



The Cat Association of the Northern Territory (Inc.)

BREEDERS' CODE OF ETHICS

All members of the Cat Association of the Northern Territory Incorporated (CANT (Inc.) who wish to be recognised as Registered Breeders must agree to uphold and respect this Code of Ethics in their actions and dealings.

Section 1 BREEDERS' REGISTRATION AND RECORD KEEPING

- All breeders must be registered annually by the CANT (Inc.).
- No person may knowingly inter-mate two breed groups without having applied to CANT (Inc) and having been granted an experimental licence to do so.
- Breeders must maintain comprehensive records of all cats owned by them, all litters bred and the names and addresses of new owners of kittens sold by them.
- All kittens of a litter must be registered with the CANT (Inc.).

Section 2 OBLIGATIONS

The overarching obligation for breeders is to always breed for the health, quality, temperament and the long term betterment of the breed.

- Agreements between the parties should be made regarding the costs and re-mating if applicable. The owner of the queen should make these arrangements well in advance and forewarn the owner of the stud of the impending visit of the queen. It is the responsibility of the stud's owner to witness at least three matings during the time that the queen is at stud. The stud service fee is payable and the completed certificate of service is to be provided at the time of service unless other terms have been agreed between the two parties. All mating certificates provided for outside stud service shall be true and correct.
- The owner of a stud male will not accept unregistered females for service and will ensure that the female is owned and registered in the name of a financial member of a recognised registering body.
- Owners of queens will not use unregistered males for service and will ensure that the male is owned and registered in the name of a financial member of a recognised cat registering body. Progeny of matings between unregistered animals or animals belonging to unregistered breeders WILL NOT BE REGISTERED.
- Breeders should ensure that a prospective new owner who wishes to either breed or show the cat/kitten is provided with the best potential show or breeding cat/kitten available. Cats/kittens with breed faults or sub-standard animals SHOULD NOT be sold for breeding and showing.
- No cat or kitten shall be sold to, or through, an agent who in turn will sell them on to new owners. (e.g. pet shops). Cats and kittens may be offered for sale at a cat show but must not be sold and removed from the show by new owners. All sales of cats and kittens should be conducted at the breeders' premises.
- If exporting a cat overseas, every effort should be made to ensure it is not going into "the Pet Trade". Contacting the recognised Cat Control Body in the country to which the cat is being exported to ascertain the bona fides of the recipient is a recommended course of action.

- As far as possible cats/kittens should be free from internal and external parasites, e.g. ear mites, fleas and intestinal worms.
- All cats/kittens should be immunised against Feline Infectious Enteritis, Feline Rhinotracheitis and Feline Calicivirus (Fe3 Vaccination).
- No kitten should be sold until at least 12 weeks of age and the breeder must ensure that the kitten is of sufficient maturity to cope with the move to a new home.
- Kittens or cats sold or placed in a breeding program should be tested for known heritable genetic defects/diseases by DNA tests available at the time. The purchaser must be made aware of the test results and if a cat/kitten is identified as a carrier or affected the breeder/purchaser must provide CANT (Inc.) with a signed statement that they are aware of the results if they wish to proceed with the purchase/placement.
- The Pedigree, Immunisation Certificate and Certificate of Registration are the birth right of the cat or kitten and are not to be withheld for extra payment. The price must include these whether the animal is sold for breeding, showing, or as a pet.
- Certificates of Registration will be transferred by the breeder into the new owners' name when the cat/kitten has been sold.

Section 3 GENERAL CARE OF BREEDING STOCK

- Breeders shall maintain a high standard of health and care for their cats and keep only the number of cats which can properly be cared for and protected from illness and stress related problems.
- Breeding cats shall be immunised regularly, and tested for preventable or inheritable diseases.
- Entire female cats must not roam free (in the general environs) unless under supervision and calling females must be prevented from having access to the general environs.
- Entire male cats must be prevented from having access to the general environs.
- Cats must be groomed regularly and handled daily and be given facilities for climbing and scratching.
- Cats should be provided with a balanced diet with food bowls to be changed at least once a day and always clean water available.
- Cats should be housed in hygienic conditions and provided with toilet facilities that are kept clean and disinfected regularly.
- Prompt veterinary attention should be provided if and when required.

Section 4 CARE OF PREGNANT QUEEN AND KITTENING

- Queens shall not be overbred, a maximum of two (2) litters per 12 months period is recommended.
- Breeders shall keep records of all matings, including mating dates, birth dates, number and sexes of kittens born.
- All breeders are to familiarise themselves with the kittening process prior to breeding a litter.
- Increase food amounts to the queen as pregnancy progresses and/or as the queen requires.
- Ensure an adequate calcium supply (in the correct form and proportions) during pregnancy and lactation.
- Provide a clean, adequately sized box and bedding at least one (1) week prior to expected kittening.
- Assist the kittening process where necessary.

- Queens must not knowingly be left more than two (2) hours in unproductive labour before seeking veterinary advice.
- Check the queen daily for undue bleeding and signs of mastitis.
- Check kittens daily for weight gain.
- Eyes should be checked daily in small kittens and if eye infections occur, veterinary treatment should be sought.

Section 5 DISPOSAL OF BREEDING STOCK

Entire or over 9 months of age:

- No breeding cat shall be excessively passed around, be leased loaned or sold ENTIRE more than three (3) times during its life, before being desexed.
- It is the owner's responsibility to ascertain the acceptability of the new owner's (lessee's borrower's, buyer's) premises and standard of care before the cat is re-located.

Desexed:

- It is the breeder's responsibility to desex all stock no longer required or unsuitable for breeding. Desexed former breeding stock may be found homes. All ex-breeding stock should be micro chipped prior to sale or re-homing.
- No person may advertise a cattery sell out.

Section 6 GENETIC ANOMOLIES

- The problem of genetic anomalies is something of which all breeders should be aware – this is not to suggest that these are common but cats must be expected to have a quota of defects just as are found with other animals. (See the ACF (Inc.) Book of Standards for list of withholding faults and list of known genetic disorders).
- The mating of very closely related cats through a restricted mating programme is another way to test for any genetic anomalies but should only be an option in very special instances (a list of restricted matings is given below). Kittens bred from such matings must be registered as non-breeding and desexed to prevent the inheritance of any detrimental genetic traits by subsequent generations unless there is a specific purpose which has been advised by veterinary or genetic counselling.
 - Mother to son
 - Father to daughter
 - Full siblings

Breeders are strongly encouraged to avail themselves of DNA testing applicable to their breed. Testing can be accessed from such organisations as UC – Davis Veterinary Genetics Laboratory or www.animalsdna.com. **NB.** Samples are taken by a Cotton Mouth Swab except Ancestry and Karyotyping.

ADDENDUM TO CANT (INC.) BREEDERS' CODE OF ETHICS

LIST OF WELL KNOWN GENETIC ANOMOLIES

- **Brachycephalia** – a malformation of the skull resulting in significant flattening of the face.
- **Feline Hip Displaysia(FHD)** – a deformity of the joint of the hips resulting in a displacement of the hip joint.
- **Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP)** – not an inherited disease, however a genetic predisposition to the development of FIP has been identified.
- **Flat-chest Syndrome** – results in kittens with compressed, flattened rib-cage causing difficulty in breathing. Though to be caused by a simple recessive gene.
- **GM1 & GM2 Gangliosidosis** – GM1 is an autosomal recessive lysosomal storage disease. Due to the lack of the enzyme acid β -galactosidase which leads to the build up of GM1 ganglioside within cells. Symptoms include uncoordinated walking (ataxia) and tremors. GM2 is also an autosomal recessively inherited lysosomal storage disease. Due to the lack of hexosaminidase A & B.
- **Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (HCM) Restrictive Cardiomyopathy (RCM)** – both of these conditions are characterised by impaired relaxation of the heart muscle.
- **Hypokalaemic Polymyopathy** – a disorder of severely reduced potassium retention in the cat causing severe muscle weakness.
- **Muscular Dystrophy** – a genetically inherited disease that affects predominately male cats as it is an X-linked autosomal recessive condition.
- **Neonatal Isoerythrolysis** – (Blood Type Incompatibility) Potentially life-threatening disorder that affects kittens of blood type A that are born to Queens of blood type B.
- **Orofacial Pain Syndrome** – the clinical signs are characterised by exaggerated licking and chewing movements and pawing at the mouth.
- **Osteochondrodysplasia** – Scottish Fold Osteochondrodysplasia is a hereditary disease affecting bone growth as well as formation of articular cartilage.
- **Patella Luxation** – thought to occur when an oversized patella (knee cap) is associated with an abnormally narrow groove at the end of the femur.
- **Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD)** – a deleterious gene mutation which causes enlarged kidneys composed of dilated cystic channels resulting in early kidney failure and death.
- **Progressive Retinal Atrophy (PRA)** – an inherited ophthalmic condition leading to irreversible blindness.
- **Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency (PKDef)** – an inherited disease the main consequence of which is development of anaemia caused by a lack of Pyruvate Kinase (PK) in red blood cells.
- **White Cats and Deafness** – caused by progressive degeneration of the auditory apparatus of the inner ear and may affect one ear (unilateral) or both (bilateral).



Code of Ethics for Registered Breeders

Adopted – 16th July 2014

Amended – 16th September 2015

Amended – 8th May 2017

Amended – 1st November 2018

Amended – 15 March 2023

Amended - 9th September 2025

CODE OF ETHICS FOR REGISTERED BREEDERS

The following comprises a declaration of intent by Registered Breeders to follow the Code of Ethics of Cats NSW Inc.

By applying for membership or membership renewal, all breeder members are deemed to have read and agreed to the Cats NSW Inc. Code of Ethics for Registered Breeders.

NSW resident breeder members must comply with the following NSW legislations:

- Companion Animals Act 1998, Companion Animals Regulation 2008,
- Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979,
- Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (General) Regulation 2006,
- Animal Welfare Code of Practice - Breeding cats and dogs, and the
- Local Government Act 1993

ACT resident breeder members must comply with the following ACT legislations:

- Animal Welfare Act 1992,
- Animal Welfare Regulation 2001,
- Domestic Animals Act 2000, and the
- Domestic Animals Regulation 2001

AMENDMENTS

DATE	CLAUSE	DESCRIPTION
08.05.2017		Added clause numbers
08.05.2017	6.1	Vaccination rules and health checks for kittens
15.03.2023	1.8	Amended to include microchip requirements
15.03.2023	5.7	Amended to include microchip requirements
15.03.2023	5.9	Amended to include requirement for desexing certificate with transfer application.
09.09.2025	5.9	Amended to include additional information about the requirements of this clause

1.0 INTRODUCTION

CATS NSW Inc member Breeders shall:

- 1.1 maintain meticulous records of all breeding cats to enable members to provide true and accurate records of the pedigrees of any kittens sold;
- 1.2 provide mating certificates for all outside stud services at the time of the service. Where a mating is registered the mating certificate must specify any conditions including but not limited to the sale or transfer of any progeny of the mating. They shall be true and correct and matings witnessed where possible. Where it proves difficult to witness a mating, breeder members shall ensure that there is no question of paternity of a litter of kittens;
- 1.3 Certificates of Registration will be transferred by the breeder into the new owner's name when the cat/kitten has been sold for show and/or breeding;
- 1.4 Each member shall accept reasonable financial responsibility for the health status of kittens for 7 days after the date the new owner takes possession of the kitten. It is recommended that kittens are veterinary inspected within 48 hours of arriving at their new home.
- 1.5 No kitten shall be offered as a prize or be raffled;
- 1.6 No kitten shall be sold to a commercial pet wholesaler or pet shop;
- 1.7 Breeder members shall breed to improve the standard of the breed and not solely for the pet market;
- 1.8 Breeders must register all kittens in each and every litter with Cats NSW Inc. Every kitten and cat must have a microchip at the time of application for registration;
- 1.9 Where a cat is leased to or from another breeder, a copy of the leasing contract, including any restriction, if any, of the sale or transfer of any progeny of the leased cat.
- 1.10 Kittens sold as breeding stock shall be sold ONLY to REGISTERED BREEDERS. No kittens will be transferred entire unless to a registered breeder.
- 1.11 No cat may be transferred entire more than three (3) times. The number of transfers will be noted on the pedigree.
- 1.12 Catteries will be placed in quarantine when evidence is presented to the Cats New South Wales Inc committee that a communicable disease is present, or if a breeder self identifies such a disease in their cattery.
- 1.13 While a cattery is in quarantine, no person either owning or residing at that cattery shall attend any cat related event without prior knowledge and permission of all persons likely to attend that event, or visit any other cattery or the home of any other exhibitor without the prior knowledge and permission of all the persons concerned.

- 1.14 While a cattery is in quarantine, no kittens or cats can be sold, or otherwise transferred without the written permission of the Cats New South Wales Inc committee.
- 1.15 A veterinary clearance will be required to lift the quarantine. Such veterinary clearance must encompass all cats/kittens resident at the affected cattery.
- 2.0 BREEDING PROGRAM
Breeder members shall plan and implement a breeding program which addresses the following issues:
 - 2.1 preservation and protection of the breed/s involved;
 - 2.2 health and freedom from congenital disease and deformity;
 - 2.3 conformity to the standards of the breed as set out by the Australian Cat Federation Inc
- 3.0 CARE OF CATS
Breeder members shall maintain a high standard of health and care, including providing for each cat and making advance preparations for the care of their cats should they not be able to care for them, Breeders must:
 - 3.1 not allow an entire cat to run loose outdoors (i.e. confined within a cat-proof area);
 - 3.2 provide any outdoor runs with security from weather, other animals, and parasites;
 - 3.3 observe show rules by protecting their cat/s and others by not exposing at shows, cats which are ill;
 - 3.4 adequate room for exercise;
 - 3.5 regular handling and grooming;
 - 3.6 clean and comfortable quarters;
 - 3.7 adequate ventilation and light;
 - 3.8 a balanced diet and clean water;
 - 3.9 regular vaccinations and veterinary care and
 - 3.10 love and affection.
- 4.0 CARE OF STUD MALES
Breeder members shall:
 - 4.1 only offer external stud service to breeders with an established cattery registered with a recognised association.
 - 4.2 allow stud males adequate time between successive matings.

5.0 CARE OF BREEDING FEMALES AND KITTENS

Breeder members shall:

- 5.1 be mindful that females are to be over 10 months old at the time of their first mating. Exceptions are made when recommended by a veterinarian where prolonged calling by a young female jeopardises her fertility or health;
- 5.2 ensure females are not overbred – no more than twice in any 12 month period; not repeatedly breed a dam who has severe and persistent birthing difficulties;
- 5.3 provide proper care for the safe and healthy delivery of kittens, and shall, whenever possible, be available to assist the queen, if necessary, without undue interference with natural parturition. If unable to be present at the expected time of birth, then should ensure that another responsible and experienced person is available to attend the birth. A veterinarian shall be consulted at the first sign of life-threatening difficulty;
- 5.4 agree to have euthanised, any kitten born with a deformity which a veterinarian deems incompatible with a healthy or comfortable life. In the case of genetic defects, breeder members should consult a veterinarian or geneticist as soon as possible and report all findings to purchasers of kittens from the same breeding stock, and to the owner/breeder of the sire and/or dam;
- 5.5 not allow kittens under the age of 10 weeks of age to leave their home;
- 5.6 ensure all kittens have received a health check by a Practicing Registered Veterinarian and have received a Feline 3 vaccination administered by a Practicing Registered Veterinarian at least two weeks prior to being sold;
- 5.7 have all kittens and cats microchipped at the time of application for registration or transfer and apply for transfer to the new owner;
- 5.8 wean, litter-train and socialise all kittens prior to leaving for their new home;
- 5.9 ensure that all cats and kittens are desexed before being transferred from the breeder, unless the new owner is a registered breeder.

The only exception is when a Registered Veterinarian provides a letter of exemption to the desexing procedure based on the health and safety of the animal. Before leaving the breeder, an agreement between the breeder and the new owner must be signed, which outlines the conditions of sale and specifies when the kitten will be desexed.

The letter of exemption from the Veterinarian and the signed agreement must be submitted to the Registrar when the kitten is registered and/or transferred.

Once the animal has been desexed, the breeder will send a copy of the Sterilisation Certificate to the Registrar.

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- 5.10 provide to new owners all vaccination records, micro-chipping records, dietary requirement information sheets and pedigree. These records are rightfully the property of the new owner
- 5.11 when selling entire pedigree breeding kittens or cats, member breeders will not transfer the said cat before the buyer has been granted a breeding prefix from a recognised body affiliated with Australian Cat Federation Inc.(ACF), Co-Ordinating Cat Council of Australia Inc.(CCCA) or Australian National Cats Inc.(ANCATS).



1 Purpose of the Code of Conduct

- 1.1 To provide members of the Feline Control Council WA (Inc) with a framework for appropriate conduct. This includes behaviour towards other FCCWA members, judges, general community members and cats.
- 1.2 The core principles that underpin the organisation must be the welfare of all cats that fall within the scope of FCCWA and the protection of the integrity of FCCWA pedigrees
- 1.3 Incorporated in this Code of Conduct is a Code of Ethics for all members who wish to be recognised as Registered Breeders. All FCCWA Registered breeders must agree to uphold and respect this Code of Ethics in their actions and dealings within the Cat Fancy.

2 General Principles of Conduct

General principles to guide the behaviour of FCCWA members include that all members must:

- a) Act with reasonable care and diligence
- b) Act with honesty and integrity
- c) Act lawfully
- d) Avoid damage to the reputation of the FCCWA (Inc)
- e) Treat others with respect and fairness.
- f) Abide by any rules, regulations or guidelines as determined by FCCWA (Inc) including Breeding, Showing, membership of Governing Council or any other activity. Such regulations will be available on the FCCWA website.
- g) Comply with the WA Cat Act (2011) and any other relevant legislation.

2 Rules of Conduct

All members of the Feline Control Council of Western Australia (Inc) will abide by the following:



3.1 They WILL:

- a) Act appropriately and treat people with respect, never being derogatory in their speech or manner
- b) Act in the best interests of the Association (FCCWA) and not seek to gain any advantage for themselves, their family or friends
- c) Act in a way that is fair and unbiased
- d) Seek to resolve any conflict or dispute amicably in the best interests of the FCCWA.
- e) Declare or avoid (where practical) any conflict of interest whereby an individual may gain an unfair advantage at the expense of other FCCWA members, show participants or the organisation.
- f) Desex all non-pedigree cats and any pedigree cat that they intend to keep that is not part of a breeding program
- g) Care properly for all cats that they own or are responsible for, providing proper housing, food and veterinary care, and not permit them to roam at large
- h) Microchip all cats and kittens as soon as practical.
- i) Provide information and access as required by Governing Council to resolve issues and/or complaints.

3.2 They WILL NOT:

- a) Act , write or speak in a way that may be perceived as bullying, intimidation, abusive, discriminatory or derogatory
- b) Use any confidential information for their personal advantage or the advantage or disadvantage of any FCCWA member
- c) Use confidential information to disadvantage or discredit the FCCWA
- d) Bring the FCCWA into disrepute by their actions, decisions or behaviour
- e) Speak or claim to speak or give the impression that they speak on behalf of the FCCWA or claim to be representing the FCCWA unless duly authorised by the Governing Council
- f) sell or dispose of cats or kittens to or through pet shops or agents, markets or animal shelters, or allow any cat or kitten to be given as a prize or donation of any kind, nor act as an agent; for a third party in the sale or disposal of cats or kittens EXCEPT when participating in the rescue of cats or kittens.



4 Breeders Code of Ethics

All members who wish to be recognised as Registered Breeders must agree to uphold and respect this Code of Ethics in their actions and dealings within the Cat Fancy

- 4.1 F.C.C.W.A. (Inc) Breeders shall maintain comprehensive records of all cats owned by them, all litters bred and the names and addresses of new owners of kittens sold by them.
- 4.2 The Breeder shall breed for the health, quality, temperament and the betterment of the breed. It is the responsibility of the Breeder to ensure that a prospective new owner who wishes to either breed or show the cat/kitten is provided with the best potential show or breeding cat/kitten available. Cats/kittens with breed faults or sub-standard animals SHOULD NOT be sold for breeding and showing.
- 4.3 Breeders shall maintain the best standard of health and care for their cats and keep only the number of cats which can properly be cared for and protected from illness and stress related problems.
- 4.4 Breeding cats shall be immunised regularly and tested against diseases
- 4.5 It is the responsibility of the Breeder to ensure that the animal will be given a permanent home and not passed on without due consideration for its welfare.
- 4.6 It is the responsibility of the Breeder to ensure, as far as possible, that the prospective new owner/s know how to care for the cat/kitten.
- 4.7 Breeders should make themselves available to novice Breeders or Owners for advice and guidance, especially those who have purchased cats/kittens from them.
- 4.8 No cat or kitten shall be sold to, or through, an Agent who in turn will sell them on to new Owners. (e.g. Pet Shops) Cats and kittens may be offered for sale at a Show but must not be sold and removed from the Show by new owners. All sales of cats and kittens should be conducted at the Registered Breeders premises. Any Members breeding and/or selling to the export market will have their membership revoked.
- 4.9 The Pedigree, Veterinary Immunisation Certificate and Certificate of Registration are the birthright of the cat or kitten and are not to be withheld for extra payment. The price must include these whether the animal is sold for breeding, showing, or as a pet.
- 4.10 Transfer of ownership of the cat/kitten must be effected within 30 days of the gift or sale to a new Owner.



- 4.11 Transfer may be made for "Breeding" or "Non-Breeding". "Non-Breeding" means that should the cat produce kittens, none of the progeny can be registered. The kitten is to be desexed. It is the responsibility of the Breeder to explain to the new owner the meaning of the "Non-Breeding" status. It is also important to point out to the new owner that, by signing the transfer application form, they are signing a contract to have the cat/kitten desexed.
- 4.12 Matings: Agreements between the parties should be made regarding the costs and re-mating if applicable. The owner of the queen should make these arrangements well in advance and forewarn the owner of the stud of the impending visit of the queen. It is the responsibility of the stud's owner to witness at least three matings during the time that the queen is at stud. The stud service fee is payable and the completed certificate of service is to be provided at the time of service unless other terms have been agreed between the two parties.
- 4.13 The owner of a stud male will not accept unregistered females for service and will ensure that the female is owned and registered in the name of a financial member of a recognised registering Body.
- 4.14 Owners of queens will not use unregistered males for service and will ensure that the male is owned and registered in the name of a financial member of a recognised cat registering Body. Progeny of matings between unregistered animals or animals belonging to unregistered Breeders WILL NOT BE REGISTERED.
- 4.15 All kittens of a litter must be registered with the Feline Control Council of W.A. (Inc)
- 4.16 The cat/kitten should be in the best possible health and condition before it goes to a new home.
- 4.17 As far as possible it should be free from internal and external parasites, e.g. ear mites, fleas and intestinal worms.
- 4.18 No kitten should be sold until at least 10/12 weeks of age and the Breeder must ensure that the kitten is of sufficient maturity to cope with the move to a new home.
- 4.19 All cats/kittens should be immunised against Feline Infectious Enteritis, Feline Rhinotracheitis and Feline Calicivirus (Fe3 Vaccination)
- 4.20 Kittens or Cats sold or placed in a breeding program will be tested for known heritable genetic defects/diseases by DNA tests available at the time. The purchaser must be made aware of the test results and if a cat/kitten is identified as a carrier or affected the breeder/purchaser must provide FCCWA with a signed statement that they are aware of the results if they wish to proceed with the purchase/placement.



- a. Collection of Bucal Swab for DNA testing
- i. Cat/kitten being tested must be microchipped PRIOR to sample being taken
 - ii. Cat/kitten name, registration number and microchip number must be noted on test results from the DNA Laboratory
 - iii. Person taking the swabs must sign a declaration stating the date, name, registration number and microchip number of the cat/kitten
 - iv. Test results and the declaration may be forwarded to the FCCWA so that the results are recorded on the health file of the registered cat/kitten
 - v. Breeders found to have falsified DNA results will be immediately suspended

5 Breaches of the Code of Conduct

5.1 Disciplinary action in accordance with the Disciplinary Policy may be taken against any person who breaches this Code of Conduct.

6 Revision and Approval History

Date	Revision No.	Author and Approval
13.11.2011	1	L Horton, approved by Governing Council 21.11.11
15.09.2013	2	Insertion of clause 4.20 as approved by Governing Council 19.08.2013
20.10.2014	3	Insertion of clause 3.1 i as approved by Governing Council 18.08.2014

COAWA

Guide & Ethics for COAWA Cat Breeders

1. Kitten Age - A kitten should be no less than 10 weeks of age when the new owners take it home.
2. Health - A cat or kitten should be in the best possible health before it goes to a new home and as far as possible free of external and internal parasites such as fleas, ear mites and round worms.
3. Kitten Care - It is the responsibility of the breeder to ensure as far as possible that the new owner knows how to care for and feed the cat or kitten. Written information covering the main points and a diet sheet should be provided.
4. Early Problems - The new owner should be advised to contact the breeder immediately should there be any problems within the first week or two of their taking the cat or kitten home.
5. Vaccination - A first vaccination injection should have been given between six and eight weeks of age if the kitten is to go to its new home at 10 weeks. It must be explained to the owner that the kitten is not fully vaccinated and must have further injections at 12 weeks and 16 weeks to protect it against Feline Infectious Enteritis (panleukopenia), Feline Rhinotracheitis and Feline Calicivirus (cat flu).
6. Registration - All kittens must be litter recorded but need not be individually registered if they are intended as companion pets only. A cat must be fully Registered and transferred to be shown.
7. Transfer - Transfer of an individually registered cat or kitten must be done within 30 days of the gift or sale. Transfer of ownership may be for breeding", non-breeding (but eligible for exhibition in pedigree shows) or companion pet only (eligible to be shown without the breeder's prefix in companion shows or the companion section of pedigree shows). It is the responsibility of the breeder to send the completed forms to the COAWA office.
8. Status - The breeder must explain the status of the cat or kitten in relation to breeding or non-breeding to the prospective new owner before the gift or sale.
9. Papers - The pedigree, vaccination card and the transfer of ownership (if individually registered) are the birth right of which the litter record is prominently displayed.
10. Desexing - It is the responsibility of the breeder to ensure that the new owner understands that a non-breeding or companion pet is to be desexed at the appropriate age and as far as possible follow up that this has been done.
11. Breeding Male -An entire male cat used as a stud must be registered as a breeding cat, and the owner must be a member of a recognised registering body. Unregistered female cats or registered cats owned by a person who is not a registered breeder should not be accepted for mating services.
12. Breeding Female - A female cat used for breeding must be registered as a breeding cat and the owner must be a member of a recognised registering body and they must have a registered Cattery Prefix. A registered female should not be mated to an unregistered stud male.
13. Mating Service - The price and any conditions attached to the mating service should be discussed and agreed upon by the stud owner and the owner of the female before she is brought to the stud.
14. Mating Arrangements - The owner of the female should notify the stud owner of the impending visit and should not just arrive without warning.
15. Actual Matings - It is usual for a stud owner to record at least three observed matings when a female is presented for mating service.
16. Conception - The responsibility of the stud owner ends when the female goes home. The stud owner is not obliged to offer a second visit of the same female free of charge if she has not conceived. The owner of the female should not expect a free service for a different female.
17. Number of kittens in a litter - The number of kittens in a litter is generally determined by the female. The stud owner is not obliged to offer a free mating service for a female who has still born kittens or only one or two kittens in the litter.
18. It is the responsibility of all breeders to ensure, as far as it is practicable, that all cats and kittens not required by the breeder are placed in permanent, safe and caring homes. COAWA does not condone or consider it ethical the sale of kittens to pet shops or agents for export.

FCCQ Breeders Code of Ethics

All Feline Control Council of Queensland Inc. breeders sign and agree to be bound by the FCCQ Rules of Association, By-laws, Breeders Code of Ethics, Social Media Policy and the ACF by-laws. To implement this each member/breeder shall adhere to all the items listed below and to the requirements of all relevant State and local legislation.

1. Always ensure that all cats and kittens are hygienically housed, properly fed, watered, and groomed and receive prompt veterinary attention when required.
2. Observe the rules and regulations of FCCQ pertaining to any outbreak of infectious disease.
3. Take care not to mate a female under 10 months or to over-breed a queen, ensuring that she has a maximum of two litters each 12 months, except under exceptional circumstances.
4. Do not allow any entire cats under a member's care to roam free except under supervision, to prevent mis-matings and spread of disease.
5. Ensure that a pedigreed cat is not mated to a pedigreed cat of another breed unless the FCCQ approves such mating or the ACF Standards list allowable outcrosses (e.g. for the Scottish Fold and Manx breeds).
6. Matings shall only be accepted between cats owned by registered breeders
7. The primary purpose of breeding cats should be for the purpose of improving the standard of the breed and not primarily for the pet market.
8. A kitten shall not leave the breeders premises under the age of 10 weeks.
9. Provide information regarding diet, vaccinations, and grooming requirements. immunisation certificates.
 - a. Provide purchasers with
 - i. Registration Certificate in the purchaser's name
 - ii. Vaccination Certificate in the purchaser's name
 - iii. Desexing Certificate (Pet cats/kittens)
 - iv. Microchip registration in the purchaser's name
 - v. Information regarding proper care of the cat/kitten such as diet, health, and grooming requirements.
10. Cats and/or kittens must not be sold to commercial cat wholesalers, retail pet dealers, given as a prize or donated for a contest of any kind, or be advertised as a give-away
11. A breeder shall not misrepresent the characteristics of the breed, nor falsely advertise or mislead any person regarding the pedigree or performance of any kitten on the show bench or as a pet.
12. Ensure the requirements of relevant local and State legislation have been met.

FCCQ Breeders Code of Ethics

FCCQ BREEDING PRACTICES

1. SELECTION OF BREEDING STOCK

Animals should be:

- a) healthy
- b) of good temperament
- c) of lines free from any known genetic fault
- d) not displaying any generally accepted genetic fault.

2. GENERAL CARE OF BREEDING STOCK

- a) Entire female cats must not roam free unless under supervision.
- b) Calling females must be confined.
- c) Entire male cats must not roam free.
- d) Cats must be groomed regularly and handled daily.
- e) Cats must be given facilities for climbing and scratching.
- f) Cats must be given a balanced and varied diet.
- g) Cats must be housed in hygienic conditions.
- h) Cats must be provided with hygienic toilet facilities that are kept clean and disinfected regularly.
- i) Food and water bowls are to be changed daily.
- j) Cats must receive prompt veterinary attention if, and when, required.
- k) Cats must be vaccinated in accordance with the current veterinary advice.
- l) Cats must be treated on a regular basis for internal and external parasites, in accordance with current veterinary advice on various Parasitic Cycle controls.

3. MINIMUM DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

- a) Cats should be fed a varied diet, except on veterinary advice to the contrary.
- b) Adult should be offered food twice a day.
- c) Fresh water must always be available.
- d) The following guidelines for suitable meals should be followed:
 - i. raw meat (no preservatives)
 - ii. kidney, heart, raw liver (not more than once weekly)
 - iii. tinned food
 - iv. cheese, cottage cheese, egg yolk (not egg white)
 - v. dried food.

FCCQ Breeders Code of Ethics

4. MINIMUM HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

- a) Outdoor units must protect cats from rain, wind, and extreme heat and cold, and must be partially enclosed to provide a sheltered sleeping area.
- b) Units must be designed and maintained to avoid injury and/or escape.
- c) The structure must be non-porous or coated with non-toxic materials to facilitate easy cleaning.
- d) Units must be kept clean.
- e) Cleaning and disinfecting agents should be used only in the recommended concentrations. Where a disinfectant solution has been applied, the area should be allowed to dry before the animal/s can return, as some solutions can be absorbed through the skin and paw pads. PHENOLS, PINE OIL, EUCALYPTUS OIL must not be used.
- f) The minimum cage size for a single cat confined at nighttime only, or for no longer than eight hours, is approximately 1.2m long x 1.2m wide x 1.8m high.
- g) The minimum permanent unit size for a single adult cat is approximately 2.4m long x 1.8m wide x 1.8m high or equivalent area.
- h) The minimum permanent unit size for two to four cats is approximately 3.6m long x 2.4m wide x 1.95m high. No more than four cats to be housed on a permanent basis in a unit this size, as cats are territorial animals and over-crowding causes undue stress.
- i) Animals housed in units within homes, garages, etc. must have access to sunshine and such areas must always be well ventilated.
- j) Where cats are permanently confined to units, adequate scratching posts and high-level shelving for exercise must be provided. (Also see Section 8: Stud Quarters and Care.)

5. STUD QUARTERS AND CARE

- a) Stud quarters must be as roomy as possible with the minimum size being approximately 2.4m long x 2.4m wide x 1.8m high with an area set aside within the enclosure for the introduction of visiting queens.
- b) Quarters shall be kept clean to keep the odour to a minimum.
- c) Climbing and scratching facilities must be provided, plus a high shelf for the stud to retreat to after mating.
- d) Studs require plenty of companionship, both human and feline. Daily, sometime should be spent grooming and handling the stud. A feline companion such as an altered (i.e. neutered or spayed) cat is usually beneficial.
- e) Each stud must have individual quarters.
- f) Current vaccination certificates must be sighted before accepting a visiting queen.
- g) It is recommended that certificates for FIV, FeLV, PKD and any breed-specific conditions be sighted before accepting a visiting queen.
- h) Visiting queens should be examined for cleanliness and state of health prior to introduction to the stud.
- i) Matings shall only be accepted from cats owned by registered breeders.
- j) Queens should be permitted to remain with the stud for a reasonable time after mating and not be removed from the Stud Quarters before a minimum of three matings have been witnessed.

FCCQ Breeders Code of Ethics

6. CARE OF THE PREGNANT QUEEN AND KITTENING

- a) Queens shall not be over-bred. A maximum of two litters every 12 months is recommended.
- b) All breeders must familiarise themselves with the kittening process prior to breeding a litter.
- c) Food amounts to the queen must be increased as pregnancy progresses and/or as the queen requires. Ensure that the queen receives adequate calcium supply during pregnancy and lactation.
- d) Provide a clean, adequately sized box and bedding at least one week prior to the expected kittening.
- e) Assist the kittening process where necessary.
- f) Queens must not be left unattended for lengthy periods during labour and, when labour is deemed to be unproductive, veterinary advice must be sought immediately.
- g) Once all kittens are born, replace bedding and/or box and change bedding at least every two days.
- h) Queen and kittens must be kept in a draught-free, but well ventilated, area.
- i) Check the queen daily for undue bleeding and signs of mastitis.
- j) Check all kittens daily for weight gain.
- k) Seek veterinary advice on sickly or deformed kittens.
- l) Small kittens' eyes should be checked daily and, if eye infections occur, veterinary treatment should be sought immediately.

7. KITTEN CARE AND WEANING

- a) Kittens shall not be taken away from their mother until such time as they are fully weaned.
- b) Between four and six-weeks kittens should be introduced to suitable foods, such as:
 - i. cereal
 - ii. baby food (chicken, fish, beef broth)
 - iii. specially prepared commercial kitten food
- c) **Fresh water must always be available**
- d) Between six and 12 weeks, or when ready, kittens may be introduced to:
 - i. finely chopped or minced meat, chicken, and rabbit
 - ii. grated cheese, cottage cheese, egg yolk
 - iii. tinned food.
- e) Provide shallow litter trays suitable for kittens as soon as they are mobile.
- f) Kittens must be fed a minimum of three times a day until three to four months of age, after which they may be fed twice daily.
- g) Kittens' quarters must be safe, to avoid injury from falling.
- h) Kittens shall be vaccinated in accordance with the current veterinary advice.
- i) Kittens must be treated on a regular basis for internal and external parasites, in accordance with current veterinary advice on parasite cycle controls

FCCQ Breeders Code of Ethics

8. SALE OF KITTENS

- a) No kitten may be sold or given away under 10 weeks of age.
- b) Animals advertised for sale must be healthy, vet checked, fully weaned, litter tray trained, microchipped and have at least one vaccination. The microchip number must be transferred into the new owner's name.
- c) Kittens under 12 weeks cannot be fully vaccinated, and it is the breeder's responsibility to ensure that the new owners are provided with current vaccination records and fully informed of the requirements.
- d) The breeder shall provide purchasers with diet, grooming and care information.
- e) It is required that all kittens be altered (i.e. neutered or spayed) before going to their new homes unless being sold to a registered breeder.
- f) The breeder must meet all the requirements of relevant local and State legislation relating to altering (desexing) and microchipping of kittens and cats prior to sale.
- g) Any website should recommend meeting the seller before purchase. The age or date of birth of kittens advertised for sale must be included.
- h) Cats and/or kittens must not be sold to commercial cat wholesalers, retail pet dealers, given as a prize or donation for a contest of any kind, or be advertised as a give-away.
- i) Sales of pets should be from the breeders fixed address and not at markets or temporary locations.
- j) A breeder shall not misrepresent the characteristics of the breed, nor falsely advertise or mislead any person regarding the pedigree or performance of any kitten on the show bench or as a pet.
- k) Kittens sold entire must only be sold to registered breeders.
- l) Breeders shall keep record of the names and addresses of all purchasers.
- m) All surviving kittens in a litter must be registered with FCCQ.

9. DISPOSAL OF BREEDING STOCK

- a) No breeding cat shall be excessively passed around, leased, loaned, or sold in total more than three times in its breeding life before being altered (i.e. neutered or spayed). It is the owner's responsibility to ascertain the acceptability of the premises and standard of care of the prospective owner before the cat is relocated. The prospective owner of any cat sold entire must be a registered breeder.
- b) Pregnant and lactating animals must not be offered for sale
- c) It is the breeders' responsibility to neuter or spay all breeding stock no longer required or unsuitable for breeding.
- d) Altered breeding stock may be rehomed as pets.
- e) All ex-breeding stock must be microchipped prior to sale or re-homing.
- f) No breeder may advertise a cattery sell-out.

10. GUIDELINES FOR ADVERTISING

- a) The medical history, including vaccination status, and pictures of the sire and dam should be available on request.
- b) Where a permit or licence is required to keep or breed an animal, the breeders licence or permit number should be advertised.
- c) Sales of pets should be from the breeders fixed address and not at markets or temporary locations.



CODE OF ETHICS FOR BREEDERS / OWNERS

1. Cat breeders must ensure they comply with current Federal and State Government legislation and Local Government regulation applying to the responsible keeping, breeding, management and selling of cats as well as ensuring that GCCFSA's requirements are adhered to.*
2. Breeders breed with the intention of improving the standard of their chosen breed, and not for commercial purposes.
3. To register an entire cat or kitten, the applicant must have a GCCFSA registered prefix.
4. All applications for registration and transfer submitted to registrars must be complete with all colours and registration numbers for four (4) generations and be accompanied by the original or high-resolution scan (original to be sighted) of pedigree from an ACF recognised body. If queried by the registrar, the applicant must comply in a reasonable manner.
5. All litters of GCCFSA registered breeders MUST be registered with GCCFSA. All individual kittens MUST be registered with GCCFSA.
5.1. Dam MUST be registered with GCCFSA when registering a litter.
6. Transfer of a cat or kitten must be completed within three (3) months of gift or sale to a new owner and will include a GCCFSA Certificate of Registration and Pedigree. Sale must be conducted in line with new South Australian Legislation. This is the responsibility of the breeder.
7. Transfer may be made for 'Breeding' (entire) or 'Non-breeding' (desexed). Should a 'Non-breeding' cat be transferred undesexed and the cat produces kittens, none of its progeny can be registered as the cat is meant to be desexed. It is the responsibility of the breeder to explain to the new owner the meaning of 'Non-breeding' status.
8. Not knowingly sell or transfer from their care, any cat/kitten to commercial wholesalers, retail pet dealers, or directly or indirectly allow a cat/kitten to be given as a prize or donation in a contest of any kind.
9. No kitten should be sold at less than twelve (12) weeks of age.
10. Cats and kittens should be handled sufficiently to be well socialised.
11. The cat or kitten shall be in the best possible condition and health before it goes to a new home.
12. As far as possible it should be free from internal and external parasites.
13. The cat or kitten should be immunised against Feline Infectious Enteritis and Feline Respiratory Diseases – the final effective Feline Infectious Enteritis injection for a kitten being given at not less than twelve (12) weeks of age.
14. All breeding cats shall be tested for known heritable diseases.
15. Furnish the new owner with details of diet, and any information that will ensure the cat/kitten fits into its new environment with minimum stress.
16. Ensure that the purchaser of a stud male is made fully aware of the care, responsibility and the standard of facilities required to keep such a cat.
17. Do not permit a mating between registered and unregistered animals or between pedigreed breeds except as an allowable outcross as outlined in the Australian Cat Federation Book of Standards unless as part of a registered experimental breed program.

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Governing Council of the Cat Fancy
Australia & Victoria Inc
Reg no A0043662C

Code of Practice

GCCFV Guidelines for the care and management of
breeding cats within the Applicable Organisation

These guidelines apply to GCCFV Breeder Members who have 10 or less fertile female cats.

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2nd edition Revised 24 May 2025

1 Introduction

These guidelines apply to all Recreational Breeder members of the GCCFV, and are made under the provisions of Section 59 of Division 4, Part 4, of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994 (the Act)*.

The purpose of the guidelines is to specify the minimum standards of accommodation, management, breeding and care that are appropriate to the physical and behavioural needs of cats housed.

Where a breeder member has either 11 or more fertile females or has 10 or less fertile females but has not registered them all with the GCCFV, then these members are not considered as Recreational breeders under the Act and must register as a Domestic Animal Business with their local council instead.

Breeders and rearers must be aware of their responsibilities under the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (1986) (PoCTA)* and Regulations; the *Domestic Animals Act (1994) (DAA)* and Regulations and all relevant legislation and codes of practice relating to the breeding, rearing and sale of cats including town planning, waste disposal etc.

1(1) Definitions

These definitions are provided solely for the purpose of interpreting this Code of Practice.

Act: means the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*.

Animal: means cat or kitten.

Authorised officer: means a person appointed as an authorised officer under section 71, 71A, 72 or 72A of the Act.

Animal housing area: includes all pens, cages, modules or colony cages used to house animals, where the animals sleep, eat and spend the majority of their time, including queening and lactating areas.

AWV: Animal Welfare Victoria

Bed: means an impervious structure, raised off the level of the floor, that is sufficiently large enough to allow the animal to lie comfortably when housed; the major component must not be made of concrete or metal.

Breeder training course: is the minimum education level for all animal attendants. DEDJTR offers free online training on www.vic.gov.au/pets

Business: means a domestic animal business

Cage: means a structure designed to house a cat or kitten.

Cat: means any animal identified as *Felis catus*.

Cattery: means a series of cages designed to house multiple cats or kittens.

Colony Cage: means a walk in structure designed to house up to 8 cats or kittens over 16 weeks of age

Council: has the same meaning as in the *Local Government Act 1989*.

DEDJTR: Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources.

Disinfectant: means a chemical used on an inanimate surface to destroy micro-organisms likely to cause infection in cats.

Domestic animal business: as per the definition in the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*.

Enclosure: means a fully secure area preventing escape of animals from within and entrance of animals from outside the area.

Enrichment: includes practices that provide situations or activities for animals that are appropriate to meet their physical and psychological needs; includes requirements identified in the Code.

Exercise: includes practices/activities requiring physical activity and movement by animals appropriate to meet their physical needs; includes requirements identified in the Code.

First aid: means immediate care and treatment provided to an animal with an injury or illness; not including veterinary care.

General health check: means physical examination to assess the health of an animal, including assessments for:

- medical conditions
- infectious and zoonotic diseases
- parasites

- dental, eye, and ear issues
- genetic, breed and age considerations
- body condition scoring.

Handling: activities including grooming, soft patting/stroking, picking the animal up, turning the animal over, and doing a health examination by physically examining each animal's paws, ears, and teeth, providing exercise, enrichment and human socialisation.

Heritable defect: means a physical deformity, disease or disorder that is passed on genetically from one generation to the next.

Hide: a small enclosed area where the cat can remove itself to "hide" from other animals.

Humane euthanasia: means the animal is rendered immediately unconscious and does not regain consciousness prior to death.

Impervious: means materials or sealed materials that prevent water, urine or any other liquids penetrating the material or being absorbed and held by the material..

Isolation housing: means housing kept in a separate area to general animal housing and exercise areas, used specifically for animals suspected of having, or diagnosed with, an infectious disease.

Kitten: means a cat aged less than 9 months of age.

Litter: means all offspring born dead or alive from a single queening.

Mating: means the physical act of copulation between a male and a female animal.

Mating period: means the period of time when the series of mating events occur to achieve a pregnancy.

Module cage: means a walk-in cage designed to hold up to 2 cats and containing at least 2 levels.

Monitoring: includes observation and assessment of animals on a regular basis, including during routine management activities.

Owner: in respect of a cat, includes a person who keeps or harbours the animal or has the animal in his or her care for the time being whether the animal is at large or in confinement.

Qualifications: includes a minimum formal qualification provided by a registered training organisation covering the management and breeding of cats. Alternatively, completion of the DEDJTR Breeder Training Course will be viewed as a minimum level qualification.

Recreational breeder: mean a person who carries out the breeding of cats to sell, who is registered with an applicable organisation as a breeding member and has no more than 10 fertile female cats all of which are registered with their applicable organisation

Sell: as per the definition in the *Wildlife Act 1975* s.3(1) "sell" includes barter or exchange and also agreeing to sell or offering or exposing for sale or keeping or having in possession for sale or sending forwarding delivering or receiving for or on sale or authorizing directing causing suffering permitting or attempting any of such acts or things; this definition is subject to any changes to the *Wildlife Act 1975*.

Socialisation: means interaction between an individual animal and other animals and humans, with the intention of making the individual animal fit for a life in companionship with others; includes requirements identified in the Code.

Veterinary practitioner: means a veterinary practitioner registered under the *Veterinary Practice Act 1997*.

Weaned: means a kitten that no longer receives a milk diet provided by their mother or an artificial source.

Washable: means an impervious surface that is capable of being cleaned.

Weatherproof: means protection from the wind, rain and extreme temperatures to safeguard the welfare of the animals housed.

Zoonoses: diseases of animals transmissible to humans

Cat classifications:

- fertile adult female, 9 months of age or older
- fertile adult male, 9 months of age or older
- retired and desexed female/male
- pregnant queen
- queening cat
- lactating queen
- pre-weaned kitten, less than 8 weeks of age
- orphaned kitten, less than 8 weeks of age, that is being provided milk or formula from an artificial source
- weaned kitten, 8–16 weeks of age
- adolescent entire cats, between 16 weeks and 9 months of age and may not be bred with.

2 Records

The enterprise must ensure that the records detailed below are collected and kept for a period of no less than 5 years after the animal has been sold, given away, or become deceased.

All records must be kept in a location that will allow for physical inspection by an authorised officer immediately upon request.

All records must be produced for physical inspection by an authorised officer immediately upon request, either electronically or in hard copy.

2 1 (a) Under 12 weeks of age

Animal record files must be established at birth for each individual kitten born and maintained according to the following requirements until the ownership of the kitten changes hands or the kitten is deceased.

For each kitten under 12 weeks of age the following records must be available:

- name (or other identification)
- microchip number (when implanted)
- sex
- breed
- birth date (or where the kitten was purchased from another breeder or private person and birthdate is unknown an approximate age based on veterinary assessment)
- distinguishing features
- dam breed and sire breed, birth date, microchip number and owner details
- a complete health care and veterinary history including:
 - vaccination records
 - internal and external parasite control
- disposal records including date and method of disposal, and the name and address of new owners
- a copy of the vaccination certificate and breeder health declaration for the kitten
- name, address and contact number of the purchaser
- return records, including date, reason for return and copies of supporting documentation, where applicable.

2 1 (b) 12 weeks of age or older

Kitten / Cat record files must be established at birth for each individual kitten born and maintained according to the following requirements until the ownership of the kitten changes hands or the kitten is deceased. Copies of records of kitten sold or retained must be kept for a minimum of 5 years.

For each kitten / cat 12 weeks of age or older, the following records must be available:

- council registration certificate
- name (or other identification)
- microchip number
- sex
- breed
- birth date
- dam breed and sire breed, birth date, microchip number and owner details (where known)
- acquisition date and details of previous owner (where applicable)
- a complete health care and veterinary history including:
 - vaccination records
 - internal and external parasite control
 - breeding status
 - complete breeding history for each fertile female including dates of mating and birthing, number of offspring born for each litter including weeks gestation at birth, number of offspring born alive, number of offspring born dead, any birth complications and a record of treatment administered; number of offspring alive at 8 weeks of age, and microchip number for all offspring alive at 8 weeks of age; any veterinary treatment provided post birthing and/or during lactation.
 - complete breeding history for each fertile male including dates of mating and identification of female mated with
- disposal records including date and mode of disposal, and the name and address of new owners
- return records, including date, reason for return and copies of supporting documentation, where applicable.

2 (2) Health management plan:

A health management plan must include protocols for:

- assessment for admission of new breeding cats
- protocols for quarantine and movement of cats, including introduction of new cats.
- provision of appropriate diet for all cats
- hygiene, disinfection and disease prevention
- vaccination programs
- external parasite prevention and treatment programs including ear mites, dermatophytes and ringworm
- internal parasite prevention and treatment programs
- investigation and treatment of cats showing signs of chlamydia
- procedure for the investigation and management of FIP (Feline Infectious Peritonitis). Repeated cases of diarrhoea leading to the suspicion of FIP must undertake investigation by means of autopsy of cats that die or are euthanised due to their symptoms. Cats showing clinical symptoms must be provided with palliative care prior to humane euthanasia. A management and breeding plan should be developed where multiple cases are confirmed.
- response to a general outbreak of disease
- grooming requirements
- approved methods of euthanasia for emergency situations
- birthing protocols
- environmental enrichment and socialisation programs
- assessment programs for the health and welfare of kittens being reared for sale or as replacement breeding cats
- health assessment for kittens for sale
- behavioural and welfare assessment of kittens / cats on a daily basis
- assessment for determining the suitability of breeding cats to continue in breeding program
- assessment for long term management, de-sexing and/or suitability for rehoming or euthanasia of retired breeding cats
- risk assessments of housing and exercise areas and risk management plan/s
- pest management protocols
- development and display of emergency response plans for both humans and cats including evacuation procedures (where necessary).

3 Sale of Kittens / Cats

All kittens / cats being sold must be accompanied with a breeder health declaration, including details of any known physical abnormality at the time of sale and how that abnormality may affect the short- and long-term health and welfare of the kitten / cat and a vaccination certificate stating the date of the last vaccination and due date of the next vaccination. When kittens / cats that have been vaccinated by the breeder, are sold, the new owner must be provided with a certificate signed by a veterinary practitioner (or a copy of the veterinary health notes) stating that the kitten / cat has had a general health check, the outcomes of that general health check and the date of the general health check.

All kittens / cats being sold must have current vaccinations in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and their vaccination, and parasite control records must be provided to the new owner.

All kittens / cats being sold or given away must be implanted with a microchip by an authorised implanter and must be accompanied by a signed transfer of ownership form which is provided to the new owner upon collection of the animal.

Purchasers of kittens / cats de-sexed prior to sale must be provided with a copy of the de-sexing certificate.

Note

It is recommended that breeders obtain a signature on the microchip transfer form from the purchaser and submit the form on behalf of themselves and the purchaser. This will ensure that microchips are transferred into the new owner's name promptly. A photocopy of the signed form should be provided to the purchaser.

Kittens / cats may be sold at any time but must not permanently leave the property before 10 weeks of age. They may be transported away from the property for short periods for the purposes of veterinary care.

New owners must be provided with literature about:

- appropriate feeding
- de-sexing record
- parasite control
- health, including procedures for emergency treatment during the guarantee period
- housing
- responsible pet ownership, including current legislation covering the registration of cats.
- importance of socialisation for cats
- vaccination.

Literature is available free of charge on the AWW website, through local councils, or breeders may wish to develop their own.

3 (1) Guarantee

Where a kitten / cat is returned to the breeder within 3 days of sale, for any reason not supported by a statement from a veterinary practitioner, must take back the kitten / cat and refund 75% of the purchase price.

Where a kitten / cat is returned to the breeder within 21 days of sale, accompanied by a statement from a veterinary practitioner that the kitten / cat is unacceptable for health reasons, must take back the animal and refund 100% of the purchase price.

If a kitten / cat is diagnosed with, suffering from, dies of, or is euthanised from a physical defect or disease that is traceable to the point of sale within 3 years of purchase, must refund 100% of the purchase price where the owner of the animal provides supporting statements from a veterinary practitioner, including test results where a suitable test is available. Owners of the kitten / cat must make veterinary reports and test results available to the breeder for the breeder to obtain their own veterinary advice (second opinion) for the purpose of informing future breeding management.

If the reason for diagnosis, death, or euthanasia is a result of a heritable defect, the parents and any offspring from those parents still held by the breeder must be tested and managed for that heritable defect as per Section 4 (3) (a), and test results and death certificates linked with the cats microchip number.

Note

The payment of refunds should be made upon presentation of:

- the kitten / cat for the 3-day return clause
- the kitten / cat and a signed veterinary certificate for the 21-day return clause.

For refunds being sought under the 3 years clause, breeders should be given sufficient time to have an independent veterinary assessment of any test results, veterinary statements, etc. It is reasonable to assume this independent veterinary assessment could be done within 6 weeks of the owner of the kitten / cat supplying the necessary documentation. Therefore, the refund should be made within a period of 6 weeks of initial presentation of veterinary statements and test results or as soon as practicable after that.

Under the 3-day and 21-day clauses, the owner cannot keep the kitten / cat and request a refund. Under the 3 year clause the owner may choose to keep the kitten / cat but request a refund to help cover veterinary/care costs.

4 Management of cats

4 (1) Nutrition

Food must be provided in sufficient quantity and nutritional quality; it must be feline appropriate and scientifically balanced to meet the daily requirements for the condition and size of the cat.

Minimum quantity and nutritional quality of feed must be detailed within the health management plan developed in conjunction with, and signed off by, a veterinary practitioner for each classification of cat.

All adult and adolescent cats must be fed a minimum of once daily from a clean food receptacle.

Pregnant and lactating queens must be fed at least twice daily, or under instruction from a veterinary practitioner, from a clean food receptacle.

Kittens between 3 weeks of age and weaning must be provided with a suitable food in accordance with the health management plan.

Fully weaned kittens less than 16 weeks of age must be fed a minimum of 3 times daily from a clean food receptacle, and must not be left without food for a period of more than 12 hours. Kittens may share a food receptacle.

Kittens between 16–24 weeks of age must be fed a minimum of twice daily from clean food receptacles.

Orphaned and pre-weaned kittens must be fed under the direction of a veterinary practitioner.

When multiply housed, each cat must be provided with sufficient water and food receptacles to ensure all cats can feed at one time, should they choose to. The proprietor must ensure all cats multiply housed are socially compatible to feed together and are able to eat a sufficient quantity of food without duress.

Food must be stored in sealed, vermin proof containers and refrigerated according to manufacturer's directions.

The preparation of food must be conducted in hygienic areas which must be cleaned and disinfected after food is prepared.

Food receptacles must be non-spill and made of a material that can be cleaned and disinfected.

Receptacles must not cause injury to the cats / kittens.

The main meal of the day must be provided in a food receptacle that has been cleaned of all uneaten food.

4 (1) (a) Water

All kittens / cats must have access, in their housing area, at all times, to a permanent supply of fresh, clean water daily. The recommended volume of water required daily is approximately 50 millilitres of water per one kilogram of body weight.

This amount may vary depending on a number of factors including health status, environmental temperature, amount of exercise, lactating animal, water content of diet, age, etc.

Water receptacles:

- must be non-spill and made of a material that can be cleaned and disinfected
- must be large enough to hold sufficient water for all cats to be able to drink at any one time
- must hold sufficient water for all cats in a cage
- for young kittens must be shallow enough to prevent injury or drowning.

4 (2) Health care

All cats, regardless of breeding status, must have a complete health check by a veterinary practitioner at least once per year, or more frequently as directed by a veterinary practitioner.

All cats must have a general health check by a veterinary practitioner prior to their first mating. Veterinary practitioners must provide a certificate to state that, at the time of examination, the cat was suitable to breed.

Any health issues identified must be recorded in the animal's individual health record and evidence provided that a treatment plan was devised in conjunction with a veterinary practitioner, and implemented.

All cats with medium and long coats must be groomed by brushing at a frequency sufficient to prevent coats becoming tangled and/or matted.

All catteries must have an internal and external parasite control program and screen regularly as per the health management plan.

4 (2) (a) Vaccination and parasite prevention for cats under 12 weeks of age

Kittens must be vaccinated against and treated for the following, in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations and administered by a veterinarian.

- Infectious Feline Enteritis
- Feline Respiratory Disease (Feline Calici virus and Feline herpes virus)
- Internal and external parasites (for example fleas and ticks).

First treatment/vaccine must not be given before 10 days of age.

Vaccination certificates, including dates of treatment, details of the treatment required, and the record as supplied by a veterinarian who administered the treatment.

Refer to Section 3 for pre-sale veterinary health check requirements.

4 (2) (b) **Vaccination and parasite prevention for cats 12 weeks of age or over**

All animals 12 weeks of age or over must have current vaccination against and treatment for the following, in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, administered by a veterinary practitioner:

- Infectious Feline Enteritis
- Feline Respiratory Disease (Feline Calici virus and Feline herpes virus)
- Internal and external parasites (for example, fleas and ticks).

Vaccination certificates, including dates of treatment, details of the treatment required, and a record of who administered the treatment, must be signed by the person administering the treatment at each vaccination.

Refer to Section 3 for pre-sale veterinary health check requirements.

4 (3) **Breeding**

Breeding mates must not be closely related to one another. They must not be first degree (for example, father and daughter, mother and son, full brother and sister).

Coefficient of Inbreeding (COI) Chart – Pedigrees exceeding 26% may not be processed

COI Percentage	Level	Comments
0%	Low	Completely Unrelated Parents
1% to 10%	Low	COIs which fall within this low banding are ideal
11% to 20%	Fair	COIs which fall within this banding are reasonable and acceptable
21% to 25%	Close	COIs which fall within this banding represent close matings approaching the higher end of what breeders should normally consider.
26% to 40%	High	Matings producing higher COIs than the first-degree matings should only be undertaken by experienced breeders for very specific reasons. If offspring are retained for breeding, they should only be used for matings producing low COIs.
2 nd degree		grandfather and granddaughter; grandmother and grandson
41% +	Not Permitted / Not Acceptable	The welfare and health of cats with such high levels of inbreeding is highly likely to be compromised and such matings should not be undertaken.
1 st degree		father and daughter, mother and son, full brother and sister
100%	Not Permitted	Completely In-bred

A female cat must only be bred with one male cat per breeding cycle.

All new breeding cats must be isolated and confirmed free of Feline Leukaemia Virus (FeLV), Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV/Feline AIDS) in blood tests, prior to moving into the main housing facility. Partially tested or positive FeLV or FIV breeding cats must not share accommodation with negative status breeding cats.

All cats testing free must be vaccinated against FeLV in accordance with the manufacturer's directions before breeding.

Cats testing positive to Feline AIDS/FIV must be kept separate from all breeding cats and non-vaccinated cats and must not be bred.

4 (3) (a) **Heritable defects**

All breeders must comply with the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986*, particularly with respect to the *Code of Practice for the Responsible Breeding of Animals with Heritable Defects that Cause Disease*.

The breeder notified that a cat sold has been diagnosed by a veterinary practitioner to have a heritable defect, or provided with reasonable evidence of a heritable defect in such an cat, must stop breeding from the parents of this cats until the following have been completed:

- test the parents if they are still breeding where an acceptable test is available, or if a test is not available have the parents assessed by a veterinary practitioner for the defect, and
- test any existing offspring of those parents still currently residing at the cattery where an acceptable test is available.
 - If one or both of the parents have the heritable defect, genetic counselling must be obtained from a veterinary practitioner prior to continuing to breed those cats.
 - If any offspring have the heritable defect, a sale or euthanasia plan must be developed in conjunction with a veterinary practitioner and all details about the heritable defect and likely outcomes for the cats and their owners must be fully disclosed to prospective purchasers.

Any pair of cats, for whom any heritable defect that causes a disease has been identified by a veterinary practitioner, must not continue to be bred together.

4 (3) (b) **Breeding males**

Male cats must be physically mature and at least 12 months of age prior to their first mating. Male cats that are fertile and considered physically mature may be bred prior to 12 months of age with veterinary certification stating they are in good health and breeding would not prejudice their health.

All male cats must have a general health check by a veterinary practitioner prior to their first mating. Veterinary practitioners must provide a certificate to state that, at the time of examination, the tomcat was suitable to breed.

Males must have an annual health check by a veterinary practitioner.

If evidence of heritable defects in the offspring produced by the male are identified the cat must not be used for further breeding, except where written approvals is given by a veterinary practitioner.

Male cats must only mate with one female at any given time and must have at least 2 days' rest between females.

4 (3) (c) **Breeding females**

Females must have a general health check by a veterinary practitioner prior to first mating. Veterinary practitioners must provide a certificate to state that, at the time of examination, the queen was suitable to breed.

Female cats must be at least 12 months of age prior to their first mating. Female cats that come into oestrus prior to 12 months can be bred with if:

1. there is a risk of pyometra due to repeated calling (3 or more callings); and
2. the cat is not in her first oestrus; and
3. a veterinary practitioner has provided written approval that the cat is sufficiently mature to be bred with.

Females must have an annual general health check by a veterinary practitioner, or more frequently as directed by a veterinary practitioner.

If evidence of heritable defects in the offspring produced by the female are identified the cat must not be used for further breeding, except where written approval is given by a veterinary practitioner.

A female cat must not be allowed to have less than six months between the birth date of each subsequent litter. (eg: kittens from the current litter must be at least 17 weeks of age before the queen can be mated again)

A female must have no more than 8 litters in her lifetime, after which she must be retired.

4 (3) (d) **Retirement of cats**

Where:

- queens have reached their maximum number of litters; and/or
- cats are no longer suitable for breeding or no longer required, and the cat is suitable for rehoming, every effort must be made to rehome that cat to an appropriate home.

All retiring breeding cats must be de-sexed (unless advised otherwise by a veterinary practitioner for health reasons), microchipped, and

1. rehomed to a suitable home- where health and temperament of the cat have been assessed as suitable for rehoming; or
2. kept as a pet; or
3. when dictated by health and/or behaviour problems, or when an acceptable home is unable to be found, may be euthanised only via lethal injection by a veterinary practitioner.

4 (3) (e) **Mating**

Mating pairs must be physically separated from other cats.

Mating pairs must be monitored at all times during mating and veterinary advice sought:

- if there is a risk of injury to either cat; or
- for any other concern.

Prior to returning to normal housing both cats must be physically separated, assessed for signs of injury, and treatment provided where necessary.

4 (3) (f) **Queening**

Compatible pregnant females (lactating queens and their litters) can be housed individually or in pairs.

Each queen must be provided with a separate sleeping area for resting and privacy during birthing.

As soon as the queen shows signs of contractions she must be monitored every 30 minutes until birthing is complete.

Veterinary advice must be immediately sought if:

- the queen displays excessive or consistent contractions with no effect; and/or • there are prolonged intervals between the birth of each kitten; and/or
- there is excessive bleeding; and/or
- there are any other abnormalities observed during the birthing process.

Contractions should not become prolonged without the appearance of a kitten.

After birth is complete, the queen must be monitored every 6 hours until contractions have ceased. If contractions do not stop, veterinary advice must be sought and treatment provided as advised.

The birthing area must be completely cleaned and all bedding changed within 24 hours of the completion of birthing. This time frame for changing of bedding should be determined on an individual basis allowing for the queen's response to interference.

4 (3) (g) **Lactating**

Queens and their kittens must be monitored every 6 hours until lactation and feeding is established.

Monitoring of lactating queens must include visual observation of all kittens feeding and confirmation that the queen is lactating.

If weight gain in kittens is not observed during the first 7 days of life, veterinary advice must be sought by the proprietor and action taken as directed by the veterinary practitioner.

For the first week post birth, queens must be examined twice daily for mastitis and treatment provided immediately upon diagnosis.

Soiled bedding must be removed and clean bedding provided on a daily basis during lactation.

Kittens must have a health check within 12 hours after birth.

Daily handling of kittens must begin within 7 days of birth.

4 (4) **Enrichment, socialisation and handling**

Enrichment, socialisation and handling are essential elements to ensuring the welfare of cats.

All cats of all age and breeding status must be provided with a minimum amount of daily socialisation, handling and enrichment as detailed in Table 7.

An enrichment, socialisation and handling management plan must be established as part of the health management plan, in conjunction with a veterinary practitioner, specific to each breed/type of cat maintained (including retired animals).

Table 7. Enrichment, socialisation and handling of cats

Category	Environmental enrichment requirements	Socialisation	Handling
Kittens 0–4 weeks	Must be provided with exposure to a variety of textures/surfaces (such as hard surfaces, soft bedding, paper, etc.)	Must be provided with daily exposure to humans via daily handling from 7 days of age Must remain with mother and other littermates unless under veterinary advice	Must be weighed daily from birth to ensure weight gain Must be handled for a minimum of 5 minutes per kitten per day
Orphaned kittens 0–4 weeks	Must be provided with exposure to a variety of textures/surfaces (such as hard surfaces, soft bedding, paper, etc.) May wish to provide noise simulation CDs	Must be provided with daily exposure to humans via daily handling from 7 days of age Must remain with other litter mates where possible, except under veterinary advice	Must be weighed daily from birth to ensure weight gain Must be handled for a minimum of 5 minutes per kitten per day
Kittens 4–8 weeks	Must be provided with: - climbing and perching areas - scratch poles - hide areas - a variety of toys they can roll, pounce on, capture and bite - exposure to variety of items that stimulate the senses (ie. catnip, cat grass, Feliway®, etc.) Toys must be rotated weekly May wish to provide noise simulation CDs	Must be provided with daily exposure to humans via daily handling Must remain with mother and litter mates except under veterinary advice May begin socialisation with other animals/cats of appropriate vaccination status and temperament	Must be handled for a minimum of 15 minutes per kitten per day.
Kittens 8–16 weeks	Must be provided with: - climbing and perching areas - scratch poles - hide areas - a variety of toys they can roll, pounce on, capture and bite - exposure to variety of items that stimulate the senses (ie. catnip, cat grass, Feliway®, etc.) Toys must be rotated weekly	Must be provided with daily exposure to humans through handling and interactive play using toys outside of daily cleaning/feeding routine Must be provided with opportunity to socialise with other animals/cats of appropriate vaccination status and temperament	Must be handled for a minimum of 30 minutes per kitten per day
Adolescent and adult cat 16+ weeks	Must be provided with: - climbing and perching areas - scratch poles - hide areas - a variety of toys they can roll, pounce on, capture and bite - exposure to variety of items that stimulate the senses (ie. catnip, cat grass, Feliway®, etc.) Toys must be rotated weekly	Must be provided with daily exposure to humans through handling and interactive play using toys outside of daily cleaning/feeding routine Must be provided with the opportunity to exercise/socialisation with other socially compatible animals	Must be handled for a minimum of 30 minutes per kitten per day
Cats/kittens — injured, ill, or recovering from ailment	Under guidance of veterinary practitioner	Under guidance of veterinary practitioner	Under guidance of veterinary practitioner

4 (5) Housing

Disinfection and hygiene

Maintenance of hygiene will prevent build-up of disease-causing organisms including bacteria, viruses and parasitic worm eggs.

All cages and modules used to house animals must be cleaned of soiled litter, soiled bedding and toys at least once per day (or more often as required) by appropriate means.

Soiled litter must be removed daily and litter trays disinfected weekly using a hospital grade disinfectant.

Phenol and pine oil derivative cleaning products must not be used.

All uneaten food must be removed daily.

Uneaten food must be placed in a waste disposal device.

Disposable bedding, food containers, and general waste must be placed in a waste disposal device.

Waste disposal must be in accordance with the requirements of the appropriate statutory authority.

Use of a trade waste service for collection and disposal of wastes is preferable.

Wastes must not be incinerated unless the incinerator is registered with the appropriate authority.

Must have an adequate water supply and must be sewered, on a septic system, or have some other adequate method of disposing of soiled litter which is approved by the appropriate authority.

All watering and feeding utensils must be rinsed daily and washed in hot soapy water or in a dishwasher at least once per week to ensure bowls are clean and free of food, mould, etc. Watering and feeding utensils must be disinfected if the cat/s using them is/are diagnosed with a disease or internal parasite infection before being used to feed or water another cat.

Enrichment toys must be washed in hot soapy water at least once per week or more often if soiled and disinfected when moved between litters.

Dishwashers are suitable for disinfection of water and feeding utensils, toys and washable enrichment items at a temperature of 65⁰C or above using the appropriate dishwashing detergent in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

Utensils must be rinsed after disinfection to avoid poisoning.

Disinfection of pens, using hospital grade disinfectants, must be done weekly and:

- prior to the introduction of a new cat
- prior to queening
- upon the removal of kittens.

Manufacturer's instructions for the use of disinfection agents must be followed.

Pests including fleas, ticks, flies, mosquitoes and rodents must be effectively controlled.

Registered chemicals used for pest control must be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and must be either prescribed by a registered veterinary practitioner or used in accordance with the appropriate authority.

Any pest traps used must be in accordance with the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986* and Regulations.

Material Safety Data Sheets for all chemicals used must be kept on site and produced on request by an authorised officer.

4 (5) (b) Isolation

Must provide an area for isolation for animals suspected of having an infectious/contagious disease or must have a written agreement with a veterinary practitioner to provide isolation facilities off site at a veterinary practice.

Isolation housing must be physically separated by an impervious barrier or a distance of at least ten metres from other types of animal housing.

Drainage from the isolation area must not run through other animal housing.

Animals must be maintained in an area approved in the animal health management plan, with particular reference to the area's airflow, workflow and cage or pen design.

All animals confined in isolation housing must be under the supervision of a veterinary practitioner and a veterinary practitioner must determine when, and if, an animal can be returned to general population.

Cage items, such as bedding, food and water utensils, enrichment items, etc. from isolation areas must remain solely for use in isolation areas and not be used in other areas

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4 (5) (c) Small business

Small businesses may house up to 5 compatible fertile cats.

Fertile male cats and female cats in or near oestrus must be housed separately to prevent unwanted breeding.

All fertile adult cats must be confined to the place of residence or an outdoor run area at all times to prevent breeding with other cats.

Tomcats must be housed individually or with a desexed female.

Each cat must be provided with its own litter tray.

Incompatible cats must be physically separated at all times to prevent fighting and injury.

All areas utilised by the cats must be cleaned daily of contaminated litter, wasted food, and soiled bedding.

4 (5) (c) (i) Housing areas

Housing areas must be cleaned daily and disinfected weekly.

Each cat must be provided with a minimum area of 2 square metres which has a height of at least 1.8 metres and has 2 levels.

When multiple housed, each cat older than 12 weeks of age must be provided with a separate bed/hide/nest of sufficient bedding material that all animals can sleep comfortably.

Where cat housing is constructed indoors, but not inside a place of residence (such as a cattery building), natural daylight during daylight hours must be provided, and temperature, humidity and ventilation must be managed.

Ventilation must be adequate to keep animal housing areas free of dampness, noxious odours and draughts and must provide access to natural daylight during daylight hours.

Fully enclosed cattery areas must:

- have an air change rate of 8–12 changes per hour to prevent the build-up of foul odours
- have ventilation devices that avoid draughts and distribute fresh air evenly to all of the boarding areas.

Where forced ventilation is the only form of air, all of the following are required:

- air recirculation units incorporating effective air cleaning and filtration to ensure the removal of infectious organisms and chemicals
- a back-up and alarm system in case of power failures or breakdown of ventilation and temperature control mechanisms must be maintained
- temperature must be maintained in the range of 10–32°C.

Where sleeping areas are outdoors the following minimum standards must be met:

- weatherproof housing must be provided for each cat
- materials must be selected for ease of maintenance and cleaning, durability and non-toxicity
- beds/hides/nests must be protected from the weather (wind, rain, sun and extremes of climate), vermin and harassment from other animals
- beds/hides/nests must not be made of concrete or metal
- beds/hides/nests must be raised off the ground to prevent draughts
- soft, warm bedding must be provided in all housing and changed weekly or more often if required
- bedding must be able to be kept dry at all times
- housing must be cleaned daily and disinfected weekly.

Where small businesses choose to construct colony cages or walk-in modules they must meet the minimum requirements set out for large businesses, including the provision of exercise colony cages for cats housed in walk-in modules.

4 (5) (c) (ii) **Mating areas**

When cats are mating, they must be provided with an area physically separated from all other animals.

4 (5) (c) (iii) **Queening/kittening/lactating areas**

Kittening/queening facilities, separate from general housing, must be provided for each queen and her kittens. Compatible queens and their kittens may be housed in pairs.

Each queen requires an area of at least 2 square metres, with a vertical height of at least 1.8 metres, containing two levels joined by a non-slip climbing plank or pole. Care must be taken in the construction of these areas to prevent young kittens from climbing to higher levels and falling.

Queening and lactating housing must be maintained at a temperature between 10 and 32°C at all times.

Note

Newborn kittens prefer an ambient temperature of 31°C up until about 1 week of age. Between 1 and 3 weeks of age, the temperature can be gradually reduced to about 27°C. During colder weather it is important to provide a heat source for the kittens to ensure they can maintain their body temperature as their internal temperature regulations systems do not begin to work until about 3 weeks of age.

Breeders may consider installing lamps over bedding areas (25 watt globe is sufficient) for kittens, however it is important to provide an alternative cooler area for the queen.

Queening areas must be physically separate from all other animals.

Queening areas must contain a fully screened bedding area to allow the queen visual separation from all other animals.

Sleeping areas must be raised off the floor and constructed so that if kittens were to fall out of the bed they would not tumble to the floor.

Queening areas must contain bedding that is soft, absorbent and easily disposed of or cleaned and disinfected when soiled.

Queening areas must have access to natural daylight.

4 (5) (d) (i) **Housing areas**

Housing must provide protection from the weather (wind, rain, sun and extremes of climate), vermin and harassment from other animals.

A minimum of one bed/hide/nest per cat must be provided.

A minimum of one litter tray per cat must be provided.

Colony cages and modules must be designed, constructed, serviced and maintained in a way that ensures the good health and wellbeing of the animals, while preventing escape or injury to humans.

Construction materials must be selected for ease of maintenance and cleaning, durability and non-toxicity.

4 (5) (d) (ii) **Module cage construction**

Walk-in modules must have a minimum floor area of 1.5 square metres, a width of 0.9 metres and a height of 1.8 metres, and contain at least two levels including draught-free sleeping quarters.

This size is for **one** cat only and an additional one square metre floor space is required for a second cat.

No more than two cats may be housed together in this type of accommodation.

Cats housed in module cages must have access to an external exercise cage, similar to a colony cage in size and dimension, for at least half a day.

The exercise cage can be connected to exercise areas via tunnels or doors and may serve up to 8 compatible cats at any one time.

There must be one exercise cage for every 8 cats, 16 weeks or older.

4 (5) (d) (iii) **Colony cage construction**

Cats may be multiple housed in colony cages.

A colony cage must be a minimum height of 1.8 metres with a minimum width of 2 metres.

Each cat housed must have a minimum floor area of 2 square metres and an individual raised sleeping area.

A maximum of 8 cats may be housed in each colony cage.

Colony cages must incorporate a scratching pole and be designed to provide cats with at least two levels joined by non-slip climbing plank or pole.

4 (5) (d) (iv) **Sleeping areas**

Sleeping areas:

- must be weatherproof
- must be constructed of materials selected for ease of maintenance and cleaning, durability and non-toxic
- beds/hides/nests must not be made of concrete or metal
- beds/hides/nests must be raised off the ground to prevent draughts
- soft and warm bedding must be provided and changed weekly or more often if required
- must be cleaned daily and disinfected weekly.

4 (5) (d) (v) **Indoor cattery areas**

Where modules or colony cages are constructed natural daylight during daylight hours must be provided and temperature, humidity and ventilation must be managed.

Ventilation must be adequate to keep animal housing areas free of dampness, noxious odours and draughts and must provide access to natural daylight during daylight hours.

Fully enclosed cattery areas must:

- have an air change rate of 8–12 changes per hour to prevent the build-up of foul odours,
- have ventilation devices that avoid draughts and distribute fresh air evenly to all of the boarding areas.

Where forced ventilation is the only form of air, all of the following are required:

- air recirculation units incorporating effective air cleaning and filtration to ensure the removal of infectious organisms and chemicals
- a back-up and alarm system in case of power failures or breakdown of ventilation and temperature control mechanisms must be maintained
- temperature must be maintained in the range of 10–32°C.

4 (5) (d) (vi) **Mating modules**

Mating modules must be physically separated from all other animals.

Mating modules must be at least as big as the housing area for one adult cat.

Mating modules must be weatherproof, have a non-slip floor and ramps that can be disinfected easily.

4 (5) (d) (vii) **Queening/kittening/lactating areas**

Separate kitting/queening facilities must be provided for each queen and her kittens.

Each queen must have an area of at least 2 square metres with a vertical height of at least 1.8 metres, containing two levels joined by a non-slip climbing plank or pole. Care must be taken in the construction of this area to prevent young kittens climbing to upper levels and falling.

Queening and lactating housing must be maintained at a temperature between 10 and 32°C at all times.

Note

Newborn kittens prefer an ambient temperature of 31°C up until about 1 week of age. Between 1 and 3 weeks of age, the temperature can be gradually reduced to about 27°C. During colder weather it is important to provide a heat source for the kittens to ensure they can maintain their body temperature as

their internal temperature regulations systems do not begin to work until about 3 weeks of age.

Breeders should consider installing lamps over bedding areas (25 watt globe is sufficient) for kittens, however it is important to provide an alternative cooler area for the queen.

Queening areas must be physically separate from all other animals.

Queening areas must contain a fully screened bedding area to allow the queen visual separation from all other animals.

Sleeping areas must be raised off the floor and constructed so that if kittens were to fall out of the bed they would not tumble to the floor.

Queening areas must contain bedding that is soft, absorbent and easily disposed of or cleaned and disinfected when soiled.

Queening areas must have access to natural daylight.

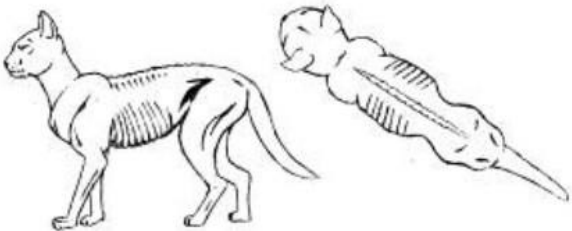
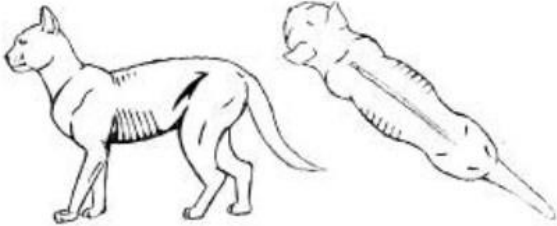
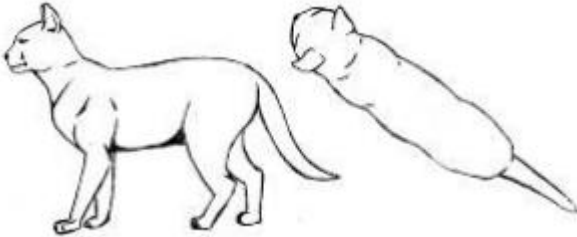
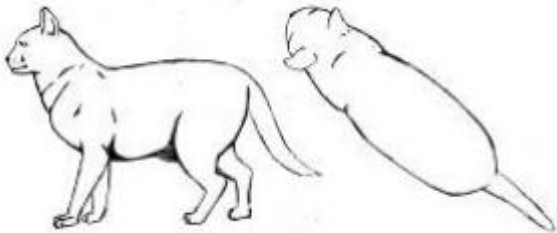
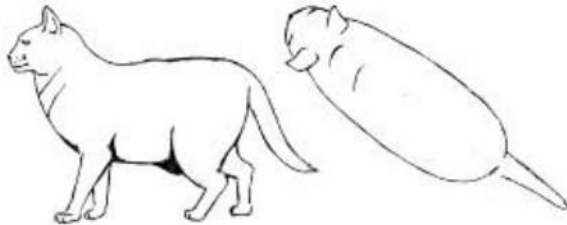
4 (6) Euthanasia

Euthanasia must be by barbiturate overdose carried out by a veterinary practitioner, except in emergency situations.

Any method of emergency euthanasia must be humane. Such euthanasia must only be carried out under the direction of a veterinary practitioner, and a written certificate or letter must be provided to be kept on file stating that permission was given, when the permission was given, why permission was given and the approved form of euthanasia used. Blunt force trauma is not considered a humane form of euthanasia for cats.

Euthanasia must be performed in an area that is separate from any animal housing areas and must not be carried out in view of any other animals

Body condition score chart – Cat

Emaciated 	• Individual ribs, spine and pelvis prominent and evident from a distance. • Lack of muscle mass. • Little or no body fat. • Rump hollow. • Waist prominent when viewed from above. • Neck thin. • No flank fold (under belly), abdomen very tucked up. Veterinary advice must be sought.
Thin 	• Ribs, spine and pelvis bones visible and easily felt. • Little body fat. • Neck thin. • No flank fold (under belly), abdomen tucked up. • Obvious waist when viewed from above. Increase feeding and worm cat if not wormed recently (ensure all-wormer used – some products do not cover all worms). Seek veterinary advice if cat remains underweight or unsure of feeding or worming regime
Ideal 	• Ribs and spine can be felt, last few ribs may be visible. • Flank fold (under belly) maybe visible from side. • Cat should have a waist when viewed from top. • Good muscle mass
Overweight 	• Ribs and spine not visible but can be felt. • Little or no waist when viewed from above, rounded appearance. • Flank fold (under belly) clearly visible and will wobble when cat moves. Belly and chest rounded. • Large ventral fat pad covering hind legs. Reduce feed intake or provide lower calorie feed. Consider options to increase exercise level of cat.
Obese 	• Ribs and spine not visible and difficult to feel. • Tail has obvious fat deposit. • No waist and back broadened when viewed from above. • Flank fold (under belly) hangs down and will sway when cat moves, belly and chest very rounded Seek veterinary advice on diet and exercise regime

The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy Australia & Victoria Inc

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CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS

As a Member of The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy Australia & Vic Inc I will:

1. Be loyal to Governing Council and abide by its Constitution and By-Laws
2. Treat judges, officials and fellow members with courtesy
3. Care properly for all cats that I own or am responsible for, providing proper housing, food and veterinary care, and not permitting them to roam at large
4. De-sex any cat that I intend to keep but not use in a breeding programme
5. Not own an entire pedigree cat until I operate under a breeders prefix with GCCFV
6. De-sex by 5 months of age any non-pedigreed cat that I own
7. Encourage owners of domestic/pedigree cats to have them de-sexed by the age of 5 months and registered with their local council
8. Ensure that all cats and kittens follow a recommended vaccination programme and are on effective control programmes for internal and external parasites
9. Comply with legislation applying to the keeping and management of cats and take responsible action to reduce heritable disease.
10. Comply with GCCFV Social Media Policy.

Breeders will, in addition:

- a) Not sell or dispose of cats or kittens to or through pet shops, markets or animal shelters, or allow any cat or kitten to be given as a prize or donation of any kind, nor act as an agent;
- b) Not allow a female to be mated before under 9 months of age.
- c) **Not allow a female to have less than six months between the birth date of each subsequent litter. (eg: Kittens from the current litter must be at least 17 weeks of age before the queen can be mated again.)**
- d) Not allow a female to have more than 8 litters without veterinary approval of fitness for further breeding;
- e) Not allow a Male to be used for stud purposes until they are at least 12 months of age, unless a veterinary certificate stating they are in good health and to use them would not compromise their health
- f) Not allow a Male cat to mate with more than one female at any given time and must have at least 2 day's rest between females.
- g) Not allow any cat to be mated to an animal that is not registered with a recognised control body or owned by a person who is not a financial member of such a body;
- h) Not inter-breed two cats of two different recognised breeds without having an approved supplementary register programme;
- i) Not part with possession of a kitten before it is 10 weeks old and has commenced its recommended vaccination programme and is micro chipped;
- j) Provide new owners with written information on their responsibilities for the care and welfare of the cat or kitten, including de-sexing certificate, parasite control, diet, grooming and vaccination requirements, and provide ongoing help and advice to new owners;
- k) Only sell, lease or board a cat or kitten if it appears to be in good health;
- l) Refund the purchase money and take the cat or kitten back if it is unacceptable to a new owner within seven days of purchase for health or other valid reasons;
- m) Refund the purchase money for any cat or kitten that dies or is euthanized within 6 months from a disease that is traced to my premises as verified by a statement from a veterinarian;
- n) Maintain accurate and current registration records and provide new owners with agreed documentation in a timely manner;
- o) **Other than Cats or Kittens sold for breeding to a registered breeder, all cats or kittens sold or rehomed must be desexed prior to leaving the breeder's property.**
- p) GCCFV requires all litters born to be litter registered where 1 (one) or more kittens survive
- q) All kittens within a litter must be registered with either a pet or full pedigree.

Members failing to abide by this Code of Conduct may incur disciplinary action under the Constitution and By-Laws of GCCFV Inc. Such action may include fine, suspension of privileges, and suspension or expulsion from membership.

These rules are required to be upheld by all QFA Inc Breeders

1. SELECTION OF BREEDING STOCK

Animals should be:

- Healthy
- Of good temperament
- Of lines free from any known genetic fault
- Not displaying any generally accepted genetic fault

2. GENERAL CARE OF BREEDING STOCK

- Entire cats must not roam free unless under controlled supervision eg on harness.
- Calling females must be confined.
- Cats/kittens must be groomed regularly and handled daily to be well socialised.
- Cats/kittens must be given a balanced and varied diet.
- Cats/kittens must be housed in safe and hygienic conditions with facilities for climbing and scratching.
- Cats/kittens must be provided with hygienic toilet facilities which are kept clean and disinfected regularly.
- Food and water bowls to be changed at least once a day.
- Cats/kittens must receive prompt veterinary attention if and when required.
- Cats/kittens must be vaccinated in accordance with current veterinary advice.
- Cats/kittens must be treated on a regular basis for internal and external parasites, as required, in accordance with current veterinary advice on various parasitic cycle controls.
- Crossbreeding is not permitted unless the breeder has an approved Breed Development Program or where it is allowed in line with breeding rules.

3. MINIMUM DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

- Cats should be fed a varied and balanced diet except when veterinary advice is otherwise. The following foods are suitable but are guidelines only -
- Raw red meat (no preservatives).
- Kidney, heart, raw liver – NOT MORE THAN ONCE WEEKLY.
- Cooked and boned fish, chicken, rabbit.
- Cheese, cottage cheese, egg yolk.
- Wet and Dry commercially prepared food.
- FRESH WATER MUST ALWAYS BE AVAILABLE.
- ADULT CATS SHOULD BE OFFERED FOOD TWICE A DAY - Kittens more regularly.

4. MINIMUM HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

- Outdoor units must be as roomy as possible and protect cats from rain, wind, extreme heat and cold and must be partially enclosed to provide a sheltered sleeping area.
- Units must be designed and maintained to avoid injury and/or escape.
- The structure must be non-porous or coated with non-toxic materials to facilitate easy cleaning.
- Units must be kept clean.
- Appropriate cleaning and disinfecting agents should be used only in recommended concentrations and the area should be allowed to dry before the animal is allowed to return as some solutions can be absorbed through the skin/paw pads.
NOTE: PHENOLS eg Dettol must never be used. Many essential oils are also toxic to cats.
- Minimum unit size for a single cat confined at night time only, or for no longer than eight (8) hours – approximately 1.2m x 0.4m x 0.6m high
- Minimum permanent unit size for a single adult cat – approximately 1.5m x 1.5m x 1.8m high
- Minimum permanent unit size for 2 adult cats – approximately 2.4m x 1.8m x 1.8m high
- Minimum permanent unit size for 3 or 4 adult cats – approximately 3.5m x 3.5m x 1.8m high. No more than four (4) cats to be housed on a permanent basis in a unit this size, as cats are territorial and overcrowding causes undue stress.
- Breeders must conform to the minimum requirements of their local council where licence/permit systems are in place for breeders.
- Animals housed in units within homes, garages etc, must have access to sunshine, and such areas must be well ventilated at all times.

Where cats are permanently confined to units, provide adequate scratching posts and high level shelving for exercise. (See also section for Stud quarters).

5. STUD QUARTERS AND CARE

- Quarters must be as roomy as possible with the minimum size being approximately 2.1m x 2.1m x 1.8m high with an area set aside within the enclosure for the introduction of visiting queens.
- Quarters shall be kept clean in order to keep the odour to a minimum
- Climbing and scratching facilities must be provided, plus a high shelf for the stud to retreat to after mating.
- Studs require plenty of companionship both human and feline. On a daily basis, adequate time should be spent grooming and handling the stud. A feline companion such as a desexed cat may be beneficial.
- Each stud must have individual quarters.
- Current vaccination certificate must be sighted before accepting a visiting queen.
- Visiting queens should be examined for cleanliness and state of health prior to introducing to stud.
- Matings shall only be accepted for cats owned by registered breeders.
- Queens should be permitted to remain with the stud for a reasonable time after mating, and not be removed from the stud quarters before a minimum of three (3) matings have been witnessed.

6.

CARE OF THE PREGNANT QUEEN, AND KITTENING

- Queens shall not be overbred. Maximum of two (2) litters per every 12 months is recommended.
- Breeders shall keep records of all matings, including mating dates, birth dates, number and sexes of kittens born.
- All breeders are to familiarise themselves with the kittening process prior to breeding a litter.
- Increase food amounts to the queen as pregnancy progresses and/or as the queen requires.
- Ensure the queen is given a completely balanced diet and adequate calcium supply during pregnancy and lactation.
- Provide a clean, adequately sized box and bedding at least one (1) week prior to expected kittening.
- Assist the kittening process where necessary.
- Queens must not be left more than two (2) hours in unproductive labour before seeking veterinary advice.
- Once all kittens are born, replace bedding and/or box, and change bedding at least every two (2) days.
- Queen and kittens to be kept in a draught free, but well-ventilated area.
- Check the queen daily for undue bleeding and signs of mastitis.
- Check kittens daily for weight gain.
- Seek veterinary advice on sickly or deformed kittens.
- Eyes should be checked daily in small kittens and if eye infections occur, veterinary treatment should be sought.

7. KITTEN CARE & WEANING

- Kittens shall not be taken away from their mother until such time as they are fully weaned.
- Between 4 and 6 weeks, kittens should be introduced to suitable foods, e.g. Specially prepared, commercial kitten food.
- Between 6 and 12 weeks, kittens may be introduced to other foods, e.g. - Finely chopped or minced meat, chicken, rabbit, grated cheese, cottage cheese, egg yolk, tinned food.
- WATER MUST ALWAYS BE AVAILABLE.
- Provide litter trays suitable for kittens (shallow) as soon as kittens are mobile.
- Kittens should be fed a minimum of three (3) times daily until 3-4 months of age, when they may be fed twice daily.
- Kittens' quarters shall be safe, to avoid injury from falling.
- Kittens shall be vaccinated in accordance with the current veterinary advice.
- Kittens must be treated on a regular basis for internal and external parasites, as required, in accordance with current veterinary advice on various parasitic cycle controls.

8. KITTENS LEAVING FOR THEIR FOREVER HOMES

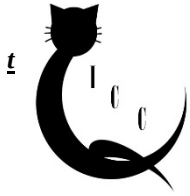
- It is a QFA requirement that all kittens must have undergone a full veterinary examination and be microchipped prior to sale.
- Pet kittens born on or after 1 March 2021 must be desexed prior to sale. All new owners must be provided with relevant documentation including microchip number, a vaccination certificate and desexing certificate issued by a veterinary surgeon.
- No kitten may be sold under the age of 10 weeks of age.
- Kittens under 12 weeks cannot be fully vaccinated, and it is the breeder's responsibility to ensure that the new owners are provided with current vaccination records and fully informed of the requirements.
- Kittens shall be healthy, fully weaned and litter tray trained.
- No kitten with an infectious disease shall be sold or placed.
- Breeder shall provide purchasers with diet, grooming and care information.
- Kittens must not be sold to commercial cat wholesalers, or retail pet dealers and may **NOT** be auctioned, given as a prize or donation for a contest of any kind, or be advertised as a giveaway.
- A breeder shall not misrepresent the characteristics of the breed, nor falsely advertise or mislead any person regarding the pedigree or performance of any kitten on the show bench or as a pet.
- Kittens sold as breeding stock shall be sold **ONLY** to **REGISTERED BREEDERS**.
- Breeders shall keep records of names addresses and contact information of all purchasers.
- Purchasers must be advised to not allow their pets to roam free.

9. REHOMING OF BREEDING STOCK

- It is the breeder's responsibility to desex all stock no longer required or unsuitable for Breeding. Desexed former breeding stock may be found homes as creating overcrowding within the cattery should be avoided.
- No breeding cat shall be excessively passed around, be leased, loaned or sold ENTIRE more than three (3) times during its life, before being desexed.
- It is the owner's responsibility to ascertain the acceptability of the new owner's (lessee's, borrower's, buyer's) premises and standard of care before the cat is re-located.
- All former breeding stock must be microchipped prior to re-homing.
- Purchasers must be advised to not allow their pets to roam free.
- **NO PERSON MAY ADVERTISE A CATTERY SELL-OUT.**

10. BREEDERS' REGISTRATION

- Breeders must renew their prefix annually.
- All QFA breeders are strongly encouraged to enter shows regularly or as a minimum once in each calendar year. This ensures that breeding programmes conform as closely as possible to the ACF Inc. breed standards.
- Breeders must be familiar with the ACF Inc. registration and breeding by-laws that apply to their chosen breeds e.g. breeds that can be intermated, allowable outcrosses etc. The ACF Inc by-laws and breed standards can be accessed on the ACF website or via links on the QFA website.
- Breeders must adhere to the requirements of all relevant State and local government legislation.



Code Of Ethics for Hobby Breeders

1. Selection Of Breeding Stock

Animals should be:

- Healthy
- Of good temperament
- Of lines free from any known genetic fault
- Not displaying any generally accepted genetic fault

2. General Care of Breeding Stock

- Entire Female cats must not roam free unless under supervision. Calling females must not roam free
- Entire male cats must not roam free

All cats must:

- Be groomed and handled daily
- Be given a balanced and varied diet
- Be housed in hygienic conditions
- Be provided with hygienic toilet facilities which are kept clean and disinfected regularly
- Have food and water bowls which are changed at least once daily
- Receive prompt veterinary attention if and when required
- Be vaccinated in accordance with the current veterinary advice
- Be treated on a regular basis for internal and external parasites, in accordance with the current veterinary advice

3. Minimum Dietary Requirements

Cats should be fed a varied diet except on veterinary advice to the contrary guidelines are:

- Raw meat (no preservatives)
- Kidney, heart, raw liver (nor more than once per week)
- Cooked and boned fish, chicken, rabbit
- Tinned food
- Cheese, cottage cheese, egg yolk
- Dried food
- FRESH WATER MUST ALWAYS BE AVAILABLE
- Adult cats should be offered food twice per day

4. Minimum Housing Requirements

- Outdoor units must protect cats from rain, wind, extreme heat and cold and must be partially enclosed to provide sheltered sleeping area.
- Units must be escape proof and maintained to avoid injury
- The structure to be non-porous or coated with non-toxic materials to facilitate proper cleaning
- Units must be kept clean
- Cleaning and disinfecting agents should be used only in the recommended concentrations. Where a disinfectant solution has been applied, the area should be allowed to dry before the cat is allowed to return, as some solutions can be absorbed through the skin/paw pads. PHENOLS MUST NEVER BE USED
- Minimum cage size for a single cat confined at night time only, or for no longer than 8 hours is 1200mm x 400mm x 600mm
- Minimum permanent unit size for a single adult cat is 1600mm x 1600mm x 1950mm
- Minimum permanent unit size for 2 to 4 cats is 3600mm x 2400mm x 1950mm, no more than 4 cats to be housed on a permanent basis in a unit this size, as cats are territorial animals and overcrowding causes undue stress
- Cats housed in units within homes, garages, etc must have access to sunshine and such areas must be well ventilated
- Where cats are permanently confined to units, adequate scratching facilities and high level shelving must be provided

5. Care Of The Pregnant Queen and Kitting

- Queens shall not be overbred. A maximum of two (2) litters per twelve (12) months is recommended.
- All breeders must familiarize themselves with kitting process prior to breeding a litter
- Food amounts must be increased to the queen as pregnancy progresses or as the queen requires
- Ensure an adequate supply of calcium during pregnancy and lactation
- Provide a clean, adequately sized box and bedding at least 1 week prior to expected kitting
- Assist the kitting process where necessary
- Queens must not be left in unproductive labour for more than 2 hours before seeking veterinary advice
- Once all kittens are born, replace bedding/box and change bedding at least every 2 days
- Queen and kittens must be kept in a draught free but well ventilated area
- Check the queen daily for undue bleeding and signs of mastitis
- Seek veterinary advice on sickly or deformed kittens
- Eyes should be checked daily in small kittens and if eye infections occur, veterinary treatment must be sought

6. Kitten Care and Weaning

- Kittens shall not be taken away from their mother until such time as they are fully weaned, or upon veterinary advice
- Between 4 to 6 weeks kittens may be introduced to suitable solid foods such as cereal, baby food (chicken, fish broth), specially prepared commercial kitten food
- Between 6-12 weeks kittens may be introduced to finely chopped or minced meat (not hamburger mince), chicken or rabbit, grated cheese, cottage cheese, egg yolk, tinned food
- Provide litter trays suitable for kittens, i.e. shallow as soon as kittens are mobile
- Kittens shall be fed a minimum of 3 times per day until 3-4 months of age and thereafter twice per day
- Kitten quarters shall be safe to avoid injury from falling
- Kittens shall be vaccinated in accordance with current veterinary advice
- Kittens must be treated on a regular basis for internal parasites in accordance with current veterinary advice

7. Sale Of Kittens

- No Kitten may be sold under the age of 10 weeks and preferably not until 12 weeks of age
- Kittens sold under 10-12 weeks cannot be fully vaccinated and it is the breeder's responsibility to ensure that the new owners are provided with current vaccination records and fully informed of the requirements
- Kittens shall be healthy, fully weaned and litter trained
- No kitten with an infectious disease shall be sold or placed
- Breeder shall provide purchasers with a diet, grooming and care information
- Pedigree may be supplied but in the case of PET ONLY this may be with-held until proof of desexing is supplied to the breeder's satisfaction
- It is not recommended that cats/kittens be sold to commercial cat wholesalers or retail pet dealers.
- Cats/Kittens may not be given as a prize or donation for a contest of any kind, or be advertised as a giveaway
- A breeder shall not misrepresent the characteristics of the breed, nor falsely advertise or mislead any person regarding the pedigree or performance of any kitten on the show bench or as a pet
- Any kitten sold as breeding stock shall only be sold to a registered breeder

8. Care Of The Stud Cat

- Quarters must be as roomy as possible with the minimum size being 2100mm x 2100mm x 1950mm with an area set aside within the enclosure for the introduction of visiting queens
- Quarters shall be kept clean in order to keep odour to a minimum
- Climbing and scratching facilities must be provided, plus a high shelf for the stud to retreat to after a mating. Studs require plenty of companionship both human and feline. On a daily basis, some time should be spent grooming and handling the stud. A feline companion such as a desexed cat may be beneficial
- Each stud must have individual quarters
- Current vaccination certificates must be sighted before accepting a visiting queen
- Visiting queens should be examined for cleanliness and state of health prior to introduction to the stud
- Matings shall only be accepted for cats owned by registered breeders
- Queens should be permitted to remain with the stud for a reasonable time after mating and not be removed from the stud quarters before a minimum of three (3) matings have been witnessed

9. Disposal Of Stock

- It is the breeder's responsibility to desex all stock no longer required for breeding. Desexed former breeding stock may be found homes. Creating overcrowding within the cattery should be avoided
- No cat or kitten shall be excessively passed around. They may not be leased, loaned or sold in total more than 3 times. It is the owner's responsibility to ascertain the acceptability of the new owner's (lessee, borrower, buyer) premises and standard of care before the cat is relocated
- No person may advertise a cattery sell-out
- All breeders must be registered with an approved Governing Cat Control Body
- No person may knowingly intermate two breed groups without having applied to a recognized governing body and having been granted an experimental license to do so.



Tasmanian Feline Association Inc.

Also known as Tas Feline

Code of Ethics for Tas Feline Breeders & Members

Each member upon signing an application for membership or renewal of membership of the Tas Feline shall in addition to agreeing to be bound by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Tas Feline, be also bound by the Tas Feline Code of Ethics relating to responsible cat ownership, including the welfare, breeding and disposing of cats by members as set out below.

1. Breeders must breed with the intention of improving the standard of their chosen breed(s) and not for commercial purposes.
2. Kitten Age - A kitten will be no less than 10 weeks of age when it leaves the breeders care to go to a new home.
3. Cats & kittens should be handled sufficiently to ensure they are well socialized.
4. Health - A cat or kitten should be in the best possible health before it goes to a new home and as far as possible free of external and internal parasites such as fleas, ear mites and round worms and recently treated for these parasites with the new owner given documentation to that effect including when the animal is due to be treated again.
5. Kitten Care - It is the responsibility of the breeder to ensure as far as possible that the new owner knows how to care for and feed the cat or kitten. Written information covering the main points and a diet sheet should be provided.
6. Vaccination - A first vaccination injection should have been given between six and eight weeks of age if the kitten is to go to its new home at 10 weeks. It must be explained to the owner that the kitten is not fully vaccinated and must have further injections to protect it against Feline Infectious Enteritis (panleukopenia), Feline Rhinotracheitis and Feline Calicivirus (cat flu).
7. Desexing – All kittens sold as companion pets MUST be desexed prior to leaving the care of the breeder. All kittens that remain entire must stay in the possession of the breeder or be given or sold to a registered breeder only.
8. Microchipping – All kittens bred by a breeder MUST be microchipped and the registrar notified on the appropriate form of the microchip numbers which will be recorded against the entry of each kitten on the register.
9. Registration - All kittens must be registered even if they are intended as companion pets only. A cat must be transferred to the new owner to be shown.
10. Breeders shall ensure that when selling or transferring a cat to another person, whenever appropriate, documents as required by Tas Feline will be provided to the purchaser and/or transferee.
11. It is the responsibility of all breeders to ensure, as far as it is practicable, that all cats and kittens not required by the breeder are placed in permanent, safe and caring homes. Tas Feline does not condone or consider it ethical the sale of kittens to pet shops or agents for export.
12. To ensure that all animals in the care of the breeder and/or member are kept in clean, well ventilated, safe housing conditions and have access to clean drinking water and have good nutrition. They must be in good health and/or be under the care of a veterinary practitioner should they be unwell, be vaccinated and parasite free.
13. All members must comply with all State and Local Government laws concerning the keeping, management and welfare of cats.
14. Any member failing to observe the Tas Feline Code of Ethics in any form may be dealt with under the Rules and Regulations of the Tas Feline.

Code of Conduct & Social Media Policy for Tas Feline Members

- Respect fellow members and treat them with fairness, courtesy and without discrimination
- Commit to a welcoming, harmonious happy and safe ambiance whilst working together to build a community
- Respect and uphold the good name, rules, regulations and the constitution of the Tasmanian Feline Association Inc.
- Act with honesty and integrity and lawfully
- Not act, write or speak in a way that may be perceived as bullying, intimidation, abusive, discriminatory or derogatory
- Use confidential information to disadvantage or discredit the Tas Feline or its members in any way
- Bring Tas Feline into disrepute by their actions, decisions or behavior
- Members must not criticize, disparage or make derogatory or negative comments about the Tas Feline, its members or affiliates, or any domestic or international judges either expressly or implicitly.