



# SOUTHERN AFRICA CAT COUNCIL

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## SACC e News

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### Southern Africa Cat Council

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### SACC Management Team

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Crawley

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Manager: Jan van Rooyen

Secretary: Shirley Addison

SACC Central Office Manager &  
Registrar: Johan van Rooyen

### The Governing Council Delegates:

Colin Bubb (ABCC)

Krystle Callaghan (TBCC)

Elizabeth van Reenen (CFC)

Rita Wiseman (EPCC)

Wendy Welham (NCFSCC)

Sheila Hansen (PCS)

Jan van Rooyen (RCC)

Beryl Webber (TCS)

Jane Slabbert (WPCC)

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### Message from Vice President

I cannot believe that COTY is almost upon us once again- there are only a few shows left, so I'm sure that many of you are starting to get anxious about whether you will qualify or not. Please do not allow anxiousness to become unpleasant – all exhibitors would love to qualify but there are limited "places" to fill, so even if your cat doesn't make it- be excited and happy for the owners whose cats do qualify. Rand Cat Club will be hosting this year's COTY which is being generously sponsored by Royal Canin.

The World Cat Congress was held in Miami, Florida, USA in March and the SACC Treasurer, Jan van Rooyen, attended as SACC Delegate. The report from this congress will appear in the next newsletter.

SACC will once again be in charge of the Cat Hall at WODAC this year. Please contact the SACC Office if you are able to help in any way at WODAC- this is a busy weekend for Jan and his Show Team and all assistance will be welcomed with open arms. Unfortunately shows don't get put together by themselves- they take a lot of hard work, time and effort by a few dedicated people; perhaps everyone should remember this when "the undercurrent grumbling" begins at shows or on social network sites.

Good Luck for COTY.

Ngaio.

## **RULES TO EXHIBIT BY:**

### **Good Sportsmanship**

*Originally written by Jay Lehman.*

- 1: Learn and abide by the spirit and words of the show rules and the registry.
- 2: Avoid arguments with clerks, judges, breed council secretaries, other breeders and your fellow exhibitors. Cultivate a thick skin, as others may misunderstand you and may unintentionally say or do unkind things that will hurt. Be the bigger person and don't carry grudges, if at all possible.
- 3: Share in the responsibilities of the show. Many willing hands make the show less work and more pleasant for everyone.
- 4: Encourage and support fellow exhibitors. Be sincerely happy for other breeders' and/or exhibitors' successes.
- 5: Always exhibit and breed fairly, with absolute honesty and integrity in everything you do or say, no matter what others may do or have done "to" you.
- 6: Follow the directions of the clerk and respect the judges and show officials always.
- 7: Respect and praise other exhibitors' efforts and cats (there is always something nice to say about another's cat or grooming efforts.
- 8: Return good for unkindness, cheerfulness in the face of adversity, and act with honesty and integrity in everything you do or say. It will not go unnoticed by the good people, and may turn opinions in your favour over time.
- 9: End each ring and the show smoothly, and accept the results graciously, especially if it did not go the way you had hoped.
- 10: Think before you speak (or type). Apologize sincerely if you have acted unkindly to any person. Likewise, be open to favourably reconsider your opinion of others and to forgive their unkindness to you if they sincerely apologize to you and treat you with

respect thereafter. Everyone messes up sometimes in life, so allow others to pick up the pieces and go on to being a better breeder, exhibitor and person in the future.

- 11: Be a good ambassador for your breed and your registry at all times. Take the time and patience to answer questions from visitors and other exhibitors.
- 12: Be a good mentor to others always. Help and enable others to fulfil their dreams and inspire them to reach their highest peak of personal integrity and success.
- 13: Notice enough to offer friendship and help to new faces at shows when needed. Just having someone to help them through a difficult day when grooming isn't all it could be, or when the expensive cat that they bought turns out to be less than the promised show quality cat, could make all the difference in retaining a promising new exhibitor. New exhibitors CAN be taught better grooming and can be guided to find a better cat to show, when gentle and sympathetic assistance is sincerely offered.
- 14: Remember always that your breed is judged by your actions as the breed's representative at every show or with every contact you receive from the public and other exhibitors, so behave appropriately and as graciously as you can at all times.

### **IN GENERAL**

- √ Good sportsmanship involves respect for fellow exhibitors and breeders.
- √ A good sportsman never blames or criticises another for mistakes or poor performance.
- √ A good sportsman never taunts or teases competition by gloating.
- √ A good sportsman always fully follows the rules in spirit and in written words, and always congratulates others after a ring or show.
- √ Good sportsmanship means respect for each other, the clerks, the judges and the spectators. A good

sportsman never argues with the judgement, calls or decisions of a judge or show committee.

- √ A good sportsman is gracious in victory or defeat.
- √ Good sportsmanship is observed both in and out of the show hall.
- √ Good sportsmanship means being sensitive to others and aware of how good or bad they are doing.
- √ a good sportsman is in this sport for the love and improvement of their breed first, and not just the wins. Remember to let your breed win and not just your cat.

### **HAVING FUN IN THE SHOW HALL**

#### **- Some Do's and Don't's.**

- DO** enjoy the beauty and grace of the cats that the breeders and owners have on exhibit.
  - DON'T** knock that person's cat- even if it isn't your taste (let the judges sort it out).
  - DO** enjoy each other's company and have a good time.
  - DON'T** spread unkind rumours or mean gossip about each other (or their cats)- even, or especially, if you don't like them.
  - DO** give good advice and mentor those who ask for or need your help.
  - DON'T** hold back advice for fear of losing to their cat.
  - DO** exhibit your cat in the best possible condition you can.
  - DON'T** be afraid to ask other's thoughts to help you do this.
  - DO** cheer for all the cats which make a final.
  - DON'T** cheer the cats which beat yours- or their owners.
  - DO** seek out the fun and friendship of each other at the shows.
  - DON'T** let the competition ruin that fun and friendship, EVER.
- In the end- remember that next year, most will not remember last year's

winners, and those that showed last year aren't even following this year's cats. The friends you make on your wonderful journey with your beloved

## **TTOUCH- An effective Holistic Tool to Alleviate Pain and Stress.**

*By Doreen.*

**The Tellington TTOUCH** is a truly unique method of working with all animal species.

Developed by Linda Tellington Jones, the Tellington TTouch uses simple body movements (TTouches) to improve circulation and co-ordination and to enhance general health. Where appropriate, ground exercises may be used in combination with the TTouches to restore function in both chronic and acute conditions.

**TTOUCH** can also reduce the risk of injury and ill health. It helps the animal move into a more balanced emotional, mental and physical state and thus can aid recovery and longevity.

**TTOUCH** helps to reduce tension and promotes an overall sense of well-being and calm. It blends well with many other modalities and has been used in conjunction with veterinary care to help animals overcome many physical problems associated with illness and old age such as hip dysplasia, spondylosis, cruciate ligament damage, digestive disturbances, arthritis, paralysis, epilepsy and general poor health. It has proved to be a vital tool in postoperative care and is used widely around the world by animal trainers, chartered physiotherapists, animal owners, care-givers and veterinarians.

**Tom Beckett**, a veterinarian based in the US describes the Tellington TTouch in the following way: When pain or impaired nerve or muscle function disable a part of the body, TTOUCH induces the animal to activate any available alternate neuromuscular pathways to restore function. The awareness it brings often relieves associated pain. Injuries often leave a holding pattern of pain and impaired function in the injured area. This pattern persists

cat(s) are what truly matter most- not any transitory awards we may or may not receive at the end of a show season.

below awareness long after healing is complete, blocks aware use of that body part and thereby creates stress on distant areas, which must overwork to compensate. Such chronic distress effects general health, 'mood' and behaviour.

**TTOUCH** is used to bring these patterns to awareness, and (ground) exercises, which guide the organisation of more healthful, balanced movement.

**The Tellington TTOUCH** enables you to help your pet, and allows you to become involved in the healing process in a way that is as unique as the bond between you and the animal in your care. It helps to create a deeper connection with your pet and gives you a greater awareness and understanding of your animal companion.

**It is not necessary** to adopt the whole philosophy of the Tellington TTouch to make a difference to your pet. By learning some of the TTouches you can help your pet overcome a variety of problems, and as many unwanted behavioural issues arise from discomfort, stress, pain and ill health, harmony can be restored to the animal on all levels.

**The Tellington TTOUCH** supports both the animal and the care-giver. It is a holistic approach to animal management and can literally save lives through the simple and highly effective techniques that owners and care-givers can learn without prior knowledge of anatomy or alternative therapies.

### **Touch is non-invasive.**

It is not just for the animal presenting symptoms of poor health. By incorporating TTouch into our daily lives we can help minimise the debilitating effects of stress and work towards keeping our pets free from injury and disease. As TTouch can

*Reproduced with kind permission of WPCC.*

easily be used in conjunction with other modalities such as acupuncture, **it is a useful tool for almost everyone!**

*Special thanks to PCS for this article.*



In an attempt to warn the general public about the dangers of "being scammed" when looking for a Pedigree Cat/Kitten- a new website has come into being. Special thanks to Krystle Callaghan and Solly Klahr for setting up and maintaining the webpage.

It is simple and straight forward and has links to all the South African Fancies' Websites, and also to their Registrars.

**Visit: [www.kittensandcats.co.za](http://www.kittensandcats.co.za)**

The onus is on all breeders and cat lovers to spread the word about scammers- please protect yourselves as well as those unfortunate people who have lost money in the attempt to purchase a slightly "cheaper" kitten as advertised in the many "free" General Publications which are available.

Start a conversation in the supermarket/ Kentucky/cinema queue about scammers- word of mouth is possibly the best way to get the message broadcast far and near- just look how quickly gossip spreads!

## A Book Review

**Katte – 'n handleiding vir verantwoordelike kateienaars in Suid-Afrika**

**Author: Yolanda Wessels**

**Publisher: Naledi**

**Format: paperback, 350 pages.**

**Price: approx R119**

**Available: on line from Kalahari and Loot, at retailers, or direct from the distributors On The Dot phone 0861 668 368**

It took Yolanda Wessels eight years to write this book, but it was worth the wait: this book – the first Afrikaans guide for cat owners – belongs on the shelves of all cat lovers who can read Afrikaans. The author has been writing for Cats Life for some time, and has acknowledged the assistance of a number of people whose names you will recognise.

It covers all of the most important aspects of responsible cat ownership in several sections. The first discusses the value of the cat-human relationship, as well as feline physiology. It covers the evolution of the cat, and gives a short, but clear,

explanation of genetics. An unusual, but very worthwhile, chapter is headed “interesting facts about cats.”

Then Yolanda moves on to responsible cat ownership. She gives advice about choosing a kitten – some of which is well known to breeders, but somehow rarely gets into published or internet advice – and bringing the new kitten or cat home. All the most important aspects of caring for a cat are covered, from accidental breeding to the death of a beloved pet.

The third section gives a comprehensive guide to the main diseases and conditions from which cats suffer.

Yolanda chose not to include a section on breeds. This makes sense to me. There are many such guides, which do best in expensive, glossy productions. This book is not glossy, but neither is it expensive – very much affordable for the average cat owner.

Throughout, Yolanda shares her respect for cats, and the reasons for it. The facts which she gives are based on the latest research and thinking. Much of the information is not usually found in other publications, but is absolutely trustworthy. I liked the way that the chapters are laid out, starting with a quick overview, and then discussing the subject in detail. The “bubblegum” facts draw the reader’s attention to important points.

The book is generously illustrated in black and white, with diagrams and photographs. Although there are no captions, the photographs appear to

have been carefully chosen to complement the text surrounding them. Where purebred cats are shown, they are good examples of their breeds, according to the SACC standards.

There are just two small points which disappointed me. Firstly, if I were a novice cat owner, I would be confused as to when my new child should be sterilised, as, in various places, Yolanda suggests “before five months”, “before six months” and “before puberty”, which, as she says, can be as young as four months.

Secondly, although this book is clearly meant for a South African audience there is little in the text that refers specifically to South Africa. The short section on the development of breeds and clubs mentions only the English Cat Fancy, ignoring our own, which stretches back almost as far. The section on dealing with climatic extremes, however, is very useful. Neither of these points should put anyone off buying this book.

This is a fresh and very readable reference work. Highly recommended.

*Kindly provided by Hazel King*



Author: Yolanda Wessels

### *Katte*

*'n Handleiding vir verantwoordelike kateienaars in Suid-Afrika*



*Yolanda Wessels*

## SHOW WINNERS 2014 !

*March 1<sup>st</sup> TCS*



CAT OF THE DAY: GeeDee's Queen Lucia  
Owned & Bred by A Caw

*March 29<sup>th</sup> PCS*



CAT OF THE DAY: Mela Forty Winks  
Owned by A Dawson & Bred by J Goble

*April 5<sup>th</sup> ABCC*



CAT OF THE DAY: Classicats Master Co-Co  
Owned by P A Blom & Bred by J J Le Roux



PET OF THE DAY: Sophie Ter'Blanche  
Owned by K Pepler



PET OF THE DAY: Chicken  
Owned by R Haussman



PET OF THE DAY: Pixie  
Owned by G Chambers

*March 1<sup>st</sup> ECCC*



CAT OF THE DAY: Wizz Billy The Kid  
Owned & Bred by R Wiseman

*April 5<sup>th</sup> BRS*



CAT OF THE DAY: S\*Just Catnap's Lotus of GeeDee's(IMP)  
Owned by A Caw & Bred by K & M Kristiansson

*April 19<sup>th</sup> CFC*



CAT OF THE DAY: S\*Just Catnap's Lotus of GeeDee's(IMP)  
Owned by A Caw & Bred by K & M Kristiansson

PET OF THE DAY: Zoro  
Owned by D & S Saunders

*March 15<sup>th</sup> SAASA*

CAT OF THE DAY: Sherlah Gypsy Swan Song  
Owned & Bred by L du Toit



PET OF THE DAY: Dexter  
Owned by J Blonk



PET OF THE DAY: Tiara  
Owned by L Moodley & S Singh

## MORE SHOW WINNERS !

*April 12<sup>th</sup>* NCFSCC



CAT OF THE DAY: Kashew's Indiana Jones

Owned & Bred by W & K Welham



PET OF THE DAY: Catnip

Owned by J Pilcher

*May 3<sup>rd</sup>* PCS

CAT OF THE DAY: Kaloofa Last Man  
Standing(IMP)

Owned by S Hansen & Bred by C Powers

PET OF THE DAY: Piccinni Winja Ninja

Owned by R Haussman

Cat Photographs by kind permission of:

Theresa Fouche  
Krystle Callaghan  
Hanneke Bestbier

## OBITUARY

Our Cat Fancy lost a very special lady this year, June du Buisson.

June was an All Breeds Judge of many years experience; she was a stalwart member of the Transvaal Cat Society and a thoroughly nice person.

She loved all cats and treated them with empathy and understanding and was a popular judge until, unfortunately, illness prevented her from continuing the hobby she loved.

June was born on June 11<sup>th</sup> 1924 and crossed the rainbow on March 31<sup>st</sup> 2014.

She will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved her.

RIP SACC's Very Special Friend.



June is on the extreme left.

If you look very carefully you will see Helen Griffith, a very well known Head Steward from Gauteng.

Photograph from Helen Griffith

### **IMPORTANT MESSAGE**

**This year you have the right to nominate a candidate to be SACC President.**

**You have been sent a nomination form to use for this purpose.**

**You must be a member of a SACC Cat Club.**

**The completed nomination form and all the relevant paperwork must reach the SACC Office on or before June 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**more expense for the exhibitor?**

**Q & A Time!**

This is for all of you who want to know why things happen the way they do in SACC or just merely have concerns. The Governing Council Delegates were asked these questions and the answers are a composite of the replies.

**Q1: Why does SACC not have an "OPEN AGM"?**

**A1:** Firstly, you must understand that the 9 Cat Clubs are the members of SACC and each Club has a representative who attends the SACC AGM and then reports back to their Club. An exhibitor/cat lover is a member of one or more of those 9 Cat Clubs and therefore through that membership you receive SACC information and rule changes. Therefore if you wish to lodge a show related complaint, offer suggestions or make proposals for change- your only way of communicating this to SACC is through your Club Committee. Maybe now you can realize how important it is to be an active member of your Club-offer your help, be supportive and attend the Club AGM.

**Q2: COTY-are Overseas Judges necessary?**

**A2:** COTY, although a SACC event, is hosted annually by one of the Cat Clubs and the Judge selection is solely at the discretion of the host Club. Some clubs prefer to use only local Judges(it was local judges who helped the cat to qualify) while others prefer to invite non-local Judges(how will our cats do on the "international circuit"?).If you feel strongly about Judge choice for COTY- discuss it with your club committee if they are hosting COTY, please don't wait until after the event to complain to everyone within earshot.

**Q3: COTY-Why do the Clubs try to outdo each other, which results in**

**A2:** It is not a case of outdoing one another. COTY is the event which receives the highest sponsorship and therefore the host club has to work closely with the Sponsor. So, the venue must be decent( and these kind of venues cost a lot!), the menu should be in keeping with the venue( you can't have fish and chips in newspaper for R40 when your venue is a 4 or 5 star hotel!)- venues generally want to do the catering, so the dinner cost is determined by them; and of course, where the venue is plays a huge part in cost(KZN being far cheaper than Gauteng!). Maybe it is time to scale down COTY – let us know how you feel. The most important aspect of COTY should be comradeship and unity – COTY should be viewed as the highlight of the SACC show calendar- all the cats are already winners, therefore be supportive of the other exhibitors and congratulate everyone. The only grapes, sour or otherwise, should be in the wine!

**Q4: Should officiating Judges stay with exhibitors?**

**A4:** This is a constant bone of contention for some exhibitors. The Cat Clubs do not have the finances (look how little you pay to belong to the Club!) to accommodate judges in Hotels or B&Bs. To put on a show for you, the Club must pay for a venue, table hire, catering and rosettes for BIS, plus import judges (smaller regions)- as well as trying to keep entry fees affordable! (Do yourself a favour, and look at entry fees for TICA,CFA etc on the Web-you will be shocked!). All this is done from Club AND Committee Members funds. There is some sponsorship, but in reality unless you, the

exhibitor, support the Clubs and the shows- the judges' accommodation should not be an issue.

**Q5: If I complain, my cats will be compromised.**

**A5:** This is a perception that most exhibitors have. SACC is a democratic cat fancy, the complaints process is fair and above board - BUT you have to address your complaint through the correct channels.

If you have a reason to complain about a show issue- then the Show Committee should hear about it from you and not "from the grapevine". If you have a complaint against a Club, then speak to the Club's Delegate. If the complaint involves judging, then it should be reported to the Judges' Panel concerned.

Formal complaints will be addressed, investigated and resolved.

Informal complaints, bad sportsmanship and negativity are generally the cause of "death" for organizations and/or Clubs and these can only be resolved by stopping them at source.

When someone repeats something from a "reliable source"- ignore it, don't become a gossip!

When someone is complaining about the show, judges etc and you feel differently- say how you feel. Keeping quiet only fuels the fire of negativity.

Be a good sport and don't be "kennel blind"- you, above all, should know your cat's faults and if a judge misses something or actually finds the fault (he/she is human,afterall!) don't bad mouth him/her to everyone within earshot!

And if your cat doesn't win, don't assume that your cat is being compromised - it is because the other cats are probably better than yours on that particular day!

Although type(type covers bone conformation and density, muscle, size and phenotype) is what is being judged- remember that presentation and condition play a huge role in the overall appearance of the cat.

## SACC CAT CLUBS

### ***ALL BREEDS CAT CLUB***

CAPE PROVINCE

Contact: Colin Bubb

Email:  
allbreedscatclub@gmail.com

### ***TRANSVAAL CAT SOCIETY***

GAUTENG

Contact: Gail Nel

Email: nelg@timesmedia.co.za

### ***THE BIG CAT CLUB***

CAPE PROVINCE

Contact: Krystle Callaghan

Email: krystle@krisscross.co.za

### ***RAND CAT CLUB***

GAUTENG

Contact: Karen Pepler

Email: karnaki@gmail.com

### ***WESTERN PROVINCE CAT CLUB***

CAPE PROVINCE

Contact: Ian Moore

Email: imoore@telkomsa.net

### ***CAT FANCIERS CLUB of SOUTH AFRICA***

GAUTENG

Contact: Stephen White

Email:  
stephenw@megamediasa.co.za

### ***EASTERN CAPE CAT CLUB***

PORT ELIZABETH

Contact: Johan Groenewald

Email: taldicat@iafrica.com

### ***PROVINCIAL CAT SOCIETY***

DURBAN

Contact: Jane Goble

Email:  
provincialcatsociety@gmail.com

### ***NORTHERN CAPE/FREE STATE CAT CLUB***

KIMBERLEY

Contact: Wendy Welham

Email: wendywelham@gmail.com

### **SACC Affiliated Breed Groups:**

BREEDERS OF REX & SPHYNX

MAINE COON INTEREST GROUP

RUSSIAN CAT INTEREST GROUP of SA

SA ABYSSINIAN AND SOMALI ASSOCIATION

SIAMESE BREEDERS GROUP of SA

SPHYNX ALLIANCE (SA)

If you want to contact or join one of the above groups, please contact SACC's Breed Council Secretary, Ingrid de Wet, for current contact details:

Email: incats@global.co.za