



ELECTORAL MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE CAT FANCY

(Meeting of Full Council)

held on Wednesday, 26 June 2013 at the Conway Hall, Holborn, London.



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF GCCF LTD.

		PRESENTED BY	ACTION BY
C1927	WELCOME TO DELEGATES AND IN MEMORIAM		
	At 12.23pm the Chairman welcomed delegates, and thanked them for attending. Joan Judd, Joyce Price, Pat Sandford, Colleen Scoblow, Rosemary Solman, Alan Edwards, David Howe, and Norman Hughes were remembered in a moment of silence.	CHAIR	INFO
C1928	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	CHAIR	OFFICE
	The Chairman gave apologies from the President who had sent a message of goodwill hoping the meeting would be an informative, successful and enjoyable occasion. (Other apologies received are recorded in the delegate attendance list following these minutes.)		
C1929	THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT	CHAIR	INFO
	At the conclusion of her second year in office Helen Marriott-Power made the following points: 1. The Vice-Chairman, Board of Directors and other GCCF Committees were thanked for working as a team to develop the organisation, with the valued help and support of the Office Manager and staff at Bridgwater. 2. GCCF Ltd had continued trading as a company limited by guarantee, and at the end of its second year again showed a modest surplus, ensuring long term financial security for GCCF. 3. This had provided the basis for a continued improvement of services, towards objectives and aims set out in the Business Plan, and appraised in the mid-year review and Annual Report. 4. The trading partnership with Agria continued. 5. 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. 6. The highlight of the year was the launch of online services in February (transfers) and April (registrations). Through the dedication of a small team and support of member clubs a long term project had come to life and been much appreciated by users. The Chairman looked forward to further planned IT developments. 7. GCCF had continued to promote itself to a wider audience through high profile events, successfully hosting the World Cat Congress and participating in the London Pet Show once again. 8. The Genetics Committee and BACs continued to work together to ensure genetic health and breed integrity. This year had also seen the successful launch of the Breeder Scheme, a further commitment to health and welfare. 9. The Young Exhibitor Scheme encouraged participation from junior members, some of whom had now reached advanced level. 10. In conclusion show teams, club committees and delegates were thanked for their commitment to GCCF and to cats.		
C1930	TO ALLOW DISPENSATION TO CLUBS WITH AN INSUFFICIENT MEMBERS FOR DELEGATE REPRESENTATION	CHAIR	OFFICE

An addition to Byelaw 3:

Note: Council may grant dispensation to clubs whose membership numbers fall below those required and allow any club to continue to be represented. Applications for dispensation must be made to the Board with each Annual Return and shall be put to the Electoral Council Meeting by the Chairman.

Approved by a majority. 1 vote against, 0 abstentions.

C1931	CLUB MATTERS	CHAIR	INFO
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1. Club Returns Report

The Chairman observed that only one club had accounts outstanding. She asked delegates to pass on thanks to their club committees for completing this annual business.

2. Dispensation for representation was granted to 14 clubs:

CHAIR INFO

Breed Clubs (with less than 50 members)

Area Clubs (with less than 100 members)

Bombay & Asian Cats Breed Club
Central LH & Semi-LH Cat Club
Longhair Cream & Blue Cream Cat Association
Oriental Cinnamon & Fawn Group
Oriental Shaded, Smoke and Tabby Society
Oriental Longhair Cat Club
Smoke Cat Society

Caesarea Cat Club
Durham County Cat Club
Eastern Counties Cat Society
Herts & Middlesex Club
Kensington Cat Club
Northern Counties Cat Club
Wyvern Cat Club

(delegates present then collected their voting papers)

C1932 ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

CHAIR OFFICE

1. Chairman

Helen Marriott-Power was unopposed and therefore took office for her third term.

2. Vice-Chairman

Steve Crow 89
John Robinson 30

It was observed that Mr Crow must now relinquish his position as delegate to the Burmese Cat Club to comply with Byelaw 8, and assurance was given that he would do so.

3. Board of Directors

Gillian Bennett 80
Lynda Ashmore 79
Doreen Goadby 77
Anne Gregory 74
Jen Lacey 73
Sally Rainbow-Ockwell 72
Celia Leighton 69
Hilary Dean 66
Rosemary Fisher 64
Pat Perkins 60
Shelagh Heavens 58
Tommy Goss 58
John Robinson 55
Sandra Woodley 49
Sean Farrell 46

4. Finance Committee

Maria Chapman-Bear 108
Doreen Goadby 92
Sally Rainbow-Ockwell 82
Thomas Goss 64
Rosemary Fisher 63

Reserves
Shelagh Heavens 50
Sandra Woodley 35

Reserves (order determined after a tiebreaker ballot)
Sue Amor 44 (59) Barbara Prowse 44 (53)

5. Investigations Committee

Gillian Bennett 93
Michele Codd 92
Kym Jarvis 76
Lynda Ashmore 67
Claire Lewis 57

Reserve
Harry Meekings 51

6. Disciplinary Committee

Shirley Bullock 81
Jen Lacey 78
Val Kilby 76
Celia Leighton 71
Barbara Prowse 69
Hilary Dean 63
Saffi Rabey 59
Sue Amor 52
Sharara Crichton 51

Reserves
Ed Merchant 49
Charles Patey 41
Nichola Ryan 32

7. Appeals Committee

Maria Chapman-Bear 106
Pat Perkins 73
Betty Shingleton 71
Joyce Green 69
Sally Rainbow-Ockwell 64
Rosemary Fisher 47
Jennifer Fleming 47

Reserves
Kate Kaye 42
Janet Tonkinson 33

8. **INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION** (taken as electoral votes were counted)

8.1 Agria's Breeder Reward Scheme

Company representative, Ms Lorraine Tannat Nash, outlined the rewards to be offered to breeders who took out 4 week kitten cover policies with Agria, and the bonus if a kitten policy was converted to full cover by the new owner.

£1 (kitten cover online), 50 pence (kitten cover by phone) and £7.50 for full cover conversion.

The amounts would be paid directly into the breeder's own bank account or that of a chosen charity.

If breeders registered their details quickly their rewards for kittens already sold with cover would be backdated to the beginning of the Agria and GCCF link.

Ms Tannat Nash then responded to questions from delegates, promising to find out information if she could not answer immediately.

She gave an assurance of a swift result if Agria was contacted if problems were encountered, and that improvement in communication with GCCF was ongoing to prevent duplication and error in detail.

8.2 A limit to the number of classes allowed per exhibit at back to back GCCF shows

The discussion was led by Anne Gregory who explained she had had personal experience of seeing cats who were usually calm evidently stressed towards the end of a back to back show.

In addition to classes, a cat could be handled for BOB, BIS and possibly tutorials which

increased the number of times it was taken from its pen. She considered a limit should be set.

Several delegates gave examples which endorsed Mrs Gregory's contention, though it was remarked that repeated handling could also be controlled by an exhibitor opting to enter under the same judge for more than one class.

The matter would be given further discussion by the Board so that a proposal could be made to a future Council Meeting.

C1933 THE 2012 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.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY BUSINESS OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE CAT FANCY

C1934 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

CHAIR OFFICE

The draft minutes of 21 February 2013 had been circulated. No amendments were requested for meeting record, but two delegates required corrections on the list of attendees.

Majority approval 0 against, 1 abstention.

C1935 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 21 FEBRUARY 2013

1. C1913: Breeder Scheme

VICE INFO

Steve Crow reported at the launch of the scheme in March there were 32 breeders and CHAIR the second intake at the beginning of June brought the total to 117. This figure exceeded the uptake he had expected.

There had been a successful magazine feature, and there were now banners to advertise the scheme at GCCF shows, and events such as the London Pet Show. It was rewarding to explain the scheme to members of the general public.

The scheme was being refined by the volunteers who had devised it, and they were also training office staff in its administration. Additional breed listing was £5.

In response to a delegate question the Vice-Chairman confirmed that checks were made on those who applied, and to date three applicants had been rejected. Breed Club Membership was an important element, and it was always useful if a club reported concerns it had with any individual members on health and welfare issues.

C1936 MINUTES OF MEETINGS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

INFO

1. Board of Directors 15 January, 19 February, 26 March & 18 April 2013. No questions.
2. Finance Committee 17 October, 5 December 2012 and 13 February 2013 No questions.

C1937 FINANCE

1. **Presentation of the Financial Report for the year to date** OFFICE INFO
MANAGER
- 1.1 The income from registrations was lower than in the same period the previous year.
 - 1.2 Receipts from transfers had increased, though were not yet at the target level.
 - 1.3 Prefix application income was also greater and above target.
 - 1.4 The overall total income to the end of April 2013 was more than at the same time in 2012 because of additional income from other sources, such as Agria and printing.
 - 1.5 Building repairs and computer replacement had put pressure on finances early this year, with new office computers and software being phased in until the end of July.
 - 1.6 By the end of April there was still a trading deficit, but it was smaller than that of 2012 for the same period. Figures for May indicated a surplus for the year to date.
2. **Presentation of volume figures for core business to date**
- 2.1 Both prefix and non-prefix litter registration had fallen.
 - 2.2 The proportion of cats being transferred had increased substantially and it was hoped breeders would continue to encourage new kitten owners to transfer.
 - 2.3 Prefix applications had increased, possibly a favourable indication for future business.
 - 2.4 Imports were below the 2012 number, but exceeding the figures for the two previous years. (They accounted for about 10% of business overall.)
 - 2.5 There was no significant difference to trends across the sections.
3. In reply to a delegate query the Office Manager stated that figures for the Supreme varied in different minutes because they depended on the amount of input available at the time.
4. He also acknowledged that he was able to produce a balance sheet with each presentation of the accounts to Council, but one had not been requested recently with other detail available.

C1938 BUSINESS PLAN

1. **Update on business progress** VICE INFO
CHAIR
- 1.1 The Vice-Chairman informed Council that the mid-year review had just been added to the Business Plan on the website and it indicated good progress in all areas.
 - 1.2 The Veterinary Advisory Committee and Genetics Committee were both active and the GCCF Breeding policy was under review with a revised edition to be published shortly.
 - 1.3 The Chairman of the Cat Welfare Trust queried why the need for closer liaison with the Board was a target in the BP as he believed existing communication was good. Mr Crow replied that he looked forward to learning details when future projects were being considered.
 - 1.4 In response to concern over the number of additional Board Meetings it was pointed out that they had been planned and budgeted for, and Council had been informed (C1915 3.4).
2. **The Annual Report 2012**
- This had been published a little earlier than usual so copies were available for those attending the World Cat Congress. Each delegate received one at this Council Meeting. INFO

C1939 IT REFRESH PROJECT

1. **Proposal that EMS Code replaces the GCCF breed numbering system** BOD IT GROUP
- A presentation had been made at the February Meeting. The one item of additional information was that Pewter Persians would be PER 14 rather than PER 10.
It was also confirmed that v (variant) would be linked to a cat's breed rather than its appearance, as was standard in GCCF. **Majority approval 2 against, 1 abstention.**
2. **Phased introduction of EMS** SRO INFO
- The Project Manager, Sally Rainbow-Ockwell, acknowledged that this was a major change but would be phased in gradually rather as decimal coinage was.
October 2013: Registrations and transfers issued by the office would have the GCCF and EMS code
A translator would be available on the web site so that breeders, exhibitors and judges could use it and become familiar with the EMS code for their breeds
1st January: All show paperwork to use EMS only

April 2014: (or thereabouts) the new computer system would use EMS only.
 Official paperwork would carry EMS only, but there would be no penalty for breeders and exhibitors who continued to use the GCCF code on their certificates.
 An online translator would be available for judges, show officials breeders and exhibitors.

3. Plans for Phase 2 of the IT refresh project SRO INFO

July 2013: certified pedigrees would be available to order online
 1st August 2013: online entries and payment taken for the Supreme
 September 2013: introduction of a simple HHP registration scheme
 October 2013: EMS introduction at the office
 April 2014: (approx) a new computer system coming into operation will complete phase 2.
 This gave the outline. Work was now beginning on the detail.

C1940 JUDGES

1. JUDGES FOR APPROVAL BACs JL

Abyssinian BAC	Probationer Judge	Mrs C Roberts	
Balinese BAC	Full Judge	Mr C Dryden Mrs J Smith	
	Probationer Judge	Mrs J Pounds	
Burmese BAC	Full Judge	Mrs A-M Heath Mr M Pearman Mrs L Walpole	
	Extension backdated to October 2012 until October 2013	Mrs J Francis Wilson	
Colourpoint Persian BAC	Full Judge	Mrs J Wilkinson	
Egyptian Mau	Full Judge	Mrs S Woodley	
	Probationer Judge	Mrs M Buckeridge Mrs S Rainbow-Ockwell	
Exotic BAC	Probationer Judge	Mrs C Roberts	
Joint Rex BAC	Probationer Judge	Mrs S Amor Mrs R Fisher Mrs S Amor Dr P Collin	Cornish Rex Cornish Rex Devon Rex Selkirk Rex
	Extension for 1 year from October 2013		Mr I Macro - Devon Rex
Korat & Thai BAC	Probationer Judge	Ms E Stark	
	Probationer Judge	Mrs D Stone	
Maine Coon BAC	Full Judge	Mrs C de Martino Mrs S Rainbow-Ockwell	
	Probationer Judge	Mrs L Dutton Mr G Martin Mr E Merchant Mr J Trotter	
Norwegian Forest Cat BAC	Probationer Judge	Mrs L Fryer	
Ocicat BAC	Extension for 1 year from October 2013		Mr S Parkin Mrs D Stone
Persian Tabby BAC	Probationer Judge	Mr J Emery Mrs S Rainbow-Ockwell	
	Extension for 1 year from June 2013		Ms C Pearson

Russian BAC	Full Judge of Nebelung Cats	Ms J Allen Mr G Godfrey	Mrs P Perkins Mrs S Tokens
Siamese JAC	Full Judge	Mrs J Smith Mrs S Tokens	
Self LH BAC	Extension for 1 year from June 2013		Mr E Merchant
Siberian BAC	Full Judge	Mrs C de Martino	
Singapura BAC	Full Judge Extension for 1 year from June 2013 Extension for 1 year from October 2013	Mrs V Anderson-Drew	Mrs S Woodley Mrs S Rose
Snowshoe BAC	Probationer Judge	Mr J Trotter	
Sphynx BAC	Full Judge Probationer Judge Extension for 1 year from October 2013	Ms C White Mr P Williams	Mr S Parkin
Tonkinese BAC	Probationer Judge	Ms S Dewhurst Ms L Vousden Mrs S Woodley	
Tortie, Tortie & White & Bicolour BAC	Full Judge	Mr E Merchant	
Turkish BAC	Full Judge	Mrs C Bamford Mrs S Rainbow-Ockwell	(Turkish Van & Van Kedisi) Unanimous approval

2. **JUDGE WITHDRAWALS/REMOVALS**

Mr P Cornish from the Ocicat list
Mrs M Smith from the Ocicat list
Mr N Carter from Persian Tabby list
Mrs H Dessauer from the LaPerm list
Mrs B Webb from the Cornish, LaPerm and Sphynx lists

C1941 SHOW MATTERS

1. **Report from the Supreme Show Manager** SSM INFO
 - 1.1 Celia Leighton observed that it was a quiet time at present. Schedules were almost ready to go and they would include all the newly promoted breeds.
 - 1.2 There would be fewer judges to reduce costs, but it meant judges would have a heavier loading
 - 1.3 Club Row would have a new look as sponsorship had been obtained for screens and clubs would be able to use them for promotional information
 - 1.4 There would be a Teddy Bear class again with separate entry for children and adults.
2. **Proposal that Balinese SH Variants are shown in the equivalent Siamese Breed Classes** BALBAC SMs
(implementation: to shows not yet closed) **Majority approval 1 against, 0 abstentions.**

C1942 RULE CHANGES

CHAIR OFFICE

(The full text of the rule changes is an addendum to these minutes and already included in the online copy of the rules available for download)

1. Section 1: new rule at 7g ii): to be implemented with immediate effect **Unanimous approval**
2. Revision of rules to remove Provisional Recognition
(Breeds go from Preliminary to Championship Status) Implementation after 4 calendar months (26.10.13)
Majority approval 2 against, 0 abstentions

3. Section 4 Rule 3c (2) and Section 6 Rule 1. (Ringworm) Immediate Implementation.

Majority approval 0 against, 1 abstention.

C1943 REVISION TO BYELAW 8 CELTIC LH &
SEMI LH CS

After some discussion the delegate representing the club withdrew the proposed change.

C1944 REVISIONS TO BYELAW 11 (6 & 7 PLUS NEW 8) STANDING COMMITTEES
(The full text of this byelaw change is an addendum to these minutes and already included in the online copy of the Byelaws available for download)

The incorporation into the Byelaws of the Veterinary Advisory Committee as a GCCF Standing Committee and revision of the Byelaw concerning the Genetics Committee and Appeals Committee. (Immediate implementation - effective for the elections of 2014)

Majority approval 0 against, 2 abstention.

Minutes from the Genetics Committee were requested and it was agreed these should be published with any personal information removed.

It was suggested that in the planned review of the IC/DC process consideration should be given to not having members of the Board on the other committees in addition to the Appeals Committee, which would have no Officer or Board involvement on the advice of the GCCF Solicitor.

C1945 (deferred in advance of the meeting)

C1946 REVISED REGISTRATION POLICIES (immediate implementation)

1. **Balinese:** variants to be on the Supplementary Register to allow them to be shown. BALBAC OFFICE
Unanimous approval

2. **Manx:** a completely revised policy to include health screening BSGC OFFICE
Unanimous approval

3. **Tabby Persian:** to include Bicolour and Tricolour Persians TPBAC OFFICE
Unanimous approval

A query on the position of Colourpoints in this policy was referred back to the club as it was not relevant to the proposal, but policy already approved.

4. **Singapura:** the policy revised to allow for outcrossing and PKDef testing SBAC OFFICE
Unanimous approval

5. **Tonkinese:** a revised policy to accompany the application for Preliminary Status for TBAC OFFICE
the colourpointed and Burmese patterned cats, with the inclusion of DNA testing.
Unanimous approval

6. **Bengal:** a revised policy to include the Blue Bengal at Preliminary Status. BENBAC OFFICE
Unanimous approval

C1947 REVISED STANDARD OF POINTS

1. **Manx:** revisions in line with the health principles of the breeding and registration policies BSGC OFFICE
Majority approval 0 against, 2 abstentions

2. **Tonkinese:** Complete revision of the Tonkinese SOP to include Tonkinese Burmese TBAC OFFICE
Colour Restriction (BCR) and Tonkinese Colourpointed Pattern (CPP)
Majority approval 2 against, 1 abstention

3. Preliminary Standard of Points for **Blue, Blue Snow, Blue Silver, and** BENBAC OFFICE
Blue Silver Snow Spotted and Marbled Bengals
Unanimous approval

4. **Abyssinian:** changes to the body description and withholding faults ABAC OFFICE
Unanimous approval

C1948 A SCHEME TO PROVIDE REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES FOR PET CATS DG OFFICE

Mrs Goadby explained that this was a very simple scheme to meet a demand. The Office occasionally received requests from people who liked the idea of registering their pet cat and GCCF currently had no way of doing this.

If they supplied their details with those of their cat and picture (pdf) of the cat a registration certificate could be printed with the photo in place of pedigree details.

For £10 they would receive this together with information on cat care and Agria insurance.

People who showed their HHPs could register them, though this would not be compulsory.

Possibly EMS code could be added to the certificates in the future which would assist correct class entry. (Beginning in September 2013, depending on computer readiness)

There was concern that some people would wish to breed from a GCCF registered pet.

Mrs Goadby assured Council that the only categories to be allowed were Neutered Male/Female.

C1949 APPLICATION FOR BREED PROMOTION BOARD/BACs OFFICE

1. Promotion to Championship Status for the Colourpointed & White British Shorthair
 2. Promotion to Championship Status for the Red Self British Shorthair
 3. Promotion to Championship Status for Ocicat Classic
 4. Promotion to Championship Status for the Russian Black and Russian White (single class)
 5. Promotion to Championship Status for the Snow Marbled Bengal
 6. Promotion to Championship Status for the Snowshoe
 7. Promotion to Championship Status for the Thai Blue Point and Thai Lilac (single class)
 8. Promotion to Championship Status for the Fawn Point Siamese
- All of these breeds were promoted following the approval of C1942 removing Provisional Status.
Effective from 26.10.2013 **Unanimous approval**

9. Preliminary Status for Tonkinese of Burmese Colour Restriction TBAC OFFICE
10. Preliminary Status for Tonkinese of Colourpointed Pattern
(Two separate Assessment Classes to be included in schedules as soon as practical)
Unanimous approval

11. Preliminary Status for the Blue Bengal BENBAC OFFICE
An Assessment to be included in schedules as soon as practical) **Unanimous approval**

12. For information: The Board has granted the Sokoke a breed name. Cats may be shown on exhibition.

Delegates requested dispensation for breed shows to be allowed to have breed classes for the breeds newly promoted to Championship from Provisional Status before 26.10 as ICs would now be worthless. It was agreed that this was a special circumstance therefore dispensation was granted to:

The Bengal Cat Club	3.8.2013
Chocolate Pointed Siamese Cat Club	17.8.2013
Lilac Point Siamese Cat Society	17.8.2013
Tabby Point Siamese & Progressive Breeders CC	5.10.2013
Siamese Cat Club	5.10.2013
Tabby Cat Club	5.10.2013
Ocicat Cat Club	5.10.2013
Russian Blue Breeders Association	5.10.2013
Colourpoint, Rex-Coated and AOV Club	20.10 2013

It was noted there could be clubs not represented in Council fulfilling the same criteria, therefore dispensation was extended to cover breed clubs requesting it for shows from August to October 2013.

C1950 APPLICATION FOR PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN OFFICE

1. Application from the Australian Mist Cat Club UK
(immediate implementation) **Unanimous approval**
2. Withdrawal of the Norwegian Forest Cat Society from Provisional Membership was noted. INFO

