

## Summary of GCCF Rules relating the Exhibits and Exhibitors

This summary is derived from Section 4 of the GCCF's Rules. A complete copy of the Rules can be purchased from the GCCF by application to the GCCF Office. The Club accepts no responsibility for this summary being complete or any errors therein and is only intended as a shortened guide. It should be noted that ignorance of the full GCCF Rules is not accepted as an excuse for a breach of the Rules.

1. a) All cats and kittens exhibited for completion at a GCCF show shall be registered with the GCCF with the exception of 'household pets'.  
b) A cat, kitten or neuter registered with the GCCF and resident in the UK may not be exhibited at any show not licensed by the GCCF except after prior notification to the GCCF Office.
2. The owner of the cat is the person named in the GCCF register.
3. An exhibitor shall complete the official entry form for a show and abide by and subscribe to the declaration include on the form. (It is essential that all eight clauses of the declaration are read, understood and adhered to).
4. a) Queens who are pregnant, lactating or who have kitted within the past 12 weeks may not compete or be exhibited and will be rejected.  
b) Monorchid or cryptorchid adult males may not compete or be exhibited.  
c) Under-developed cats or kittens or those in poor condition in the opinion of a Judge, shall be disqualified.  
d) Any cat or kitten rejected by a veterinary surgeon or disqualified by a Judge shall be reported to the GCCF Office by the Show Manager.  
e) Any cat biting or inflicting injury by deliberately scratching a judge, veterinary surgeon, steward or other show official must reported to the Show Manager. The Show Manager shall withdraw the cat fro that show and shall inform the owner in writing sending a copy to the GCCF Office. If a cat is reported at any subsequent show, it shall be disqualified from all future show unless the Executive Committee rules otherwise.  
f) All cats exhibited at shows must have a current certificate of vaccination again FIE, FVR and FCV. The full course or booster, in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, must have been completed more than seven days before the show. The certificate must have been issued by a Veterinary Surgeon or a listed Veterinary Nurse under direction of a Veterinary Surgeon. Cats in invalid certificates will be rejected. Cats not accompanied with a certificate will be rejected unless the exhibitor undertakes to provide proof of vaccination, valid for the show, by sending the certificate to the GCCF Office within seven days of the show. Failure to do so will lead to disqualification from the show and cat's name will be placed on the veterinary rejection list until proof of vaccination is received by the GCCF Office.  
g) Exhibits registered on the Reference Register are not eligible for completion unless they were registered before their breed had preliminary recognition and are not considered as if registered on the Experimental Register.  
h) Blind cats may not be exhibited.  
i) No cat shall be eligible to enter the Imperial Grand Champion, Grand Champion, Imperial Grand Premier, Grand Premier class, as the case may be, unless it has attained the status of Grand Champion, Champion, Grand Premier, Premier, as the case may be, on or before the closing date for entries published in the schedule.  
j) The title of Grand Champion, Champion, Grand Premier and Premier shall be attained by the awarding of three Grand Challenge/Challenge/Grand Premier/Premier certificates, as appropriate by three different judges. The title of Imperial Grand Champion/Imperial Grand Premier shall be attained by awarding of five Imperial Grand Challenge/Imperial Premier certificates, as appropriate, by five different Judges.
5. Registration and transfer applications must be received by the GCCF not less than 21 days prior to the show. The date of receipt by the GCCF of such application shall be the relevant date.
6. Exhibits must arrive at the show in a suitable container (top-opening recommended) and must be accompanied by the owner or the owner's agent. The owner or the owner's agent must be within call throughout the period of the show except for those times when the hall is cleared for judging. All cats must be removed from pens during prior to dismantling but must not be removed during the period of the show without the explicit permission of the show manager.

7. a) Exhibits must be presented on arrival at the show to a Veterinary Surgeon for examination before entering the penning area and must be so presented during the times stated in the show schedule. Late arrivals may be refused entry.  
b) Any exhibits rejected before or during the show by a Veterinary Surgeon must be removed from the show hall and all fees will be forfeited.  
c) If a cat is removed to isolation following rejection by a Veterinary Surgeon after judging has commenced, information regarding the section under which the cat is rejected should be available to adjacent exhibitors through the show manager and the duty vet should explain the potential risks involved to the adjacent exhibitors.  
Any cat resident in a country other than the UK and Eire must have its microchip checked against importation documents before admission into the show. If the microchip cannot be read or does not conform with the documentation, that cat shall be rejected from the show and all fees shall be forfeited.
8. Every exhibit must be identified on the entry form exactly as recorded on the registration or the transfer certificate relating to it.  
*Note: Errors in these details (except minor errors) will disqualify the entry, with forfeiture of all entry and penning fees. Show Managements are permitted to accept corrections at their own discretion, up to the close of the show; Any such corrections must not be an addition or substitution of any exhibit for which proof of entry cannot be validated, or a change of exhibitor/owner. Any such correction must be incorporated in the marked catalogues sent to GCCF, but need not be incorporated in any other catalogues.*
9. Every exhibit must be provided with a white sanitary tray and clean, plain white or near-white blanket or blankets without distinctive marking or edging, which may be arranged in such a manner as to assist the comfort of the cat. Cellular blankets are not allowed but white Vet-bed or like material may be used if preferred.  
When a breach of this rule is drawn to their attention, show managers shall apply the rule and disqualify any exhibit appearing with dirty coloured or otherwise distinctive blanket. All fees and awards relating to any exhibit thus disqualified shall be forfeit.
10. A hot water bottle or heat reflecting material or a cool pack may be used but must be concealed by the blanket; not other articles or decorations may be placed in or on the pen until judging has been completed. The only exception to this rule is a container with water must be placed in the pen.  
Containers with food and one small toy may be placed in the pen after the time announced for the admission of the public. Food containers, if used earlier, must be removed before judging. Failure to do so may result in the disqualification of the exhibit by the show manager and in this event all fees and awards shall be forfeited.
11. Apart from the current show award cards competitive pens must not carry any advertisement or other printed manuscript matter which might indicate the ownership of the cat except that a judge or show manager may affix a note if a cat is found to be dangerous to handle or unwell.
12. Any exhibit which cannot be safely handled by a judge and/or judge's steward will be disqualified in those classes in which it could not be handled, with forfeiture of the relevant entry fees. A judge's decision in this matter is final.  
a) Any cat which cannot be handled safely during judging for Best-in-Show may not be considered for this award, even if it had been handled by the Best-in-Show panel judges earlier in the day.
13. a) The use of grooming aids in the show hall other than the use of a clean brush and comb or cloth is prohibited.  
b) No powder or other grooming substances may be left in the coat of an exhibit. The show manager upon being satisfied that his rule has been or is being broken shall disqualify the exhibit concerned from all remaining classes at the show. Awards made prior to disqualification will not be forfeited.
14. Any exhibit prepared for show in any artificial manner which changes its appearance relative to the Standard of Points shall be disqualified by the show manager upon receipt of a certificate signed by two judges of the relevant breed stating that in their opinion there had been a breach of this rule. In the event of such a disqualification, any person concerned or connected with such preparation may be liable to disciplinary action, and all fees and awards shall be held in abeyance until the result of such action is decided.  
Such preparation includes the use of powder, dyes, other colouring matter or whitening or darkening substances, or any oils or greasy preparations, or any other cleaning substances which remain in the exhibit's coat during the show; it includes also trimming, clipping,

singeing or rasping down of the fast coat. Any treatment, including sedation, causing temporary or permanent change in the normal appearance or physical reaction of the exhibit or any surgical (cosmetic or otherwise) leading to changed appearance or reaction is forbidden. The show manager shall inform the GCCF Investigation Committee of all relevant details in writing and shall inform the exhibitor concerned that this action has been taken.

*Note: An alphanumeric identification tattoo in the ear or on the inner thigh shall not be considered a change in the normal appearance of the cat.*

15. All disqualification made by show managers under any of these rules shall be notified to the secretary of the investigation Committee giving all relevant details. The Investigation Committee shall record all such notifications. Persistent or deliberate breaches of the relevant rules by an exhibitor resulting in disqualification may render such exhibitor liable to disciplinary actions.
16. Exhibitors must vacate the judging area when required to do so by the show management, and must not re-enter until the doors are opened to the public, unless required to do so by the show management.
17. Exhibitors are forbidden to enter into conversation with any judge under who he is exhibiting until after the judge's engagement is completed.
18. Exhibitors are reminded that the decisions of the judges are final. Any attempt to influence such decision will render the offender liable to disciplinary action.
19. Except in so far as the conditions under which entry was made may be changed, exhibits may not be withdrawn from after entering the show hall unless such withdrawal is sanctioned by the show manager. In case of such sanctioned withdrawal entry and penning fees will be forfeited.
20. Exhibits may be withdrawn before judging starts from classes in which (a) the judge is changed from the judge named in the schedule; (b) classes are amalgamated unless such amalgamation was announced as a possibility in the schedule. In cases of such withdrawal, the exhibitor shall be entitled to claim refund of entry fees for all classes from which the exhibit is withdrawn but refund of penning fees is not permitted. Claims for refunds must be made within seven days of the date of the show.
21. Exhibitors or their agents must not remove any exhibit from its pen whilst judging of any class in which it is entered is in progress except by direction of the show manager or other official on pain of disqualification and forfeiture of entry fee.
22. Exhibits must not be removed from the exhibition before the declared time for closure of the show, except that exhibitors may apply for earlier removal when making their entry. Such early removal may be made at the direction of the show manager. The show manager shall disqualify from all classes at the show any exhibit so removed with his consent and all fees and awards shall be forfeited.
23. Exhibitors are required to point out to the show manager any errors in regard to their own entries which appear in the show catalogue at the earliest possible moment.  
*Note: Errors on entry forms which are reproduced in the catalogue cannot be corrected, but exhibits which may be placed in wrong classes or wrongly identified as a result of them will be disqualified. Errors which have occurred as typing, printing or other managerial mistakes must be corrected if pointed out at a reasonable time during the show and/or exhibitor compensated for any loss.*
24. No entries for any show of cats and/or kittens which have been disqualified by order of the Disciplinary Committee may be made during the period of such disqualification. Any entry made in contravention of the rule shall result in the forfeiture of all fees and awards and may render any person concerned or connected with such entry liable to disciplinary action.
25. Show prize monies may be paid out on the day of the show on the declared and contingent liability of the exhibitor that, in the event of disqualification, all prize monies and certificates shall be returned to the show manager concerned. Failure of any prize-winner to comply with this rule will result in future suspension from exhibiting at any further shows.
26. Rescinded.
27. Exhibitors entering cats in two shows within 13 days but not exhibiting at both in contravention of Rule 3b shall be reported to the GCCF who shall disqualify all cats attending either show. Persistent or deliberate breaches of this rule may render exhibitors liable to disciplinary action.

*Note: A show entry cannot be withdrawn after the published closing date of the show.*