The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy

Certificate of Entirety

GCCF Rules require that all male cats used at stud must have a Certificate of Entirety deposited with the GCCF prior to the registration of any kittens.

The reasons for this are as follows:

1. To ensure that only males with normal external genitalia (Testes) are used for breeding as any abnormality may mean that the male does not have normal fertility and also that the abnormality may be heritable i.e. genetically transmissible to any descendents he may sire.

2. The single most common abnormality of the male external genitalia is Monorchidism. Monorchid cats have only one testis descended in the scrotum. Unfortunately monorchid cats can be fertile and in many cases the abnormality is heritable. In addition, surgery to neuter monorchid cats often requires a laparotomy to remove the retained testis from the abdomen. This is a more complicated and longer procedure than routine neutering and carries a lot more risk to the cat/kitten and considerable additional expense to the owner.

Hence the need for all active registered males to be in possession of an entirety certificate before any kittens are registered. In fact to avoid heartache and disappointment the GCCF strongly advises that the external genitalia of all kittens sold for breeding are checked by the breeder's vet prior to sale to ensure that they are normal and of the correct sex.

This rule is necessary for protection of the health of every breed as well as that of the individual cat.

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