

Advice to Exhibitors

The advice shown below is a collection of advice and comments to aid the exhibitor appreciate the requirements and consequences of the GCCF Show Rules.

General Notes:

1. You are advised against purchasing any shampoos that change a cat's colour as this can lead to disqualification.
2. Homeopathic vaccinations are not acceptable to the GCCF for the purpose of vetting-in.
3. Any alteration to your entry must be in writing which will be attached to the entry form by the show manager. You may also make corrections to the entry form up to the close of the show.
4. Kittens under the age of fourteen (14) weeks may not be shown.
5. Any person whose cats have been rejected under Section C or D of the Show Rules must not officiate as a judge or steward or in any other capacity which requires the handling of cats at shows until a clearance certificate as required by the GCCF has been obtained.
6. The use of small battery driven fans in pens can be dangerous, and could also be considered a distinguishing mark.
7. Note that in addition to the classes you have entered, your cat may also be handled for the purposes of assessing candidates in the GCCF judges' appointment scheme.
8. Queens who have kitted with 12 weeks of the date of the show may not be shown.
9. Cats which are not normally resident with the registered owner should be transferred into the ownership of their keeper if they are to be shown. Exhibitors are reminded that in the event of rejection, all exhibits in the same registered ownership may also be rejected and clearance may be required for both households.
10. Evasion or breach of any GCCF Rules or of the articles of the Constitution may and often will, lead to disciplinary action and you are advised to familiarise yourself with all sections of the Rules and with the Constitution. These are obtainable from the GCCF Office.
11. Except where the context demands otherwise, the word 'cat' in the Rules includes kittens and neuters. A kitten is defined as a young cat less than nine calendar months of age. Thus a kitten born on 12th January becomes a cat (adult) on the following 12th October.
12. The GCCF Veterinary Officer may be contacted through the GCCF Office.

Notes of Rejection at Shows:

1. Rejection from a show means only that the cat showed signs indicating that it might have an infectious or contagious disease, or that it was not a suitable condition to be shown and is NOT A DIAGNOSIS of any particular disease. It is carried out for the protection of the cat itself and/or for the protection of other cats present at the show or for the protection of the breed.
2. Cats will be rejected under Section A for fleas, pregnancy, lactation, undersize, poor condition, trauma (e.g. clawed eyes), distress, signs indicating presence of drugs, gross malformation in pedigree cats (including monorchidism in adults, cryptorchidism in adults, polydactyly, folded ears, curly tails or severe expression of any of the standard faults in the SOP booklet) or if they have been declawed. They will also be rejected if it is not possible to examine them safely. No clearance is required but the cat may not be shown again until the reason for the rejection is no longer present.
3. Cats will be rejected under Section B for ear mite infestation or for dirty or waxy ears indicative of possible ear mite infestation. In-contact cats will be examined using an auroscope and may be admitted to the show if their ears are clean. The exhibitor will be issued with a rejection form and clearance form. All cats owned by the exhibitor must be examined by a veterinary surgeon NOT LESS THAN SEVEN DAYS after the show and certified free from ear mites, using the clearance form which, together with the rejection form, must then be sent to the GCCF Office.
4. Cats will be rejected under Section C if they show signs of possible infectious disease including ocular or nasal discharge, mouth or tongue ulcers, diarrhoea or vomiting, enlarged lymph nodes, raised temperatures etc. All in-contact exhibits will also be rejected. The exhibitor will be issued with a rejection form and clearance form. All cats owned by the exhibitor and/or living at the same address must be examined by a veterinary surgeon NOT LESS THAN SEVEN DAYS after the show and certified free of the symptoms for which they

were rejected or ANY OTHER signs of infectious disease, using the clearance form which, together with the rejection form, must then be sent to the GCCF Office.

5. Cats will be rejected under Section D if they show any skin lesions indicative of possible ringworm, including areas of missing or broken hair or any scabs. As in-contact exhibits will also be rejected. The exhibitor will be issued with a rejection form and a special clearance form which details the tests that must be carried out WITHIN SEVEN DAYS AFTE THE SHOW (on the rejected cat only at this stage) before the Clearance Certificate can be completed and sent, together with the rejection form, to the GCCF Office.
6. Any exhibitor whose cat is rejected under Section B, C or D should consider their cattery/household to be in quarantine from the date of the show until they receive the official GCCF acceptance of the Clearance Certificate. Their cats may not attend shows nor may they sell kittens to take or accept queens to stud.
7. Official GCCF acceptance of Clearance Certificates must be received before exhibiting at any shows.
8. Where an exhibit has been rejected or disqualification by a veterinary Surgeon, the Show Manager shall obtain from the Vet the reasons and accordingly notify the GCCF within 48 hours of the show, ensuring a copy of the rejection form is forwarded to the exhibitor concerned. Exhibitors who cats have been rejected at shows not the following points:
 - a. When sending your clearance certificate to the Veterinary Officer, include your copy of the rejection form.
 - b. DO NOT send these certificates by recorded delivery as this can cause considerable delays in the receipt of your certificates. If you wish to satisfy yourself that your letter has reached the Veterinary Officer, enclose a stamped self addressed postcard for acknowledgment of receipt and this will be returned to you.
 - c. Exhibitors should not attend shows until they have received a letter from the GCCF confirming clearance. It is recommended this letter be taken to shows with a month of issue of the clearance letter.

Rules about biting

1. Any cat biting or inflicting injury by deliberately scratching a Judge, Veterinary Surgeon, Steward or other Show Official must be reported to the Show Manager.
2. The Show Manager must withdraw the cat from the show and shall inform the owner of the cat in writing, sending a copy to the GCCF Office.
3. If the cat was defending itself in exceptional and frightening circumstances, that information should be given to the GCCF for consideration by the Executive Committee.
4. If the cat is reported at any subsequent should, it shall be disqualified from all future shows unless the Executive Committee rule otherwise.