

**FELINE CONTROL COUNCIL
VICTORIA
INC.**



**BY-LAWS GOVERNING MEMBERS
AND AFFILIATED BODIES**

DECEMBER 2024

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1. Membership

The Committee of Management must vote on all requests for membership. Applications may be rejected if the applicant/s are regarded as not being of good character or have a previous history of non-compliance with the Council By-laws or Victorian Government Legislation, Domestic Animals Act 1994 and Amendments April 2013.

Prospective members must complete and sign an Application for Membership form and agree to:

- Be bound by the Rules, By-laws, Code of Practice (Ethics) and decisions made by the FCCV Inc. Committee of Management.
- Abide by the Applicable Organisation Conditions of Application – member requirements.
https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/search?query=applicable+organisation#:~:text=https%3A//agriculture.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/word_doc/0020/703424/Revised%2Dguide+lines%2Dfor%2Dapplicable%2Dorganisations.docx
- Give an unconditional undertaking not to hold membership with any other Feline Registering Body in Australia, or participate in any show or exhibition not sanctioned by the FCCV Inc. if it falls on the same day as an FCCV Inc. show or CCCA National Show.
- Read and comply with the FCCV Inc. Code of Practice and Victorian Government Legislation, Domestic Animals Act 1994 and subsequent amendments to the act. The prevention of Cruelty to animals Act 1986 and subsequent amendments to the Act. Private Keeping of Cats Victorian Code of Practice. (FCCV inc. website downloads). Hard copies can be provided upon request.
- The FCCV Inc. requires members to ensure that all their cats are registered with their local Council.
- All members must abide by their Council's By-laws regarding the number of cats permitted on the property and apply for an excess animal permit if required.

2. Microchipping

- Under Victorian State Law all cats born on or after January 1st 2012 and that are three months or over must be microchipped and the microchip number registered with the appropriate body listed below.
- The FCCV Inc. as an applicable organisation in Victoria, is obliged to ensure that government regulations concerning microchipping are complied with.

- Only vets and vet nurses, who have completed the required training to become authorised implanters, can insert microchips. The FCCV Inc. recommends that all microchipping is done at a veterinary clinic.
- A microchip is a prescribed permanent identification device which:
 - Complies with the Australian Standards
 - <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/livestock-and-animals/animal-welfare-victoria/domestic-animals-act/registration-legislation-and-permits/microchipping-of-dogs-cats-and-horses>
- Is able to be permanently implanted in an animal.
- Is designed to transmit stored information when activated by a reader.

As of 1 January 2014 the following registries are licensed to provide domestic animal registry services in Victoria:

- Australasian Animal Registry
 - Central Animal Records
 - National Pet Register
 - Petsafe Register
 - Global Micro Animal Registry
- Implanters operating in Victoria must register any microchip implanted in a cat, along with the required information, with one of the above identified registries within two days of implantation.
- Litters can only be registered if a microchip sticker for each kitten is attached to the litter registration application form.
- No cat can be individually registered without being microchipped and the microchip sticker must be attached to the registration application form.
- No cat being transferred into the FCCV Inc. will be registered until it has been microchipped and the microchip sticker is attached to the incoming paperwork.
- No cat being transferred out of the FCCV Inc. will be processed without first being microchipped and the microchip number recorded on the FCCV Inc. pedigree.
- No cat being transferred within the FCCV Inc. will be processed without first being microchipped and the microchip number recorded on the FCCV Inc. pedigree.
- Exhibits may be randomly checked at FCCV Inc. shows by the visiting vet to ensure compliance with existing microchip laws.
- All pedigrees for exhibits from outside organizations, that were born on or after January 1st 2012 must display the exhibit's microchip number to enable them to enter FCCV Inc. shows.

- The FCCV Inc. is required to provide microchip information to local councils when requested.

3. Breeding

All members of the FCCV Inc. who intend to breed must first obtain a breeding Prefix by completing an Application for the Registration of a Breeders Prefix.

A prefix will only be granted once the applicant has completed the Breeder Training course located at

<http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/pets/community-and-education/breeder-training-course>

- Members may only breed with cats owned or leased by that member and that are currently registered with the FCCV Inc.
- Members must use only stud cats that are registered with the FCCV Inc. or a Governing Body recognized by the FCCV Inc.
- Owners of stud cats must not allow their studs to be used with females that are not registered with the FCCV Inc. or a Governing Body recognized by the FCCV Inc.
- 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).
- The FCCV Inc. will not recognize/register first degree matings. Kittens who come from such matings from interstate or overseas will continue to be recognized.
- All kittens bred by members must be registered with the FCCV Inc. using the appropriate litter registration form. Litters can only be registered if a microchip sticker for each kitten is attached to the litter registration application form.
- All owners of stud cats must sign a litter registration form for any kittens sired by their stud cat to ensure that the kittens are registered with the FCCV Inc. or a Governing Body recognized by the FCCV Inc.
- All pet kittens must be desexed before they are sold unless the breeder has a veterinarian exemption, which must be in writing. The written copy of the exemption should be included with the documents required by the Code Of Practice of the FCCV Inc.

3.1 Registering

- FCCV Inc. Breeder Members must register every litter that they breed.
- FCCV Inc. Breeder Members must transfer out every kitten / cat that leaves their care.

- Every kitten / cat that is transferred out must be desexed prior to transfer. The only exception to this is for kittens / cats being transferred entire to another breeder registered with an association recognised by FCCV Inc. and CCC of A Inc. In which case the breeder name/association & reg number must be provided in order for the kitten to be registered & transferred as entire.
- Every application to register kittens must have both the microchipping stickers & desexing certificates provided with the application to register. Registrations will not be processed without both items being provided at the time.
- FCCV Breeder Members must provide and complete all of the information requested on Registration / Transfer forms. Partially completed applications will not be processed.

4. Conduct of Shows

These By-laws shall apply to all Shows held under the regulations of the FCCV Inc. and all bodies conducting and all exhibitors and persons attending such Shows.

4.1 Permission

Any affiliated body desiring to hold any Show must submit a schedule to the Secretary of the FCCV Inc. in writing for approval by the Committee of Management.

All schedules are to be on an approved schedule form and all judges contracts must be signed and returned the Show Manager.

4.2 Show Schedule and Catalogue

The approved Show Schedule and the catalogue must contain the name of the Judge for each group of breeds. The show committee has the right to appoint judges or change assignments if numbers warrant and this should be noted on the schedule. There must be an independent All Breeds Judge to judge Supreme in Show (unless the Show is a speciality show where an independent 'group' judge will suffice).

A notification to the effect that the club is affiliated with the FCCV Inc. and that the Show is held under the By-laws and Rules of the FCCV Inc. and *that a copy of the Rules and Procedures may be inspected at the address of the Club Secretary or at the Feline Control Council (Vic) Inc. Offices: Fac 3. 4 Dempster Street, Ferntree Gully. A copy may be inspected at this Show on request to the Club Secretary.*

The conditions and particulars set out in the approved draft of the Show Schedule must be strictly adhered to in the published Show Schedule and the catalogue and shall not be altered unless the special permission of the Committee of the FCCV Inc. is obtained, in which case exhibitors shall be given the option of withdrawing their exhibits and receiving a refund of entry fees paid.

No groups or classes other than those defined in the "[Recognised Breed & Colours](#)" and "Classes for Events" listings shall be permitted without the special permission of the Committee of the FCCV Inc.

Desexed exhibits, excluding kittens, are not to compete against entire exhibits in any class except for Special Awards. Side Classes are at the discretion of the show committee.

The name of the exhibitor and the name of the exhibit including date of birth, breed, sire and dam must be published in the catalogue of every show, except in the case of companion cats where only the owner's name, name of exhibit, sex and date of birth if known shall be included.

No obligation is placed on the Show Secretaries to correct any entry, which is incorrect or illegible.

The Secretary of the show shall forward to the Secretary of the FCCV Inc. within seven days of the closing of the Show, a Master catalogue containing a full and correct list of all entries and with all the awards and absentees correctly marked.

4.3 Show Entries

The entry fee for each exhibit as stated in the Show Schedule must be paid at time of entry, exceptions may be made at the discretion of the Show Manager.

The entry shall be made on a special form provided for that purpose.

Any person entering a show, whether personally or through an agent, shall be liable for the fees payable whether or not the exhibit/s entered is exhibited.

The entry form must reach the Secretary no later than the date on which entries close as indicated in the Show Schedule. The exhibitor shall be responsible for the correctness of the particulars contained in the entry form.

Kittens must be at least 12 weeks of age by the day of the show.

All Kittens must have received 1 vaccination at least 14 days prior to show. Certificates to this effect must be presented at time of Vetting.

The following must appear on entry forms and be signed by the Exhibitor.

"I the undersigned, hereby certify that by entering this cat in the show, I have agreed to the following terms and conditions:

- The above exhibit is owned or leased by me and is registered with the FCCV Inc. or an approved Governing Body.
- The exhibit is eligible for the classes entered.
- I enter the exhibit at my own risk.
- I agree to observe and be bound by the regulations and decisions of the show and of the FCCV Inc. Committee and accept their decision as final.
- I am a financial member of the FCCV Inc. or the Governing Body as stated by me on this entry form.
- I have read the Regulations regarding Veterinary Services on the FCCV Inc. website. By-law 4.4.
- I agree that all other CCC of A member bodies will be notified if this cat is judged UTH.

- To the best of my knowledge and belief my exhibit or exhibits have not been exposed to the risk of any infectious or contagious disease since the date which is fourteen (14) days before this Show.
- I will not exhibit them at this Show if on or between now and the day of the Show they incur such risk, or otherwise become ineligible.“

A copy of pedigree must be supplied with entry for all exhibits not registered with the FCCV Inc.

Entries for shows shall close not less than twenty-one clear days before the opening dates of the shows as published in the Show Schedules.

In cases where the information supplied on the entry form for a show differs from that on the certified pedigree., the latter shall be regarded as correct for the purpose of the show. Any exhibit over the age of five months must be individually registered or it will not be accepted.

Exhibitors must advise Show Manager of the Registration number of the exhibit immediately they receive the certified pedigree.

The Committee of Management or the committee of any affiliate (whichever is applicable) holding any Show under these By-laws shall have the right to refuse or return any entry.

Notification of decision to be forwarded to the intending exhibitor within five business days of receipt of entry.

An exhibit, when entered for a show, must either be the property of or leased by the exhibitor. Cats which are bought and sold between the closing date of entries and day of show may only be exhibited provided that the actual transfer is not effected, until after the show.

4.4 Veterinary

Each exhibit shall be examined on arrival at every Show by a Veterinary Surgeon. No exhibit is to be benched before being examined and approved by the Veterinary Surgeon. Any exhibitor so doing will be disqualified from that competition and all entry fees forfeited.

Exhibits which are unfit for exhibiting will be removed from the Hall immediately and if, in the opinion of the Veterinary Surgeon it is so desirable, all other exhibits from the same exhibitor and the exhibitor thereof shall be debarred from attending the show. All entry fees will be forfeited.

The Veterinary Surgeon should sight vaccination cards for all exhibits under 9 months of age on the day of the show.

Exhibits must have clean ears and coats free from pests and all claws clipped.

Any exhibit found to be suffering from the effect of drugs on entry or detected with any other disqualifying defect at any time during the show, will be subject to expulsion from the show on authority of the Veterinary Surgeon, or in his absence the FCCV Inc. representative and/or any other appointed responsible person. After consultation with the Show Manager, the exhibits cage shall be marked "Out of Show Condition". (O.S.C.)

Veterinary Surgeons appointed by Clubs to inspect exhibits must be instructed not to admit exhibits which are obviously in kitten, nor male cats which are either monorchids or

cryptorchids (kittens excepted); nor must they admit exhibits which show evidence of the following heritable defects; entropion; umbilical hernia (kittens excepted), or other obvious congenital defects.

Owners of exhibits which contract any infectious or contagious disease must immediately notify the FCCV Inc. The affected exhibit, together with all other exhibits belonging to that owner or residing in that cattery must remain in quarantine until fourteen days after the cattery has been declared disease free. A Veterinary Certificate to this effect shall be produced on demand. The FCCV Inc. shall be notified when the certificate is issued by the Veterinary Surgeon.

A person who has a contagious or infectious disease on their property cannot attend cat shows until such time as they have a veterinary clearance for their cat/s.

The Representative of the FCCV Inc., after consultation with the Show Manager can appoint themselves or another responsible person to act in the Veterinary Surgeons absence, until they arrive or to deal with permitted late arrivals.

Exhibits which are brought to a show after the specified time for Veterinary examination shall not be permitted within the precincts of the show unless the Show Manager or Assistant Show Manager of the body conducting the Show is satisfied that there is a reasonable excuse for late arrival.

All exhibits after passing Veterinary inspection must be placed in their cages in readiness for judging, there shall be no interior or exterior decoration or distinguishing object.

At every show non-pressurised containers of disinfectant approved by the FCCV Inc. against contagious or infectious disease and a towel or paper towel, shall be provided for the use of all veterinary surgeons, judges and stewards.

4.5 Benching

Exhibitors supplying own cage must notify show manager of dimensions of cage at time of entry. 'Sturdi' cages are not permitted.

Curtains to be white and/or coloured fabric without added decorations during judging. Cages may be decorated at conclusion of judging.

The benching of exhibits shall be in the various groups and breed colours as set out in FCCV Inc. Breed Colour Chart.

The adjacent benching of stud males shall not be permitted.

When in the opinion of the Show Manager and the FCCV Inc. representative, the exhibitor has neglected their exhibit so as to cause distress, the exhibitor shall be dealt with under the appropriate By-law.

No exhibit shall be absent from its cage to which it has been allotted except for the purpose of being judged, or by permission of the Show Manager. A penalty may be imposed by such Committee for breaches of this By-law.

Exhibits benched in wrong cages automatically disqualify the exhibit for that ring, but this can be rectified by the show manager for the next ring.

If room permits, double cages to be made available upon request at a cost as determined by the Show committee.

Non-Pressurised disinfectant may be used by the exhibitors to wipe-down the cage in which their exhibit is to be placed.

4.6 Trays

Plain litter trays must be provided by exhibitors, which may be left in the cage for the duration of show.

4.7 Damage

Any Body holding a show under these By-laws of the FCCV Inc. will not be responsible for any accident that may be caused through or by any exhibit and it shall be a condition of entry that each exhibitor shall hold the body harmless and indemnify it against any legal proceedings arising from such accident.

FCCV and all affiliates must provide a First Aid Box.

Any Body holding a Show under these By-laws of the FCCV Inc. shall not be held responsible for any loss of exhibits at the Show or any damage.

4.8 Exhibits Only

No other animal, other than an exhibit, is allowed within the precincts of a show unless permitted by the Show Manager. No such permission shall be granted by the Show Manager unless the exhibit concerned is passed by the Veterinary Surgeon as being free from any communicable disease.

4.9 Stewards

FCCV Inc. qualified stewards should be used where possible. No person may act as a Judge's steward in a section where they are exhibiting, exception Australian bay style judging format. No person may act as a steward if they have had their exhibits rejected for contagious disease or evidence of external parasites.

4.10 Judging

- The Judge's decision on the merit of the exhibit shall be final unless such decision is contrary to the Rules and By-laws of the FCCV Inc.
- Judges are not required to give any award to an exhibit, which they consider is not of sufficient merit.
- Alterations made by the Judge, in the Judge's book or card, must be initialled by them at the time of making such alterations.
- A Judge shall not place two or more separate exhibits equal for any award.
- After the Show Manager has given word to the Judge to proceed with the judging of a competition, no other exhibit shall be allowed to be benched.
- At the time of judging no person shall be allowed in the immediate judging area except the Judges, properly appointed officials and stewards.
- Judges shall be responsible for the deletion of absentees from the Judges Book.
- Judges shall not re-judge any competition because of the absence from the cage of any exhibit at the time of judging.
- A properly compiled and separate judging book must be provided for each Judge. Such

book must be signed by the Judge and retained for at least three months. Judges must personally indicate their awards in the book.

- The slips marked "Card Room Slip", as they are completed by the Judge, shall be sent to the Card Room for processing.
- Judging of a Supreme Exhibit must be undertaken by an independent Judge, who has not previously judged the exhibits or a panel of no less than three all-breeds Judges.
- It is expressly provided that should an error occur in the judge's book, due to the fault of the Show Manager, the judge's book may be amended, prior to 3 pm on the day of the show and the class may be re-judged.
- Where an exhibit is outclassed by the Judge, the Judge shall be required to report the facts to the FCCV (Inc) Representative and Show Manager and the Committee may order reclassification of the exhibit in question by three Judges (not necessarily at a show) whereupon the exhibit shall be registered in its correct section by the FCCV Office.
- Kittens can only be no award, not outclassed. Owner and/or breeder may reclassify the colour of a kitten once up until 9 months of age. This reclassification may be effected on the day of a show.
- Judges may mark judging slips as follows:

OSC – meaning 'Out of Show condition'.

UTH – meaning 'Unable to Handle'.

UTJ – meaning 'Unable to Judge'.

OC – meaning 'Outclassed'.

NA – meaning 'no award'.

ABS – meaning 'Absent'.

- At any Show, once a Judge has determined that an exhibit is unable to be handled that Judge must immediately report the incident to the Show Manager and FCCV Inc. Representative. The Representative of the FCCV Inc. will report the matter to the committee and the FCCV Inc. Representative and the FCCV Inc. Secretary will keep a record of exhibits so reported.

4.10 (a) UTH – Unable to Handle

Any cat which shows aggression towards people, especially any cat that bites or deliberately scratches someone, is automatically declared UNABLE TO BE HANDLED (UTH). There is to be no further judging of the cat on the day and a readable sign will be displayed and the owner notified. Any cat that is ruled UTH must not be removed from its cage until it is transferred to its carry cage to go home.

Any cat declared UTH at an FCCV Inc. show or at any other show and officially notified to FCCV Inc. which shows any aggressive drawing of blood is automatically given a life ban even if it is the cat's first offence. This rule can be subject to appeal.

Any cat declared UTH at an FCCV Inc. show or at any other show and officially notified to FCCV Inc. which doesn't draw blood, is suspended from the show bench for three (3) months. If the cat is declared (UTH) again at any cat show, it will be permanently

disqualified from FCCV Inc. shows for life, subject to appeal. The Secretary of the FCCV Inc. will inform the Secretary of CCC of A of any such lifetime bans. All CCC of A member organisations will then be informed by the CCC of A Secretary. The CCC of A Secretary also notifies the ACF Secretary.

4.10 (b) UTJ – Unable to be Judged

At any show, a Judge may take an exhibit from its cage and/or handle it, but may determine that the exhibit's behaviour or manner is such that it cannot be fully or fairly assessed. The Judge must then notify the stewards who will notify any Judges who are still to judge the cat.

Once an exhibit has been UTJ on four occasions over a period of 18 months, the FCCV Inc. Committee must inform the owner and other recognised bodies that the exhibit can no longer be shown. This rule is subject to appeal.

The disqualifying Judge must complete either the UTH or UTJ form on the day and it should also be signed by the owner (or their agent) of the exhibit. Ensuring completion of this form on the day is the responsibility of the FCCV Inc. representative member of the committee of management present on the day. Records of both UTH and UTJ exhibits are kept on file at the FCCV Inc. offices.

4.11 Challenge, Award of Merit Award of Excellence Certificates

- FCCV Inc. Challenge and Award of Merit Certificates may be awarded only at shows for which the Committee of the FCCV Inc. has granted the title of "Championship Show".
- They are awarded at the discretion of the Judge. Those eligible to compete for a Challenge, Award of Merit or Award of Excellence Certificate shall be exhibits nine months of age. A Judge shall not award a Challenge, Award of Merit or Award of Excellence Certificate to any exhibit which they consider lacks sufficient merit to qualify for higher awards.
- FCCV Inc. Challenge Certificates may be awarded to the winning entire entries in the Open,

Champion, Grand Champion (4), Bronze Grand Champion (4), Silver Grand Champion (4), Gold Grand Champion (4), Sapphire Grand Champion (6), Ruby Grand Champion (6), Emerald Grand Champion (6), Diamond Grand Champion (6)

classes at the discretion of the Judge. Once an exhibit has achieved the title of Gold Grand Champion it will then compete with every other exhibit in the Gold Class.

- FCCV Inc. Award of Merit Certificates may be awarded to the winning Desexed entries in the

Desexed Cat, Premier (4), Grand Premier (4), Bronze Grand Premier (4), Silver Grand Premier (4), Gold Grand Premier (4) Sapphire Grand Premier (6), Ruby Grand Premier (6), Emerald Grand Premier (6), Diamond Grand Premier (6) classes at the discretion of the Judge. Once an exhibit has achieved the title of Gold Grand Premier it will then compete with every other exhibit in the Gold Class.

- FCCV Inc. Award of Excellence Certificates may be awarded to the winning entries in the Companion Cat Classes at the discretion of the Judge.
- In the Open and Champion Classes only one Challenge, Award of Merit or Award of Excellence may be awarded.

- Only titled cats are eligible for the CCCA award. A cat titled as an entire but not yet titled as a desexed cat is still eligible for the Desexed CCCA award.

5. Disciplinary Action

The Committee of Management may receive:

- Complaints from members or visiting judges, which may include, but not restricted to behaviour at shows. Any person causing annoyance by loud comments on a decision of a Judge, or being guilty of unsportsmanlike or unseemly actions should be reported to the Committee of Management within seven days and to supply such Committee with all possible evidence of the actions. The responsibility of investigating and taking appropriate action in connection with cases of unsportsmanlike or unseemly actions at a show shall rest with the Committee of Management who shall deal with the matter and impose such penalty as it deems fit.
- Complaints from public regarding a particular member. This may include but not be restricted to, matters concerning kitten sales.
- Complaints or inquiries from local by-laws officers.

The member/s concerned must be notified in writing of the nature of the charge and the date of hearing of the charge by the Committee, such notification being no less than seven days prior to the date of the hearing.

The member must be given an opportunity to be heard at the hearing of the charge and the Committee shall give due consideration to any written statement submitted by the member/s. However, should the member/s fail to appear at such hearing, the Committee may determine the charge in their absence.

If, after hearing the charge, the Committee finds the member/s guilty of the charge then, acting under the by-laws, the Committee shall have power to impose any one or more of the following penalties:-

- To suspend or terminate the membership of the person so charged.
- To suspend or disqualify any member/s from taking part in and/or having any connection with shows held under these By-laws or being associated with any affiliated body.
- To suspend or disqualify from competition all or any cats registered in the member/s name at the date the charge was confirmed.
- To cancel the registration of any cat or cats registered in the member/s name for such time as the Committee sees fit.
- To refuse to register any litter bred from any cat cats registered in the member/s name.

All penalties imposed and/or endorsed by the Committee of Management shall be observed and enforced by all bodies affiliated with the Association.

Any member suspended or disqualified by the Committee of Management shall not be entitled to the return of any portion of his annual subscription or fees.

5.1 Right of Appeal

Any person penalised by a decision of the Committee of Management may, within fourteen days of the imposition of such penalty, give notice of appeal against such decision, stating the grounds of the appeal.

The Committee of Management shall hear every such appeal made to it as soon as possible but no later than 30 days after the imposition of the penalty.

If, after hearing the appeal, the Committee of Management has affirmed its decision then the Secretary of the Committee shall record such decision and it shall be final and binding on the party or parties concerned, all bodies affiliated with the Association and at all shows held under these By-laws.

6. Social Media Policy

Feline Control Council of Victoria supports engaging in social media to share your experiences, expertise and love of cats to share with fellow cat enthusiasts and the greater community.

Social media is online media that allows for sharing, interaction and participation on many varied platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, websites and blogging, TikTok, You Tube, Snap chat, Google groups, podcasting, Twitter, Pinterest etc.

FCCV has high expectations of its members, committee members, volunteers and employees when interacting on social media in a personal or official capacity. We expect our members to conduct themselves with integrity, honesty, respect and maturity.

The following Guidelines must be followed in the member's use of social media:

- Abide by the rules/constitution and by-laws including show rules of the FCCV.
- Bullying, Harassment or intimidation won't be tolerated.
- Ensure your personal comments are not misconstrued as official representation of FCCV nor its judges, members, affiliates, nor those of other Cat Fancy Bodies.
- Be respectful and reasonable with your opinions. Negative and derogatory comments or criticism is not permitted, and any factual comments must be able to be substantiated.
- Obtain permission from a judge prior to videoing at a show.
- Obtain permission before posting any videos of judging at any Cat Fancy Shows where comments regarding cats/kittens may be edited leading to misrepresentation of actual events.

- Respect confidentiality and obey copyright, privacy, financial disclosure and other applicable law.
- Promoting your cattery on social media including websites, always remember when advertising cats/kittens for sale you must abide by the laws of Domestic Animals Act and include individual microchip numbers and your Pet Exchange Registry (valid) Source Number in all forms of advertising including social media.

Social media is an excellent opportunity to share knowledge and celebrate success. All reports of misuse of social media will be investigated and members may face disciplinary action in accordance with FCCV rules/constitution and by-laws.

7. Judges Code of Ethics

7 (a) All Judges are directly responsible to the Association (FCCV Inc.) and is subject to all rules applicable to judging contained in the Rules of the Council FCCV Inc., FCCV Inc. By-laws, and CCC of A Inc. Rules and By-laws. In accepting appointment to the Association panel of Judges, they thereby signify their willingness to abide by same.

7 (b) Judges as FCCV Inc. representatives have responsibilities and hold an important position which requires dignity, discretion and presentation to be in keeping with FCCV Inc. standards, codes of conduct and policies.

7 (c) Judges shall be:

- (a) Unbiased, impartial, honest and capable of analytical appraisal of all exhibits. Diplomatic, gracious and considerate.
- (b) Punctual, clean and neatly dressed.
- (c) Courageous and fearless in their decisions and impervious to all criticism.
- (d) Loyal to their fellow judges (e) Ready to give advice when needed.

7 (d) Judges shall not:

- (a) Solicit assignments or accept bribes.
- (b) See the catalogue prior to a show.
- (c) Allow personal relationships to influence their decisions.
- (d) Indulge in criticism of other Judges or exhibitors but should be prepared to discuss the merits of relevant exhibits they have judged after the completion of judging, but only with the owner.
- (e) Be seen to interfere in any situation other than one concerned with their own judging unless officially requested.
- (f) A Judge shall not judge their own progeny for a period of six months from the time that progeny leaves the home of that breeder/judge.
- (e) Non-compliance of any part of "Judges Code of Ethics" may render the judge to appear before an FCCV Inc. Breeds & Judges sub-committee and any decision of the said Committee is to have the ratification of the FCCV Inc. Committee; and be dealt with under Rule 7. Disciplinary Action of the FCCV Inc. Rules.

7.1 Judges General

FCCV Inc. Judges are bound by the Rules and By-laws of FCCV Inc. and CCC of A Inc.

7.1(a) Definitions (CCCA)

(As per Coordinating Cat Council of Australia {CCCA} Minimum Requirements for Judges)

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 undertaking a

MINIMUM of five satisfactory assignments and judging the following minimum number of exhibits over those five assignments: • Longhair Breeds (Group 1): 150 exhibits • Shorthair Breeds (Group 2 & 3): 150 exhibits

(These minimums may be increased at the discretion of the individual controlling body.)

Qualified Judge The holder of a full licence to judge shorthair or longhair breeds, who has completed the minimum training as outlined in these guidelines and their probationary licence period, is entitled to be included on the CCC of A judges list.

All Breeds Judge A judge qualified in all breed groups who has completed all 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.

Senior All Breeds Judge The holder of a full licence for at least five years in all breed groups.

CCCA Tutor Judge Any Senior Judge may be appointed as a CCCA Tutor Judge on recommendation of their member organisation.

7.1.1 Judges are at liberty to accept or decline invitations to judge from inviting associations/clubs. They should reply in writing to requests. For FCCV Inc. assignments, Judges may not judge the same breed groups, or Longhair/Shorthair at consecutive FCCV Inc. and affiliate Club shows.

7.1.2 Judges must notify the Association of their receipt and acceptance of all interstate and overseas assignments and identify the Governing Body they are judging for in order to provide insurance cover.

7.1.3 When the Council extending the invitation to judge is not known to the Judge, clarification should be sought before accepting the assignment. Judges should ascertain that the Council extending the invitation is a recognized Body under the affiliation of FCCV and CCCA.

7.1.4 Judges may only accept assignments with one clear show between Challenge/AOM classes for identical assignments.

7.1.5 A Judge's decision is final. This decision must be upheld by the Club for which they are judging and Council to which they are accredited.

7.1.6 Judges must address all enquiries or complaints to the Show Manager. They are at liberty to instruct the stewards provided by the Club for which they are judging and may, if so desired, refuse the services of a steward.

7.1.7 Judges have an obligation to withhold any award or prize from any exhibit which they consider to be of insufficient merit.

- 7.1.8** Infection control measures that are available must be utilised after the handling of each exhibit.
- 7.1.9** During a period of suspension, a Judge may not accept judging assignments or sign contracts for assignments which would take place following the period.
- 7.1.10** Following the time period of a Judges' suspension, the Judge must put in writing to the FCCV Inc. Breeds & Judges Sub-committee and FCCV Inc. committee their intentions and the date they will become eligible to return to judging.

7.2 Judges Licences

- 7.2.1** Persons who have satisfactorily completed an FCCV Inc. judges training course or have qualified elsewhere in accordance with CCC of A Inc. Rules & By-Laws shall be granted an appropriate judge's license. Tutor Judges shall supply documentation demonstrating that the trainee Judge has met the requirements and has achieved a satisfactory pass to the FCCV Inc. committee and to CCC of A Inc.
- 7.2.2** No FCCV Inc. members may judge at a Championship Show which is held under these By-laws unless they hold a licence granted by the Committee of the FCCV Inc., and that member is a financial member of the Association. Judges granted a licence for Longhair, Shorthair and / or Companion breeds by the Committee of the FCCV Inc. may judge that section at Championship Shows in Victoria and elsewhere.
- 7.2.3** If applying to become an FCCV Judge, a person who has qualified elsewhere must apply in writing to FCCV Inc., demonstrating their qualifications and reasons for wishing to be appointed to the FCCV Inc. Judges' panel. They must also demonstrate an understanding of the FCCV Inc./CCC of A breed standards and judging procedures.
- 7.2.4** Any judge invited to examine students of any other Governing Body, must advise the Committee of the Association of their assignment.
- 7.2.5** Application for licence must be made on such form and in such manner as may be prescribed from time to time by the Committee of the Association.
- 7.2.6** No licence to judge at an FCCV Inc. Championship Show shall be granted unless at a meeting of the FCCV Inc. Association, and a simple majority of the members present is in favour of such licence being granted.
- 7.2.7** The onus of proving a person's eligibility for licence shall rest with the individual.
- 7.2.8** All licences are not subject to renewal fees.
- 7.2.9** A Judge's licence may be revoked on the recommendation of the Association's Breeds & Judges subcommittee ratified by the Committee of the Association.
- 7.2.10** Only financial members of the Association may have their judge's licence renewed. A Judge's Licence Renewal Form is to be completed annually. This renewal form to be completed by the Judge listing all judging assignments, Victorian or otherwise, any activities, seminars, committees they have been involved with for the previous 12month period.
- 7.2.10 (a).** The Judges Licence Renewal Form must be in the FCCV office within 30 days of the end of the calendar (show) year (i.e., 31st December).
- 7.2.10 (b).** If membership and Annual Return is not in the office by the due date, licence will be suspended and all future assignments will be forfeited until the form is submitted and approved.

7.2.10 (c) In the event that a judge has not met the requisite requirements to maintain the license then a practical assignment covering a combination of Top Ten and an open book exam for each group licensed for will be set.

7.2.10 (d) The Annual Return form to include By-law 3.10 sub-clause 3.10.1 and 3.10.2.

7.2.11 A licensed Judge is required to have 6 assignments over a 2-year period at Association approved shows.

7.2.12 The Committee of the Association may refuse any application for licence and may cancel any licence or may suspend for any period or vary in any way any licence already granted. The Committee of the Association prior to such refusal, cancellation, suspension or variation the person who would be affected by such a decision must be informed of the reason for the proposed action and be given an opportunity to be heard by the Committee. The Committee shall give due consideration to any written statement submitted by the person as per the grievance policy, Rule 8. Disputes and Mediation. FCCV (Inc) Rules.

7.2.13 List of Judges licenced by the Committee of the Association shall be compiled and made available to kindred and affiliated bodies. Such lists shall specify the classes that each Judges eligibility to judge.

7.2.14 No person may judge at any show if they have had a knowledge of entry forms and/or catalogues prior to the commencement of judging. A Judge may judge a section where they have exhibits but those exhibits are not entered in that ring of judging.

7.2.15 No person may judge at a show if they have had their exhibits rejected for contagious disease or evidence of external parasites at that show.

7.2.16 Judges shall complete the Contract Form received from Show Managers.

7.2.17 All Judges must be able to judge the entire group that they are invited to judge.

7.2.18 Any Judge judging at an Association Show must be a current accredited member Judge of a recognised Governing Body.

7.2.19 Extending Licence Judges may extend their licence into another group after completing twelve (12) months of their previous licence granted.

7.2.20 All Judges transferring from another body must have held a licence for a minimum of three (3) years before being accepted onto the Association Judges Panel.

7.2.21 At the discretion of the Committee of the Association; Judges wishing to transfer from another controlling body may be required to complete, with senior judges: -

7.2.21(a) A written and/or oral assessment

7.2.21(b) A minimum of three assignments, which may include procedures and paperwork for each group for which they held a judging licence prior to applying to transfer.

7.2.22 Seminars will be held every twelve (12) months. It is mandatory that each Judge shall attend the seminar in which group they are licensed. Nonattendance without legitimate reason will be referred to the Association Breeds & Judges sub-committee Rules and Bylaws.

7.2.23 A Judge must be fully conversant with the Show Standards adopted by the Association to which they are accredited and when officiating at shows in their own Association must at all times judge in accordance with them. When judging interstate or overseas they must make themselves conversant with the Show Standard and any particular Show By-laws adopted by the club for which they are judging.

7.3 Minimum Requirements To Maintain Accreditation As A Judge

At the discretion of the FCCV Inc., non-compliance with the minimum requirements may incur a suspension of the Judge's licence for a period of time to be decided in each specific case by the Judges and By-Laws sub-committee with resolution by FCCV Inc. committee.

7.4 FCCV Inc. Breeds & Judges Sub-Committee

7.4.1 The FCCV Inc. Breeds & Judges Sub-committee to consist of a panel of qualified FCCV Inc. Judges.

7.4.2 The Chair of the FCCV Inc. Breeds & Judges Sub-committee shall be appointed annually by the FCCV Inc. committee and is to be an FCCV Inc. Senior All Breeds Judge.

7.4.3 The role of the Breeds & Judges' sub-committee Chair is to liaise with the FCCV Inc. committee and manage the FCCV Inc. Breeds & Judges Sub-committee meetings and seminars. They are required to set an agenda for all FCCV Inc. Breeds & Judges Subcommittee meetings; keep an accurate and impartial record of all FCCV Inc. Breeds & Judges Sub-committee meeting proceedings and report back to the FCCV Inc. committee. All correspondence will be kept on file at the FCCV Inc. offices

7.4.4 The FCCV Inc. Breeds & Judges Sub-committee is responsible for

7.4.4(a) reviewing current and new breeds.

7.4.4(b) receiving and reviewing the FCCV Inc. Judges' Annual Renewal forms.

7.4.4(c) conducting seminars for on-going education of Judges and members, providing revision and training sessions as required by FCCV Inc.

7.4.4(d) liaising with the Stewards Sub-committee when required and assisting with the training of stewards.

7.4.4(e) at FCCV Inc.'s direction, Senior, Tutor and Emeritus Judges may assess applications received from non- FCCV Inc. Judges wishing to transfer to the FCCV Inc. Judging Panel.

7.4.4(f) reviewing applicants for Judges' training courses.

7.5 FCCV Inc. / CCC OF A Inc. Judging Program

(As per Coordination Cat Council of Australia {CCCA} Minimum Requirements for Judges)

7.6 Tutor Judges

7.6.1 FCCV Inc. shall appoint a panel of at least two suitably qualified Tutor Judges (including a Head Tutor Judge) who have qualified as Senior Judges in accordance with the CCCA Inc. Rules, Regulations & By-laws

7.6.2 Suitably qualified Senior Specialist Judges may be invited by FCCV Inc. Tutor Judges' Panel to assist with conducting lectures and to oversee trainee assignments and examinations as and if required.

7.6.3 The duties of the Tutor Judges shall be to:

7.6.3(a) Conduct Judge Training Courses outlined by FCCV Inc. These are conducted in accordance with the CCCA Inc. Rules & By-Laws.

7.6.3(b) Tutor Judge Panel must ensure that copies of all completed Judges training assessment forms are maintained and sent to the FCCV Inc. office for filing.

7.6.3(c) Upon provision of receipts, the FCCV Inc. will reimburse Judges for their material costs incurred when conducting a Judge training course for FCCV Inc.

7.6.3(d) Offer recommendations for successful Probationary Judges to be accepted to the CCCA Panel of Judges.

7.7 Applications to Become A Judge

7.7.1 FCCV Inc. will invite applications for consideration to participate in a Judges' course as necessary.

7.7.2 Applicants wishing to undertake a Shorthair and/or Longhair Judges' course with FCCV Inc. will apply to the FCCV Inc. Secretary enclosing all relevant documentation supporting their eligibility and including reasons for wanting to become a Judge.

7.7.3 Applicants will enclose the application fee (or to be set by FCCV Inc Committee prescribed by FCCV. Inc. with the application. If the applicant is not accepted, the application fee will be returned.

7.8 Pre-Requisites for Training As A Judge

7.8.1 To apply to undertake training as a FCCV Inc. / CCC od A judge,

7.8.1.1 First time applicant

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7.8.1.1(a) Must be a financial member of the FCCV Inc. and been a member for a minimum of 12 months.

7.8.1.1(b) Must have had continuous active involvement int her cat fancy as an exhibitor or breeder of cats, preferably in the group for which they are applying for a minimum of three years immediately preceding the application.

7.8.1.1(c) Must be qualified and /or have experience in all facets of stewarding, card room procedures.

7.8.1.1(d) Practical knowledge of show procedures and paperwork.

7.8.1.1(e) Demonstrated responsible, mature and loyal attitude, good communication skills and a commitment to become a FCCV Inc. Judge. Applicants should meet the CCC of A Rules & By-Laws Judge Training Course requirements.

7.8.1.2 Judges Extending their Licence

7.8.1.2(a) Shorthair or Longhair Judges wishing to extend their licence must be an active, qualified Judge.

7.7.1.2(b)The probationary period for a previously undertaken training course, must be completed and 12 months of judging before commencing a new course.

7.7.1.2(c) Judges applying to extend their licence should meet the CCC of A Inc. Rules and By-Laws Judge Training Course.

