



THE GENERAL SECTION OF THE SACC STANDARD of POINTS

of the recognised breeds of cats as approved
by the
Governing Council
of the
Southern Africa Cat Council

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I N D E X

Glossary of terms

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Glossary contains definitions of terms used in descriptions in the Standard of Points

AGOUTI	Banded hairs ending in dark tips. Gives a ticked effect. Found in background pattern in all tabbies and body pattern in Ticked Tabbies	ALMOND	Eye shape oval, pointed at inner corner
AUBURN	Reddish brown colour	BARS	Stripes
BLAZE	Spot or patch of white or colour on nose and/or forehead	BRICK	Brick-red nose leather colour
BRINDLING	Fault in which the correct colour is intermingled with, or overlaid by, a lighter shade	BRUSH	Tail of a longhaired cat
BUTTERFLY	Pattern on shoulders of Classic Tabby resembling a butterfly when viewed from above	COBBY	Short, thickset, compact
COLD COAT	Coat exhibiting blue or grey tinges	DOME	Rounded top of skull in all aspects
DORSAL SHADING	Slightly heavier ticking along the back of ticked tabbies, Abyssinians and Somalis	EVEN	Appearance of uniform coat colour
EYES SET WELL APART	There is no less than the width of an eye between the eyes	FLARE	Widening at base of outer edge of ear
FLARES	Gradually increases in width	FRILL	The coat extending from the ruff down the chest between the front legs of a longhaired cat (See RUFF)
FURNISHED	Provided with hair	GAUNTLETS	Flash on back of hind feet, extending towards the hock and tapering to a point
GLOVES	White forepart of Birman paws	HAW	Nictitating membrane / Third eyelid / Inner eyelid
HAZEL	Light brown, flecked with yellow or green	HOOD	Completely dark head in a pointed breed, obliterating tracings between mask and ears
HOT COAT	Coat exhibiting pronounced reddish tinges	JOWLS	Thickening in the area of the sides of the lower jaw of males
KINK	Malformation of caudal vertebrae, marring the straightness of the tail. A kink is sometimes felt but not seen	LEVEL BITE	The upper and lower teeth line up

LOCKET	Small white patch on chest	MANTLE	Shading heavier than that of tipped varieties, but not as heavy as smoke - gives the impression of a darker mantle over a white base coat
MASK	Colour covering the face of pointed breeds	MASSIVE	Large, substantial and proportionately heavy
MITTED	White forepart of Mitted Ragdoll paws	MUFFS	Thick, soft growth of fur at base of outer edge of ear
NECKLACE	Band of dark colour round base of neck	NOSE BREAK	Concave profile break at top of nose (See STOP)
NOSE LEATHER	Hairless skin around nostrils	ORIENTAL	Elliptical eye shape. Pointed at inner and outer corners
OVERSHOT	Lower jaw recedes	OVERTYPED	Showing any characteristic feature to an exaggerated degree
PENCILINGS	Thin coloured lines on the face in Tabby breeds	PINCH	Indentation in the line of the muzzle below the cheekbones (See WHISKER BREAK)
PLUME	Feathered tail	RINGS	Tabby tail and leg markings
ROSETTING	The spotting from non-domestic genes. Preferably two toned. May be shaped like arrowheads, doughnuts, or paw prints	RUFF	A collar of projecting fur completely encircling the neck in longhaired cats, forming a frame for the face (See FRILL)
RUSTINESS	Reddish brown shading	SCARAB	Beetle shaped outline on the head occurring in all Tabby breeds
SELF	Same coat colour from nose to tip of tail	SHADING	Coat tipped or shaded with a darker or lighter colour
SNIPY	Long, sharp, over-narrow nose or muzzle	SOLID	Hair shaft evenly coloured from tip to root
SPECTACLES	Area of light hair surrounding the eyelids	SQUINT	Fixed unilateral or bilateral convergence of the eyes towards the nose
STERNUM	Breastbone (See XIPHOID)	STOP	Concave profile break at top of nose (See NOSE BREAK)
SVELTE	Lithe and lean	TARNISHING	Yellow or brown pigmentation in the coat of a silver cat
THUMBPRINTS	Light-coloured areas on the backs of Tabby ears	TICKING	Alternate bands of light and dark colour on each individual hair
TIPPING	Contrasting colour on the tip of each hair	TRACINGS	Thin lines of colour connecting ear to mask in pointed breeds

TUFT	Extra-long growth of hair between toes, inside ears or on ear tips	TYPE	Skeletal and muscular body conformation
UNDERSHOT	Lower jaw protrudes	WARM COAT	Coat exhibiting fawn, brown or cream tinges
WEDGE	Triangular head shape	WHIPPY	Thin tapering tail
WHISKER BREAK	Indentation in the line of the muzzle below the cheekbones (See PINCH)	WHORL	Roundel or rosette on flanks, and sometimes cheeks, of Classic Tabby
XIPHOID	Cartilaginous appendage to lower end of sternum (See STERNUM)		

RELEVANT TO ALL BREEDS

Desirable and undesirable aspects for All Breeds as pertaining to breeding and showing

Relevant to all Breeds

Ideal conformation and colour characteristics of all cats.

Desirable features in all breeds:

- Firm chin and level bite.
- Eyes clear and bright with evenness of colour.
- Toes. Five on each front paw and four on each hind paw; complete with claws.

Condition:

- General appearance of health and vitality.
- Ears and coat clean; free from external parasites.
- Nose and teeth clean.
- No excessive loose hairs.
- Neither excessively overweight nor underweight.

Undesirable features in all breeds:

Skeletal defects:

- Skull indentation or irregularities, noticeable or upon examination. Withhold major award.
- Undershot, overshot or skew jaw- penalise at the discretion of the judge.
- Deformity of rib cage of an adult including flat chest or deviation of xiphoid (hooked sternum).
- Discernable kink - withhold major award.
- Slight irregularity at extreme tail tip - penalise at discretion of the judge.
- Any other bone irregularity.

Type Faults:

- Reduced nasal aperture - withhold major award.
- Permanent squint.
- Odd sized eyes.

Allowance for:

- Jowls in adult males.
- Undeveloped eye colour in immature animals.
- Irregularities in coat colour of kittens, e.g.: unevenness, ghost markings, rustiness, paleness, and undeveloped pattern.

DISQUALIFY

(No 1-10 Taken from show Rule 21)

1. If it is obvious that the cat has been improperly prepared for show. That is, if any dye, colouring, lightening or darkening substance, any oils or greasy preparation and cleaning preparations, or any foreign matter remains in the cat's coat during exhibition.
 2. If it is obvious that the cat's coat has been cut, clipped, singed, rasped down by any substance; if any of the new or fast coat has been removed by pulling or plucking in any way.
 3. If it is obvious that the cat's eyes have been artificially treated so that the pupils do not show a normal reaction to light.
 4. When a cat is totally blind.
 5. A monorchid or cryptorchid over the age of 9 months on the day of the show unless a certificate of neutering by a qualified veterinary surgeon is produced.
 6. The cat has been declawed.
 7. It is obviously pregnant, a nursing mother or a queen with kittens less than eight weeks of age on the day of the show.
 8. A teaser tom (which only may be shown in the pets or registered pets' classes).
 9. A tranquillizer has evidently been administered.
 10. The cat is in poor show condition, e.g. flea infestation, sores, poor general condition.
 11. Not amenable to handling/ aggressiveness.
 12. Any other contravention of show Rule 21.
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NEW BREEDS

RECOGNITION OF NEW BREEDS

1. Before a new breed can be recognised or registered, the onus is on the interested person/s to enquire from the SA Cat registrar whether SACC recognizes a specific breed or not.
2. The SA Cat Registrar will be able to confirm whether a breed is:
 - recognised with full championship status OR
 - in the process towards championship status OR
 - not currently registered in SACC
3. Breeds that are not currently registered in SACC may fall into two categories:
 - a breed that, after due consideration and debate by Governing Council of SACC, was listed as "not permitted for recognition and registration." OR
 - no one has attempted to import/ register the breed
4. In the event that enquires were made with regards to a breed that no one has imported before, the SA Cat Registrar will ask Governing Council to consider acceptance in SACC.
5. Governing Council and the Breed Council Secretary shall gather information on the breed through investigation and research, including whether the breed in question has been accepted for registration in any of the following registering bodies: CFA, TICA, FIFe , CCCof A or GCCF.
6. After discussion and debate, Governing Council will vote whether to accept the breed or not.
7. The Registrar will then inform the Breed Council Secretary and the person/s that made the enquiry of the GC decision.

REGISTRATION OF NEW BREEDS

1. A new breed that is recognised by Governing Council of SACC will be allocated a breed code by the Breed Council Secretary in consultation with the SA Cat registrar.
2. Once a breed code has been allocated, cats of that particular breed may be duly registered in the SA Cat register.
3. The Breed Council Secretary will assist the SACR and owner/s of the cats with the drawing up of the new Breed Standard.
4. The Breed Council Secretary will then circulate the Breed Standard to the owner/s, SA Judges' Council, all Judges' Panels and any relevant Breed Groups.

PROVISIONAL STATUS OF NEW BREEDS

1. Once a breed has been recognised, allocated a breed code and registered, the breed has Provisional Status.
2. This breed may now be shown in Exhibition Classes without CC status.

For reference:

Show Rule 16 OTHER CLASSES

A Judge judging in classes other than those referred to in Rules 12, 13, 14 and 15 shall be entitled to make or withhold without reference to any other judge: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, Very Highly Commended, Highly Commended or Commended.

CHAMPIONSHIP STATUS OF NEW BREEDS

(Obtaining of titles)

1. For a recognised breed to attain Championship status, the following requirements must be met:
 - At least five (5) different cats of the new breed must be shown
 - at a minimum of five (5) different shows
 - within a period of no less than two (2) years
2. Once the above requirements have been met, the owner/s should submitted documented proof of the following to the Breed Council Secretary:
 - The name, registration number and breed code of each cat shown
 - The name of the clubs, show dates and the name of the show managers where the cats were shown
 - Photocopies of show reports of all the rings in which the cats were judged in Exhibition Classes
3. On receipt of the above – mentioned documents the Breed Council Secretary will verify the information. If all requirements have been met, the Breed Council Secretary will notify the owner/s, Governing Council and all Judges' Panels that the breed has achieved Championship status.

4. Once this information regarding a breed's Championship status has been circulated by the Breed Council Secretary, cats may be shown in Open classes and awarded Challenge certificates at shows.

RECOGNITION OF A NEW COAT COLOUR/ PATTERN/ EYE COLOUR IN A BREED

1. Application is made to the Registrar for acceptance and registration of a colour/ pattern / eye colour new to an existing breed.
2. The SA Cat Registrar will ask Governing Council to consider acceptance of such colour/ pattern/ eye colour in SACC.
3. Governing Council and the Breed Council Secretary shall gather information on the colour/ pattern/ eye colour within the breed through investigation and research, including whether the colour/ pattern within breed in question has been accepted for registration in any of the following registering bodies: CFA, TICA, FIFe , CCCof A or GCCF.
4. After discussion and debate, Governing Council will vote whether to accept the colour/ pattern/ eye colour within breed or not.
5. The Registrar will then inform the Breed Council Secretary and the person/s that made the enquiry of the GC decision.

REGISTRATION OF NEW A COLOUR/ PATTERN/ EYE COLOUR

1. A new colour/ pattern/ eye colour in a breed that is recognised by Governing Council of SACC will be allocated a colour/ pattern/ eye colour code by the Breed Council Secretary in consultation with the SA Cat registrar.
2. Once a colour/ pattern/ eye colour code has been allocated, cats of that particular breed may be duly registered in the SA Cat register.
3. The Breed Council Secretary will circulate the colour/ pattern/ eye colour description to the owner/s, SA Judges' Council, all Judges' Panels and any relevant Breed Groups.
4. This new colour/ pattern/ eye colour may now be shown in Exhibition Classes without CC status.

CHAMPIONSHIP STATUS OF A NEW COLOUR/ PATTERN/ EYE COLOUR

(Obtaining of titles)

1. For a recognised new colour/ pattern/ eye colour to attain Championship status, the following requirements must be met:
 - At least one individual of the new colour/ pattern/ eye colour must be shown
 - at a minimum of three (3) different shows
 - on exhibition and / or in non-championship classes
2. Once the above requirements have been met, documented proof of the following should be submitted to the Breed Council Secretary:
 - The name, registration number and breed/ colour/ pattern/ eye colour code of each cat shown
 - The name of the clubs, show dates and the name of the show managers where the cats were shown
 - Photocopies of show reports of all the rings in which the cats were judged in Exhibition Classes
3. On receipt of the above – mentioned documents the Breed Council Secretary will verify the information. If all requirements have been met, the Breed Council Secretary will notify the owner/s, Governing Council and all Judges' Panels that the colour/ pattern/ eye colour has achieved Championship status.
4. Once this information regarding a colour/ pattern/ eye colour's Championship status has been circulated by the Breed Council Secretary, cats may be shown in Open classes and awarded Challenge certificates at shows.

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