



SOUTHERN AFRICA COUNCIL OF CAT JUDGES

CONSTITUTION

2025

Amended February 2025

Amended February 2020

(Amended November 2014)

(Amended November 2010)

(Amended October 2004)

1. NAME

The association shall be known as the Southern Africa Council of Cat Judges. The Southern Africa Council of Cat Judges shall be a voluntary association, with an independent legal persona.

2. OBJECTS

To co-ordinate, govern and promote all matters pertaining to SACC accredited Judges comprising of inter alia:

- 2.1. The Training of Judges and to lay down standards for such training.
- 2.2. The interchange of ideas on all aspects of cat judging.
- 2.3. The promulgation of rules, regulations and a general code of ethics for judges.
- 2.4. The continued education of judges.
- 2.5. The Promotion of well qualified and educated judging according to acceptable standards.
- 2.6. The promotion of exhibiting healthy and well-presented felines.
- 2.7. To compile a uniform system for training and conduct of judges.
- 2.8. To convene a General Meeting, Symposium or workshop at least every 3 (three) years.

3. DEFINITIONS

- 3.1 ***"The Rules"*** shall refer to the Rules and Regulations duly passed by Council in accordance with the Constitution and subject to the SACC Constitution.
- 3.2 ***"Panel"*** shall mean any Judges Panel formally recognised and accredited to The Southern Africa Cat Council (SACC).
- 3.3 ***"Members"*** shall mean every judge who is a member of a Panel who is in good standing as referred to in 3.2 and 3.5.
- 3.4 ***"Office"*** shall mean the term of office served by an elected Panel as the office of Council for the period.
- 3.5 ***"Good Standing"*** shall mean a member who has paid his/her annual membership fees to that panel he/she is a member of.
- 3.6 ***"SACC"*** shall mean the Southern Africa Cat Council.
- 3.7 ***"Council"*** shall mean the Southern Africa Council of Cat Judges and of which each qualified judge who is a member of a SACC accredited Judges Panel, is a member.
- 3.8 ***"General Meeting"*** shall mean a meeting held for the purposes usually governed by an AGM.

4. MEMBERSHIP AND AFFILIATION

Any judges panel of not less than 3 members organized for the purpose of fulfilling the SACC rules governing Judges and Judges panels may apply for membership.

5. APPLICATION

5.1. A Judges' Panel's application for membership shall be mailed to the Secretary of the SA Council of Cat Judges and shall include:

- i) A copy of the Panel's Constitution and By-Laws,
- ii) A list of Officers and Addresses.
- iii) A list of members, their names and addresses.
- iv) Audited Balance Sheet at the time of Application.
- v) A Statement by the President of SACC that a minimum of three (3) members of the panel are judges recognized by SACC. A cheque of R200,00 to cover the costs of processing the Application, non-refundable irrespective of whether the Application is successful or not.
- vi) Such other information as may be required.
- vii) A Judges Panel cannot be affiliated to more than one registering body at the same time.

6. ELECTION TO MEMBERSHIP

- 6.1. Upon receipt of the Application and supporting documents, it shall be submitted to GC of SACC at the next regular scheduled meeting, for election.
- 6.2. Voting will be by a show of hands or by ballot.
- 6.3. A simple majority vote shall decide the result.
- 6.4. The vote may be to accept, not to accept or to delay consideration pending receipt of additional information.

7. ONGOING REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBER PANELS

- 7.1. Supply Judges recognized by the GC of SACC, for judging at SACC shows.
- 7.2. Ensure that members judge at such shows under the Rules laid down by GC of SACC.
- 7.3. Certify annually a membership of at least 3 members.
- 7.4. Submit an Annual Balance Sheet to the SA Council of Cat Judges Council.
- 7.5. Pay its annual dues.

8. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

- 8.1. An annual fee per capita of members, shall be payable to Council by each Panel in January of each year.
- 8.2. The amount of the annual membership fee payable shall be decided at a General Meeting of Council by a simple majority vote of members present at the meeting.
- 8.3. A member that has failed to pay its dues as set out above, will cease to be a member in good standing and will so continue until the annual dues are paid.
- 8.4. Panels that are not members in good standing will not be allowed to submit items for the Agenda for the AGM unless they have complied with the requirements by the 1st of June of that particular year.

9. LIST OF MEMBERS

- 9.1. A member cannot be affiliated to more than one panel and/or one registering body at the same time.
- 9.2. Each member panel shall forward to the Secretary of the SA Council of Cat Judges, a list of its members together with the breeds they are qualified to judge, their addresses, e-mail addresses and telephone number, as well as a list of their current officers, which list shall be certified by the Secretary of the member.
- 9.3. A Judges' Panel member has to comply with these provisions by the first day of the month following the month in which a member held its Annual General Meeting, but not later than 1 March.
- 9.4. Each member panel shall forward to the Secretary of the SA Council of Cat Judges all new qualifications obtained by members of the panel within 14 days of such qualification.

10. MEMBER PANEL SECRETARY ON RECORD

The name of the Secretary of each member panel shall be recorded by the Secretary of the SA Council of Cat Judges and shall be the point of all official communication between Council and each member.

11. ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE

- 11.1. All matters requiring a Members vote shall be decided on a simple majority vote of members who are members of a panel who are in good standing.
- 11.2. At each General Meeting of Council, each member present and who is in good standing is entitled to vote. Postal votes or Proxies are not permissible.
- 11.3. In all other matters concerning Council, Breeds, SOPs and judging that are not dealt with at a General Meeting of Council, each member in good standing shall have a vote. The vote shall be decided on a simple majority of all members in good standing.

12. OFFICE OF COUNCIL

Office of Council shall rotate between the SACC accredited Panels every 3 years or at any interval deemed suitable by a majority vote of the members.

13. ELECTION OF THE OFFICE OF COUNCIL

The Office of Council shall be elected at a General Meeting of Council and will serve for 3 years, unless changed in terms of this constitution.

14. ADMINISTRATION OFFICERS OF COUNCIL

- 14.1. The administration of Council shall be conducted by a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer, being members of the Panel, elected to hold office for a period of 3 years.
- 14.2. The officers shall be elected by the members of the panel holding office.

15. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS OF COUNCIL

- 15.1. The Chair person shall preside at all meetings. The Chairperson shall present a report at the Symposium.
- 15.2. The Secretary shall liaise with all accredited Panels and /or members on all relevant matters, conduct the correspondence of Council and circulate all correspondence to members/Panels.
- 15.3. The Treasurer shall have custody and/or nominate a custodian approved by Council to receive and distribute all monies on behalf of Council. The Treasurer shall keep proper and up to date books and records of all Assets and Liabilities. The banking account, in the name of Council, shall operate from an area, approved by Council at the General Meeting.
- 15.4. The Treasurer shall present at the General Meeting of Council, a Report as well as detailed financials for Council's year-end during the period of their duties, signed by an approved Accounting Officer. The Treasurer will circulate an interim income and expense account to all SACC accredited panels after the first year-end in office.
- 15.5. Council's year-end is to be 18 months from previous General Meeting.
- 15.6. The Treasurer shall provide all SACC accredited panels with an income and expense account on an annual basis.

16. AFFILIATION/ACCREDITATION TO THE SOUTHERN AFRICA CAT COUNCIL (SACC)

Council shall be affiliated/accredited to SACC and is governed by the SACC Constitution and Rules.

17. GENERAL MEETING/SYMPORIUM/AGENDA/MINUTES

- 17.1. Council shall convene a General Meeting at least every 3 (three) years.
- 17.2. The agenda for the General meeting shall be in writing, containing any business to be brought by any member to such meeting.
- 17.3. The Agenda of the General Meeting shall be circulated to the members at least 14 days prior to the date of the General Meeting. Proposals for the Agenda shall be made to the Secretary in office no later than 21 days prior to the General Meeting.
- 17.4. The minutes of the General Meeting shall be circulated within 28 days after the meeting and kept by the Secretary in office and shall be an accurate record of the General Meeting.
 - 17.4.1. Once the minutes have been circulated by the secretary, within 28 days of the meeting, members who had attended the meeting should comment and submit corrections, if any.
 - 17.4.2. Minutes should be approved via email vote no later than 2 weeks after being circulated.
- 17.5. All matters decided at a General Meeting shall become effective immediately.
- 17.6. The quorum for the General Meeting shall be no fewer than 12 members in good standing.

18. SPECIAL MEETINGS

- 18.1. Special Meetings may be called from time to time to deal with matters not dealt with at the General Meeting.
- 18.2. A request for a Special Meeting shall be sent to the Secretary of Judges Council.
- 18.3. A request for a Special Meeting will be considered only if it is proposed by a Judges Panel and seconded by another Judges Panel.
- 18.4. Notice of such a meeting shall be given by the Secretary of Judges Council, in writing via email, to all the Secretaries of the Judges Panels, specifying the purpose, date and time of the meeting.
- 18.5. Notice of such meeting must be given at least 14 days prior to the proposed date of the meeting.
- 18.6. The Provisions of 17.6 shall not be applicable in the event of a Special Meeting.
- 18.7. The meeting shall be conducted via Skype (or a similar conferencing system) and shall be attended by a maximum of two (2) Members representing each Judges Panel.
- 18.8. The quorum for a Special Meeting shall be no fewer than (one) 1 representative from each of at least four (4) Judges Panels. The Members of the Judges Panel, and the Judges Panel itself, must be in good standing at the time of the meeting.
- 18.9. All matters approved at a Special Meeting shall become effective immediately.

19. COMPLAINTS AGAINST JUDGES

In the event of a complaint against a member of a Panel, the complaint must be directed to and dealt with by the Panel to which the member belongs. Should that Panel not be able to resolve the issue then it is to be referred to the Council. Only if the Council fails to resolve the matter should it be referred to SACC's Governing Council for final resolution.

20. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The constitution may be amended at a General Meeting of Council with the consent of a two-third majority of members present at the General Meeting and who are in good standing

21. DISSOLUTION OF COUNCIL

- 21.1. Council may be dissolved by a decision of a two-third majority vote of all its members.
- 21.2. Upon winding up or liquidation, its assets remaining after the satisfaction of its liabilities, shall be divided between the Panels per capita of their members.