



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



Wednesday, 6 November 2019 at the Kennel Club, Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London

Present: Mr John Hansson - Chairman

Dr Peter Collin	Mr Steve Crow
Mrs Hilary Dean	Ms Sandra Devereux
Dr Gavin Eyres	Mrs Rosemary Fisher
Mr Thomas Goss	Mrs Shelagh Heavens
Mrs Catherine Kaye	Mrs Jen Lacey
Mrs Elaine Robinson	Mrs Lisa Robinson-Talboys
Ms Lyndsey Robinson	

BD3903 MEETING INTRODUCTION

1. **Apologies for absence.** **INFO**
 - 1.1 Apologies for absence were given on behalf of: The Vice-Chairman, Mrs Valerie Anderson, Mrs Lynda Ashmore and the Office Manager.
Dr Eyres arrived at 11.35 (having sent apologies for lateness in advance).
2. **Chairman's opening remarks** **INFO**
 - 2.1 The meeting was opened at 11.20 am, with a break for lunch to be taken at around 1.10pm so that Simon Wheeler, Managing Director of Agria could join the Board for the first part of the afternoon.

BD3904 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

1. **The Minutes of the Board meeting of 5 September 2019**
 - 1.1 These had been circulated to Board members for corrections and amendments to be taken. They were accepted without further amendment on the proposal of TG, seconded SC. (SD, GE, CK and ER abstained as absent from the September meeting).
Action: publication on the GCCF website **JL/RF**
2. **Matters arising from the previous minutes**
 - 2.1 BD3887.2 It was noted that no mention had been made at the October Council re the mis-information on the founding clubs. Based on the evidence of earlier GCCF constitutions representation in perpetuity had not been given to the Scottish CC, nor any other area club.
Action: report to be made at February Council. **SC**
 - 2.2 BD3889.6.4 It was queried whether repayments had been made to clubs who had been overcharged for card use. Attention was drawn to FC832.2.4 which noted that the bookkeeper was ensuring that all identifiable charges to clubs were covered before calculating the recharge to clubs. FC would receive a report at its November meeting.
3. **Minutes of the October Council meeting**
 - 3.1 There was a correction to be made at C2280.3 as it was the designated spokesperson for the Board who was absent. The proposal was not on behalf of the Judge Training Review Group.
 - 3.2 The minutes were then approved for website publication by TG with 3 abstentions (PC, SD, GE).
Action: publication on the GCCF website **JL/RF**
4. **Matters arising from the October Council meeting**
 - 4.1 C2270 The Vice Chairman had expressed concern re a possible breach of GDPR by the publication of the signing in sheets that carried copies of delegates' signatures. Spread sheet pages could be produced as an alternative.
 - 4.2 C2279.3 It was believed that SNO * without additional numbering or lettering was in use for the colourpointed SNO without white. The BAC did not wish them to become XSH.
 - 4.3 There was discussion on the length of time any one delegate should retain the microphone and speak to other delegates. It was agreed to try limiting this by:
 - allowing individual delegates just one opportunity to speak for or against a proposal, or express a single point of view in a discussion.
 - Only the proposer/lead of the item and the Chair to have the opportunity to answer queries, with any proposer having the right to summarise and make a final reply before a vote
 - A limit of one minute to be set per delegate for comment or query**Action: notice to be given to delegates before the February Council meeting** **JL**

BD3905 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1. **Unregistered interests declared for the business of this meeting:** none **INFO**
(GE arrived)

BD3906 FINANCE

1. **Draft minutes of the September Finance Committee meeting**
 - 1.1 There were no queries specific to the minutes of the September FC meeting. **INFO**

2. **Management accounts on 2019 business to 30 September**
 - 2.1 The profit and loss accounts to the end of September had been provided by the bookkeeper and sent out with the agenda to show monthly and annual comparisons. The OM had provided transaction graphs giving registration and transfer statistics to 31 October 2019.
 - 2.2 It was noted that growth in all core business, apart from transfers, continued with imports doing particularly well. These were well above the levels of the two previous years.
 - 2.3 There was discussion on whether GCCF prices for these services compared favourably with those of other registries who were competitors for UK business. It was agreed that Leanne should be asked if she could make some comparisons between GCCF & TICA, FIFe (Felis Britannica) and CFA. It was thought some had been done some years before, but GCCF prices had remained static and the £/\$ rate had changed which would make the use of a US based registry more expensive.
Action: to be referred to the bookkeeper JL
 - 2.4 It was noted that testing requirements made importing into GCCF more expensive, but DNA tests were as required by individual BACs rather than GCCF.
 - 2.5 The Agria income was still substantial, but not as much as hoped. It was agreed there should be a further check with the MD that all GCCF breeders who used the service were recorded as such, regardless of whether a GCCF registration number was requested for the kitten.
 - 2.6 It was noted that expenditure was now falling as Leon was no longer used. The OM was also cutting costs where possible. The benefits would be more visible in the final months of this year and 2020. INFO

3. **Euro bank account update**
 - 3.1 SH had reported that she had negotiated £350 of compensation for delay from Lloyds and this had been paid into GCCF's current account
 - 3.2 It had also been confirmed that GCCF would have free Euro banking initially.
 - 3.3 Forms should have been received in the Office to enable the transfer of access to the appropriate people. These had not been received and SH was disappointed not to have been informed of this. She would contact Lloyds once again, but expected prompt Office liaison as communication was essential.
Action: contact with Lloyds SH

4. **New card processing provider update**
 - 4.1 There had been a problem with Payzone as information from one director had not been signed.
 - 4.2 This omission was now rectified and GCCF had now been approved as a Payzone customer. INFO

5. **Investment account update**
 - 5.1 There was £75,298.32 on deposit at the Aldermore earning 1.83%. That was fixed until March 2020.
 - 5.2 The balance at Cambridge & Counties was £76,814.03 and now yielding £112 approx in monthly interest. INFO

BD3907

BUSINESS MATTERS

1. **Royal Canin update**
 - 1.1 The Chairman stated that Royal Canin had reported favourably from the Supreme as it had been their best year for some time. It was expected that their sponsorship for the event would be £6,000.
 - 1.2 It was reported that they were now taking a different sort of stall to other shows (pop-up type) to reduce costs, but that meant pre-orders were preferred to sales on the day.
 - 1.3 That made it more difficult for prize winners to spend vouchers, and as these were time limited, they were becoming worthless as prizes and no longer an incentive.
Action: discussion with RC on enhancing the vouchers JH

2. **GCCFI update**
 - 2.1 There had been little further progress on this. The solicitor had indicated a newly drafted contract would be cheaper than amending an Office original, but it was acknowledged that this would still be an expense for GCCF and there seemed little to gain from the GCCFI link.
 - 2.2 SC reported that GCCFI were waiting for GCCF to put forward proposals. It was known that the initial contract had been rejected because of the high indemnity figure and there was some doubt that they would be happy with the suggested £20,000
 - 2.3 Incorporation of GCCFI within GCCF was put forward as a possibility, as it seemed GCCF had little to gain and more expense with additional costs incurred from supporting GCCFI.
Action: Further discussion with GCCFI JH/SC

3. **IT - meeting report**
 - 3.1 SC stated that the meeting was planned for the following week (13 November) and little had changed since he had reported to Council. The third tranche of updates had not yet been released because of time given to the Supreme.
 - 3.2 There was discussion on buying in extra time, and whether this would need to be for a temporary period or more permanent. It was thought more skilled help was required, at least short term, as staff were not sufficiently experienced with testing and volunteer help was available for the registration project, but lacked expertise. However, there was agreement that buying programming time was costly and unnecessary.
 - 3.3 It was agreed Ian Macro had to determine whether he needed additional help, and in what areas. It was possible there could be additional volunteer(s) with the necessary expertise. Another website advert would be considered.
Action: IT staffing to be considered by the ITG for a report back to the Board GC

4. **Board Lead for YES**
 - 4.1 As Lynda Ashmore was unable to be present this was not discussed. (deferred to January) JL

5. **2020 Business Plan**
 5.1 The timing of the 2020 Business Plan had been queried in Council (C2273). GE offered to work on enhancing the 2019 plan to update it for 2020.
 5.2 He was thanked for this offer.
Action: The working document for the 2019 plan to be sent to GE **SC**
6. **Dispensation for the use of the new stewarding scheme**
 6.1 This was required as no vote had been taken on amendments to the Judge Appointment Scheme in October Council, but the new scheme with the relevant changes to the JAS (which had been circulated to delegates) needed to begin operating in order not to disadvantage candidates.
 6.2 The Board's decision would be put to February Council for ratification.
 6.3 This course of action was unanimously approved.
Action: to be proposed for voting at February Council **JL**
 6.4 It was agreed small amendments would be made to the JAS to enable electronic meetings and voting. It was preferable to have this process formally included as it was known to be in use.
Action: amended wording to be put to the Board at the January meeting **HD**
7. **Byelaw amendment to avoid the sudden introduction of lengthy statements to Council**
 7.1 This had been returned to the Board from Council (C2276) to make the wording more all inclusive and so that documents circulated with the Council agenda were subject to the same restriction.
 7.2 Amended wording had been included to cover those points. It was agreed unanimously, with the addition that standard print was stated as 'arial 11'.
Action: to be on the agenda of February Council **JL**
8. **Record of voting**
 8.1 LR proposed that in the minutes of Board meetings:
 • each vote should be recorded with the number for, against and abstentions
 • abstentions would carry the initials of the members who abstained
 • individuals had the right to have a named record of voting for or against on request
 8.2 This was agreed unanimously. **INFO**

BD3908

DISCIPLINARY

1. **Letter from DC re conflict between the rules and Code of Ethics**
 1.1 The chief concern was that there was conflict within the Code as it recommended kittens stay with the breeder until 13 weeks and also stated they needed remain one week after the second vaccination which could be earlier.
 1.2 It had been updated with the latest rule wording on vaccinations and transfers, and agreed that the recommendation needed re-wording. It could mention the seven day period, a check on documentation and/or kitten insurance cover notes.
Action: wording to be drafted and circulated to the Board **JL**
 1.3 DC had also recommended more publicity for the Code of Ethics and rule changes, It was agreed that information on updated leaflets could be circulated via the monthly newsletter.
Action: liaison with the Office **JL**
2. **Report on the findings of the Council Committee of Judges**
 2.1 A brief summary of the decision of the Committee of Judges was reported.
 2.2 There was no comment or discussion as the Vice-Chairman was unable to be present. **INFO**
3. **Recommendations to the Board**
 3.1 Recommendations from the Committee were summarised from an emailed report from SF.
 3.2 It was agreed he should be asked to formulate proposals in respect of these so that they could be on the agenda for the January Board meeting.
Action: proposals in response to the recommendations of the Committee of Judges **SF**
4. **Agria's concerns**
 4.1. it was agreed that IC should consider a breach of Bylaw 12 (d) .
Action: the evidence for IC to be collected together **JL**

BD3909

AGRIA PARTNERSHIP

1. **Comments from Simon Wheeler, Managing Director of Agria Pet Insurance**
 1.1 The Chairman introduced Simon to members Board and he thanked them for the invitation to speak.
 1.2 Simon gave an overview of Agria's position as the largest pet insurance company in Northern Europe, and one that had expanded recently, being committed to continued growth. It had been launched in France and had a 25% share of the market there.
 1.3 However, it considered its UK a market place 'jewel in the crown' particularly as in 2018 and 2019 several awards had been gained based on consumer satisfaction with its products and services.
 1.4 He then gave a brief impact statement to explain how serious the spread of misinformation was. Rumour could cause unnecessary destabilisation, particularly affecting the progress of recent new products.
 1.5 The statement made in Council was serious enough to have been entered onto the company's risk register and there would have to be ongoing monitoring.
 1.6 It was queried whether he would summarise the difficulties that had been created in a statement for IC, and agreed to do so.
Action: liaison with Agria re statement **JL**

2. **Plans for growth of business with API**

- 2.1 Simon then presented a paper with figures to illustrate how much more GCCF could earn if there was increased use of the five week kitten cover notes. He stressed the relationship between GCCF and Agria was important to both companies so it was disappointing that volume was slipping at present.
- 2.2 Board members put forward some reasons why the take up by GCCF breeders was not the same as it was for KC ones. There was the issue of third party cover with dogs, and some customers refused all insurance and/or were concerned of it being evidence of trading. However, it had to be acknowledged that some would never be persuaded and put the focus onto drawing in those who were currently non-committed.
- 2.3 There was agreement that there would be more emphasis on the quality of the product and the benefits for breeders (rewards, and money for GCF to keep prices fixed). It was decided there should be targets set, and these promoted so that ongoing growth could incentivise.
- 2.4 It was hoped this could be launched with a survey very soon in the new year to engage interest and ascertain reasons for reluctance - in order to overcome it.
- 2.5 It was agreed also, that Agria should have a standing invitation to Council in order to provide a right of reply if it became necessary and be sent copies of Board minutes.

Action: liaison with Agria re survey

RF

BD3910 BREED APPLICATIONS

1. **Promotion to Championship Status for the Sex-Linked Red, Cream & Tortoiseshell Abyssinians**

- 1.1 The Abyssinian BAC had submitted a revised Breeding Policy and it was agreed they had addressed the points put to them by the Board in June 2019. It had been noted then that there was little in it that would inform a novice breeder of Abys, and a discussion of the maintenance of genetic diversity by import and suitable outcross was necessary to comply with rule and policy requirements.
- 1.2 It was observed there could be further improvement, particularly in respect of the outcrosses suggested: a black domestic, as a ticked tabby would be unlikely to be found, and fewer generations to follow an outcross to a Somali with SOM SH suitable as well as SOM LH.
- 1.3 It was thought that GC should take up these points, and any others, for discussion with the Aby BAC, but there was now a policy that was suitable to enable the promotion to championship status of the sex-linked colours.
- 1.4 It was noted that a silver Aby had been included in the statistics presented of cats of the new colours that had been registered and shown, but the numbers for each were sufficient.
- 1.5 A vote was taken and there was unanimous agreement for promotion to championship status.
- 1.6 It was agreed that the class should be for 'red series Abyssians' if the BAC had no objection.

Actions: a letter to be sent to the BAC & the promotion proposed on the February Council agenda JL

2. **An application for Preliminary Status for the Lykoi**

- 2.1 It was agreed that the information presented satisfied the requirements for the preliminary recognition of cats of a new breed, though there was concern that it had been supplied by a single person rather than a Breeder Group. However, it was known that there were now others exhibiting and planning to breed.
- 2.2 A vote was taken and there was unanimous agreement for preliminary recognition for the Lykoi, with the registration policy and SOP as presented.
- 2.3 It would be allocated to Grand Group 4B and all judges currently working in Section 4 (FJ or PJ, but not Emeritus) would become full judges if they were a full judge on at least one list and did not indicate that they had no interest in the breed.

Actions: a letter to be sent to the applicant & the promotion proposed on the February Council agenda JL

3. **Suffolk ebony & Suffolk blue - new colours of an existing breed - an update**

- 3.1 The BAC had sent further information, but it had arrived two days before the meeting and would therefore be deferred to January.
- 3.2 There was acceptance that SUF n would be termed 'black' rather than 'ebony' and some tables to show breeding outcomes from the matings of the colours, but the suggestion that maintenance of breed type should be included in the Breeding Policy had not been addressed.
- 3.3 It was decided that the the BP and additional information should be circulated to the Genetics Committee so advice could be given to the BAC ahead of further Board discussion in January.

Actions: a letter to the BAC & circulation to GC

JL

BD3911 REGISTRATION & TRANSFER & SOP MATTERS

1. **Revised registration policies and advice requested for the Ocicat & Aztec**

- 1.1 It was considered that the policies needed to be simplified. They had detail that was relevant to breeders but would not be easily understood by the Office staff.
- 1.2 It also contained directions that did not have binary choices and so were unsuitable for programming the computer system.
- 1.3 It was noted that testing was voluntary, but considered a penalty (Genetic Register overstepping for non-tested active registered cats) still carried a risk that breeders would be deterred from future breeding or interest in the breed. There was no evidence that diseases to be tested for existed in the GCCF Ocicat and Aztec population.
- 1.4 There was no problem with the testing proposed if there was an outcross to an ABY, but it was thought that registration and testing for imports should be no different for imported Ocicats and Aztecs from GCCF ones, unless there was a known problem in the breed populations of other registries. There was a greater risk from deterring new bloodlines via import.

Actions: a letter to the BAC & circulation to GC for further advice for the BAC

JL

2. **Amended registration Policy for Tonkinese**
 - 2.1 The amendment was the inclusion of additional DNA testing, specifically for female Tonkinese.
 - 2.2 The rationale supplied gave the encouragement of new bloodlines via import as the reason for the need to test, but did not restrict testing prior to active registration for an import, the chosen outcross or to the first generation following an outcross.
 - 2.3 There was no testing scheme, as in other registration policies, that cleared subsequent generations of GCCF registered cat via the testing of ancestors on all pedigree lines, although the mandatory testing was to exclude the possibility of rare genetic diseases.
 - 2.4 It was thought that the Tonkinese BAC should be encouraged to screen for disease following import and outcross only unless there was evidence of disease within the GCCF gene pool, and, if there was, a testing scheme could be adopted. Deterring new and existing breeders risked less interest in the breed and a fall in the number of those breeding and so fewer Tonkinese resulting in reduced genetic diversity.
 - 2.5 By a majority decision, with 4 abstentions (HD, SH, LR-T, LR), it was agreed this should be referred back to the Tonkinese BAC and advice could be given by GC.

Actions: a letter to the BAC & circulation to GC for further advice for the BAC **JL**

3. **Amendment to the Sokoke SOP**
 - 3.1 There was a brief amendment to the SOP concerning the ground colour of the coat: 'shade of bronze ranging from warm to pale' was to proposed to replace 'warm bronze'.
 - 3.2 There was an objection that bronze denoted a specific tone to the coat colour and did not have a range of shades. No alternatives were suggested.
 - 3.3 By a majority vote of 7 to 5, with 1 abstention (LR-T), it was agreed this should be referred back to the Sokoke Breeder Group for alternative wording.

Actions: a letter to the Sokoke Breeder Group **JL**

4. **Request from the Persian Longhair BAC to transfer a male to the non-active register**
 - 4.1 The Persian Longhair BAC had submitted a request for the removal of a male from the active to the non-active register as he was the result of a father/daughter mating and no dispensation had been applied for. The registration was an Office error, contrary to rule Section 1:1d, probably because he had been imported.
 - 4.2 The BAC observed that it would have been prepared to consider dispensation if he was a new line and used as an outcross, but his first use had been as sire to two kittens from his mother's full sister.
 - 4.3 There was a vote on immediate removal of which 3 were in favour and 8 against, with 2 abstentions (RF, CK).
 - 4.4 It was agreed that the owner should be contacted to check the facts were as stated.
 - 4.5 The owner and the Office to be informed that no further progeny from this male or his progeny would be registered as Active until the Board had received and considered the owner's response.

Actions: the owner and Office to be informed of the Board's decisions. **JL**

5. **Rules concerning an application for a prefix**
 - 5.1 An amendment to the rules for prefix applications (1:7d) had been referred back to the Board from Council. (C2280d). It had been proposed that applicants should be members of breed clubs, but there had not been consensus on this as it was pointed out some would be better known in their local area.
 - 5.2 It was suggested that an 'appropriate club' should be defined as either the breed club for breed the applicant owned, or the area club for the region in which s/he lived. That prevented selection of a club at random, and provided the best opportunity for support and mentoring.
 - 5.3 The Board would consider the matter again in January to determine any time limit for club membership and/or other conditions. It was important for the Office that there was standardisation

Action: to be on the agenda again for the January Board meeting **JL**

BD3912 WELFARE

1. **An update from the Canine & Feline Sector Group and associated groups**
 - 1.1 SC stated that there had been no further meetings of the C&FSG since he reported to Council.
 - 1.2 There would be discussion with Defra on issues with local authorities and licensing.
 - 1.3 There was ongoing lobbying of the Welsh Government, but no outcome could be expected until after the general election.
 - 1.4 The kitten checklist had been launched, the Code of Practice for Cat Breeding draft was with Defra and there was ongoing consultation on mandatory microchipping.
 - 1.5 A PR firm had been employed to produce information on pet travel after Brexit.
 - 1.6 RF gave a brief outline of a consultative meeting on the licensing of rescue agencies. Representatives of organisations present had given the same message: small scale rescue organisations were never going to meet the criteria for standards that were applicable to large national ones, and if the attempt was made to do this then small scale rescue would disappear. **INFO**

2. **Illustrated guide to non-recognised breeds not eligible as Pedigree Pets**
 - 2.1 This was deferred to the January meeting so that illustrations could be recirculated.

Action: to be on the agenda again for the January Board meeting **JL**

3. **Breeder Scheme application revisions**
 - 3.1 There was discussion on whether the Board could make a valid consideration of people when no one knew them.
 - 3.2 JL had prepared an enhanced application form so that applicants gave further details. It had a dual purpose of drawing attention to best practice and making applicants think through what they had, and would provide a comparison baseline if there were reports or inspection opportunity that indicated otherwise.
 - 3.3. It was proposed that the form be used in conjunction with publishing applicant names on the GCCF website for 28 days as was done for prefixes.

3.4 A vote was taken and this was approved by a majority with 11 in favour and 2 abstentions (HD, JL).

Action: discussion on the practicality of implementation with the Office

JL

3.5 The Board was informed that Prof Kym Jarvis wanted to look at improving the feedback from new owners. She was disappointed to know that despite giving out forms with each kitten she sold none had been returned. The Board looked forward to receiving any suggestions made.

Action: a response to Prof Jarvis

JL

4. Genetics Committee Members

4.1 There were ten applications for the Genetics Committee via the 'expressions of interest sheets', including six from current members.

4.2 A paper ballot was held and Steve Crow, Gavin Eyres, Rosemary Fisher, Karen Kempself, Claire Lewis, Anthony Nichols and Ray Wigley were elected.

INF

BD3913 SHOW MATTERS

1. 2019-20 licence applications and changes to report

1.1 8.2.2020 Croydon CC and Southern Counties CC change of venue to Rivermead Leisure Complex, Reading.

1.2 25.4.2020 The Bucks, Oxon & Berks CC to share with the Bedford & District at the Inspire Luton Sports Village, LU2 8DD, with Chris Tittering as SM and Graeme Slaymaker as ASM

1.3 26.1.2020 Longhair, Semi-Longhair & All Breed CC. Date change to from Saturday 25 to Sunday 26 January and venue change to Bridge Leisure Centre, Broadbridge Heath, Horsham RH12 3YS. As this was away from the Celtic LH it was approved.

1.4 26.1.2020 The Oriental Longhair and Blue Point Siamese Cat Society to share with the Longhair, Semi-Longhair & All Breed CC with Caroline Roberts now the SM

1.5 25.4.2020 Manchester and District Request for Peter Kilmartin to become Joint SM. The qualification was not substantiated, therefore this was not approved.

1.6 22.2.20 Change of venue for Cov & Leics CC, HHPC of GB & Sphynx CC from the Warwickshire Event Centre to the British Motor Museum, Banbury Road, Gaydon, Warwickshire, CV35 0BJ.

1.7 7.3 2020 The Longhair Cream & Blue Cream CA, Loddon Hall, Twyford, RG10 9JA, with Sally Tokens as SM and sharing with the Exotic CC

1.8 28.3.20 Abyssinian C A Preston College Sports Centre, Preston, PR2 8UR with Judith Mercer as SM and Candice Higgins as ASM, sharing with the Preston & Blackpool CC & Singapura CC.

INF

2. 2020-21 Licence applications and amendments to report

2.1 26.9.2020 South West British SH CC to share with South Western Counties CC at Taunton with Joint SMs Monica and Bruce Acton.

2.2 12.12.20 Maine Coon CC request for date change from 12. 9.20 because of Office error.

2.3 6.3.2021 The Longhair Cream & Blue Cream CA, Loddon Hall, Twyford, RG10 9JA, with Sally Tokens as SM and sharing with the Exotic CC

2.4 27.3.2021 Abyssinian C A Preston College Sports Centre, Preston, PR2 8UR with Judith Mercer as SM and Candice Higgins as ASM, sharing with the Preston & Blackpool CC & Singapura CC.

2.5 3.10.21 Turkish Van CC at Bracknell Leisure Centre, with E Robinson as SM and L Robinson as ASM, sharing with other small breed clubs.

2.6 24.4.21 Bedford & District & Bucks, Oxon & Berks at the Inspire Luton Sports Village, LU2 8DD, with C Titterington as SM and Anna McEntee (Bedford) and Graeme Slaymaker (BO&B) as ASMs. Approved, but no other shows on that date.

2.7 27.2.21 Change of venue for Cov & Leics CC, HHPC of GB & Sphynx CC from the Warwickshire Event Centre to the British Motor Museum, Banbury Road, Gaydon, Warwickshire, CV35 0BJ.

INF

3. New show licence amendment requests for approval

3.1 3.10.20 Turkish Van CC request to have Norwegian Forest Cats at this show and future shows.

Approval was given for the club to include the breeds of the 2B Grand Group (TUV, NFC, SOL, SOS).

3.2 1.8.20 Scottish Rex request Sphynx at their next show and future shows. This was agreed.

3.3 26.9.20 SW Counties CC request for Rosemary Fisher & Sam Moyle to be ASMs. This was agreed.

3.4 20.6.20 Kensington CC request for Dee Hillier-Kidston to be ASM. This was agreed.

3.5 12.12.20 Maine Coon CC reported difficulties with hall availability. Change of date to 12.9.20 requested.

This was not approved as September was now busy. The club to be asked to submit an alternative date.

3.6 16.5.20 Confirmation that the venue for the Caramel & Apricot, Balinese Cat Soc. and Tabby Point Siamese CC was Garth Hill College, Bull Lane, Bracknell Berks RG42 2AD and not the Leisure Centre in Bracknell.

3.7 21.3.20 Change of venue for the Somali CC from Wythall to Ullenhall Village Hall, Henley Road, Ullenhall, Warks B95 5NW. This was agreed.

Action: the Office to be notified to inform the clubs and update the show licences

JL

4. Update on fast-track implementation

4.1 PC reported that all the preparations made had been implemented and the scheme was up and running, with judges now taking their first engagements.

4.2 Some BACs had engaged and provided advice to new FJPs together with a list of mentors. Others had still to make the initial contact.

4.3 It was reiterated that the reports and tutorials from FJP engagements were valid regardless of whether the BAC had provided information or not.

INF

5. The prevention of section hopping

5.1 Most comment at the October Council meeting had been in favour of prevention being implemented as it was believed it was not intended when pedigree pets classes came into being. (C2282.4)

5.2 There was some discussion on the difficulty of wording rules that allowed for a trial in both the pedigree and non-pedigree sections and for their operation via online entry and the recording of results.

5.3 It was suggested that there could be a special class provided for those who wished to do this to support the club holding the show.

Action: a letter to go to the Household Pet Club of Great Britain for their suggestions

JL

6. New group to plan future judge training

6.1 There were eight people who wished to be members of this group: Peter Collin, Sue Dalton-Hobbs, Sarndra Devereux, Hilary Dean, John Harrison, Kate Kaye, Claire Lewis and Steve Parkin

6.2 There was some concern that this was too large, but no specific limit had been set and unlikely that all would attend a meeting at any one time.

INFO

7. Objections to the Suffolk being in Section 5

7.1 It was observed that the objections commented mainly on SUF not being of, or close to, Burmese type, but the sections had been numbered rather than named as most contained a mix of types and were not meant to be associated with a particular breed.

7.2 It was also noted that there was considerable benefit for the SUF as all but 3 of their FJs would be able to judge them at Grand level, compared to almost half when they in section 6.

7.3 Only two of their judges did not already work in Section 5 and both judged at Olympian level. In addition there would be five new 5B Grand Judges and 2 new Section 5 Imperial judges who were both active.

7.4 It was agreed a move to Section 4 would bring similar benefits to SUF, but it would mean displacing other breeds from Grand Group 4A to maintain a balance. This also would result in objections.

7.5 A vote was taken to make no further change at this time. There was a majority approval of 11 with 2 against.

Action: the clubs who had made objections to be informed

JL

8. Exhibition with critique classes - standardised process

8.1 The Office had requested guidance on this as more exhibitors were requesting transference to the supplementary from the reference register after entry in three exhibition with critique classes.

8.2 It was noted that show managers had the option of putting on these classes, and those that did should be requesting the critique forms for them and returning them to the Office.

8.3 The judge should have indicated the cat conformed sufficiently to the breed SOP to merit a change of register.

8.4 SMs could include a schedule note.

Action: the Office to be informed

JL

BD3914 EVENTS

1. Report on the 2019 Supreme

1.1 JH reported that the event had taken place with no major problems on the day.

1.2 SC observed that the accounts were being prepared by the bookkeeper and she was solely responsible for the invoices and receipts. He was not keeping a separate tally as this had caused some confusion the previous year.

1.3 After the show a kitten had been disqualified because of being too young. By GCCF rules it qualified, but the Supreme had a 4 month age limit which was stated in the schedule. However, the STAR online entry system had not been adjusted for this.

1.4 It was noted that one or more kittens under 4 months had been entered in the 2018 Supreme and no sanctions had been applied as this had not been picked up.

1.5 It was agreed that the appeal against disqualification was upheld, and there should not be a different age limit between the Supreme and other shows in future.

Action: The Supreme Show Manager to be informed of the decision

JH

2. Possible partnership for future shows

2.1 JH reported that the National Pet Show had expressed an interest in going back to back with the Supreme Show in 2020 and possibly in 2021. He had only just received details of some draft terms and would circulate these.

2.2 It was observed that there would have to very careful negotiation of what was expected for all areas, as the NPS was known to set very specific terms and conditions to suit its own interests.

2.3 It was noted that the dates on the paper circulated were not for a weekend and this needed clarification.

2.4 It was thought there was a possibility for a two day show as long as BOV winners could return for for BIS competition on the second day.

Action: Paper to be circulated for further discussion

JH

3. WCC 2021 - support team and update

3.1 Gillian Bennett, Jennifer Digweed, Rosemary Fisher and Kate Kaye had offered to be part of the team.

3.2 JH was continuing to gather information on hotel and room availability and costs.

3.3 The possibility of a combined event with the NPS had postponed confirmation of a date.

INFO

BD3915 CLUB & BAC MATTERS

1. Report on progress and plans for 2019 returns

1.1 SH reported the Scottish CC had made returns on the club finances to her satisfaction, but had no show account. Responsibility for this had been with the West of Scotland. However, because the club year ran from October there would have to be two sets of show accounts the following year. SH proposed support from the Board if the Scottish CC did not obtain the necessary information from the Show Manager and this was unanimously agreed.

1.2 Draft letters and returns forms for the 2019 returns had been prepared and circulated to the Board. There were no queries on these **INFO**

2. **NWCC update**

2.1 It was understood that the matter was still with IC therefore there was no information to report.

2.2 SD reported that to the best of her knowledge no money had been withdrawn from the club accounts and so it seemed the winding up process was on hold as per Board instruction. **INFO**

3. **Draft JAS for the Sokoke Breeder Group to become a BAC**

3.1 This was in preparation for the Breeder Group to become a BAC in order to make an application for promotion of the Sokoke to championship status. It was understood there had been a sufficient number exhibited.

3.2 It was noted this would need amendment after February Council, but had included what was required at present.

3.3 It was noted that in future applicant BACs should only submit the clauses of the JAS where variation was allowed rather than the full document.

Action: the Sokoke Breed Club to be informed **JL**

4. **Application for provisional membership for the Ragdoll Cat Association**

4.1 The Club did not have a membership of 50 as required by the Bye-Laws. Although the GCCF 'route to membership' did not mention numbers it could not set aside or change this.

4.2 The club would also be advised to stick more closely to the model set of rules when it was ready to make application with the required membership. Some amendments and additions were unsuitable.

Actions: a letter to the club to give this information **JL**

BD3916 STAFF & OFFICE

1. **Report from the Office Manager**

1.1 The OM had circulated a report in advance which covered the following topics:

- Actions she had carried out on behalf of the Board after the previous meeting
- Work on behalf of the Supreme Show
- The first assessment of the new employee, Tamsin Hartnell
- A note on the progress of Rebecca Stephens in the Office Supervisor role
- The efforts to have a fire hazard removed
- Savings made by Office changes in employment and supplier (BD3906.2.6)

1.2 A confidential matter that the OM had put to the Board was discussed very briefly and then deferred to FC to provide detail from the November meeting that could be circulated to the Board.

1.3 In response to an earlier question it was stated that Ian Macro had definitely signed a confidentiality agreement, and was aware that he should not discuss any GCCF matter other than with the Board IT Group or the Office Manager. **INFO**

2. **Membership of the HR Committee**

2.1 The existing members of HR had expressed a continued interest, but no others. Therefore the Committee remained as: Maria Chapman-Ber, Steve Crow, Gavin Eyres, Rosemary Fisher, Kate Kaye, and Jen Lacey.

2.2 The GCCF Officers were included as they had responsibility for company and office management.

2.3 The next meeting had been arranged for Wednesday, 19 February 2020. **INFO**

BD3917 PREFIXES FOR APPROVAL

1. **Prefixes circulated**

1.1 46 prefixes in total had been circulated to the Board in advance since September. Some had not been supported but second choices had been agreed. **INFO**

2. **An addition to GCCF rules Section 1:7bii**

2.1 It had been noted that prefix applicants were using the names of existing prefixes and GCCF breed names (eg. Burmese) linked to another part of the name by some form of punctuation. There had been some prefix rejection because this was thought undesirable and that it was necessary for the rules to make this clear.

2.2 The addition proposed was:

....GCCF breed names and existing prefixes, if either is linked by punctuation to other words.

2.3 This was agreed unanimously

Action: to be on the agenda of the February Council meeting. **JL**

BD3918 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was a request for a method of tracking the many emails circulated to the Board between meetings as voting and decisions were not always clear. It was suggested that having a weekly digest could be helpful to cut down on the number of mails in circulation. It was agreed this would be discussed with the Office Manager.

The meeting finished at 5.05pm

NEXT MEETING: **WEDNESDAY**, 08 January 2020, at 11.00 for 11.15am, at The Kennel Club, Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London.