



CONSTITUTION OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICA CAT COUNCIL

(Last amended November 2025)

(Formerly known as the Governing Council of the Associated Cat Clubs of South Africa)

ARTICLE 1

1. NAME

This Association shall be known as the Southern Africa Cat Council. (Herein referred to as SACC). SACC shall be a Voluntary Association.

2. OBJECTIVES

SACC objectives are as follows:

- 2.1 To promote the welfare of cats and the improvement of their breeds;
- 2.2 The registration of pedigrees of cats and kittens;
- 2.3 The promulgation of rules for the management of cat shows;
- 2.4 The promotion of interests of breeders and exhibitors of cats;
- 2.5 To ensure the efficient co-existence of its Councils and offices;
- 2.6 To promulgate rules, regulations and codes of ethics;
- 2.7 To lay down standards for all Breeds in conjunction with member Clubs, the Breed Council and the S A Council of Cat Judges;
- 2.8 To promote a knowledge of Cats and Breed Standards by investigating or to assist in investigations to ensure that the breeding of cats and the showing of cats are according to the highest Standards;
- 2.9 To train or to assist in the training of persons for the breeding, judging, show management and stewarding of cats.

3. CENTRAL OFFICE

The operation of the affairs of SACC shall be carried out by the offices of the SA Cat Register.

4. LEGAL STATUS

- 4.1 SACC shall be a voluntary Association, with an independent Legal Persona.
- 4.2 SACC may acquire and hold property, apart from its member club/s and likewise may acquire rights and incur obligations, and sue and be sued for and by itself apart from its member club/s.
- 4.3 All property and assets of SACC shall vest in SACC, which shall hold such assets for itself. Individual member club/s shall have no rights in or to any property of other assets of SACC.
- 4.4 Any obligations or liabilities incurred by or on behalf of SACC shall be for itself and to the exclusion of the individual member club/s.
- 4.5 The power to decide whether or not to enter into litigation shall vest in the management of SACC, being the Governing Council of SACC.

DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

The under mentioned words will have the following meaning, unless the context otherwise indicates:

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| 5.1 | <u>SACC:</u> | Southern Africa Cat Council |
| 5.2 | <u>GC of SACC:</u> | Governing Council of Southern Africa Cat Council, managing SACC |
| 5.3 | <u>Club:</u> | A member of SACC |
| 5.4 | <u>Breed Council:</u> | A body made up of the various Breed Groups that serve, promote and regulate the different breeds. |
| 5.5 | <u>Breed Group:</u> | A group of people with the objective of promoting the breeding of any particular breed of cat and an affiliated member |
| 5.6 | <u>SA Council of Cat Judges:</u> | The Governing body of the Judges' Panels in various Provinces accredited to SACC |
| 5.7 | <u>Delegate:</u> | A person nominated by a Club or S A Council of Cat Judges to represent it at all meetings |
| 5.8 | <u>Support Management:</u> | The Administration Office consisting of the S A Cat Register; the Ethics Committee; Election Office and other Sub-Committees appointed from time to time by GC of SACC |
| 5.9 | <u>S A Cat Register:</u> | The Register officially appointed for the purpose of registering all pedigreed cats and non pedigreed cats, used as allowable outcrosses in a registered breeding program, bred and/or owned by members of the Cat Clubs |
| 5.10 | <u>The Registrar:</u> | The person appointed, from time to time, to administer the Affairs of the S A Cat Register |
| 5.11 | <u>Awards Office:</u> | The Office appointed for the purpose of processing/registering awards gained by pedigreed cats at cat shows is the SACR. |
| 5.12 | <u>Ethics Committee:</u> | The Office or ad hoc committee appointed to advise Governing Council and to administer discipline amongst members, exhibitors, judges, stewards, show officials, breeders, and all other persons who, by their participation in SACC activities, subject themselves to its various rules in order to preserve the integrity of this association in the accomplishment of its objectives |
| 5.13 | <u>Rules and Regulations:</u> | All Rules made by SACC, including Show Rules and Show Standards under which Shows are held |
| 5.14 | The masculine gender includes the feminine gender and vice versa | |
| 5.15 | The singular includes the plural and vice versa | |
| 5.16 | <u>SACC Publication:</u> | The official newsletter of SACC |
| 5.17 | <u>Breed Division:</u> | 4 Divisions namely: 1) Persian and Exotic; 2) Medium Hair; 3) Foreign and 4) Siamese, Oriental, Balinese, |

- 8.2 Voting will be by a show of hands or by ballot.
- 8.3 A simple majority vote shall decide the result.
- 8.4 The vote may be to accept, not to accept or to delay consideration pending receipt of additional information.

9.

9.1 Ongoing Requirements for Member Clubs

- 9.1.1 Hold at least ONE (1) championship show a year (excluding auspiced shows). Exceptions to this Rule shall be ratified by GC of SACC.
- 9.1.2 Use only Judges recognized by the GC of SACC, at such shows.
- 9.1.3 Hold such shows under the Rules laid down by GC of SACC.
- 9.1.4 Certify annually a membership of at least 60 members at a major centre, i.e. Cape Town, Johannesburg and Pretoria. In all other instances certify a membership of 30 members.
- 9.1.5 Submit an Annual Balance Sheet to GC of SACC.
- 9.1.6 Pay its annual dues.
- 9.1.7 Submit annually the current version of its constitution.

9.2 Ongoing Requirements for Affiliated Members

- 9.2.1 Certify annually a membership of at least 10 members.
- 9.2.2 Submit an Annual Balance Sheet to GC of SACC.
- 9.2.3 Pay its Annual Dues.
- 9.2.4 Supply annually a list of its officers, with their full contact details.
- 9.2.5 Submit annually the current version of its constitution.

10. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

- 10.1 Annual dues in the amount of R500.00 for clubs and R100.00 in respect of affiliated members are due and payable each year on the first day of January for that calendar year.
- 10.2 Payment shall be made to SACC's SACR Office.
- 10.3 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.
- 10.3.1 Any Club / Breed Group that has not renewed its SACC membership fee for more than two consecutive years will have to re-apply for affiliation to SACC as described in Section 7.
- 10.4 Clubs that are not member club/s in good standing will not be allowed to submit items for the Agenda for the AGM unless they have complied with item 9.1, 10.1, 10.2 and 11.3 by the 1st August of that particular year.

11. LIST OF MEMBERS

- 11.1 Each member club and affiliated member shall forward to the SACR Office a list of its members together with their addresses and a list of their current officers, which list shall be certified by the Secretary of the member.
- 11.2 In the event of a Breed Group being an Affiliated member, the membership list as referred to in paragraph 11.1 has to indicate non-voting and voting members.
- 11.3 A member has to comply with the provisions of paragraph 11.1 and/or 11.2, by the first day of the month following the month in which a member held its Annual General Meeting, but not later than 1 June.

12. MEMBER CLUB SECRETARY OF RECORD

- 12.1 The name and contact details of the Secretary and delegate of each Club or the secretary of the Breed Group member shall be recorded by the Registrar's Office, as well as being forwarded to the SACC Secretary, and shall be the point of all official communication between the Registrar's Office and the SACC Secretary and each member.

ARTICLE 3

13. ANNUAL AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

- 13.1 GC of SACC shall meet at least once a year. This shall be the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Constitutional changes may be made only at the Annual General Meeting.
- 13.2 A provisional date shall be set at each Annual General Meeting, for the next Annual General Meeting.
- 13.3 The quorum for such a meeting shall be the attendance of a simple majority of the total possible number of Delegates.
- 13.4 Special and General Meetings may be convened by a majority of the Delegates of GC of SACC. Any delegate or The President may request such meeting in writing. Notice of such meeting shall be given by the Secretary of SACC in writing calling for a Special or General Meeting, specifying the purpose, date and venue thereof. The Provisions of 16.1 and 16.3 shall not be applicable in the event of a Special or General Meeting.
- 13.5 General Meetings may be called from time to time to deal with matters not dealt with at the Annual General Meeting.
- 13.6 Extraordinary Meetings may be convened by a majority of the Delegates of GC of SACC. Any Delegate may request such a meeting in writing. A simple majority of Delegates must agree to the meeting after which notice of such a meeting shall be given by the Secretary of SACC, calling for an Extraordinary General Meeting, specifying the date and venue and attaching the Agenda. An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be convened not later than 3 calendar months from the date of acceptance of the meeting.

14. ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE

- 14.1 At each Annual, Special or General Meeting of SACC, each member club, in good standing is entitled to one vote.
- 14.2 The Secretary of each member club shall communicate the names of the officers and Delegates of such member to the SACR Office by the 1st June of each year.

15. DELEGATES (VOTING AND NON-VOTING)

- 15.1 Each member club in good standing, as set out in paragraph 9.1, 10 and 11 shall elect one (1) delegate, to represent such member club at each meeting.
- 15.2 The elected Delegates as set out above, shall remain the Delegates until replaced.
- 15.2.1 In the event of the Delegate not being available for a meeting of GC of SACC, that Delegate shall be replaced by another member of the member's Committee.
- 15.2.2 In the case of a Delegate not being able to attend the AGM on the day due to an emergency (accident, illness, etc) the Delegate may appoint a person not necessarily of the delegate's committee to take the Delegate's vote to the meeting.
- 15.3 Each Delegate shall be a fully paid-up member of the member.
- 15.4 The Registrar of the South African Cat Register shall not be a Delegate but shall attend all GC of SACC Annual General Meetings and shall be allowed to submit proposals related to the S.A. Cat Register office. The S.A. Cat Registrar shall have no vote.

16. AGENDA OF MEETINGS

- 16.1 Notice in writing of any special business to be brought forward by any Delegate from any member of affiliated member to such meeting shall be called for at least 90 days prior to date of AGM meeting and received by the Secretary of SACC at least 60 days before the day on which such meeting is to be held.
- 16.2 Notice in writing of any general business to be brought forward by the President of SACC or GC Management or any Delegate from any member of an Affiliated Club,

Breed Council or Judges Council of SACC for the purpose of a General Meeting shall be called for at least 60 days prior to date of meeting and received by the Secretary of SACC at least 45 days before the day on which such meeting is to be held.

16.3 All meetings will be recorded by the Secretary of SACC, who shall keep such recordings for a period of five (5) years. Any member of SACC has access to these recordings.

16.4 The Agenda for a meeting, other than a Special Meeting shall be e-mailed, or posted, if the delegate does not have e-mail, by the Secretary of SACC, to all Member club/s, the Breed Council and SA Council of Cat Judges at least 50 days prior to the date of the meeting and shall contain the terms and explanations of any proposed resolutions. Also to be included in the agenda are the grounds of appeal, in the event of an Appeal in terms of paragraph 4.10, against a decision of the Ethics Committee, as well as the proposals from the Breed Council to be tabled at the meetings.

16.5 Provision should be made for matters to be discussed under "General" or "Any other Business" providing such matters do not require a vote.

16.6 The Provisions of paragraph 16.1 – 16.5 are mutatis mutandis applicable to any proposals by the Stewards Forum, Show Managers Forum, Register, Awards Office or any person or body entitled, in terms of this constitution, to submit proposals.

17. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

17.1 The draft minutes of meetings shall be circulated by the Secretary of SACC, by certified post, registered post, courier, fax or e-mail to the official delegates of the member clubs and Executive of SACC as soon as possible after a meeting, but not later than 14 days, for confirmation of the correctness thereof by the member clubs, which shall be effected within 28 days of their receipt.

17.2 The draft minutes shall be an accurate record of the meeting.

17.3 Upon final confirmation of the correctness of the minutes by the member clubs delegates, the Secretary shall circulate an abridged version, showing only decisions made, to the Breed Groups and to the webmaster for posting on the official SACC website.

17.4 Unless otherwise provided for, all Constitutional matters decided on shall become effective immediately.

18. VOTING PROCEDURE

18.1 All voting shall be by a show of hands or by ballot.

18.1.1 Members may only vote in favour or against a proposal.

18.1.2 All proposals necessitating voting shall be decided by a simple majority vote unless specifically provided for in this constitution.

18.1.3 Only delegates from member clubs in good standing have one (1) vote.

18.1.4 The President and Vice President shall not have a vote. The Secretary and Treasurer of SACC shall not have a vote.

18.1.5 In the event of an equality of votes on any matter at any meeting, the matter shall be referred back to the Clubs and no delegate or other person shall have a casting vote.

18.1.6 Matters on the agenda involving the Breed Council and S.A. Council of Cat Judges to be voted on in accordance with paragraph 23 to 25 of this Constitution.

19. THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICERS OF SACC

19.1 The Administration Officers of SACC shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

19.2 Election of Officers

19.2.1 Election shall be by ballot, and the elected officers shall hold office for two (2) years.

19.2.2 The current Secretary of SACC shall, on or before the 1st July, publish in the SACC Publication and on the SACC Internet site and/or in the Cat Clubs' Newsletters the

ballots listing all candidates, with a Curriculum Vitae showing their involvement in the South African Cat Fancy.

- 19.2.3 Returned ballots must be received by the Secretary of SACC no later than commencement of the Annual General Meeting. Results will be announced at the Annual General Meeting and published in the next issue of the SACC Publication.
- 19.2.4 Any member (fully paid-up) of any Cat Club may vote for the election of officers.
- 19.2.5 One vote per person.
- 19.2.6 Club members may only vote in favour of or against a candidate.
- 19.2.7 A simple majority shall indicate the results of the election.
- 19.2.8 The opening and counting of ballots shall be done by Delegates of the member clubs present at the AGM. A Delegate that is a candidate for election may not be involved in the opening or counting of ballots.

19.3 Candidates

- 19.3.1 A nomination shall be made in writing on the prescribed nomination form (SACR D14) which is available on the SACC website. A statement under oath by the Nominee declaring that he/she has no criminal convictions nor is involved in any pending criminal investigations must accompany the nominations. Nominations to be mailed, faxed or emailed to the SACR, to reach the SACR Office on or before 1 June. No nomination shall be accepted after the closing date.

19.3.2 Eligibility for President and Vice President

- 19.3.2.1 Any person may be nominated for these positions.
- 19.3.2.2 Neither the President of SACC nor the Vice President may act as the Delegate of any member club of SACC for the period of his/her office.

19.3.3 Eligibility for Secretary and Treasurer

- i) Any person with secretarial experience may be elected as Secretary of SACC.
- ii) Any person with bookkeeping experience and qualifications may be elected as Treasurer.
- 19.3.4 No person with a criminal record in respect of offences where dishonesty is an element of the crime may be elected or hold the position of President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer of SACC.

19.4 Duties of Officers

- 19.4.1 The President shall be the managing head of the Administration Office of SACC and the Chairperson of GC of SACC.
- 19.4.2 In the absence of the President the Vice President shall preside.
- 19.4.3 The Secretary of SACC shall keep an accurate record of all meetings and attend to all correspondence received - whether it is via e-mail, posted or faxed - between SACC and its member club/s.
- 19.4.4 The Secretary of SACC shall perform all acts as specifically laid out as a duty in the Constitution.
- 19.4.5 The Treasurer, shall have custody of all monies of SACC inclusive of the offices of the Support Management and SACC Publication and shall account and receive and disburse same.
- 19.4.6 The Treasurer shall compile a monthly income and expenses account on all SACC finances and distribute same to all member club/s every month.
- 19.4.7 No officer of SACC or any other person shall be entitled to decide on issues pertaining to the following: the move of offices or change of address of the SACR offices, signing powers of cheques, moving or opening or closing of any bank account of SACC and the SACR, purchasing or sale of property/equipment of SACC, signing of contracts or deeds or incurring of debt on behalf of SACC. Such decisions

shall only be made by the member clubs of SACC, after written instructions of a simple majority of the member clubs prior thereto.

- 19.4.8 On 30 July of each year, the Secretary must issue a letter, email or fax to all clubs with a list of clubs that are not in good standing and a list of outstanding monies.

19.5 Vacancies

- 19.5.1 Vacancies in any office, except that of President shall be filled by GC of SACC for the balance of the unexpired term, in written consultation.

- 19.5.2 Should the office of the President become vacant, the Vice President shall automatically succeed.

20. SUPPORT MANAGEMENT (SA CAT REGISTER, AWARDS OFFICE, ETHICS COMMITTEE INTERNATIONAL LIAISON OFFICER AND ANY OTHER OFFICE APPOINTED BY GC OF SACC)

- 20.1 The Officers of the Support Management of SACC shall be appointed by the GC of SACC to serve for such period and on such terms and conditions as is agreed upon by the GC of SACC.

- 20.2 The Officers of the Support Management shall act in an advisory capacity to the GC of SACC at meetings on issues pertaining to those officers, upon request by GC of SACC.

- 20.3 Officers of the Support Management shall not be members of SACC by virtue of their Office, or exercise any voting rights, unless such Officer is a Delegate of a Club.

- 20.4 The Offices of the Support management are owned by SACC.

- 20.5 All Officers of the Support Management shall submit an Annual Report on the activities of that Office in accordance with Rules promulgated for that specific Office.

- 20.6 The compensation of these Officers shall be determined by GC of SACC.

- 20.7 SACC shall appoint an International Liaison Officer from one of the delegates to deal with international contact and affairs. This officer to be elected during the AGM of the GC of SACC each year for the following year.

- 20.8 SACC shall appoint an Archivist to deal with the history and archive materials worth preserving for future use and reference. This officer to be elected during an AGM of the GC of SACC and to remain in office until a proposal for a replacement is received and voted on according to the standard procedures of Governing Council. The Archivist to present a written annual report to the Secretary of the GC of SACC to be included with the minutes of the AGM.

- 20.9 No SACC Administration Officer, Delegate, Club Committee Member, Breed Group Committee Member, Judge or Support Manager may be an officer in any other cat registration organization.

ARTICLE 4

GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICA CAT COUNCIL(GC OF SACC)

21. The management of affairs of SACC shall be vested in the GC of SACC and shall consist of the following:

- 21.1 The President of SACC

- 21.2 The Vice President of SACC

- 21.3 Delegates of all member clubs

22. RULES AND STANDARDS

- 22.1 The GC of SACC shall from time to time establish Show Rules and other Rules to ensure the efficiency of the Cat Fancy.

- 22.2 Show Rules, Breed Standard or any other SACC rules changes so adopted shall be

effective on the 1st January of the year following adoption. Proposals for changes to Show Rules must only be submitted to an AGM.

22.3 Changes to COTY rules to come into effect at the start of the following COTY cycle.
22.4 Changes to Show Rules affecting specifically any colour, breed or division shall not be changed by GC of SACC unless the opinions of the Breed Groups via the Breed Council (as stipulated in Breed Group Rules) and the opinion of the S.A. Council of Cat Judges have been obtained by way of voting and the tabling of all ballots at the Annual General meeting of the GC of SACC.

22.5 The acceptance of any new Breed and any changes to the Standards of Points, as well as those items listed in paragraph 23 and 24 there under shall be in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 25, of this Constitution.

23. BREED COUNCIL.

23.1 The Breed Council shall serve the GC of SACC as an advisory body regarding Standards of Points, changes to the Standards of Points and acceptance of New Breeds.

23.2 The Breed Council shall channel opinions and suggestions from the Breed Groups to GC of SACC.

23.3 For any breed standard changes to be considered by the GC of SACC, at least 50% of the voting members of the Breed Groups and individual breeders registered as a Breed Council member concerning that Breed, combined, must vote.

23.4 The Club Delegates may present the various Breed Group's ballots from the individual voting members at a physical Annual General meeting of GC of SACC or, in the event of an electronic Annual General Meeting, the Breed Ballots should be sent to any of the Gauteng based club delegates for tabling no later than noon on the day before the AGM.

23.5 At a physical AGM the President and Vice President of SACC shall audit those tabled ballots and announce the result or, in the event of an electronic AGM, either the President or Vice President will oversee the tabling of the ballots. The audit will be done by the President and Vice President via cyberspace and the results will be announced to all Governing Council members during the AGM.

23.6 The results of the ballots shall be minuted.

23.7 Ballot to be filed by the Secretary of the Breed Council and kept as record for a period of five (5) years.

24. S.A. COUNCIL OF CAT JUDGES

24.1 The SACC recognizes the existence of the SA Council of Cat Judges, of which all judges are members.

25. AUDITING OF BALLOTS FROM BREED COUNCIL, SA COUNCIL OF CAT JUDGES AND VOTING BY GC OF SACC

25.1 Only Breed Group ballots circulated by the Breed Council shall be presented to the GC of SACC for consideration.

25.2 Breed Council ballots shall be presented in accordance with the procedure described in Paragraph 4 of the Breed Council Rules, for counting at the Annual General Meeting of the GC.

25.3 At least 50% of the voting members of Breed Groups plus 50% of individual breeders registered as Individual Breed Council members of a particular Breed must have responded, for the motion to be considered for approval by the GC of SACC.

25.4 A two third majority vote in favour, of the combined votes of breed group voting members, individual Breed Council voting members and qualified judges, is required for a proposal to pass.

25.5 The President and Vice President of SACC shall audit all ballots tabled on Breed Council proposals. This applies to either a physical or electronic AGM as per Item 23.5.

- 25.6 Proposals that satisfy the requirements of both paragraphs 25.3 and 25.4, constitute the advice of the Breed Council to the GC. Such proposals shall be placed before the GC for consideration.
- 25.7 Club delegates shall vote, by show of hands, whether to accept the advice received from the Breed Council. A simple majority shall decide the result. The Governing Council's major concern here is whether it is "detrimental to the Fancy".
- 25.8 Any changes to standards as approved by GC of SACC as well as any recommendations that have been rejected shall be placed on the agenda of the GC of SACC, recorded in such minutes and in the case of approved changes to standards become effective on the following January 1st.

26. RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF DELEGATES, CLUBS AND OTHER MEMBERS

- 26.1 Member club/s of the SACC through their delegates shall:
- 26.1.1 Enjoy the full and unrestricted rights which this constitution may confer, in particular the right of audience, the right to vote at any meeting, and the right to be elected to any office for which this constitution provides.
- 26.1.2 Be liable for the payment of any subscription, levy or fee prescribed in terms of the Rules.
- 26.1.3 Be empowered to expel, suspend or fine any Club, affiliated body, judge or show official and breeders or person as referred to in paragraph 28 hereof subject to the provisions contained herein.
- 26.1.4 Affiliated members shall have the right to use the words "Affiliated to SACC" in their official correspondence, letterheads, pamphlets and circulars.
- 26.1.5 At the time of replying to the Secretary of GC of SACC, on decisions required of their clubs or of the President, these decisions can be faxed to the Secretary or e-mailed to an e-mail list restricted to GC delegates and officials. All correspondence received by the Secretary to be circulated to all the club delegates either by fax or e-mail via the aforementioned list.

27. DUTIES AND POWERS OF GC OF SACC AND THE DELEGATES

- 27.1 Uphold the integrity, reputation, image of and good order in SACC.
- 27.2 Establish Rules and Regulations and amend existing Rules and Regulations.
- 27.3 Receive and consider applications for membership.
- 27.4 Determine the subscriptions and fees payable to SACC.
- 27.5 Convene a meeting as required from time to time. Determine the date and place of the meeting of GC of SACC and the business to be transacted at such meeting. The meeting arrangements to be made by the Secretary of SACC.
- 27.6 Incur expenditures in furtherance of the objects of SACC and take action in all matters, which shall include the power to institute or defend any suit on behalf of SACC.
- 27.7 Authorize the Treasurer to keep proper accounts of the revenue and expenditure of SACC and to render an Annual Balance sheet to GC of SACC.
- 27.8 Authorize the Treasurer to administer the assets of SACC.
- 27.9 Authorize the Treasurer to open an account at a registered Commercial Bank on behalf of SACC. SACC expenses may be paid by internet banking. This will be done by the Treasurer once a payment is approved by the President and Secretary.
- 27.10 Initiate disciplinary processes as might be required to uphold the integrity, reputation and image of and good order in SACC.
- 27.11 Holds the power and duty to apply all provisions regarding discipline in SACC, as contained in the Constitution and rules of SACC.
- 27.12 Consider complaints, as stipulated herein, and refer to the Ethics Committee.
- 27.13 Appoint any sub-committees as required from time to time.
- 27.14 Delegate duties to sub-committees.

- 27.15 Within thirty (30) days of any correspondence either via mail, e-mail and/or fax being sent to the delegates and office bearers any proposals will automatically be accepted as being in favour of the proposal from the clubs that do not reply. In the event of the delegate or office bearers not being available for any length of time (either due to work commitments, sickness or on holiday) the secretary and clubs must be notified and a contact person for the Club be supplied so that the matters can be dealt with.
28. DISCIPLINE
- 28.1 All persons, organizations or groups of people, clubs, breed groups, other affiliated members, show officials and judges who by their voluntary participation in breeding, exhibiting at shows or any other SACC activity, subject themselves to the Disciplinary Rules and Procedures of SACC and its members and affiliated members, in order to preserve the integrity of this Organization in the accomplishment of its objectives.
- 28.2 The GC of SACC shall have exclusive jurisdiction of discipline over such persons, organizations or groups of people, clubs, breed groups, other affiliated members, show managers and other show officials and Judges.
- 28.3 The GC of SACC may delegate jurisdiction to its members and affiliated members in certain categories of disciplinary matters, as set out in 28.5.
- 28.4 Complaints may be of the following nature, but are not limited to these categories and examples:
- 28.4.1 All persons, organizations or groups of people, clubs, breed groups, other affiliated members, show officials and judges who by their voluntary participation in breeding, exhibiting at shows or any other SACC activity
- 28.4.1.1 All participants in SACC activities, shows and events should conduct themselves in such a manner that SACC and its members and affiliated members are not brought into disrepute. Such harmful actions might be but are not limited to: verbal attacks or maligning of exhibitors, judges or other people at SACC shows, exhibitions or events; or written attacks or scathing comments on persons in public email lists, in cell phone messages or any electronic media. However, complaints of slander and/or defamation will not be investigated by GC because such civil matters are reliant on legal representation. The complainant should be advised of this at time of submission.
- 28.4.1.2 The GC of SACC or relevant delegated authority as described in paragraph 28.5 may reprimand, suspend, terminate and/or fine, or impose any other penalties as might be deemed suitable on any person or entity under its jurisdiction, upon a finding of guilt.
- 28.4.2 Breeders, owners of cats and exhibitors
- 28.4.2.1 Complaints may include, but are not limited to, the following: Studwork; Matings; Agreements; Health of cats; Cattery management; Ethics amongst breeders and the Cat Fancy as a whole, or any other issue indirectly or directly related to SACC activities, the objects of SACC, or any of the officers of SACC; Purchasing and sale of cats. However, complaints of slander and/or defamation will not be investigated by GC because such civil matters are reliant on legal representation. The complainant should be advised of this at time of submission.
- 28.4.2.2 The GC of SACC may reprimand, suspend, terminate and/or fine, or impose any other penalties as might be deemed suitable on any breeders, owners or exhibitors upon a finding of guilt.
- 28.4.3 Members and affiliated members
- 28.4.3.1 Complaints may include, but are not limited to, the following: The enactment of any amendment to the Constitution or By-Laws of a member club, breed group or other affiliated body in conflict with the Constitution of SACC; The holding of an unauthorized Championship Show, including changes of show dates not ratified by GC of SACC; The violation of any Show Rule; Any act of conduct seriously detrimental to the best

interest and welfare of the cat or SACC.

- 28.4.3.2 GC of SACC may reprimand, suspend, expel and/or fine any member, club, breed group or other affiliated body upon a finding of guilt.
- 28.4.4 Judges and probationer judges
 - 28.4.4.1 Complaints may include, but are not limited to, the following: Violation of any standing rules governing the responsibility and duties of judges or probationers as may be enacted from time to time; The violation of any Show Rule; Any wilful conduct involving SACC or SACC activities which is seriously detrimental to the best interest of SACC or the welfare of the cats; Cruel or inhumane treatment in dealing with felines.
 - 28.4.4.2 The SA Council of Cat Judges may reprimand, suspend, terminate and/or fine any judges and probationer judges upon a finding of guilt.
- 28.4.5 Any Club Officer, Show Official and other Show Participant subject to GC of SACC discipline.
 - 28.4.5.1 Complaints may include, but are not limited to, the following: Cruel or inhumane treatment in dealing with felines; The violation of any show rule; Authorizing or participating in the distribution of Club funds in a manner inconsistent with the objects of the club; Any act or conduct seriously detrimental to the best interest and welfare of the cat or SACC.
 - 28.4.5.2 The GC of SACC may reprimand, fine and/or remove any Club Officer, Show Official and other Participant subject to GC of SACC discipline, upon a finding of guilt.
- 28.5 Delegation of authority and avenues for appeal
 - 28.5.1 The GC of SACC shall delegate authority to the judges panels affiliated to the SA Council of Cat Judges to review, investigate and determine complaints against judges and probationer judges as set out in paragraph 28.4.4. The judges panel **may** conduct its investigations in terms of the disciplinary procedures provided for in its constitution, or in terms of the SACC **Procedural Guidelines with regard to Complaints**. In the event of an appeal, such appeal shall be addressed by the SA Council of Cat Judges
 - 28.5.2 The GC of SACC may delegate authority to the member clubs to review, investigate and determine complaints against Club Officers, Show Officials and other Show Participants as set out in paragraph 28.4.5. The Club Committee **may** conduct its investigations in terms of the disciplinary procedures provided for in its constitution, or in terms of the SACC **Procedural Guidelines with regard to Complaints**. In the event of an appeal, such appeal shall be addressed by the GC of SACC, who may appoint an Ethics Committee to advise it in the matter.
 - 28.5.3 The GC of SACC may delegate authority to an Ethics Committee to investigate all other complaints not provided for under paragraph 28.4.4 and 28.4.5, as well as any other complaints not specifically mentioned under paragraph 28.4.
 - 28.5.3.1 The Ethics Committee shall act as an advisory body to the GC of SACC. It shall report its findings and advice to the GC of SACC. The Ethics Committee **may** conduct its investigations in terms of the **SACC Procedural guidelines with regard to Complaints**.
 - 28.5.3.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 28.5.3.1, the GC of SACC may in exceptional cases and at its sole discretion, mandate and authorise the Ethics Committee to review, investigate and determine a specified complaint, without further reference to the GC of SACC. The GC of SACC shall advise the appointed ethics committee of such mandate and authority in writing at the time of its appointment.
- 28.6 All complaints by any aggrieved party shall be lodged in writing, either to the GC of SACC; or directly to the relevant club in the event of a complaint of paragraph 28.4.5;

or to the judges panel of which the respondent judge or probationer judge is a member, in the event of a complaint of paragraph 28.4.4. A fee may be payable, as determined by the GC of SACC from time to time. Complaints incorrectly lodged with the GC of SACC instead of its members or affiliated members, or vice versa, shall not by virtue of such initial incorrect place/office of lodging become invalid, but shall be forwarded by the recipient to the GC of SACC or the appropriate member or affiliated member, as determined in paragraph 28.5.

- 28.7 Any GC of SACC member who is the subject of a complaint, or who is a representative of a club that is the subject of a complaint, or who by some other close association has an interest in the outcome of the matter, shall be duty-bound to disqualify himself/herself from participation in the voting by GC of SACC.

ARTICLE 5

29. CLUBS' AND BREED GROUPS' INDEPENDENCE

Clubs and Breed Groups will be independent entities but by their voluntary participation submit themselves to certain measurable responsibilities. Clubs and Breed Groups as members affiliated to SACC are bound by the Constitution and Rules promulgated, from time to time.

30. RATIFICATION

- 30.1 In the event of a decision taken by Governing Council of SACC at an Annual General Meeting, Special Meeting or General Meeting being procedurally not in accordance with its Constitution it may ratify such decision.
- 30.2 The Ratification of a decision by Governing Council of SACC as in (1) above shall be done after due debate by all delegates and by a majority vote thereafter.
- 30.3 No decision taken by the delegates of Governing Council during the course of a year shall be invalid or *ultra vires* by virtue of the fact that it has not been sanctioned by SACC. Any such decision requiring such ratification may be discussed and so ratified under the item of "GENERAL" on the Agenda of the AGM for the particular year in which such decision(s) was/were taken.

31. ANNUAL REPORT ON AUDIT

The GC of SACC shall at the Annual Meeting submit a report, certified by the acting Treasurer of SACC and President of SACC, showing an exact accounting of all assets, investments, liabilities and monies received and paid out. The report has to furthermore indicate all existing member club/s of SACC. The report shall be filed with the records of SACC and an abstract thereof entered in the minutes of the proceedings of the Annual Meeting.

32. AMENDMENTS

- 32.1 This constitution may be amended at any physical meeting of GC of SACC with the consent of two thirds (2/3) of the member club/s present calculated of a fraction to the next highest whole number. A copy of the proposed amendment shall be included in the Agenda for such a meeting.
- 32.2 Constitutional changes to come into immediate effect after the AGM.

33. FINANCE

- 33.1 All clubs will share 50% equally of the total travelling expenses incurred by Delegates, Support Management, President and other Officers required to attend the AGM, Special Meeting or General Meeting.
- 33.2 SACC will pay the 50% balance of the travelling expenses.
- 33.3 In the event where a meeting is held with a show, the show host will pay 50% of the travelling expenses of delegates that are used as judges. 25% will be paid by

SACC and 25% by the member clubs.

33.4 The amount being paid by each party will be voted upon at the AGM and be accepted by a simple majority vote. In the case of no majority vote, each member will be responsible for their own traveling expenses and the travelling expenses for the executive and support management will be paid by SACC.

33.5 SACC is responsible for the cost of the venue and meals.

33.6 Each member is responsible for the accommodation of their delegate.

33.7 The members of the executive and support management are responsible for their own accommodation.

33.8 In the event where SACC do not have enough resources to share in the travelling costs, the delegates must decide upon a workable solution before or at the meeting.

34. SACC PUBLICATION

34.1 SACC Publication is the official newsletter of SACC.

34.2 The SACC Publication shall be under the control and management of SACC.

34.3 The Editor of the SACC Publication has to comply with the Rules and Regulations, as promulgated from time to time by GC of SACC.

34.4 The Treasurer of SACC shall keep a proper set of books and produce an annual income and expenditure account to GC of SACC.

34.5 All assets of the SACC Publication shall be the assets of SACC and no person working for or employed by the office of the SACC Publication shall have an individual claim to those assets.

34.6 The Editor is employed by SACC to manage and do all acts necessary to ensure the proper publication of the SACC Publication and the distribution thereof.

34.7 The remuneration of the Editor will be decided upon by GC of SACC, from time to time.

35. DISSOLUTION

35.1 Upon dissolution or liquidation of SACC, it shall give or transfer its assets remaining after satisfaction of its liabilities to some other society, association or body having similar objects of SACC.

35.2 Such dissolution shall only be effective if passed at a physical meeting of GC of SACC by a 2/3 (two thirds) majority vote of those present and eligible to vote.

36. All members' particulars are confidential and shall not be furnished to any third party.