

Code of Ethics – Cat Control Council of Tasmania

Cat Control Council of Tasmania (CCCT) is a member body of the Co-ordinating Cat Council of Australia (CCCA).

Section 1 - Compliance with the Code of Ethics

Each member, upon signing an application for membership or renewal of membership of the CCCT, and duly being elected to general membership of the CCCT, shall, in addition to agreeing to be bound by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the CCCT, be also bound by the CCCT's Code of Ethics relating to responsible cat ownership, including the keeping, welfare, breeding, selling and disposing of cats by members to the effect of the terms and conditions set out under Section 2 hereof.

Section 2 - Code of Ethics & Undertaking

In consideration of the Cat Control Council of Tasmania electing me to its general membership and approval of that renewal from time to time, I pledge to the Cat Control Council of Tasmania that:

1. I shall ensure that at all times all cats under my control are properly housed, fed, watered, exercised, and receive proper veterinary attention, if and when required.
2. I shall breed primarily for the purpose of improving the standard of the breed, and not specifically for the pet market or any other commercial purpose.
3. Excepting in exceptional circumstances, I shall not sell or otherwise transfer from my care any kitten under twelve (12) weeks of age, thus allowing for vaccination to be given, and the necessary period for the vaccine to take effect.
4. I shall endeavour to ensure that all persons acquiring cats from me clearly understand their responsibility for the care and welfare of the animal, and that they have the time and facilities to perform their obligations.
5. I shall provide to all purchasers of cats sold or placed by me advice as required of all dietary and immunisation requirements and/or an appropriate publication relating to such requirements and responsible cat ownership.
6. I shall not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed, or falsely advertise, or mislead any person regarding the attributes of the cat.
7. I shall ensure when selling or transferring a cat to another person, whenever appropriate, documents as required by CCCT Rules and Regulations, will be provided to the purchaser or transferee.
8. I will comply with all state and local government laws and regulations concerning the keeping of cats.
9. When a kitten is disposed of by a third party then it is the responsibility of the breeder to ensure that the third party conforms with all preceding points of this code

Section 3

Any member failing to observe any provisions of the Code of Ethics may be dealt with under the Rules and Regulations of the Cat Control Council of Tasmania.

CCI Breeding Code of Ethics

14.1 A Registered Breeder shall be a current member of Capital Cats. Inc and shall hold a current Prefix. Where a Breeder is in partnership with a breeder from another state the interstate partner shall be a current Associate Member of Capital Cats Inc.

14.2 All breeding cats owned by Registered Breeders must be registered with Capital Cats Inc.

14.3 Members shall always conduct themselves and their businesses in an ethical fashion.

14.4 If any cat/kitten on the premises of a Member is diagnosed as having any contagious disease then that Member must notify Capital Cats Inc. and all cats on the premises will be placed in quarantine. The quarantine period extends from the date of diagnosis of a contagion until forty-two (42) days after the cessation of symptoms in the case of fungal diseases and for a period of twenty one (21) days after the cessation of symptoms for most other contagious diseases. A cattery clearance will not be provided until a Veterinary Certified clearance stating that the prescribed period has elapsed since the disappearance of symptoms, has been received, by Capital Cats Inc., and listing all Registered and unregistered cats on the premises, including any yet to be registered kittens.

14.5 While in quarantine a registered breeder will not

(a) Allow the mating of any cats under his control

(b) Sell or dispose of any kittens or cats without firstly obtaining the conditional permission of Capital Cats Inc.

(c) Allow any cats/kittens other than those already affected into their premises.

(d) In the case of fungal infection must not attend any shows or meetings of Capital Cats Inc. affiliated cat clubs in any capacity whatsoever. They also have an ethical responsibility not to handle any other person's cats or to knowingly enter any premises where there may be cats or to attend any cat shows held by other Governing Bodies for the entire period of the quarantine.

14.6 Capital Cats Inc. may from time to time and in limited circumstances of long-term quarantine or upon Veterinary advice that it is in the best interest of the welfare of the kittens allow a quarantined Breeder to sell/place kittens conceived prior to the commencement of quarantine on the condition that.

(a) The prospective owner is fully informed of the quarantine status of the cattery.

(b) Capital Cats Inc. is notified of each kitten sold and provided with copies of all documentation to be given with the kittens prior to sale/placement.

14.7 A registered breeder will not knowingly obtain a kitten/cat from a quarantined premises.

14.8 Members or any persons, as advised by other Governing Bodies, who have been placed in quarantine shall be notified by the publication of a list of quarantined premises in such form and by such manner as shall be determined, from time to time, by Capital Cats Inc.

14.9 A member or person whose name has been published shall have no recourse against Capital Cats Inc. or any affiliate of Capital Cats Inc. in any form whatsoever.

14.10 It is the responsibility of the Member to ensure that the best possible home is found for each animal placed/sold by that Member and no Member shall sell/place any animal to a Pet Shop or by consignment from a Pet Shop.

14.11 All kittens sold by a Member must be at least ten (10) weeks of age and have received at least one (1) F3 vaccination if inoculated after the age of eight (8) weeks and at least two (2) vaccinations if inoculated before eight (8) weeks of age. Where a kitten has had only one (1) vaccination the buyer must be informed by the breeder that the kitten will require another vaccination within six (6) weeks of the first. The vaccination certificate signed by a Veterinary Surgeon must be provided to the buyer.

14.12 No Member will allow intermating of different breeds unless granted an experimental license or with express permission of Capital Cats Inc.

14.13 No cats from unregistered breeders or unregistered cats, whether from registered or unregistered breeders, will be accepted by a registered breeder for mating.

14.14 Each breeding female cat shall have no more than three (3) litters in any two (2) year period.

14.15 Every litter produced by a registered breeder must be litter registered.

14.16 Entire cats shall be kept always confined within secure premises.

14.17 All Members shall undertake regular screening of breeding stock for appropriate disease.

14.18 No Member breeder shall breed from or sell for breeding any cat known to have or known to carry any genetic disease or abnormality or which as a kitten was affected by any contagious disease or any cat which consistently produces kittens that are affected by any contagious disease.

14.19 Any Capital Cats Inc. Member breeder violating any of the Capital Cats Inc. rules will be deregistered and any other registered breeder or other person violating any of the Capital Cats Inc. rules will be refused entry to Capital Cats Inc. affiliated shows.

14.20 A deregistered breeder shall have a right of appeal; such appeal to be heard by a committee appointed by Capital Cats Inc.

14.21 A deregistered breeder may apply for re-registration after a twelve (12) month period at which time Capital Cats Inc. will consider their application. Each case will be considered on merit.

14.22 Only those breeds currently recognised by Capital Cats Inc. may be bred by Member breeders and are eligible for Full Register.

Recognised breeds are all those breeds recognised by the CCA

CATS QUEENSLAND INC



All Cat Queensland Inc breeder/members agree to be bound by the Cats Queensland Inc Code of Ethics, each member/breeder shall adhere to all of the items listed in Cats Queensland's Code of Ethics.

BREEDERS CODE OF ETHICS:

B. CoE.1 Ensure ALL surviving kittens in a litter are registered, ensure all purchased breeding cats are transferred into the breeder's name.

B.CoE. 2 Take care to not mate a female under 10 months of age or to over breed a queen, ensuring that she has no more than 2 litters each 12-month period, except under exceptional circumstances. It is recommended that a queen not have more than 3 litters in any 24-month period, be guided by your vet.

B.CoE. 3 Ensure that a pedigree cat is not mated to a pedigree cat of another breed unless Cats Queensland Inc approves such mating or program.

B. CoE.4 Ensure that breeding only occurs between health and genetically tested breeding cats, breeding from unsound genetic lines is not permitted e.g. monorchidism or cryptorchidism. Ensure no mating's are accepted unless both cats are owned by registered breeders.

B. CoE.5 Ensure the certificate for registration is transferred by the current owner into the new owner's name when the kitten/cat has been sold as a pet, show or breeding. The pedigree is the birth right of the kitten/cat and must be given to the new owner.

B. CoE.6 Ensure that a kitten shall not leave the breeder's premises under the age of 12 weeks, thus allowing vaccination to be commenced before the date of sale.

B. CoE.7 Breeders are required to have their kittens desexed before sending them to their new owners unless they are going into as Registered Breeder's program. Copies of desexing certificates must be sent with applications for litter registrations

B. CoE.8 Ensure that MICROCHIPPING of all the kittens in the litter is carried out. The Queensland State Government has mandated that all kittens and puppies MUST be microchipped by 12 weeks of age. This is best done while kittens are anesthetized during desexing. Please be aware that this includes all kittens and breeding adults kept by breeders as well. Please provide these details when completing your paperwork as omissions may cause delay in processing. CQI also reminds breeders that NO cat over 9mths can be sold entire unless they are going into a Registered Breeding Program. These cats MUST be desexed and microchipped [if not already done] prior to rehoming. *Details of the breeder – Full name, address, prefix, registering body and member number need to be provided on the Application for Registration / Back of Transfer Form.

B. CoE.9 Ensure that a kitten does not leave before that kitten is fully weaned, healthy, vaccinated, microchipped, desexed and litter trained as required by Cats Qld regulations and local government statutes.

BREEDERS CODE OF ETHICS CONT:

B. CoE.10 Provide all purchasers of cats/kittens sold or placed by a member with all dietary, grooming techniques, immunisation certificates and microchipping details. Accept reasonable financial responsibility for the health status of kittens for at least one week (7 days) after the date the new owner takes possession of the kitten. It is advised that the breeder takes the kitten/cat to their veterinarian for a health check prior to adoption into their new home. New owners should be advised by the breeder to take their new kitten/cat to their own veterinarian for a follow-up health check within 7 days of arrival.

B. CoE.11 Be aware that the sale of cats/kittens to commercial wholesalers or retail pet dealers is strongly discouraged. A member shall not directly allow a cat/kitten to be given as a prize or donation to a contest of any kind.

B. CoE.12 Breed cats for the purpose of improving the standard of the breed and not primarily for the pet market.

B. CoE.13 Cats Queensland Inc will not be involved with monetary disputes between breeders and a new owner of a kitten/cat that they have purchased. The dispute can only be resolved between the parties by either negotiating an outcome or by civil legal proceedings.



Cats United WA Inc
Membership Application Form
12 Kearns Cres, Ardross WA 6153

Cats United WA Bylaws – Draft Version

These rules are in addition to the associations Model Rules

Bylaw 1. Code of Conduct for Members

Members of Cats United WA as a condition of membership agree to abide by the Rules, Guidelines and Policies of the Association.

Members of Cats United WA are expected to act with integrity, to demonstrate good sportsmanship where competition is concerned

Members are to have good knowledge of animal care and husbandry and abide by high standards of animal welfare. This includes providing appropriate shelter, nutrition, enrichment and veterinary care of animals they are responsible for. This includes compliance with relevant legislation including the WA Cat Act (2011).

Members and Club Affiliates shall, at all times, act within the spirit of the objectives of the Cats United WA Model Rules as set out in clause B.

As the Cat Fancy is made up of various organisations with individual goals & objects, conflicts of interest may arise and need to be acknowledged.

Acting within the spirit of the objectives of the Cats United WA Model Rules includes but is not limited to:

- promoting the objects of the Association;
- engaging in a courteous and professional manner with each other and/or with the public;
- not bringing the Association into disrepute or otherwise attract negative publicity whether in person,
- in writing and/or in particular via use of social media, such as use of “Facebook” (refer Social Media Policy for more detail);
- abiding by the policy of Responsible Cat Ownership.

A breach of any of these policies as set out in the Associations Bylaws may result in consequences set out in the Model Rules, Division 2 — Disciplinary action.

Bylaw 2. Guidelines for Cats United WA Committee Members

Cats United WA is an incorporated body subject to corporate law and as such needs to be managed in an efficient, transparent and accountable manner on behalf of the membership.

As a member of the Committee of Cats United WA, you have taken on a responsibility to act at all times on behalf of the association. In effect you are a Director of Cats United WA and you have duties under common law which are:

- to act honestly in the exercise of your powers and in the discharge of your responsibilities;
- to exercise a reasonable degree of care and diligence;
- to ensure that Cats United WA is compliant with the relevant legislation
- to ensure that you are presented with an understandable financial statement at each meeting and a full set of accounts before the AGM
- to declare any conflicts of interest
- to not make improper use of information acquired to gain advantage for yourself or others; and
- to not make improper use of your position to gain an advantage for yourself or others or to cause detriment to the association.

To be an active and effective member, you must be informed.

- You are expected to have a working knowledge of Cats United WA Model Rules, Policies and Guidelines (if you do not have copies, ask the Cats United WA Secretary to send you copies, or go to the Cats United WA website);
- be aware of current WA legislation including the WA Cat Act (2011) and the Animal Welfare Act 2002 and also of relevant Local Government Regulations.

At meetings:

- you will show respect for other members
- address all comments and questions through the chair of the meeting and accept the ruling of the chair whether you agree with it or not
- the first item on the agenda at any meeting should be to declare any conflict of interest with any item listed
- do not discuss matters outside of the meeting (particularly observe any 'in camera' ruling) until and unless these have been publicized by the Secretary.

In-camera describes that section of a committee meeting that is closed whilst information is discussed that is not recorded in the minutes or divulged to the general membership or the public. Such sessions may discuss incidents or people, financial, legal or other sensitive decisions that must be kept confidential, but allow full and open debate strictly between those present and strictly at that time only. That means that all people present at the meeting are bound not to divulge any of the discussion, even to close friends or family members.

- If you wish to raise a matter, write to the Secretary prior to the meeting to have this put on the agenda. Other matters may be raised in Any Other Business but usually these will be of a minor or procedural nature only. New business must be an agenda item and accompanying documents must be circulated ahead of the meeting.
- be well prepared for the meeting: read the agenda prior, be aware of the topics that will be discussed;
- ask questions if necessary, be involved, be a good listener, respect others.

Outside of meetings:

- actively promote Cats United WA
- be a good ambassador for the Association being courteous, respectful, encouraging.
- do not use social media to pass opinion on Cats United WA matters or denigrate any fellow member, exhibitor or breeder or their animals.

The members of the Committee shall not be from the same household during their term of office of the association.

I have read and understood the above guidelines and have copies of Cats United WA Model Rules, Cats United WA Show Rules, & Cats United WA Bylaws (which include but not limited to: Responsible Cat Ownership, Cat Breeding, and Social Media)

(A copy of this By-Law is to be signed by all incoming committee members)

Bylaw 3. Social Media Policy

Social media provides an excellent opportunity for people to gather in online communities of shared interest, to share knowledge, celebrate success and to learn about the cat fancy. Cats United WA sees social media as an important tool of engagement.

Social media includes, but is not limited to:

- social networking sites such as: Facebook, MySpace, Bebo, Friendster, LinkedIn
- video and photo sharing websites e.g. Flickr, YouTube
- blogging sites e.g. Twitter, personal blogs or blogs hosted by traditional media publications
- forums and discussion boards such as Whirlpool, Yahoo! Groups or Google Groups
- any other web sites that allow individual users to use simple publishing tools.

The essential guiding principles are:

- ensure that you are fully aware who you are representing
- any and all references to Cats United WA are correct, accurate and in line with the Policies of Cats United WA
- refrain from making negative comments about other members, members cats, or the Association
- demonstrate respect for the individual and communities with which you interact at all times
- be aware that negative comments can be at least hurtful, at worst defamatory and are difficult to rescind or recall
- do not bring the association into disrepute or otherwise attract negative publicity.

You are required to:

- Be respectful of all individuals and communities with which you interact online;
- Be polite and respectful of others' opinions, even in times of heated discussion and debate;
- Adhere to the Terms Of Use, and seek to conform to the cultural and behavioural norms, of the social media platform being used;
- Respect copyright, privacy, financial disclosure and other applicable laws when publishing on social media platforms.

This policy is applied if you choose to make references to Cats United WA, its office bearers, members or services, its competitors, and/or other related individuals or organisations when you are using a social media platform in a personal capacity. It is important in these circumstances that readers of your posts do not misconstrue your personal comments as representing an official Cats United WA position.

A breach of this policy shall constitute a contravention of the Rules, giving rise to the consequences set out in the Model Rules, Division 2 — Disciplinary action.

Bylaw 4. Public Advice Given On Behalf Of The Association

Cats United WA appreciates that volunteers donate their time generously, for the benefit of cat owners and breeders and the Association.

Members of Cats United WA may from time to time find themselves in a position of giving public advice whilst representing the Association. This may occur at cat shows or at 'expos' or such.

Cats United WA considers that it is important that the advice given out by people representing the association is consistent, that there are no misunderstandings, and each person is giving the same message, in line with the guidelines set out in this policy.

When in the position of giving Public Advice volunteers must be mindful they represent the association and therefore have to be cautious with any comments made regarding Cats United WA and any of its representatives, and must have a good knowledge of Cats United WA Rules and Policies, or refer the person to a more experienced member.

Volunteers in this position offer basic advice on general health and welfare of cats, it is therefore essential that they agree with and discuss with potential purchasers:

- The Cats United WA Policy on Responsible Cat Ownership
- That it is not recommended to purchase a kitten that is under 12 weeks of age, shows any adverse behavioural tendencies or does not appear in perfect health, i.e. not accepting a kitten that is sneezing, has runny eyes or nose, appears to have diarrhoea, is unduly timid or fractious, etc.
- Checking the kitten has had at least 2 vaccinations, for at least Feline Enteritis and 'Cat Flu
- Checking that the vaccination certificate for the kitten is signed by a veterinarian.

If you are speaking to someone who is enquiring about buying a kitten It is important to make it clear to the person you are talking to that:

- Cats United WA offers a list of breeders on the Cats United WA Website that may have kittens for sale - they are not necessarily recommended breeders, as Cats United WA cannot guarantee the conditions under which they are raised
- Stress that the onus is on the purchaser to check out the cattery
- Recommended that the purchaser visit several catteries
- **Draw their attention to the Cats United WA website, and the information pamphlet "Cat Breeding Basics" for more detailed information (offer to email this to them)**

If a complaint is received about a breeder the person should be asked to put it in writing to the Secretary of Cats United WA. There should be no discussion about the matter.

Bylaw 5. Responsible Cat Ownership

Cats play a valuable role in the family and community as companions. Members of Cats United WA will actively promote the benefits of ownership, and as an inherent part of that, Responsible Cat Ownership. The welfare of the cat is always the priority.

Responsible Cat Ownership includes, but is not limited to:

- providing a clean, healthy environment and appropriate diet for your cats at all life stages
- not allowing animals to roam. Containment of cats can help to protect cats from disease and injury through fighting and accidents, increase the opportunity for owner-animal interaction and reduce the impact of hunting by cats and disturbance caused to neighbours. Where cats are contained, steps must be taken to ensure that adequate exercise and environmental enrichment are available. Access to an outdoor escape-proof enclosure greatly increases the opportunity for activity and stimulation for confined cats. Enclosures need to be of a size that cats can exhibit normal behavior, eg, to be able to run, jump, climb and play, and be protected from extremes of temperature and weather.
- ensuring permanent identification with a microchip that has been recorded with a microchip registry
- desexing all animals not intended for breeding
- providing adequate attention and enrichment – physical and mental, to compensate for the loss of freedom and prevent unwanted behaviours
- providing regular health checks and vaccinations
- not over breeding from any one cat
- limiting the number of animals owned to a number that can be effectively managed and individually handled daily
- providing information to new owners on diet and responsible ownership
- ensuring no public nuisance is created by noise, smell, uncontrolled cats, etc.
- adherence to the WA Cat Act (2011) as well as Local Government Bylaws.

We recommend our members undertake personal research using websites, government resources and guides as well as social media groups to educate themselves of responsible cat ownership further.

Bylaw 6 Code of Conduct and Guidelines for Cats United WA Breeders

New breeders applying for a Cattery Prefix and existing breeders joining Cats United WA will be required to sign that they have read & understood this document & agree to abide by the basic principles below

Breeding

- In order to be a breeder with Cats United WA you must own or apply for a registered registered prefix and pay an annual breeders registration fee
- The cattery or area of the house where the breeding and other cats and kittens are kept must appear clean, with no undue odour (there may be some smell attached where a stud cat is housed).
- Cats and kittens will appear healthy, happy and active. There must be no more cats/kittens than the breeder and their family can effectively care for.
- The cats/kittens must be raised in an environment that offers them physical and mental stimulation, and kittens should be regularly and individually handled.
- Kittens should only be placed in homes where the breeder genuinely believes the new owner will provide a life-long commitment of responsible pet ownership.
- The breeder breeds with the intention of improving or maintaining the standard of the breed, and not solely for commercial purposes, and is familiar with the current relevant standards.

- The breeder will not knowingly sell any cat/kitten to a commercial cat wholesaler, retail pet dealer or directly or indirectly allow cats/kittens to be given as a prize or donation in a competition of any kind.
- Cats and kittens will only be relinquished to a shelter as a last resort and only after the Association has been contacted to request help first.
- Whilst breeders know their own cats best it is the Associations guideline that female cats under the age of 10 months of age will not usually be mated. It is also recommended that cats have short breeding careers notwithstanding acceptance that many cats do well breeding for a longer than normal period. Breeders should use their best judgement always with the best interest of the cats in mind.
- Matings should be spaced such that no queen will deliver a litter more than twice in a calendar year. Three litters over two years is recommended
- No cat, male or female, will be intentionally mated to a cat of a different breed or to a domestic cat unless it is part of an approved experimental program.
- The breeder will not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed, nor falsely advertise, or knowingly mislead any person regarding the showing performance of any cat.
- Any kitten that is to be sent interstate or overseas will be a minimum of 12 weeks of age.
- The breeder will not knowingly breed from a cat, male or female, known to exhibit or carry any genetically transmitted trait or defect that may affect the health of the breed. Breeders should be familiar with potential problems within their breed and where possible the Association strongly advises have their cats DNA tested or other and remove any affected cats and carriers from breeding programs.
- Breeders of cats that have more than one blood type common in the breed should DNA test their breeding cats and know their blood types. The breeder should take steps to do appropriate matings and educate themselves on the care for newborn kittens from incompatible matings

Sale of Kittens

- Kittens are not go to new homes unless they are vaccinated in general good health and are at least 12 weeks of age
- The kittens should have had at least two vaccinations following you vets recommendations. A good guide is one at 8 weeks and one at 12 weeks.
- The Core Vaccination is to protect against Feline Enteritis, Feline Herpesvirus and Feline Calicivirus known as 'F3'. This is the minimum vaccination required for kittens and cats bred and owned by Cats United WA breeders. Other vaccines are available for use at breeder and vets discretion.
- Upon the sale of the kitten the breeder will provide the new owner with a current vaccination certificate for that kitten issued and signed by the veterinary surgeon who carried out the vaccinations and corresponding health checks.
- In line with best practice and WA legislation all kittens must be desexed prior to sale to a new owner. In limited circumstances if the kitten cannot be desexed the cost of the desexing must be included in the purchase price and a "voucher" given for the desexing at the breeders choice of vet. This must be followed up by the breeder and occur before the kitten is five months of age.
- The kitten must be microchipped before sale to the new owner and the breeder is responsible for registering the new owner against the chips details in the database it is recorded in.

Breeders should be prepared to give ongoing advice and support to the new owners, not just at the time of sale. The breeder must provide the new owner with:

- Their contact details in writing, including phone number and email address;
- Written details of all dietary requirements, especially what the kitten is being fed currently;
- Vaccination certificates signed by a veterinary surgeon.

It is good practice to discuss and also provide:

- Information on responsible cat ownership, which includes:
 - Identification; desexing; confining; housing, including info on mental & physical stimulation for
 - the cat; litter box training, integrating with other household pets and common behavioural problems; and any other information that will ensure the cat/kitten fits into its new environment with minimum stress.
- A sales contract, which will detail:
 - a statement that the kitten/cat is in good health at the time of sale. If the kitten contracts any illness within 7 days, the breeder will discuss options which may include agreeing to contribute to veterinary bills (breeders may insist on their own vet), or even taking the kitten back;
 - requirement that the kitten be spayed or neutered by five months of age (if not sold already neutered) and not be allowed to produce any offspring (unless a breeding arrangement has been entered into and the new owner is a registered breeder);
 - Pedigree: a properly completed and signed pedigree showing at least four generations, colours, and the breeder's name and address. This can be the kittens registered pedigree if registered prior to sale. If the kitten is not registered prior to sale the breeder must tell the new owner that the kitten will be registered and provide them with a nother form of pedigree that complies to the above. All kittens must be registered before 12 months.
 - Cats United WA and other club membership forms and other available information pamphlets on showing, etc or direct the new owner to the Cats United WA website. Cats United WA appreciates the role breeders play in encouraging new members to the cat fancy.
- The breeder will encourage the purchaser to make contact if he/she has any questions or concerns and the breeder will respond in a timely manner.
- The breeder will ensure that the registered breeder purchaser of a stud male is made fully aware of the care, responsibility and the standard of facilities required to keep an entire male cat.
- The breeder will not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed nor falsely advertise cats nor mislead any person regarding the health or quality of any cat or kitten.
- The breeder is required to act appropriately and legally with regards to the sale transaction and handling of monies.

Registration

- All kittens in all litters should be individually registered before six months of age. After six month the fee to register increases. All kittens must be registered **prior to 12 months of age or within two months of sale to a new owner**

- If the individual cat/kitten is to be registered to the new owner, the paperwork should be sent to the Registrar as soon as practicable. This may be at the time of registration of the kitten or after the sale of the kitten.
- Cats United WA maintains two registers of cats. The kitten may be registered as
 - breeding which means they are entire, retained by the breeder or transferred to a fellow registered breeder or
 - pet which means they are desexed and a pet cat.
- Both breeding and pet cats can be show cats.
- Should the breeder wish to place restrictions on the use of a particular cat or kitten they must negotiate with the new owner directly. It is recommended that this is done in writing and both parties sign. Cats United WA offers no opinion on to the legalities of such agreements.

Bylaw 7. Code of Conduct for Cats United Judges

A Judge

- shall have satisfactorily completed appropriate training, be competent, personable, and well presented.
- shall possess a sound knowledge of and be able to apply the breed standards and shall keep informed of new breeds and any changes to existing standards of points.
- represents the association and should at all times promote and uphold the Objects of the association.
- shall have a working knowledge of the Rules and By Laws of the Association and the CCCA.
- shall at all times act with integrity and fairness.

Conflict of interest

- Judge shall not judge their own exhibit.
- A Judge shall not judge an exhibit which they directly or indirectly, alone or jointly own or lease.
- A Judge shall not judge an exhibit which they directly or indirectly, either alone or jointly with another owned or leased within **three months** of the date of the Show at which they officiate.
- An exhibit causing or likely to cause this clause to be contravened shall be ineligible to compete in any section of judging in which the Judge concerned is to officiate.
- For the purpose of this section an exhibit will be deemed to be the subject of this section if it is an exhibit in which the Judge or Judge's spouse or partner or siblings or children or parents have or have had a direct or indirect proprietary interest.
- Judges are obliged to advise the purchaser or lessee of any exhibit affected by this section as to the showing restrictions imposed by the above clauses. Failure to do so may be deemed by the Committee as misconduct.
- Judges should where possible not travel to shows in a private vehicle with exhibitors who have entered under them for that particular show. Cats United WA understands that in order to have judges visit for shows and to reduce the cost of shows to exhibitors instances like this do occur. In such situations the cats should be obscured if possible but the judge should be respected and it should be the case that the judge is always assume to be above influence.

Exhibits

- Judges shall make the welfare of the cat a priority at all times.
- If a cat is unwilling to be handled after a reasonable attempt, it should not be judged.
- The recommended maximum number of exhibits the judges are expected to handle in an assignment is 100. Allowances may be made if the judge is informed prior to the show and willingly agrees.

Show Management

Judges should not solicit judging assignments.

- Judges should reply promptly to invitations to judge. Once an engagement has been accepted a contract exists between the Judge and the Club concerned which should only be altered by mutual agreement. In the event of a cancellation becoming inevitable, the other party should be notified immediately.
- Judges should not accept invitations to judge open classes at shows if they have judged the same classes at shows in the same state within three months. It is the responsibility of the judge to keep an accurate diary to prevent bookings overlapping. Exceptions to this may occur if the organisers of both shows accept and agree to a closer time frame

Exhibitors

- Judges should discourage conversation with exhibitors before an assignment or judging of a particular group or class is completed, but should be available at the end of judging to answer questions from exhibitors and members of the public.

Working with Fellow Judges & Stewards

- If undertaking side classes always ask permission to proceed if an open class judge is handling the same cats
- Do not offer unsolicited opinions to fellow judges.
- Judges should play an active role in training stewards & take every opportunity to encourage and inform them.

Judges Licences

- The Cats United Committee shall have the power to grant, suspend or revoke Judges Licences
- The levels of judges licensed by Cats United WA are as follows
 - Trainee Judge - A candidate accepted for training as a judge of shorthair or longhair breeds, who is not yet qualified.
 - Probationary Judge - A qualified and licensed judge for shorthair or longhair breeds, who is able to judge only Cats United WA and affiliated club shows and who is completing the CCCA Minimum Requirements For Judges Probationary Judge requirements.
 - Qualified Judge - The holder of a full licence to judge shorthair or longhair breeds, who has completed the minimum training and probationary period as outlined in CCCA Minimum Requirements For Judges guidelines and is entitled to be included on the CCCA judges list.
 - All Breeds Judge - A judge qualified in all breed groups who has completed their probationary licence periods.
 - Senior Specialist Judge - The holder of a full licence to judge for at least five years is eligible for membership of the CCCA Tutor Judges Panel.

- o Senior All Breeds Judge - The holder of a full licence for at least five years in all breed groups.
- o CCCA Tutor Judge - Any Senior Judge may be appointed as a CCCA Tutor Judge on recommendation of their member organisation.

Criteria for Retaining Judge's Licence

To remain on the active Cats United WA judge's list, a judge must:

- Be a financial member of Cats United WA
- Be up to date with new or uncommon breeds within the Group for which license is held. If actual exhibits are not available for training sessions and seminars, videos, web site information, and any available literature should be used for training purposes.
- Judge at least once a year either interstate or locally unless a leave of absence is requested in writing from the Cats United WA committee
- If leave of absence is requested for 24 months or more, then a judge must judge 2 assignments of kitten and/or desex classes prior to restoration onto the full Cats United WA Judges Register
- Judges transferring to Cats United WA from other control bodies must be able to supply documents verifying all previous judges' qualifications and be approved by the Cats United WA committee.
- Judges must notify Cats United WA Secretary in writing of interstate and overseas assignments.

CCCA Judges list

- The holder of a full licence to judge shorthair or longhair breeds, who has completed the minimum training as outlined in the CCCA guidelines (refer: <http://www.cccofa.asn.au/> 'CCCA Judges – Minimum Requirements') and their probationary licence period, is entitled to be included on the CCCA judges list following recommendation from their member body.

Note: Cats United WA as a condition of Membership of CCCA agrees to direct their judges to seek permission before Judging Interstate, as councils do not approve invitations to unrecognised bodies, and CCCA Members must advise their affiliates that they should not forward Judging to Judges affiliated with unrecognised bodies.

- Any judge listed on the CCCA judges list who officiates at a show or event conducted by a non-recognised body shall be reported to CCCA for the appropriate action to be taken.

Bylaw 8. Registration Rules

Definitions

- The **Association** means the Cats United WA.
- **Registered** means registered in the database of Cats United WA unless otherwise stated.
- The term **cat** includes **kitten** where kittens are eligible, unless otherwise stated.
- **Month** means calendar month.
- **CCCA** is the Coordinating Cat Council of Australia, of which Cats United WA is a member.
- **Pending** refers only to registrations where the paperwork has been submitted to the Registrar and which are awaiting processing.

The Cats United WA Database

- The association shall keep and maintain a register of cats.
- The association may refuse an application for registration without having to assign a reason.
- The person whose name is in the register as the owner of the cat shall be deemed to be the owner.
- In the case of a partnership both parties shall be deemed to be co-owners and where required, both signatures shall be required
- If a signature of one of the parties is unattainable, a Statutory Declaration, signed before a JP may be accepted.
- Forms relating to application for registration, transfer, prefix, etc, can be downloaded from the Cats United WA website or contact the Cats United WA Secretary. >>>> this will change to be available from members portal
- To gain points for Cats United WA Cat Of The Year Points <maybe we could call the annual awards or something else so as to be different to catsWA and COAWA> a cat must be registered with Cats United WA and the owner a financial member of Cats United WA.

Eligibility

- A person shall not be entitled to initially register a cat unless they are the breeder of the cat.
- Except with the approval of the association, a cat shall not be eligible for registration with Cats United WA unless:
 - o its sire and dam are each registered, and
 - o the dam is registered in the Cats United WA database, and
 - o the sire is registered with Cats United WA or a body recognised by Cats United WA.
- Cats United WA will not accept into its register any cat which is registered with a control body not recognised by CCCA.
- Cats United WA will not accept into its register any cat which has been deregistered by a CCCA Member Body.
- All CCCA Members will be notified of any cat which is deregistered.

Registration Numbers & Names

- A unique number shall be allocated to each cat registered with the association.
- A cat shall be assigned an identifier upon registration in the register which shall include in the following order:
 - o the breeder's registered prefix
 - o a name containing letters only which must not exceed thirty five characters including prefix and spaces between words
 - o the registration number
- The registered number for kittens registered to Cats United WA members will be in the form of a registration number, CU and the year ie 052CU18
- Cats and kittens transferred into the Cats United WA database shall have the addition of /CU and the year added after their existing registration number.
- A cat shall not be registered with a name that is the same as or close to or likely to mislead as another cat of that name.
- Once registered, a name cannot be altered, except in the case of an error or duplication being discovered, in which case the Registrar should notify the Cats United WA Committee of the alteration so that it is recorded in the minutes of a Cats United WA Committee meeting.

- A kitten under six months of age may be reclassified for colour or pattern at the written request of its owner and at the discretion of the Cats United WA registrar. If an older kitten or cat requires reclassification of colour or pattern after individual registration it will need to be reclassified by three judges qualified to judge the group in which it belongs. Judges will need to sign a document which shows the cats full name, sex and advising the change of colour or pattern from the existing to the new colour or pattern

Designation of breeding or non-breeding

- Applications for individual registrations should be marked as breeding or pet.
- Breeders may choose to put other conditions on the sale of a cat and this becomes a contract between the breeder and the new owner, provided it is signed by both parties.

Transfers

- The transfer of a registered cat to another owner must be accompanied by:
 - A copy of the original Cats United WA certificate, and
 - the correct Cats United WA form (available from Cats United WA website) and appropriate fee. <will change with portal>
 - A cat registered with any control body recognized by Cats United WA may only be registered with the association after it has been transferred to the Cats United WA owner.
- The owner of the cat must include with the application:
 - the current registration form
 - a copy of pedigree showing three generations of registration numbers, colours and the breeders signature, and
 - the appropriate fee.
- Transfer of registration must be applied for within 30 days of change of ownership.
- Cats purchased from within other control bodies must comply with the association's breeding rules before acceptance onto the full register.
- A cat must be registered within the body in which the dam is registered before it can be transferred to another Control Body.
- The association will not accept onto its register any cat which has not previously been transferred through its original registering body.
- Cats transferred between CCCA member bodies will retain their original registration numbers followed by the initials of the registering body (eg Cats United WA shows as /CU year).
- The Registration certificate stamped and initialed by the Registrar acts as a certified pedigree.

Litters

- All kittens in a litter must be registered together on a single registration form. If a stud service is used the registration must be accompanied by a completed stud form, signed by the sire owner and, if the sire is not owned by a Cats United WA member, a four generation certified pedigree for the sire which must show colours and registration numbers.
- Kittens must be registered by the age of 6 months. After this age the fee to register increases and all kittens must be registered by twelve month of age or **within two months of sale to a new owner**. The registrar reserves the right to refuse an application after that time unless a reasonable explanation can be supplied. If accepted, the fee will be doubled.

Cattery Prefix

- The applicant(s) must be a financial member(s) of Cats United WA and agree to abide by the Rules and By Laws of Cats United WA. Prefixes may be held by joint members providing all are financial members. **Particular attention is drawn to Section 4, Responsible Cat Ownership and Section 5, Cat Breeding: Basic Guidelines. <update for name and number>**
- Prefix Application must be one word only of not more than fifteen characters. Prefixes must be only composed of letters, no spaces and no other characters or punctuation.
- Three choices of name should be supplied that are preferably sufficiently different to save time by preventing having to return the application because it conflicts with a name elsewhere. It is a good idea to do some checking online to see if the prefix is already in use. Members should remember when making a choice of name that when registering cats or kittens the total name must not exceed thirty five letters including prefix.
- The Registrar will then take steps to clear this new name throughout recognized control bodies in Australia which may take some time.
- The applicant may not use any of the chosen names until they receive official notification from the Cats United WA Registrar.

Experimental & New Breeds

- Experimental breeding allows a breeder to breed outside of the current breed standards so as to achieve a positive objective. This may be to create a new breed, to introduce a new colour, pattern or other trait to a breed or to expand the available gene pool of a breed.
- **<TBA>**

Leasing

- A lease is a contractual arrangement between the lessee (new 'owner') and the lessor (original owner) for a period of time. During such time for all intents and purposes, the lessee has the rights of ownership of the animal.
- To register a lease the breeder must put in a written application including a letter from the current registered owner (lessor) and signed also by the lessee stating the term of the lease and any conditions attached. Also included must be a copy of leased cats certified pedigree showing colours and registration numbers and the appropriate fee.

Copies

- Duplicate registrations will be provided only after the registrar is satisfied that the registration has been genuinely lost.

Fees

- Refer to Cats United WA website for current fees or contact the Cats United WA Secretary.

Additional Cats United WA Rules

Dual Membership not allowed

- Members of Cats United WA may not be members of other registering bodies ie dual membership is not allowed. Further a Cats United WA member may not share a household with a member of another registering body.

Insurance

- When a member uses their car to drive judges they must have a valid license and they must have compulsory third party insurance
- Members must notify secretary of any incidents or events that may give rise to a claim against the organisation so that he/she can maintain a record of such.

Recognition of Breeds, Colours and Patterns

- Cats United WA adopts the breed standards as written and published by CCCA. In addition to this the association recognises the following locally at all Cats United WA and affiliate shows
 - o The Neva Masquerade breed – as per the CCCA standard for Siberian cats with the addition of colour point colours.



FASA POLICIES & Bylaws 2023

Number	Description	Page
1.	GUIDELINES FOR FASA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS	2
2.	CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS	4
3.	SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY	5
4.	PUBLIC ADVICE GIVEN ON BEHALF OF THE ASSOCIATION	6
5.	RESPONSIBLE CAT OWNERSHIP	7
6.	CAT BREEDING: RULES	8
7.	CODE OF CONDUCT & REQUIREMENTS FOR JUDGES	11
8.	GUIDELINES FOR STEWARDS	13
9.	RULES RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION OF CATS	16
10.	GUIDELINES FOR PURCHASERS OF PEDIGREED CATS	19
11.	COMPLAINTS	21
12.	JUDGES ASSISTANTS	22
13.	PRIVACY POLICY	23
14.	SMOKE FREE POLICY	23
15.	VOUNTEERS POLICY	24
16.	HOT WEATHER POLICY	24



FASA POLICIES & Bylaws 2023

1. GUIDELINES FOR FASA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

FASA is an incorporated body subject to corporate law and as such needs to be managed in an efficient, transparent and accountable manner on behalf of the membership.

As a member of the Management Committee of FASA, you have taken on a responsibility to act at all times on behalf of the association. In effect you are a Director of FASA and you have duties under common law which are:

- to act honestly in the exercise of your powers and in the discharge of your responsibilities;
- to exercise a reasonable degree of care and diligence;
- to ensure that FASA is compliant with the relevant legislation
- to ensure that you are presented with an understandable financial statement at each meeting and a full set of accounts before the AGM
- to declare any conflicts of interest
- to not make improper use of information acquired to gain advantage for yourself or others; and
- to not make improper use of your position to gain an advantage for yourself or others or to cause detriment to the association.

To be an active and effective member, you must be informed.

- Have a working knowledge of FASA Constitution, Rules, Policies and Guidelines (if you do not have copies, ask the FASA Secretary to send you copies, or go to the FASA website);
- be aware of current SA legislation, Dog and Cat Management Act 1995, the Animal Welfare Act 1985, the SA Animal Welfare Regulations 2012, and also of Local Government Regulations.

At meetings:

- show respect for other members – inside & outside of meetings
- address all comments and questions through the chair and accept the ruling of the chair – whether you agree with it or not
- the first item on the agenda should be to declare any conflict of interest with any item listed
- do not discuss matters outside of the meeting (particularly observe any '*in camera*' ruling) until and unless these have been publicized by the Secretary or in Purr.

*In-camera describes that section of a committee meeting that is closed whilst information is discussed that is not recorded in the minutes or divulged to the general membership or the public. Such sessions may discuss incidents or people, financial, legal or other sensitive decisions that must be kept confidential but allow full and open debate strictly between those present and strictly at that time only. **That means that all people present at the meeting are bound not to divulge any of the discussion, even to close friends or family members.***

- If you wish to raise a matter, write to the Secretary prior to the meeting to have this put on the agenda. Other matters may be raised in Any Other Business but usually these will be of a minor or procedural nature only. New business must be an agenda item and accompanying documents must be circulated ahead of the meeting.
- be well prepared for the meeting: read the agenda prior, be aware of the topics that will be discussed; ask questions if necessary, be involved, be a good listener, respect others.



FASA POLICIES & Bylaws 2023

Outside of meetings:

- actively promote FASA
- be a good ambassador – courteous, respectful, encouraging.
- do not send bulk emails and beware of 'Reply All' in a response– these are often misconstrued & can be a significant cause of ill feeling.
- do not use social media to pass opinion on FASA matters or denigrate any fellow member, exhibitor or breeder or their animals.

I have read and understood the above guidelines and have copies of FASA Constitution, FASA Show Rules, & FASA Policies (which include but not limited to: Responsible Cat Ownership, Cat Breeding, and Social Media)

Signed:

Date:



FASA POLICIES & Bylaws 2023

2. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS

Members of FASA **as a condition of membership** agree to abide by the Rules and Policies of the organisation.

Members of FASA are expected to act with integrity, to demonstrate good sportsmanship where competition is concerned and to have good knowledge of and abide by high standards of animal welfare.

All registerable cats, and kittens over the age of 4 months, which are the property of an Ordinary Member of the Association resident in South Australia should be registered with the Association.

Members and Club Affiliates shall, at all times, act within the spirit of the objects of the FASA constitution as set out in clause 2. As the Cat Fancy is made up of various organisations with individual goals & objects, conflicts of interest may arise and need to be acknowledged.

Acting within the spirit of the objects of the FASA constitution includes but is not limited to:

- promoting the objects of the Association;
- engaging in a courteous and professional manner with each other and/or with the public;
- not bringing the Association into disrepute or otherwise attract negative publicity whether in person, in writing and/or in particular via use of social media, such as use of "Facebook" (refer Social Media Policy for more detail);
- abiding by the policy of Responsible Cat Ownership.

A breach of any of these policies as set out in Annexes to the Rules may result in consequences set out in clause 8 of the constitution, *Suspension of Membership*.

3. SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Social media provides an excellent opportunity for people to gather in online communities of shared interest, to share knowledge, celebrate success and to learn about the cat fancy. FASA sees social media as an important tool of engagement.

Social media includes, but is not limited to:

- social networking sites such as: Facebook, MySpace, Bebo, Friendster, LinkedIn
- video and photo sharing websites e.g. Flickr, YouTube
- blogging sites e.g. Twitter, personal blogs or blogs hosted by traditional media publications
- forums and discussion boards such as Whirlpool, Yahoo! Groups or Google Groups
- any other web sites that allow individual users to use simple publishing tools.

The essential guiding principles are:

- ensure that you are fully aware who you are representing
- any and all references to FASA are correct, accurate and in line with the Policies of FASA
- refrain from making negative comments about other members, members cats, or the Association
- demonstrate respect for the individual and communities with which you interact at all times - be aware that negative comments can be at least hurtful, at worst defamatory and are difficult to rescind or recall
- do not bring the association into disrepute or otherwise attract negative publicity.

You are required to:

- Be respectful of all individuals and communities with which you interact online;
- Be polite and respectful of others' opinions, even in times of heated discussion and debate;
- Adhere to the Terms Of Use, and seek to conform to the cultural and behavioral norms, of the social media platform being used;
- Respect copyright, privacy, financial disclosure and other applicable laws when publishing on social media platforms.

This policy is applied if you choose to make references to FASA, its office bearers, members or services, its competitors, and/or other related individuals or organisations when you are using a social media platform in a personal capacity. It is important in these circumstances that readers of your posts do not misconstrue your personal comments as representing an official FASA position.

A breach of this policy shall constitute a contravention of the Rules, giving rise to the consequences set out in clause 7, *Suspension of membership*.



FASA POLICIES & Bylaws 2023

4. PUBLIC ADVICE GIVEN ON BEHALF OF THE ASSOCIATION

FASA appreciates that volunteers donate their time generously, for the benefit of cat owners and breeders and the association.

Members of FASA may from time to time find themselves in a position of giving public advice whilst representing the association. This may occur at cat shows, say on the FASA 'table' or at 'expos' or such, plus the Management Committee annually appoints people to run a kitten service on behalf of the Association.

FASA considers that it is important that the advice given out by people representing the association is consistent, that there are no misunderstandings, and each person is giving the same message, in line with the guidelines set out in this policy.

When in the position of giving Public Advice volunteers must be mindful, they represent the association and therefore have to be cautious with any comments made regarding FASA and any of its representatives and must have a good knowledge of FASA Rules and Policies, or refer the person to a more experienced member.

Running the Kitten Service for FASA requires people who have considerable experience in and knowledge of breeding, owning and showing pedigree cats (ideally a minimum of ten years).

Volunteers in this position offer basic advice on general health and welfare of cats, it is therefore essential that they agree with and promote to potential purchasers:

- FASA Policy on Responsible Cat Ownership
- Not purchasing a kitten that is under 12 weeks of age or shows any adverse behavioral tendencies or does not appear in perfect health, i.e. not accepting a kitten that: is sneezing, has runny eyes or nose, appears to have diarrhea, is unduly timid or fractious, etc.
- Checking it has had at least 2 vaccinations, for at least Feline Enteritis and 'Cat Flu
- Checking that the vaccination certificate is signed by a veterinarian.

It is important to make it clear to the person phoning that:

- FASA offers a list of breeders that may have kittens for sale - they are not necessarily **recommended** breeders, as FASA cannot guarantee the conditions under which they are raised
- Stress that the onus is on the purchaser to check out the cattery
- Recommended that the purchaser visit several catteries
- Draw their attention to the FASA website, and the information pamphlet "Cat Breeding Basics" for more detailed information (offer to email this to them)
- Only names of breeders that are financial members of FASA are to be put forward, with preference to those who have paid to be in the FASA Breeders Directory. All of the names of breeders on the list for the particular breed requested should be put forward. There should be no attempt to be selective (other than knowing that one has kittens, and another does not)
- If a complaint is received about a breeder, the person should be asked to put it in writing to the Secretary of FASA. There should be no discussion about the matter.

5. RESPONSIBLE CAT OWNERSHIP

Cats play a valuable role in the family and community as companions. Members of FASA will actively promote the benefits of ownership, and as an inherent part of that, Responsible Cat Ownership. The welfare of the cat is always the priority.

Responsible Cat Ownership includes, but is not limited to:

- providing a clean, healthy environment and appropriate diet for your cats at all life stages
- not allowing animals to roam

Containment of cats can help to protect cats from disease and injury through fighting and accidents, increase the opportunity for owner-animal interaction and reduce the impact of hunting by cats and disturbance caused to neighbors.

Where cats are contained, steps must be taken to ensure that adequate exercise and environmental enrichment are available. Access to an outdoor escape-proof enclosure greatly increases the opportunity for activity and stimulation for confined cats.

Enclosures need to be of a size that cats can exhibit normal behavior, eg, to be able to run, jump, climb and play, and be protected from extremes of temperature and weather.

- ensuring permanent identification, preferably with RFID microchip
- desexing all animals not intended for breeding
- providing adequate attention and enrichment – physical and mental, to compensate for the loss of freedom and prevent unwanted behaviours
- providing regular health checks and vaccinations
- not over breeding from any one cat
- limiting the number of animals owned to a number that can be effectively managed and individually handled daily
- providing information to new owners on diet and responsible ownership
- ensuring no public nuisance is created by noise, smell, uncontrolled cats, etc.
- adherence to Local Government Bylaws.

There are many websites that can provide more information on welfare and suitable enclosures, etc. if you need more detail, visit:

RSPCA <http://www.rspca.org.au/>

NSW Animal Welfare Code of Practice - Breeding dogs and cats

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/animal-welfare/codes/breeding-dogs-and-cats>

6. CAT BREEDING: RULES & CODE OF CONDUCT FOR BREEDERS

CODE OF CONDUCT & RULES FOR BREEDERS

- New breeders applying for a Cattery Prefix - and existing breeders joining FASA must be a member of FASA and have a breeder registration number issued by the Dog and Cat Management Board (renewed annually).

and will be required to sign that they have read & understood this document & agree to abide by the principles herein.

BREEDING

- Breeders must desex all kittens (unless going to a registered breeder) prior to sale from 12 weeks of age or a weight of 1kg. Kittens must remain with the breeder until the surgical site has adequately healed. Exceptions to this rule will only be considered for medical reasons and on written veterinary advice. Because a veterinarian does not advocate early desexing is not an acceptable reason, there are many veterinarians that will perform this procedure.
- The breeder/cattery must have a registered FASA prefix and a Breeder Registration Number (BRN) issued by the Dog and Cat Management Board (renewed annually) apply through FASA.

The cattery or area of the house where the cats are kept must appear **clean**, with no undue odour (there may be some smell attached where a stud cat is housed) and should comply with the South Australian Standards and Guidelines for Breeding and Trading Companion Animals

- Cats and kittens must be **healthy, happy** and **active**. There must be no more cats/kittens than the breeder and their family can effectively care for.
- The cats/kittens must be raised in an environment that offers them physical and mental stimulation, and **kittens should be regularly and individually handled**.

Kittens should only be placed in homes where the breeder genuinely believes the new owner will provide a life-long commitment of responsible pet ownership. The breeder breeds with the intention of improving or maintaining the standard of the breed, and not solely for commercial purposes, and is familiar with the current relevant standards and guidelines, South Australian Standards and Guidelines for Breeding and Trading Companion Animals.

- The breeder will not knowingly sell any cat/kitten to a commercial cat wholesaler, retail pet dealer or directly or indirectly allow cats/kittens to be given as a prize or donation in a competition of any kind. Cats and kittens will only be relinquished to a shelter as a last resort.
- Female cats under the age of 10 months of age will not usually be mated (unless veterinary advice has been sought).
- Matings should be planned such that no queen will deliver a litter more than twice in a calendar year and no more than eight litters in her life time.
- No cat, male or female, will be intentionally mated to a cat of a different breed or to a domestic cat unless it is part of a recognized and approved FASA experimental breeding program or allowed as an outcross in the CCCA breeding rules.
- The breeder will not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed, nor falsely advertise, or knowingly mislead any person regarding the showing performance of any cat.
- Any kitten that is to be sent interstate or overseas will be a minimum of **12** weeks of age.



FASA POLICIES & Bylaws 2023

- The breeder will not knowingly breed from a cat, male or female, known to exhibit or carry any genetically transmitted trait or defect that may affect the health of the breed. Breeders should be familiar with potential problems within their breed and where possible have their cats tested and remove any carriers from breeding programs.

SALES OF KITTENS

SA State legislation effective from 1 July 2018 requires that all animals sold must be microchipped prior to sale and desexed by 6 months of age or within 28 days of owner taking possession.

Registered breeders are exempt from mandatory desexing but not from mandatory microchipping.

- **Kittens must not go to new homes unless they are: double vaccinated, microchipped, desexed and are in general good health and are at least 12 weeks of age**

The kittens must have had at least two vaccinations. Generally, one at 8 weeks and one at 12 weeks but variation to this protocol is acceptable provided at least 2 vaccinations are given prior to sale. The Core Vaccination is to protect against Feline Enteritis, Feline Herpesvirus and Feline Calicivirus known as 'F3'. There are now vaccines available for Chlamydia, Feline Immunodeficiency virus (FIV or Feline Aids) and Feline Leukemia Virus.

*Upon the sale of the kitten the breeder will provide the new owner with a current vaccination certificate for that kitten issued and **signed by the registered veterinary surgeon** who carried out the vaccinations and corresponding health checks.*

- Microchipping kittens is compulsory at point of sale (State Legislation applies).
- **Breeders should be prepared to give ongoing advice and support to the new owners, not just at the time of sale.**
- **The breeder must provide the new owner with:**
 - **Their contact details in writing, including phone number and email address;**
 - **Written details of all dietary requirements,** especially what the kitten is being fed currently; &
 - **Vaccination certificates** (signed by a registered veterinary surgeon).

It is good practice to discuss and provide:

- **Information** on responsible cat ownership, which includes:
Identification; desexing; confining; housing, including info on mental & physical stimulation for the cat; litter box training, integrating with other household pets and common behavioral problems; and any other information that will ensure the cat/kitten fits into its new environment with minimum stress.
- **A sales contract**, which will detail:
 - a statement that the kitten/cat is in good health at the time of sale. If the kitten contracts any illness within 7 days, the breeder will discuss options which may include agreeing to contribute to veterinary bills (breeders may insist on their own vet), or even taking the kitten back and providing a full refund of purchase price;
 - whether the kitten or cat is being sold as a neutered pet, neutered show cat, or intact breeding cat. (New owners should sign the DESEX section on the registration form).



FASA POLICIES & Bylaws 2023

- **Pedigree:** a FASA registered pedigree showing at least 3 generations, colours, registration numbers and the breeder's name and address (when the kitten is registered the FASA pedigree will be posted to the new owner by the FASA Registrar);
- FASA & club **membership forms** and other available **information pamphlets** on showing, etc. or direct to the FASA website.
- *The breeder will encourage the purchaser to make contact if he/she has any questions or concerns, and the breeder will respond in a timely manner.*
- The breeder will ensure that the purchaser of a stud male is made fully aware of the care, responsibility and the standard of facilities required to keep an entire male cat. Purchasers of a stud cat must be a registered breeder with facilities that will enable the stud to be domiciled in conditions that meet guidelines (stated under the heading of 'breeding') in page 1 of this document.
- The breeder will not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed nor falsely advertise cats nor mislead any person regarding the health or quality of any cat or kitten.

REGISTRATION

- All litters must be litter registered and all kitten's must be individually registered.
- If the individual cat/kitten is to be registered to the new owner, the paperwork should be sent to the Registrar as soon as practicable but within 2 months of sale to a new owner. (Forms are available on the FASA website).
- Registration may be noted on the form as "Breeding" or "Non-Breeding". "Non-Breeding" or "PET" means that the cat is to be desexed and should the cat produce kittens, none of its progeny can be registered. It is the responsibility of the breeder to explain to the new owner the meaning of "Non-Breeding" status, and to get the new owner to **sign the agreement on the registration form**. Breeders may also state "Show" or "Not for Showing" on registrations and must explain the significance to the new owner. Any other agreements are between the two parties and both parties should have written signed copies.

PENALTIES

Failure to comply with the above rules will result in a first warning and if further offences occur the breeder will be suspended from registering cats/kittens with the association for a period of up to 12 months. After this suspension any further contravention of these rules will result in a permanent ban on the breeder registering cats/kittens with the association. The DCMB will be advised of such suspensions"

I Agree to abide by the above Breeding Rules and Code of Conduct of the Feline Association of SA Inc and note that noncompliance with these rules will incur penalties as stated in the rules:

Signed _____ Date: / /20

Name: _____

Further enquiries can be directed to the FASA Secretary, Refer to the FASA website
www.felineassociationsa.com for current contact details and information.

7. CODE OF CONDUCT & REQUIREMENTS FOR JUDGES

A Judge

- shall have satisfactorily completed appropriate training, be competent, personable, and well presented.
- shall possess a sound knowledge of and be able to apply the breed standards and shall keep informed of new breeds and any changes to existing standards of points.
- represents the association and should at all times promote and uphold the Objects of the association.
- shall have a working knowledge of the Rules and Policies of the association and the CCCA.
- shall at all times act with integrity and fairness.

Conflict of interest

- Judge shall not judge their own exhibit.
- A Judge shall not judge an exhibit which they directly or indirectly, alone or jointly own or lease.
- A Judge shall not judge an exhibit which they directly or indirectly, either alone or jointly with another owned or leased within three months of the date of the Show at which they officiate.
- An exhibit causing or likely to cause this clause to be contravened shall be ineligible to compete in any section of judging in which the Judge concerned is to officiate.
- For the purpose of this section an exhibit will be deemed to be the subject of this section if it is an exhibit in which the Judge or Judge's spouse or partner or siblings or children or parents have or have had a direct or indirect proprietary interest.
- Judges are obliged to advise the purchaser or lessee of any exhibit affected by this section as to the showing restrictions imposed by the above clauses. Failure to do so may be deemed by the Management Committee as misconduct.
- Judges should where possible not travel to shows in a private vehicle with exhibitors who have entered under them for that particular show.

Exhibits

- Judges shall make the welfare of the cat a priority at all times.
- If a cat is unwilling to be handled after a reasonable attempt, it should not be judged.
- The recommended number of exhibits the judges are expected to handle in an assignment is 100.

Show Management

- Judges should not solicit judging assignments.
- Judges should reply promptly to invitations to judge. Once an engagement has been accepted a contract exists between the Judge and the Club concerned which should only be altered by mutual agreement. In the event of a cancellation becoming inevitable, the other party should be notified immediately.
- Judges must not undertake the same assignment more than once in every three shows (including GCCFSA shows) if possible. It is the responsibility of the judge to keep an accurate diary to prevent bookings overlapping.

Exhibitors

- Judges should discourage conversation with exhibitors before an assignment or judging of a particular group or class is completed, but should be available at the end of judging to answer questions from exhibitors and members of the public.

Working with Fellow Judges & Stewards

- If undertaking side classes always ask permission to proceed if an open class judge is handling the same cats
- Do not offer unsolicited opinions to fellow judges.
- Judges should play an active role in training stewards & take every opportunity to encourage and inform them.

Judges Licences

- The Management Committee shall have the power to grant, suspend or revoke Judges Licences
- Until otherwise determined by the Management Committee there shall be the following levels of



FASA POLICIES & Bylaws 2023

Judges Licences :

- i) **Probationary**
The holder shall be entitled to accept a judging appointment within the state of SA to judge any classes in the Group to which the Probationary Licence applies.
Probationary Judges may judge to Best Exhibit in Group either alone or by conferring with one or more other Judges but may not officiate on a Supreme All Breeds panel.
 - ii) **Full**
The holder shall be entitled to accept a judging appointment with any recognised Body anywhere in the world.
 - iii) **Tutor**
The holder shall be a Full Judge of the relevant breed group for a minimum of five years and shall be entitled to serve as a member of a Judges Examination Panel.
 - iv) **All Breeds**
The holder shall have attained Full Judge status in each of the three Groups of cat breeds shall be accorded the status of All Breeds Judge.
- The three levels of Judges Licences are to be separately attained in Longhair and Shorthair Groups of pedigreed cat breeds.

Criteria for Retaining Judge's Licence

To remain on the active **FASA judge's list**, a judge must:

- Be a financial member of FASA
- Be up to date with new or uncommon breeds within the Group for which licence is held. If actual exhibits are not available for training sessions and seminars, videos, web site information, and any available literature should be used for training purposes.
- When a new breed within the Group for which the licence is held is introduced into FASA, a compulsory seminar or workshop on the new breed must be attended.
- Judge at least 3 times/year either interstate or locally – this can include Domestic classes (unless sufficient reason can be given or leave of absence is requested).
- If leave of absence is requested for 24 months or more, then a judge must judge 2 assignments of kitten and/or neuter classes prior to restoration onto the full FASA Judges Register again.
- Judges transferring to FASA from other control bodies must be able to supply documents verifying all previous judges' qualifications and be accepted by resolution of the Management Committee.
- Judges must notify FASA Secretary of interstate and overseas assignments.

Judges transferring to FASA from other control bodies must be able to supply documents verifying all previous judges' qualifications and be accepted by resolution of the Management Committee.

CCCA Judges list

The holder of a full licence to judge shorthair or longhair breeds, who has completed the minimum training as outlined in the CCCA guidelines (refer: <http://www.cccofa.asn.au/> 'CCCA Judges – Minimum Requirements') and their probationary licence period, is entitled to be included on the CCCA judges list following recommendation from their member body.

Note: FASA as a condition of Membership of CCCA agrees to direct their judges to seek permission before Judging Interstate, as councils do not approve invitations to unrecognised bodies, and CCCA Members must advise their affiliates that they should not forward Judging to Judges affiliated with unrecognised bodies.

Any judge listed on the CCCA judges list who officiates at a show or event conducted by a non-recognised body shall be reported to CCCA for the appropriate action to be taken.

8. GUIDELINES FOR STEWARDS

Required Qualities

- Love of cats & interest in showing.
- Ability to act quietly confident around all cats, not just your own.
- A willingness to steward with all breeds of cats, not just your own breed or group, and for any judge.
- Ability to keep comments confidential. Never repeat comments the judge makes to you whilst judging.

Required knowledge and skills (that you should have acquired by the end of the training course)

- Basic knowledge of cats and cat shows.
- Ability to distinguish breeds, colours, sex, and neutered males.
- Knowledge of the FASA Show Rules and Policies and where to find them.
- Understanding of the paperwork involved in cat shows.
- Basic knowledge of animal welfare and cat behavior.
- A willingness to keep up to date on the introduction of new breeds and any changes to show rules and procedures.
- Understanding of the correct way to hold a cat, particularly in difficult circumstances.
- Understanding of show procedure with respect to judging and stewarding, including, but not limited to:
 - basic behavior required of you, ie confidentiality, quietness, confidence
 - what sprays can be used, where & when
 - how to handle and present cats
 - what different breeds exist and how they require different handling & why (support, extend, stretch)
 - how to approach and handle a difficult cat
 - fractious cats, UTH, UTJ, etc, what circumstances and rules apply
 - what is required of vet stewarding
 - show paperwork, recognizing cross judging, etc.

Basic Behaviour of a steward

- Go about the job quietly and discreetly, do not talk about or make any oblique references to your own cats to any of the judges until all judging is complete.
- Be impartial. Do not show any difference in the way you handle your own cat, a friend's cat, or any other cat.
- Do not talk or laugh loudly whilst judging is in progress.
- Do not make sudden movements or noises close to cats which are out of their cages.
- Do not make unnecessary conversation with the judge. Understand that the judge needs to concentrate and is anxious to finish in a reasonable time. If you have questions, leave them to an appropriate later time.
- Be quietly attentive at all times, concentrate on the job in hand and do not chat to any other people or stewards around or near the table.
- Do not relay any of the judge's words or opinions to anyone.
- Do not leave the ring without permission from the judge.
- Be tactful and courteous to judges, exhibitors and members of the public. Understand that whilst in the position of Steward you represent the association.
- Do not show the judge's slips to anyone en route to the ticket room.
- Do not stand back and let another steward do all of the work. If 2 stewards are handling cats, share the work evenly.
- Never pick up a cat by the scruff of the neck unless it is considered there is no alternative to prevent injury.

Appropriate dress



FASA POLICIES & Bylaws 2023

- You will require a plain coloured, preferably white, long sleeved jacket & sensible enclosed non-slip footwear.
- Do not wear a cattery badge or any other object which may identify what breed is your interest whilst stewarding.
- Do not wear perfume, as this can be upsetting to some exhibits, particularly stud males.
- Make sure you have a pen & notebook, to keep track of specials.
- Be aware there is a copy of the Show Rules on the FASA table in case of a query by the judge or an exhibitor.
- Do not wear your steward's jacket when benching your own exhibits, particularly if you own stud males.
- Do not wear an excess of jewellery, as this may cause a problem with claws/teeth getting caught, and could be dangerous particularly if you have to get a fractious cat back into a cage quickly.

Before the show

If you wish to steward, advise the Steward Coordinator well before the show that you are available for judge stewarding, vet stewarding or both.

Duties on the Day

Vet stewarding

- Arrive well before the start of vetting in.
- Prepare the table if necessary, with paper towels, disinfectant spray, and wipe down the table prior to the vet starting.
- Be helpful, friendly and courteous to all exhibitors and the vet. Accept the vet's instructions & assist them however required.
- Vet your own cats through first and then leave them to one side to be benched later or by someone else.
- As each exhibitor arrives, collect the vetting slip. The exhibitor will usually take their own cat out, but may require assistance. When all exhibits belonging to that exhibitor have been passed, initial the slip, wipe down the table and spray & dry your hands.
Ensure that you, or one of the stewards, vet or delegated person sights and checks all vaccination certificates for all kittens presented.
- If there is a large number of exhibits, consider asking for an additional steward, one to do slips and one to handle cats.

Judge stewarding

- If you are judge stewarding, arrive early & get your exhibit(s) vetted and benched.
- Stewards have priority in the vetting in queue, but use this privilege with tact.
- Do not put on your stewards coat until after you have benched your cats.
- Report to the Steward Coordinator to get your assignment and go to that area.
- If necessary prepare the judges table (paper towels, disinfectant, rubbish receptacle, clean surface). Make sure there is a spare cage on the floor next to the table if it is open judging.
- Check cages to see that each has a visible number, no cat is too stressed or in need of a tray and you have a clear idea of where breeds/exhibits are so you will be able to direct the judge and find them quickly, as cats will not necessarily be in numerical order.
- Remain close to the area until the judge is ready to start so you do not hold anyone up.
- Make sure you have a list of scratchings.
- If you are working with another steward, sort out prior what order and what jobs the two of you will do.
- Introduce yourself to the judge, particularly if they are not local. Find out how they like to proceed, and how they like the cats presented.
- Be mindful and concentrate on the job in hand, try to anticipate what will be required to keep things moving.



FASA POLICIES & Bylaws 2023

- When the cat is out of the cage, straighten the covers if necessary. If a cat has the misfortune to make a mess, it is the steward's duty to clean it up and ensure the cat is returned to reasonable comfort.
- When the cat is returned to the cage, it is your responsibility to make sure the cage is securely fastened.
- If the judge requires clarification of rules or standards, you must provide correct information, not your interpretation. If in doubt, refer to the Steward Coordinator or FASA Representative.
- When judging of a class is complete, check to see that no numbers have been missed. Keep a record of specials and check for cross judging.
- Check each slip as it is finished, check all sections have been completed, and the judge has signed each slip. Check for cross judging. Then initial the slip and see that it gets to the runner or recorder as soon as possible.
- If you think there has been a mistake (cat left out, cross judging, etc.), quietly and tactfully bring this to the attention of the judge.
- Do not be overly familiar with the judge. You can have a social conversation after the assignment.
- Accept constructive criticism from the judge, this will help you become a better steward.
- Disinfect your hands and the table after each cat. If the judge is writing, wash the table when they have finished. Make sure disinfectant and towels are always available for the judge. If the judge overlooks washing their hands, politely hand them the spray.
- Do not leave the floor without the permission of the judge.
- When the judge is ready to do specials, you should have a list of numbers in each colour section, so that when Best in Group is being judged, you will know where they are and can ensure that none get left out.
- If you cannot handle a cat, tell the judge. Let them make the decision on whether it can be taken out.
- Stand back, hold the cage open if required, and make no movement or noise. Be ready to close the door quickly if required.
- If a cat is judged 'fractious' or 'Unable to be Handled', or 'Unable to be Judged' arrange for this to be recorded on an incident report form by the Show Manager. Notify the Steward Coordinator and the FASA Rep.
- Your assignment finishes when the judge dismisses you, but remember that you remain on duty for the rest of the day.

After the assignment

- Clear the table, tidy up, clear away used towels and rubbish.
- If another judge is coming into the same ring, ensure the area has been left in a tidy condition.
- If your judge is continuing in another ring, one steward goes to the new ring and puts the awards out of sight and the other escorts the judge to the next assignment after they have had a brief break.
- If it is a lunch break, escort the judge to the lunch area.
- Refer all questions by exhibitors to the judge.
- Be prepared to assist with any other matter throughout the afternoon if called upon by your judge or the show management.
- If at any time you see an exhibit which has messed its cage and the owner is not available, it is your responsibility to clean it up.

9. RULES RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION OF CATS

1. Definitions

- The 'association' means the Feline Association of South Australia (FASA).
- 'Registered' means registered in the Register of FASA unless otherwise stated.
- The term 'cat' includes 'kitten' where kittens are eligible, unless otherwise stated.
- 'Month' means calendar month.
- 'CCCA' is the Coordinating Cat Council of Australia, of which FASA is a member.
- 'Pending' refers only to registrations where the paperwork has been submitted to the Registrar and which are awaiting processing.

2. The Register

- a. The association shall keep and maintain a register of cats.
- b. The association may refuse an application for registration without having to assign a reason.
- c. The person whose name is in the register as the owner of the cat shall be deemed to be the owner.
- d. In the case of a partnership both parties shall be deemed to be co-owners and both signatures shall be required
- e. If a signature of one of the parties is unattainable, a Statutory Declaration, signed before a JP may be accepted.
- f. Forms relating to application for registration, transfer, prefix, etc, can be downloaded from the FASA website or contact the FASA Secretary.
- g. Dual Registration,
A cat may be registered in South Australia with both control bodies.
- h. To gain points for FASA Annual Awards a cat must be registered with FASA and the owner a financial member of FASA.

3. Eligibility

- a. A person shall not be entitled to initially register a cat unless they are the breeder of the cat.
- b. Except with the approval of the association, a cat shall not be eligible for registration with FASA unless:
 - it has been litter recorded, and
 - its sire and dam are each registered, and
 - the dam is registered in SA, and
 - the sire is registered with FASA or a body recognised by FASA.
 - all cats and kittens for individual registration must be microchipped and number provided with the application for registration
- c. FASA will not accept into its register any cat which is registered with a control body not recognised by CCCA.
- d. FASA will not accept into its register any cat which has been deregistered by a CCCA Member Body.
- e. All CCCA Members will be notified of any cat which is deregistered.

4. Registration Numbers & Names

- a. A unique number shall be allocated to each cat registered with the association.
- b. A cat shall be assigned an identifier upon registration in the register which shall include in the following order:
 - the breeder's registered prefix
 - a name, which must not exceed 25 characters including prefix and spaces between words, numerals cannot be used, and
 - the registered number.
 - The registered number shall include in the following order
 - Year of registration
 - 'S' denoting state is South Australia
 - The Register Number allocated to the cat



FASA POLICIES & Bylaws 2023

- Relevant letter and year of transfer into another state, which is replaced if transferred into more than one different state.

(For example: Prefix, followed by the cat's name, Registration numbers 12S12345 or if transferred from Vic it would appear V12.12345S12 and then if then sold into NSW it would change to V12.12345.N13 etc.)

- c. A cat in a particular breed shall not be registered with a name that is the same as, or close to, or likely to mislead, as another cat in the same breed of that name.
- d. Once registered, a name cannot be altered, except in the case of an error or duplication being discovered, in which case the Registrar should notify the FASA Management Committee of the alteration so that it is recorded in the minutes of a FASA Management Committee meeting.
- e. If a cat/kitten requires reclassification of colour or pattern after individual registration, it will need to be reclassified by 3 judges qualified to judge the Group in which it belongs and appointed by arrangement. Judges will need to sign a document which shows the cats full name, sex and advising the change of colour from - to -. -. It should be noted that kittens are not generally assessed for re-classification unless there has been an obvious error – advice should be sought by breeders regarding such requests.

5. Designation of breeding or non-breeding

- a. Applications for individual registrations should be marked as 'Entire', 'Show Neuter' or 'Pet Only'.
- b. Registration forms marked by the breeder as 'Entire' , means the cat can be bred from and shown; if designated as 'Show Neuter', the cat can be shown but not bred from, unless the breeder gives written permission to rescind this prior to the cat being neutered. Forms marked 'Pet Only' will have 'P' after the number and any litter from this cat will not be able to be registered without written permission of the breeder rescinding the restriction.
- c. Breeders may choose to put other conditions on the sale of a cat and this becomes a contract between the breeder and the new owner, provided it is signed by both parties.

6. Transfers

- a. The transfer of a registered cat to another owner must be accompanied by:
 - the original FASA certificate, and
 - the correct FASA form (available from FASA website) and appropriate fee.
- b. A cat registered with any control body recognized by FASA may only be registered with the association after it has been transferred to the South Australian owner.
- c. The owner of the cat must include with the application:
 - the current registration form
 - a copy of pedigree showing three generations of registration numbers, colours and the breeders signature, and
 - the appropriate fee.
- d. Transfer of registration must be applied for within 30 days of change of ownership. After such time the fee will be doubled.
- e. Cats purchased from within other control bodies must comply with the association's breeding rules before acceptance onto the full register.
- f. A cat must be registered within the body in which the litter is registered before it can be transferred to another Control Body.
- g. The association will not accept onto its register any cat which has not previously been transferred through its original registering body (state).
- h. Cats transferred between CCCA member bodies will retain their original registration numbers followed by the initials of the registering body (eg FASA shows as S + year).
- i. The Registration certificate stamped and initialed by the Registrar acts as a certified pedigree.



FASA POLICIES & Bylaws 2023

7. Litters

- a. Litter registration must be accompanied by a completed stud form, signed by the stud owner, a 4-generation pedigree, which must show colours and registration numbers, and the fee.
- b. Litters must be registered by the age of 6 months. The registrar reserves the right to refuse an application after that time unless a reasonable explanation can be supplied. If accepted, the fee will be doubled.
- c. Individual kittens should be registered by the age of 6 months. After such time, if accepted, the fee will be doubled.
- d. If a decision is made to register a cat after the age of 12 months, a request must be made to the FASA Management Committee, with an explanation. If accepted, the fee will be doubled.

8. Cattery Prefix

- a. The applicant must be a financial member of FASA and apply for Breeder Registration Number (BRN) from the DCMC, through FASA.
- b. The applicant must agree to abide by the rules and policies of FASA (as published on FASA website). Attention is drawn to Section 4, Responsible Cat Ownership and Section 1, Cat Breeding: Rules
- c. Prefix Application must be one word only, of not more than 12 letters and not contain hyphens or apostrophes.
- d. Six choices of name should be supplied, preferably that are sufficiently different, to save time by preventing having to return the application because it conflicts with a name elsewhere. Bear in mind when making a choice of name that when registering cats or kittens, the total name must not exceed 25 letters including prefix.
The Registrar will then clear this new name throughout recognized control bodies in Australia, so allow time for the process.
- e. The applicant may not use any of the chosen names until they receive official notification from the FASA Registrar.

9. Experimental & New Breeds

- a. Breeders considering bringing into FASA a yet unrecognized breed, or new colour, pattern or hair length into a breed for registration must apply to the Management Committee first, with details of background breeding, and known standards, proposed program, etc. This will be considered by the Judges Forum Committee and if necessary, a breeding program will be established in consultation with the owner, and the Registrar notified.
- b. The FASA Judges Forum consists of all FASA judges. All FASA Judges and Registrars are to be notified of and welcome to attend & contribute to any meetings of the Judges Forum.
- c. Experimental kittens shall be registered by the age of 6 months. If accepted after that time, the fee will be doubled.
- d. Experimental exhibits must show their "proposed" breed and generation on the application form.

10. Leasing

- a. A lease is a contractual arrangement between the lessee (new 'owner') and the lessor (original owner) for a period of time. During such time for all intents and purposes, the lessee has the rights of ownership of the animal.
- b. The applicant completes the registration form (tick 'lease'), and include:
 - a letter from the current registered owner (lessor) and signed also by the lessee, stating the term of the lease from – and to – and any conditions attached, and
 - copy of pedigree showing colours and registration numbers, and
 - the original registration certificate, and the appropriate fee.

11. Showing

- a. Pedigreed Cats and kittens over 6 months must be registered to be able to be shown.
- b. Only pedigree cats and kittens registered with control councils recognised by FASA may be entered.
- c. Registration numbers must be quoted on the entry form.
- d. 'Number pending' is allowed for pedigree kittens up to 6 months provided the paperwork has been submitted to the appropriate Registrar.
- e. Unregistered pedigreed cats or kittens may not be entered in Companion Cat classes.



FASA POLICIES & Bylaws 2023

12. Copies

- a. Duplicate registrations will be provided only after the registrar is satisfied that the registration had been genuinely lost. Registration forms will be marked "Duplicate Registration – original issued on -/-/-".
- b. Fee charged will be double normal fee.

13. Fees

Refer to FASA website for current fees or contact the FASA Secretary.

10. GUIDELINES FOR PURCHASERS OF PEDIGREED CATS

THE Objects of the Association include education of the public. An informed market will help to raise the standard of cat breeding and hence be an asset to improve animal welfare.

Potential purchasers of pedigreed cats/kittens are encouraged to ask the following questions:

- **Is the cattery registered?**
For further information contact the Feline Association for a list of FASA registered Breeders.
- **Can I visit and see the kittens in their own environment with no obligation?**
Shop around. Make it clear you are looking and taking your time. Make the right decision, not an impulse buy which could disappoint you later.
- Does the cattery appear **clean**, with no undue odour (there may be some smell attached where a stud cat is housed)?
- Do all the cats and kittens appear **healthy, happy and active**?
 - o There should be no more cats/kittens than what the breeder and their family can effectively care for.
 - o Cats/kittens should be raised in an environment that offers them physical and mental stimulation, and **kittens will appear to be well handled and socialised**.
 - o Kittens should only be placed in homes where the breeder genuinely believes the new owner will provide a life-long commitment of responsible pet ownership.
 - o Have you considered how you will introduce your current pets and children to your new kitten? These are topics that your breeder should be able to help you with.
- **How old will the kitten be when I can have it?**
Kittens should not go to new homes unless they are in good health and are 12 weeks of age.
- **What am I getting for my money?**
Kittens will have had a veterinary health check and be immunized. Some breeders will also include desexing and micro-chipping. All breeders should offer support to new kitten owners. New owners should be sent a registration/pedigree issued by the FASA Registrar.
- **Has the kitten been vaccinated?**
The kitten should have had at least 2 vaccinations; generally one is given at 8 weeks and one at 12 weeks. The Core Vaccination is for Feline Enteritis, Feline Herpesvirus and Feline Calicivirus known as 'F3'.
Other vaccines your vet may suggest could include "F4", which includes protection against Chlamydia. Vaccines also exist for: Feline Immunovirus (FIV or Feline Aids) and Feline Leukaemia Virus (FeLV). Any cat that has access to the outdoors should be vaccinated against FIV.
Upon the sale of the kitten the new owner must be provided with a current vaccination certificate for that kitten issued and signed by the veterinary surgeon who carried out the vaccinations. The breeder should ensure that the 12 week vaccine is given.
- **Will the kitten be desexed before I get it?**



FASA POLICIES & Bylaws 2023

Breeders are encouraged to have their kittens desexed prior to sale to a new owner. Consideration should be given to microchipping the kitten before sale to the new owner.

- **Breeder should be prepared to give ongoing advice and support to the new owners, not just at the time of sale.**

The new owner should be provided with:

- ✚ **Written details of all dietary requirements**, especially what the kitten is being fed currently;
- ✚ **Vaccination certificate**;
- ✚ **Information on: Responsible pet ownership**, which may include:
 - Cat Runs and enclosures and indoor living
 - Cat friendly toys/plants
 - Any other information that will ensure the cat/kitten fits into its new environment with minimum stress.
- **What should new owner expect from their breeder?**
 - If the kitten refuses to settle & rehome. How will the breeder help me?
 - If the kitten is not desexed a requirement that the kitten be spayed or neutered by five months of age should be agreed as part of the registration agreement.
 - Breeding arrangements may be entered into with other registered breeders for breeding purposes.
 - The kitten or cat owner may require some ongoing support, introduction to networks and be able to locate where further advice can be found.
- **Is a Pedigree included?**

The FASA registration papers include a full 4 generation pedigree with the colours of all cats included.
- **Does the breed I am looking at have any genetic problems?**

If so, are these cats tested as free of the problem (if possible to do so)?
All health related problems should be referred to your veterinarian for advice.

The breeder will encourage the purchaser to make contact if he/she has any questions or concerns, and the breeder will respond in a timely manner.

11. COMPLAINTS SUB-COMMITTEE

Role of Sub-Committee:

- To receive complaints from exhibitors; breeders; agencies; individuals; cat associations etc;
- To appoint a Convenor by the Management Committee at the beginning of each calendar year who will act as the organiser of the various issues that need to be considered for complaints; all complaints are to be directed immediately by the Secretary to the Convenor;
- To consider all aspects of complaints without any personal bias;
- To consider whether the complaints have legitimacy or are frivolous/mischievous- if deemed frivolous/mischievous the complaints will be dismissed;
- To determine validity or not of complaints;
- To thoroughly investigate complaints;
- To provide final outcome(s) to the FASA Management Committee.

A Complaint Sub-Committee will be appointed for each complaint received and will reflect the importance of ensuring complaints are reviewed impartially. Each Sub-Committee to contain experienced judges; breeders; Management Committee members or members of the public if considered necessary to reflect the nature of the complaint. The Sub-Committee to be made up of no more than 3 people (unless extraordinary circumstances require additional representation). It vital that the Committee members are seen as totally unbiased and have the ability to examine the issues in total confidentiality. It is of the utmost importance that all the people involved in complaints are assured of natural justice and have confidence their issues are resolved in such a way that the outcome(s) meet the rulings that include FASA's Code of Conduct and Rules.

- All complaints to be provided to the FASA Secretary in writing – this can be in the form of either an email or letter and will require a \$50.00 payment at the time of the complaint – payment is essential to ensure complainant is willing to have the complaint considered officially. Should a complaint be upheld, the \$50.00 will be returned. No verbal or anonymous complaints will be referred to the Sub-committee or discussed at the Management Committee – the Secretary to immediately advise complainant of this. All complaints received are to be held Strictly in Confidence and In Camera, including the original complaints and any decisions made by the Sub-Committee;
- Secretary to provide the written complaint to the Convenor of the Complaints Handling Sub-Committee (consideration to be given as to who will be the Convenor – (essential this person is a person who is able to conduct any hearings in a totally unbiased and efficient manner). Convenor can be elected within the Sub-Committee or, after consideration, by the Management Committee but will require that person to be impartial and not form part of the complaint;



FASA POLICIES & Bylaws 2023

- Both parties are to be interviewed by the Sub-Committee to determine the facts. Independent witnesses can be asked to provide their statements and complainants are able to seek outside collaboration if required;
- Sub-Committee to consider the complaint with the absolute need for natural justice for both parties and the need for confidentiality. Although time is usually a consideration, the handling of such complaints should not be made in haste without a full and complete investigation. Voting is to be by secret ballot;
- Provide a written report to the FASA Management Committee with the outcome(s). Again reports are to be 'In Camera';
- FASA Management Committee to receive report(s); seek any clarification required; accept the outcomes of the Sub-Committee;
- A secret ballot to be held by the Management Committee on the outcome and a formal written response of the outcome determined to be provided to the complainant.

12. JUDGES ASSISTANT

Some exhibitors/breeders may not wish to become fully trained Stewards and to progress to becoming judges. It is suggested that exhibitors from the age of 14 upwards can be assessed by the Steward Co-ordinator to carry out this role. This could have the effect of the assistants being able to move to other roles as they gain experience and confidence.

In order to increase participation in assisting judges at show and bearing in mind the scarcity of fully trained Stewards, a proposal has been developed as per the following –

Judge Assistant:

A Judge Assistant could be utilised at shows to carry out the following functions –

- Open and shut cage doors to enable the judge to more quickly assess exhibits without the need to wait for stewards to carry out their full functions;
- Judge Assistants will be required to continually scan the Judges book to ensure they are ready to open cages;
- Judge Assistants will assist judges who do not require or choose to have a steward, but would appreciate assistance or to assist the show should Stewards not be available;
- Judge Assistants will be in the position of ensuring that if an exhibit is exhibiting signs of becoming unable to judge, they will be able to ensure the cage will be shut as soon as the Steward/Judge returns the exhibit to the cage;



FASA POLICIES & Bylaws 2023

- Judge Assistants will ensure that ribbons/trophies/rosettes etc., are removed from rings prior to new judges commencing their assignments.

Benefits:

- Judge Assistants will be able to listen to judge comments and to see exhibits close up;
- They will not have responsibilities for paperwork or handling of exhibits;
- In time it could be a steppingstone for them to enter Steward training;
- It will enable them to become active in a show environment;
- They will not be required to have qualifications to carry out these functions other than the ability to keep conversations confidential and to complete the assignments they have been assigned;
- Such work will also increase their knowledge of cats/breeds/colours and the associated paperwork required.

13. Privacy Policy

FASA recognises the importance of protecting personal information, which it may be required to collect from individuals.

All personal information collected by FASA to create a membership database will be securely monitored and maintained by FASA. The data will not be made available to a third party, unless it is legally required and verified, without the authority of the individual who provided the personal information.

FASA will make available for inspection all personal information, based on the information supplied by the individual that it holds in relation to an individual provided reasonable notice is given. In the event that any part of the personal information that the individual inspects is determined to be incorrect and requires alteration then FASA will make such alteration in compliance with the corrected advice provided by the individual.

FASA will take all reasonable steps to protect the security of the personal information that it holds. This includes appropriate measures to protect electronic materials and materials stored and generated in hard copy. Where information held by FASA is no longer required to be held, and the retention is not required by law, then FASA will destroy such personal information by a secure means.

14. Smoke-Free Policy

FASA is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for members & volunteers. To meet this duty of care FASA believes it has a responsibility to discourage smoking and therefore all FASA events (shows, meetings, seminars) will be smoke-free.

Smoking will only be permitted in designated areas outside of buildings.



FASA POLICIES & Bylaws 2023

15. Volunteer Policy

Volunteers are recognised as an essential part of our organization, performing many different roles. FASA will endeavor to acknowledge their commitment, their efforts and their dedication.

Volunteer Protection Act (2001)

The intent of this legislation is to provide protection to individual volunteers from personal liability for loss, injury or damage caused as a result of an act or omission on their part while undertaking their volunteering duties on behalf of an incorporated organisation.

The Act does not provide the Volunteer with personal accident cover.

16. Hot Weather Policy

FASA has a duty of care to the health, comfort and welfare of its members and volunteers and animals at exhibitions.

If a show hall is not air-conditioned and the weather forecast at 6.00pm Thursday night on the Bureau of Meteorology website for the Sunday / show day is 32 degrees or over, the show is cancelled.

If the hall is air-conditioned the temperature on the day of the show is irrelevant and the choice resides with the exhibitor.

FCC V Inc.

CODE OF PRACTICE

PREAMBLE

Members of the FCCV Inc. obtain special privileges under two Acts which apply to the keeping/breeding of cats. These are the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986, and Section 59 of Division 4 Part 4 of the Domestic Animals Act 1994. The purpose of this code is to specify the minimum standards of accommodation, management, breeding and care that are appropriate to the physical and behavioural needs of cats housed in a breeding/business environment.

The code is to be observed by the owner, manager and all staff of a cat breeding/rearing business including all persons involved in the sale of an animal.

The FCCV, along with other Breeding Cat and Dog Bodies is recognised as an **Applicable Organisation** under these Acts. Being an Applicable Organisation means that we are both expected and required to set and enforce our own standards of care and breeding at a standard to be at least as high as the minimum standards required under these Acts. A requirement of membership of FCCV is that Members acknowledge that under its obligation as an Applicable Organisation (AO) FCCV may be required to conduct checks and inspections of member facilities / breeding practices either in person or via video links, photographs & dedicated questionnaires. Members must, where reasonable, allow inspections of breeding premises by the FCCV to ensure compliance with our Code of Practice, & provide all information as requested by the FCCV at any time.

These codes are mandatory and apply to anyone including FCCV members, who hold a Domestic Animal Business (DAB) License, or an enterprise that carries out the breeding of cats to sell.

According to the Code of Practice for the Operation of Breeding and Rearing Businesses the definition of “SELL”: as per the Wildlife Act 1975 s.3(1) 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 authorising direction causing suffering permitting or attempting any of such acts or things.

These codes are based on the premise that our Members are aware of and are conforming to State legislation as enshrined in the Domestic Animals Act 1994 and are in the process, or have obtained from their Councils the available concessions in terms of numbers of cats kept. It is also assumed that they have investigated their legal responsibilities under Local Laws within their own Municipality, and have acquired all the requisite Planning Permits and Licenses to enable them to pursue their hobby of breeding cats

The FCCV is required to report on the manner in which they have resolved infringements of this Code by their members.

COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE OF PRACTICE

Each member, upon signing an application for membership or renewal of membership of the FCCV Inc. and being duly elected to general membership of the FCCV Inc, shall, in addition to agreeing to be bound by the constitution, rules and regulations of the FCCV Inc., also be bound by the FCCV Code of Practice relating to responsible cat ownership, including the keeping, welfare, breeding, selling and disposing of cats by members to the effect of the terms and conditions set out below.

PURPOSE OF THIS CODE

- This Code of Practice is intended to provide the standards of accommodation, management and care appropriate to the physical and behavioural requirements of cats to be exercised by FCCV Inc. members.
- This Code of Practice reflects the current knowledge and opinion and aims to promote the best practice in cat welfare by providing required standards for cat owners/breeders.

MINIMUM STANDARDS are the same as those in the CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THE PRIVATE KEEPING OF CATS (2007) and THE CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THE OPERATION OF BREEDING AND REARING BUSINESSES 2014, and must be maintained by FCCV Inc members. FCCV Inc also requires the BEST PRACTICE STANDARDS must be adhered to by their members.

LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The **PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS ACT 1986** sets out the offences for failing to properly care and provide for your cat. This Act also covers offences such as deliberate cruelty, ill treatment, causing unnecessary or unreasonable pain or suffering and abandonment.

The **DOMESTIC ANIMALS ACT 1994** sets out requirements such as registration, confinement and identification of cats and the powers of local Councils to ensure these requirements are met

DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this code the following definitions apply:

- **‘Domestic Animal Business (DAB)’** means a cat breeding enterprise that is run for profit in which the enterprise has more than 10 fertile female animals; (as per the Domestic Animals Act 1994)
- **‘Owner’** includes any 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.
- **‘Queen’** means an entire female cat of breeding age.
- **‘Stud’** means an entire male cat of breeding age.
- **‘Veterinarian’** means a registered veterinary practitioner.’
- **‘Sell’** as per the definition of the **Wildlife Act 1975**, “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 authorising directing causing suffering permitting or attempting any of such acts or things. Note that this definition is subject to any changes to the Wildlife Act 1975.

ANIMAL RECORDS

Animal records must be established at birth for each individual kitten born and maintained until the ownership of the kitten changes hands or the kitten is deceased. Copies of records of kittens/cats sold from or retained must be kept for a minimum of 5 years. For each cat under 12 weeks of age the following records must be available:

- Name
- Microchip number (when implanted)
- Sex
- Breed
- Birth date
- Location (breeders address)
- Queen (dam)
- Stud (sire)
- Health records including vaccination, internal parasite control
- Disposal records including date and method of disposal, and the name and address of new owners
- A copy of vaccination certificate and breeder health declaration for the animal.

This also applies to cats/kittens over 12 weeks of age but must also include:

- Council registration certificate.

SALE OF CATS/KITTENS

All cats and kittens being sold or given away must be implanted with a microchip which is implanted 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 cat/kitten. Purchasers of a desexed cat/kitten must be provided with a copy of the desexing certificate.

A cat or kitten being sold must have current vaccinations and receive a vaccination certificate signed by a veterinarian stating that the animal has been vaccinated in accordance with the instructions of the manufacturers of the vaccine used. Kittens must be vaccinated at least once, with at least one vaccination at least 14 days prior to rehoming. Kittens must be vaccinated against:

- Feline Infectious Enteritis
- Feline Respiratory Disease (Herpes & Calici virus and cat flu)

The vaccination certificate must indicate the next date for further vaccination and any obvious physical defect.

A cat/kitten with a potentially life threatening defect apparent at the time must **NOT** be sold.

The business/breeder of cats/kittens with prevalence of known heritable defect/s, must inform the buyer of this problem, and advise the buyer of any test results/action taken by the business/breeder to minimize the likelihood of the occurrence of this problem in the cat/kitten. IT IS AN OFFENCE TO FAIL TO SO ADVISE THE BUYER (POCTA MANDATORY CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THE RESPONSIBLE BREEDING OF ANIMALS WITH HERITABLE DISEASE 2008).

Cats/kittens may be sold at any time but must not permanently leave the breeder/business before 10 weeks of age.

No cat/kitten shall be sold or auctioned to commercial wholesalers, retail pet dealers, or directly or indirectly allowed to be given as a prize or donation to a contest of any kind.

No cat/kitten may be rehomed as a gift to a third party, unless that third party has been informed in sufficient time to allow them to consider the responsibilities incumbent upon acceptance and to prepare for the arrival of the cat/kitten.

No cat/kitten suspected of being sick, injured or diseased may be rehomed. Cats/Kittens must be free of external parasites, and must also be-treated for internal worms with a suitable anthelmintic according to the manufacturer instructions.

In addition, cats/kittens sold entire with the intention of being bred from, must be accompanied by an FCCV Inc. Registration/Pedigree Certificate transferred into the name of the new owner.

The business/breeder/owner must not knowingly misrepresent the characteristic of the breed, nor falsely advertise, nor mislead any person regarding the performance of any cat or kitten.

New owners must be provided with literature about:

- Appropriate feeding and grooming
- Desexing
- Parasite control
- Health including procedures for emergency treatment during the guarantee period.
- Bedding and housing
- Responsible pet ownership
- Vaccination certificate
- Microchip details and transfer form.
- Local council animal registration, including rules and regulations
- FCCV Registration, and Pedigree Certificate (if the cat/kitten has been sold for breeding).

GUARANTEE

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

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

If a cat/kitten dies or is euthanased from a disease that is traceable to the point of sale and within 3 years of purchase, the business/breeder must refund the purchase price or offer a replacement cat/kitten of the same breed and comparable quality with the same guarantee.

DEPOSITS

The taking of deposits on cats/kittens secures the right of the buyer to purchase a chosen cat/kitten, or to be placed in a queue to select and purchase a kitten, or to be advised of kittens becoming available to purchase. Buyers should be made aware of the business/breeder's policy on deposit refunds at the time of making their booking.

Should the business/breeder for any reason be unable or unwilling to continue with a sale, the deposit must be returned in full if there is no cat/kitten of comparable quality available which would suit the requirements of the buyer.

Should the buyer wish to withdraw from the arrangement the deposit should be returned in full if the cancellation takes place up to six weeks before the agreed collection date. The portion of the deposit refunded between 6 and 2 weeks prior to the collection date may diminish, and should cancellation take place AFTER the cat/kitten has been desexed for the buyer, or within two weeks prior to the collection date, no refund need be made.

MANAGEMENT OF CATS

MINIMUM STANDARDS

- Business/owners must provide their cat with proper and sufficient food. Water, shelter and veterinary treatment.
- Cats must be treated humanely.
- Owners must ensure that they abide by legislative requirements including:
 1. Cats must be registered with, and identified as required by the local Council
 2. Cats must not be allowed to create a nuisance problem.
 3. Cats must be microchipped as required by legislation
 4. Cats must be contained as per local Council curfews and by laws.
- All cats must be microchipped to ensure they are permanently identified. Owner contact details need to be kept up to date with the microchip registry.
- Cats must be kept indoors at night (house, enclosure, shed, garage) and must be confined to the property at all times, for the cat's welfare, and to prevent nuisance problems occurring, and to protect native wildlife.
- Owners are responsible for the health and welfare of their cat(s) and must provide both the basic necessities and a good quality of life for their cat(s).
- Choose a cat breed that is most suitable to your lifestyle and circumstances. When selecting your breed please consider:

1. Activity level of cat (some breeds are more active than others)
2. Grooming requirements (long hair breeds need more grooming on a daily basis than short hair breeds)
3. Breed temperament
4. Colour of nose and ears (if white or non-pigmented they will be predisposed to skin cancer and need to be kept inside.
5. Other breed characteristics, for example, some breeds can be highly vocal
6. Known breed problems, some breeds can be associated with genetic disorders that may develop later in life. Ensure parents have been tested for such disorders where possible
7. Degree of human socialization you can provide
8. Cost of care – housing, bedding, hygiene, health and feeding.

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 animal.

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 in the business. Please refer to table on page 9 as a guide.

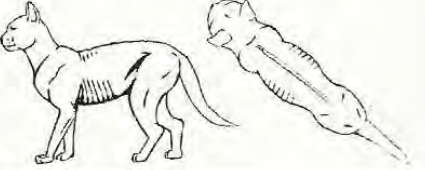
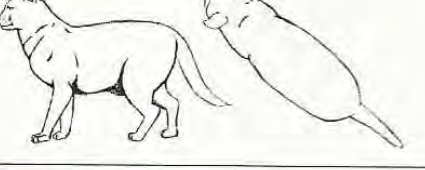
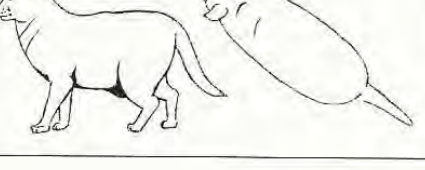
- Cats must be fed at least once a day. However, it is recommended that cats are fed twice daily (to avoid over-feeding, divide the daily feed into two smaller meals) as cat's feeding habits are more for small frequent meals rather than one large meal.
- Diets composed entirely of vegetable matter are not nutritionally adequate for cats, even if such diets are sufficiently palatable to be readily eaten. Nor should cats be fed a diet solely of fresh muscle meat (including fish) as the required minerals and other nutrients provided by edible bone and organ meats will not be provided.
- A balanced diet is important as cats have specific nutrient requirements and sensitivities; for example, excess feeding of liver will cause Vitamin A toxicity problems. If you are not feeding a commercial cat food to your cat, seek advice from breeders/veterinarian to ensure a properly balanced diet is being provided for your cat.
- Cats have differing nutritional requirements depending on their stage of life, amount of exercise and physiological needs, such as growing kittens, pregnancy, lactation (kittens suckling) old age and cold weather. They may require food of differing nutritional value rather than just a greater or lesser volume. As a guide, the feeding instructions on the can, sachet or pack can be followed.

- It is important the body condition of pregnant or lactating queens is maintained within the ideal body weight range to avoid the development of metabolic diseases. Lactating queens usually have increased nutritional requirements to enable them to maintain body weight while feeding their kittens and need to be carefully monitored.
- Kittens have special feeding requirements and require more food (per kilogram of body weight) because in addition to requiring energy for maintenance and activity they need extra nutrients for growth. A number of small meals need to be provided daily as their daily requirements of food is greater than their stomach can accept.

Ideally-

1. Kittens up to 12 weeks of age should be fed 3-4 meals a day.
 2. Kittens from 12 weeks to 6 months should be fed 2-3 meals a day
 3. Kittens from 6 months should be fed 1-2 meals a day.
- Kittens should be fed on a commercial kitten food or a balanced diet specially formulated and discussed with breeders/veterinarian to ensure all nutrient requirements are being met. Poor nutrition during this growth state can create health and skeletal problems later in life.
 - Cats, especially kittens can be lactose intolerant so feeding cow's milk is not recommended. If giving milk, it should be lactose free and designed for cats.
 - Cats should be provided with raw bones regularly for good dental health. For example, raw chicken wings, lamb off cuts.
 - Cooked bones should not be fed as they are likely to splinter and may lodge in the cat's throat or intestine causing serious health problems. If cats have trouble with bones they may need to be provided with an alternative chewing item in order to maintain good dental health.
 - If cats are being fed raw offal, it must be part to the business's/ breeder's health management plan and be in conjunction with a complete worming program. Feeding raw offal to cats is not recommended as it is a zoonosis risk to humans.
 - An adequate number of food bowls need to be provided to enable each cat to eat freely without intimidation. All bowls must be washed after each meal. Receptacles must not cause injury to cats
 - At any time, the breeder/business must hold a minimum for 5 days' food supply, sufficient to feed all cats at the premises to ensure food is available in case of a small or large scale emergency.

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.

WATER

All 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 milliliters 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, lactation, and the water content of the diet.

Water should be provided in a container that is not easily tipped over. The container should be large enough or refilled often enough to provide cats access to water twenty-four hours a day.

Water containers should be of a design that is easily cleaned and does not cause injury to the cat. If kittens are present, the container should not be so large or deep that they can fall in and drown.

HEALTH CARE

A cat's health and welfare must be checked daily. When checking daily for health problems: examine the cat's physical condition, check for signs of ill health and make sure that the cat is eating, drinking, toileting and behaving normally.

Veterinary advice must be promptly sought for cats showing signs of parasites, injury, ill health or distress.

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

Regular vaccinations for the control of contagious diseases, including –

- Infectious Feline Enteritis
- Feline Respiratory Disease (Feline Calicivirus and Feline herpes virus).

As well as preventive treatments for internal (i.e. worms) and external parasites (i.e. fleas) must be provided to safeguard the general health of cats. Frequency of treatment depends on the product used and life stage of the cat.

Kittens must be vaccinated (at least one vaccination 14 days prior to rehoming) and wormed before going to a new home. They require a course of vaccinations commencing at 6-8 weeks of age. Kittens also require more worming than adult cats and may start at the time of the first vaccination (6-8 weeks of age) Kittens intended as pets should be desexed. Seek veterinary advice regarding vaccination, worming and desexing.

Cats should receive regular checkups of their teeth for dental problems and be fed raw bones or other appropriate chewing/teeth cleaning substitutes to help prevent dental problems. Talk to a veterinarian for advice on dental health.

Provision must be made within the establishment for the immediate isolation of any cat, kitten or litter which shows signs of a contagious disease (particularly upper respiratory symptoms). This may be a simple collapsible pen which can be erected in an otherwise cat free room, or a dedicated isolation room. Large groups of cats can readily pass along such infections to one another. This is the most effective method of restricting spread, in combination with the exercise of meticulous hygiene when handling the infected animals.

Cats should be groomed regularly particularly if they have a long coat. Severe matting of the coat is not acceptable and requires a veterinarian or experienced groomer to correct this problem. To avoid this matting long haired cats will require regular grooming and may require clipping (this should be done by a veterinarian or experienced person).

Scratching posts should be provided for cats. Clipping of nails (claws) should be done regularly by an experienced person.

White or light coloured cats, particularly those with white or non-pigmented ears, eyelids and noses, are prone to sunburn and skin cancers. Precautions, such as use of sunscreen, should be taken to protect the vulnerable areas or alternatively white cats should be kept indoors especially during the heat of the day, or provided with seasonal shade as well as sunscreen.

Some animal diseases and parasites are transferable to humans for example zoonoses. It is important that those handling cats practice good personal hygiene, particularly when cleaning out litter trays. Due to the risk of miscarriage or foetal abnormalities through contracting toxoplasmosis, pregnant women should practice extra care around cats and never handle litter trays or faeces without wearing gloves and following strict hygiene guidelines.

Cats can appear quite resilient to pain and may just go quiet or hide as a response to injury or disease. This does not mean that they are not in pain or injured. Abnormal behavior can indicate underlying health problems and a veterinarian should be consulted.

Human medicines must not be given to cats except on veterinary advice, as they can be harmful.

Keep any poisons used in the house, garden or work place stored away from any areas which your cat may have access to. Any products, including products which are coal tar derived, contain polyphenols, xylenol or pine oil are poisonous to cats. Several popular house plants are also poisonous.

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, brother and sister,).

Second degree (for example grandfather and granddaughter, grandmother and grandson) pairs are not recommended without appropriate prior expert advice.

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

If it is not intended to use a male or female cat for breeding purposes, then they should be desexed by a veterinarian. Desexing can be done safely from 8 weeks of age and preferably before puberty (approximately 4 months of age)

Both male and female kittens, if not required for breeding purposes, should be desexed prior to rehoming.

Before breeding cats should undergo a thorough health check by a veterinarian. This will include checking for any known breed genetic defects (that will affect the cat or its progeny's quality of life). Inherited defects may detract from the cat's overall health and cause pain or discomfort which cannot be cured and animals with such defects must not be bred from.

IT IS AN OFFENCE (POCTA Mandatory Code of Practice for the Responsible Breeding of Animals with Heritable Disease 2008) **TO BREED WITH ANIMALS WITH KNOWN HERITABLE DEFECTS** other than under a prescribed breeding program as outlined in this legislation/laid down or supervised by the FCCV Inc.

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

All animals testing free must be vaccinated against FeLV.

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

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 veterinarian practitioner has provided written approval that the cat is sufficiently mature to be bred with.

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 veterinarian practitioner.

A female cat must not have more than 2 litters in a 12-month period

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

Mating pairs must be physically separated from other animals and veterinary advice sought if there is an injury to either cat, or other concerns arise. Mating pairs must be checked for signs of injury before being returned to their normal housing.

The queen must be provided with a separate sleeping area for resting and privacy during birthing. As soon as the queen displays excessive or consistent contractions with no effect; and/or the queen shows signs of contractions she must be monitored every 30 minutes until birthing is complete. Veterinary advice must be sought immediately if:

1. there are prolonged intervals between the birth of each kitten; and/or
2. there is excessive bleeding; and/or
3. there are any other abnormalities observed during the birthing process.

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

After birthing is complete the queen must be monitored every 6 hours until contractions have ceased. If contractions do not stop, seek veterinary advice.

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

Queens and kittens must be monitored every 6 hours until lactation and feeding is established. A queen must also be checked twice a day for mastitis.

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 or if the queen shows signs of mastitis, veterinary advice must be sought.

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

Kittens must not be separated from their mother before 7 weeks of age (except under veterinary advice) and not rehomed before 10 weeks of age, preferably 12 weeks of age.

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 littermates 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 littermates 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.

Category	Environmental enrichment requirements	Socialisation	Handling
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 (such as 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 May begin harness/ lead training	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 (such as 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 May include walking on a lead and harness	Must be handled for a minimum of 30 minutes per cat 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

Cats shall be bred only for the purpose of improving the standard of the breed, not for the pet market or any other commercial purpose.

Unregistered pure bred cats must not be bred by members of the FCCV Inc. Registered pure bred cats must not be mated with unregistered cats of the same breed without specific permission of the FCCV Inc. No pure bred cat may be mated to a cat of a different breed unless within a recognised intermating group as laid down by the FCCV Inc. or unless under an Experimental Breeding Program as approved by the FCCV Inc.

Entire 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.

Male cats must have annual health checks 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 approval 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 every 47 days.

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

Enrichment, socialisation and handling are essential elements to ensuring the welfare of cats and kittens in the breeding facility. Please refer to the tables on page 14 and 15

All Litters born where at least one kitten survives to the age of 10 weeks, must be litter recorded with the FCCV Inc.

HOUSING AND HYGIENE

Cats must be confined to the owner's property at all times, for the protection of the cat's welfare, as well as natural wildlife, and also reduce the nuisance factor.

Cats are sedentary animals and can be confined at all times without a risk to their welfare, providing environmental needs are met (including exercises such as play).

Cats must not be tethered at any time.

Cats kept inside or in enclosures on a permanent basis, must be provide with a litter tray placed well away from the cat's eating and sleeping areas.

Litter must be cleaned daily to remove urine and faeces to promote hygiene.

All housing areas for cats must be maintained in a safe clean and hygienic condition at all times.

When confining cats there must be no dangerous items or sharp edges used in the structure or fencing.

Cats must be provided with access to adequate shelter from the sun, wind, and rain.

If not kept in the house, a cat must be provided with access to a weather-proof sleeping area with clean bedding.

Adequate ventilation must be provided if cats are housed in enclosed areas or buildings to prevent buildup of stale air and odours that can cause respiratory problems for the cats.

Enclosures must be cleaned at least once a day. After removing used litter, dirty bedding and uneaten food and dirty food bowls and water containers, the enclosure may be swept, or vacuumed, followed by mopping, wiping or hosing down daily, and disinfected weekly using a hospital grade disinfectant. All surfaces must be left in a dry condition. Restore clean water bowls, litter trays and clean dry bedding at completion of cleaning. All watering and feeding utensils must be washed in hot soapy water daily to ensure bowls are clean and free of food, mould etc. When utensils are disinfected they must be rinsed to avoid poisoning.

Adequate provision must be made to allow excess water resulting from hosing, to drain away, and soak into the ground or be collected into sewerage system or septic tank so that none of it escapes onto adjoining properties. Dispose of uneaten food and dirty litter hygienically, through domestic/commercial waste disposal services, or through composting. All waste disposal must be in accordance with the requirements of the appropriate statutory authority. Wastes must not be incinerated.

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

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

Cats require some exposure to sunlight to ensure good health. If they are kept indoors for long periods access to sunlight through a window or fly screen is usually sufficient.

Care should be taken to protect cats from hazards within the household such as electrical appliances, power cords, household poisons, poisonous indoor plants and water sources such as toilets or swimming pools.

Suitable accommodation and carers must be provided for cats when owners go away on holidays, such as a boarding cattery that is registered with the local council or a responsible person is providing the necessary daily care of the cat.

Cats can be contained by keeping them in the house at all times; building or buying cat enclosures. These can be separate or connected to a cat door with the house; enclosing verandas; or cat modules/enclosures can be created either separately or linked to the house and can be a great way to provide an interesting environment while containing

cats to the property. Such cat housing needs to be easily cleaned and maintained; with human access point provided for this.

Cat enclosures must be lockable, and locked when there are no people on the property, to prevent access to the cats by other animals and unauthorised persons.

An isolation area must be provided for cats suspected of having an infectious disease.

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 two levels.

Module cage construction/walk-in enclosures 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 2 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 of the day. The module cage can be connected to the exercise area via tunnels or doors and the exercise area may serve up to compatible cats at any one time. There must be one exercise cage for every 8 cats, 16 weeks or older housed in this system.

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, with a maximum of 8 cats per each colony cage.

An important aspect of cat enclosures is the complexity of the environment. Cats require regular exercise. Environmental enrichment and exercise needs can be met through the use of platforms at different heights in the vertical space connected by walkways (static or swinging), climbing frames, scratching posts and an interesting visual outlook. Constant confinement without stimulation or exercise and play can lead to a dull apathetic cat or to the development of destructive behaviour. Scratching post need to be provided for confined cats.

In a group enclosure, a number of hiding and escape areas should be provided to create a refuge from other cats and humans. Group/Colony housing pens should have a scratching poles and at least two levels joined by a climbing plank. When cats are group housed they should be socially compatible.

Sleeping areas must be weatherproof, constructed of materials selected for ease of maintenance and cleaning, durability and non-toxic. Beds, hides, nests must be raised off the ground to prevent draughts. Soft warm bedding must be provided and changed weekly or more often as required. Beds must be cleaned daily.

Where indoor 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 indoor animal housing areas free of dampness, noxious odours and draughts and must provide access to natural daylight during daylight hours.

A fully enclosed cattery area must have an air change rate of 8-12 changes per hour to prevent buildup of odours, and have ventilation devices that avoid draughts and distribute fresh air evenly to all areas.

It is recommended that desexed cats and/or female cats are group housed, entire male cats generally require individual housing to avoid conflict or else to be housed only with desexed cats, provided they are compatible.

Cats respond to visual stimulation so enclosures for solitary cats, particularly stud males should be situated where the cat can see other activities. This reduces the likelihood of the stud cat becoming noisy, or developing behavioral problems.

Queens should be provided with a safe, warm individual kittening pen/room at least 2 weeks prior to the expected birth date. This space should provide protection against interference from other animals or people, and be safe spacious enough for kittens up to at least 6 weeks of age. Enclosures used for kittening queens must be thoroughly disinfected prior to the introduction of a pregnant queen. Bedding must be soft, absorbent and easily disposed of or cleaned and disinfected when soiled. There must also be access to natural daylight.

Newborn kittens prefer an ambient temperature of 31 degrees Celsius up until about one week of age. Between one and three weeks of age, the temperature can be gradually reduced to about 27 degrees Celsius. 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 system do not begin to work until about 3 weeks of age. Breeders should consider installing lamps over bedding area (25 wat globe is sufficient) for kittens, however it is important to provide an alternative cooler area for the queen.

Kittens from different litters, even if in apparent good health, should not be combined until at least 10 days after their first vaccination.

TRANSPORT

Cats must be individually confined in a secure, escape-proof, well ventilated container/carry cage when travelling. Each cat should have its own travelling cage, a queen and kittens can share a cage together providing the cage is sufficiently large enough for all cats to lie comfortably.

Travelling containers/cages must enable cats to comfortably stand, turn around, lie down and act normally but not so large that the cat may be hurt by being thrown around the container in case of sudden braking or turbulence.

Adequate ventilation must be provided in the vehicle and travelling container/cage. For containers/cages this means multiple holes on at least three sides of the container/cage.

Cats should be adequately restrained when travelling inside a vehicle for the safety of both the cat and human passengers. Unrestrained cats can cause accidents and should never be allowed in the vicinity of the driver. In case of an accident, an unrestrained cat may become a projectile and can damage itself and/or the occupants of the vehicle.

Travelling containers must not have any projections that may cause injury to the cat and must be secured or restrained in the vehicle.

Cats must not be transported in the boot of the car or in a restricted volume of unventilated space.

Cats must not be left unattended in the car if there is a possibility of heat stress occurring or in situations of extreme cold. If a cat must be left in a parked car, lock all doors, park in a shady area and open windows wide enough to provide ventilation. (The cat should remain in its travelling cage.) Leave water in a container that will not tip over. Be aware that the interior of a car can rapidly become hot enough to cause heat stress and even death in a cat, even on mild days.

Cats travelling containers must be protected from direct sunlight at all times.

Sufficient travelling containers/cages must be available to contain all the cats on a property in case of emergency evacuation.

If being transported long distances, cats should be given regular opportunities to drink. Temperature and transporting conditions should be taken into account when determining the frequency of provision of water. The best way to provide water is via a container within the cat's travelling cage that can be filled without opening the cage. If the cage has to be opened caution should be taken to ensure the cat does not escape.

When cats are being transported by air, the international air transport association regulations will apply.

Cats should also be fed at least once every 24 hours and have regular access to a litter tray and water if these are not provided in the travelling container.

TRAINING AND SOCIALISATION

Training methods used with cats must be humane and not cause pain or distress.

Cats should be trained to fit in with the life of their owners for example trained not to jump on benches/tables.

Cats do not require obedience training but do require familiarisation/training with any new experience for example – being shown, or environment and socialisation with other cats, animals and humans.

It is important that from birth, kittens are regularly handled by a human carer. Cats need plenty of stimulation (both mental and physical), so toys and stimulating environment need to be provided. Teach family, friends and children how to properly interact with cats.

Cats must be toilet trained to use a litter tray.

If a collar is to be worn, it should be elasticised or quick release so the cat will not choke if the collar gets caught. Collars need to be snug fitting to ensure paws or the lower jaw cannot get caught up in them but not so tight that they rub or choke the cat. Collars should be checked daily for any sign of rubbing or injury.

Collars, travel/carry cages and harnesses used for leading should be introduced gradually.

Where a cat is trained to a lead, the lead should be attached to a harness and not to a collar.

Care is needed when introducing a new cat into a household with existing cats or dogs. Introduce a new cat slowly and under supervision to ensure any conflict over territory or hierarchy is minimised.

Young children should not be left unsupervised around cats.

Please refer to table on page 14 and 15.

FCCV INC. OUR MEMBERS, KITTEN SALES AND THE LAW

To allow traceability of sellers of pets, it is now an offence to advertise the sale of a dog or cat unless the microchip identification number of the animal is included in the advertisement or notice. A registered domestic animal business may use its council business registration number as an alternative.

Changes in State law governing the sale of cats and kittens are explained on the Department of Primary Industries website, and are linked to the FCCV Inc. website. Not only are individuals required to comply with this law, but so is the FCCV Inc. as an Applicable Organisation under the Domestic Animals Act (1994).

REMEMBER THAT REGISTERIES IN VICTORIA MUST CONFORM TO GOVERNMENT LAW, AND THAT BREACHES OF THE LAW ON THE PART OF YOUR ORGANISATION COULD RESULT IN VERY HEAVY FINES

It is now an offence to advertise the sale of a cat/kitten unless the microchip identification number of the animal and your Pet Exchange Registry (PER) Source Number is included in the advertisement or notice. Kittens to be advertised on the FCCV Inc. website **MUST** be microchipped, and the microchip numbers and PER Source Number supplied with the request to advertise.

Microchip numbers and PER Source number must also be supplied when members advertise kittens for sale on their own website, Social Media pages or any form of advertising including any suggestive advertising of available cats/kittens.

OUR CODE OF PRACTICE REQUIRES THAT ALL LITTERS MUST BE RECORDED WITH THE FCCV INC. MEMBERS ARE REMINDED OF THEIR OBLIGATION TO DO THIS, AS ONLY BY DOING SO ARE THEY TAKING FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE EXEMPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THEM.

All transfers to and from FCCV members must be accompanied by the microchip number of the animal transferred, this also includes kitten transfers at the time of litter registration.

All transaction involving transferring registration/pedigree certificate carried out by the Registrar on behalf of the FCCV Inc. must include the microchip number of the cat/kitten and the PER Source Number of the breeder, to be recorded on the certificate.

NSW CFA Code of Ethics

Pursuant to rule 91 of the constitution the Management committee has amended the Code of Ethics effective 9 July 2013. This amended Code of Ethics is set out in the following and takes effect from 11 November 2014.

These guidelines are required to be upheld by all members of NSW CFA. Breaches of the Code may result in penalties according to the Constitution sections 19, 20 & 21.

A member will not be regarded as being in breach of the Code unless the breach is of a serious nature and has had, or is likely to have, a significant deleterious effect on a cat or kitten, or the member's or the association's reputation.

Each member shall

Ensure that all cats and kittens in their care are hygienically housed, properly fed, watered, groomed and receive prompt veterinary attention when required.

1. Observe the Rules and Procedures of the NSW Cat Fanciers' Association Inc and in particular the procedures pertaining to the treatment and control of infectious disease.
2. Not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of a breed, nor falsely advertise nor mislead any person regarding the pedigree or performance of any cat or kitten
3. Not allow any entire cats under the member's care to roam free, except under supervision, to prevent accidental matings.
4. Ensure that the Certificate of Registration is transferred to the new owner's name when a cat or kitten has been sold for showing or breeding in accordance with General Operating Procedures Section 5.
5. Not mate or breed pedigreed cats unless the member becomes a breeder member by obtaining a Breeder's Prefix issued by the association. The breeder's prefix will be noted on the member's membership card.
6. Ensure appropriate records are kept of each cat relating to vaccination, worming and general health checks.
7. Commit to compliance with both the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 and the Companion Animals Act 1998 and their related Regulations as well as to the NSW Animal Welfare Code of Practice – Breeding Dogs and Cats.

Each Breeder member shall

1. Ensure all litters are registered on the NSW CFA Litter register in accordance with General Operating Procedures Section 4.
2. Not mate a female under 10 months of age unless the mating has the written approval of a qualified veterinary practitioner.
3. Not over breed a queen, ensuring that she has no more than 2 litters each 12 months. It is recommended that a queen not have more than 3 litters in any 24 month period. More than 3 litters in any 24 month period from the same queen will only be accepted for registration when the fourth mating has the written approval of a qualified veterinary practitioner.
4. Ensure that any cat to be bred from is free of disease and fit and healthy.
5. Ensure that a pedigreed cat is not mated to a pedigreed cat of another breed unless such mating is approved by the Association, or it is one of the approved outcross breeds in the CCCA Breed Standards.
6. Breed cats for the purpose of improving the standard of the breed and not primarily for the pet market.
7. Ensure that cats with a known history of physical or genetic defects (that may affect the cat or its progeny's quality of life) will not be used for breeding.
8. Not use unregistered cats for breeding, except where this has been expressly approved by the Management Committee in an experimental breeding programme.

Sale of Kittens

1. A kitten shall not be transferred or sold under the age of 10 weeks, and vaccination must be commenced at least 14 days before the date on which the new owner takes possession of the kitten.
2. The first vaccination must be administered by a qualified Veterinary Practitioner and the kitten health checked.
3. Before sale each kitten must be fully weaned, healthy, vaccinated, microchipped and litter trained. Unless agreed otherwise by the breeder and purchaser, breeders shall accept reasonable financial responsibility for the health status of a kitten for 2 weeks after the date on which the new owner takes possession of the kitten.
4. No kitten is to be sold or placed while suffering from any infectious disease.

5. Any kitten with a health defect must have this disclosed to the potential purchaser prior to sale.
6. All purchasers of cats and kittens shall be provided with written details of all dietary, grooming, worming, and vaccination requirements. The pedigree and vaccination certificate are the birthright of the cat or kitten and must be given to the new owner. Information to contact appropriate breed clubs should also be supplied.
7. Cats or kittens shall not be sold to commercial cat wholesalers, nor to non PIAA accredited retail pet dealers, nor allow a cat or kitten to be given as a prize or donation to a contest of any kind.
8. When selling or transferring a cat or kitten to another person for breeding or showing, the breeder shall ensure that all documents required by the NSW Cat Fanciers' Association Procedures are provided to the purchaser or the transferee on completion of the sale or as agreed by both parties. See also General Operating Procedures Section 5.
9. When selling or transferring a cat or kitten to another person for breeding, the breeder/owner shall ensure that the new owner is a member of a recognised controlling body and has, or intends to have, an approved breeder's prefix.
10. The breeder is to keep records of names and addresses of purchasers.
11. It is recommended that all kittens be desexed prior to going to Pet homes. If not, the breeder must instruct the purchaser to have this done by 6 months of age and follow up.

Kittens for Showing and Breeding

1. Commencing 1st January 2015 any kitten intended for showing or breeding must have its first vaccination administered by a qualified veterinary practitioner.
2. It is strongly recommended that any kitten retained by a breeder have its first vaccination administered by a qualified veterinary practitioner.

Minimum Standards for Breeding Establishments

1. All cats and kittens are to have a permanent supply of fresh clean water. Receptacles are to be kept clean.
2. All cats are to be fed a feline suitable meal at least once a day. However, it is recommended that cats are fed twice a day.
3. Weaned Kittens are to be fed a minimum of twice a day. Care is to be taken to account for their nutritional requirements according to their life stage. More frequent meals are required for young kittens.
4. All cats are to be kept in clean accommodation which is secure and weather proof. Suitable for varying temperature ranges to ensure comfort.
5. Hygienic toilet facilities which must be kept clean and disinfected regularly.
6. Provide stimuli such as toys and scratching poles.
7. Cats (and kittens) must be kept free of fleas and a suitable flea treatment used as needed.
8. Cats (and kittens) must be treated for intestinal worms as required.
9. Pregnant or lactating queens require increased food portions as well as higher nutritional values. Diet is to be adjusted accordingly.
10. Pregnant queens are to be given a quiet, clean kitting box days before her due date. She must be checked each day and given any veterinary attention as is required.
11. Kitting boxes must be kept clean with clean bedding provided at least every 2 days.
12. Kittens must not be separated from their mother until sufficiently weaned, unless under extreme circumstances for the health of the mother or kitten.
13. Stud quarters must be as large as possible and made of material suitable for frequent cleaning and disinfecting. A minimum size of 2100 x 1800 with weather proof protection to a warm, dry bedding area.
14. Stud enclosures are to be provided with plenty of climbing ledges, scratching poles and shelves to enrich his life and provide safety from visiting females.
15. It is the Breeders responsibility to desex all stock no longer required for breeding. Pet homes may be found for desexed cats suitable to be rehomed.
16. Provision must be made within the establishment for the immediate isolation of any cat, kitten or litter which shows signs of infectious disease. The requirements of the Infectious Diseases Procedure must be followed.
17. If accommodation is inside a building, some provision for regular exposure to sunshine must be allowed for health.