

# QFA SHOW RULES

This show is conducted under the Rules and Regulations of the QFA Inc  
A complete copy of the QFA Inc Rules will be available at the show for exhibitors' perusal

## GENERAL SHOW ADMINISTRATION

1. Entry fees must be paid when entering exhibits. No refunds will be made.
2. An exhibit which is withdrawn after entries close, up to and including on show day, must be withdrawn from all rings.
3. The show management reserves the right to refuse any entry and refund any fees paid.
4. The show management reserves the right to replace contracted judges or appoint additional judges if required.
5. When entering a show the exhibitor agrees to the following Exhibitors Declaration: "I hereby declare that the particulars contained herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and enter exhibit/s at my own risk. I declare that I am the bonafide Owner or Lessee and agree to abide by the Rules of QFA Inc. under which this Show is conducted. None of my exhibits or any of the cats/kittens residing in my home and/or cattery has been affected by, or in contact with, an infectious/contagious disease or illness within thirty (30) days prior to this Show."
6. A QFA Inc Representative must be present for all QFA shows and their name noted on the schedule and in the catalogue. The person can be a QFA Executive Member, Management Committee Member or Judge of QFA. For QFA Council shows the QFA Executive will nominate the Representative.
7. **All complaints regarding the Show must be immediately reported to the QFA Show Representative and dealt with on the day. No complaints after the conclusion of the show will be accepted.**
8. If a cat is "NE" (Not Entered) in a ring on the day of a show and is judged by mistake, then the top 10/15 placings can be adjusted immediately by the show secretary on the day. If the error is picked up later at any stage in that show season, then the COTY points must be altered accordingly within that show season, being Jan – Nov.
9. **EXHIBITS MUST REMAIN IN THEIR SHOW CAGES & CAGES MUST REMAIN IN THEIR ALLOCATED POSITION UNTIL AFTER THE END OF DAY PRESENTATIONS OF BEST EXHIBIT AWARDS AND THE SHOW IS ANNOUNCED CLOSED BY THE SHOW MANAGER.** No exhibit can be removed from the Show prior to this without the consent of the Show Manager.
10. All reasonable care will be taken of exhibits. QFA Inc and organizing Clubs, their Officials and Members accept NO responsibility for any loss or damage to any person, feline or property.
11. Any Judge appointed to judge at QFA Inc sanctioned shows may not judge an exhibit bred by them self unless a period of six (6) months has elapsed since the exhibit left their residence.
12. Any judge who is active on the floor of the Show may exhibit in any Section or Ring other than the one in which they are judging. Judges may act as Stewards at OPEN SHOWS only. Judges are permitted to bench their own exhibits but must bench early and leave the cage area immediately.

## REGISTRATION OF EXHIBITS

13. A photocopy of the certificate of registration and pedigree for each exhibit must accompany the completed entry. The only exception is for kittens under the age of five (5) months where registration is pending. In this situation, the relevant details must be filled in on the entry.
14. All exhibits (except Companions) over the age of five (5) months MUST be registered, and registration number included with the entry. All pedigreed exhibits domiciled in Queensland (except in joint interstate prefixes), MUST be registered with a recognized Queensland Governing Body. Only the Queensland registration number will be accepted. (ACF Inc/CCCA Inc recognized throughout Australia). For local, interstate or overseas transfers "Upon the sale, exchange, lease or gift of a cat for breeding/exhibiting, the transfer of ownership section on the original certificate must be lodged with the Registrar WITHIN TWO (2) CALENDAR MONTHS of such disposition".
15. Entries to QFA Inc sanctioned shows for exhibits registered with any other Australian body other than ACF or CCCA affiliates must be accompanied by a 4, generation pedigree. Entries must be received in sufficient time to allow the registrar to verify that the exhibits pedigree conforms to ACF breeding guidelines
16. All Burmese and Tonkinese entries to QFA Inc sanctioned shows (including kittens under 4 months of age) registered with a body other than QFA must be accompanied by a 4, generation pedigree. Entries must be received in sufficient time to allow the registrar to verify that the exhibits pedigree conforms to ACF breeding guidelines.
17. Age of each exhibit will be calculated to be the actual age on the day of Show or the first day of a multi-day show.
18. No kitten under twelve (12) weeks is permitted to be shown.
19. Kittens may be reclassified before judging or during the first ring of judging with the owner's consent on the understanding that the kitten cannot be changed again for the duration of the show.
20. All exhibits must be entered in Show with information (including colour and pattern) as detailed on their registration certificate. Exhibits must be judged according to this information. Adult exhibits (9 months and over) CANNOT be reclassified for colour or pattern prior to judging on the day or during judging BUT ONLY AFTER all the judging is completed. Reclassification may then be made after examination and agreement by three (3) QFA Inc judges.
21. Companion exhibits over the age of four (4) months must be desexed.
22. **Eligibility of Companion cats (a) cats that are blind, missing one or both eyes provided the cat is confident in its environment, or cats with missing legs or other deformities not affecting the overall good health or well-being of the cat are**

eligible to be entered in shows; (b) cats that appear to resemble ACF non-recognised breeds with more than one structural or 'hairless' mutation (ie two or more mutations that affect bone or cartilage or result in a hairless appearance) are not eligible to be entered in shows

23. Exhibition of Breed Development Program exhibits to be in accordance with the current QFA Inc Regulations and By-laws.

### HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF CATS

24. All exhibits must be currently vaccinated to enter in a QFA Inc. sanctioned show. Every kitten entered in the show or on exhibition must have had at least one F3 (or equivalent) vaccination not less than 7 days prior to the show and a copy of its current vaccination certificate must be provided with the entry. The vaccination certificate or documentation must be signed by the person who administered the vaccine and include the vaccine sticker label with date given and the kitten's breed, colour, sex and DOB.
25. All exhibits must have claws clipped (front and back). All exhibits must be in good health and condition i.e. clear eyes/nose, clean ears and free from any parasites or skin conditions.
26. All exhibits must be brought to the Show in suitable container, not on leashes or carried in arms.
27. When benching time is listed on Schedule, exhibits MUST be benched by advertised time. If exhibitor arrives after stipulated time, and judging has commenced, exhibitor must forfeit being judged in that Ring and wait until the judge has completed the Finals in that ring, before benching their exhibit/s.
28. At any QFA sanctioned show, where a possible contagious condition is the basis for a judge marking an exhibit NOT IN SHOW CONDITION (NSC), Withhold Award (W/H), Disqualify (DQ) or No Award (N/A) the show committee reserves the right to remove all exhibits owned by the same exhibitor/s. The show committee reserves the right to request a veterinary clearance for any or all exhibits removed from the show prior to such exhibits being entered in further QFA sanctioned shows. Or
29. Where a QFA show has vetting any exhibit, which is, in the opinion of the veterinarian, unfit for exhibition, will be removed from the hall immediately. If, in the opinion of the veterinarian, it is so desirable, all exhibits from the same cattery shall be banned from attending the show. THE VETERINARIAN'S DECISION IS FINAL.
30. Female cats in kitten or lactating queens without their Litters MUST NOT BE SHOWN.
31. Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchids over the age of nine (9) months, vasectomized males, or females which have undergone tubal ligation, must not be shown. Any person who knowingly contravenes this Rule will have their exhibit disqualified and all entry fees forfeited.
32. Litter trays may be left in cages for kittens up to 4 (four) months of age during judging.
33. There must not be any objects in the cage that will identify the owner of the exhibit.
34. Litter Classes at QFA shows are optional and is up to individual clubs.
35. Litters requiring hire cages will automatically receive a second adjoining cage at no extra cost. If the Dam of such Litter is being exhibited, she may only be placed in with her Litter after judging or between Rings.
36. Unless otherwise approved by the Show Manager, only one exhibit may be benched per cage unless entered in a litter.
37. Tattoos (on desexed exhibits only) or microchips under the skin will not penalize an exhibit.
38. Cages must be kept clean by exhibitors prior to and after judging. No food to be left in cages until judging is completed for the day.
39. Exhibitor owned cages must be fitted with suitable solid barriers on both sides and back to prevent direct contact between benched cats.

### COMPETING FOR AWARDS

40. Exhibits registered as AOC/AOV in accordance with current ACF standards may be entered in QFA Inc shows but will not be eligible for challenges, best of breed, ACF awards, Top 10 placings or COY awards.
41. Breeds and or colours and or patterns that are not recognised by QFA Inc may not be entered in a QFA Inc show.
42. Neuter or Spay (desexed) kittens under the age of nine (9) months will compete with entire kittens in age classes and for Best in Show Awards.
43. Any unregistered kittens under 5 months shown without a name will not be eligible for QFA COTY or Best of Breed points.
44. All adult cats with the exception of Gold Double Grand Champions, Platinum, Sapphire, Ruby, Emerald, and Diamond Double Grand Champions, compete together for one challenge in the Open Class for each breed/colour, Male-Female-Neuter-Spay.
45. Companion exhibits will compete in colour classes. Companion adult exhibits must be registered as Companions to be eligible for award certificates towards titles of Champion and higher which will be attained in the same manner as pedigreed exhibits. Adult Companions will compete in Neuter-Spay classes only.
46. Gold Double Grand Champions of each Group (Longhair and Shorthair and Companion in metropolitan shows; Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4 for northern shows) compete together for one certificate in Male-Female-Neuter-Spay. Platinum, Sapphire, Ruby, Emerald and Diamond Double Grand Champions of each Group (as above) compete together for one challenge in Male-Female-Neuter-Spay.
47. ACF Award of Excellence (AoE) certificates may only be awarded to the Best Male – Female – Neuter – Spay in Longhair and Shorthair sections.

48. ACF Companion Award of Honour (AoH) certificates may only be awarded to the highest placed adult exhibit in the Top 3 that comply with their registering body's companion rules and where there is a minimum of 3 adult companions present.
49. In the event of a 'Withheld Challenge' in an Open Class or first place declined in a Kitten Class, then no Best in Section or Best of Breed shall be awarded if that exhibit is the sole entry in its' Breed/Colour Section.
50. The judge's decision as to the quality of the exhibit is final. The judge is empowered to withhold any award in any class or Special Award if, in the judges' opinion, the exhibit does not possess sufficient merit.
51. The following Awards MUST be made at QFA Inc Shows in each Group - BEST - RESERVE - THIRD BEST CATS, KITTENS and DESEXED. RESERVE CHALLENGE winners should also be noted in the event of a protest or other Show Rule anomaly.

### **FRACTIOUS CATS**

52. No cat is to be entered in Shows if it has a history of fractious behaviour. It is the Exhibitors' Duty of Care not to expose any judge or official to injury by any exhibit. Judges are not required to restrain or judge any exhibit showing any signs of aggression.
53. Exhibits may only be handled by the owner, at the invitation of the judge unless the show has been approved as an owner/handler show. All exhibitors at owner/handler shows must record their name and sign the insurance book provided by the show management to ensure they are covered under the QFA Voluntary worker's insurance policy.
54. **An exhibit which is unable to be handled due to aggression or which shows aggression whilst being handled (deliberate biting, attacking or threatening to attack a judge, steward or any other person) must be marked "barred for Life" (BFL – Barred for Life). Judges cannot choose to not issue BFL in such circumstances. No further judging or showing of the exhibit will take place. The steward (or judge if working alone) must immediately report this to the Show Manager and the QFA Inc Representative who will immediately record this by completing and signing a QFA Inc BFL Notification Form which the judge and owner/exhibitor must also sign immediately. One part of the form must then be handed to the owner/exhibitor and the other part must be attached to the QFA Inc Representative's Show Report. A red BFL tag will be immediately attached to the exhibit's cage by show personnel so that no following judge or show personnel will attempt to handle the exhibit. The exhibit will be barred from showing for life and the owner will also be notified in writing by QFA Inc. following the show and no appeal will be considered. This is for reasons of insurance as well as the cat's welfare. QFA Inc will notify ACF, CCCA and all Queensland councils.**
55. An exhibit which acts less aggressively but is not able to be effectively judged/assessed and therefore marked Unable to be Judged (UTJ – Unable to be Judged) must be immediately reported by the steward to the Show manager who will ensure that a yellow UTJ tag is immediately attached to the exhibit's cage to warn following judges and show personnel. An exhibit marked UTJ is not automatically disqualified from further rings and such warnings alone will not result in barring from shows.

### **EXHIBITOR BEHAVIOUR AND ETIQUETTE**

56. Unless the owner is called upon by the judge to do so, exhibitors must not discuss with the judge their exhibit whilst it is being judged on the table.
57. Any person/persons who, by their actions or words, intimidate any judge, show official, or any other person/persons at or in the vicinity of the show hall are liable to disciplinary action.
58. Mobile phones must be in Silent Mode during judging.
59. No flash cameras to be used within the show hall without the express permission of the Show Manager.
60. No ribbons, prize cards, certificates etc. are to be displayed during judging, or any won at previous shows displayed.
61. No alcohol is allowed to be consumed in the show hall

### **GROOMING IN SHOW HALL**

62. No powder, aerosol sprays or Methylated Spirits are allowed in the vicinity of the cages. Exhibitors or handlers must not use talcum powder or other like substances on an exhibit while it is caged or in vicinity of other cages.
63. Judges shall be instructed to disqualify an exhibit upon which there is colouring matter or powder residue.
64. Exhibits cannot be groomed during judging while the judge is in the Ring. (Stewards cleaning after an exhibit's mishap not included in this Rule.)

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