

Election Statement

My name is Steven Abrahams and I am asking for your vote for the membership of the Investigation Committee.

Since around 2011, I have been an exhibitor of BSH Black/Silver Classic Tabby neuters. I realised quite quickly that I would like to be involved in breeding these beautiful cats but knew that the timing had to be right and more so, that I would need to learn about breeding cats in general, the standard of points and specific traits and issues surrounding the BSH. With the help of two wonderful mentors, my first litter arrived in September 2017 of which one was lucky enough to win Best of Variety kitten at one of its 1st shows.

In my work life, I am a Contract Manager for XPO Logistics, a global distribution company and have spent 10 years as a Transport Manager for DHL. I have been heavily involved in the employment investigation & disciplinary process for many years taking decisions to issue sanctions ranging from warnings to dismissal. It is essential for large organisations with rules and procedures in place to have an effective, fair and transparent investigation and disciplinary process. It is, however, important to remember that the process should be seen as educational and not about punishing misdemeanour. We are all restricted in our lives by boundaries and from time to time individuals can make mistakes causing them to stray out of these boundaries. The investigation and disciplinary process is about teaching that non-adherence of rules or procedures is not acceptable and should be used as a tool to manage people back to acceptable practice. After a comprehensive investigation, a fair decision should be taken reflecting the nature and severity of the issue and a full explanation of how the decision was reached and what is required of the individual going forward.

I am extremely passionate about breeding these fabulous animals. I am also extremely passionate in my belief that it is done ethically, correctly and with animal welfare and breed enhancement at the forefront of my efforts. Should I be successful in my quest to be elected to the Investigation Committee, you have my assurance that I will uphold the rules of the GCCF, and I will do so in a fair and transparent manner. I will draw on the skills I have developed over many years of dealing with investigations and disciplinary issues and will ensure that any investigations are conducted in a professional and fair manner to assist the Disciplinary Committee in coming to a decision that is procedurally, ethically and morally correct.

Finally, I believe there are two types of rule breakers – those who are unfamiliar or have failed to educate themselves and those that simply do not care. I believe it is our duty through the Investigation and Disciplinary Committees to establish the difference and help those that can be helped and deal appropriately with those that cannot. With your vote, I will strive to ensure we follow the correct path when dealing with these issues.

Thank you.

Steven Abrahams

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