



ELECTORAL MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE CAT FANCY

(Meeting of Full Council)

held on Wednesday, 25 June 2014 at the Conway Hall, Holborn, London.



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

| | | PRESENTED | ACTION |
|--------------|--|-----------|--------|
| | | BY | BY |
| C1994 | WELCOME TO DELEGATES AND IN MEMORIAM | | |
| | At 12.15pm the Chairman welcomed delegates, and thanked them for attending. Michelle Carter, Sharron Fisher, Sylvia Rhead, Marjorie Stafford, Frank Wolstenholme and the late GCCF President, Christina Dugdale, were thought of in a moment of silence. The Chairman paid tribute to Mrs Dugdale, remembering her as a fierce supporter and tireless ambassador for GCCF, and a special person warmly remembered by all whose lives she touched. | CHAIR | INFO |
| C1995 | APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE | CHAIR | OFFICE |
| | The Chairman gave apologies from the Vice-Presidents. (Other apologies received are recorded in the delegate attendance list following these minutes.) 8 new delegates introduced themselves and were welcomed. | | INFO |
| C1996 | THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT | CHAIR | INFO |
| | At the conclusion of her third and final year in office Helen Marriott-Power made the following points: 1. She had striven to do her best for GCCF and keep a reasoned balance to proceedings while the organisation developed. 2. There was a personal thank you to Vice Chairman, Steve Crow, and to members of the Board of Directors and other Committees working tirelessly as a team to promote and develop the organisation together, with the valued help and support from Office Manager, Mark Goadby and staff at Bridgwater. 3. GCCF had continued trading as a company limited by guarantee, and at the end of the third year shown a rather modest trading surplus. However, the long term financial security of the GCCF was sound, and with continued careful management would remain so. 4. This provided a sound basis to develop and enhance services, full details of which were set out in the Business Plan, with a mid year review and Annual Report for 2013 now available. 5. The successful trading partnership with Agria continued. 6. Communication with the wider fancy was enhanced by News & Views and the excellent services of the webmaster, Marcia Owen, who updated the website on a daily basis. A new website was being designed to make all the information easier to locate. 7. The IT project was continuing its development with the dedicated work of an expert team to whom the Chairman expressed gratitude, as excellent feedback from customers on its speed, ease of use and quality of service provided reassurance as the work progressed. 8. GCCF had continued to promote itself to a wider audience with a high profile once again at the London Pet Show, and later this year at the National Pet Show. The Chairman thanked the organiser, and the breeders and exhibitors who beautifully displayed their lovely cats. 9. The GCCF Breeder Scheme continued to be developed and promoted with uptake from breeders slowly increasing. 10. The Genetics Committee and BACs continued to work together to ensure the genetic health and breed integrity of pedigree cats, by reviewing breeding and registration policies 11. The Young Exhibitor Scheme encouraged participation from junior members, some of whom had now reached advanced level. 12. Showing continued to be an enjoyable part of the hobby, and Show Managers and their teams were thanked for the effort made to produce excellent events for display and enjoyment. 13. The GCCF Gala Dinner was a memorable event, with worthy winners nominated and voted for by all in GCCF. There had been an overwhelming response, indicative of the cat fancy at its best. The Presentation of the Christina Dugdale Award to Grace Denny for an Outstanding Contribution the Cat Fancy to a standing ovation would become the Chairman's cherished memory. 14. In conclusion Helen thanked all present, as delegates for their clubs and members, for their support during her three year term of office. She hoped this commitment to GCCF and to wonderful cats would long continue. | | |

1. Club Returns Report

The Chairman reported only one club (provisional membership) had failed to make contact. All others had completed returns or provided partial returns with a satisfactory explanation.

2. Dispensation for representation was granted to 16 clubs:

CHAIR INFO

| Breed Clubs | Special Interest Clubs | Area Clubs |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Bombay & Asian Cats | Central LH & SLH | Caesarea Cat Club |
| Chocolate Point Siamese | Longhair & Semi LH | Humberside |
| Oriental Cinnamon & Fawn | Old-Style Siamese | Jersey Cat Club |
| Smoke Cat Society | SH Cat Club of Scotland | Kensington Cat Club |
| Oriental Longhair Breed Club | | |
| Smoke Cat Society | | |
| Sphynx Cat Association | | |
| LH Cream & Blue Cream | | |

Majority approval. 2 abstentions.

3. Council was informed of Board approval for Provisional Membership for the Ocicat Classic Club.INFO

C1998 BYELAWS - (DISPENSATION REQUEST)

CHAIR OFFICE

1. Byelaw 9:2b) Election of Honorary Officers

The Board requested that due to the recent death of the GCCF President the election of a replacement should be postponed until October, and nominations would be requested from clubs prior to the October Council meeting.

Majority approval. 7 against, 2 abstentions.

C1999 ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

CHAIR OFFICE

Prior to the elections taking place a delegate spoke at length about an election candidate who responded, also at length. A proposal was made and discussed by various delegates. The proposal was ultimately withdrawn at the request of the proposer.

1. Chairman

Steve Crow was the sole nominee for this office, and therefore was declared GCCF Chairman. He was welcomed by the retiring Chair, and on taking office thanked Helen Marriott-Power for her dedicated service in a tough and demanding role.

2. Vice-Chairman

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Keith Scruton | 75 |
| Sally Rainbow-Ockwell | 36 |

3. Board of Directors

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| John Hansson | 79 |
| Gillian Bennett | 75 |
| Helen Marriott-Power | 74 |
| Doreen Goadby | 70 |
| Lynda Ashmore | 67 |
| Jen Lacey | 63 |
| Anne Gregory | 61 |
| Rosemary Fisher | 59 |
| Thomas Goss | 55 |
| Hilary Dean | 52 |
| Celia Leighton | 49 |
| John Robinson | 49 |
| Pat Perkins | 49 |
| Sean Farrell | 49 |
| Sally Rainbow-Ockwell | 47 |

4. Finance Committee

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| Maria Chapman-Ber | 96 |
| Doreen Goadby | 89 |
| Helen Marriott-Power | 71 |
| Rosemary Fisher | 64 |
| Thomas Goss | 56 |
| Finance reserves | |
| Shelagh Heavens | 50 |
| Sandra Woodley | 32 |
| Board Reserves | |
| Shelagh Heavens | 41 |
| Catherine Kaye | 40 |

5. Investigations Committee

Gillian Bennett 86
 Lynda Ashmore 84
 Michele Codd 80
 Kym Jarvis 68
 Harry Meekings 52

Reserve
 Claire Lewis 40

6. Disciplinary Committee

Maria Chapman-Beer 88
 Shirley Bullock 72
 Jen Lacey 72
 Hilary Dean 64
 Val Kilby 59
 Celia Leighton 56
 Sharara Crichton 49
 Saffron Rabey 43
 Barbara Prowse 42

Reserves
 Sue Amor 38
 Ed Merchant 35
 Sandra Woodley 34
 Nichola Ryan 31

7. Appeals Committee

Betty Shingleton 106
 Joyce Green 76
 Carole Pike 64
 Jennifer Fleming 61
 Sarndra Devereux 53
 Peter Williams 51
 Vanessa Marriott 46

Reserves
 Heather McCrae 46
 Elisabeth Stark 30
 Janet Tonkinson 27
 Isla Worsley-Worthing 27

C2000 THE 2013 ACCOUNTS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE CAT FANCY

1. These had been presented and accepted at the February Meeting and no queries had been received.
 None were raised at the meeting. OM INF
2. **The appointment for the examination of the GCCF 2014 accounts.** OM OFFICE
 It was agreed that O'Hara Wood should continue in this role. **Majority approval. 1 abstention.**

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY BUSINESS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE CAT FANCY**C2001 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING CHAIR JL**

1. The draft minutes of 26 February 2014 had been circulated. No amendments were made to the meeting record. **Majority approval. 7 abstentions.**
2. **Matters arising from the minutes of 26 February 2014**
1986.3 Transition to GEMS
 - 2.1 It was reiterated that exhibitors should be encouraged to use GEMS, though accepted that the change would be progressive rather than sudden. However, the new system would operate on GEMS only so assistance should be given whenever possible.
Actions: show entry forms to ask for GEMS code and provide the link for website help delegates to promote GEMS to club committees and members
 - 2.2 Confirmation was given that GEMS was the term for EMS as used for GCCF recognised breeds, but it corresponded exactly with EMS for all breeds, colours and patterns mutually recognised by other registration bodies. INFO

C2002 MINUTES OF MEETINGS FOR INFORMATION ONLY INFO

1. Board of Directors 14 January, 18 February, 18 March & 22 April 2013.
 February BD3258.2 Supreme audited accounts.
 It was requested that accounts showed a breakdown of the miscellaneous expenses and confirmed a simple income/expenditure account was planned as background to the auditor's presentation.
2. Finance Committee 11 December No questions.

**C2003 FINANCE OFFICE INFO
MANAGER**

1. **Presentation of the Financial Report for the year to date**
 - 1.1 The kitten registrations had been slow to in the year to April 2014, almost as low as 70% of 2013 levels on one particular month, which had impacted noticeably on the income from core business to date.
 - 1.2 Income from other sales and Agria had increased.

- 1.3 Reductions had been made to certain areas of expenditure which would be reflected in the next set of figures produced.
- 1.4 The OM concluded that the prediction for a small trading surplus over the year was still sound, but there was no room for complacency.

2. Presentation of volume figures for core business to date

- 2.1 The graphs showed the fall in registrations with transfers at almost the same volume as the same period in 2013.
- 2.2 Imports continued to be a growth area.
- 2.3 The transaction volume by breed group was interesting as it showed SH registrations growing slightly, LH almost steady, but SIBU continuing to decline.
- 2.4 In response to a query it was noted that the LH and SLH registration figures could not yet be separated.

C2004 BUSINESS Matters

CHAIR INFO

1. Update on business progress

- 1.1 The Chairman gave a brief update on the Business Plan by informing Council of the project progress. He explained several were interdependent.
- 1.2 The major one of renewing and updating the IT system was well on track with the design for the new system being presented to the Board in July.
- 1.3 Transition to GEMs was well into the change over period, with the introduction to show paperwork begun as planned at the beginning of June.
- 1.4 HHP registrations were now being taken.
- 1.5 Liaison with business partners was ongoing and marketing strategies continued to be planned.
- 1.6 Funding had been secured for business assessment, review and training via a government scheme, the Growth Accelerator Programme, which would begin when the new Board was in place.

2. The Annual Report 2013

CHAIR INFO

This was published in time for this meeting, as planned, with paper copies available for delegates. It would also be available online. The Chairman thanked all who had contributed.

3. The new website

RF INFO

It was reported that progress was disappointing. It had been more difficult to gather material to upload to the breed sections and so a planned presentation would have to wait until October. New volunteers came forward at the meeting to assist with the provision of breed information.

4. Breeder Scheme Report

CHAIR INFO

- 4.1 The Scheme had made a good start in its first year and going into the second numbers continued to hold steady. There were currently 177 participants.
- 4.2 It was planned to offer Members more in the future, in conjunction with partners, and it hoped a survey would prove useful to show what would encourage others to join.
- 4.3 One website development would be to indicate where studs were available.
- 4.4 There had been some excellent feedback from new owners who had supplied information, which made the scheme very worth while.

5. Investigations Committee Report

GB INFO

This had been produced for IC by Professor Jarvis and was in delegate paperwork and available online. It showed how the the type of complaints received had changed over the years, with late judge reports causing few problems now. However, welfare remained an area of concern. Kittens were still being sold at less than 13 weeks of age without vaccinations, and suffering significant health issues after sale.

C2005 IT REFRESH PROJECT

1. Update on online services

SRO INFO

The Project Manager gave background on the new system being designed which would take over completely from the current computer, the iSeries, which had been introduced in the 1980s. It dealt with all registrations and transfer, kept club and show records, and supported the Supreme, but by today's standards was outdated technology and there was no record of how its functions had been constructed. Hence the need to begin again and the title of the project being 'Phoenix'. The function of 'stakeholders' was explained, so all users received information as the system developed.

2. Project Phoenix Report

SRO/RG INFO

The GCCF partner for the system design, Roger Goodwin of Digital Trading Creative, was introduced. He explained the scoping stage to understand the functionality of the iSeries and the difficulty this had presented. However, the new system design would do the same more efficiently, supporting the work of the office, but in addition it would provide the capability to extend the business, for the benefit those who currently use GCCF services and to attract new clients. Delegates wanted to know how soon the system would be ready, but this was an unknown until there was a definite start date, and development was at a stage where testing could begin.

C2006 JUDGES

1. JUDGES FOR APPROVAL

BACs JL

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--|--|
| Asian BAC | Probationer Judge | Mrs Sue Lorton-Hobbs Mr Mark Pearman | |
| Bengal BAC | Probationer Judge | Mrs Sue Amor | |
| Burmese | Full Judge Probationer Judge | Mrs Elaine Culf Mrs Joan Smith Mrs Sue Amor Miss Stephanie Beirne | |
| British Shorthair GC | Full Judge Extension for 1 year to June 2015 | Mrs Elaine Culf | (British & Manx) Mr Steven Leppard |
| Exotic BAC | Probationer Judge | Miss Charis White | |
| Joint Rex | Full Judge Probationer Judge | Mrs Perri Mansaray Mr Ian Macro Mrs Sue Amor Mrs Pam Beard-Smith Ms Maggie Birchall Mr Mark Pearman Mr Stephen McConnell Mrs R Fisher Mr Ian Macro | Cornish & Devon Rex Devon Rex Laperm Selkirk Rex Cornish Rex Cornish & Devon Rex Selkirk Rex Selkirk Rex Cornish Rex |
| | One year extension from October 2014 | | |
| Korat & Thai BAC | Full Judge | Miss Charis White | |
| Maine Coon | Full Judge | Mrs Linda Dutton | |
| Ocicat BAC | Full Judge Probationer Judge | Mrs Dorothy Stone Mrs Perri Mansaray | Ocicat Ocicat & Ocicat Classic |
| Oriental Joint BAC | Full Judge Probationer Judge | Mrs Joan Smith Mr Phil Cornish Mrs Sally Tokens Mr (Stephen) Richard Lord | Oriental Longhair Oriental Self & Non Self Oriental Self, Non Self & Oriental Longhair Oriental Self & Non Self |
| Russian BAC | Full Judge of Nebelung Cats | Mrs Linda Dutton Dr Bruce Bennett Mr Steve Parkin | |
| Siamese JAC | Full Judge Probationer Judge | Mr Ross Davies Mrs Helen Marriott-Power Mrs Pina Bruno-Grieve | |
| Sphynx BAC | Full Judge | Mr Steve Parkin Mr Jon Trotter | |

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | Probationer Judge | Mrs Sandra Woodley |
| Singapura BAC | Full Judge | Mrs Sandra Woodley |
| | Probationer Judge | Mr Steve Parkin |

One year extension to June 2015 Mrs Michele Codd

| | | |
|--------------------|------------|----------------|
| Turkish BAC | Full Judge | Mr Ed Merchant |
|--------------------|------------|----------------|

Unanimous approval

1A) **PERSIAN LH BAC JUDGE APPOINTMENTS**

(following the agreed transitional arrangements after the amalgamation of the Persian lists)

All Persian Longhairs (previously Full or Probationer on some of the lists for the section)

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Full Judge | Mr John Hansson |
| | Mrs Sally Rainbow-Ockwell |
| | Mrs Julie Wilkinson |
| Probationer Judge | Ms Sarndra Devereux |
| | Mr Jon Emery |
| | Mrs Helen Marriott-Power |
| | Miss Carole Pearson |

Promotion on a single Persian list

| | | |
|------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Full Judge | Mrs Sue Danks | Persian Torties and Bicolours |
| Full Judge | Miss Marlene Laird | Persian Selfs |

Persian Full Judges who have opted to be appointed as Probationers on lists necessary for completion to be eligible to judge across the section as Persian LH Judges

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------|---|
| Probationer Judge | Mrs C Allam | Persian Tabbies and Tipped |
| | Mr N Carter | Persian Tipped, Tabbies and Colourpoints |
| | Mrs C Davies | Persian Tipped, Tabbies, Torties & Bicolours, and Selfs |
| | Mrs S Danks | Persian Tabbies |
| | Mrs E Fryer | Persian Tipped |
| | Mr G Gow | Persian Tipped, and Torties & Bicolours |
| | Mrs J Green | Persian Tipped, Tabbies and Torties & Bicolours |
| | Miss M Laird | Persian Tipped, Tabbies, Torties & Bicolours, Colourpts |
| | Ms S Moore | Persian Tipped, Tabbies, Torties & Bicolours, and Selfs |
| | Mrs C Pike | Persian Tipped, Tabbies, Colourpoints and Selfs |

Unanimous approval

2. **JUDGE WITHDRAWALS/REMOVALS**

Mrs A Kelly had retired from the Asian, Burmese and Tonkinese lists.
 Mr J Walker had withdrawn from the Colourpoint, Longhair Tabby, Tortie & Bicolour and Norwegian Forest lists; and took Emeritus Judge status on the Exotic list.
 Removal from the Ocicat & Ocicat Classic lists: Miss A Bailey, Mr M Brace and Mrs H Dessauer
 Removal from the Cornish Rex list: Mrs Sylvia Rose

3. **LATE JUDGE REPORTS**

INFO

Delegates were informed that additional clauses would be added to Section 3 of the Fixed Penalty Notices to deal with persistent lateness of show reports. It would be effective from 1 June 2014, but to allow for a period of catching up penalties would not be imposed until 1 October 2014.

C2007

RULE CHANGES

CHAIR OFFICE

Deletions shown ~~thus~~, additions shown **thus**

Items C2007 1 (Cov & Leics) & 2 (Siamese CC) and C2008 3 (Birman CC) were withdrawn.

All concerned changes to the show structure and it was considered that this should be considered in entirety rather than subject to piecemeal change.

Action: the Board to set up a small Working Group from all sections of the fancy who would consult widely and report back to the February 2015 meeting of Council with suggestions for restructuring shows.

3. **New definitions for the Household Pet Section** New wording for Section 2 Rule 5h Section 2.5h1) existing rule deleted.

Non-Pedigree Pet shall mean any cat whose breeding background is completely unknown. The cat shall not be ticked, tipped, smoke or shaded etc. It must resemble a 'traditional moggie' in appearance and not resemble any other breed, hybrid, mix or combinations of breeds.

Section 2:5h 2) existing rule deleted.

Pedigree Pet shall be deemed to mean any cat which falls under at least one of the following categories:

1. **A full pedigree cats, with or without papers.**
2. **A cat where one or both parents are pedigrees.**
3. **A pedigree 'look-alike' of partly or fully known or unknown parentage, that resembles a pedigree cat because of its conformation and/or coat pattern. These cats may be self (single colour) with or without white; have tabby, tortoiseshell or tortie-tabby markings; they may have a ticked , tipped, smoke or pointed pattern in any colour combination or coat length (SH, SLH or LH)**

The new definitions mean the removal of the AOC classes (7 & 11) from the Non-Pedigree HHP section. The wording in schedules and the Code of Conduct for HHP judges at GCCF Shows was also revised accordingly.

Majority approval. 20 against, 25 abstentions.

Effective from 25.10.2014

Note: there were comments on other sections of the Code of Conduct - judges' expenses and being bound by rules

Action: to be discussed by the Board

JL

4. **The use of the 'Ultimate title'** Additional sentence to Section 2 Rule 7jiv

The title may be used by an exhibitor, but as a club title it will not be required to be listed on certificates or in catalogues.

With immediate effect.

Majority approval. 3 against, 10 abstentions.

5. **Note to section 4 Rules 30 /18 to Show Managers to report bad behaviour to IC**

This was withdrawn for the Board to clarify further.

JL

C2008 SHOW MATTERS

1. **Report from the Supreme Show Manager** SSM INFO

1.1 Celia Leighton reported disappointment that she could not set up the hall overnight as planned, as to save costs. A major sponsor was unable to do this and would have to withdraw which meant sponsorship lost, so nothing to gain overall.

1.2 There was a change of closing date to 7 October 2014. Entries would still have to arrive by 24 September, but it would mean cats achieving a status upgrade in the interim could enter a class for a higher title.

Action: This to be publicised.

All

2. **Birman Cat Club proposal** - withdrawn see C2007.

INFO

3. **Burmese Cat Society proposal re variant progression** - withdrawn

INFO

C2009 REVISED REGISTRATION POLICIES (immediate implementation)

1. **Exotic:** changes made with reference to Exotic Longhairs.

EXBAC OFFICE

Majority approval. 4 against, 10 abstentions

Note: Exotic BAC to be informed that the Persian LHBAC is discussing recognition of LH Exotics as Persians. JL

C2010 APPLICATION FOR BREED PROMOTION

1. **Somali Shorthair:** promotion to Championship Status was approved

SOMBAC OFFICE

To be effective from 25.10.2014 **Majority approval. 10 against, 6 abstentions**

2. **Turkish Vankedisi:** after discussion on the wisdom mixing self and patterned cats in the same breed class, a single class for the Turkish Van and Vankedisi was approved.

TURBAC OFFICE

To be effective from 25.10.2014 **Majority approval. 10 against, 6 abstentions**

3. **Recognition of the breed name Suffolk (SUF):** was approved OFFICE
With immediate effect, allowing for the office computer update, to permit reference registration for,
and exhibition of chocolate and lilac cats known in other registries as Havanas (brown & lilac).
Majority approval. 4 against, 0 abstentions

C2011 DISCUSSION ITEMS

These were deferred to the next meeting. JL

C2012 CAT WELFARE TRUST KS INFO

Keith Scruton, Chairman, said the Annual report would be on the website shortly, but there was little to update on the outcome at present as illness had delayed a research report.

C2013 ANY OTHER BUSINESS INFO

1. Disappointment was expressed that delegates of about one third of the clubs had not attended an important meeting.
2. A delegate wished it to be on record that the Notts & Derby Cat Club had been unable to continue in existence. He thought it sad that one of GCCF's older clubs, the first to put on a show in the aftermath of World War 2, had failed to gain sufficient membership support to carry out committee and show activities.

C2014 NEXT MEETING

A General Meeting would be held on Wednesday, 22 October 2014 in the Conway Hall, Holborn, London at 1pm

The Chairman closed the meeting at 4.55pm

signed.....

date.....

Chairman