had some discussion with PC and thought it would not be difficult to implement eligibility for higher award based on the criteria of 2 out of 3 classes in sections 2 & 4 and reinstatement to lists where judges had judged a breed at Grand or Imperial level prior to section restructure. It was only a matter of doing some cross checking on lists put together by the JTRG and then updating the system.

1.4 There were queries on:

- eligibility for a Grand Class if the judge was newly qualifying to do the Imperial (sections 2 & 4)
- the responsibility of preparing the BACs to operate the Accelerated Scheme
- assistance for judges who had to take on many new lists simultaneously (section 4)
- the situation where a judge now became eligible to be full provisionally on a list after previous BAC rejection
- If BACs would have the right of appeal against having to accept a judge or having to continue with a judge at provisional level indefinitely

1.5 Concern was also expressed that SMs would use the judges that covered many higher certificates and breed lists and ignore the newly qualified who could do little in comparison. There would then be fewer judges to replace those who had a lot of extras and covered many lists.

Action: the Board to be updated after the meeting on 21 March

PC

2. Implementation of the proposals as agreed in Council to update the Stewarding Scheme

2.1 Kate Kaye was unable to be present to give any detail. There had been a commitment in Council that implementation would take place as soon as was practical.

2.2 It was expected that this would be planned further at the meeting on 21 March and the Board would be updated.

INFO

BD3851

CLUB & BAC MATTERS

1. An update on the 2018 club & BAC returns

1.1 SH could not be present, but had reported at the FC meeting she had only a few returns so far. That seemed the usual situation for this time of year. It was hoped the reminder given in Council that delegate representation and the 2019-2020 show licence were at risk would encourage clubs to get returns sent in.

1.2 It was planned to send an electronic reminder at the beginning of April.

INFO

2. Query on club response to an information request

2.1 SH had queried her remit on questioning club treasurers after she had received an objection to the type of question she had asked.

2.2 The Board agreed that this was a matter for her discretion.

INFO

3. Appeal re all-breed status from the Colourpoint Society of Great Britain

3.1 The Colourpoint Society of Great Britain had appealed against the reaction of their application to become an all breed club. It was pointed out that they could not continue as a breed club so the BAC would lose a member whether they became all breed or not. They were prepared to forego BAC membership.

3.2 It was agreed that the club should become an all breed club, on the condition this was irreversible.

Action: the club to be informed

JL

BD3852

EVENTS

1. **Date, venue & Show Manager of the next Supreme Event**
 - 1.1 The licence application would be for 26 October 2019, with the event to be held at the NEC.
 - 1.2 Mrs Ashmore was approved as Show Manager and therefore would be responsible for the structure of the committee, allocation of responsibilities, format and layout of the show, and the appointment of judges.
 - 1.3 It was noted that there had been an offer to prepare the CAD plan free of charge by a delegate's partner who had the appropriate software. This would save about £500.
 - 1.4 There was some brief discussion on penning kittens together and the class structure, but agreed that the SM had to get her team together and make the decisions. **INFO**
2. **WCC 2021 show - a team to organise this event**
 - 2.1 The event would be held either in the summer of 2021 or the autumn at around the time of the Supreme. Once a date was fixed a venue could be chosen and organisation begin.
 - 2.2 People could be recruited to specific jobs.
 - 2.3 There would need to be a historical theme and exhibition. **INFO**
3. **Continued support for the National Pet Show**
 - 3.1 It was agreed to await further information from SH, to see if an invitation had been received, but noted that TICA would have a considerable presence.
 - 3.2 There was a suggestion that the website be used to see if there was interest and offers of help. **INFO**

BD3853 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. There was some discussion on whether a buyer should be allowed to change the status of a cat to active as a case had been referred from the Office. The rule stipulated this was the prerogative of the breeder, although there was a possibility of a contract at the time of sale if active registration depended on the completion of health checks. If this was a matter of dispute IC would require statements from both buyer and breeder and consider any evidence supplied. There should be referral as the Board could not undertake this type of investigation.

The meeting finished at 4.45pm with items deferred as noted.

NEXT MEETING: **TUESDAY**, 23 April 2019, at 11.00 for 11.15am, at The Kennel Club, Clarges Street, Picadilly, London.