

# THE GCCF REGISTRATION POLICY FOR BENGAL CATS (Revised 2017)

## GEMS CODE – BEN (Breed Number 76)

**1. FULL REGISTER** Bengals with Championship status which have in their pedigrees within three generations only Bengals excluding Blue, Blue Snow, Blue Silver and Blue Silver Snow Bengals shall be registered on the Full Register, with the exception of those cats whose pedigrees include, within three generations, a Bengal with Preliminary status.

**2. SUPPLEMENTARY REGISTER** Bengals with Championship status which have in their pedigrees within three generations only Bengals including Blue, Blue Snow, Blue Silver and Blue Silver Snow Bengals, F1 of Bengal type, F2 of Bengal type, F3 of Bengal type, Bengal Variants, Bengal Silver Variants, Bengal Abyssinian type, Bengal Burmese type or Bengal American Shorthair type shall be registered on the Supplementary Register.

### 3. REFERENCE REGISTER – 1

3.1 The progeny of Asian Leopard Cats mated to Bengals are known as F1 of Bengal type and, from 1st June 2002, no further F1s shall be registered by the GCCF. The progeny of F1 of Bengal type mated to Bengals shall be registered on the Reference Register as F2 of Bengal type and, from 1st June 2006, no further F2s shall be registered by the GCCF.

The progeny of F2 of Bengal type mated to Bengals shall be registered on the Reference Register as F3 of Bengal type and, from 1st June 2008, no further F3s shall be registered by the GCCF.

The progeny of F3 of Bengal type mated to Bengals shall be registered on the Supplementary or Reference Register as appropriate.

3.2 Bengals of unrecognised colours (i.e. Cinnamon and Cinnamon Snow Bengals, Fawn and Fawn Snow Bengals and the corresponding Silver varieties) which have in their pedigrees, within three generations, only Bengals, F1 of Bengal type, F2 of Bengal type, F3 of Bengal type, Bengal Variants, Bengal Silver Variants, Bengal Abyssinian type, Bengal Burmese type or Bengal American Shorthair type shall be registered on the Reference Register but shall be eligible supplementary register in the event of Preliminary recognition. The Blue, Blue Snow, Blue Silver and Blue Silver Snow

The Brown (Black), Snow, Black Silver, Silver Snow, Blue, Blue Snow, Blue Silver and Blue Silver Snow Bengal progeny of Bengals of unrecognised colours as defined above which have in their pedigrees within three generations only Bengals, F1 of Bengal type, F2 of Bengal type, F3 of Bengal type, Bengal Variants, Bengal Silver Variants, Bengal Abyssinian type, Bengal Burmese type, Bengal American Shorthair type or Bengals of unrecognised colours as defined above shall be registered on the Reference Register but shall be eligible to be considered as registered on the Supplementary in the event of Preliminary recognition of their colour.

3.3 The first generation shall be overstamped “Carries the dilution gene” and/or “Carries the cinnamon gene” and subsequent generations shall be overstamped “May carry the dilution gene” and/or “May carry the cinnamon gene”.

3.4 Variants: Only Bengal-Abyssinian Variants (using breed number 23 excluding Silvers, Reds, Creams and Torties) and Bengal-Burmese Variants (using breed number 27 excluding Reds, Creams and Torties) registered with the GCCF before 25th June 1997 and their suitable progeny are acceptable in Bengal pedigrees.

3.5 Silver Variants: Only Bengal Silver Variants (using Classic Silver Tabby American Shorthairs) registered with the GCCF before 1st June 2009 and their suitable progeny are acceptable in Bengal pedigrees.

3.6 The Brown (Black), Snow, Black Silver and Silver Snow Bengal first generation progeny from Blue Bengal parent(s) shall be over stamped "Carries the dilution gene". Subsequent generations shall be over stamped "May carry the dilution gene". The over stamping "May carry the dilution gene" will be removed if a DNA test report showing that a cat does not carry the dilution gene and its microchip number is submitted. Alternatively, this over stamping will be removed if suitable test mating results are submitted.

#### **4. REFERENCE REGISTER – II**

4.1 Non-agouti progeny of Bengals shall be registered on the Reference Register as no recognised breed and are not acceptable in the pedigrees of Bengals.

4.2 Longhaired progeny of Bengals shall be registered on the Reference Register as no recognised breed and are not acceptable in the pedigrees of Bengals. Any Bengal which produces longhaired progeny shall be over stamped "Carries the long hair gene". Their shorthaired progeny and subsequent generations shall be over stamped "May carry the long hair gene".

4.3 The progeny of Bengals mated to any breeds other than Bengals shall be registered on the Reference Register with no progression as no recognised breed and are not acceptable in the pedigrees of Bengals with the exception of those cats defined in 3.3 and 3.4 and Note (iv), Note (v), Note (vi) and Note (vii). Subsequent generations shall also be registered on the Reference Register with no progression as no recognised breed and are not acceptable in the pedigrees of Bengals.

4.4 Any cats of Bengal appearance which do not conform to this Registration Policy shall be registered on the Reference Register with no progression as no recognised breed and are not acceptable in the pedigrees of Bengals.

In addition to the above all Bengal cats will also be registered on the active, or genetic register according to their test results for Bengal Progressive Retinal Atrophy and Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency on the non-active register as detailed below.

### **BENGAL PROGRESSIVE RETINAL ATROPHY (PRA B) AND PYRUVATE KINASE DEFICIENCY (PK Def ) TESTING SCHEME**

#### **A. ACTIVE**

#### **REGISTER**

All Bengals registered with the GCCF from (June 2016) may be registered on the Active Register, at the breeder's request, only if:

1. They themselves have been genetically tested as normal (N/N\*) for both PRA and PK def.

or

2. Both parents have been tested normal (N/N) as in A1

or

3. They are from parents deemed normal (N/N) because of the results from the testing (as in A1) of cats on every pedigree line in previous generations. Pedigree line in this case refers to both parents or 4 grandparents, 8 great-grandparents, 16 great-great-grandparents and so on, or any combination of the same which is inclusive of both the sire's and dam's ancestors.

NB Condition A3 applies only when the ancestors are recorded on the GCCF computer. Imports onto the register must comply with either A1 or A2. ie the submission of the test certificate(s) is required with the application for registration, or the import will be registered on the Genetic Register.

## **B. GENETIC REGISTER**

Bengals, which have been genetically tested as carriers of PRA B (N/PRA B\*) and/or PK def(N/PK Def\*) shall be registered on the Genetic Register, or on the Non-Active Register if so requested by the breeder.

Bengals, which are not eligible for registration on the Active Register, shall be registered on the Genetic Register, or the Non-Active Register if so requested by the breeder.

Offspring of cats registered on the Genetic Register may only be registered on the Active Register if they have themselves been genetically tested as normal (N/N) for PRA B and PK Def.

All other offspring of cats registered on the Genetic Register shall be registered on the Genetic Register, or on the Non-Active Register if so requested by the breeder.

Cats must be micro chipped for identification purposes for the test certificate for that cat to be valid for the Active Register. The certificate must have been issued by the approved laboratory\*\* which performed the test.

### **\*Explanation of Genetic Status**

Normal – N/N. The cat has tested normal and does not possess an abnormal gene for the disease in question and will not show any clinical signs of that disease.

Carrier – N/PRA B The cat carries one copy of the abnormal gene for PRA B. The cat will have normal vision.

Carrier – N/PK Def The cat possesses one copy of the abnormal gene for PK Def but will not show any signs of the disease.

Affected – PRA B/PRA B. The cat possesses two copies of the abnormal gene for PRA B and is likely to have impaired vision.

Affected – PK Def/PK Def The cat possess two copies of the abnormal gene for PK Def and is at risk of developing anaemia.

\*\*Approved laboratories for DNA testing for PRA B and PK Def are:

1. Langford Veterinary Services, Langford House, Langford, Bristol, BS40 5DU
2. Veterinary Genetics Laboratory, University of California, Davis  
Old Davis Road, Davis, CA 95616

## NOTES:

(i) Historically, the progeny of Asian Leopard Cats mated to other breeds such as American Shorthairs and Egyptian Maus were also known as F1 of Bengal type.

(ii) The progeny of Asian Leopard Cats mated to any breeds other than Bengals shall not be registered.

(iii) Bengal Variants were registered on the Reference Register either as Bengal Abyssinian Cross or Bengal Burmese Cross. The second and third generations are registered on the Reference Register as Spotted or Marbled Bengal Abyssinian type and Spotted or Marbled Bengal Burmese type.

(iv) Bengal Silver Variants shall be registered on the Reference Register as Spotted or Marbled Bengal American Shorthair Cross. The second and third generations shall be registered on the Reference Register as Spotted or Marbled Bengal American Shorthair type.

(v) Cats already registered with the GCCF as Bengals which have in their pedigrees Abyssinians, Burmese, Egyptian Maus, Ocicats, American Shorthairs or Asian Leopard Cats shall continue to be recognised as Bengals, as shall their suitable progeny.

(vi) Imported Bengals which have in their pedigrees, within three generations, only Bengals, F1 of Bengal type born before 1st June 2002, F2 of Bengal type born before 1st June 2006, F3 of Bengal type born before 1st June 2008, Bengal Egyptian Mau crosses born before 1st June 2002 and their suitable progeny, Bengal American Shorthair crosses born before 1st June 2009 and their suitable progeny and Asian Leopard Cats shall be registered as Bengals on the appropriate Register.

(vii) If amendments to this Registration Policy are approved by Council such that a cat that was previously registered as no recognised breed would have been registered as a Bengal if the amended Registration Policy had been in force at the time of registration, the registered owner of that cat may apply to the GCCF Office for a change in the cat's description and breed number to that of a Bengal of the cat's colour and pattern.

(viii) This Registration Policy will be effective from the Council meeting of **June 2017**