



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

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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	EVEN	Appearance of uniform coat colour
ALMOND	Eye shape oval, pointed at inner corner	EYES SET WELL APART	There is no less than the width of an eye between the eyes
AUBURN	Reddish brown colour	FLARE	Widening at base of outer edge of ear
BARS	Stripes	FLARES	Gradually increases in width
BLAZE	Spot or patch of white or colour on nose and/or forehead	FRILL	The coat extending from the ruff down the chest between the front legs of a longhaired cat (See RUFF)
BRICK	Brick-red nose leather colour	FURNISHED	Provided with hair
BRINDLING	Fault in which the correct colour is intermingled with, or overlaid by, a lighter shade	GAUNTLETS	Flash on back of hind feet, extending towards the hock and tapering to a point
BRUSH	Tail of a longhaired cat	GLOVES	White forepart of Birman paws
BUTTERFLY	Pattern on shoulders of Classic Tabby resembling a butterfly when viewed from above	HAW	Nictitating membrane / Third eyelid / Inner eyelid
COBBY	Short, thickset, compact	HAZEL	Light brown, flecked with yellow or green
COLD COAT	Coat exhibiting blue or grey tinges	HOOD	Completely dark head in a pointed breed, obliterating tracings between mask and ears
DOME	Rounded top of skull in all aspects	HOT COAT	Coat exhibiting pronounced reddish tinges
DORSAL SHADING	Slightly heavier ticking along the back of ticked tabbies, Abyssinians and Somalis	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	OVERTYPED	Showing any characteristic feature to an exaggerated degree
LEVEL BITE	The upper and lower teeth line up	PENCILINGS	Thin coloured lines on the face in Tabby breeds
LOCKET	Small white patch on chest	PINCH	Indentation in the line of the muzzle below the cheekbones (See WHISKER BREAK)
MANTLE	Shading heavier than that of tipped varieties, but not as heavy as smoke -	PLUME	Feathered tail

	gives the impression of a darker mantle over a white base coat		
MASK	Colour covering the face of pointed breeds	RINGS	Tabby tail and leg markings
MASSIVE	Large, substantial and proportionately heavy	ROSETTING	The spotting from non-domestic genes. Preferably two toned. May be shaped like arrowheads, doughnuts, or paw prints
MITED	White forepart of Mitted Ragdoll paws	RUFF	A collar of projecting fur completely encircling the neck in longhaired cats, forming a frame for the face (See FRILL)
MUFFS	Thick, soft growth of fur at base of outer edge of ear	RUSTINESS	Reddish brown shading
NECKLACE	Band of dark colour round base of neck	SCARAB	Beetle shaped outline on the head occurring in all Tabby breeds
NOSE BREAK	Concave profile break at top of nose (See STOP)	SHADING	Coat tipped or shaded with a darker or lighter colour
NOSE LEATHER	Hairless skin around nostrils	SNIPY	Long, sharp, over-narrow nose or muzzle
ORIENTAL	Elliptical eye shape. Pointed at inner and outer corners	SELF	Same coat colour from nose to tip of tail
OVERSHOT	Lower jaw recedes	SOLID	Hair shaft evenly coloured from tip to root
SPECTACLES	Area of light hair surrounding the eyelids	TUFT	Extra-long growth of hair between toes, inside ears or on ear tips
SQUINT	Fixed unilateral or bilateral convergence of the eyes towards the nose	TYPE	Skeletal and muscular body conformation
STERNUM	Breastbone (See XIPHOID)	UNDERSHOT	Lower jaw protrudes
STOP	Concave profile break at top of nose (See NOSE BREAK)	WARM COAT	Coat exhibiting fawn, brown or cream tinges
SVELTE	Lithe and lean	WEDGE	Triangular head shape
TARNISHING	Yellow or brown pigmentation in the coat of a silver cat	WHIPPY	Thin tapering tail
THUMBPRINTS	Light-coloured areas on the backs of Tabby ears	WHISKER BREAK	Indentation in the line of the muzzle below the cheekbones (See PINCH)
TICKING	Alternate bands of light and dark colour on each individual hair	WHORL	Roundel or rosette on flanks, and sometimes cheeks, of Classic Tabby

TIPPING	Contrasting colour on the tip of each hair	XIPHOID	Cartilaginous appendage to lower end of sternum (See STERNUM)
TRACINGS	Thin lines of colour connecting ear to mask in pointed breeds		

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)

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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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**PROCEDURE FOR ATTAINING
CHAMPIONSHIP STATUS
FOR NEW BREEDS**

Development of New Breeds

In the event that an obvious mutation should occur in South Africa or that breeders want to develop a new breed out of wild African cats, for example, the breeders are interested in pursuing a breeding program with the intention of developing a new breed, the following requirements have to be met and documentation of the following be submitted GC of SACC

1. The mutation or new breed should be established as being unique via photographs, descriptions, information from various experts, etc.
2. If possible, a history of the new breed should be provided and detailed accounts given of a breeding program followed up to that point.
3. A further future breeding program should be submitted in writing.
4. A list of at least four breeders with SACR cattery names, committing themselves to

the development of this new breed, should be included.

5. Once five cats have been bred with four generations of the new breed in their background an application may be made for Preliminary Acceptance to Governing Council via the Breed Council Secretary.

On New Breeds

1. Preliminary Acceptance of new Breeds (Section 7)

New developed breeds as well as breeds new to SA that are registered and accepted in one or more of the world's major registers.

- 1.1 The registrar allocates a breed number / code. Once the Standard of Points for this breed have been received by the Breed Council Secretary, it and the breed number will be circulated to Judges' Council, Clubs and Breed Groups.
- 1.2 The Breed Council Secretary submits a Preliminary S.O.P. for the breed, with the assistance of S.O.P.'s from overseas, local groups promoting the breed and the Registrar. The Breed Council Secretary can co-opt any persons deemed

necessary to assist with formulation of standards (Constitution Rule 7.4.)

- 1.3 These cats may now be shown in Exhibition Classes only.
- 1.4 The cats now have Preliminary Acceptance Status.
- 2. **Provisional Acceptance**
 - 2.1 This Preliminary S.O.P. will then be distributed to all Panels and the Registrar by the Breed Council Secretary. Any comments submitted to the Breed Council Secretary by the Panels and Breeders, after discussion, will be advised to all parties, and final acceptance of the S.O.P. be agreed. This final agreement to be completed within a maximum period of 6 months from the allocation of a breed number.
 - 2.2 This Preliminary S.O.P. will then become the **Provisional S.O.P.** for the breed.
 - 2.3 The Breed Council Secretary will inform the Secretary of Governing Council and all Associated Clubs of the date on which **Provisional Status** was granted, enclosing copies of the Provisional S.O.P. to each.
 - 2.4 Breeds with Provisional Status can be entered in Shows under their Breed Number, without C.C. Status.

3. **Championship Status**

- 3.1 A further 6 months will be allowed for familiarization with the breed and the interchange of comments. At the end of these 6 months, if agreement has been reached by the Breeders and Panels, the S.O.P. becomes the official S.O.P. for the breed, which will have C.C. Status. The Breed Council Secretary informs the Registrar that CC status has been approved, and supplies a copy of the official S.O.P.
 - 3.2 The Breed Council Secretary then informs the Secretary of Governing Council and Affiliated Clubs as soon as possible, specifying the date of acceptance of C.C. Status and supplying a copy of the official S.O.P. to each.
- NB: It is the responsibility of individual Club Committees to advise their Show Managers.

PROCESS FOR A NEW COLOUR TO RECEIVE CHAMPIONSHIP STATUS.

- 7.1 To repeal **the 1994 decision** and its subsequent wider interpretation with respect to acceptance across the board, once a coat pattern and/or colour is accepted in one breed.
- 7.2 That the following procedure be adopted with respect to acceptance for registration and/or showing of an **existing cat breed in a coat pattern and/or coat colour not already listed in the SACC Standard of Points as an accepted pattern for that breed:**
- 7.3 **Application is made to the Registrar to allocate a breed number/code for the new colour/ pattern in the particular breed.** Such application may only be made after the colour/pattern has been accepted for registration in at least one of the world's major cat fancies (i.e. CFA, TICA, Fife and GCCF).
- 7.4 The **Breed Council Secretary submits a Preliminary Standard of Points** for the

additional colour/pattern, either from our own Standard of Points' Colour Descriptions or with the assistance of Standards of Points from the major cat fancies where at all possible, local groups promoting the new colour/pattern and the Registrar. The Breed Council Secretary can co-opt any persons deemed necessary to assist with formulation of standards.

- 7.5 These cats (with the newly introduced colour/pattern) now have **Preliminary Acceptance** status. They may be shown in **Exhibition Classes only.**
- 7.6 The Breed Council Secretary shall **distribute the Preliminary Standard of Points** to all judges panels, the Registrar and relevant breed groups for comment. All comments received by the Breed Council Secretary shall be advised to all parties, and acceptance of the revised Preliminary Standard of Points be agreed upon. Acceptance of the Preliminary Standard of Points shall be completed within 6 months from the allocation of a breed number.

- 7.7 The (revised, if any) Preliminary Standard of Points then becomes the Provisional Standard of Points for the additional colour/pattern.
- 7.9 The Breed Council Secretary shall inform the Secretary of Governing Council and all the SACC clubs of the date on which Provisional status was granted.
- 7.10 The Breed Council Secretary shall distribute the Provisional Standard of Points to all judges panels, the Registrar, relevant breed groups, the Governing Council Secretary and all SACC clubs.
- 7.11 Breeds in the new colours/patterns with Provisional status may be entered in shows under their breed number, but without championship status.
- 7.12 After being granted Provisional status, a further 6 months will be allowed for familiarization with the breed and the exchanging of comments.
- 7.13 Provided that at least one individual of the new colour/pattern in the specific breed has been shown at at least three shows (on exhibition and/or in non-championship classes), the Breed Council Secretary shall place the matter of acceptance for Championship status of the new

colour/pattern on the first Breed Council voting ballot after expiration of the 6 month Provisional status period. Eligibility to vote is governed by the Breed Council Rules and Breed Group Rules of SACC. (The Breed Council Secretary does not need to receive a formal proposal to place such new colour/pattern on the voting ballot - any Provisional Status new colour/pattern for which the Provisional Status period will expire at any time before the closing date for Breed Council voting, and which has been shown sufficiently, shall be placed on the voting ballot.)

7.14 If the new colour/pattern is accepted by majority vote in such Breed Council voting, it is granted Championship status and the agreed Provisional Standard of Points becomes the official Standard for the new colour/pattern in the particular breed.

If the new colour/pattern is not accepted, it loses all status and no further applications for registration under the allocated breed number/code will be accepted by the Registrar. This does not preclude a repeat of the procedure in future for the specific colour/pattern in the specific breed.