



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



Thursday, 5 September 2019 at the Kennel Club, Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London

Present: Mr John Hansson - Chairman  
Mr Sean Farrell - Vice-Chairman

Mrs Valerie Anderson	Dr Peter Collin
Mr Steve Crow	Mrs Hilary Dean
Mrs Rosemary Fisher	Mr Thomas Goss
Mrs Shelagh Heavens	Mrs Jen Lacey
Mrs Lisa Robinson-Talboys	Ms Lyndsey Robinson

In attendance: Denise Williams (Office Manager)

**BD3886 MEETING INTRODUCTION**

1. **Apologies for absence.** **INFO**
  - 1.1 Apologies for absence were given on behalf of: Mrs Lynda Ashmore, Ms Sandra Devereux, Dr Gavin Eyres, Mrs Catherine Kaye and Mrs Elaine Robinson
2. **Chairman's opening remarks** **INFO**
  - 2.1 The meeting was opened at 11.27 am and the Chairman welcomed back Mrs Anderson after absence due to ill health.
  - 2.2 He noted it was lengthy agenda.

**BD3887 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

1. **The Minutes of the Board meeting of 3 July 2019**
  - 1.1 These had been circulated to Board members after the Council electoral meeting and corrections and amendments taken
  - 1.2 BD3874.3 HD observed that the wording was inaccurate, despite an amendment, as Board lead and Board liaison were not separate roles. It was agreed there should be a check with Mrs Ashmore to ascertain how she wished her link with YES to be described.
  - 1.2 With this exception the minutes were approved, proposed by SF, seconded by SC with 10 in favour and 1 abstention (VA)  
**Action: publication on the GCCF website (after check as at 1.2)** **JL/RF**
2. **Matters arising from the previous minutes**
  - 2.1 BD3871 Mrs Turner-Russell had responded with appreciation to her letter from the Board, welcoming the thanks for her efforts and support offered.
  - 2.2 BD3874.1.4 An old copy of the GCCF constitution (c1954) listed the same clubs as having 'historical links' as those that were the in the present Bye-Laws. So no club had been omitted accidentally in the transition between the constitution and ByeLaws. It was noted that only breed clubs were alongside the National CC. No area clubs had a mention although minutes from the inaugural and early minutes recorded several had representatives present. It seemed that being given the right of representation in perpetuity was not dependent solely on the club being a founder member. **INFO**  
**JH**  
**Action: to be reported at the October Council meeting**
  - 2.3 BD3883.4 It was queried why no expressions of interest had been invited for the Genetics Committee and other working groups of the Board as had been voted for at the previous meeting.
    - i) The Chairman responded that he had decided this should wait for further discussion as he had particular concern for the sensitivity of the issues discussed by the HR Group. It also had to be clear on exactly which groups needed members at this time. Some (such as the BAC Review Group) had completed their task and as groups holding meetings were expensive for GCCF a clear purpose had to exist. PC remarked that one part of the JTRG's work was completed and that he would like to invite new membership to complete the second task of revising the Judge Appointment Scheme.
    - ii) It was agreed that if committees were not currently active they should be removed from the website,  
**Action: website revision to be carried out** **RF/OM**
    - iii) The remits of the active groups should be circulated to the Board, and the number of members required for each needed to be stated. The expression of interest invitation should also be circulated for final confirmation of the wording. All documentation to be sent to the Office as soon as possible.  
**Action: circulation of documents as above** **Office**
    - iv) An invitation to express interest in GC, HRG and other identified to be sent out by 20 September.
    - v) It would be noted that those not on Council elected committees would need to sign the non-disclosure agreement if appointed.
    - vi) It was confirmed that those currently serving would need to make an application.  
**Actions: expressions of interest to be invited as described** **OM**

**BD3888 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

1. **Unregistered interests declared for the business of this meeting**
  - 1.1 Dr Collin represented the Chester & North Wales CC and would state the case for a refund on behalf of the club for excess card charges when using STAR. **INF**

1. **Management accounts on 2019 business to 31 July - with supporting statistical information**
  - 1.1 The profit and loss accounts to the end of June had been provided by the bookkeeper and sent out with the agenda. Shortly before the meeting the July figures were available and been circulated electronically and brought to the meeting.
  - 1.2 The OM had provided transaction graphs for core business with her report and updated these to the end of August immediately before the meeting. It was noted that there was some continued growth in all core business apart from transfers, that no longer had the same level of incentive from Royal Canin.
  - 1.3 The growth was reflected by increased income for 2019 in comparison with the period for the previous year. However, 2019 expenditure had also risen, although some would be capitalised.
  - 1.4 It was observed the reason CWT spending (£370) was over budget was that the budgetary estimate had not taken the cost of two useful adverts into account at the correct rate. However, as no spending had been itemised for this purpose in 2018 this had been difficult. It would be corrected for the future.
  - 1.5 There was a query on the low figures for room hire for IC/DC meetings. The OM (via contact with the bookkeeper) confirmed that the figures were not the total amounts spent. Most costs were included within the amount stated for 'meeting room hire'.
  - 1.6 It was confirmed that the cost of legal fees for IC/DC (£3260.25) were accurate and did not include general expenses. They were considerably higher than those incurred in the previous year.
  - 1.7 There was extensive discussion on the cost of services to GCCFI, particularly as the only income from it was shown as a negative amount. The OM noted that this figure was the balance on the year to date and the bookkeeper had agreed their should be a better way of showing it.
  - 1.8 Board members agreed that the single figure provided far too little information. It was decided that there should be a p/l sheet on all GCCFI business provided to the September FC meeting. Also that the bookkeeper should be asked to put with it a summary sheet on the processes involved with the income and payment transactions. It would also be useful to have records of the core business presented in the same way as those for GCCF.
  - 1.9 It was concluded that lack of knowledge made making decisions on GCCFI going forward extremely difficult and this needed to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

**Action: requests for summaries to be made to the bookkeeper and these on the agenda for FC** **OM/JL**
2. **Euro bank account update**
  - 2.1 The OM confirmed with the bookkeeper that there was over 6000 euros in the account, and that card payments for GCCFI business were paid into it. However, she had no access to it.
  - 2.2 SH confirmed that she had made no progress via the helpline number as she had been given different information from a different person on each call. She would persist in trying.
  - 2.3 It was suggested that it should be closed and the money transferred, but thought this would attract a currency transfer charge on each payment made and it had been opened to reduce costs in this respect. It needed to be established who was on the mandate so it could be properly accessed and thought probable that it would be those on other Lloyds mandates.

**Action: further investigations to be made** **SH/LP**
3. **New card processing provider update**
  - 3.1 The application had not been accepted by Payzone as it had not been approved by Barclaycard, though no reason for this had been given at the time.
  - 3.2 RF reported that she had since ascertained that one director's date of birth had not been supplied at the time of submission and as this was now available a reassessment had been requested.
  - 3.3 She confirmed she could not recommend the company that had been suggested as an alternative to Payzone as an internet search indicated poor ratings from customers.

**INF**
4. **Investment account update** **INF**
  - 4.1 There was £75,068.55 on deposit at the Aldermore earning 1.83%. That was fixed until March 2020.
  - 4.2 The balance at Cambridge & Counties was £75,592.75. Two amounts of £10,000 had been paid into this from the current account on 13.6.19 and 29.8.19 so that it was now yielding £92 approx in monthly interest.
5. **Staff salary & pension recommendations**
  - 5.1 The Vice-Chairman presented the figures and explained the decisions made at the August HR meeting. There was particular emphasis on keeping the junior staff above the minimum wage level and ensuring a proper differential for staff with additional responsibilities.
  - 5.2 He had enhanced the proposals from HR to take account of pension payment, as this was a statutory requirement, but noted that there could be no finalisation until the minimum wage for April 2020 was known. The purpose in giving approximations at this meeting was so that figures could be taken forward for 2020 budget planning.
  - 5.3 The increases were agreed unanimously.
  - 5.4 A bonus payment for the OM on completion of her probationary period, and a salary increase for additional responsibility for Rebecca Stephens (the successful applicant for a supervisory role) also received unanimous approval.
  - 5.5 It was noted that there would be an approximate cost of £1400 for the employer's contribution if all staff who were opted into the NEST pension scheme chose not to discount the first £6136 of their salary. It was agreed unanimously that this would be applied when it was known that all had done so.

(NB the OM was not present for the whole of this discussion and on her return to the room she confirmed that all current staff who were opted into NEST had agreed).

**Action: the figures to be passed to FC and finalised when the 2020 minimum wage was known** **SF**

6. **Card charge repayments for clubs using STAR**
- 6.1 Chester and North Wales CC had been charged for card use in relation to their show at 4%. Other clubs using STAR had been charged at the same rate.
- 6.2 However, if the fees for card use were 2.4% + 40p per transaction, as was understood, this had resulted in the club being charged over £70 more. This was contrary to what had been agreed by FC in September 2018 (FC389.4.5 costs only to be charged) and was possibly contrary to the consumer law prohibiting profit from card use.
- 6.3 It was thought that 4% had been an estimate by a previous office manager. The bookkeeper did not have any calculation available to show its basis.
- 6.4 Therefore it was agreed that the calculation for each club's card charges should be based on the formula stated without addition. Cheshire & North Wales and other clubs overcharged in this way should be refunded.
- Action: the instruction to be passed to the bookkeeper** **OM**

**BD3890 BUSINESS MATTERS**

1. **The Agria/GCCF relationship**
- 1.1 The Chairman had had a one to one meeting with Agria and reported the company's dissatisfaction with the rate of growth. For some time the level of kitten cover notes issued via GCCF breeder had been flatlining and was now dipping slightly. The level of conversions had remained reasonably level, and GCCF income depended on these, but Agria wanted a far bigger pool of new buyers to target and this depended on breeders supplying the cover notes.
- 1.2 The Board had two concerns to be taken to the next meeting:
- i) It was extremely difficult to tell from the figures provided how many kitten cover notes were being issued so that it could be seen as % of the kittens registered in approximately the same period.
  - ii) Not all links to a breeder page asked if the kitten had a registration number. It was easier to access a page that did not, than one that did. If the breeder did not provide the registration number then it was presumed the cover note provided for that kitten would not counted as via GCCF.
- 1.3 Suggestions were made to improve breeder awareness of the importance of issuing cover notes:
- i) replacing a GCCF advert in every catalogue with one for Agria focussing on kitten cover
  - ii) an article for the email newsletter on the importance of ensuring kittens were insured when sold
  - iii) an estimation of costs for GCCF to provide money-off for future GCCF purchases (at the same rate as Pet Plan)
  - iv) an offer to assist Agria in a survey of breeders to discover reasons why kitten cover weren't used.
- Action: to be discussed at the next meeting with Agria scheduled for 26 September** **JH**
2. **Royal Canin update**
- 2.1 The Chairman had had some discussions with Royal Canin, particularly over support for the Supreme, and observed that they seemed to have little interest in GCCF breeders and exhibitors as targets for promotions.
- 2.2 Other SMs present commented on a decline in support for shows and additional difficulties. A discount voucher could be used for any product at a stall, but not if the stall offered other discounts.
- 2.3 The sponsorship for the Supreme would be at the same level as previous years, but this time no seminar would be provided. **INF**
3. **GCCFI update**
- 3.1 The contract for GCCFI had been sent to the GCCF's solicitor and returned with detailed comments. There was note particularly of its non standard format (in legal terms) and the need for considerable amendment on several points.
- 3.2 Board comments noted the need to include some form of indemnity clause (as agreed by the Board at the July meeting) the care to be taken in respect to GDPR in respect of any data transference and the actions that would be taken if the service came to an end.
- 3.3 It was concluded that Marshalls should be asked to give an estimate for drafting a contract from scratch rather than make complex amendments. This was given unanimous approval.
- 3.4 It was agreed that the Officers and OM should work with the solicitor to put this into effect, and inform GCCFI. The charges would have to be considered, but this could not be done until the agreement on payments received from and to GCCFI were better understood (BD3889.2)
- 3.5 it was thought unlikely that costs would be recovered from GCCFI as they had been receiving the service for some time and had previously agreed the cost of it to them.
- Actions: feedback on receipts and payment following FC discussion  
consultation between the GCCF Officers, OM and Marshalls to progress the contract** **JH/SF/OM**
4. **Byelaw amendment to avoid the sudden introduction of lengthy statements to Council**
- 4.1 It was proposed additional wording should be inserted into ByeLaw 9 (4) to prevent lengthy statements being made to delegates without advance notice.
- 4.2 The final sentence to read:  
This business shall include any proposed substantive amendments (those requiring more than one sentence of addition and/or deletion) to the minutes of the previous Council meeting, or any query on meeting procedure, **or statements and/or queries on previous business that are to be read to the meeting**; for the consideration of all who attended. (Amended 18.02.2004, 21.02.2018)
- 4.3 This was agreed unanimously with the addition of a note to follow the text:  
Insertion of an asterisk after 'meeting'  
**\* Note: these are to be no more than a single A4 sheet in standard print**
- Action: to be on the agenda for the October Council meeting** **JL**
5. **The reduction of Council meetings from three to two**
51. A letter had been received from the Chocolate Point Siamese CS explaining the difficulty in finding a member to be a Council delegate and affording the cost.

5.2 There was now less Council business and a certain amount could be done by electronic circulation.

5.3 It was noted that the time of year of the meetings would probably have to change.

5.4. It was agreed unanimously this should be a discussion item at the October Council meeting.

**Action: to be on the agenda for the October Council meeting**

**JL**

**6. Record of voting**

6.1 It was proposed that initials should be used to record abstentions, and those Board members who were in minority on any matter decided by a vote. The rationale was this would give transparency and prevent bullying via speculation.

6.2 It was stated that if anyone wanted to have their vote recorded then the protocol was that they had the right to do so, and this was standard procedure. However, once a decision was made it had to be owned and supported by the Board as an entity, and as there were times when Board business was contentious those taking a different view initially from the majority should not be identified unless they so wished.

6.3 A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed that abstentions should be recorded as they would indicate who had not voted because of a personal interest in the matter.

6.4 It was agreed to leave further discussion until the November meeting to give possible consequences greater consideration and to allow those not present an opportunity to think about it.

**Action: to be returned to the November agenda**

**JL**

**BD3891 CLUB & BAC MATTERS**

**1. An update on club returns**

1.1 SH reported that there were now only two clubs that had not completed their returns: the West of Scotland CC and the Sphinx CA .

1.2 The Croydon and Southern Counties had been late, but were received by the 31 August deadline and signed off. The Scottish CC had been in by the deadline, but had yet to be finalised. The Wyvern had presented some difficulties because of a change of treasurers, but for this year it was satisfactory.

1.3 It was agreed that all clubs who were late this year would be warned that they would not be given additional time in 2020.

**INF**

**2. An update on BAC returns**

2.1 SH reported that all BAC returns had now been received.

2.2 She planned to produce a spreadsheet for FC detailing monies held, and observed to the Board that between them clubs and BACs held funds of over £1.5 million.

2.3 The Board gave a unanimous vote of thanks to Mrs Heavens for all the work she had done with clubs & BACs. It was many years since such a comprehensive assessment had been made.

**INF**

**3. Request of the Household Pet CC of GB for dispensation re Council representation**

3.1 The Household Pet Club of Great Britain had asked for dispensation to send a delegate to Council with a membership of 43.

3.2 It was agreed that as they had never been eligible for a delegate the ByeLaws did not allow for dispensation. It applied only to clubs who had previously had a delegate and then membership numbers had fallen.

**Action: HHPCGB to be encouraged to aim for a few more members**

**JL**

**4. Request for a name change from the Aztec CC**

4.1 The club had a previous name change rejected as it was considered too close to the name of another club.

4.2 It was unanimously agreed that they could make a change to the Aztec and Ocicat Cat Society.

**Actions: letter to the club, and notification on the October agenda for information**

**JL**

**5. NWCC update**

5.1 A letter had been sent to the North West Cat Club after notification had been sent to the Office that its show was cancelled and the club was winding up. It requested assurance that this had been done in accordance with the club's constitution, and that time should be allowed for a case to be taken to IC/DC by any person with a grievance who believed there was evidence of malpractice.

5.2 Board members asked the Chairman if he had received a reply and for detail of the contents. JH stated there was a reply, but it had mentioned IC/DC action so he had referred it to IC and was not in a position to say more until the case was concluded. He understood the necessary payments had been made and the matter was now with IC as he had spoken to Prof Jarvis, IC Chairman.

5.3 Objections were made to this non-disclosure.

**Action: to be returned to the agenda of the next Board meeting**

**JL**

**6. Advice to clubs to ensure rules do not cause problems if the club has difficulties in sustaining membership**

6.1 It was proposed that recommendations would be sent to all clubs when they received a reminder in early 2020 that the Board required up to date copies of their rules as part of their 2020 returns.

6.2 These followed on from concerns raised by the dissolution of the NWCC, but were not specific to it.

Clubs should consider:

i) that any funds held at closure should go to charities, sponsorship and/or other GCCF clubs, but not individuals.

ii) that there could be ratification of decisions made by post or email if an AGM or SGM was inquorate on the day of the meeting

iii) all memberships should be valid for at least a year to prevent those paying with a show entry becoming disenfranchised if a meeting was called earlier in the year than the previous show.

6.3 This was agreed unanimously

**Action: to be part of the information sent to clubs with the reminder for 2020 returns**

**JL/SH**

7. **Time limit for provisional membership**
- 7.1 SH reported that one club (Federation of Show Managers) had remained at provisional level after three years had passed, and so was continuing to pay at a lower rate.
- 7.2 No one was aware of any rules that addressed this, but there was agreement that a provisional club could not have the same rights as Full Members. Therefore the FofSM could not have an advertisement for membership on the GCCF website. **INF**

**BD3892 IT INFORMATION**

1. **IT update - meeting report**
- 1.1 SC reported that by the meeting on 20 August the third tranche of system fixes and updates was almost complete, although some testing was outstanding.
- 1.2 Caroline T-R had offered to take some holiday to get this finished. He observed that she should not have to do this and proposed that if holiday or weekends were used she should be compensated. The Board agreed.
- 1.3. There were some hold ups as staff members had been used to contacting Leon with system problems as he worked full time and could provide a quick fix. Ian did not, and his time was limited. It had been agreed that Becky would filter referrals as she was capable of dealing with minor problems.
- 1.4 A GDPR problem had been reported as health tests with transfer carried the results and the personal detail of the person requesting the test. It had been agreed to trial redaction software.
- 1.5 Plans were underway for projects in 2020. Board member requested access to the pages showing club details. At present only the secretary's contact details were available. SH needed treasurer information.
- Action: this to be referred to Ian** **SC**
2. **STAR Services update**
- 2.1 SC reported that the user manuals were almost complete. They would then be trialled with SMs that were familiar with STAR. A user agreement was being worked on.
- 2.2 STAR services were priced. It was queried whether printing costs could be detailed. Some services seemed to be very good value for money although it was believed that this was not the case for all.
- 2.3 The bookkeeper would be asked to do this for the next FC meeting. It was understood she was already working on producing a full price list and breakdown of printing income and expenditure.
- Action: printing costs to be on the agenda for the FC September meeting** **OM**
3. **Registration Review Project**
- 3.1 SC reported the first meeting had been held with most of those interested able to be there. The broad outlines of what needed to be done were agreed, with a timescale, though it was thought this could be ambitious. BACs had been contacted and some training had been given
- 3.2 It was observed that the work that needed to be done on the system could be complex and time consuming. The OM needed staff to be working as CSAs and most volunteers were unfamiliar with system analysis. It was suggested it could be asked if there was anyone skilled in this respect who could give time with the 'expressions of interest'. **INF**

**BD3893 PREFIXES FOR APPROVAL**

1. **Prefixes circulated** **INF**
- 1.1 24 prefixes in total had been circulated to the Board in advance since July.

**BD3894 STAFF & OFFICE**

1. **Report from the Office Manager**
- 1.1 The OM had circulated her report in advance and brought the Board up to date with recent changes. There had been a recent resignation and an appointment made to replace that staff member with a new CSA who was currently working out her notice period.
- 1.2. She had been appointed with particular strengths in mind, in particular marketing and events, and with possible responsibility for the Breeder Scheme. Yes and her minuting skills would be trialled.
- 1.3 There could be other changes in staff required, and the OM would make regular assessments to ensure some succession planning.
- 1.4 A fire safety company had visited the Office at the end of August and provided a risk assessment. Smoke detectors were missing in some essential areas and not placed correctly in others. The Board agreed that the work to remedy these defects should be carried out as soon as possible. The estimate provided was £2020.
- 1.5 The OM was also taking steps to ensure plastic containers stored by another company against the outside wall of the GCCF Office were removed. **INF**
2. **HR report & remit**
- 2.1 The minutes of the HR meeting of 13 August had been circulated. There were no questions
- 2.2 The remit would be circulated as at 3887.2 **INF**
3. **Membership of the HR Committee**
- 3.1 This would be discussed at the next Board meeting after expressions of interest had been received.
- 3.2 It was agreed that the OM would be consulted. **INF**

**BD3895 SHOW STRUCTURE & JUDGE TRAINING REVIEW**

1. **Transfer of the Suffolk to Section 5**
- 1.1 The Suffolk BAC had accepted an offer from the Board to transfer from Section 6 Grand Group A to Section 5 Grand Group B.

1.2 After discussion it was agreed that this should be effective in shows after 1 January 2020.

**Actions: a letter to inform the club and notification at the October Council meeting notification to show managers and a website announcement**

**JL  
Office**

1.3 It was agreed the list of Suffolk judges would remain as it currently existed with the status (Full or Pupil) retained. Eligibility to judge the section's higher certificate classes would be according to existing criteria. Judges working in Section 6 who may have judged Suffolks in Grand or Imperial classes would not retain the right to judge them unless so qualified.

**Action: update to be given at the October Council meeting**

**PC**

2. **Update on fast-track implementation**

2.1 PC stated that paperwork had been circulated to judges and BACs. Two BACs had sent acknowledgments, there had not been any queries.

2.2 The reason there were two levels of training was that some judges, now working at Imperial level in the section, could have had no previous experience with the breed at Grand or breed level, such as with Burmese. BACs would easily be able to identify these judges as it was a fixed criterion.

2.3 BACs would be sent the list of judges who were wanting to work with their breed in the middle of the month.

2.4 It was confirmed that electronic voting meant making opinion known to an independent chairman, although it was thought there was a program available that enabled a secret ballot.

2.5 In response to a query it was confirmed that if a list of mentor judges had not been supplied from the BAC by the time of judge's first engagement tuition from any full judge would have to be acceptable.

**Action: update to be given at the October Council meeting**

**PC**

3. **Update on the proposals to revise the Stewarding Scheme**

3.1 Paperwork had been circulated shortly before the Board meeting. HD gave a brief outline, explaining that there would be trainee stewards (learning the basics) and BAC stewards (learning skills necessary to become a Pupil Judge. There were no queries.

3.2 It was agreed it should go forward to the October Council meeting. Changes relating to stewarding had been made to the Judge Appointment Scheme which would need approval.

**Action: to be on the agenda for the October Council meeting**

**JL**

**BD3896**

**SHOW MATTERS**

1. **2019-20 licence applications and changes to report**

1.1 25.4.20 Manchester & District change of venue to Sutton Leisure Centre, Elton Head Road, St Helens WA9 5AU.

1.2 19.10.19 The Kentish CC added Vanessa Marriott as an ASM'

1.3 3.8.2019 Notification of the cancellation of Oriental LH & BP Siamese CC shows.

1.4 25.4.20 Bedford & District CC change of SM to Chris Titterington and with Anna McEntee and Jan Woods ASMs. (Sharing with BO&B, but no amendments requested from that club yet.)

1.5 22.9.19 Notification of the cancellation LH, SLH & AB.

1.6 21.9.19 Notification of the cancellation of the NWCC

1.7 21.9.19 Asian Group Cat Society (was sharing with the North West CC.) Change of venue to Old Christchurch, Waterloo Road, Waterloo, Liverpool, L22 1RE. and additional breeds allowed for this year only.

(KOR & TAI, ABY, SOM LH & SH, OCI & AZT, and MAU – all permitted outcrossed for Asians).

1.8 21.9.19 Asian Group CS: an all-breed Olympian for the HHP Section as an exception for this year, because of the cancellation of the NWCC all breed show

**INF**

2. **2019-20 Licence applications and amendments to consider**

2.1 25.1.20 Change of date from 22.9.19 and venue after cancellation for the LH, SLH & AB. New venue : Garth Hill College, Bull Lane, Bracknell, Berks RG42 2AD.

The change of date was not agreed (2 in favour, 7 against 2 abstentions (SC)).

The reason was the catchment area was considered too close to an existing show (Celtic LH & SLH)

**Action: the club to be informed and asked to put forward an alternative date**

**Office**

2.2 25.1.20 Change of date from 3.8.2019 and venue after cancellation for the Oriental LH and BP Siamese to share with the LH, SLH & AB at Garth Hill College, Bull Lane, Bracknell, Berks RG42 2AD

It was agreed the clubs could hold a show with the LH, SLH & AB, if they found an alternative date, but being allowed a second attempt when an earlier show was abandoned should not be routinely expected.

6 in favour, 5 against.

**Action: the club to be informed and asked to find an alternative date with the LH, SLH & AB**

**Office**

2.3 9.11.19 Seal Point Siamese CC breed show: request for Foreign White & Suffolk.

This was agreed unanimously as the Suffolks would still be in Section 6

**Action: the club to be informed**

**Office**

2.4 5.10.19 Russian Blue BA request for a Chartreux assessment class

This was unanimously not agreed as a breed show the RBBA was entitled to section 4 assessment breeds only, though possibly dispensation would have been considered for the Nebelung.

**Action: the club to be informed**

**Office**

14.12 19 Scottish CC at Ravenscraig Sport & Leisure Facility, Motherwell with SM Heather McRae

2.5 8.2.2020 Southern Counties CC at Woking Leisure Centre, SM Mrs Sue Deane, sharing with Croydon CC.

2.6 8.2.2020 Croydon CC at Woking Leisure Centre, SM Mrs Sue Deane, sharing with Southern Counties CC.

2.7 28.3.20 Bombay & Asian CS at Ware, with SM Sally Tokens, and sharing with Cambridge CC.

These four clubs had their licences approved, though it had to be made clear to the Scottish CC that they would not be holding a back to back show with the West of Scotland this year.

**Action: the clubs to be informed**

**Office**

16.11.19 Changes for the Ulster Siamese and All Breed Club had been notified. There was a venue change from the Aurora Aquatic & Leisure Complex in Bangor to The Titanic Exhibition Centre, 1 Olympic Way, Queen's Road, Belfast BT3 7EP, with Ms V Marriott as and L Robinson as ASM.

**Action: the club to be informed the was approved**

**Office**

3. **2020-2021 show licence applications**
  - 3.1 The list of licence applications for the 2020-21 season had been circulated. It was noted several clubs had not yet applied. Those who had applied by 31 July 2019 had priority for dates.
  - 3.2 It was noted that there were two clubs with major moves in date: the Southern British Shorthair (14.7.20) and Eastern Counties CS (26.9.19) because of venue difficulties. There were no objections
  - 3.3 There were corrections to SMs and a club name to be checked against the master list. The Maidstone & Medway date was corrected to 19.12.20. Other dates could be inaccurate because of the leap year.
  - 3.4 There were two additional applications:
    - 8.8.20 Chester & North Wales CC at Chester, with SM Peter Collin and ASM Gavin Eyres.
    - 29.8.20 West of England & South Wales CS at Thornbury, near Bristol, with SM Pat Harper and ASMs K Ford & H Roper.

All listed were approved unanimously  
**Action: Licences to be issued for the 2020-21 season** **Office**
4. **Signatories for licence applications on paper and online**
  - 4.1 The form was prepared and tabled at the meeting. There were no queries.

**Action: to go to the Office for download (paper applications) and online infill for the 21-22 season** **LR-T**
5. **Website note revision**
  - 5.1 LR-T reported discussions with other SMs and all were agreed that there should be a way of accessing relevant information quickly from detailed online notes She had provided a table of useful suggested quick links to use for this purpose.

**Action: this to be circulated for further discussion** **LR-T**
6. **SM Training forms**
  - 6.1 Work was ongoing **LR-T**
7. **Overseas Judges**
  - 7.1 JH reported that he had discussed this with others and a new form was currently being drafted. **INFO**
8. **Illustrated guide to non-recognised breeds ineligible for the pedigree pet Section**
  - 8.1 This had been put forward by the Veterinary Advisory Committee so that it could be put into packs for for duty vets to assist should rejection be considered in line with Section 5:4c.
  - 8.2 Such rejections were thought unnecessary by some Board members who wished for an opportunity to bring a rule change forward to the next Board meeting.

**Action: the VAC to be informed** **JL**
9. **Letter from Mrs McQuilken on her retirement**
  - 9.1 The contents of the letter were noted and Council would be informed Mrs McQuilken's retirement.

**Action: to be with judge notifications on the agenda for the October Council meeting** **JL**

#### **BD3897           EVENTS**

1. **Any update on the 2019 Supreme**
  2. **WCC 2021 - a team for the event**
- These items were deferred to the November Board agenda due to lack of time.

#### **BD3898           BREED APPLICATIONS**

1. **Suffolk ebony & Suffolk blue - new colours of an existing breed**
  - 1.1 There was some concern that the type would not be maintained if Oriental were used frequently to obtain new colours.
  - 1.2 It was agreed there was insufficient detail with this application as it would be useful to know what advice would be given within the breeding policy.
  - 1.3 It was also thought there should be good reason for the use of ebony and not black.
  - 1.4 It was agreed the BAC should be asked for this additional information

**Action: a letter to the BAC to request more detail** **JL**
2. **The Cymric (Manx LH) name recognition for a new hair length of an existing breed**
  - 2.1 It had been acknowledged previously that there would be LH kittens born from Manx as imports and cats from the domestic population could be carriers.
  - 2.2 It was agreed that to accept longhaired Manx as a new hair length of an existing breed was the most straightforward form of recognition. They would have a show bench place in the existing class.
  - 2.3 The name Cymric (CYM) was approved in principle as it was standard in other registries.
  - 2.4 The Manx SOP and registration policy now needed to include CYM to complete the recognition process and ensure any LH kittens born to Manx did not lose breed status. **JL**

**Action: the BAC to be informed of the name recognition & requested to update the registration policy & SOP**
3. **Snow Toygers - new patterns for an existing breed**
  - 3.1 A rationale for the additional patterns had been supplied by the Toyger Breeder Group and there were no queries on this. They would be with other TOY in a single assessment class.
  - 3.2 The registration policy allowed for the outcrossing to Bengals for a limited period, and the SOP included the new patterns satisfactorily.

**Actions: recognition of the new patterns to be on the agenda for the October Council meeting** **JL**  
**the Breeder Group to be informed**

**BD3899 REGISTRATION & TRANSFER & SOP MATTERS**

1. **Revised registration policy for the Manx**
  - 1.1 It was acknowledged that LH Manx no longer featured, but this was to be addressed.
  - 1.2 The policy changes were to update the GEMS codes and introduce exhibition with critique classes to allow foundation Manx of good quality to process from the reference register to the supplementary so they and their progeny would be eligible for competition classes.
  - 1.3 This was approved by the Board with one abstention (HD)
2. **Minor amendments to the Burmese registration policy**
  - 2.1 The changes were to update to GEMS codes and give clarification to an instruction on DNA testing.
  - 2.2 There were no queries and the Board approved this unanimously.
3. **Revised registration policies & advice sought from the Ocicat & Aztec BAC**

This item was deferred to the November Board agenda due to lack of time.
4. **Revised SOP for the BSH van pattern bicolour**
  - 4.1 The purpose of the revision was to ease the pattern definitions to allow more van pattern bicolours a show bench place.
  - 4.2 It was noted that the size of coloured patches permitted was somewhat open to interpretation by judges, but as comment rather than objection.
  - 4.3 There was approval by the Board with two abstentions (HD, JL)
5. **Amendments to the rule relating to transfer documentation required (Section 1 10bi)**
  - 5.1 It had been noted from website investigations relating to Breeder Scheme applications that some breeders withheld paperwork until evidence of neutering was supplied.
  - 5.2 It was considered this was an outdated practice as breeders could use the non-active register to ensure progeny were not registered, or neuter in advance of the kitten leaving for new home.
  - 5.3 It was also unhelpful to GGCF as transfers and contact with new owner were made less likely, or paperwork had to be chased if the breeder 'forgot' or 'lost' it after some weeks. It was better for all concerned if all documentation was supplied with the kitten.
  - 5.4 The rewording of the rule was unanimously agreed.

**Action: to be on the agenda for the October Council meeting** **JL**

**BD3900 DISCIPLINARY**

1. **Revision of the Byelaw 11 (10) on the Council Committee of Judges**
2. **Letter from DC re conflict between the rules and Code of Ethics**

These items were deferred to the November Board agenda due to lack of time.

**BD3901 WELFARE**

1. **An update from the Feline & Canine Sector Group & associated committees**

This item was deferred to the November Board agenda due to lack of time.
2. **Information on TRACES**
  - 2.1 It was agreed information on TRACES re importing should be on the GCCF website. **RF**
3. **Breeder Scheme application revisions**

This item was deferred to the November Board agenda due to lack of time.

**BD3902 ANY OTHER BUSINESS None taken**

The meeting finished at 5.05pm

NEXT MEETING: **WEDNESDAY**, 06 November 2019, at 11.00 for 11.15am, at The Kennel Club, Clarges Street, Piccadilly, London.