

GOVERNING COUNCIL OF CAT FANCY
GUIDE TO CHECKING VACCINATION CERTIFICATES AT CAT SHOWS
APPENDIX 2

Vaccination Rule: Section 5/3

(For reference by all personnel checking vaccination certificates at shows.)

3. Vaccinations

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.

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. 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.

Manufacturers recommend that the third dose of the primary course (1st Adult Vaccination) is given by 12 months after the first two doses. 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) Kittens or cats who have two doses of a primary course with an interval of more than 6 weeks between them will be rejected under section A.

b) Adult cats who have received only the two kitten doses with the 2nd kitten vaccination more than 12 months and 7 days before the show will be rejected under Section A.

c) Adult cats who have received three doses of a primary course with an interval of 12-15 months between the 2nd kitten and the 1st Adult Vaccination will not be rejected.

d) 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 first Adult Vaccination will be rejected under Section A and need to restart the primary course to be in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.

ii Booster vaccinations against FCV, FHV and FPV must be given at the manufacturer's 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.)

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.

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 check only 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 components (FCV, FHV) can be given separately.

AMENDMENTS TO NOTE 2 THAT GIVES 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.

- B) The certificate must have been issued by a veterinary practice/hospital and all the vaccination entries signed by a Veterinary Surgeon or by a listed Veterinary Nurse under the direction of a Veterinary Surgeon.

Note 3: Exhibitors are advised to check that the vet or listed veterinary nurse has signed and correctly dated each entry. The entry should include a sticker showing the brand, batch number and expiry date of the vaccine. A hand written entry is acceptable but must include all the details from the original sticker.

- C) Cats unaccompanied by a vaccination certificate will also be rejected under Section A **unless the exhibitor undertakes to provide proof of vaccination, valid for that show**, by sending the certificate to the GCCF Office within seven days of the show. Failure to do so will lead to disqualification from the show and the cat's name will be placed on the rejection list until proof of vaccination is received in the Office.

Note 4: Electronic (scanned or photographed) copies are now accepted by the GCCF office but copies must show the cat/owner details and those of the veterinary practice issuing the certificate as well as the signed vaccination entries.

Note 5: REPLACEMENT CERTIFICATES When a certificate is lost the owner must get a replacement from their veterinary surgeon clearly labelled as such, from their veterinary surgeon which must comply with the GCCF rules and be clearly labelled as a replacement. (Notes added 19.6.19)

2nd February 2022

Updated 17 May 2022