



MINUTES
For the Meeting of the **Board OF DIRECTORS**
THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE CAT FANCY
Tuesday, 9 September 2015 at the Conway Hall, Holborn, London

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

Mrs Lynda Ashmore
Mr Sean Farrell
Mrs Doreen Goadby
Mrs Shelagh Heavens
Mrs Helen Marriott-Power
Mr John Robinson

Dr Gillian Bennett
Mrs Rosemary Fisher
Mr Thomas Goss
Mrs Jen Lacey
Mrs Sally Rainbow-Ockwell

In attendance: Mr Mark Goadby - Office Manager

BD3483 MEETING INTRODUCTION

1. **Chairman's Opening remarks**

- 1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting at 11.25am, thanked those present for attending, and apologised for the late start.
- 1.2 Board members were reminded it was a full agenda and asked to be concise when speaking, not to wander from the point of the discussion and to respect the views of others.
- 1.3 The Chairman informed the Board that he had recently visited the GCCF Office, and had found the staff happy, and positive about the future.
- 1.4 He had received an invitation to a private viewing of an exhibition of the work of Louis Wain for 22 September, but was unsure whether he could use it and offered it to anyone interested who could be in London at the time.

INFO

2. **Apologies for absence.**

- 2.1 These had been received from Mrs Catherine Kaye, Mrs Celia Leighton, Ms Heather McRae and Mrs Pat Perkins.

INFO

3. **Statement on the legality of Directors' actions.**

- 3.1 The Chairman understood that the Directors would be aware of the matter to which he was alluding as correspondence had been circulated to the Board. He commented that this was inappropriate as GCCF had procedures for dealing with complaints and he was certain these should be followed.
- 3.2 This view had been confirmed by the GCCF's solicitor, who acknowledged that when procedures were not followed difficulties arose, but had advised a statement.
- 3.3 For this purpose the Chairman reminded all present that it was advisable for Directors not make public statements, or commit the company to act without consulting colleagues. It was far preferable that problems were dealt with through consultation followed by an agreed course of action.
- 3.4 However, it was acknowledged Directors were empowered by the Companies Act to act in the company's best interests so there would always be a certain amount of subjectivity about acceptable conduct.
- 3.5 The Board was reminded that the matter was now with IC and therefore not to be discussed further in the meeting, and must remain confidential.
- 3.6 As a final point the Chairman remarked that there had been vocal comment in Council that he did not have the role of a CEO, but at the same time individuals expected him to right wrongs and sort out problems and were upset when told he was unable to take direct action.

INFO

BD3484 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

1. **The Minutes of the Board meeting of 14 July 2015**

There was a correction to a name one amendment made, and the minutes were then approved.
9 in favour 2 abstentions.

Action: to be sent to the GCCF website for publication.

JL/RF

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

2.1 Most business was either completed, or would be discussed at the relevant point on the agenda.

2.2 BD3468 the new directors had not received declaration forms.

Action: a declaration form to be supplied to CK and HM.

**MG
SRO**

2.3 BD3470 A check would be made to confirm that the payment page had been restyled.

2.4 BD3477.3 Dr Bennett required a copy of the NSS rules.

Action: This would be supplied.

JL

BD3485 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

1.1 Club and show interests were on record.

1.2 Mrs Rainbow-Ockwell's interest in Project Phoenix was ongoing.

INFO

1. **The presentation of the revised 2014 accounts**
 - 1.1 These had been further amended by revised headings to give greater clarity for delegates.
 - 1.2 It was observed that the chief concern of Council was that the money loaned by the clubs would be refunded and was shown transparently in the accounts as designated to be repaid.
 - 1.3 It was noted that there should be consistency in the way Chairman's name was stated, and there was a little reformatting needed, and then the accounts could be signed by the Chair and sent to Companies House via O' Hara Wood.
Action: amendments to be made and the accounts to be signed and sent. SC/MG
 - 1.4 The spending on Project Phoenix and the way this would be shown in the accounts as capital expenditure of a three year period was explained in the 'Preamble to the Accounts' to be presented with the accounts to Council in October.
 - 1.5 An explanation of how the club loan was shown with reference to its itemisation and specific notes was also given.
 - 1.6 The OM queried whether accounting terms and practices needed further explanation, but the Board consensus was that this would lead to an extra level of complication and it should be stated simply that standard accounting practices were used.
Action: final draft to be prepared and presented to FC ahead of circulation to the Board before being sent with out with Council paperwork. MG

2. **Financial statement on business to the end of July**
 - 2.1 Ordinary business was presenting a positive picture.
 - 2.2 Income was just ahead of the same time in the previous year, with registrations and transfers reaching predicted levels.
 - 2.3 The expenditure on computer software and programming continued to be much greater than predicted because of the current need for professional support, but this would not be long term.
 - 2.4 It was very much as expected in other areas and lower overall than in the same period the previous year.
 - 2.5 There was further discussion on demonstrating the cost saving of Phoenix, and it was noted that this was stated in the project specifications, and would be spread over a period of years. INFO

3. **Volume figures**
The data to the end of August 2015 had been circulated to give the following information:
 - 3.1 Prefix registrations were just edging ahead of the 2014 level and non-prefix registrations continued to come in at a record level.
 - 3.2 The cumulative transfer total showing a 10% rise, indicating a positive benefit from the RC campaign.
 - 3.3 Import figures remained strong.
 - 3.4 Applications for prefixes continued to be greater than in 2014. INFO

4. **Report on capital investment.**
 - 4.1. The OM reported that Mrs Fisher had completed the work she could do, but he had still to complete the paperwork as time had been given to other job commitments.
 - 4.2 It was requested that he should make this a priority so that investment income could be gained.
Action:the investment to be completed and a report made to the Finance Committee. MG

1. **Contract with Royal Canin - report on feedback and uptake**
 - 1.1 The improved transfer figures indicated that overall the incentive was proving positive, and this was supported by the number of queries coming into the Office about using the vouchers.
 - 1.2 Almost 100 breeders had now opted not to receive the cards carrying the RC information, about 6% of the prefix holders that register kittens with GCCF.
 - 1.3 They were given cards without the RC advertising, which had to be produced manually. This did not cause a delay in the production of registrations, but staff time was used. Some concern was expressed about this, but it was considered to be of benefit for customer satisfaction and could possibly be automated if necessary in future.
 - 1.4 At the first meeting with Royal Canin since the campaign was underway the company had stated that it was very pleased. Redemption levels of 5% were anticipated based on previous experience, but this was currently approximately 9%.Exact figures would be presented at the next partnership meeting which was scheduled for December.
 - 1.5 It was noted that Royal Canin had run adverts in two magazines that publicised the Supreme, and currently had advertising via the internet and traders local to the NEC to promote the show.
Action: A decision on whether to continue the campaign to be on the agenda for January Board. JL

2. **Report on a meeting with Agria.**
 - 2.1 There had been a recent meeting between the GCCF Chairman and Managing Director of Agria, at which there had been some discussion about the continuation of the contract after the next 18 months.
 - 2.2. Some disappointment had been expressed by Agria at the number of kitten notes issued, which at 10% was proportionately lower than for KC, although the conversion rate was higher for GCCF.
 - 2.3 It was expected that some knowledge of the reason for this would be gained when those transferring a kitten supplied information via the Agria page, and anticipated that GCCF would benefit from this as it would possibly provide information that could used to direct better offers to breeders, as well as giving new business to Agria.
 - 2.4 There was some discussion on the nature of the contract and the timing required if a new partnership was to be considered, but it was noted that the amount that had been earned from the Agria contract had provided a significant amount of income. INFO

3. **Report on the progress of Project Phoenix**
- 3.1 Mrs Rainbow-Ockwell promised a detailed report on the project at the end of September. At the present the technical team were in the middle of testing and it was difficult to estimate completion because much depended on how quickly problems could be rectified once known, and how many would be found at the next level of progress.
- 3.2 It was queried whether the November target for completion would be achievable, with the response that this could not be guaranteed. It could be early in the new year, though Digital Trading remained confident.
- 3.3 A problem had occurred within the Office as it had been hoped that the testing would have been ongoing over the summer, but this had been beyond the capability of the person so tasked and work had to be corrected and repeated, which had cost time.
- 3.4 It was unanimously agreed that there would be a staff redundancy as a role had disappeared, and there would be no alternative post suited to the qualifications and experience of the person concerned.
- Actions: Critchleys to be contacted to ensure the action taken was according to employment law.
The Board to be kept informed of progress.
Review of salary costs assigned to Phoenix.** **SRO**
4. **Online services report**
- 4.1 Breeder pedigrees had not yet been launched. It was hoped that this would happen in the next week. **INFO**
5. **The application of GEMS code retrospectively to correct import pedigrees.**
- 5.1 A problem had been identified with the backfilling of GEMS codes in the pedigree of imported cats. Because the GCCF numbering code did not carry the same information as GEMS the degree of white had been entered incorrectly for cats of some breeds.
- 5.2 It was proposed that for a temporary period only GEMS coding should not be allocated to the cats behind imports, and reliance placed on the issue of copies of the certified pedigrees of the original registry, as was the case when pedigrees were produced before the online system. This would allow time to discuss rectifying data as details for several thousand cats would need to be checked.
- 5.3 There was acknowledgement that concern had arisen from a single complaint, but all breeds would be affected by the suggested solution. An alternative was to leave things as they were, and make corrections if requested to do so on an individual basis. This was agreed with 7 in favour, 3 against and 1 abstention.
- Action: Discussion on a long term solution.** **SRO/MG**
6. **Website report**
- 6.1 Mrs Fisher reported that the initial problems had been dealt with. The website information was loading at a satisfactory speed, and users were broadly satisfied with the show and events calendar. When problems were reported she did her best to get them fixed quickly.
- 6.2 It was queried whether the search engine would look for the names of individual cats on the new site. It had been a useful facility on the old, particularly for BAC representatives and others looking for critiques for comparison. It was determined that this was not possible, and would be investigated.
- Action: Technical advice to be sought.** **RF**
7. **Information on negotiations with GCCFI**
- 7.1 Negotiations with GCCFI were stalled currently as they did not want to commit to the amount of expenditure this would entail. Their current financial position was unknown as accounts were not published.
- 7.2 It was agreed that GCCFI should be informed that it was not possible for GCCF to produce the facility at no cost to them. It was now up to them to make their budget for the work known and GCCF would then be in a position to say what could be offered.
- Actions: this message to be sent
a down graded facility to be discussed at FC the following week** **MG
JL**
8. **Cats for Therapy - PAT cats**
- 8.1 The organiser of this service had made contact to say they were once again enrolling owners with suitable cats to visit facilities to be petted by those who could no longer own their own pet.
- 8.2 It was confirmed that GCCF was not involved in the arrangements, or in the assessments made on either the people or cats concerned. It would be a link only and therefore no insurance was required. It was agreed unanimously that information should be available on the website.
- Action: the website information to be uploaded.** **RF**
9. **GCCF International**
- 9.1 It was observed that exploring the possibility of offering GCCF services in other countries was in the 2015 business plan but no action had yet been taken.
- 9.2 Mrs Rainbow-Ockwell offered to look at how this could be researched and other Board members offered support. There was agreement that this was a suitable first move.
- Action: formulation of a research plan** **SRO**
10. **Online survey of GCCF service users**
- 10.1 A survey had been circulated and was agreed in concept, but it was noted that the wording needed some minor corrections to ensure each question was different.
- 10.2 It was agreed there should be an open final question. 'Is there anything you want GCCF to be doing differently?'
- 10.3 Survey Monkey would be purchased and also made available to the Show Review Group.
- Actions: survey revision and circulation to the Board in advance of publication
Survey Monkey to be acquired and an account established.** **MG
SRO**

BD3488 STAFFING PROPOSALS

1. **Appointment review**
 - 1.1 Based on information provided by the Office Manager a review was made of an employee five months after her recruitment.
 - 1.2 She would be confirmed in post full time after completion of her six month trial period. **INFO**
2. **Salary Review**
 - 2.1 It was agreed that the salary of one employee had fallen behind. It had been enhanced temporarily in respect of the role's workload and training given to the new member of staff.
 - 2.2 It was agreed there should be an appropriate increase, though noted that the element to cover training was no longer required. **INFO**
3. **The recruitment of a Communications Officer**
 - 3.1 The need for a Communications Officer had been identified in previous Board discussion and recommended by the Marketing Strategy Group. The Office Manager had circulated a detailed draft job description with the agenda.
 - 3.2 The Board agreed unanimously in principle to a new full time member of staff being recruited early in 2016. There would be some final adjustments to the description wording and this would be circulated to the HR & MSG Groups before returning to the Board in November.
Action: amendments to be made, and then circulation as agreed. **MG**

BD 3489 DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

1. **List of additional rules to incur fixed penalties.**

The minor amendments discussed by the Board at the previous meeting had been made, and proof read, but had not yet been circulated as intended.
Action: electronic circulation to the Board **GB/JL**
2. **Rule revision re signatures on pedigrees at the time of sale.**
 - 2.1 The Office Manager reported that he had done some investigation into the legality of this and it was more complex than had first been thought.
 - 2.2 It was noted that a written signature on a pedigree was validation, and agreed the production of unsigned pedigrees for online use was not advisable at present. **INFO**
3. **Update on small claims action**
 - 3.1 It was reported that GCCF's expenses had been fully reimbursed.
 - 3.2 There was discussion on whether Mrs Ashman should now be referred to the Investigations Committee. BD3419.5. was confirmed by a majority, 6 in favour, 4 against and 1 abstention.
Action: paperwork to be sent to Mrs Butler **JL**

BD3490 PREFIXES

1. **Prefix applications**
 - 1.1 There was the substitution of a second choice "GYPSYS" for one applicant.
 - 1.2 It was believed that the use of an asterisk in one application could cause confusion as it was very similar to the national indicator, as used by FIFE. The applicant to be asked to substitute a hyphen.
 - 1.3 The list was then approved.
Action: the applicants to be informed of the decisions accordingly. **OFFICE**

BD3491 SHOW RULES

1. **To give exhibitors the right not to have their address in show catalogues, but ensure a list of those excluded is sent to the GCCF Office with the show returns.**
 - 1.1 Section 2 11b)
The wording of a note to be added to this rule was approved with one amendment, 'shall be' to replace 'is'.
 - 1.2 Section 2 20c)
The wording as circulated was approved.
2. **To allow for withdrawal and/or substitution of exhibits when a show's closing date is extended.**
 - 2.1 It was thought that the wording of this rule needed clarification.
3. **To enable show managers to engage judges when convenient**
 - 3.1 It was thought that the present practice was operating satisfactorily and an open ended system, which could mean bookings were made well into the future could cause confusion on commitments. Therefore this was not approved.
4. **To allow show managers to publish schedules when they are ready.**
 - 4.1 It was considered that this could disadvantage some clubs, and also mean that proof reading and checks were not carried out adequately in a rush to publish. Therefore this was not approved.
5. **Rule amendments to include queens who may be pregnant**
 - 5.1 An amendment was made to the proposed wording to delete 'it is believed'.
 - 5.2 The rule change was then agreed with the purpose of deterring exhibitors from showing a queen who had been recently mated. Section 4:4a and section 5:4a would include this stipulation.

6. **To clarify that the use of any form of contraception will not be considered as show preparation**
 - 6.1 There was discussion on this as some contraceptives were known to alter the appearance and behaviour of some cats. However, it was concluded that any form used could so affect an entire cat by reducing the stress level of frequent calls or hormone controlled stud behaviour.
 - 6.2 It was thought that no form of contraceptive should be named and therefore some rewording was needed.
7. **To give overseas judges equality of eligibility with GCCF judges for judging title classes**
 - 7.1 Section 2 9e) and section 3 3e). The wording as circulated was approved.

Actions: approved rules to go forward to the October Council agenda rules requiring rewording to be circulated when amended

JL

BD3492 THE SUPREME SHOW

1. **Report from the Show Manager**
 - 1.1 Mrs Leighton was unable to be present as she was busy processing entries. It was understood there were over three hundred which was in line with what was expected at this point. INFO
2. **Insurance for the show to cover cancellation/abandonment**
 - 2.1 The Office Manager had investigated whether exclusions given for events cover could be removed and made applicable to the Supreme. He reported that provisions of the policy were standard for such policies, and anything constructed particularly for one event would add considerable cost.
 - 2.2 It was noted that it was not now possible to take out a cover for abandonment of the 2015 show, and agreed that there should be ongoing discussion to arrange a policy for 2016.

Action: discussion at the next FC meeting JL

BD3493 OTHER SHOW MATTERS

1. **2015/2016 Show Changes for report**
 - 1.1. Ulster Siamese & All Breed CC - 21 November 2015. Unfortunately the show had had to be postponed because the SM was in hospital. INFO
2. **2015/2016 Show changes - for approval**
 - 2.1 Colourpoint Cat Club - 9 January 2016: classes for Exotics selfs, and Tabby and Tortie Exotics without white for this show and thereafter as these were colours within the breed group. This was approved.
 - 2.2 Abyssinian Cat association - 2 April 2016. Request for date and venue change to 3 April, at Aldersley Leisure Village, Wolverhampton, WV6 9NW, sharing with SCCH, Midland Counties and 7 breed clubs.
 - 2.3. Asian cat Association - 16 April 2016. Request for permission to split Adult and Neuter classes into Smokes and Burmillas to encourage Smoke entries. **All requests agreed.** OFFICE
3. **2015/2016 SHOW DETAILS STILL AWAITED**
 - 3.1. Russian & Abyssinian CC of Scotland – 5 December 2015: Date still not changed as promised. INFO
4. **Show licence applications.**
 - 4.1 The show licence applications list was taken page by page. There were no queries and the applications were approved as requested.
 - 4.2 A change of venue was noted for the Bucks, Oxon & Berks to Rivermead Leisure Complex, Reading RG1 8EQ.
 - 4.3 The Russian & Abyssinian CC of Scotland, Scottish CC, Tabby Pointed Siamese CS and West of Scotland were eligible to apply but no show licence applications had been received.
 - 4.4 Applications had been received from the Central LH & Semi LH CC, Edinburgh & East of Scotland and the Ocicat Club although the clubs' accounts were incomplete.

The Board confirmed that licences should be withheld if returns were incomplete.

 - 4.5 No SLA had been sent to the Abyssinian CA as its returns were incomplete, and one had just been sent to Progressive Ragdoll Breed Club as returns were previously incomplete. The Balinese & Siamese CC, Colourpoint Society of Great Britain and Cornish Rex CS were in the process of making a SLA, but the Office did not yet have all completed paperwork. INFO
5. **Exhibition Request**
 - 5.1 Guild of GCCF Judges & Stewards: request for permission to have up to 40 cats at the seminar on 27 September 2015 at Ettington Community Centre, Ettington CV37 7SX. **Agreed.** OFFICE
6. **Use of titles for imports acquired in another organisation**
 - 6.1 This had been requested by an exhibitor with the rationale that it would follow practice that was standard in other organisations. However, there was no example of how this done.
 - 6.2 It was observed that imported titles could be used for show applications (after the name) and in paperwork breeders produced for their own use. They could not be validated for certified pedigrees, nor could distinction be made that they were different from GCCF titles.
 - 6.3 It was agreed that the exhibitor should be reminded that a reasoned proposal needed to be presented with the support of a club or BAC for this type of change. There was no direct line to the Board.

Action: exhibitor to be contacted MG
7. **Update on new certificates**
 - 7.1 Mrs Fisher reported that the majority of feedback indicated that exhibitors did not want the change to white from gold and silver card.

7.2 The GCCF logo would therefore have to be in black rather than coloured, but designs could be produced to create a set of certificates in the same style. The centre stripe could be removed to make the cards easier to write on for table workers, and possibly put across the corner.

Action: Designs to be circulated to the Board and those agreed taken to the October Council meeting. RF

BD3494

BREED APPLICATIONS, REGISTRATION/TRANSFER & SOP MATTERS

Prior to discussing registration policies it was observed that policy changes where there had been no discussion with the Board or Genetics Committee needed a rationale as it was the Board's responsibility to take these to Council and the purpose of the amendments needed to be understood.

Action: additional wording to rule 20.

JL

It was also suggested that when the change was minor for the purpose of correction and/or clarity there should be a report of it to Council, but the policy in full did not need to be an agenda item.

Action: consultation with delegates at the October Council meeting

JL

1. Somali registration policy

1.1 The changes were minor to clarify the DNA testing procedure. They were approved.

Action: to go forward to the October Council meeting.

2. Oriental registration policy

2.1 The substantive changes to the policy were approved.

2.2 It was noted that a small correction to the wording was needed to the paragraph on Foreign whites.

Action: the BAC to be advised of wording change, and if agreed the Board to be informed in order for the policy to go forward to the October Council meeting.

3. Selkirk Rex registration policy

3.1 The Joint Rex BAC had submitted a revised PKD testing scheme, but without comment on why the change was necessary.

3.2 A small correction was needed to the wording of the first sentence.

Action: the BAC to be asked to agree the correction and for the rationale. This to be circulated for comment and, if approved, the policy to go forward to the October Council meeting.

4. Sphynx registration policy

4.1 The Sphynx BAC had sent a letter asking for Board approval for BAER testing for white cats to be included in their registration policy.

Action: the BAC to be requested to submit the revised policy so that the wording and context could be considered, and, if approved, the policy to go forward to the October Council meeting.

JL

5. Ragdoll Policy update

5.1 The Ragdoll BAC had written to the Board and Genetics Committee for advice on dealing with health issue when importing. GC had listed the conditions that could be tested for, and made revisions to the Ragdoll policy put forward in May.

5.2 It was observed that there were risks when importing, but also risks from a closed gene pool. Breeders had the right to consider options, and no breeder had to import, or use lines with imports in them, if concerned about a potential risk. However, others had to be allowed a different choice.

5.3 Consideration would be given to using CSSR registration for Ragdoll imports in the context of the policy.

Action: the BAC to be asked to submit a registration policy using GC and Board guidelines.

JL

6. Correction to the British SH registration policy

6.1 The British Shorthair Group Committee had been notified by the Office of an error in the BRI registration policy re the list of acceptable parents for Silver Points to be placed upon the Supplementary register, and requested that a policy correction be allowed. The Board agreed this.

Action: the BAC to be asked to submit the revised section of the policy for the wording of the amendment to be considered.

JL

7. HHP registration for showing

(item deferred until draft rules completed)

8. Protection of registration policies

(item deferred as a paper is to be prepared and circulated)

9. Removal of the Experimental Register

9.1 All BACs had been contacted to inform them this was a possibility. Those currently using the Experimental Register (6) had been specifically asked for any concerns they had. Three had responded positively, Mrs Goadby reported the BSGC had not raised any issues, the RusBAC had stated only that the EXP was used for Nebelung, and not on the alternative procedure, and the BenBAC had not yet made a reply.

9.2 It was agreed in principle that the Experimental Register was no longer needed and that cats should be registered according to the registration policy for the breed regardless of show status. This would be put to the October Council meeting and work could begin on making the necessary rule changes. It would mean the Experimental Register would not be required on the new system.

Actions: BenBAC to be prompted for a response proposal on the October Council agenda.

JL

10. Turkish SOP amendments

10.1 These were approved with the exception of one withholding fault. The Board agreed that a 'partially white tail' would be a fault on any Turkish cat, not Turkish Vans only. A small wording change was required.

Action: the BAC to be advised of wording change, and if agreed the Board to be informed in order for the policy to go forward to the October Council meeting.

11. **Selkirk Rex SOP amendments**
11.1 These were approved by the Board without comment.
Action: to go forward to the October Council meeting. JL
12. **Tonkinese SOP amendments**
12.1 These were approved by the Board without comment.
Action: to go forward to the October Council meeting. JL
13. **Application for Championship Status for Tonkinese with Burmese Colour restriction**
13.1 It was agreed that the information supplied by the BAC satisfied the rules for promotion for a new colour or pattern of an existing breed. There were no queries and it was therefore approved.
Action: to go forward to the October Council meeting. JL
14. **Application for Preliminary Recognition of the Suffolk Chocolate and Lilac**
14.1 The SOP presented did not mention the lilac colour and had no withholding faults or scale of points.
14.2 The registration policy gave details of outcrosses, though the terminology was inappropriate when applied to the colours of the breed, but did not allocate to a register with a specified number of generations. It was also not in the standard policy format.
14.3 It was agreed the judge list was too short, and some of those listed were not qualified to judge in the Foreign Section.
14.4 It was agreed that more work was needed, and Mr Hansson offered to act as mentor to the breed group working on this to assist with making the paperwork compliant with GCCF rules.
Action: a letter to be sent to the group who submitted the application with the Board's comments. JL
15. **Request for breed recognition of the Chartreux**
15.1 The Genetics Committee had assisted the applicant by providing a registration policy which included appropriate outcrosses. The Board approved breed recognition for registration and exhibition.
15.2 The GEMS code would be CHA, and a temporary breed number would be allocated to allow registration on the current system.
Action: the breeder who submitted the application and October Council to be informed. JL
16. **Request for breed recognition of the Toyger**
16.1 There was some discussion on whether recognition of this breed complied with the principles of the GCCF breeding policy on the use of wild species as it was derived from outcrossing Bengals to domestic cats. However, it was acknowledged no additional outcrossing to wild species had been involved and the method of breed development was the same as for that of some other established breeds. Bengals now had recognition in colours and patterns other than the original.
16.2 The breed was recognised in TICA without outcrossing allowed, but GC had recommended the Bengal and domestic SHs for the Toyger which would be written into the registration policy, that would have to be submitted prior to registrations being made (see BD3476.9.2).
16.3 The Board approved breed recognition for registration and exhibition, with the GEMS code TOY. A temporary breed number would be allocated to allow registration on the current system when a registration policy was received.
Action: the breeder who submitted the application and October Council to be informed. JL
17. **Revisions to the Russian Registration policy**
17.1 The Board approved the changes made in respect to outcrossing, and the DNA testing required before registration of the progeny of an outcross or an import onto register.
17.2 It was queried why 'bilateral' had been inserted into the notes on testing for deafness in Russian White breeding, as no rationale had been provided. There was concern that unilateral deaf cats were now to be accepted as suitable for breeding.
17.3 The BAC would be reminded of the correct way of writing GEMS code notation.
Action: the BAC to be asked to insert GEMS code in the correct form and for the rationale for the use of 'bilateral' testing. JL

BD3495 CLUB AND BAC MATTERS

1. **Club & BAC returns report**
1.1 The Board was informed that the Tabby Cat Club had been reconstituted with 34 members. The paperwork had been provided for the club returns, and dispensation requested for continued delegate representation in Council. The Board agreed this should be put to the next Council meeting.
Action: to be on the agenda of the October Council meeting. JL
1.2 Two clubs had still to complete their returns. Mrs Heavens was willing to scrutinise accounts. INFO
2. **Norsk Skogcat Society revised constitution**
2.1 The check was needed to compare the old and new constitutions.
Action: the 2014 and 2015 compared. GB
3. **An application of Full Membership of GCCF from the Australian Mist Cat Association.**
3.1 Concern was expressed that some parts of the club's constitution were unsuitable.
Action: this to be checked and the Board circulated so that the club could make appropriate revisions. GB
The application to be the October Council agenda if revision was completed. JL
4. **Cambria Cat Club revised constitution**
4.1 This had not been printed and would be circulated electronically for comment. JL

5. **Name change for the Ocicat Classic CC to the Aztec CC**
 5.1 This was agreed.
 5.2 It was noted that if a breed name was revised club names could be changed accordingly.
Action: the information to be on the agenda for the October Council meeting. JL
6. **Suffolk clubs update.**
 6.1 The constitution of one was now satisfactory. The other required work and the club would be asked to for a name change with the insertion of 'breed' to avoid confusion with the area club.
Action: revisions to be made and the club informed GB
monitoring of future club applications DG
7. **Club representation to Council - membership numbers**
 There was general agreement that there should be some reform, but that this needed in depth discussion. INFO

BD3496 VETERINARY ADVISORY, GENETICS & C&FSG COMMITTEES

1. **The identity of cats checked for a certificate of entirety to be validated**
 1.1 This would require a rule change to Section 1:1a and proposed wording was agreed.
 1.2 The VO had agreed to withdraw any requirement for a minimum age limit.
Action: rule change to go forward to the October Council meeting. JL
2. **Advice to breeders on the rule addition requiring kitten vaccination**
 2.1 It was agreed that the wording to this rule needed some addition as there was concern that signatures were being readily obtained to avoid the breeders' responsibility to vaccinate.
Action: consideration of new wording GB
 2.2 It was agreed that more publicity needed to be given both to inform breeders and raise public awareness of the need for a kitten to be vaccinated. Website promotion and information with registration and transfer posting would be considered.
Action: publicity ideas to be brought to the next meeting RF
3. **Pedigree pet classes - the acceptance of physical anomalies**
 3.1 It was acknowledged that GCCF currently could not exclude cats with folded ears and other abnormalities (that were the basis of breeds in other organisations) from the pet section, and was at risk of criticism for that.
 3.2 It was agreed that the wording of Section 4:4c) and 5:4c) should reconsidered.
Action: amendments to these rules to be brought to the next agenda JL
4. **Report from C&FSG/Breeding & Sale of Cats Group**
 4.1 There would not be any welfare bill introduced in the current parliamentary term.
 4.2 The B&SCG was completing guidelines that would be presented to the C&FSG in January.
 4.3 The next C&FSG meeting was later in September and the Chairman would report any new information. INFO

BD3497 EVENTS

1. **National Pet Show**
 1.1 The Chairman reported that the messages received from Mrs Gregory were very positive. Plans were in place and there was good support. The welfare statement was appreciated. INFO
2. **Cat Of The Year Competition 2015-16**
 2.1 The method of scoring for the previous year had been circulated. There was discussion on whether this was weighted too heavily in favour of those who could afford to show frequently, rather than identifying the best cats, but agreed that the competition had been enjoyed and would be missed if not repeated.
 2.2 Board approval was given for the arrangements to follow the 2014-15 format, with the awards being presented at a Gala Dinner following the Suffolk & Norfolk Show, arranged by Suffolk & Norfolk CC.
Action: a scorer to be found and the Board informed. HMP
3. **Stall at Crufts in 2016**
 3.1 The Chairman confirmed that payment would be required as Crufts management was a separate business from KC, and did not make special concessions.
 3.2 The Board agreed with him that a stall was not viable at the full cost.
Action: consultation with ICC to negotiate sharing for 2017 SC

BD3498 OFFICE

1. **Office report**
 1.1 Staffing had been discussed (BD3488) and the OM had circulated a general office report. INFO
2. **GCCF Processes** (item deferred as information is to be prepared and circulated)

BD3499 ANY OTHER BUSINESS None

The meeting finished at 5.05pm with deferments where noted.

The next meeting: Tuesday, 17 November 2015 at 11.00 for 11.15am in the Brockway Room at the Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, Holborn, London.