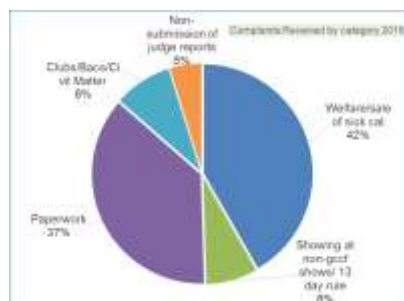


Investigation Committee Report 2019

There were **103** complaints received in the GCCF Office in 2019 which is 20% **down** on last year. Although it is apparently the lowest figure for 9 years, there were changes in the GCCF office procedures during the year which may have resulted in an under-count. The complaints have been broken down into 6 main categories and are shown below. Four cases were referred to the Disciplinary Committee (DC). Many cases are dealt with by way of fixed penalty and there were 23 complaints handled this way, an increase of 6 on last year, and a total of 33 fixed penalties were issued.



Welfare/Sale of sick cat (42%) – this is **down by 9%** on last year and includes any complaint where the welfare of a cat/s or kitten is in question. These cases **increasingly** involve the sale of kittens at less than 13 weeks without vaccinations and cases where kittens have died or have been put to sleep to prevent further suffering. FIP cases are fewer than in previous years – a good sign.

Paperwork (37%) – a significant **increase of 11%** on last year and the highest recorded in 9 years. These are cases where the necessary paperwork has not been provided, usually at the time of sale e.g. pedigrees, mating certificates, registration document. Many involve considerable amounts of correspondence between the Office, Complainant and Defendant over many months before the issue is finally resolved or the case taken forward.

Breach of Show Rules - general (0%) – there were none this year!!

Showing at non-GCCF show/breach of 13 day rule (8%) – There were 8 cases

Clubs & BAC/Civil Matter (8%) – this is the same as last year. It indicates cases related to an affiliated club or BAC but includes cases which cannot be dealt with by the GCCF disciplinary procedure such as contractual matters which continue to be prominent.

Non-submission of judge reports (5%) – indicates cases when a show report has not been received by the GCCF Web master within the specified time. This is the lowest figure for 3 years. Most reports are submitted on time which is good news for exhibitors- if only we had a show to go to!

Summary and comparison with previous years

The figures reflect the significant amount of work done by the Secretary, IC & DC. We are now starting to see trends developing. The number of welfare cases remains of concern, and many complainants now take civil action e.g. Small Claims Court. Complaints involving clubs and BACS is again low which is great! The nature of complaints is starting to change, and we are seeing increasingly serious cases involving members of the public purchasing sick, unvaccinated very young kittens. FIP cases in kittens tend to be reported less (they are ill and die from other causes) but we do hear increasingly about kittens testing positive for a range of viruses. Welfare cases are still a key issue.

Figure 2	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Welfare/Sale of sick cat	84	83	77	65	55	55	60	64	43
Breach of Show Rules	12	16	11	11	6	9	10	8	0
Showing at non-GCCF Show/13 day rule	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	2	8
Paperwork	80	68	84	54	37	37	36	33	38
Clubs/BAC/Civil Matter	24	35	24	25	47	7	31	10	9
Non Submission of Judge Reports	15	5	2	0	2	5	10	11	5
Total in year	215	207	198	156	152	113	147	128	103