

Amendments to GCCF RULES Section 5:3 Vaccinations as proposed by the Veterinary Advisory Committee

It is requested that Council accepts changes to this rule as an emergency agenda item so that it can include temporary measures to take account of current vaccine shortages and manufacturers' recommendations regarding the timing of boosters in respect of cats who have completed their primary course of vaccinations.

It has been necessary to reword in other parts of the rule to clarify for show entry purposes the circumstances in which these concessions apply. They relate only to booster vaccinations, so the rules relating to kittens and cats that have not completed their primary vaccination course have had wording clarified but have not been changed.

A) All cats exhibited at shows held under GCCF rules must have a current certificate of vaccination against Feline Calicivirus (FCV), Feline Herpes Virus (FHV) and Feline Panleukopenia* (FPV). (*Previously termed feline Infectious Enteritis)

- i. The primary course (first set of **3 vaccinations**) in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendation, must have been completed more than seven days before the show.

~~(Delete Note 1)~~ The certificate must be clearly identifiable to the cat in question. The certificate must show the cat's full GCCF registered name, sex, breed and date of birth and correct owner details.

~~(Delete Note 2)~~ **NOTE 1: PRIMARY COURSE**

THE PRIMARY COURSE IS DEFINED AS THE FIRST TWO DOSES OF VACCINE ADMINISTERED 3-4 WEEKS APART PLUS A THIRD DOSE (1st ADULT VACCINATION) GIVEN 12 MONTHS LATER.

Kittens and previously unvaccinated cats may be shown after the first two doses of the primary course provided the second dose was given more than 7 days before the show.

Manufacturers recommend that the third dose of the primary course (**1st Adult Vaccination**) is given ~~approximately by~~ 12 months after the 2nd kitten vaccination. This dose must have been given more than 7 days before the show.

(Some vaccine guidelines now recommend a 3rd dose is given to kittens at 16 weeks but this is not compulsory for kittens attending GCCF shows.)

- a) ~~(Delete Note 3)~~ Kittens or cats who have received two doses of a primary course with an interval of more than 6 weeks between them will be rejected under Section A.
- b) ~~(Delete Note 3)~~ Adult cats who have received **only the two kitten doses** with the 2nd kitten vaccination given more than 12 months and 7 days before the show will be rejected under Section A.
- c) ~~(Delete Note 3)~~ Adult cats who have received **three doses** of a primary course with an interval of 12-15 months between the 2nd kitten vaccination and the 1st Adult Vaccination **will not be rejected.**
- d) ~~(Delete Note 4)~~ Adult cats who have received **three doses** of a primary course with an interval of more than 15 months between the 2nd kitten vaccination and the 1st Adult Vaccination will be rejected under Section A.

- ii Booster vaccinations against FCV, FHV and FPV must be given at the manufacturers' recommended intervals. Where a variable interval of 1-3 years for FCV and FHV is

recommended the minimum interval applies. i.e all cats attending shows MUST receive annual booster against FCV and FHV.

For Boosters only note: Exhibitors are advised to leave at least a week between a booster vaccination and show attendance to allow the vaccine to take effect and in case of any adverse reaction. (Amended 05.10.2016.)

~~(Delete Note 5)~~

Note 2: BOOSTER VACCINATIONS IN ADULT CATS WHO HAVE COMPLETED A 3 DOSE PRIMARY COURSE

Every **adult** cat attending a GCCF show must have had a minimum of a Flu (FCV,FHV) booster in the 12 months and 7 days preceding the show. Cats whose last booster was given more than 12 months and 7 days before the show will be rejected under Section A. Once a cat has completed the 3 doses of the primary course a single booster is deemed adequate to restore full immunity regardless of the interval from the previous vaccination. **Therefore in cats who have received the 3 dose primary course vets are instructed to only check the latest booster entry for both Flu (FCV,FHV) and FPV and other booster entries do not need to be checked.** A booster interval of 3 years for FPV only is acceptable with appropriately licensed vaccines where the flu(FCV,FHV) components can be given separately.

AMENDMENTS TO NOTE 2 THAT GIVE A TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF THE BOOSTER VACCINATION INTERVAL IN ADULT CATS WHO HAVE COMPLETED A 3 DOSE PRIMARY COURSE

VALID FROM 06/11/2021 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO TEMPORARY SHORTAGE OF FELINE VACCINES

Every **adult** cat attending a GCCF show must have had a minimum of a Flu (FCV,FHV) booster in the **15 months** and 7 days preceding the show. Cats whose last booster was given more than **15 months** and 7 days before the show will be rejected under Section A.

NB: The existing rules in relation to the 3 dose primary course and FPV vaccination in adult cats will still apply.

(There are no changes to Sections B & C of this rule with the exception of the renumbering of subsequent notes to maintain a logical sequence)