# FIFe Statutes

Date of issue: 01.01.2026

## STATUS OF CHANGES

*For previous changes to the Statutes than those listed below, please refer to the separate document "FIFe Statutes, Rules & Standards – History of Changes" available in the section "Rules & Forms" on the FIFe website.*

| § | Status | Remarks |
|---|---|---|
| | ***Edition 01.01.26*** | |
| *7.2* | *Addition* | *Vacancies of a Controller of an Assistant* |
| *9.2* | *Change* | *Overdue invoices* |
| | ***Edition 29.05.25*** | |
| *1.2* | *Change* | *The seat of FIFe from Luxembourg to Switzerland* |
| *9.3* | *Addition* | *Personal liability is explicitly excluded* |

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# 1 Name – Duration – Seat – Purpose

**1.1**

The clubs and federations of clubs including any clubs which will in the future become Members or members of Members shall constitute an International Federation of unlimited duration.

**1.2**

This Federation shall be known as the:

**"FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE FELINE" (FIFe)**
**(International Feline Federation)**

It shall take the legal form of a non-profit-making association, governed by the *Swiss Confederation's* Civil Code *(SCC)*, in particular *article 60 et seq.*, and by the present Statutes.

The Seat of the Federation shall be in the *Swiss Confederation*.

**1.3**

The Federation shall not make any decision which might be detrimental to the national character and individuality of any Member.

**1.4**

The purpose of the FIFe is to unite all clubs, associations and federations of clubs irrespective of their nationality or legal domicile, that take an interest in cats of domestic origin, pedigreed or not.

The FIFe encourages the breeding of cats and the improvement of breeds and shall be committed to the promotion of their welfare.

In particular, the Federation shall be concerned with:

a) Standardising regulations regarding Judges, Shows and Show Titles, etc.
b) Definition of breeds and standardisation of the breed standards.
c) Recognition and harmonisation of the Pedigree Registers (LO) and initial and experimental registers (RIEX) of each country, whilst endeavouring to institute a sole Register of each aforementioned type in each country. The FIFe is at liberty to check such Registers without encroaching on the independence of each Member.
d) The institution and regulation of an International Register of Prefixes (cattery names).
e) The compilation of an Official List of Judges authorised by the Federation.
f) The issue of any required authorisation or permit for National and International Shows.

This enumeration is not exhaustive. The FIFe is entitled to engage in any activity in connection with cats of domestic origin, pedigreed or not.

# 2 Admission – Resignation – Expulsion

**2.1**

The minimum number of Members is fixed at three. The founding Members were "Koninklijke Kattenvereniging van Vlaanderen", Belgium, "Fédération Féline Française", France and "Societa Felina Italiana", Italy.

Only one Member per country can be admitted, subject to the current situation and to the vested rights currently applicable to Members coming from the same country.

**2.2**

All decisions of the FIFe shall be binding upon all Members and members of such clubs.

**2.3**

The statutes and rules of the Members of the FIFe must contain a clause whereby its members are bound by the decisions of the FIFe.

**2.4**

To become a Member of the FIFe, the candidate must submit its application in writing to the General Secretary. This application has to include exact information about the candidate, especially its regulations and restrictions, a membership list of the board of directors as well as the technical board members. In addition, the application has to include the unconditional acknowledgement of the FIFe regulations and restrictions.

The candidate has to prove itself through the mentorship of a FIFe Member. If the application is complete, the candidature will be submitted at the next General Assembly.

In the case of acceptance by the General Assembly, the candidate has a probationary period of three (3) years; within this timeframe it has the same rights as an ordinary Member, with the exception of the right to vote.

The Mentor is responsible for the payment of the FIFe fees of the candidate.

No Member may act as Mentor or for more than one candidate for membership of the FIFe.

**2.5**

After the probationary period has elapsed, the candidature will be submitted by the Mentor Member to the next General Assembly. The Assembly then decides, taking into consideration the opinion of the Mentor Member, whether to accept or reject - possibly without giving reasons. The probationary period can be extended to one additional year on the proposal of the Mentor Member.

Resolutions pertaining to admission are valid only if approved by a qualified majority (3/4) of the Members present.

When the General Assembly has thus granted full membership to a probationary Member this Member obliges itself to respect and maintain the aims, purposes and principles of the FIFe and will refrain from damaging the FIFe by written or verbal statements or by actions.

**2.6**

Members of the FIFe undertake not to allow their members to:

- take part, directly or indirectly in shows organised by non-FIFe associations; exceptions with respect to participation at shows are listed in § 8.2 of the Show Rules
- to be actively involved in non-FIFe associations as a functionary or as a judge.

Special exceptions may be granted by the Executive Board of FIFe.

**2.7**

Members of the FIFe may only accept individuals domiciled in their countries and individuals, who are temporarily living outside their countries of domicile as members of their clubs.

If Members of the FIFe wish to accept individuals, who are living abroad, the procedure, as outlined in § 2.5 of the General Rules, must be followed.

**2.8**

Membership of the FIFe shall terminate:

a) By resignation sent by registered letter, at least six months in advance, to the General Secretary of the FIFe and for the end of a financial year

b) By expulsion for a serious offence - in particular for non-observance of the Statutes and Rules, for refusal to pay dues, etc.

The expulsion will be checked into and then proposed by the Executive Board at the next General Assembly which will decide by a qualified (3/4) majority of the Members present.

The decision reached will take effect immediately and shall be irrevocable. However, major changes in the structure of the Member so excluded may justify that body in re-applying for membership.

# 3 Administration

**3.1**

The administrative bodies of the FIFe are:

- The General Assembly of Members
- The Executive Board
- The Commissions
- The Controllers.

# 4 The General Assembly

**4.1**

The General Assembly is the highest authority of the FIFe.
It shall consist of the delegates of the Members.

Each Member is entitled to representation by one voting delegate.
A voting delegate can only represent one Member.
In addition to a voting delegate, each Member will be entitled to a second person in an advisory capacity.
In case of a tie the President shall have the deciding vote.

**4.2**

The duties of the General Assembly will be:

- To elect the members of the Executive Board, of the Commissions and the Controllers.
- To approve or reject the annual budget and the accounts. Approval of the annual accounts shall constitute a discharge of the Treasurer.
- To decide on the candidature of new Members.
- To decide on the expulsion of a Member in accordance with § 2.8.
- To evaluate the management of the Executive Board and give discharge of responsibility to this Board.

Moreover, the General Assembly shall have all other rights granted by the Statutes which have not been expressly granted to another administrative body.

**4.3**

The Assembly shall meet at least once a year.

It shall be convened by the President for an Ordinary Meeting or, for an Extraordinary Meeting, at the request of one fifth of the Members of the FIFe.

**4.4**

In order to take valid decisions at least one half of all the Members of the FIFe must be present at the General Assembly.

**4.5**

A majority of votes at the General Assembly can be reached in the following ways, in all cases it is based on a majority of those Members who are present or represented:

a) Absolute majority - the candidate or proposal achieves more than half the votes cast;
b) Qualified or 3/4 majority - which is required in cases of admission, expulsion and modification of the Statutes.

Decisions of the General Assembly are only valid and binding when confirmed by an absolute majority of those Members who are present and represented. In the case of electing functionaries and providing there is more than one candidate, from the fourth round of voting onwards a simple majority is sufficient.

The Members of the General Assembly shall vote by a show of hands; if requested by a Member, voting shall be conducted by secret ballot.

**4.6**

The General Assembly is presided over by the President of the FIFe who is entitled to delegate his powers to a chairman for the meeting concerned.

The minutes of the meeting are kept by the General Secretary or by a substitute who shall submit such minutes for verification to three persons who have attended the Assembly, the so-called Supervisors of the Minutes. These Supervisors will check the English, French and German versions of the minutes. The minutes in all three languages are then signed by the President.

**4.7**

The Members of the FIFe are convened ninety (90) days before the date set for the General Assembly. They can send their proposals to the General Secretary sixty (60) days before the General Assembly. The procedure to send proposals to modify the Statutes is listed in § 11.1.

They shall receive the Agenda in which the proposals of Members are set out, thirty-five (35) days before the date set for the Meeting.
The Members shall be informed of the decisions of the General Assembly by minutes containing all such decisions which shall be sent within a defined time scale.

**4.8**

No decision can be taken on items not listed on the Agenda unless the General Assembly decides otherwise by vote, upon proposal of the President.
Proposals or motions must be written in French, German and English.

**4.9**

A Member who is not able to attend the General Assembly can be represented by another Member.
No Member is allowed to represent more than one other Member.
No Member is allowed to be represented at two successive General Assemblies.

**4.10**

The meetings of the General Assembly are open to all members of the FIFe Members. The General Assembly may, however, declare the meeting closed to such members for discussion of certain items.

# 5 The Executive Board

**5.1**

The Executive Board shall be elected by the General Assembly.
Only members of clubs that are FIFe Members may be elected to the Executive Board.
It shall be composed of:

- a President
- a Vice President
- a General Secretary
- a Treasurer
- a Vice Secretary
- a Vice Treasurer.

All six Board members have the right to vote on the Board.

The Executive Board is responsible for:

- the implementation of the decisions taken by the General Assembly
- handling the day-to-day affairs
- the administration of the FIFe.

The Executive Board shall take all decisions relating to discipline, upon the recommendation of the disciplinary commission.

a) The President supervises the activities of the FIFe at all events. He ensures the observance of the Statutes and Rules; he presides at meetings of the Executive Board and the General Assembly, except when he decides to delegate his powers in accordance with § 4.6.
b) The Vice President fulfils the duties of the President in his absence.
c) The General Secretary centralises the activities of the Executive Board under the supervision of the President. He will be responsible for the minutes of meetings, of distributing suggestions, proposals and notices of meetings, and of updating Standard and Rules following the General Assembly. These updated Standards and Rules shall then be sent to the relevant Commission for its confirmation. All correspondence to and from the Board must go through the General Secretary.
d) The Treasurer shall be in charge of preparing accounts, collecting all fees and dues, effecting payments, keeping the books and compiling the Annual Financial Report.
e) The Vice Secretary and Vice Treasurer shall assist the General Secretary and the Treasurer in all aspects of their work.
f) The Vice Secretary, respectively, Vice Treasurer fulfils the duties of the General Secretary, respectively, Treasurer in case of his absence.

**5.2**

The FIFe shall be bound by the joint signature of two members of the Executive Board, of which at least one must be that of the President or the Vice President.

**5.3**

The members of the Executive Board are elected for a period of three years.
One third of the members of the Executive Board shall stand for re-election annually.
Outgoing Board members shall be eligible for re-election.

Should a Board member be unable to fulfil his duties, due to retirement, resignation, dis- or inability, the Executive Board is entitled to co-opt a substitute for the remainder of that term of office. This term expires automatically at the next General Assembly, where this board vacancy will be up for election.

**5.4**

The Executive Board shall notify Members of all elections and eventual vacancies.

Nominations of candidates must reach the Executive Board no later than sixty (60) days prior to the date of the General Assembly. The names of all candidates will be listed on the agenda. No other candidates shall be eligible for election.

**5.5**

In principle, all offices shall be honorary. However, the members of the Executive Board are to be reimbursed for their travelling expenses, accommodation and actual expenses.

The General Secretary shall receive a monthly allowance, the allocation and amount of which shall be determined by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Executive Board.

A special amount should be set aside for the purpose of reimbursing the expenses of the Commissions and other elected officials, the amount of which will be decided annually by the General Assembly.

# 6 Commissions

**6.1**

The Commissions shall consist of individuals selected for their abilities and elected by the General Assembly for a period of three years. Such individuals must be members of a FIFe Member.

The members of the different Commissions shall elect one person to be responsible for that Commission.

The Commissions must meet prior to each General Assembly and must submit a written report, containing the results of their work, to the General Assembly.

Should a Commission member be unable to fulfil his duties due to retirement, resignation, disability or un-ability, a replacement must be elected for the duration of the period of office at the following General Assembly.

**6.2**

1. The Breeding & Registration Commission shall be responsible for:
   – the relevant rules in the Breeding & Registration rules
   – attempting to standardise the regulations relating to records of origin in conformity with existing standards and rules.

   The Commission shall consist of three (3) members all of whom have kept a pedigree register in their own organisation for a period of at least three years and have been breeding for at least three years.

2. The Judges & Standards Commission shall be responsible for:
   – studying the admission of new breeds and the establishment of the Standards applicable to such new breeds
   – modifying the Standards of recognised breeds
   – maintaining the Rules for Judges and Student Judges
   – a training programme for Student Judges and the further education of existing Judges.

   The Commission shall consist of six (6) members. Each FIFe category must be represented by at least two (2) members who are International Judges qualified in that category.

3. The Show Commission shall be responsible for:
   – the concept of shows and the modifications necessary to ensure efficient organisation of such shows
   – the application of the Show Rules.

   The Commission shall consist of five (5) members, who must be show organisers, if possible from five (5) different countries.

4. The Disciplinary Commission:
   – shall consist of five (5) members none of whom may be a member of the Board
   – shall give in each case its recommendations to the Executive Board.

5. The Commission for Health & Welfare shall be responsible for:
   – the relevant rules in the Breeding & Registration Rules
   – representing the FIFe on all matters concerning the health & welfare of cats
   – shall be concerned with gathering information concerning health & welfare of cats and distributing such information as requested by Members

– liaising with the Judges & Standards Commission, the Breeding & Registration Commission and the Show Commission on matters which relate to the health and welfare of cats.

The Commission shall consist of three (3) members who must be able and willing to make contact with research institutes, national and local official bodies as well as breeders for the purposes of obtaining information and then working with the information obtained.

6. The Commission for Public Relations shall be responsible for:
– developing a communication strategy to promote FIFe worldwide as a leading organization in the cat fancy
– supporting the Executive Board and the other Commissions of FIFe in their external communication and writing/editing texts
– maintaining press contacts
– developing and managing FIFe's communication tools, such as website, leaflets, communication magazines and newsletters
– the development and management of social media channels
– developing and providing presentations / marketing material for the promotion of FIFe
– supporting FIFe Members in their national communication policy.

The Commission shall consist of three (3) members who must be able and willing to fulfil its tasks in close cooperation with the FIFe Executive Board, the other FIFe Commissions and external partners. To this end, they must have the necessary language skills in at least one of the official FIFe languages.

**6.3**

The aforementioned Commissions (Judges & Standards, Breeding & Registration, Show, Disciplinary, Health & Welfare and Public Relations) shall be free to express their opinions. They must submit their findings to the Executive Board which will present such findings to the next General Assembly.

Correspondence addressed to the Board or the Commissions must be in one of the three official languages and must be forwarded by the Member with a covering letter to the General Secretary who will advise the appropriate Commission.

Correspondence sent direct from members of Members is unacceptable.

# 7 Controllers

**7.1**

Two Controllers and two Assistants, elected by the General Assembly for a period of three years, shall control the accounts and the balance sheet of the FIFe and subsequently prepare a report on their findings for the General Assembly. They may not be members of any other official body of the FIFe.

The Controllers have the right to inspect the books and other documents kept by the treasurer at any time.

***7.2***

*Should a Controller be unable to fulfil his duties, due to retirement, resignation, dis- or inability, the Executive Board is entitled to appoint one of the Assistants for the remainder of that term of office. This term expires automatically at the next General Assembly, where this vacancy will be up for election.*

*Should an Assistant be unable to fulfil his duties in case of one of the forementioned reasons, a replacement must be elected for the duration of the period of office at the next General Assembly.*

# 8 Disciplinary powers

**8.1**

The Executive Board can, upon recommendation of the Disciplinary Commission, apply the following disciplinary measures:
– call to order
– reprimand
– fine
– temporarily expel from all or from certain events.

Only the General Assembly has the power to permanently expel a Member (as per § 2.8).

**8.2**

Upon the recommendation of the Disciplinary Commission, the Executive Board is empowered to impose a disciplinary measure against any Member of the FIFe or against any individual chosen by the FIFe to carry out certain duties, and against any judge.
The Member or individual concerned shall be entitled to a hearing.
Any Member or individual who is the object of a disciplinary measure may appeal to the General Assembly. This appeal must be addressed to the Executive Board within thirty (30) days following receipt of the decision; such decision must indicate the appeal procedure and deadline.
The implementation of a decision against which an appeal has been filed, shall be deferred.

**8.3**

Decisions, containing their motivation, shall be notified to the person concerned by registered letter.
Disciplinary decisions may be communicated to FIFe Members.

# 9 Financial resources of the FIFe

**9.1**

The financial resources of the FIFe shall consist of:

- annual fee paid by the clubs and Federations of clubs
- a fee levied for registration of cattery names
- a fee levied for judges' examinations
- a fee levied for national and international shows
- reimbursement of the IC rosettes, the IP rosettes, the GIC and GIP awards etc.
- grants, donations and any other resources from which the FIFe may benefit.

The General Assembly shall determine the amounts, in Euro, payable as fees and dues yearly.

**9.2**

Every Member shall provide the Treasurer with the information necessary to determine the amount payable in fees and dues.

*On the Monday before the General Assembly, Members may not have overdue invoices (→ General Rules § 9.1), unless specific payment arrangements were made in advance with the FIFe Treasurer.*
A Member who has not complied with this requirement shall forfeit his right to vote.
The Executive Board may, upon request, grant exceptions to Members who have justifiable difficulties in meeting their financial obligations.

**9.3**

The debts of the FIFe are collectable only to the extent of existing net assets. *Personal liability is explicitly excluded.*

**9.4**

Members who have left the FIFe or who have been expelled from the FIFe shall have no right to any assets of the Federation.
The maximum amount of the fees or payments a Member shall make to the FIFe in one year shall be € 50,000.

# 10 Accounts and budget

**10.1**

The financial year shall commence on January the 1st of each year and end on the following 31st of December.

**10.2**

The balance sheet and profit and loss statement shall be submitted to the General Assembly. For this purpose, the Treasurer shall put at the disposal of the FIFe Members a copy of the financial statement covering the past financial year, thirty-five (35) days prior to the date set for the General Assembly.

# 11 Modification of the Statutes

**11.1**

Any proposal for modification of the Statutes must be sent to the Executive Board sixty (60) days before the General Assembly.

The Executive Board shall submit to the General Assembly the proposed modification together with its opinion. Any modification to the Statutes must be approved by a qualified majority (3/4) of the votes cast.

# 12 Dissolution of the federation

**12.1**

The General Assembly shall be empowered to decide the dissolution of the FIFe. If, at such a General Assembly, the necessary quorum is not present, the chairman shall convene a second General Assembly.
The dissolution of the FIFe will then be pronounced if a simple majority so decides and without the necessity of a quorum. The General Assembly shall be empowered, in the case of dissolution, to decide on the distribution of the assets of the federation.

# 13 Miscellaneous

**13.1**

The General Assembly is allowed to provide General Rules, which may not, under any circumstances, contradict or depart from the present Statutes.

**13.2**

The languages of the FIFe shall be French, German and English.

**13.3**

One copy of the Statutes of the FIFe in the three languages shall be kept at the seat of the Federation.

# FIFe General Rules

Date of issue: 01.01.2026

## STATUS OF CHANGES

*For previous changes to the rules than those listed below, please refer to the separate document "FIFe Statutes & Rules – History of Changes".*

| § | Status | Remarks |
|---|---|---|
| | ***Edition 01.01.26*** | |
| *2.5* | *Addition* | *Membership change procedure applies whenever individuals are changing their membership between two FIFe Members* |
| *4.16* | *New* | *Livestreaming of the General Assembly* |
| *14* | *New* | *World Cat Congress* |
| *Annex 1* | *Change* | *Minimum net judges allowance* |

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# 1 Name – Duration – Seat – Purpose

**1.1**

The name of FIFe (logo) must appear on catalogues, pedigrees and certificates.

# 2 Admission – Resignation – Expulsion

**2.1**

When accepting new FIFe Members, it is required that the valid statutes of such probational Members shall contain the phrase:

> "It is not allowed to sell or to hand over cats, which are registered in FIFe to pet shops or similar organisations nor for any experimental research or testing.
> It is also not allowed for members of FIFe Members to offer or trade cats or services, such as stud service, by auction or similar actions, be it on electronic or real events."

**2.2**

FIFe Members, which do not have the phrase

> "It is not allowed to sell or to hand over cats, which are registered in FIFe to pet shops or similar organisations nor for any experimental research or testing.
> It is also not allowed for members of FIFe Members to offer or trade cats or services, such as stud service, by auction or similar actions, be it on electronic or real events."

in their valid by-laws, shall be called upon to include this phrase in their statutes in accordance with their national laws.

**2.3**

An application for full membership can be requested after a maximum period of three years after the status of Patronage Member was granted. In addition to the conditions already required, the following requirements must have been complied with during the period of patronage.
The Patronage Member must have:

a) maintained a correct register of various breeds;

b) organised at least one international show annually, which was supervised by the FIFe and run according to its rules;

c) a sound financial basis; the FIFe Board shall check the financial books prior to the application.

d) the willingness to co-operate with or to include clubs with the same objectives.

**2.4**

A Member, wishing to officiate as a Mentor, should have been a Member of FIFe in good standing for at least ten (10) years.

The responsibilities and rights of the Mentor towards a Patronage Member shall be as follows:

a) The Mentor shall ensure that at all shows put on by the Patronage Member, at least one judge who is either a member of the Board or the FIFe Judges & Standards or Show Commission shall officiate and that that judge should have the right to check all relevant paperwork, if necessary, by going to the place earlier than usual. This judge must then submit a detailed report on the show and any recommendations in this respect: the report will be sent to the Show Commission, the Mentor and to the FIFe Board.

b) The Mentor oversees the activities of the Patronage Member and shall intervene and advise where and when necessary.

c) If it is necessary for the Mentor to visit the country of the Patronage Member in to give advice, the responsibility for the costs of this visit shall be clarified in advance.

d) The Mentor shall provide a written report on the Patronage Member to the General Assembly each year. This report shall be submitted 60 days before the event to the General Secretary and shall be sent to all Members together with the Agenda.

e) The Mentor must be willing to assist a Patronage Member to put on a seminar for all of its members.

f) The Mentor has the right to withdraw its Mentorship if it is not satisfied with the development of the Patronage Member. The Mentor must announce this at the General Assembly and give the reasons for this withdrawal.

g) The Mentor shall ensure that the register of various breeds (the Pedigree Book) is kept according to the FIFe Breeding & Registration Rules. If necessary, the Mentor can call upon the assistance of the FIFe Breeding & Registration Commission to perform a necessary inspection and to advise the Patronage Member. Responsibility for the costs of this visit shall be clarified in advance.

**2.5**

A Member of the FIFe may accept as members, individuals from other countries:

a) where there is no FIFe Member

b) where there is a FIFe Member, under the following conditions:

1. The new FIFe Member must always contact the current FIFe Member to get confirmation about non-membership status or membership status.
2. In both cases the current FIFe Member must confirm, within one month from the request, that the applicant has no administrative or disciplinary issues pending.
3. The new FIFe Member will inform the current FIFe Member if the application is accepted or not.
4. Any existing sanctions on the individual member by the current FIFe Member must be respected by the new FIFe Member. In case the new FIFe Member does not agree then he may send this application to the FIFe Executive Board for consideration.

*The above procedure applies whenever individuals are changing their membership between two FIFe Members.*

**2.6**

When Member's statutes are submitted, such documents must be originals or certified copies.

**2.7**

Members of the FIFe must submit statistics showing the number of cats bred and registered, respectively, imported and registered in the Member's Pedigree Book divided by breeds. These statistics reflecting the previous year, must be sent to the General Secretary by the end of January.

The Breeding and Registration Commission shall forward a report to the General Assembly regarding cats and breeds bred within FIFe and its Members based on the statistics received.

**2.8**

FIFe Members must submit statistics providing the number of cats appearing in the show catalogues of each of their national and international shows. The information shall be divided by breed.

These statistics reflecting the previous year, must be sent to the General Secretary by the end of January.

The Show Commission shall forward a report to the General Assembly regarding cats shown within FIFe and its Members based on the statistics received.

# 3 Administration

**3.1**

The FIFe President and the chairpersons of the FIFe commissions must convene their members at least 14 days prior to each meeting.

**3.2**

All official documents, i.e. the complete standards and all rules, the EMS list of colour varieties and breeds, the list of addresses of FIFe Members, judges and commission members, the complete repertory of all judge's examinations questions, etc. shall be provided on electronic media by the FIFe, or its authorized commissions, working groups or persons, in all three FIFe languages, to each FIFe Member on request and free of charge.

**3.3**

a) All written letters including e-mails and/or Minutes, from the Board of FIFe may be in English.

b) Communications to the FIFe Board may be in any one of the three official languages.

c) The rules pertaining to language for examinations and judges' reports remain unchanged.

d) The General Assembly shall be held in the three official languages. Proposals to the General Assembly shall be submitted in the three official languages.

e) Breed standards shall be issued in the three official languages.

# 4 The General Assembly

**4.1**

At the General Assembly, the FIFe Board members may express their opinions on all proposals.

**4.2**

The minutes of the General Assembly must be sent to the Members within 4 months of the General Assembly and must also state where each decision has been placed in the statutes or in the rules.
The minutes of the annual FIFe General Assembly must contain all proposals that have been submitted with the agreed wording irrespective of whether the proposal was accepted or rejected.
There will be no discussion about the proposals minuted unless this is expressly requested by the party that submitted the motion.
The Minutes of the General Assembly will be issued in French, German and English.

**4.3**

The Supervisors of the Minutes for the General Assembly must complete their check and advise the General Secretary within three weeks of receiving the Minutes.

**4.4**

The amendments made by commissions to the rules, standards and other official documents, must have been received by the General Secretary's within 4 weeks after the General Assembly.

**4.5**

The expense for the hire of a meeting room or rooms for the General Assembly shall be borne by the FIFe. The organisation of the General Assembly is the responsibility of the FIFe.

**4.6**

Each Member may submit a maximum of three (3) proposals per year to the General Assembly.

The Board, as well as each commission, may submit a maximum of ten (10) proposals per year to the General Assembly.

Exceptions may be granted by the Board, provided they are well motivated.

**4.7**

Proposals that were rejected or voted against may only be presented after 2 years have passed.

**4.8**

It is not allowed to change the contents of a proposal before, during or at the General Assembly.
The proposal can only be reformulated if the sense remains the same, or if the translation in a language (English, French or German) is not correct.

**4.9**

FIFe Members are convened by e-mail to attend the General Assembly and receipt of confirmation will be sent. They can send their proposals by e-mail, the receipt of which shall be acknowledged. The proposals shall be sent in an editable electronic format to the General Secretary where these will be compiled to an Agenda.

FIFe Members shall receive the Agenda in which the proposals are included by e-mail.
All items to be placed on the Agenda of the General Assembly must be addressed in writing to all Members in the 3 FIFe languages (English, French and German).

The annual reports are to be made available at the beginning of the General Assembly.

The following items shall be sent to the Members in advance:

- Proposals from the Board and the commissions
- Proposals from the Members
- Balance sheets
- Budget
- Candidates for the various positions on the Board and in the commissions
- Membership applications.

**4.10**

The Board has the right to correct any language mistakes or typing errors which may have occurred in proposals, accepted by the General Assembly before such proposals are included in the statutes or rules for publication. All such corrections shall be submitted to the chairperson of the relevant commission for approval before publication.

**4.11**

The General Assembly shall take place each year on the last Thursday and Friday in May.
The Judges' Seminar shall take place on the Saturday.

**4.12**

It is strongly recommended that all delegates or their designated representatives should attend the open meetings of the Commissions.

**4.13**

When 30% of the current articles of an existing set of Rules, i.e. General Rules, Show Rules, Rules for Judges and Student Judges, Breeding and Registration Rules and Breed Council Rules (this listing may not be complete and can at any time be complemented or reduced) are to be changed or corrected by separate proposals of any of the commissions to any given General Assembly, it shall be obligatory, after agreement of the Board, to present a new, completely revamped set of Rules to the General Assembly for approval.

**4.14**

Scrutineers can be chosen from all members of FIFe Members present at the General Assembly.

**4.15**

If the representative/-s of a Member (a delegate and/or its assistant to the General Assembly) is also an official of FIFe, the travel costs and the accommodation costs for the days of the General Assembly (3 days) are to be split equally between both parties involved, the FIFe and the Member.

***4.16***

*Livestreaming of the General Assembly may be only offered during the agenda item dealing with the proposals from the Members, Board and Commissions.*

# 5 The Executive Board

**5.1**

After each meeting the FIFe Board must send the Minutes of this Meeting to the FIFe Members within 60 days of that Meeting.

**5.2**

It is a privilege of the FIFe Board to appoint Honorary Judges. Any Member may propose a judge they consider to be worthy of this honour. The years of service to the FIFe as a judge and in any other capacity shall be taken into account; in making a decision the Board shall consult the Judges & Standards Commission. A judge who has been made an 'Honorary Judge' may, if he wishes, remain active and the relevant notations shall be made against his name on the official judges list.

# 6 Commissions

**6.1**

The commissions shall send all final versions of their proposals as dealt with at the General Assembly by email with confirmation of receipt to the General Secretary within 60 (sixty) days following the General Assembly. All proposals (carried, rejected and withdrawn) must be sent in all three FIFe languages.

**6.2**

The commissions shall send minutes of their meetings to the General Secretary within one month of such Meeting in at least one FIFe language.

**6.3**

In order to be elected as members of the Judges and Standards Commission, the candidates must have been active International Judges during at least five (5) years.

# 7 Controllers

# 8 Disciplinary powers

**8.1**

In the case of a disciplinary proceeding against a FIFe Member, or a member of a FIFe Member, the Member or the person charged is to be informed immediately upon the arrival of the complaint; this shall be done in writing by registered post or by email with confirmation of receipt and, above all, in good time and with all relevant documents to allow the Member or person concerned to prepare all documentation necessary to present their own case in answer to the charge.

# 9 Financial resources of the FIFe

**9.1**

Invoices from the FIFe Treasurer must be paid within 60 days.

**9.2**

Research in Feline Health and Welfare shall be sponsored by the FIFe Feline Fund (FIFeFu). Research grants will be decided by the FIFe Board and can be proposed by the FIFe Health & Welfare commission or FIFe Members. The fund shall be administrated by the FIFe Treasurer and is separated from the existing accounts.

# 10 Accounts and budget

**10.1** deleted

# 11 Modification of the Statutes

**11.1**

All statutes and rules, amendments and additions, accepted by the FIFe General Assembly, shall come into force on the 1st of January of the following year.

**11.2**

All changes to the rules and standards shall be written in italics and marked with a line on the side of the page.

**11.3**

When an article in the FIFe statutes or rules is deleted, the text shall be replaced by the word "deleted" and the following articles retain their original number. New articles shall be allotted new numbers.

# 12 Dissolution of the federation

# 13 Miscellaneous

**13.1**

FIFe will not recognize or accept any new breeds resulting from a mating between a domestic cat (felis catus) to a wild cat species or from a mating between a domestic cat (felis catus) to a hybrid cat (F1 – F4) out of a crossing with a wild cat species.
These breeds will not be allowed to be shown at any show or event organized by a FIFe Member.

**13.2**

The FIFe shall make official use in all its correspondence and all address-listings of its Members, Board- and Commission-members, Officers and Judges, of the international ISO 3166-1 alpha -2 code of country names.
A complete current list of these relevant codes can be found in Annex 2 of the General Rules.

**13.3**

Intellectual works, manuscripts, lectures etc., made by an elected FIFe Board or Commission member, which serve the use and ideal of FIFe, becomes property of FIFe, provided that ownership rights are not violated and nothing else is agreed in writing between the author and the Board.

**13.4**

Official documents, show invitations, show catalogues, judge reports, diplomas and pedigrees, carrying the FIFe logo should be printed in the Latin (Western) alphabet, in addition - if needed - to the national alphabet.

If a FIFe Member maintains its own website, the FIFe logo must be shown on the opening page and must provide a link to the FIFe website.

The right to use the abbreviation “FIFe” in email or website addresses is exclusively reserved to FIFe and the national Members of FIFe.

**13.5**

The FIFe Board may grant other organisations the use of the FIFe EMS Master Code and is allowed to modify the EMS Master Code.

## *14 World Cat Congress*

***14.1***

*The World Cat Congress (WCC) was founded to promote a better understanding and cooperation among the world’s leading cat associations in matters of mutual interest and concern which affects all cat lovers, from the pedigree breeder to the pet owner.*

*The purpose of the WCC is to provide harmony within the cat-fancy worldwide and to include as members those organisations with similar philosophies on the health and welfare of cats, standards, judge training, registrations, and titles.*

*As one of its founding members, FIFe shall always retain its membership and perform an active role in cooperating with the other WCC members with respect to the constitution and by-laws of the WCC.*

***14.2***

*FIFe shall be represented at the Annual General Meeting of the WCC by one voting delegate and by a second person in an advisory capacity.*

*The FIFe representatives are selected for their abilities. They must be fluent in English.*

*The FIFe representatives must submit a detailed report on the WCC Annual General Meeting to the Board and the FIFe General Assembly.*

***14.3***

*The two representatives of FIFe to the WCC Annual General Meeting shall be appointed by the Board, in consultation with the Commissions.*

# Annex 1 – Membership and other fees in Euro

| | |
|---|---|
| Annual membership fee | 500.00 |
| Fee for one International Show [1] | 180.00 |
| Fee for one National Show [1] | 60.00 |
| Cattery Name fee | 35.00 |
| Annual Breed Council fee | 10.00 |
| Judges examination fee | 150.00 |
| Annual Judges fee | 100.00 |
| Rosettes DVM, DSM, DM, JW, NW, IW, DSW, SC & SP | 17.00 |
| Rosettes GIC & GIP | 15.00 |
| Rosettes IC & IP | 15.00 |
| Rosettes KCH, JCH, CH & PR | 14.00 |

**Minimum net Judges Allowance**

| | |
|---|---|
| Per day the Judge officiates at the show [2] | *130.00* |
| Except: per two-day show (not separated by categories) [2] | *200.00* |

[1] shows at which cats can obtain two certificates on the same day are considered as two separate shows

[2] in observance of the maximum number of cats to judge per day (→ Show Rules § 6.1.3)

# Annex 2 – ISO country codes

| ISO 3166-1 alpha-2 Code/Kode | | Country | | Land | | Pays |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AR | - | Argentina | - | Argentinien | - | Argentine |
| AT | - | Austria | - | Österreich | - | Autriche |
| AU | - | Australia | - | Australien | - | Australie |
| BE | - | Belgium | - | Belgien | - | Belgique |
| BG | - | Bulgaria | - | Bulgarien | - | Bulgarie |
| BR | - | Brazil | - | Brasilien | - | Brésil |
| BY | - | Belarus | - | Weiss-Russland | - | Biélorussie |
| CH | - | Switzerland | - | Schweiz | - | Suisse |
| CN | - | China | - | China | - | Chine |
| CO | - | Colombia | - | Kolumbien | - | Colombie |
| CZ | - | Czech Republic | - | Tschechien | - | Rép. Tchèque |
| DE | - | Germany | - | Deutschland | - | Allemagne |
| DK | - | Denmark | - | Dänemark | - | Danemark |
| EE | - | Estonia | - | Estland | - | Estonie |
| ES | - | Spain | - | Spanien | - | Espagne |
| EU | - | Europe | - | Europa | - | Europe |
| FI | - | Finland | - | Finnland | - | Finlande |
| FR | - | France | - | Frankreich | - | France |
| GB | - | United Kingdom | - | Ver. Königreich | - | Royaume-Uni |
| GR | - | Greece | - | Griechenland | - | Grèce |
| HR | - | Croatia | - | Kroatien | - | Croatie |
| HU | - | Hungary | - | Ungarn | - | Hongrie |
| ID | - | Indonesia | - | Indonesien | - | Indonésie |
| IS | - | Iceland | - | Island | - | Islande |
| IT | - | Italy | - | Italien | - | Italie |
| LI | - | Liechtenstein | - | Liechtenstein | - | Liechtenstein |
| LT | - | Lithuania | - | Litauen | - | Lituanie |
| LU | - | Luxembourg | - | Luxemburg | - | Luxembourg |
| LV | - | Latvia | - | Lettland | - | Lettonie |
| MD | - | Moldova | - | Moldau | - | Moldavie |
| MX | - | Mexico | - | Mexiko | - | Mexique |
| MY | - | Malaysia | - | Malaysia | - | Malaisie |
| NL | - | Netherlands | - | Niederlanden | - | Pays Bas |
| NO | - | Norway | - | Norwegen | - | Norvège |
| PL | - | Poland | - | Polen | - | Pologne |
| PT | - | Portugal | - | Portugal | - | Portugal |
| RO | - | Romania | - | Rumänien | - | Roumanie |
| RU | - | Russia | - | Russland | - | Russie |
| SE | - | Sweden | - | Schweden | - | Suède |
| SI | - | Slovenia | - | Slowenien | - | Slovénie |
| SK | - | Slovakia | - | Slowakei | - | Slovaquie |
| UA | - | Ukraine | - | Ukraine | - | Ukraine |
| US | - | United States | - | Vereinigte Staaten | - | États-Unis |

# FIFe Show Rules

Date of issue: 01.01.2026

## STATUS OF CHANGES

| § | Status | Remarks |
|---|---|---|
| | | ***Edition 01.01.26*** |
| *1.7* | *Deletion* | *FIFe rosette* |
| *2.3* | *Addition* | *Preliminary recognised breeds and varieties may participate at the World Show* |
| *2.6.2* | *Addition* | *Winner Shows cannot be organised during consecutive weekends* |
| *2.6.4* | *Addition* | *Exceptions for qualifications of cats to Winner Shows* |
| *3.3.2* | *Addition* | *Non-FIFe shows and the class "Out of competition"* |
| *4.4* | *Change* | *Requirements to obtain the titles GIC/GIP* |
| *4.5* | *Change* | *Requirements to obtain the titles SC/SP* |
| *6.1.3* | *Change* | *Number of cats to be judged per day instead of per show* |
| *6.8.1* | *Change* | *Layout and languages of the judges' report* |
| *8.2.2.e* | *Addition* | *Requirement for non-FIFe exhibitors when entering cats in classes 1 - 8* |
| *Annex 1* | *Addition* | *Spain* |
| *Annex 7* | *New* | *Exceptions for qualifications of cats to Winner Shows* |
| *Categories at shows* | *Addition* | *Preliminary recognised varieties: NEM/SIB corin, BEN charcoal, BLH/BSH corin, BLH/BSH additional golden varieties* |
| | | ***Edition 10.01.25*** |
| *6.7.2.c* | *Deletion* | *Under regardless the applicable procedure: requirement of minimum number of 4 judges cages available* |
| *6.7.2.c* | *Addition* | *Reference to § 1.10.f* |

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# 1 General

## 1.1 Cat Shows

Cat shows are one of the most important promotion events and the presentation of the cat fancy. Besides web sites and social media, cat shows are the most important tools of cat fancy to educate the public about cats of domestic origin, pedigreed or not, and to promote the welfare and a good life for all cats.

Information about the cat fancy brought to the community through newspapers, radio, television and social media will normally take place in connection with local cat shows.

A cat show is the arena where many potential cat fanciers become active after having been a visitor. Cat shows are also the place where the exhibitors from different international Members meet, where they compete with their cats and where they have the possibility to exchange experiences with each other.

## 1.2 Code of Ethics for Exhibitors

### 1.2.1 Principles being the Exhibitor at FIFe Shows

Exhibitors are, besides the cats themselves and the FIFe Judges, one of most important promoters of the cat fancy and have great responsibilities toward the values and principles promoted by the Federation.

Exhibitors, whether only exhibitors or also breeders, are usually the first contact and their behaviour and attitude are among the first impressions people outside the cat fancy experience.

They are expected to:

- show knowledge about cats and breeds, about the welfare of cats, about how to take proper care of them and their needs, and the understanding of a cat's behaviour,
- show knowledge about FIFe and understanding of the basic values and principles identifying the organisation,
- be able to communicate with other exhibitors and other people (e.g. visitors, judges, show organisers) always in a respectful manner, showing tolerance towards each other, despite possible differences, different opinions and different cultural and educational backgrounds; always maintain self-control, support each other in our common interests and goals, and never engage in transgressive behaviour (e.g. harassing, bullying or threatening etc.),
- demonstrate a welcoming atmosphere in the show hall and on social media to influence the public's positive opinion and attitude towards cats, encourage others to become interested in cat fancy and to join us in common goals for the welfare of cats.

### 1.2.2 Code of Ethics and the responsibility of a FIFe Member

Exhibitors and Breeders are representatives of FIFe and the FIFe Member they belong to and shall conduct themselves as such.

They shall always display a considerate and caring attitude and courteous behaviour whether verbal, written and/or as demonstrated by physical actions.

Whether exhibiting or visiting a show, they shall not cause disruption during or after the show. Social media is considered an extension of the physical public space and respectful behaviour is expected there as well.

Exhibitors and Breeders are the responsibility of the Member to which they belong. The Member is responsible to act against such Exhibitors and Breeders who do not respect this Code of Ethics, whether such behaviour is officially lodged in a complaint or only reported or noticed. This applies to any inappropriate behaviour in connection with cat shows, as well as on social media.

## 1.3 The organisation of national and international shows

### 1.3.1 General conditions and restrictions

a. DELETED

b. The most recent version of the FIFe show calendar is published on the FIFe website.

c. Any appeal against a show can only be made to shows up to two years in advance.

d. Shows can be held on any day of the week.

### 1.3.2 Request for organising a show

A request for a license to organise a show must be made by the FIFe Member through the show request tool on the FIFe website at least one month in advance of the exact date of the event. Shows can only be booked up to 10 calendar years in advance.

FIFe Members are responsible to check if the minimum required distance between shows (→ § 1.4) is observed before sending a request for a license to organise a show giving a fixed place.

### 1.3.3 License fee for organising a show

The request for a license to organise a national or an international show is subject to a fee in Euro (→ FIFe General Rules Annex 1), the amount of which is fixed by the FIFe General Assembly.

For shows according to § 1.11.a - § 1.11.c, payment is due for only one show.
For shows according to § 1.11.d - § 1.11.f, payment is due for two shows.
For shows according to § 1.11.g - § 1.11.h, payment is due for three shows.

## 1.4 Distance between shows

If several shows (national or international) are planned for the same day by different FIFe Members, there must be no less than 400 km by road between the different locations.

The show first applied for takes priority.

Only shows giving a fixed date, place and its postal code will be protected by the 400-km rule.

Those shows which, in the first instance, give no fixed place or a fixed place without postal code will not be accepted if the subsequently submitted place / postal code is within 400 km of an already accepted show.

Cat shows held in cities less than 400 km apart may be organised on the same date providing the respective FIFe Members agree. Written agreements from these Members must be sent to the FIFe Secretary at least two months before the date of the show.

## 1.5 Wild cats, Munchkin and Scottish Fold

It is forbidden to exhibit, promote or advertise:

- any type of “wild” cat or any breed based on “wild” cats (→ FIFe General Rules § 13.1)
- cats suffering from (pseudo-)achondroplasia (such as Munchkin) or osteochondrodysplasia (such as Scottish Fold), or with such a cat in its ancestry.

## 1.6 International show

To obtain the right to organise an International Show and to issue certificates CACC, CACJ, CAC, CAP, CACIB, CAPIB, CAGCIB, CAGPIB, CACS and CAPS, the organisers must comply with the conditions of the present rules.

## 1.7 The FIFe rosette

*DELETED*

## 1.8 Conditions for an international show

A show called “International” must satisfy the following conditions:

a. One or more international judge(s) is/are present and at least one of these is from a foreign country.

b. A veterinarian is present at the entrance to the show in order to examine the exhibits and can be reached during the entire show. At the show organising FIFe Member’s discretion, the veterinary examination can be performed either randomly or on all exhibits.

At shows arranged on two consecutive days by the same Member and if the show organisers so wish, those cats that are exhibited on both days need only go through the veterinary examination on the first day of the show.

c. The cats must have been vaccinated against feline panleucopenia, feline calici virus and feline herpes virus, and have always had the required vaccinations and/or boosters, at least 15 days prior to the show. Vaccination against rabies is to be according to national legislation.

All vaccinations are to be performed by a veterinarian in accordance with the national veterinary legislation of the country where the cat is living. The period of validity for the vaccinations is marked by the veterinarian in the pet passport or on the vaccination certificate and must always be respected. FIFe Members may not impose stricter vaccination rules.

It is the exhibitor’s own responsibility to check the veterinary rules of the country where the show is held.

d. It is desired that judges, student judges and stewards are vaccinated against tetanus in accordance with medical regulations.

e. At least 150 cats, of which at least 80% must be pedigree cats, must be entered in one of the classes 1 – 12 or 14 and listed in the catalogue. In case these numbers are not reached 7 days before the show, the FIFe Member shall declare the show as “national”, with a minimum number of 80 cats.

f. In countries with developing areas or in special cases Members can ask for permission of the FIFe Board to organise shows with less than 150 cats up to a minimum number of 100 cats. The written permission can be given by the FIFe Board after thorough evaluation of the reasons.

g. The minimum number of cats required for international shows in certain countries (→ Annex 1) is reduced to 80, of which at least 80% must be pedigree cats, entered in one of the classes 1 – 12 or 14 and listed in the catalogue.

h. Official documents, show invitations, show catalogues, judges’ reports and diplomas, carrying the FIFe logo should be printed in the Latin (Western) alphabet, in addition – if needed – to the national alphabet (→ FIFe General Rules § 13.4).

i. When ISO-codes for country names are used, they shall be the international ISO 3166-1 alpha-2 code of country names (→ FIFe General Rules, Annex 2).

## 1.9 Conditions for a national show

The following articles of § 1 apply for the organisation of a National Show:

- § 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5
- § 1.6 by:
  - replacing “international” by “national”
  - deleting CACIB, CAPIB, CAGCIB, CAGPIB, CACS and CAPS
- § 1.8 by:
  - replacing the text under § 1.8.e by: at least 80 cats, of which at least 80% must be pedigree cats, must be entered for competition and listed in the catalogue
  - deleting the text under § 1.8.g.

## 1.10 The organiser's responsibility

The organisers must:

a. invite recognised judges (→ § 6.1).

b. cover the judges and staff of the show by an insurance policy (clubs which cannot insure foreign judges, student judges and stewards while they are officiating at the show must notify them in advance, so that they are given the opportunity to insure themselves in their own country).

c. publish a schedule stating:

- the date of the show
- the location and address of the show hall
- the closing date for registration
- the amount of the entry fee
- a list of the officiating judges, including (the ISO-code of) their country of residence – and not of membership – and the categories they are qualified to judge
- a list of hotels where cats are admitted in order to allow exhibitors to make their own reservations
- entry requirements concerning health and border formalities
- opening and closing times of the show
- account numbers (bank or others) to which payment of the entry fees must be done.

d. DELETED

e. give the necessary documents to the judge before the judging commences, including – as soon as possible – a list of absent cats.

f. make judging cages (near the judge's table in the judge's ring) available.

g. equip the judging cages with partitions.

h. send the name and address of the hotel to the officiating judges at least 14 days before the show. The judges must also be informed as to the transfer to the hotel.

i. send all correspondence with regard to invitations (→ § 1.10.a), as well as hotels and transfers (→ § 1.10.h) to the judge's (email) address which appears on the official FIFe judges list.

## 1.11 Definition of show types

When organising shows (national or international), FIFe Members must adhere to the following show types:

a. One 1 day, 1 certificate show

b. One 2 day, 1 certificate show (always applicable to shows as listed in § 2)

c. Two 1 day, 1 certificate show (with different categories or different breeds on the 2 days)

d. Two 1 day, 2 certificate show

e. One 1 day, 2 certificate show

f. Two 1 day, 2 certificate show (with different categories or different breeds on the 2 days)

g. One 2 day, 3 certificate show

h. One 2 day, 3 certificate show (with different categories or different breeds on the 2 days).

With the exception of shows as listed in § 2, shows may be organised for all or for a restricted number of categories or breeds. They may be spread over 2 consecutive days if split by categories or breeds.

The show type shall be displayed for all shows listed on the official show calendar on the FIFe website. When applicable, restricted categories or breeds shall be indicated.

Each FIFe Member can organize once per year a combination of shows where a cat could obtain three certificates during two consecutive days (→ § 1.11.g and 1.11.h). Such a show type must appear clearly at least 6 months prior to its date in the official FIFe show calendar.

Judges can officiate at two shows per day, provided that the limit of cats to be judged per day is respected (according to § 6.1.3).

## 1.12 Payment of show entry fees

Payment of show entry fees must be effectuated in accordance with the instructions from the show organising club.

Guarantee for payment of entry fees only applies to exhibits whose entries have been confirmed by the FIFe Member or club to which the owner of the cat belongs.

## 1.13 Showing abroad

The entry form must be completed and submitted in accordance with the instructions from the show organising club.

When entering cats for shows abroad:

- the entry form must be completed and submitted in accordance with the instructions from the show organising club
- a copy of the entry form must be sent by the cat's owner to the FIFe Member or its affiliated club where he holds his membership in accordance with the instructions from the FIFe Member/club
- by using an online entry tool for entering cats:
  - the cat's owner shall certify that the entered data is true and correct and confirm that he shall respect the FIFe show rules
  - the show organising club may require the cat's owner to fill in the email address of his FIFe Member/club valid for their confirmation of the entry.

## 1.14 The catalogue

The FIFe logo and the logo of the FIFe Member must be printed on the front page of the catalogue.

The catalogue of a cat show must contain at least the following data of each exhibit:

- catalogue number
- name and title(s) of the exhibit
- designation of breed and colour (EMS-code)
- group number (only applicable to breeds that are being judged in groups)
- date of birth
- sex
- class in which the cat is to be judged
- the names and EMS-codes of the parents of the exhibit (not applicable to house cats)
- the name of the breeder (not applicable to house cats)
- the name of the owner.

The catalogue must also contain*:*

- a list of the officiating judges, including (the ISO-code of) their country of residence – and not of membership – and the categories they are qualified to judge
- a list of the owners of all exhibits, at least indicating:
  - the name of the owner
  - the ISO-code of the owners' country of residence
  - the organisation or club where the owner holds his membership
  - the catalogue number(s) of his exhibit(s).

For shows where cats can obtain a certificate on several days or 2 certificates on the same day, a joint catalogue may be published, provided for all cats it is clearly indicated at which show(s) they compete.

## 1.15 Cats appearing in the catalogue

a. All entries in the catalogue are liable for payment of the entry fee even in case of absence. If the exhibitor is unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances before closing date, he is obliged to inform the organisers in writing.

b. Only cats appearing in the catalogue may compete. Last minute entries accepted after the catalogue is printed may compete when the relevant information of these exhibits (→ § 1.14) is published as an annex to the catalogue.

c. All cats shall appear in the catalogue in accordance with FIFe rules, no matter which organisation issued the cat's pedigree. They may only be entered and compete by using an EMS code in accordance with the FIFe EMS System and the registration rules for the relevant breed / variety (→ FIFe Breeding & Registration Rules § 6, 7, 8 and 9); this accordance also applies to the EMS code of the cat's parents.

d. It is not allowed to remove the cats from the show hall before the end of the show without special permission of the organiser.

## 1.16 The show archives

Show organisers must keep the following documents of each show for a minimum period of 3 years:

- all copies of judges' reports
- the original list of the cats proposed by each judge for Best in Show
- copies of the list stating all cats nominated for Best in Show
- the show catalogue
- the result list (including Best in Variety, Nomination for Best in Show and Best in Show)
- the list of absent cats.

All documents shall be available in a paper printed and/or an electronically saved version if requested by the FIFe Secretariat or by the FIFe Member resp. its club whose members took part in the show.

## 1.17 Responsibility for the organising club concerning exhibitors and visitors

The organising club is responsible for:

a. sending the confirmation of acceptance to the exhibitor.

The confirmation to foreign exhibitors must be send at least 2 weeks prior to the show.

Exceptions: unforeseen circumstances.

b. setting the entry fee for each of its shows.

c. controlling the necessary arrangements and security of the show.

It should be noted in particular that:

- it is prohibited to place cages on top of one another
- cages must be of sufficient size (minimum: 50 x 50 x 50 cm per cat), in order to ensure the comfort of the exhibit
- one cat per single cage a maximum of three cats per double cage (exceptions are made for litters)
- there must be a minimum of 1.25 m walking space for the visitors between the rows of cages.

d. DELETED

e. observing age classification in case of:

- a 1-day show: the day of the show being decisive
- a show split over more than 1 day by category: the day on which the concerning category is scheduled being decisive
- another type of show spread over more than 1 day: the first day of the show being decisive.

## 1.18 Configuration of show cages

a. In case of ring configuration of the cages, metal cages must have curtains safe and fully covering 2 sides of the cage, to protect the cat from other cats.

b. In case of back-to-back configuration, metal cages must have curtains fully covering at least 3 sides of the cage, to protect the cat from other cats.

c. Food, water, and a litterbox must be available to the cat at least 50% of the duration of the show day.

d. The bottom of the cage must be covered for the cat's comfort.

e. Provide the cat with the possibility of undisturbed rest for instance in the form of tent, shelter, or an extra curtain.

# 2 World Show and Winner Shows

Every year a FIFe World Show will be held and conducted in accordance with the following rules.

## 2.1 Application for the World Show

The National FIFe Member interested in conducting the World Show files an application with the FIFe Board. The FIFe Board decides where the show is to be held. As long as unconsidered applications are available, the World Show is not to be allocated to the same FIFe Member for the second time.

## 2.2 Date of the World Show

The World Show shall always take place on the last weekend in October and must appear clearly in the official FIFe show calendar.

All granted applications shall be listed, the restriction in § 1.2 does not apply to World Shows.

## 2.3 Qualifications for the World Show

Only cats of:
- fully recognised breeds and their fully recognised varieties
- *fully recognised breeds and their preliminary recognised varieties (→ § 5.5.4)*
- *preliminary recognised breeds and their preliminary recognised varieties (→ § 5.5.4),*
- as well as house cats,

belonging to individual FIFe members may participate at the World Show.

Participation in the World Show is only possible for cats which have obtained the minimum necessary qualification depending on the class in which they compete at the World Show:

a. Classes 1 – 6 (adults and neuters):
   – No qualification needed, cats having obtained the title International Champion, International Premier or higher are automatically qualified.

b. Classes 7 – 10 (adults and neuters):
   – 3x Excellent 1 in classes 11 – 12 or
   – 1x Best in Variety in classes 7 – 12 or
   – 1x Nomination for Best in Show in classes 7 – 12
   – For classes 8 and 10 (neuters): no qualification needed for cats having obtained the title International Champion or higher, these cats are automatically qualified.

c. Class 11 (juniors):
   – 3x Excellent 1 in classes 11 – 12 or
   – 1x Best in Variety in classes 11 – 12 or
   – 1x Nomination for Best in Show in classes 11 – 12.

d. Class 12 (kittens):
   – no qualification needed.

e. Class 14 (house cats):
   – 1x Nomination for Best in Show house cats
   – No qualification needed for Distinguished Show Merit (DSM) house cats, these cats are automatically qualified.

In all cases where qualifications apply: the qualification period is the 13 months period prior to the World Show.

Qualifications obtained during the 13 months period prior to the World Show by cats belonging to breeds resp. varieties in preliminary recognition phase are valid if the breed resp. variety achieves full recognition prior to the date of the World Show.

The qualification for the World Show is checked and confirmed by the National Federation or Club where the exhibitor holds his membership.

## 2.4 World Winner title

Each cat winning at the Best in Show will receive the title World Winner (WW) also mentioning the year of the show. The winning cats will have their title registered in their pedigree in the same way as other official FIFe titles (→ § 4.1.1).

The World Winners will be listed on the FIFe website per year.

## 2.5 Restrictions for shows on date of the World Show

No other FIFe show will be allowed on the same weekend that the FIFe World Show takes place.

## 2.6 Winner Shows

1. FIFe Members from countries as listed in § 2.6.6 may once a year organise a Winner Show. They shall decide amongst themselves which FIFe Member in the group (consisting of at least 3 different members) organises their Winner Show in a particular year.

2. Winner Shows may take place in any month of the year (except October and November) and must appear clearly at least 1 year prior to their date in the official FIFe show calendar. Only one Winner show is allowed on the same weekend. *Winner Shows cannot be organised during consecutive weekends*.

3. No other FIFe show will be allowed in the countries in a particular group on the same weekend that their Winner Show takes place.

4. The qualifications for the Winner Shows are the same as for the World Show: § 2.3 applies. *Exceptions for Winner Shows are listed in Annex 7.*

5. Each cat winning at the Best in Show will receive the appropriate Winner title, also mentioning the year of the show. The winning cats will have the title registered in their pedigree in the same way as other official FIFe titles (→ § 4.1.1).

6. The official Winner Shows are:

| Name of show | Organising FIFe Member countries |
|---|---|
| American Winner Show | Argentina, Brazil, Mexico |
| Baltic Winner Show | Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania |
| Black Sea Winner Show | Bulgaria, Moldova, Romania, Ukraine |
| Central European Winner Show | Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia |
| Eurasian Winner Show | Belarus, China, Russia |
| Mediterranean Winner Show | Croatia, France, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain |
| North Sea Winner Show | Belgium, Germany, Netherlands, United Kingdom |
| Scandinavian Winner Show | Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden |

7. FIFe Members may propose additions (a new group of FIFe Members and their Winner Show) and/or modifications (for example to join or leave a group or to change to another group) to the list in § 2.6.6. FIFe Members may only be part in 1 group as listed in § 2.6.6.

## 2.7 Specific rules for the World Show and Winner Shows

a. The World Show and Winner Shows cannot be combined with any other type of show.

b. During the World Show and Winner Show a judge shall judge the maximum number of 60 cats.

c. FIFe Members conducting shows as outlined in this chapter are required to ensure that:
   – all judges officiating in a category shall participate in the Best in Show panel of that category
   – if needed, a referee judge (→ § 4.9.7) shall be available and announced to participate in the Best in Show panel of a category, to avoid decisions by drawing lots.

   Exceptions: circumstances beyond control.

d. Certificates obtained at shows arranged according to § 2 can be considered as being obtained in any country when needed to comply with the requirement of the number of different countries in § 4.4 or 4.5.

e. Best in Variety (BIV): in case of a larger number of adults respectively neuters in competition (at least 5 males and at least 5 females), Best in Variety will be chosen separately by sex.

## 2.8 Best in Show titles house cats

At shows arranged according to this chapter, house cats are given the titles:
– Best in Show house cat longhair
– Best in Show house cat shorthair.

# 3 Admission to shows

## 3.1 Registration in the Pedigree book

All cats entered for a show must be registered in the Pedigree Book of the FIFe Member to which the owner belongs with the exception of:

- house cats
- cats entered by exhibitors as outlined in § 8.2.2.

The following cats may not have been entered in the Pedigree Book yet, but must have their registration pending:

- kittens (class 12)
- cats imported from other organisations, entered for the show in classes 9 – 13.

## 3.2 Micro-chipping

It is recommended that where possible micro-chipping should be used as a form of identification of show and breeding cats.

## 3.3 Minimum age and exhibiting kittens and juniors

### 3.3.1 Minimum age

The minimum age of a cat must be at least 4 months during the show.

This rule applies to International and National Shows, Seminars and Breed and Propaganda Shows.

### 3.3.2 Exhibiting kittens and juniors

Kittens and juniors shown in classes 12, 11 and 14 can only be shown during 2 consecutive weekends and must then have a break during the following weekend.

*This is also valid for non-FIFe shows and the class "Out of competition".*

## 3.4 Admission to shows

Cats must have the tips of the nails cut before arrival at the show hall.

Not admitted to shows are:

- lactating queens
- pregnant queens
- dwarf cats
- de-clawed cats
- cats with deformities of the feet or legs, for example poly- or oligodactylism (too many or too few toes)
- blind cats
- deaf cats
- cats with docked tails
- cats with cropped ears
- unneutered house cats aged 12 months or older
- tattooed cats, except when having a tattoo with an identifying code as a form of registration.

Other cats belonging to the same exhibitor may be admitted to the show, in consideration of § 3.8.

## 3.5 White cats

White cats must have a veterinary certificate stating that they are not deaf.

## 3.6 Competing according to phenotype

A cat competes at shows according to its physical appearance (phenotype).

If this differs from its known genotype, both the cat's known genotype and phenotype must be noted in the pedigree. The phenotype must be in accordance with the description of the EMS system and must be written in brackets.

## 3.7 Locking of cages

It is prohibited – under penalty of exclusion from competition – to lock the cages with padlocks and/or to let cats change cages before judging is finished.

## 3.8 Symptoms of sickness during the vetting in or during the show

If during the vetting in or during the show the officiating veterinarian discovers that a cat shows symptoms of sickness (for example: viral, bacterial, fungal or parasitical), the cat in question, together with all other cats belonging to the same exhibitor, will be denied admission to the show hall resp. must be removed immediately from the show hall.

## 3.9 Faults leading to disqualification

→ Table of faults in the Annexes

## 3.10 General faults in all breeds

→ Table of faults in the Annexes

# 4 Show titles and certificates

## 4.1 Show titles and certificates

### 4.1.1 Show titles and their abbreviations

| Show title | Abbr. | § | Remark |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Championship/Premiorship titles** | | | |
| Kitten Champion | KCH | 4.2 | These titles are placed before the full name of the cat |
| Junior Champion | JCH | 4.2 | |
| Champion | CH | 4.2 | |
| Premior | PR | 4.2 | |
| International Champion | IC | 4.3 | |
| International Premior | IP | 4.3 | |
| Grand International Champion | GIC | 4.4 | |
| Grand International Premior | GIP | 4.4 | |
| Supreme Champion | SC | 4.5 | |
| Supreme Premior | SP | 4.5 | |
| **Winner titles** | | | |
| Junior Winner | JW | 4.15 | This title is placed after the full name of the cat |
| Distinguished Senior Winner | DSW | 4.18 | |
| National Winner | NW | 4.17 | These titles + the year are placed before the full name and before possible Championship/Premiorship titles of the cat |
| International Winner | IW | 4.19 | |
| American Winner | AW | 2.6.5 | |
| Baltic Winner | BW | 2.6.5 | |
| Black Sea Winner | BSW | 2.6.5 | |
| Central European Winner | CEW | 2.6.5 | |
| Eurasian Winner | EAW | 2.6.5 | |
| Mediterranean Winner | MW | 2.6.5 | |
| North Sea Winner | NSW | 2.6.5 | |
| Scandinavian Winner | SW | 2.6.5 | |
| World Winner | WW | 2.4 | |
| **Merit titles** | | | |
| Distinguished Merit | DM | 4.13 | These titles are placed after the full name of the cat |
| Distinguished Show Merit | DSM | 4.14 | |
| Distinguished Variety Merit | DVM | 4.16 | |

For preliminary recognised breeds or preliminary recognised varieties of a recognised breed, the abbreviations of the titles Kitten Champion, Junior Champion, Champion, Premior, International Champion and International Premior will be preceded by a “P” indicating a preliminary title (i.e., PKCH, PJCH, PCH, PPR, PIC, PIP).

All FIFe show titles are only available for FIFe registered cats (and house cats), owned by individual members of national FIFe Members.

### 4.1.2 Certificates and their abbreviations

| Name of certificate | Abbreviation of certificate |
|---|---|
| **C**ertificat d’**A**ptitude au **C**hampionnat des **C**hatons de Beauté | CACC |
| **C**ertificat d’**A**ptitude au **C**hampionnat des **J**eunes de Beauté | CACJ |
| **C**ertificat d’**A**ptitude au **C**hampionnat de Beauté | CAC |
| **C**ertificat d’**A**ptitude au **P**remium de Beauté | CAP |
| **C**ertificat d’**A**ptitude au **C**hampionnat **I**nternational de **B**eauté | CACIB |
| **C**ertificat d’**A**ptitude au **P**remium **I**nternational de **B**eauté | CAPIB |
| **C**ertificat d’**A**ptitude au **G**rand **C**hampionnat **I**nternational de **B**eauté | CAGCIB |
| **C**ertificat d’**A**ptitude au **G**rand **P**remium **I**nternational de **B**eauté | CAGPIB |
| **C**ertificat d’**A**ptitude au **C**hampionnat **S**uprême de Beauté | CACS |
| **C**ertificat d’**A**ptitude au **P**remium **S**uprême de Beauté | CAPS |

## 4.2 Obtaining the title Kitten Champion, Junior Champion, Champion or Premior

Provided the exhibit has obtained at least the minimum number of required points (→ § 6.9):
- CACC is awarded in the Kitten class (class 12)
- CACJ is awarded in the Junior class (class 11)
- CAC is awarded in the Open class (class 9)
- CAP is awarded in the Neuter class (class 10).

In order to obtain the title **Kitten Champion, Junior Champion, Champion** or **Premior**, a cat must have been awarded:
- 3 (three) CACC, CACJ, CAC respectively CAP
- by 3 (three) different judges
- during 3 (three) national or international FIFe shows.

Exceptions are made for individual members residing in countries outlined in Annex 4.

## 4.3 Obtaining the title International Champion or International Premior

Provided the exhibit has obtained at least the minimum number of required points (→ § 6.9):
- CACIB is awarded in the Champion class (class 7)
- CAPIB is awarded in the Premior class (class 8).

To obtain the title **International Champion** or **International Premior**, a cat must have been awarded:
- 4 (four) CACIB respectively 4 (four) CAPIB
- by at least 3 (three) different judges
- during 4 (four) international FIFe shows.

Exceptions are made for individual members residing in countries outlined in Annex 4.

## 4.4 Obtaining the title Grand Int. Champion or Grand Int. Premior

Provided the exhibit has obtained at least the minimum number of required points (→ § 6.9):
- CAGCIB is awarded in the International Champion class (class 5)
- CAGPIB is awarded in the International Premior class (class 6).

To obtain the title **Grand International Champion** or **Grand International Premior**, a cat must have been awarded CAGCIB respectively CAGPIB certificates at:

*a. 9 (nine) International FIFe Shows by at least 3 (three) different Judges. All Certificates can be obtained in the same country.*

***OR***

*b. 6 (six) International FIFe Shows by at least of 3 (three) different Judges in at least 2 (two) different countries.*

Exceptions made for individual members residing in countries as outlined in Annexes 3 and 4.

## 4.5 Obtaining the title Supreme Champion or Supreme Premior

Provided the exhibit has obtained at least the minimum number of required points (→ § 6.9):
- CACS is awarded in the Grand International Champion class (class 3)
- CAPS is awarded in the Grand International Premior class (class 4).

To obtain the title **Supreme Champion** or **Supreme Premior**, a cat must have been awarded CACS respectively CAPS certificates:

*a. 12 (twelve) International FIFe Shows by a minimum of 5 (five) different Judges. All Certificates can be obtained in the same country.*

***OR***

*b. 9 (nine) International FIFe Shows by a minimum of 5 (five) different Judges in at least 2 (two) different countries.*

Exceptions made for individual members residing in countries as outlined in Annexes 3 and 4.

## 4.6 Approval of titles

Certificates which are recognised as qualifications for the titles Kitten Champion, Junior Champion, Champion, Premior, International Champion, International Premior, Grand International Champion, Grand International Premior, Supreme Champion and Supreme Premior will become valid only after approval by the National Federation or National Club to which the exhibitor belongs.

To obtain a title, the owner of a cat must notify the National Secretariat within the next month following the receipt of the last required certificate towards a title.

Certificates and titles which are not obtained according to FIFe Rules should not be recognised.

All certificates for a title must have been obtained in the same variety (EMS code) / group.

If a change in EMS code results in a change of variety / group, then:
- already approved titles must always be retained (for recognised varieties)
- all certificates for the next title must be obtained in the new variety / group.

## 4.7 Going to a higher class

§ 4.7 does not apply to classes 11 and 12.

As soon as an exhibit has obtained all required certificates towards a title, in consideration of § 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5 and 4.6, it is obligatory for this cat to be exhibited in the following higher class.

A cat that has already obtained the maximum number of required certificates towards a title in the same country, may not be entered in the concerning class on a show in this country again. As long as it does not fulfil the requirements for the following higher class, the cat may only be exhibited out of competition. Shows as outlined in § 2 (→ § 2.9) are exempted from this rule.

## 4.8 Best in Variety (BIV)

a. Best in Variety will be chosen by the judge among all cats of one variety disregarding age or sex on condition that at least 3 exhibits of this variety are present.

b. In case of a larger number of competitors a maximum of 3 different BIV can be decided upon (kittens, juniors and adults) under application of the above-mentioned rule (→ page 33 for minimum possibilities).

c. Neuters aged at least 12 months compete separately among themselves for Best in Variety neuter.

d. To achieve Best in Variety the exhibit must have obtained at least 95 points.

e. A judge is at liberty to withhold Best in Variety if the exhibits do not have sufficient merit, however Best in Variety cannot be refused if an exhibit has obtained the necessary 95 points in its class.

## 4.9 Nomination for Best in Show (NOM) and Best in Show (BIS)

### 4.9.1 Nomination for Best in Show (NOM)

Each judge may nominate 8 exhibits in each category (→ page 36) he is judging as:
- adult male and adult female
- neuter male and neuter female
- junior male and junior female
- kitten male and kitten female.

House cats can have a maximum of 4 nominations which may not be subdivided by age:
- male shorthair and female shorthair
- male longhair and female longhair.

### 4.9.2 Conditions for Nomination for Best in Show

The exhibit must belong to a recognised variety of a fully recognised breed (not applicable to house cats).

The exhibit must have obtained at least 97 points. Nomination for Best in Show cannot be refused, if the exhibit has obtained the necessary 97 points in its class.

Provided the exhibit has obtained at least 97 points, a judge may nominate:
- an adult cat for Best in Show adult even if it has been beaten for Best in Variety by a junior or a kitten, or by another adult of the opposite sex in the same variety
- a neuter for Best in Show neuter even if it has been beaten for Best in Variety by another neuter of the opposite sex in the same variety
- a junior for Best in Show junior even if it has been beaten for Best in Variety by an adult cat or a kitten or by another junior of the opposite sex in the same variety

– a kitten for Best in Show kitten even if it has been beaten for Best in Variety by an adult cat or a junior or by another kitten of the opposite sex in the same variety.

When a judge has completed judging and nominations for one or more categories have been selected, it is not permitted for this judge to recommence judging other cats of the same categories, except for cats of non-recognised varieties or cats belonging to preliminary recognised or non-recognised breeds.

Probational judges may nominate their best exhibits.

### 4.9.3 Best in Show (BIS)

For the categories at shows → page 36.

The Best in Show can be chosen from:
- overall: category 1, 2, 3 and 4 together
- separate: category 1, 2, 3 and 4
- combined: category 1 and 2 together and/or category 3 and 4 together.

When Best in Show is:
- overall, the panel is composed of at least one International all-breed judge
- separate, international judges in their specific categories can be called upon
- combined, the panel is composed of at least one International judge qualified for the two particular categories.

Each category can have 8 (eight) Best in Show titles:
- adult male and adult female
- neuter male and neuter female
- junior male and junior female
- kitten male and kitten female.

At the show organiser's discretion:
- the Best in Show adult male and the Best in Show adult female may compete together for Best in Show adult versus Best in Show Opposite Sex adult (BOS)
- the Best in Show neuter male and the Best in Show neuter female may compete together for Best in Show neuter versus Best in Show Opposite Sex neuter (BOS)
- the Best in Show junior male and the Best in Show junior female may compete together for Best in Show junior versus Best in Show Opposite Sex junior (BOS)
- the Best in Show kitten male and the Best in Show kitten female may compete together for Best in Show kitten versus Best in Show Opposite Sex kitten (BOS).

House cats can have a maximum of 2 Best in Show titles:
- Best in Show house cat shorthair and Best in Show house cat longhair, or
- Best in Show house cat male and Best in Show house cat female, or
- Best in Show house cat.

### 4.9.4 Breed Best in Show

Show organisers may hold a separate Best in Show for a breed on the following conditions:

1. There are at least 40 cats listed in the catalogue in the classes 1 – 12 of any given breed (defined by EMS code). Any sister breed (→ FIFe Breeding & Registration Rules, § 6.1) may be included at the show organiser's discretion.
2. The other breeds of the category in question listed in the catalogue in the classes 1 – 12 must number at least 30 in total.
3. Only cats belonging to fully recognised breeds and their fully recognised varieties shall be taken into account when establishing the number of cats as indicated in § 4.9.4.1 and § 4.9.4.2.
4. Breeds that have a "Breed BIS" do not compete in the Best in Show of their category. Judges may nominate 8 exhibits for the "Breed BIS" and 8 for the Best in Show of the other breeds in the category (→ § 4.9.1).
5. Best in Show titles of "Breed BIS" have full validity towards FIFe titles DSM, DSW and JW.
6. Such "Breed BIS" are limited to one per day, regardless of the category.
7. The number of 40 cats is the lowest limit; FIFe Members may increase the minimum number for "Breed BIS" for their shows or countries to a higher one.
8. It is not compulsory to hold a "Breed BIS" nor can there be an automatic expectancy; this is up to the decision of the individual show organiser or FIFe Member.

9. A “Breed BIS” may be entered as a remark on the official FIFe show list on the website using the format DD/MM/YYYY Breed BIS: XXX, where XXX is the EMS code of the relevant breed. Except for shows on one date, also the date must be indicated, for example 01/01/2012 Breed BIS: BSH.

10. A “Breed BIS” shall not be applied on shows as outlined in § 2.

#### 4.9.5 Single-breed shows

Single-breed shows are shows which are open for entry for 1 breed only (defined by EMS-code). At the show organiser’s discretion sister breeds (→ FIFe Breeding & Registration Rules, § 6.1) may be eligible for entry.

Nominations and Best in Show in accordance with § 4.9.

#### 4.9.6 Conditions for Best in Show

The show organiser must provide each judge in the Best in Show panel with a list containing the catalogue number, the sex, the date of birth (or the age) and the EMS-code of the nominated cats presented for the Best in Show jury.

Probational and student judges must be present at the panel.

The cats have to be presented:
- by stewards
- with their catalogue number and EMS-code.

The cats are examined and handled by each member of the Best in Show jury; this examination is done in public.

#### 4.9.7 Voting during Best in Show

The voting during the Best in Show must be public and the number of votes a nominated cat has received must be shown by the judges or announced by the show organiser.

Voting and the results of the Best in Show must be announced also in English if another language is used.

A judge shall not abstain from voting during the Best in Show, except if he is not qualified to judge all presented breeds: in that case he must abstain from voting.

A vote issued by a student judge or a probational judge never counts towards the result of the voting.

The exhibit achieving the highest number of votes will be declared Best in Show.

In every single case where the votes are equal, a decision shall be made as follows:

1. Those judges who did not vote for the cats with the highest number of votes shall vote again, this time considering only the cats that obtained the highest number of votes.

2. If all judges in the panel voted for the cats with the highest number of votes, a decision must be made by a referee judge.

   A referee judge is a judge officiating at the show who is qualified to judge the presented breeds but who did not participate in voting in the particular panel.

   If a referee judge is not available, a decision must be made by the drawing lots.

### 4.10 BIV, NOM and BIS on the result sheet

The titles Best in Variety (BIV), Nomination for Best in Show (NOM) and Best in Show (BIS) must be indicated on the result sheets.

### 4.11 Neuters participation in BIV and BIS

DELETED → § 4.8 and 4.9

### 4.12 World Winner (WW)

DELETED → § 2.4

## 4.13 Distinguished Merit (DM)

DELETED → FIFe Breeding & Registration Rules, § 5.3.2

## 4.14 Distinguished Show Merit (DSM)

This title is only available at International Shows and is available to adult cats of fully recognised breeds and to house cats.

To obtain the title, the cat must win Best in Show (BIS) or Best in Show Opposite Sex (BOS) a minimum of 10 times in classes 1-10 or 14.

The shortest qualifying period possible is two years and one day between the first Best in Show or Best in Show Opposite Sex and the tenth. This is to prevent a cat becoming a DSM too quickly.

## 4.15 Junior Winner (JW)

This title is only available at International Shows to cats of fully recognised breeds.

In order to obtain the title, the cat must win Best in Show a minimum of 5 times in classes 11 and/or 12.

Exceptions are made for individual members residing in the countries as outlined in Annex 5.

## 4.16 Distinguished Variety Merit (DVM)

This title is only available at National and International Shows to cats of recognised varieties of fully or preliminary recognised breeds.

To obtain the title, the cat must win Best in Variety a minimum of 10 times in classes 1-12.

The shortest qualifying period possible is two years and one day between the first Best in Variety and the tenth. This is to prevent a cat becoming a DVM too quickly.

## 4.17 National Winner (NW)

FIFe Members may award the title National Winner (NW) annually according to their own criteria which must be published in advance of the relevant year.

The following conditions must be met:

1. FIFe Members may award a maximum of 15 cats the NW title in any single calendar year; cats may only obtain one NW title in any single calendar year
2. such cats must have competed in the show classes 1 - 12 or 14 at shows during the relevant year; FIFe Members may decide a minimum number of shows
3. FIFe Members may only base the competition for NW titles on the results of shows organised by themselves
4. FIFe Members may only award the NW title to cats of fully recognised breeds registered in their own Pedigree Book (as well as to house cats), and which belong to their own individual members
5. the winning cats will have their NW title, also mentioning the year, registered in the same way as other official FIFe titles (→ § 4.1.1)
6. the names of the National Winner cats must be published.

## 4.18 Distinguished Senior Winner (DSW)

This title is only available at International Shows to cats of fully recognized breeds and to house cats.

In order to obtain the title, the cat must win Best in Show (BIS) or Best In Show opposite Sex (BOS) a minimum of 5 times after 01.01.2022 in classes 1-10 or 14 at age of minimum 7 years.

The shortest qualifying period possible is one year and one day between the first Best in Show or Best in Show Opposite Sex and the fifth.

## 4.19 International Winner (IW)

FIFe Members may award the title International Winner (IW) annually according to their own criteria which must be published in advance of the relevant year.

The following conditions must be met:

1. FIFe Members may award a maximum of 15 cats the IW title in any single calendar year; cats may only obtain one IW title in any single calendar year
2. such cats must have competed in the show classes 1 - 12 or 14 at shows during the relevant year; FIFe Members may decide a minimum number of shows
3. FIFe Members may only base the competition for IW titles on the results of shows organised outside their countries
4. FIFe Members may only award the IW title to cats of fully recognised breeds registered in their own Pedigree Book (as well as to house cats), and which belong to their own individual members
5. the winning cats will have their IW title, also mentioning the year, registered in the same way as other official FIFe titles (→ § 4.1.1)
6. the names of the International Winner cats must be published.

# 5 Show classes

## 5.1 Competing in the correct class

Classification is according to FIFe rules.

The age of all exhibits must appear on the judge's report.

The breed standard applied is the standard recognised by FIFe.

A cat can only compete in the class in which it belongs.

## 5.2 Diplomas

→ § 6.8.2.

## 5.3 Competing in the neuter class

When a Champion, International Champion, Grand International Champion or Supreme Champion is neutered, it may, while retaining its title, be eligible for the titles Premior, International Premior, Grand International Premior or Supreme Premior.

## 5.4 The official show classes

Show organisers must adhere to the following official show classes:

| Class | Name of class | Certificate |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Supreme Champion | - |
| 2 | Supreme Premior | - |
| 3 | Grand International Champion | CACS |
| 4 | Grand International Premior | CAPS |
| 5 | International Champion | CAGCIB |
| 6 | International Premior | CAGPIB |
| 7 | Champion | CACIB |
| 8 | Premior | CAPIB |
| 9 | Open | CAC |
| 10 | Neuter | CAP |
| 11 | Junior (8-12 months) | CACJ |
| 12 | Kitten (4-8 months) | CACC |
| 13a | Novice | - |
| 13b | Control | - |
| 13c | Determination | - |
| 14 | House cat | - |

In all categories classes 1 up to 12 are subdivided with regard to breed, variety and sex.

Cats competing within classes 1 up to 12 can compete for Best in Variety with regard to § 4.8 and for Best in Show with regard to § 4.9 and 5.5.4.

Cats competing within class 14 can compete for Best in Show house cat with regard to § 4.9.

**Class 1: Supreme Champion class**
This class is open to cats which have already received the title 'Supreme Champion'. The exhibit will receive a judge's report marked 'Prize of Honour' and will no longer be classified.

**Class 2: Supreme Premior class**
This class is open to castrated cats which have already obtained the title 'Supreme Premior'. The exhibit will receive a judge's report marked 'Prize of Honour' and will no longer be classified.

**Class 3: Grand International Champion class**
This class is open to cats which have already received the title 'Grand International Champion'. In this class a CACS is awarded.

**Class 4: Grand International Premior class**
This class is open to castrated cats which have already obtained the title 'Grand International Premior'. In this class a CAPS is awarded.

**Class 5: International Champion class**
This class is open to cats which have already received the title 'International Champion'. In this class a CAGCIB is awarded.

**Class 6: International Premior class**
This class is open to castrated cats which have already obtained the title 'International Premior'. In this class a CAGPIB is awarded.

**Class 7: Champion class**
This class is open to cats which have already received the title 'Champion'. In this class a CACIB is awarded.

**Class 8: Premior class**
This class is open to castrated cats which have already obtained the title 'Premior'. In this class a CAPIB is awarded.

**Class 9: Open class**
This class is open to cats which are aged at least 12 months during the show, in consideration of § 1.17.e and § 3.1. In this class a CAC is awarded.

**Class 10: Neuter class**
This class is open to castrated cats which are aged at least 12 months during the show, in consideration of § 1.17.e and § 3.1. In this class a CAP is awarded.

**Class 11: Junior (8-12 months) class**
This class is open to cats which are aged 8 months during the show, but not yet 12 months old, in consideration of § 1.17.e and § 3.1. In this class a CACJ is awarded.

**Class 12: Kitten (4-8 months) class**
This class is open to cats which are aged 4 months during the show, but not yet 8 months old, in consideration of § 1.17.e and § 3.1. In this class a CACC is awarded.

**Class 13a: Novice class**

A novice is a cat whose parents are unknown or a cat without pedigree.

A novice can only be exhibited in the Novice class:
– once,
– on international shows in its own country,
– at a minimum age of 12 months,
– as XLH/XSH * followed by the EMS code of the target breed between brackets, and
– after having been checked by the National FIFe Member with regard to the FIFe Breeding & Registration Rules, § 9.2.

In this class cats are checked by 2 International FIFe judges, and this may be done before the official judging starts.
In non-European countries this check can also be done by:
– 2 non-European FIFe judges, or
– an International FIFe judge together with a non-European FIFe judge.

Judges must be qualified for the relevant category.

The show organiser must provide the judges with a written explanation as to why the cat is presented in this class.

The cat must obtain the qualification “Excellent” (according to the target breed standard for recognised breeds) respectively “I” (according to the proposed standard for non-recognised breeds) in order to authorise re-registration in its target breed (→ FIFe Breeding & Registration Rules, § 9.2.3).

The signatures of both judges are obligatory.

After the required qualification in the class has been obtained, the cat can be shown in the target breed. At the show organiser’s discretion, this may be permitted at the same show where the qualification was obtained before the official judging started.

**Class 13b: Control class**

The Control class is for those breeds that are being developed or where crossbreeding is being permitted for purposes previously agreed by the National FIFe Member.

A cat can only be exhibited in the Control class:
– on international shows in its own country,
– at a minimum age of 4 months,
– as XLH/XSH * followed by the EMS code of the target breed between brackets, and
– after having been checked by the National FIFe Member with regard to the FIFe Breeding & Registration Rules § 9.1.

In this class cats are checked by 2 International FIFe judges and this may be done before the official judging starts. In non-European countries this check can also be done by:
– 2 non-European FIFe judges, or
– an International FIFe judge together with a non-European FIFe judge.

Judges must be qualified for the relevant category.

The show organiser must provide the judges with a written explanation as to why the cat is presented in this class.

The cat does not receive a written evaluation but must obtain the qualification “Excellent” (according to the target breed standard for recognised breeds) respectively “I” (according to the proposed standard for non-recognised breeds) in order to authorise re-registration in its target breed (→ FIFe Breeding & Registration Rules, § 9.1.3).

The signatures of both judges are obligatory.

After the required qualification in the class has been obtained, the cat can be shown in the target breed. At the show organiser’s discretion, this may be permitted at the same show where the qualification was obtained before the official judging started.

**Class 13c: Determination class**

To establish its correct EMS-code, a cat can be checked in the Determination class for its coat colour or any other trait at the request of the FIFe Member or the exhibitor.

In this class cats are checked by 2 International FIFe judges, and this may be done before the official judging starts.

In non-European countries this check can also be done by:
– 2 non-European FIFe judges, or
– an International FIFe judge together with a non-European FIFe judge.
Exceptions are made for countries listed in Annex 6.

Judges must be qualified for the relevant category.

The cat does not receive a written evaluation, a qualification or a classification, but only a confirmation of its full EMS-code, to be signed by both judges.

Judges cannot transfer an exhibit from one breed to another breed, except to a sister breed or when an administrative error is established by the show secretariat.

**Class 14: House cat class**

House cats should be judged according to their FIFe Standard (→ General Part of the Standards).

## 5.5 Non-standard / Non recognised / Preliminary recognised / House cats

### 5.5.1 Non-standard varieties

Exhibits belonging to a non-standard variety of a breed must be entered for a show and appear in the catalogue and on the judge’s report as XLH * (XXX) or XSH * (XXX)
(→ FIFe Breeding & Registration Rules § 6.1).

* means additional information following the EMS System, i.e., lower-case basic colour letter, etc., XXX is the EMS code of the originating breed

On shows non-standard varieties are considered as longhair/shorthair progeny (XLH/XSH): → § 5.5.3.

### 5.5.2 Non recognised varieties

Exhibits which belong to a non-recognised variety, must be entered for a show and appear in the catalogue and on the judge's report under their applicable EMS breed code, with the addition of the letter "x", indicating the variety is non-recognised.

For example: PER x *, EXO x *, SBI x *, BSH x *, ABY x *, OSH x *.
* means additional information following the EMS System, i.e., lower-case basic colour letter, etc.

Exhibits which belong to a non-recognised variety:
- will be subdivided in the classes 9 – 12 according to breed, variety, sex and age
- will receive a qualification (Excellent, Very Good, Good) and will be classified (1, 2, 3, 4) in their class, but will not receive a certificate (CAC, CAP)
- may compete together for a Best of Non-recognised Variety, but this unofficial title never counts towards a DVM-title, even after the full recognition of the variety in question
- may not be nominated for Best in Show, nor obtain a Best in Show title.

### 5.5.3 Non recognised breeds (non * and XLH/XSH)

Exhibits belonging to a non-recognised breed must be entered and appear in the catalogue and on the judges' report under their EMS breed code, followed by the addition "non" to indicate a non-recognised breed (→ FIFe Breeding & Registration Rules, § 8.1).

If no breed code is available, one of the following codes must be used:
- XLH * followed by the fully written breed name between brackets for a longhair exhibit
- XSH * followed by the fully written breed name between brackets for a shorthair exhibit.

* means additional information following the EMS System, i.e., lower-case basic colour letter, etc.

Exhibits which belong to a non-recognised breed:
- will be subdivided in the classes 9 – 12 according to breed, sex and age.
- will only be classified I, II, III and IV in their class and not receive a qualification; in case of a class larger than 4 entries, all other exhibits in this class will be classified V (joint 5th place)
- may compete together for a Best of Non-recognised Variety or Best of Non-recognised Breed, but these unofficial titles never count towards a DVM- or DSM-title, even after the full recognition of the breed in question.
- may not be nominated for Best in Show, nor obtain a Best in Show title.

Show organisers must inform the judges well in advance of the show date as to which non-recognised breeds they have to judge.

### 5.5.4 Preliminary recognised varieties and breeds

Exhibits belonging to a preliminary recognised variety of a recognised breed or to a preliminary recognised breed (→ Table Categories at shows, page 36):
- will be subdivided in the classes 7 – 12 according to breed, sex and age
- will receive a qualification (Excellent, Very Good, Good) and will be classified (1, 2, 3, 4)
- may only be shown out of competition after having obtained the last required certificate in class 7 or 8 (CACIB or CAPIB)
- may compete for Best in Variety
- may not be nominated for Best in Show, nor obtain a Best in Show title
- may also be entered in classes 13a (Novices), 13b (Control) and 13c (Determination), if applicable
- preliminary recognised breeds may compete for a Best of Preliminary recognised breed, but this unofficial title never counts towards a DSM-title, even after the full recognition of the breed in question.

### 5.5.5 House cats

House cats:
- will be subdivided in class 14 according to their EMS code (HCL or HCS) and sex
- will only be classified I, II, III and IV in their class and not receive a qualification; in case of a class larger than 4 entries, all other exhibits in this class will be classified V (joint 5th place)
- cannot compete for Best in Variety
- have their own Best in Show according to § 4.9 or § 2.8.

## 5.6 Additional show classes

The show organiser is allowed to establish additional show classes with regard to their local customs, for example classes for:

- Pairs
- Studs
- Groups
- National breeding
- Imported cats
- Catteries
- Queens and Studs
- Veterans.

The show organiser must inform the judge in advance, that he has to judge additional classes.

Exhibits in additional classes will only be classified I, II, III and IV, but will not receive a qualification.
In case of a class larger than 4 entries, all other exhibits in this class will be classified V (joint 5th place).

# 6 Judges, stewards and judging

## 6.1 Judges

### 6.1.1 FIFe judges

a. The current list of FIFe judges is published on the FIFe website.
On request a full printed version of this judges list can be send to a FIFe Member or a FIFe judge.

b. Only a judge recognised by FIFe is allowed to judge at a national or an international show, which is organised by a FIFe Member or a club affiliated to the FIFe Member.

c. A judge must be invited in writing (→ § 1.10.i) by a show organiser.

d. A judge must reply to a written invitation within a maximum time of one month of receipt.

e. A judge may only accept an invitation to a national or an international show, which is listed in the official FIFe show calendar. This show list is published on the FIFe website.
A breach of this rule will result in disciplinary actions.

f. A judge who – for whatever reason – cancels an already accepted invitation to officiate at a show may only accept an invitation for another show on the same date after the show organiser who sent the original invitation, which was cancelled, has agreed in writing.
A breach of this rule will result in disciplinary actions.

g. A dormant judge may not officiate at any show.

### 6.1.2 Non-FIFe judges

a. A FIFe Member wishing to invite a non-FIFe judge to officiate at a FIFe show must first obtain the permission of the FIFe Board, separately for each assignment.

b. The organiser of a show where a non-FIFe judge is to officiate must provide that judge in advance with the Show Rules, the Judges Rules and the Standards of FIFe.

c. At a FIFe show, a non-FIFe judge is authorised to judge – according to the FIFe Standards and Rules – those breeds which he is licensed to judge by his own organisation.

d. After the permission as outlined in § 6.1.2.a has been obtained, the name of the non-FIFe judge and the organisation with which he is licensed to judge must be stated in the show schedule (→ § 1.10.c) and the show catalogue (→ § 1.14).

e. A non-FIFe judge cannot:
- act as an instructing judge
- supervise a stage
- act as an examiner
- officiate at shows as outlined in § 2 (World Show and Winner Shows)
- judge more than three weekends per calendar year at FIFe shows.

f. At least 75% of the judges officiating at a FIFe show must be FIFe judges.

g. A FIFe Member may not be permitted to have non-FIFe judges officiating at its shows more than 3 times per calendar year, regardless the show type.

### 6.1.3 Number of cats to be judged

Under normal circumstances a judge should not have more than 40 cats to judge *per day*. However, an instructing or examining judge should not have more than 30 cats to judge *per day*.

Non-European FIFe Members are allowed, provided the judges are informed in writing in advance, to organise shows where the judges should not have more than 60 cats to judge *per day*. However, an instructing or examining judge should not have more than 45 cats to judge *per day*.

Exceptions apply to the World Show and Winner Shows (→ § 2.7).

### 6.1.4 Student judges

It is recommended that a show organiser accepts at least 1 student judge at each International Show.

The student judge must send his application to the show organiser at least one month before the show. He must name the FIFe Member where he holds his membership and, if applicable, his mentor. The student judge must send a copy of his application to the FIFe Member, in which he holds his membership. The show organiser must answer an application from a student judge in due time prior to the date of the show, in writing.

The show organiser must give an officiating judge advance notice of the following:
- if he is to instruct a student judge (only one per judge)
- if he needs to supervise a stage (only one per judge).

Judges may refuse such functions in writing and should make this known to the organiser.

### 6.1.5 Parallel judging

The show organiser is required to ensure that:
- the student judge has at least one steward at his disposal during the entire parallel judging
- the parallel judging takes place under similar conditions as the official judging (light, cages, ring, etc.).

### 6.1.6 Practical judges' examination

The practical part of a judges' examination can be taken either during an international one-day show, or international two days show where at least 50 cats in the relevant category are entered; for shows in non-European countries: at least 35 cats in the category (→ FIFe Rules for Judges & Student Judges § 2.3.6 and 4.2.2).

Exception for breed group examinations: at least 30 cats in the relevant breed group must be entered (→ FIFe Rules for Judges & Student Judges Annex 3).

An examination can only be taken on the first day of a two-certificate show or a "border show".

Cats that are part of the practical examination shall only be presented to the candidate by the stewards.

Cats judged by the candidate, need not necessarily be judged by the examiners.

The candidate must not hear or see judgements of the cats in the category concerned.

The show organiser is required to ensure that:
- the candidate has at least two stewards at his disposal during the entire part of the practical examination
- the practical examination takes place under similar conditions as the official judging (light, cages, ring).

### 6.1.7 Exhibition of cats when officiating as a judge or as a student judge

A judge or student judge may only exhibit their own cats "Out of competition" at a show where they are officiating.

At a 1-certificate show, divided in categories for 2 or more days:
- it is not allowed to officiate as a judge on the one day and exhibit on the other day
- it is allowed to officiate as a Student Judge on the one day and exhibit on the other day.

Members of an officiating student judge's household may exhibit their own cat(s), but not in the category or categories in which the student judge is officiating.

Exhibits belonging to members of an officiating judge's household cannot compete at such a show.

### 6.1.8 Prohibition of possessing a show catalogue during judging

It is prohibited for judges and student judges to possess a show catalogue before the Best in Show has taken place.

### 6.1.9 Reimbursement of expenses and judges' allowance

Judges officiating at a show are entitled to:
- reimbursement of travel expenses (1st class train fare or economy class air fare)
- the provision of food and accommodation for the duration of the show
- if necessary, an additional night's meal and accommodation before returning home
- an allowance, which is a compensation for lost time
- reimbursement of expenses and allowance in euro currency, unless otherwise agreed with the show organiser
- their preferred payment method for reimbursement, unless otherwise agreed with the show organiser
- payment of reimbursement or proof there-of at the latest on the last day of the show at which the judge officiates.

The amount of the judges' allowance is fixed by the FIFe General Assembly. The current amounts are listed in Annex 1 of the FIFe General Rules. A show organiser is free to grant a further allowance above this amount.

A probational judge, who is carrying out a stage and performing the function of a full judge, shall be fully reimbursed.

## 6.2 Stewards

### 6.2.1 Duties of a steward

The steward must assist the judge and observe the following:
- while stewarding in the judge's ring he must be dressed to identify himself as a steward
- be able to move a cat correctly to and from a cage
- not leave the judge until judging is completed
- take reasonable actions to avoid presenting his own cat except at a show where the exhibitors are allowed to present their own cat
- not make comments or offer opinions about an exhibit
- with the judge's permission, inform the exhibitors of judging results
- inform the show secretariat if a cage is empty
- be at least 15 years of age.

### 6.2.2 Assistance by stewards

A judge must be assisted by at least two stewards and may be further assisted by a secretary who is appointed by the show organiser.

Where the exhibitors are presenting the cats to the judges themselves, only one steward is necessary.

### 6.2.3 Steward certificates

The show organiser is required to provide the judges with the necessary steward certificates before judging commences.

The show organiser is recommended to use the steward certificate which is available for downloading on the FIFe website and which may be adjusted, if needed.

The steward certificate is to be issued in one of the three official FIFe languages, i.e., English, French or German.

The judge must mark on the steward certificate:
- whether it is a show where stewards are presenting the cats or a show where the owners are allowed to present the cats themselves
- the categories in which the steward has presented cats in the Best in Show panel.

The judge should give the original steward certificate directly to the steward.

### 6.2.4 Training of stewards

Each FIFe Member is responsible for the training of stewards.

## 6.3 Absent exhibits

Exhibits can only be declared “absent” on the judge’s report after the steward has checked with the show secretariat.

Exhibits which are absent from their cages during judging of the class to which they belong, cannot be classified later. They can afterwards be qualified by the judge but without classification.

## 6.4 Consideration for the age of an exhibit

In assessing an exhibit, the judge must take into consideration the overall condition of the exhibit with regard to its age.

## 6.5 Transfer of an exhibit during judging

A change of class is only possible after the approval of the show secretariat.
A judge cannot transfer an exhibit from one variety, group or breed to another variety, group or breed unless an administrative error is established by the show secretariat.

The judge should submit a transfer recommendation for the next show. A cat being in the wrong variety, group or breed receives a full report with the proposed breed, variety or group, but without qualification and classification. In case of a change of breed, the proposed breed may only be a sister breed.

In the case of a change of group, the judge should submit a transfer recommendation for the next show. Transfer recommendations require the judge’s report to be signed by a second officiating judge qualified for the relevant category.

## 6.6 No judging in front of the exhibition cages

It is prohibited to judge in front of the exhibition cages.

## 6.7 Judge’s ring

### 6.7.1 Access to the judge’s ring

Access to the judge’s ring is prohibited to:

- exhibitors, except if the show is organised according to § 6.7.2.b and § 6.7.2.c
- members of the organising committee if they are exhibitors, except if the show is organised according to § 6.7.2.b and § 6.7.2.c
- visitors.

### 6.7.2 Presentation procedures

Each FIFe Member may organise shows according to one of the following procedures:

a. The cats are fetched and presented by the stewards:
- each judge has at least two stewards at his own disposal
- the cats are brought to their judging’ cages by the stewards and are presented to the judge by the stewards
- the steward will take reasonable actions to avoid presenting his own cat.

b. The cats are brought by the exhibitors and presented by the stewards:
- each judge has at least one steward at his own disposal
- the steward calls up the cats (catalogue number) which the judge requires or places the number on the judging cage
- the exhibitor (or a person chosen by him) has the possibility of placing the cat inside the appropriate judging cage
- after the cat is placed inside its judging cage, the exhibitor must leave the judge’s ring
- if an exhibitor is not able – or does not wish – to bring his cat(s) to the judging cage himself, the steward is obliged to fetch the cat and to place it inside the appropriate judging cage
- the cats are presented to the judge by the stewards.

c. The cats are brought and presented by the exhibitors:
- each judge has one steward at his own disposal
- the steward calls up the cats (catalogue number) which the judge requires or places the number on the judging cage

- the exhibitor (or a person chosen by him) has the possibility of placing the cat inside the appropriate judging cage
- after the cat is placed inside its judging cage, the exhibitor must leave the judge's ring
- when the judge or steward calls up the cat by its catalogue number, the cat is presented to the judge by the exhibitor
- if an exhibitor is not able – or does not wish – to bring or present his cat(s) himself, the steward is obliged to fetch the cat and to place it inside the appropriate judging cage and/or present it to the judge.

Regardless the applicable procedure:

- *availability of judges cages shall be in accordance with § 1.10.f*
- the cats should always be presented with the catalogue number in writing
- it is obligatory to judge before the public; the judge is free to give explanations and announce the results
- once the judge has completed his judging or once the judges' results have been given, the judge or his steward will ask the exhibitors to collect their cats, or the steward takes the cat back to the exhibition cage
- during the Best in Show only the stewards are permitted to present the cats (→ § 4.9.6).

### 6.7.3 Electronic devices

DELETED

## 6.8 Judge's report

### 6.8.1 Layout and language

The layout of the judge's reports must be uniform as far as possible for all shows held under FIFe rules and must carry the FIFe logo. Headings must be *at least* in *one of the three official FIFe languages (*English, French or German*)*. Organisers are free to add their national language.

The official documents and judge's reports, submitted for signature to the judge before judging is ended, may not mention the name of the exhibit or the name of the owner.

The judge's report must contain at least the following data:

- place and date of the show
- catalogue number of the cat to be judged
- designation of breed and colour (EMS-code)
- group number (where applicable)
- date of birth
- sex
- class in which the cat is to be judged.

The judge can write his reports either in one of the three official FIFe languages (English, French or German) or in the language (or one of the official languages) of the country where the show is organised. The judge's reports must be legible.

The judges' reports issued for breeds in preliminary recognition phase must be written only in one of the official FIFe languages and contain as many details as possible with reference to the standards.

### 6.8.2 Diplomas and distribution

The cat's name must be stated on a diploma accompanying the judge's report.
Otherwise, the cat's name must be put on the judge's report by the show organiser as soon as Best in Show judging is completed.

The judge's reports must be distributed to the exhibitors during the show.

## 6.9 Qualification and classification

The judges award a qualification to each entry in all classes with the exception of:

- classes 1 and 2: Supreme Champions and Supreme Premiors; → § 5.4
- class 13c: determination; → § 5.4
- class 14: house cats (HCL/HCS); → § 5.5.3
- classes of non-recognised breeds with EMS breed code (* non); → § 5.5.3
- classes of other non-recognised longhair/shorthair breeds/progeny (XLH/XSH); → § 5.5.1 and § 5.5.3
- additional classes; → § 5.6.

Qualification:
- for a minimum of 88 points: Excellent
- for a minimum of 76 points: Very Good
- for a minimum of 61 points: Good.

Classification:
- in the same class the exhibits will be classified with 1, 2, 3 and 4
- there are no joint places.

No exhibit can be awarded a certificate unless it has obtained Excellent 1 and the minimum of points for its class:
- class 3-4: CACS – CAPS = 97 points
- class 5-6: CAGCIB – CAGPIB = 96 points
- class 7-8: CACIB – CAPIB = 95 points
- class 9-10: CAC – CAP = 93 points
- class 11: CACJ = 93 points
- class 12: CACC = 93 points.

A judge may award the following certificates:

| Country > | European | | Non-European | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| v Judge Show > | National | International | National | International |
| Non-European judge | cannot officiate | cannot officiate* | CACC, CACJ, CAC/CAP | all certificates |
| International judge | CACC, CACJ, CAC/CAP | all certificates | CACC, CACJ, CAC/CAP | all certificates |

***** except with permission from the FIFe Board (→ FIFe Rules for Judges & Student Judges, § 4.2.7.b)

## 6.10 Countersigning

If the requirement towards the number of different judges – as laid down in § 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 – will not be met, the exhibitor can request a judge who has already previously awarded a certificate to an exhibit in a class which he has to judge again, to countersign the new certificate by another qualified judge officiating at the show.
In this case the two certificates are to be considered as given by two different judges.

## 6.11 Withholding certificates

For faults precluding the certificate, please refer to the Table of faults in the Annexes.

Judges are at liberty to withhold a certificate if in their opinion the exhibit placed first does not possess sufficient merit.
The reason for withholding a certificate must be stated on the completed judge's report.
The signature of a second judge is not compulsory.

## 6.12 Disqualification

For disqualifying faults, please refer to the Table of faults in the Annexes.

In case of a disqualification:
- the judge's report does not have to be completed
- the judge's report must not give a qualification and/or classification, but must state the reason for disqualification
- the judge may call upon the opinion of the officiating veterinarian.

## 6.13 Judges' decisions

Judges' decisions cannot be disputed.

# 7 Responsibility and exclusion

## 7.1 Observance of the show rules

The show organising FIFe Member is responsible to FIFe for the observance of the Show Rules.

## 7.2 Shows in countries where there is no FIFe Member

When a FIFe Member organises a show in another country where there is no FIFe Member, the certificates gained will be counted for the individual members of this national FIFe Member as certificates gained in their own country and not as certificates gained abroad.

## 7.3 The non-smoking rule

Smoking in show halls is strictly prohibited with the exception of designated areas.

## 7.4 Violation of the rules

FIFe Members must notify the FIFe Board of any violation of the rules demonstrated during a show in a detailed, accurate report within two months of the show in question.
The FIFe Board will deliberate according to the Statutes.

## 7.5 Investigation by the Show Commission

All cases not catered for in the present rules and all disputes will be investigated by the FIFe Show Commission which will then send their report and recommendations to the FIFe Board; the Board shall report its conclusions to the Show Commission.

# 8 “Open Doors”

## 8.1 Showing in non-FIFe clubs

DELETED

## 8.2 Open Doors

1. Permit non-FIFe members to participate as exhibitors on FIFe shows and permit individual FIFe members to exhibit on non-FIFe shows.
2. Exhibitors belonging to any non-FIFe organisation may enter cats at FIFe shows under the following conditions:
   a. all non-FIFe exhibitors must agree to respect all FIFe Rules and Standards
   b. FIFe Members may decide in which classes non-FIFe exhibitors can enter their cats:
      – none, or
      – only in classes 9, 10, 11 and 12, or
      – in all classes.
   c. all applications from non-FIFe exhibitors should be sent in accordance with the instructions of the organisers
   d. all entry fees from non-FIFe exhibitors should be paid in accordance with the instructions of the organisers.
   *e. if non-FIFe exhibitors enter their cats in classes 1 - 8, the entry must be accompanied by either a copy of all certificates obtained at FIFe shows in the previous class or the registration of the corresponding FIFe title of the cat.*
3. FIFe certificates may only be obtained at FIFe shows and are the only certificates valid to obtain a FIFe title.

# ANNEXES – Exceptions to the Show Rules

## Annex 1 – Reduced minimum number of cats required for international shows

Permit Asia, Belarus, Iceland, Latin America, Russia, *Spain* and the United Kingdom as well as patronage members to organise international shows with a minimum number of **80** cats (→ § 1.8.g).

## Annex 2

DELETED

## Annex 3 – Number of certificates, countries and judges for the titles GIC/GIP and SC/SP

Permit all certificates to be granted in one country for the title:

- Grand International Champion/Premior: **7** CAGCIB/CAGPIB by at least **5** different judges
- Supreme Champion/Premior: **10** CACS/CAPS by at least **7** different judges.

This exception is valid for Greece, Iceland and the United Kingdom because of their geographic location.

## Annex 4A/4B – Number of certificates, countries and judges for titles in Asia and Latin America

Permit all certificates to be granted for the title:

- Kitten Champion/Junior Champion/Champion/Premior/Int. Champion/Int. Premior: **3** CACC/CACJ/CAC/CAP/CACIB/CACIB by at least **2** different judges (only for Indonesia and Malaysia)
- International Champion/Premior: **3** CACIB/CAPIB by **3** different judges (not for Indonesia and Malaysia)
- Grand International Champion/Premior: **6** CAGCIB/CAGPIB in **1** country by at least **4** different judges
- Supreme Champion/Premior: **9** CACS/CAPS in **1** country by at least **5** different judges.

This exception is valid for Asia (except Indonesia and Malaysia) and Latin America in classes 3 – 8 and for Indonesia and Malaysia in classes 3 – 12.

## Annex 5 – Number of Best in Shows for the title Junior Winner

Permit the title Junior Winner to be awarded to a cat which has won Best in Show **3** times in classes 11 and/or 12 (→ § 4.15).

This exception is valid for Iceland, Latin America and Malaysia.

## Annex 6 – Number of judges for class 13c (Determination class)

Permit **1** judge to establish the EMS code of cats entered in the Determination class 13c (→ § 5.4).

This exception is valid for Malaysia.

## *Annex 7 – Qualifications for Winner Shows*

*Permit Winner Shows to be organised without qualification requirements for the cats (→ § 2.6.4).*

*This exception is valid for the American Winner Show (Argentina, Brazil and Mexico).*

# TABLE – Exceptions to the Show Rules

| Annex | Country | Min. cats | Classes 9, 10, 11 & 12 | Classes 7 & 8 | Classes 5 & 6 | Classes 3 & 4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1** | Asia<br>Belarus<br>Iceland<br>Latin America<br>Russia<br>*Spain*<br>United Kingdom<br>Patronage members | 80 | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| **2** | DELETED | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| **3** | Greece<br>Iceland<br>United Kingdom | ----- | ----- | ----- | **7** x CAGCIB/CAGPIB<br>**1** country<br>**5** different judges | **10** x CACS/CAPS<br>**1** country<br>**7** different judges |
| **4A** | Asia (except Indonesia, Malaysia)<br>Latin America | ----- | ----- | **3** x CACIB/CAPIB<br>**3** different judges | **6** x CAGCIB/CAGPIB<br>**1** country<br>**4** different judges | **9** x CACS/CAPS<br>**1** country<br>**5** different judges |
| **4B** | Indonesia<br>Malaysia | ----- | **3** x CACC/CACJ/ CAC/CAP<br>**2** different judges | **3** x CACIB/CAPIB<br>**2** different judges | **6** x CAGCIB/CAGPIB<br>**1** country<br>**4** different judges | **9** x CACS/CAPS<br>**1** country<br>**5** different judges |
| **5** | Iceland<br>Latin America<br>Malaysia | Allow **3** x Best in Show in classes 11 and/or 12 to qualify for the title Junior Winner | | | | |
| **6** | Malaysia | Permit **1** judge to establish the EMS code of cats entered in the Determination class (class 13c) | | | | |
| ***7*** | *Latin America* | *Permit the American Winner Show to be organised without qualification requirements for the cats* | | | | |

# TABLE – Best in Variety: minimum possibilities

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **3-3-3**<br>12+<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV<br>4–8<br>4–8<br>4–8 } BIV | **3-3-2**<br>12+<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV<br>4–8<br>4–8 } BIV | **OR**<br>12+<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>4–8<br>4–8<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV | **3-2-3**<br>12+<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>4–8<br>4–8<br>4–8 } BIV | **OR**<br>12+<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>4–8<br>4–8<br>4–8 } BIV | **2-3-3**<br>12+<br>12+<br>8–12 } BIV<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>4–8<br>4–8<br>4–8 } BIV | **OR**<br>12+<br>12+<br>4–8 } BIV<br>4–8<br>4–8<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV |
| **3-2-2**<br>12+<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV<br>4–8<br>4–8 | **3-3-1**<br>12+<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV<br>4–8 | **OR**<br>12+<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>4–8<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV | **3-1-3**<br>12+<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>8–12<br>4–8<br>4–8<br>4–8 } BIV | **OR**<br>12+<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>8–12<br>4–8<br>4–8<br>4–8 } BIV | **1-3-3**<br>12+<br>8–12 } BIV<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>4–8<br>4–8<br>4–8 } BIV | **OR**<br>12+<br>4–8 } BIV<br>4–8<br>4–8<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV |
| **2-3-2**<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>4–8<br>4–8<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV<br>8–12 | **2-2-3**<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>4–8<br>4–8 } BIV<br>4–8 | **3-3-0**<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>12+<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV | **3-0-3**<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>12+<br>4–8<br>4–8<br>4–8 } BIV | **0-3-3**<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV<br>8–12<br>4–8<br>4–8<br>4–8 } BIV | **3-2-1**<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>12+<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>4–8 } BIV | **3-1-2**<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>12+<br>8–12<br>4–8<br>4–8 } BIV |
| **2-3-1**<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>4–8<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV | **2-1-3**<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>8–12<br>4–8<br>4–8<br>4–8 } BIV | **2-2-2**<br>12+<br>12+<br>8–12 } BIV<br>8–12<br>4–8<br>4–8 | **1-3-2**<br>12+<br>4–8 } BIV<br>4–8<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV | **1-2-3**<br>12+<br>8–12 } BIV<br>8–12<br>4–8<br>4–8<br>4–8 } BIV | **3-2-0**<br>12+<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>8–12<br>8–12 | **3-0-2**<br>12+<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>4–8<br>4–8 |
| **3-1-1**<br>12+<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>8–12<br>4–8 | **2-3-0**<br>12+<br>12+<br>8–12 } BIV<br>8–12<br>8–12 | **2-0-3**<br>12+<br>12+<br>4–8 } BIV<br>4–8<br>4–8 | **2-2-1**<br>12+<br>12+<br>8–12 } BIV<br>8–12<br>4–8 | **2-1-2**<br>12+<br>12+<br>8–12 } BIV<br>4–8<br>4–8 | **1-3-1**<br>12+<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV<br>8–12<br>4–8 | **1-1-3**<br>12+<br>8–12<br>4–8<br>4–8<br>4–8 } BIV |
| **1-2-2**<br>12+<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV<br>4–8<br>4–8 | **0-3-2**<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV<br>4–8<br>4–8 | **0-2-3**<br>8–12<br>8–12<br>4–8 } BIV<br>4–8<br>4–8 | **3-1-0**<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>12+<br>8–12 | **3-0-1**<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>12+<br>4–8 | **2-2-0**<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>8–12<br>8–12 | **2-0-2**<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>4–8<br>4–8 |
| **2-1-1**<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>8–12<br>4–8 | **1-3-0**<br>12+<br>8–12 } BIV<br>8–12<br>8–12 | **1-0-3**<br>12+<br>4–8 } BIV<br>4–8<br>4–8 | **1-2-1**<br>12+<br>8–12 } BIV<br>8–12<br>4–8 | **1-1-2**<br>12+<br>8–12 } BIV<br>4–8<br>4–8 | **0-3-1**<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV<br>8–12<br>4–8 | **0-1-3**<br>8–12<br>4–8 } BIV<br>4–8<br>4–8 |
| **0-2-2**<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>8–12<br>4–8 | **3-0-0**<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>12+ | **0-3-0**<br>8–12<br>8–12 } BIV<br>8–12 | **0-0-3**<br>4–8<br>4–8 } BIV<br>4–8 | **2-1-0**<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>8–12 | **2-0-1**<br>12+<br>12+ } BIV<br>4–8 | **1-2-0**<br>12+<br>8–12 } BIV<br>8–12 |
| **1-0-2**<br>12+<br>4–8 } BIV<br>4–8 | **1-1-1**<br>12+<br>8–12 } BIV<br>4–8 | | | | | |

12+ = classes 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 8–12 = class 11 4–8 = class 12

# TABLE – Disqualifying and general faults

**DISQ** = fault leading to disqualification (→ § 6.12)
**NO EX** = general fault precluding Excellent and any higher award
**NO CERT** = general fault precluding the certificate and any higher award than Excellent (→ § 6.11)

| NR. | FAULT | DISQ | NO EX | NO CERT | REMARK |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1.** | **Body** | | | | |
| 1.1 | Deformities of the bone structure, deformities of the rib cage, including a flat chest, or any apparent deformity of the spine | ● | | | |
| 1.2 | Any apparent weakness restricting the ability to move | ● | | | |
| 1.3 | Dwarfism | ● | | | |
| 1.4 | De-clawed cats (claws amputated) | ● | | | |
| 1.5 | Deformities of the feet or legs, for example poly- or oligodactylism (too many or too few toes) | ● | | | |
| 1.6 | Cats with an umbilical hernia | ● | | | |
| 1.7 | A cat showing any testicular anomaly | ● | | | Except for cats younger than 12 months |
| 1.8 | Unneutered house cats | ● | | | |
| 1.9 | Any fixed deviation of the sternum or xiphisternum | ● | | | Except for neuters and cats younger than 12 months |
| **2.** | **Head** | | | | |
| 2.1 | Deformity of the skull resulting in an asymmetrical face and/or head | ● | | | |
| 2.2 | Any depressions, protrusions or fissures in the skull | ● | | | |
| 2.3 | Narrow nostrils, loud and difficult breathing | | | ● | |
| **3.** | **Jaws, dentition and tongue** | | | | |
| 3.1 | Cut teeth | | ● | | |
| 3.2 | Crooked jaws | | ● | | |
| 3.3 | Overshot or undershot jaw of more than 2 mm | | | ● | |
| 3.4 | Persistent exposure of teeth and/or tongue | | | ● | |
| **4.** | **Eyes** | | | | |
| 4.1 | Blind cats | ● | | | |
| 4.2 | Abnormal size and form of the eyes and eyelids (entropion, ectropion) | ● | | | |
| 4.3 | Cross-eyed (squinting) cats | ● | | | |
| 4.4 | Tendency to squint | | | ● | |
| 4.5 | Eyes set too deep or protruding | | | ● | |
| 4.6 | Injuries of the eye, for example corneal injuries | | | ● | |
| **5.** | **Ears** | | | | |
| 5.1 | Deaf cats | ● | | | |
| 5.2 | Cats with cropped ears | ● | | | |
| **6.** | **Colour** | | | | |
| 6.1 | All white spots, which are not allowed in the standard | | ● | | |
| 6.2 | All pigmentation faults leading to a colour loss on the<br>- nose leather,<br>- paw pads and/or<br>- lips,<br>which are not permitted in the standard | | | ● | |
| 6.3 | Insufficient contrast between points and body colour on Siamese pointed cats | | | ● | |

| NR. | FAULT | DISQ | NO EX | NO CERT | REMARK |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **7.** | **Tail** | | | | |
| 7. | Cats with docked tails | ● | | | |
| 7.2 | Any tail deformities, for example a kink or a knot | | | ● | Except for neuters aged 12 months and older, bobtailed breeds and house cats |

| **8.** | **Behaviour and condition** | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8.1 | Aggressive cats<br><br>If two stewards are unable to take a cat out of its cage, it may not compete.<br>If a cat is aggressive at three shows, it is left to the discretion of the Member or organising club whether to withdraw the cat from future competition. | ● | | | |
| 8.2 | Doped cats<br><br>Cats which have had tranquillizers administered, affecting the nervous system and/or substances that extend the pupils of the eyes | ● | | | |
| 8.3 | Pregnant or lactating queens | ● | | | Such cats must be put into quarantine immediately |
| 8.4 | Cats which the veterinarian determines to be ill during the show | ● | | | Such cats must be removed immediately from the show hall, together with all other cats belonging to the same exhibitor (→ § 3.8) |
| 8.5 | Cats which show obvious signs of bad health | ● | | | Such cats must be put into quarantine immediately |
| 8.6 | Cats showing lack of cleanliness (e.g., dirty ears, presence of parasites) | ● | | | |
| 8.7 | Cats which have been given cosmetic treatment (dyeing or colour rinsing) | ● | | | |
| 8.8 | Tattooed cats | ● | | | Except when having a tattoo with an identifying code as a form of registration |
| 8.9 | Undernourished or obese cats | | | ● | |
| 8.10 | All signs of bad health (condition), too thin cats, etc. | | | ● | |
| 8.11 | Cats which have been powdered excessively | | | ● | |

| **9.** | **Breed specific faults (for more details: see the breed standards)** | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9.1 | Faults leading to disqualification | ● | | | BAL/SIA, BEN, JBS, KBL/KBS, KOR, LPL/LPS, LYO, OCI, RAG, SIN, THA |
| 9.2 | Faults precluding the certificate and any award higher than Excellent | | | ● | ABY/SOM, ACL/ACS, BAL/SIA, BOM, BUR, EUR, LPL/LPS, LYO, OLH/OSH, PEB, RAG, SBI, SPH, THA |

# TABLE – Categories at shows

| CATEGORY 1 | CATEGORY 2 | CATEGORY 3 | CATEGORY 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Fully recognised breeds** | | | |
| **EXO / PER** | **ACL / ACS** | **BEN** | **ABY / SOM** |
| Exotic / Persian | American Curl Longhair / Shorthair | Bengal | Abyssinian / Somali |
| **RAG** | **LPL / LPS** | **BLH / BSH** | **BAL / SIA** |
| Ragdoll | LaPerm Longhair / Shorthair | British Longhair / Shorthair | Balinese / Siamese |
| **SBI** | **MCO** | **BML** | **CRX** |
| Sacred Birman | Maine Coon | Burmilla | Cornish Rex |
| **TUV** | **NEM / SIB** | **BUR** | **DRX** |
| Turkish Van | Neva Masquerade / Siberian | Burmese | Devon Rex |
| | **NFO** | **CHA** | **DSP** |
| | Norwegian Forest Cat | Chartreux | Don Sphynx |
| | **TUA** | **CYM / MAN** | **GRX** |
| | Turkish Angora | Cymric / Manx | German Rex |
| | | **EUR** | **JBS** |
| | | European | Japanese Bobtail Shorthair |
| | | **KBL / KBS** | **OLH / OSH** |
| | | Kurilean Bobtail Longhair / Shorthair | Oriental Longhair / Shorthair |
| | | **KOR** | **PEB** |
| | | Korat | Peterbald |
| | | **MAU** | **RUS** |
| | | Egyptian Mau | Russian Blue |
| | | **OCI** | **SPH** |
| | | Ocicat | Sphynx |
| | | **SIN** | **THA** |
| | | Singapura | Thai |
| | | **SNO** | |
| | | Snowshoe | |
| | | **SOK** | |
| | | Sokoke | |
| | | **SRL / SRS** | |
| | | Selkirk Rex Longhair / Shorthair | |
| **Preliminary recognised breeds** | | | |
| | | **BOM** | **LYO** |
| | | Bombay | Lykoi |
| **Preliminary recognised varieties** | | | |
| | ***NEM/SIB*** | ***BEN*** | |
| | *corin* | *charcoal* | |
| | | ***BLH/BSH*** | |
| | | *corin* | |
| | | *golden (additional varieties)* | |

# FIFe Rules for Judges & Student Judges

Date of issue: 01.01.2026

## STATUS OF CHANGES

*For previous changes to the rules than those listed below, please refer to the separate document "FIFe Statutes & Rules – History of Changes" available in the section "Rules & Forms" on the FIFe website.*

| § | Status | Remarks |
|---|---|---|
| | | ***Edition 01.01.26*** |
| *2.1.14* | *Addition* | *A Student Judge must only study 1 category during the 12 months period following the date of the first training in the category which corresponds with the category written in the application sent by the Member* |
| *2.1.15* | *Addition* | *List of rare breeds: SNO (Snowshoe)* |
| *3.12* | *New* | *Judges Updating Session* |
| | | ***Edition 01.07.25*** |
| *2.1.15* | *Change* | *Organisation of online lectures on "rare breeds"* |

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# 1 General

## 1.1 Principles being a FIFe Judge

Judges trained and approved by FIFe are, besides the cats themselves, the most important representatives of the cat fancy and have great responsibilities toward the values and principles promoted by the Federation.

A cat show is the arena where many potential cat fanciers become active after having been a visitor. Information about the cat fancy brought to the community through newspapers, radio and television will normally take place in connection with local cat shows.

The skills, behaviour and attitude of the Judge are among the first impressions people outside the cat fancy receive. Thus, it is of utmost importance for FIFe that the Judge possesses skills and abilities such as:

- knowledge and skills in handling cats
- knowledge and understanding of the cat's anatomy and behaviour
- knowledge of basic genetics in cats
- knowledge of the standards and rules
- knowledge of organising shows and the various procedures
- knowledge of FIFe and understanding of the basic values and principles identifying the organisation
- ability to communicate with experienced and new exhibitors and other people
- self-confidence and self-control under stressful situations
- ability to judge in an objective way and being able to give reasons for the various decisions made
- the ability to focus on the cat, which is the main subject in the cat fancy in general, and especially at shows.

These are among the skills and talents a Judge is expected to possess that will do credit to the Federation. Some are talents; some are skills that can be acquired through training and studies.

## 1.2 Code of Ethics

Judges are representatives of FIFe and shall conduct themselves as such.

Participants in the judging programme shall act in a professional manner by displaying a considerate and caring attitude and courteous behaviour whether verbal, written and/or as demonstrated by physical actions.

Judges shall make every reasonable effort to keep travel costs, meals and other incidental expenses as low as possible for the hosting club.

Judges should be aware that they are honoured by being asked to judge at a show.

Judges, whether judging, exhibiting or visiting a show, shall not cause disruption during a show.

The rules are also applicable to Student Judges.

## 1.3 Judges' undertaking to FIFe

A Judge who is authorised by FIFe must complete a written undertaking to abide by the Statutes and Rules of FIFe and is not allowed to perform and sign any judging evaluation of a cat for breeding purposes.

## 1.4 Judges' adherence to FIFe Standards

Judges are required to adhere to the Breed Standards recognised by FIFe.

## 1.5 Exhibition of cats when officiating as a Judge or as a Student Judge

A Judge or Student Judge may only exhibit their own cats "Out of Competition" at a show where they are officiating.

On a 1-certificate FIFe-show, divided in categories for 2 or more days:

- it is not allowed to officiate as a Judge on the one day and exhibit on the other day
- it is allowed to officiate as a Student Judge on the one day and exhibit on the other day.

Members of an officiating Student Judge's household may exhibit their own cat(s) at the show, but not in the category or categories in which the Student Judge is officiating at the show.

Exhibits belonging to members of an officiating Judge's household cannot compete at such a show.

## 1.6 Complaints against Judges

Written complaints lodged against Judges are to be dealt with by the FIFe Board.

The complaint must be a detailed and accurate report sent by a FIFe Member within two months of the event in question. The complaint must be presented in one of the three official FIFe languages (→ FIFe Statutes § 6.3).

If it is deemed necessary by the FIFe Board, the case will be submitted to the Disciplinary Commission who will, in turn, inform the Board of its findings (→ FIFe Statutes § 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3).

## 1.7 Judges Adherence to a National FIFe Member

Judges must be an individual member of a National FIFe Member.

The FIFe Member, in which a Judge is a member, is not empowered to suspend a Judge from officiating as a Judge either on a temporary or a permanent basis.

## 1.8 How to submit documents

When steward certificates, Student Judge certificates, examination papers, stage certificates are required to be submitted, such documents must be original or certified copies or electronically saved.

# 2 Judges' Training Programme

## 2.1 Training in First Category

### 2.1.1 Requirement to inform the FIFe General Secretary about Student Judges

Members of the FIFe are required to forward the name of each Student Judge to the FIFe General Secretary in accordance with § 2.1.5 of the Judges Rules.

### 2.1.2 Responsibility of the FIFe Member for its Student Judges

The FIFe Member to which the candidate belongs is entirely responsible for the progress and the conduct of the candidate.

It can oppose a final examination if in its opinion the candidate does not show sufficient knowledge and is empowered to apply disciplinary measures or suspend a Student Judge on either a temporary or permanent bases.

The FIFe Member shall inform the FIFe Secretariat of the termination of membership of its Student Judges.

### 2.1.3 Being an active Student Judge

A Student Judge must serve as a trainee a minimum of twice a year to be considered an active Student Judge, unless extenuating circumstances prevail which are acceptable to the FIFe Member where the Student Judge holds his membership. Less activity will render the Student Judge as inactive.

### 2.1.4 Requirements for the candidature as a Student Judge

#### 2.1.4.1 Being active member

Before taking the preliminary examination, the candidate must have been an active member of a FIFe Member for at least five years.

#### 2.1.4.2 Amount and period of stewarding

To apply to become a Student Judge, the following procedures must be complied with:

- participation as a steward at 10 national or international shows where the owners are not permitted to present the cats themselves, or
- at 20 national or international shows where the owners may present their own cats
- at least 6 steward certificates must be obtained in at least 2 countries different from the steward's country of residence.
- the participation as a steward must be spread over no less than two years (minimum period).

Through a positive steward certificate, the steward will prove his ability to handle different cats under circumstances which are typical for cat shows.

The steward must have experience in handling cats from all categories to develop an understanding for different breeds and feline behaviour in general.

A prerequisite for an approved steward certificate is that the steward has presented cats in the Best in Show panel for that show. The categories in which the steward has presented cats are indicated on the steward certificate.

#### 2.1.4.3 Experience as a breeder, as an exhibitor and in the show organization

When the candidate presents himself for the preliminary test to become a Student Judge for his first category the following requirements must be met:

- The candidate must have bred at least 3 litters under his own cattery name for a period of at least 3 years.
- The candidate must have experience as an exhibitor, i.e. he must have exhibited cats at a minimum number of 20 national or international shows. At least one cat registered under his own cattery name must have obtained the title GIC/GIP during the last 5 years.
- Experience in organizing shows is compulsory. Relevant experience includes positions such as show manager, experience in the secretariat or prize room etc.
- Experience as chief steward and/or ring secretary for various Judges is highly recommended.

### 2.1.5 Preliminary examination, admission as Student Judge

Once the candidate has completed the required 10 or 20 steward assignments, he must sit a written preliminary examination set by the Judges and Standards Commission.

This examination must be taken in the English language and will be conducted by the Member to which the candidate belongs.

The examination shall consist of 40 questions of those at least 25 from the general part of the questionnaires. The examination is to be completed within a maximum period of 120 minutes.

A minimum of 80% of the possible marks must be achieved in order to gain a pass; less than this means the candidate has failed.

The Member must send the original relevant steward certificates with the application to the FIFe General Secretary no later than when requesting the preliminary exam for the candidate.

For this purpose, the FIFe has issued a special form: this standard application for admission of a Student Judge is the only valid application form.

The application should include:

- the choice of Category (e.g. Category 1 2, 3 or 4),
- the date, place and country where the candidate intends to sit for the examination,
- the names of the invigilators.

The FIFe General Secretary must receive this application at least two months prior to the date of the examination.

The Member must send the original copy of the examination together with the marks achieved to the FIFe General Secretary, no later than one month after the examination.

The FIFe General Secretary will check the documentation before sending the Member the official notification of admitting the candidate as a FIFe Student Judge.

### 2.1.6 Requirements for Student Judges concerning the Instructing Judges

The Student Judge must be able to speak the official FIFe language of the Instructing Judge. The Student Judge must be able to communicate fluently in that language.

Generally, a Student Judge must be able to communicate fluently in at least one of the three official languages of FIFe. Student Judges, who have one of the official FIFe languages for their native language, should at least be able to speak and write in one of the other official FIFe languages.

It is highly recommended that the Student Judge sits with as many different Instructing Judges as possible.

### 2.1.7 Mentorship for Student Judges

It is mandatory for Students who are taking their first category to be under the guidance of a Mentor Judge.

It is preferred that a Student Judge selects a Mentor Judge from his own country.

As a minimum, the Student Judge must be able to communicate fluently both verbally and in writing with the Mentor Judge.

### 2.1.8 Training requirements

The training period of a Student Judge is required to cover a minimum of two years for each category from the date of approved admission as a Student Judge.

The FIFe Member where the Student Judge holds his membership will decide the maximum training period.

Participation as a Student Judge:

a. at national shows or
b. international shows and/or
c. national special breed shows and/or
d. breed workshops or training outside the show hall
   - a minimum of 18 times for each category of which at least 5 times have taken place in at least 2 countries (at least 150 cats) different from the Student Judges' country of residence
   - a minimum of 600 cats for each category.

### 2.1.9 Application for participation as Student Judge

The Student Judge must send his application to the organiser of the show at least one month before the show. He must name the FIFe Member where he holds his membership and, if applicable, his Mentor.

It is recommended that show organisers accept at least one Student Judge at each International Show.

All FIFe Members – clubs and federations – must answer in writing an application from a Student Judge in due time prior to the date of the show.

The Student Judge must send a copy of all applications for all training activities (shows, seminars, breed workshops, training outside the show hall) to the FIFe Member, in which he holds his membership.

### 2.1.10 Student Judge certificates

After each Student Judge's participation, the instructing Judge issues a certificate containing the following:

- his observations on the diligence, capability, personal appearance (e.g. neat and tidy), and general demeanour of the Student Judge
- the relevant numbers of cats of each breed and variety judged by the instructing Judge in his presence.

For this purpose, the FIFe has issued a special form: this standard Student Judge's certificate is the only valid certificate. Student Judges are responsible for having the most recent version of the Student Judge's certificate form available.

The certificate is to be issued in one of the three official FIFe languages, i.e. French, German or English.

In case of certificates marked "acceptable", the certificate will be given directly to the Student Judge, or the instructing Judge may send it to the FIFe Member in which the Student Judge is a member within one month after the show.

In case of certificates marked "not acceptable", the instructing Judge is required to send a copy of the certificate to the FIFe Member of which the Student Judge is a member within one month after the show.

Should the FIFe Member consider the certificate inadequate, it can be refused.

Alterations and/or corrections to a Student Judge certificate are only accepted when countersigned by the instructing Judge. Any other changes or amendments to the certificate will render it invalid.

The instructing Judge must write the total number of cats judged in presence of the Student Judge on the Student Judge certificate in numbers and words. Cats seen by the Student Judge exclusively in the Best in Show may not be added to the Student Judge certificate.

### 2.1.11 Mid-stream assessment

Mid-stream assessment is obligatory for Student Judges in their first category, and it usually takes place, under the supervision of an Instructing Judge, when the Student Judge has completed half of the number of the requested cats.

The application for participation as a Student Judge shall be sent with reference to § 2.1.9 and shall indicate that the Student Judge assignment shall be a mid-stream assessment.

The organizing club shall notify the instructing Judge in advance.

In the midstream assessment the Student Judge shall:
- write at least 5 (five) full Judge's reports
- assess at least 5 (five) individual cats
- evaluate at least one larger group of cats in class or colour if possible
- decide his own BIV and nominations for BIS
- verbally answer the instructing Judge several questions about the standards and rules.

This evaluation, as well as further recommendations if any, must be written into the Student Judge's certificate.

### 2.1.12 Participation as Student Judge after Mid-stream assessment

After the approved mid-stream assessment, the Student Judge shall, in every participation as a Student Judge:
- in public, under the supervision of an instructing Judge assess a minimum of five cats
- decide his own Best in Variety and nominations for Best in Show.

### 2.1.13 Presence at the Best in Show

Student Judges are required to be present during the Best in Show.

### 2.1.14 Training in different categories during the same training period

A Student Judge may only undertake training in a maximum of two categories in one training period.

*A Student Judge must only study 1 category during the 12 months period following the date of the first training in the category which corresponds with the category written in the application sent by the Member.*

### 2.1.15 Study of all breeds

All fully recognised breeds in the category in question must have been examined by a Student Judge. It is highly recommended to have examined preliminary recognised breeds.

The examination of housecats is compulsory for all Student Judges in their first category, but they will not be added to the total number of cats required.

Certain groups of colours/patterns must have been examined (solid, bicolour, tabby, silver/golden, pointed).

The Judges and Standards Commission will *schedule and* organise online breed lectures on "rare breeds". These lectures will not contribute to the number of cats seen by the Student Judge but will allow him to apply for the judges' examination without asking for exceptions.

Breed lectures will be *scheduled for every "rare breed" at least once every two calendar years in advance. For each "rare breed," the next lecture will be* listed in the official FIFe calendar.

*If a Student Judge (or a Judge) intends to attend a breed lecture, he must inform his participation by using a special form which is available for downloading on the FIFe website and indicates the scheduled lectures.*

*Scheduled breed lectures will take place when at least 3 applications for participation have been received. In case of lesser applications, breed lectures may be rescheduled to one year after. Breed lectures may also be organised on request from the Board.*

A Certificate of Attendance will be issued by email within two weeks after a breed lecture to each Judge and Student Judge who remained in attendance for the whole online session.

The list of "rare breeds" is maintained and updated by the FIFe Board on recommendation from the Judges and Standards Commission. Currently the following breeds are listed: CYM/MAN, JBS, LPL/LPS, *SNO* and SOK.

The FIFe Board may grant exceptions when a candidate applies for his final examination in accordance with the geographic situation of that candidate.

### 2.1.16 Participating in Judges training seminars

A maximum participation for Student Judges at 1 training seminar is acceptable.

#### 2.1.17 Training outside the show hall

A Student Judge may undertake a part of his training separate from shows and seminars.

This training could include visits to breeders and other such informal events.

This training will be supervised by a qualified instructing Judge in the category.
The training visit will be documented on a Student Judge certificate completed by the instructing Judge.

Only cats older than 3 months may be listed on the certificate.
It is not allowed to visit the same breeder/cattery more than once during any single training period.

The maximum numbers of cats that will be accepted for this type of training for each category is 5% of the actual number of cats the Student Judge examined during his training period.

#### 2.1.18 Parallel judging

Of the total number of cats required for each category, at least 100 (one hundred) cats in each category must consist of parallel judging with the instructing Judge. Parallel judging will normally take place at the end of the training programme, just before the Student Judge presents himself for the final exam.

Parallel judging conditions:
- the parallel judging is to start no later than the official judging
- the candidate has to judge and make written reports on all cats allotted
- the candidate also selects his Best in Variety and nominations for Best in Show.

#### 2.1.19 Requirements for the organisers

The organising club is required to ensure that:
- the Student Judge has at least one steward at his disposal during the entire parallel judging,
- the parallel judging takes place under similar conditions as the official judging (light, cages, ring etc.).

### 2.2 Seminars

#### 2.2.1 Training seminars organised by FIFe

**a) Judges Training Seminars**

Normally FIFe will organise a Training Seminar for Judges in conjunction with the General Assembly. The Seminar will be organised on the Saturday after the General Assembly.

If a Judge, or a Student Judge, proposes to attend the seminar, he must inform the FIFe General Secretary at least two weeks before the date of the seminar. The FIFe General Secretary will hold a roll call to check the Judges and Student Judges attending the Training Seminar. A Certificate of Attendance will be issued by email within two weeks after the Seminar to each Judge and Student Judge who has remained in attendance for the whole seminar.

The FIFe Member on whose territory the Training Seminar is to be held will provide any necessary cats.

Participation in Judges Training Seminars will equal 30 cats judged for the Judge's training purposes.

**b) Compulsory Training Seminars for Student Judges**

It is compulsory for a Student Judge in his first category to participate in Compulsory Training Seminar conducted and organised by the FIFe or a FIFe Member.

The Seminar will be arranged as online seminar, with a minimum duration of 2 days.

It is expected that the Student Judge participates in such a Seminar at the earliest practical occasion after having passed the preliminary exam.

This Seminar will be listed in the official show calendar at least 3 months prior to its date.

The information (location, duration and subjects) must be available within the same timeframe.

The Seminar shall cover as a minimum, the following subjects: colour and patterns including basic genetics, cat anatomy and health, social behaviour and the ethics of judging.

Participation in Compulsory Training Seminar will equal 50 cats judged and will count only once for Student Judges in their first category.

Judges, whether Student Judges in further categories or not, can only use their participation in Compulsory Seminars for their activity statement.

### 2.2.2 Training Seminars organised by FIFe Member

**a) Judges Training Seminars**

Each FIFe Member is permitted to organise a FIFe Judges' seminar once per year.

At least 2/3rds of the content of the seminar must be directly related to aspects and areas of judging within FIFe.

The FIFe General Secretary must approve the date of the seminar, and the agenda must be approved by the Judges and Standards Commission.

The Seminar will be listed in the official show calendar at least 3 months prior to the date fixed and will count as an official FIFe Judge's Seminar. The organiser should be mentioned as well as a contact number (telephone, e-mail).

In case when initially expected breeds are not present at a Seminar, the organising FIFe Member must inform the enrolled Student Judges as soon as possible.

Participation in Judges Training Seminars will equal 30 cats judged for the Judges' training purposes.

**b) Breed Workshops for Student Judges**

Each FIFe member is permitted to organise FIFe Breed Workshops for Student Judges.

Such Workshops are proposed and organised in cooperation with the relevant Breed Councils and conducted by a FIFe Judge. Breed Workshops may be held during a show weekend.

A maximum of 3 Breed Workshops per day are allowed and at least 10 cats for each breed of different ages must be present (i.e. 3 Breed Seminars = min. 30 cats).

A Student Judge's certificate signed by the lecturing Judge(s), will be issued to each Student Judge who has remained in attendance for the whole duration of the Workshop. The value of the certificate, in number of cats, shall be the number of cats present during the Workshop.

The maximum number of cats that will be accepted for this type of training is 50 for each category.

The relevant information (breed(s), location and duration) shall be published in the official FIFe show calendar at least 2 months prior to the date fixed. The organiser should be mentioned as well as a contact number (telephone, e-mail).

### 2.2.3 Participation and costs

Student Judges and Judges participating in Training Seminars must pay the cost of travel, accommodation and meals.

The costs connected with the organisation of the Training Seminar listed in § 2.2.1 will be borne by the FIFe. The costs connected with the organisation of Training Seminars listed in § 2.2.2 will be borne by the FIFe Member.

All lecturers at Training Seminars and Compulsory Student Judges Seminars will receive, as a minimum, the same payment as for a single day judging allowance. For Breed Workshops in § 2.2.2 b), the compensation of expenses for the lecturers is at discretion of the FIFe Member.

## 2.3 Examination

### 2.3.1 Responsibility of the FIFe Member

The FIFe Member must take all necessary steps to ensure that the candidate it presents is sufficiently qualified to meet the necessary requirements relating to his training, his conduct, and his judging qualities as a Probational Judge.

The FIFe Member carries the full responsibility.

### 2.3.2 Limit on number of examinations at one time

An examination can only be taken in one category at a time.

### 2.3.3 Requirements for the candidate: age, language

The candidate must be at least 25 years of age on the day of the examination.

The language in which the Judge's examination will be conducted is English.

### 2.3.4 Examination Fee

An examination fee, as determined by the General Assembly, must be forwarded by the candidate to the FIFe Member where he holds his membership. The current fee is listed in Annex 1 of the General Rules. The examination fee will be divided into three parts:

- ⅓ for FIFe
- ⅓ for the show organising club hosting the examination
- ⅓ to be equally divided between the two examining Judges.

Since the FIFe Treasurer will only deal with National FIFe Members, the division of the examination fee

- after receipt of the application for the examination by the FIFe General Secretary, the FIFe Treasurer will charge the full fee on the next invoice to the FIFe Member where the candidate holds his membership
- the FIFe Member hosting the exam will deal with its show organising club which will receive ⅔ of the full fee:
  - ⅓ of the full fee is for the hosting club
  - ⅓ of the full fee is for the two examining Judges
- each examining Judge will receive 1/6 of the full fee from the show organising club
- after the examination the FIFe Treasurer will deduct ⅔ of the full fee from the next invoice to the FIFe Member on whose (club's) show the examination has taken place.

### 2.3.5 Application for the examination: requirements

The application for a Student Judge to take an examination has to be submitted to the FIFe General Secretary by the FIFe Member to which he belongs. All necessary documents as required and laid down in § 2.1.8, 2.1.10, 2.1.11, 2.1.16 and 2.1.18 must be attached. The application should include:

- the choice of Category, e.g.: category 1, 2, 3 or 4
- the venue (date, place, country) where the candidate intends to sit for the theoretical examination
- the show (date, place, country) where the candidate intends to sit for the practical examination, (if available)
- the names of the examining Judges for the practical exam (if available).

The FIFe General Secretary must receive this application at least two months prior to the date of the examination. For this purpose, the FIFe has issued a special form: this standard application is the only valid application form.

In cases where the date and venue of the practical examination and/or the names of the examining Judges are missing in the abovementioned application, this information must be:

- sent when applying for permission to sit for the practical examination
- by the FIFe Member by email to the FIFe General Secretary, and
- received at least two weeks prior to the intended date for the practical examination.

### 2.3.6 Venue for the Judge's examination

The judges' examination can be taken either:

- during an international one-day show or
- during an international two-day show where at least 50 cats of the category concerned are entered. The examination can only be taken on the first day of a two-certificate show.

The theoretical examination can also be taken:

- during the Compulsory Student Judges Seminar (→ § 2.2.1 b)),
- during the Judges Training Seminar (→ § 2.2.1 a) or 2.2.2. a) ),
- at any day during the week of the General Assembly, or
- at a dedicated theoretical examination session, to be listed in the official show calendar at least 3 months prior to its date.

This theoretical examination will be valid for the following 12 months.

The examiners shall supervise these examinations and be responsible for the paperwork's correction and sending to the FIFe General Secretary.

### 2.3.7 Theoretical and practical examination

The Judges' examination consists of two parts:

a. a theoretical part
b. a practical part

The examining Judges and the candidate must be able to communicate in the same FIFe language.

#### 2.3.7.1 Theoretical examination

- The examination is to be completed within a maximum period of 120 minutes.
- It is a written examination.
- The questions are selected by the FIFe Judges and Standards Commission and sent to the examining Judges at least one week prior to the examination date.
- The questions should be among those listed in the questionnaires set by the Judges and Standards Commission.
- A minimum of 80% of the possible marks must be achieved for the general part as well as for the category part in order to gain a pass; less than this means the candidate has failed and he cannot present himself for the practical examination.
- The examination may be taken the day before the show commencing no later than 7.00 pm or commence before the official judging starts, but no later than at 9.00 am (except in case of technical difficulties). The examiners are required to evaluate the theoretical part within 45 minutes.

#### 2.3.7.2 Repertory of examination questions

The FIFe General Secretary may provide the repertory of examination question to any FIFe Member who requests them for training purpose.

#### 2.3.7.3 Questions for the theoretical examinations

The theoretical questions are to be divided as follows:

- 15 questions from the general part of the questionnaires
- 15 questions from the category selected to which only short answers are required
- 10 questions from the category selected to which long answers are required.

For candidates, already Judges in 2 or 3 categories, the questions will be divided as follows:

- 15 questions about the category selected to which only short answers are required
- 10 questions about the category selected to which long answers are required
- 5 questions about colour and patterns to which short answers are required
- 5 questions about colour and patterns to which long answers are required
- 5 questions from the general part of the questionnaires regarding the Show Rules.

#### 2.3.7.4 Practical examination

- The candidate cannot be admitted to the show hall before the examination takes place.
- The examination is to start no later than the official judging (except in case of technical difficulties).
- A pass with a minimum of 80% of the marks is required.
- The candidate has to judge and make written reports on at least 35 cats (40 cats is the maximum).
- The candidate also selects his Best in Variety and nominations for Best in Show.
- Cats that are part of the practical examination shall be presented to the candidate only by the stewards.
- Cats judged by the candidate, need not necessary be judged by the examiners.
- The candidate must not hear or see judgements of the cats in the category concerned.

#### 2.3.7.5 Requirements for the organisers

The organizing club is required to ensure that:

- the candidate has at least two stewards at his disposal during the entire part of the practical examination
- the examination takes place under similar conditions as the official judging (light, cages, ring).

### 2.3.8 Practical Examination panel

The practical examination is conducted by a panel composed of two International Judges who are judging at the show concerned, and

- who have been active Judges in the category in which the candidate is to be examined for at least five years, and
- at least one of the examiners has participated at least once during the preceding three years in a seminar organised by the FIFe (→ § 2.2.1 or 2.2.2 a)).

In the event of a Judge being prevented from attending the show, another International Judge who is judging at the show may be asked to deputise, providing the current requirements are complied with.

### 2.3.9 Requirements for the examiners

The examiners are required to:
- have lunch with the candidate (at least one of the examiners)
- compile various classes for assessment, of which one is large and consisting of at least 5 cats if possible
- compile classes by sex and colour; mixing of sexes is not allowed
- announce the final result of the examination on the second day of the show and no later than 2.00 p.m.
- during a one-day show such an announcement must be made before the show closes. The same applies for a two-day show with separated categories.

### 2.3.10 Examination results

The examining Judges must send the completed examination papers, including the marks achieved in both the theoretical and the practical part, to the FIFe General Secretary no later than two weeks after the practical examination.

The FIFe General Secretary will inform the FIFe Member to which the candidate belongs of the result.

### 2.3.11 Failure of an examination

Should a candidate fail the practical part of the examination, it is up to the FIFe Member to decide how many times a candidate may present himself again for an examination.

### 2.3.12 Probational Judges

When all the examination papers are received and checked by the FIFe General Secretary the candidate with a successful pass will be awarded the title “Probational Judge”.

A Probational Judge is allowed to judge under the supervision of an International Judge providing the requirements laid down in § 2.3.13 are complied with.

### 2.3.13 Stages, Probational Judges and Supervisors

To become an International Judge, the Probational Judge must satisfactorily complete a stage at least 30 cats, of which:
- at least 20 cats are adults/neuters (classes 01-10) and
- at least 10 juniors/kittens (classes 11 and 12).

The stage can only be completed at International Shows and may be completed at more than 1 show.

The stage will be supervised by an International Judge who has:
- been active for a period of at least 5 years within the category concerned and
- participated at least once in the preceding three years in a seminar organised by the FIFe (→ § 2.2.1 or 2.2.2 a)).

The Supervising Judge will issue a report, including, including the number of cats judged in the relevant classes, which will be given to the Probational Judge who must forward the original to the FIFe General Secretary within two weeks of the show.

For this purpose, the FIFe has issued a special form: this standard Stage certificate is the only valid certificate. Probational Judges are responsible for having the most recent version of the Stage Certificate form available.

Probational Judges must be present during the Best in Show.

### 2.3.14 International Judges

The Probational Judge is appointed as an International Judge after successfully passing the required stage.

The FIFe General Secretary will make this appointment after having received and checked all necessary paperwork.

## 2.4 Training in Further Categories

### 2.4.1 Amount of Student Judge assignments and training period for Judges continuing with further categories

For an already accredited Judge wishing to qualify in a second category, the Judge will be required to repeat the Judge's training procedure, starting from the date of approved admission as Student Judge, and participate as a Student Judge at international shows and events as listed in § 2.1.8:

- a minimum of 15 times for a minimum of 18 months for each category, of which at least 5 times have taken place in at least 2 countries (at least 150 cats) different from the Student Judge's country of residence
- a minimum of 500 cats for each category before becoming eligible to sit the exam.

For a Judge already accredited in at least two categories, the Judge will be required to repeat the Judge's training procedure and participate as a Student Judge:

- a minimum of 12 times for a minimum of 18 months for each category, of which at least 4 times have taken place in at least 2 countries (at least 100 cats) different from the Student Judge's country of residence
- a minimum of 400 cats for each category; the attendance at training seminars (except Breed Workshops) is excluded from this minimum amount of 400 cats and can be only in addition to it.

### 2.4.2 Parallel judging

If a Student Judge is already a Judge in another category, then at least 30 (thirty) cats (all categories) must consist of parallel judging with the instructing Judge.

### 2.4.3 Stages

Stages are not required after passing the examination in a further category.

### 2.4.4 Examination in further categories

A Judge intending to sit an exam his second category must meet the following requirements:

- he must have passed a stage in accordance with § 2.3.13
- he must have judged a minimum of 4 times after his appointment date as an International Judge in the category for which he qualified (min. 50 cats)
- he must have been an active Judge in the previous 12 months prior to the planned exam date.

A Judge intending to sit an examination in a further category (3rd and last) must meet the following requirements:

- he must have judged a minimum of 10 times as an International Judge in the previous category for which he qualified
- he must have been an active Judge in the previous 12 months prior to the planned examination date.

### 2.4.5 Progression to All Breed Judge

The following shall apply:

- The period of time from the examination in the first category to the examination in the third category shall be no less than 4 (four) years.
- The period of time from the examination in the first category to the examination in the fourth and final category shall be no less than 7 (seven) years.

# 3 Judges

## 3.1 Recognised Judges

The FIFe recognises as FIFe Judges those persons who appear on the official FIFe Judges List (→ § 3.3).

FIFe Judges shall notify the FIFe Secretariat of any changes in their home address, telephone number and email address, as well as of changes in their membership of FIFe Member, as soon as these occur.

## 3.2 Honorary Judges

The Board of FIFe may appoint honorary Judges in acknowledgment of their services to the FIFe.

## 3.3 Judges List

The Board of FIFe publishes an official list of its recognised Judges. This official list contains, in order of the ISO-code of country of residence, the following information:

- the name of the Judge
- the address, telephone number and email address of the Judge
- the FIFe languages which the Judge speaks fluently
- the ISO-country code where the Judge holds his membership if this country differs from his country of residence
- the date of the last seminar, as listed in § 2.2.1, 2.2.2 a), which the Judge has attended in the past three years after his appointment, indicated by "#"
- the date on which the Judge was appointed in a particular category
- the category (or categories) in which the Judge is active, i.e. has judged a minimum of three times in the previous year, indicated by a "X"
- the category (or categories) in which the Judge applied as a Mentor Judge, indicated by an "M".

Note: to receive accreditation for attending a seminar the participants must remain for the whole period of that seminar.

The current Judges list is available on the FIFe website and will be sent to the FIFe Members and Judges annually (in January) or at written request.

## 3.4 Judges Engagements Form

All International and Non-European Judges must confirm their Judges' activities yearly. For this purpose, Judges must use the most recent version of the Judging Engagement Form, which is available on the FIFe website. This form should be completed, confirmed and returned to the General Secretary by email, no later than the 30th of November of each year.

Judges who confirm on this form to have judged at international shows at least three times per category for which they are qualified during a calendar year will be indicated as "active" in the official Judges list of the following year.

Judges may send this form as soon as they have fulfilled these requirements, at any time during the year, as long as it is before the final date of the 30th of November. It is recommended that Judges send a complete list of their own judging engagements to the FIFe Member to which they belong.

## 3.5 Judges Fee

For inclusion in the official Judges List, Judges are required to pay an annual fee, the amount of which is fixed by the General Assembly. The current fee is listed in Annex 1 of the General Rules.

Each FIFe Member will be responsible for submitting the fees of its Judges to the FIFe Treasurer by the 31 March each year.

## 3.6 Judges of other Federations

Judges belonging to other organizations are authorised to judge those breeds which they are licensed to Judge in their own organisation after being approved by the Board of FIFe separately for each assignment. Such Judges must Judge in accordance with the FIFe standards.

They cannot undertake to supervise a stage or to act as an examiner.

## 3.7 Participation in non-FIFe shows

A FIFe Judge may, with the permission of the FIFe Board and the FIFe Member in the country concerned, officiate at a non-FIFe show.

The invited Judge shall seek written permission for each individual assignment with the FIFe Member(s) in the country where he is invited. He shall also check if there is no FIFe show scheduled for the same date in the country concerned or in a 400 km radius. If all conditions are fulfilled the Judge should forward the request with the permission(s) to the FIFe General Secretary for approval.

If a FIFe Judge officiates at a non-FIFe show, it must be agreed beforehand that the show catalogue will state that he is a FIFe Judge. A breach of the current rules will result in disciplinary actions.

## 3.8 Function of Judges: Instructor, Supervisor, Examiner, Student

An officiating Judge must be given advance notice of the following:
- if he is to instruct a Student Judge (only one per Judge)
- if he needs to supervise a stage (only one per Judge)
- if he is to act as an examiner.

Judges may refuse such functions in writing and should make this known to the organiser.

### 3.8.1 Instructors

A Judge may only accept a Student Judge three (3) years after his appointment in the category concerned, and only if he is “active” in that category, i.e. has judged a minimum of three times in that category in the previous year.

### 3.8.2 Examiners

If the Judge is called upon to act as an examiner, he must not be given any further function.

### 3.8.3 An officiating Judge as examination candidate at the same show

A Judge who is officially invited to judge at a show may not take an examination in another category at the same show.

A Judge who is officially invited to judge at a two-day show, split by categories, may take an examination in another category only on the day when he is not officiating as a Judge.

### 3.8.4 An officiating Judge as Student Judge at the same show

An officiating Judge may not act as a Student Judge at the same show.

An officiating Judge at a two-day show, split by categories, may act as a Student Judge in another category only on the day when he is not officiating as a Judge.

## 3.9 Mentor Judges

A Mentor Judge will be responsible for supervising and directing Student Judges in their training.

A Mentor Judge must have been active as an International Judge for 3 years in the Category in which he will mentor. Attendance at a FIFe Judges Seminar once every 3 years is recommended.

To become a Mentor Judge, a candidate must apply in writing to FIFe General Secretary stating his reasons. For this purpose, the FIFe has issued a special form: this standard Mentor Judge application form is the only valid form. Mentor Judges will be recorded in the official FIFe Judges list.

A Mentor Judge may have a maximum of 5 Students under his Mentorship at any one point in time.

## 3.10 Dormant Judges

A dormant Judge is an international Judge who has not officiated at national of international shows for whatever reason, for a period of at least two calendar years or has been deleted from the Judge’s list.

A dormant Judge may reactivate his status in accordance with § 3.11.

### 3.11 Reactivation of Dormant Judges

If a Dormant Judge wishes to reactivate his status, he must send a written request to the FIFe General Secretary.

The FIFe General Secretary will send him the reactivation questionnaire set by the Judges and Standards Commission. The completed questionnaire must be returned to the FIFe General Secretary no later than two months after issue.

The FIFe General Secretary will send the completed questionnaire to the Judges and Standards Commission for evaluation. This evaluation must be sent within one month to the FIFe General Secretary, who will either confirm or refuse the Judge's active status accordance with the result of the questionnaire.

### *3.12 Judges Updating Session*

*The Judges & Standards Commission will organise, at least once per year, Judges Updating Sessions in an online setting. These sessions will cover the changes in the Rules and Standards of the preceding 5 years and may also include other subjects related to the Judges and the judging (instructing, mentoring, etc).*

*Judges are invited to participate by the Judges & Standards Commission when sessions have been scheduled.*

*Judges Updating Sessions shall be listed in the official FIFe calendar at least 1 month prior to date.*

*A Certificate of Attendance will be issued by email within two weeks after a session to each Judge who remained in attendance for the whole online session.*

*Judges who participated in a Judges Updating Session during the preceding five years are eligible to act as an Examining Judge or a Stage Supervisor (→ § 2.3.8, 2.3.13 and 4.2.4).*

# 4 Non-European FIFe Judges

All articles in section 2 and 3 apply unless there is a corresponding article in the following section.

## 4.1 Training in First Category

### 4.1.1 Requirements for the candidature as a Student Judge

#### 4.1.1.1 Being active member

Before taking the preliminary examination, the candidate must have been an active member of a FIFe Member for at least three years.

#### 4.1.1.2 Amount of stewarding

To apply to become a Student Judge, the following procedure must be complied with:

- participation as a steward at 10 national or international shows.

Through a positive steward certificate, the steward will prove his ability to handle different breeds under circumstances that are typical for cat shows.

The steward must have experience in handling cats from all categories to develop an understanding for different breeds and feline behaviour in general.

#### 4.1.1.3 Experience as breeder, as an exhibitor and in the show organization

When the candidate presents himself for the preliminary test to become a Student Judge for his first category the following requirements must be met.

- The candidate must have bred at least 3 litters under his own cattery name for a period of at least 3 years.
- The candidate must have experience as an exhibitor, i.e. he must have exhibited cats at a minimum number of 10 national or international shows. At least one cat registered under his own cattery name must have obtained the title IC/IP during the last 3 years.
- Experience as chief steward and/or ring secretary for various Judges, experience in organizing shows is highly recommended. Relevant experience includes positions such as show manager, experience in the secretariat or prize room etc.

### 4.1.2 Training requirements

The maximum training period will be decided by the student's own FIFe Member.
Participation as a Student Judge, starting from the date of approved admission as Student Judge:

a. at national shows or
b. international shows and/or
c. national special breed shows and/or
d. breed workshops or training outside the show hall

- a minimum of 15 times for each category for a minimum of 2 years
- a minimum of 400 cats for each category.

### 4.1.3 Parallel judging

Of the total number of cats required for each category, at least 60 must consist of parallel judging with the instructing Judge.

Such parallel judging will normally take place at the end of the training programme, just before the Student Judge presents himself for the final exam.

Parallel judging conditions:

- the parallel judging is to start no later than the official judging
- the candidate has to judge and make written reports on all cats allotted
- the candidate also selects his Best in Variety and nominations for Best in Show.

## 4.2 Examination

### 4.2.1 Application for the examination: requirements

The application for a Student Judge to take an examination has to be submitted to the FIFe General Secretary by the FIFe Member to which he belongs.

All necessary documents as required and laid down in § 4.1.2, 2.1.10, 2.1.11, 2.1.16 and 4.1.3 must be attached.

The application should include:
- the choice of Category, e.g. category 1, 2, 3 or 4
- the show (date, place, country) where the candidate intends to sit for the examination
- the names of the examining Judges.

The application must be received by the FIFe General Secretary at least two months prior to the date of examination. For this purpose, the FIFe has issued a special form: this standard application is the only valid form.

### 4.2.2 Venue for the Judge's examination

The Judges' examination can be taken either during an international or national one day show or during an international or national two days show where at least 35 cats in the category are entered.
An examination can only be taken on the first day of a two-certificate show.

The theoretical examination can also be taken according to § 2.3.6. This theoretical exam will be valid for the following 24 months.

### 4.2.3 Practical examination

- The candidate cannot be admitted to the show hall before the examination takes place.
- The examination is to start no later than the official judging (except in case of technical difficulties).
- A pass with a minimum of 80% of the marks is required.
- The candidate has to judge and make written reports on at least 30 cats (40 cats is the maximum).
- The candidate also selects his Best in Variety and nominations for Best in Show.
- Cats that are part of the practical examination shall be presented to the candidate only by the stewards.
- Cats judged by the candidate, need not necessary be judged by the examiners.
- The candidate must not hear or see judgements of the cats in the category concerned.

### 4.2.4 Examination panel

The examination is conducted by a panel composed of two International Judges or two Non-European FIFe Judges who are judging at the show concerned, and
- who have been active Judges in the category in which the candidate is to be examined for at least three years, and
- at least one of the examiners has participated at least once during the preceding three years in a seminar organised by the FIFe (→ § 2.2.1 or 2.2.2 a) ).

In the event of a Judge being prevented from attending the show, another international Judge, who is judging at the show may be asked to deputise, providing the current requirements are complied with.

### 4.2.5 Non-European Judges at shows and as Mentor Judges

Non-European Judges are authorized:
a) to issue all certificates at national or international shows held in non-European countries according to the FIFe Standards and Rules.
b) to act as Mentor Judges to Non-European Student Judges.

### 4.2.6 Requirements for the Non-European Judge to become International Judge

a) A Non-European Judge wishing to become an International Judge must:
   - have judged a minimum of 6 times (minimum of 240 cats) at national or international shows held in non-European countries
   - The Non-European International Judge must write a full report of his judging activity (show place, country and date, show organising club, number of cats and the EMS codes of cats judged) and send it to the FIFe General Secretary within one month after the show. The FIFe General Secretary will archive these reports in the candidate's personal folder.

b) Once the Non-European Judge has completed these requirements, he must apply to the FIFe Board for permission to be allowed to issue all certificates according to the FIFe Standards and Rules as Non-European Judge at international shows held in European countries by a FIFe Member.

c) After this approval he must:
   – have judged a minimum of 4 times (minimum of 160 cats) as an approved Non-European Judge at international shows held in European countries by a FIFe Member.
   – The approved Non-European Judge must write a full report of his judging activities (show place, country and date, show organising club, number of cats and the EMS codes of cats judged) and send it to the FIFe General Secretary within one month after the show.
   The FIFe General Secretary will archive these reports in the candidate's personal folder.

d) Once the approved Non-European Judge has completed these requirements and sent all the reports to the FIFe General Secretary, the FIFe General Secretary will approve all the reports and appoint him as a FIFe International Judge.

## 4.3 Training in Further Categories

### 4.3.1 Amount of Student Judge assignments and training period for Judges continuing with further categories

In the event of an already accredited Judge wishing to qualify in another category, the Judge will be required to repeat the Judge training procedure, starting from the date of approved admission as Student Judge at international shows and events as listed in § 4.1.2:

- a minimum of 8 times for each category for a minimum of 18 months
- a minimum of 300 cats for each category.

The attendance at training seminars (except Breed Workshops) is excluded from this minimum number of cats and can be only in addition to it.

### 4.3.2 Progression to All Breed Judge

The following shall apply:

- the period of time from the examination in the first category to the examination in the third category shall be no less than 3 (three) years.
- the period of time from the examination in the first category to the examination in the fourth category shall be no less than 6 (six) years.

## Annex 1 FIFe Judges must respect FIFe rules at all FIFe shows

FIFe Judges must judge at all FIFe shows in accordance with the rules of FIFe. Exceptions, which are approved by the FIFe Board, must be communicated to the Judges and the FIFe Members at once.

## Annex 2 Changes to the rules

All changes to the rules carried at a General Assembly will apply from the date of validation for all Judges and Student Judges. If rules are changed, all previous exceptions, conditions or requirements are only valid if in accordance with the new rules.

## Annex 3 Temporary Breed Training

The following training may be used only by Judges appointed before 01.01.2017 in order to adjust their competence to fit the show categories valid from 01.01.2016.

**Breed group A**
TRAINING FOR JUDGES ALREADY QUALIFIED TO JUDGE THE BREEDS RAG, SBI AND TUV WHO WISH TO QUALIFY TO JUDGE THE BREEDS EXO AND PER
All breeds and all relevant colours and patterns must have been examined
Minimum training requirements: 200 cats of the 2 breeds in minimum 6 months

**Breed group B**
TRAINING FOR JUDGES ALREADY QUALIFIED TO JUDGE THE BREEDS EXO AND PER WHO WISH TO QUALIFY TO JUDGE THE BREEDS RAG, SBI AND TUV
All breeds and all relevant colours and patterns must have been examined
Minimum training requirements: 200 cats of the 3 breeds in minimum 6 months

**Breed group C**
TRAINING FOR JUDGES ALREADY QUALIFIED TO JUDGE THE BREEDS BAL, OLH, OSH, PEB, SIA AND THA WHO WISH TO QUALIFY TO JUDGE THE BREEDS ABY, CRX, DRX, GRX, DSP, JBT, RUS, SOM AND SPH
All breeds (except GRX) and all relevant colours and patterns must have been examined
Minimum training requirements: 300 cats of the 9 breeds in minimum 9 months

**Breed group D**
TRAINING FOR JUDGES ALREADY QUALIFIED TO JUDGE THE BREEDS ABY, CRX, DRX, GRX, DSP, JBT, RUS, SOM AND SPH WHO WISH TO QUALIFY TO JUDGE THE BREEDS BAL, OLH, OSH, PEB, SIA AND THA
All breeds and all relevant colours and patterns must have been examined
Minimum training requirements: 200 cats of the 6 breeds in minimum 6 months

GENERAL PRINCIPLES:

1. The FIFe Member carries the responsibility for the student that wishes to apply for temporary breed training.
2. Student Judge's Certificates obtained before 01.01.17 may be used for temporary breed training. Certificates shall not be older than 7 years.
3. Training in foreign countries is not required.
4. Midstream assessment is not required.
5. Minimum number of shows not required.
6. Parallel judging: a minimum of 30 cats in all cases.
7. Seminars are not included in the training (exception for breed workshops up to the max number allowed)
8. Theoretical examination:
   a. takes place according to the present rules
   b. written exam: 30 questions: 10 long, 20 short on the relevant breeds and the colours and patterns from the general part
   c. max duration: 90 minutes
   d. if failed, the student cannot present himself for the practical part
9. Practical examination:
   a. can take place at shows where at least 30 cats of the relevant breeds are entered
   b. the candidate has to write a minimum of 25 reports (max 30).
10. In case of an already qualified Int. Judge, no stage is required.
11. Probational Judges can take a temporary breed training exam by obtaining a prior exception from the Board. The requirement to complete the stages will be decided at that time.
12. All other requirements in the rules apply.
13. Temporary breed training is effective between 01.01.17 and 31.12.26.
14. Judges must complete all temporary breed training to obtain full category qualification before sitting an examination in new categories.
15. When using temporary breed training to obtain full category qualification, the time restraints noted in § 2.4.5 and 4.3.3 must be respected.
16. In cases not covered by the above sections, the FIFe Board can grant exceptions in accordance with the specific situation of the Student Judge.

# FIFe EMS system

Date of issue: 01.01.2026

# FIFe Breeding & Registration Rules

Date of issue: 01.02.2026

## STATUS OF CHANGES

*For previous changes to the rules than those listed below, please refer to the separate document "FIFe Statutes, Rules & Standards – History of Changes" available in the section "Rules & Forms" on the FIFe website.*

| § | Status | Remarks |
|---|---|---|
| | | ***Edition 01.01.26*** |
| *6.6 (DRX)*<br>*6.15 (MCO)* | *Correction* | *Correction of errors* |
| | | ***Edition 01.02.26*** |
| *5.1.1* | *Addition* | *It is not permitted to issue pedigrees for litters bred from queens not registered in the Pedigree Book of the FIFe Member to which the owner belongs* |
| *5.2.2* | *Deletion* | *Cattery names shall not contain an EMS code or any other abbreviation for any breed or name of breed* |
| *5.2.2* | *Deletion* | *Cattery names shall not contain the word "cattery" in any language* |
| *5.3.2* | *Addition* | *All Merit titles and all Winner titles of offspring are valid for the Distinguished Merit title of the parents* |
| *6.1.3* | *Addition* | *Clarification of the rule for breeding with cats without permission* |
| *6.6 DRX* | *Change* | *Obligatory test for CMS (Congenital Myasthenic Syndrome)* |
| *6.15 MCO* | *Change* | *Obligatory test (PAX3) for cats with blue eyes or odd-eyed* |
| *6.23 SIB* | *Addition* | *Cats with blue eyes only allowed with EMS codes w, 01 and 02* |
| *6.27 SRL/SRS* | *Deletion* | *Expiration date of permitted outcross* |
| *10.2.2* | *Change* | *Start of the recognition process* |
| *11.2.2* | *Addition* | *Instead of 3 generations of the same breed/sister breed, also a verified DNA test may be accepted* |
| *Appendix I* | *Modification* | *Obligatory test CMS for DRX* |
| *Appendix I* | *Modification* | *Obligatory test PAX3 for blue and odd-eyed MCO* |
| *Appendix III* | *Deletion* | *Reference to § 5.2.2* |
| | | ***Edition 01.06.25*** |
| *6.3 BEN* | *Change* | *Charcoal is a preliminary recognised variety in Bengal* |

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# 1 General

The health and welfare of each individual cat or kitten must be the foremost concern for all breeders and owners of cats or kittens.

Responsible breeding based on genetic principles, disease prevention and an environment of love and comfort must be encouraged.

Accurate records regarding the health and breeding of cats and kittens must be kept.

# 2 Husbandry and environment

## 2.1 General care

Adult cats and kittens must have their vaccinations updated regularly. Sick cats and kittens must receive veterinary attention as soon as possible. Parasites such as fleas, ticks, mites, intestinal worms, heart worms etc., are sometimes unavoidable, but all cats must be regularly examined and treated.

Special measures must be taken for the prevention or spread of viral, bacterial and fungal diseases, including the use of vaccinations where available.

## 2.2 Accommodation

### 2.2.1 General conditions

Living accommodation, bedding, dishes, litter trays etc., must be kept clean at all times.

Cats must have water bowls with fresh water at all times, the right food when required or prescribed, comfortable bedding, play and activity items and climbing poles or similar.

Cats must have adequate space in which to move and play and should enjoy domestic living.

For cats unused to extreme temperatures, a range between 10º C to 35º C (50º F to 95º F) is acceptable but temperatures either below or above these averages necessitate either heating or cooling assistance.

Ventilation facilities are to be provided with fresh air (windows, doors, air conditioning) in order to minimise odours, moisture and drafts.

Natural and artificial lighting must be provided.

Cleaning and disinfecting facilities for floors, walls and furniture must be always available.

Although individual cats enjoy the company of other cats, overcrowding is to be avoided as this can lead to stress and aggression and, more importantly, can increase the risk of diseases.

Every cat or kitten must be given daily individual attention; this should include handling which allows for a check of the general health.

### 2.2.2 Separated accommodations

Where accommodation is separate from a domestic environment, facilities must be for the cat's best management and maintenance.

Under these conditions:

- a minimum of 6 square meters of floor space with a height of at least 1.80 m per cat is required
- more than one level must exist, and a sleeping and/or refuge area must be included
- all areas must be suitable for human access and weatherproof.

With outdoor facilities:

- cats must be provided with sufficient shade to give them protection from direct sunlight
- in these cases, cats must be allowed access inside in order to remain dry if it rains or snows
- areas must be constructed to facilitate easy drainage.

## 2.3 Re-homing of cats

### 2.3.1 Agreements

Any agreements or limitations with purchasers of kittens or users of stud cats must be in writing to avoid misunderstandings.

### 2.3.2 Pet shops or research facilities forbidden

It is not permitted to sell or hand over cats with FIFe pedigrees to pet shops or similar organisations nor for any experimental research or testing.

It is also not permitted for members of FIFe Member clubs to offer/trade cats or services, such as stud services, by auction or similar actions either on electronic or actual events.

### 2.3.3 Kittens

Kittens must not go to a new owner (home) before they are 14 weeks old and have been fully vaccinated against feline panleucopenia, feline calici virus and feline herpes virus, unless otherwise advised by a veterinarian.

All kittens must be identified by microchip, and the identifying code shall be documented in or on the pedigree.

## 2.4 Studs

Stud cats, which have to live in enclosed accommodation, must have a minimum of six square metres of floor space with a minimum height of 1.80 m available to them; at least two square metres must be enclosed and weatherproof. If this accommodation is shared, then the available surface must be larger. In all accommodation there must be more than one level, and a sleeping or refuge area must be included.
All areas must be suitable for human access.

## 2.5 Queens

All births must be attended in case problems occur.
Queens about to give birth or un-weaned kittens must have a separate area/room available.

# 3 Breeding conditions

## 3.1 General

All cats registered in a FIFe Pedigree book can be used for breeding unless restricted by:

- the Breeding & Registration Rules (→ § 3, 6, 7, 8 or 9), or
- national rules with regard to health issues.

FIFe Members are not permitted to impose any further stricter breeding or registration limitations.

## 3.2 Studs

Before being used as a stud, a male cat shall have a veterinary certificate confirming that both testicles are normal and are descended into the scrotal sac.

A stud owned by a member of a FIFe Member may not be used for matings, which will result in unregistered kittens, i.e. for matings where the kittens will not receive an official pedigree from either a FIFe Member or a non- FIFe organisation.

## 3.3 Queens

Queens must not have more than two litters in twelve months with a maximum of three litters in twenty-four months except with the prior written approval of a veterinarian and/or the FIFe Member.

A queen which requires repeated caesarean sections must not be used for further breeding.
A queen may not be allowed to be mated by a second male within 3 weeks of the previous mating.

## 3.4 Microchip

All breeding cats must be identified by microchip, and the identifying code shall be documented in or on the pedigree. Exception is granted for males which are not registered with FIFe.

## 3.5 Genetic diseases and tests

### 3.5.1 Test programmes

Cats in breeds which bear a risk of genetic disease, and which satisfy the following criteria:
- the disease is fatal or causes chronic distress
- the disease occurs in a significant proportion of the breed
- a reliable test is available, and the disease could be eliminated

should be tested for such diseases. Each FIFe Member must develop appropriate programmes.

If tests are made mandatory, either by a programme established by the FIFe Member or by a breed specific entry in § 6 of the Breeding and Registration Rules, the FIFe Member must register the test results, based on laboratory documentation submitted by the breeder, and the test results must be indicated either on the pedigree itself on or a separate appendix to the pedigree.

Any proposal to implement a mandatory test in § 6 of the Breeding & Registration Rules must be accompanied by scientifically valid data, as well as a scientifically motivated test programme and breeding programme. Such a rule for a mandatory test should include a review schedule, at least once every five years, for the continued validity of the test, which has to be carried out by the Health & Welfare Commission. This commission must report on this review to the General Assembly.

Information on genetic diseases and advice on testing and health examinations will be researched and provided by the Health & Welfare Commission (→ Appendix I and Appendix II).
The Health & Welfare Commission can help and advise the FIFe Members with information on genetic diseases and testing programmes. The Judges & Standards, the Breeding & Registration Commission and the other Commissions will be consulted if necessary.

### 3.5.2 Genetic diseases

The FIFe will not register or recognise any new breed of cats with breed characteristics based on phenotypic abnormalities or other congenital traits which give rise to health problems or impede the normal life of the cat.

The FIFe will not register or recognise any breed of cats showing as a breed characteristic:
- achondroplasia/pseudo-achondroplasia
  an autosomal dominant gene resulting in dwarfism, shortened limbs and legs and other physical defects (for example the Munchkin)
- osteochondrodysplasia:
  an autosomal dominant gene causing progressive joint, bone and cartilage deformity (for example the Scottish Fold)
- any other form of genetic mutation which results in a miniaturised cat or a foreshortening of the limbs of the cats.

The FIFe will not accept any new preliminary recognition applications for hairless varieties or partially hairless breeds, the current recognised breeds excepted: Sphynx, Don Sphynx and Peterbald.

## 3.6 Cats not allowed for breeding

The following cats are not allowed for breeding:
- deaf cats (→ § 3.6.4)
- cats with an umbilical hernia
- cats without whiskers
- any type of “wild” cat or any new breed based on “wild” cats (→ § 3.6.1)
- cats suffering from (pseudo-)achondroplasia or osteochondrodysplasia (→ § 3.6.2)
- cats suffering from congenital abnormalities (→ § 3.6.3).

It is not permitted to consider cats not allowed for breeding based on the sole fact they have not obtained whichever qualification at shows.

### 3.6.1 “Wild” cats and new breeds based on “wild” cats

FIFe will not recognise nor create EMS-codes for:
- any type of “wild” cat (→ FIFe General Rules § 13.1)
- any new breed based on “wild” cats.

Such cats:
- are not allowed for breeding
- cannot be registered with FIFe
- cannot be exhibited at a FIFe show
- cannot be promoted or advertised.

Remark: the breed Toyger is considered an established breed based on an outcross of a FIFe recognised breed (Bengal) and not a new breed based on a wild species.

### 3.6.2 Cats suffering from (pseudo-)achondroplasia or osteochondrodysplasia

FIFe will not recognise nor create EMS-codes for:
- cats suffering from (pseudo-)achondroplasia (→ § 3.5.2)
- cats suffering from osteochondrodysplasia (→ § 3.5.2).

Cats suffering from (pseudo-)achondroplasia or osteochondrodysplasia, or with such a cat in their ancestry:
- are not allowed for breeding
- cannot be registered with FIFe
- cannot be exhibited at a FIFe show
- cannot be promoted or advertised.

### 3.6.3 Cats suffering from congenital abnormalities

FIFe will not support or encourage breeding with cats suffering from congenital abnormalities, for ex.:
- hairless cats (except the current recognised breeds: Sphynx, Don Sphynx and Peterbald)
- cats with deformities of the feet or legs, for example polydactylism or oligodactylism (too many or too few toes)
- cats having other congenital disqualifying faults (→ General Part to the Standards).

Such cats:
- are not allowed for breeding
- cannot be sold as breeding cats; a breeder selling such a cat must send a request to their FIFe Member for a “breeding restriction” to be put on the pedigree
- cannot be promoted or advertised.

### 3.6.4 White cats

White cats must be tested for hearing before they are used for breeding.

Mating between two white cats is not allowed.

# 4 Pedigree book

## 4.1 Definition of pedigree book and pedigree

The pedigree book is the complete register of cats.

Full information concerning the cat is required, i.e. the name of the cat, the cattery name, the complete registration number including the identity of the registration body, sex, complete EMS-code and date of birth, as well as information on both parents (→ § 4.5).

For cats born after 01.01.2007 the identifying code of both parents is required according to § 3.4 and must be registered in the pedigree book, except for cats referred to in § 4.6.2.

A printout and/or a digital version of the pedigree book regarding an individual cat and its ancestry is the pedigree (→ § 4.5). Ancestry is considered four generations prior to the cat.

No cat can carry a cattery name other than that of its breeder. The breeder is the owner of the female cat at the time of mating. However, the breeder may give the buyer of a pregnant female permission to register the offspring under the cattery name of the new owner.

## 4.2 Description of the pedigree book “LO” (Livre d’Origine)

The **LO register** contains cats that:
- belong to a breed fully recognised by FIFe (→ § 6.1) and
- have a fully recognised variety for the actual breed (→ the FIFe EMS-list) and
- have a pedigree of pure breeding (→ § 6.1.2) of at least 3 generations prior to the actual cat and
- have the information available as laid down in § 4.5.

## 4.3 Description of the experimental pedigree book “RIEX” (Registre Initial et Experimental)

The **RIEX register** is a register where cats are entered which:
- do not meet the requirements laid down for the LO register (→ § 4.2) or
- result from crossbreeding (→ § 9.1).

When cats fulfil all the requirements for entry in the LO register according to § 4.2, it is not permitted to enter them in (or to downgrade them to) the RIEX register based on the sole fact they have not obtained whichever qualification at shows.

## 4.4 Transfer from the RIEX to the LO register

A cat must automatically be transferred from the RIEX to the LO register if the requirements for the LO register are achieved.

## 4.5 Pedigree

A FIFe Member:
- must offer pedigree services to its membership
- is only entitled to issue pedigrees for cats bred / owned by individuals holding membership in the organisation. It is not permitted to issue pedigrees to non-members.

Pedigrees issued by a FIFe Member:
- must show the FIFe logo and the name of the FIFe Member on the page where the details of the cat and the ancestors are listed and
- must be signed and authorised by the FIFe Member.

At point of issue the pedigree must contain at least the following information on the cat in question:
- name and achieved titles
- date of birth
- sex
- registration number
- complete original registration number including the identity of the registration body
- breed/colour/pattern as EMS-code according to genotype (in consideration of phenotype, → § 5.1.1)
- name of the breeder
- information on four (4) generations of ancestors prior to the cat in question.

Information on the parents must include at least the following:
- names and titles
- complete original registration numbers including the identity of the registration body
- breed/colour/pattern as EMS-code
- identifying code (→ § 3.4).

Information about grandparents and great-grandparents must include at least the following:
- names and titles
- complete original registration numbers including the identity of the registration body
- breed/colour/pattern as EMS-code.

Information about great-great-grandparents must include at least the following:
- names and titles
- breed/colour/pattern as EMS-code
- if possible, the complete original registration numbers including the identity of the registration body may be included.

If the required minimum information – as listed above – on any ancestor of the cat is not available, then:
- the cat must be entered in the RIEX register
- the available items of the ancestor must be printed on the pedigree
- the missing items of the ancestor can be left out on the pedigree.

## 4.6 Import and transfer

### 4.6.1 Import from another FIFe Member

The original pedigree of an imported cat must be respected. However, faults and violations of the Breeding & Registration Rules must be corrected, and the exporting FIFe Member must be informed of these corrections.

#### 4.6.2 Transfer of pedigrees from non-FIFe organisations

When registering cats imported with an official pedigree from non-FIFe organisations:
- the importing FIFe Member decides upon the reliability of the non-FIFe organisation
- the registration in the Pedigree book must always fulfil the genetic principles and the requirements of the FIFe Breeding & Registration Rules, except for the requirement regarding the identifying code of both parents of the cat, as laid down in § 4.5
- the original pedigree must be respected; however, faults and violations of the Breeding & Registration Rules must be corrected.

A cat imported with a pedigree from a non-FIFe organisation:
- fulfilling the requirements for registration in the LO register according to § 4.2 must be entered in the LO register and may not be downgraded to the RIEX register
- not fulfilling the requirements for registration in the LO register according to § 4.2 must be entered in the RIEX register and may not be upgraded to the LO register.

If the exporting organisation uses transfer declarations, such a declaration must be provided before the cat can be registered in the Pedigree book.

Imported cats will not retain their titles. Titles of forbears may be retained on the pedigree.

#### 4.6.3 Original name of an imported cat to be retained

It is forbidden for any FIFe Member to deliberately register a cat with anything other than its original name.

The pedigree originally issued for a cat may never be destroyed when the cat is imported into a FIFe club.

# 5 Registration rules

## 5.1 Registration of cats

#### 5.1.1 General principles

All kittens bred by a National FIFe Member's member must be first registered in FIFe and a FIFe pedigree must be issued.

Registration of a cat in the Pedigree book must be done according to the EMS-system and genetic principles.

To register cats in a pedigree-book the breeder must have a cattery name registered in the FIFe Book of Cattery Names (BCN). An exception can be granted by the FIFe Member for no more than two litters bred by an individual breeder.

*It is not permitted to issue pedigrees for litters bred from queens not registered in the Pedigree Book of the FIFe Member to which the owner belongs.*

If a cat's phenotype differs from its genotype, *then* the phenotype must *also* be registered in the Pedigree book, after the genotype has been proven by:
- the genetics of the parents
- its progeny.

In these cases, both the cat's known genotype and phenotype must be noted in the pedigree. The phenotype must be in accordance with the description in the EMS-system and must be written in brackets in the pedigree.

A cat must compete at shows according to phenotype.

Once registered, the EMS code of a cat can be amended upon request of the cat's breeder or owner until the age of 1 year.
Otherwise, such changes may only be made if the amendment has been proven by:
- the genetics of the cat's parents
- its progeny
- a genetic test

or after having been shown in class 13c (Determination class)
or having received a transfer recommendation in accordance with Show Rules § 6.5.

If a change in the EMS code of a cat results in a change of variety / group, then:
- already approved titles must always be retained (for recognised varieties)
- all certificates for the next title must be gained in the new variety / group.

### 5.1.2 Special codes for registration

#### 5.1.2.1 The use of brackets

The rounded brackets "(" and ")" shall be used in addition to the EMS code to indicate the originating breed or the target breed.

Registration examples
XLH * (MCO)
XSH * (BML)

#### 5.1.2.2 Breed specific modifiers

The EMS code "t" will be used for breed specific modifiers.
The modifier code must be added to the EMS code for colour.

Recognised modifiers:
NFO – black modifier Amber

For NFO the EMS codes "dt" and "et" may be used to register the genotype of red/cream progeny from two amber / amber carrying cats together with their phenotype "d" respectively "e" in brackets, in accordance with § 5.1.1. The EMS codes "dt" and "et" may only be used for registration purposes.

Registration example:
NFO at 22 Norwegian Forest Cat light amber blotched

#### 5.1.2.3 Dilute modifier ("m")

| EMS-code | Colour |
|---|---|
| m | modifier |
| x am | caramel, based on blue |
| x cm | caramel, based on lilac |
| x em | apricot, based on cream |
| x pm | caramel, based on fawn |
| x *m | caramel, where the base colour is not known |

**Remark:**
This effect of the Dilute Modifiers is, according to the theory, the result of a dilution of diluted colours in combination with a gene described as dilute modifier. In FIFe Siamese e.g. can be registered as:

| EMS-code | Colour |
|---|---|
| SIA x am | Siamese caramel, based on blue |
| SIA x cm | Siamese caramel, based on lilac |
| SIA x em | Siamese apricot, based on cream |
| SIA x pm | Siamese caramel, based on fawn |
| SIA x *m | Siamese caramel, where the base colour is not known |

### 5.1.3 Registration number

From 01.01.1997 all new entries in the Pedigree book must be made according to the following principle:

(**Country code) + (Abbreviation of FIFe Member) + (LO or RX) + (no.)**

From 01.01.2010 the country code to be used is the international ISO 3166-1 alpha-2 code of country names (→ FIFe General Rules, Annex 2).

For example:
- a cat entered in the LO in Sweden will be registered as (SE) SVERAK LO nnnn
- a cat entered in the RIEX in France will be registered as (FR) FFF RX nnnn.

If a pedigree is established (LO or RIEX), all the original registration numbers from the ancestors must be maintained absolutely.

It is not allowed to give cats, other than those newly imported a new FIFe registration number.

The first and original registration number of each cat must be visibly kept on its pedigree whenever imported cats are concerned.

## 5.2 Registration of cattery names

### 5.2.1 The FIFe Book of Cattery Names (BCN)

FIFe will keep an international book of cattery names (BCN) registered by the Members of FIFe and approved by the FIFe.

### 5.2.2 The cattery name

A cattery name shall not contain more than 18 letters or signs.

A cattery name is the private and personal property of a breeder and cannot, after registration, be changed, except under circumstances listed in § 5.2.5.

### 5.2.3 Application for a FIFe cattery name

Individual members of a FIFe organisation:

- shall request to register a cattery name in the Book of Cattery Names through their national FIFe Member
- are allowed only one FIFe registered cattery name.

Three alternative names should be submitted.

A cattery name may only be registered if no other identical or similar cattery name, which might give rise to confusion, is listed in the BCN. Exceptions are made for individual members residing in countries as outlined in Appendix III.

A fee decided by the FIFe General Assembly will be charged for registration of a cattery name. The current fee is listed in the FIFe General Rules, Annex 1.

### 5.2.4 The use of a cattery name

The use of a cattery name not registered in the FIFe BCN is not allowed for any individual member.

### 5.2.5 Changes of a cattery name

If a cattery name has been registered in the name of two people living at the same address, neither of the partners can acquire a second cattery name.

In case of separation of partners, the FIFe General Secretary shall be informed as to which of the partners is to retain the cattery name.

A cattery name may be inherited or transferred during the lifetime of the owner, within the family or relatives, to a person who is a member of a FIFe Member.

After the death of the owner of a cattery name, it cannot be used for the next 20 years, unless it is transferred to a lawful heir who is a member of a FIFe Member.

A cattery name once issued can be changed only once, upon simple request of the owner. The cattery name registration fee applies to a change (→ FIFe General Rules, Annex 1). The original cattery name can only be deleted after a period of more than 10 years has elapsed since the change.

### 5.2.6 Deletion of a cattery name

Cattery names in the BCN of FIFe will be deleted at the request of the FIFe Member where the name is registered and may be re-allocated if one of the following conditions applies:

– The owner of the cattery name has been excluded by the FIFe Member
– The owner of the cattery name died without the name being claimed by a lawful heir within 20 years
– The owner of the cattery name left the FIFe Member and is breeding in a non-FIFe organisation
– A period of 25 years has elapsed since the last litter registration
– The cattery name has never been used within a period of 10 years since its registration in the BCN.

If a FIFe Member is obliged to expel an individual member, the name of the latter and that of his cattery shall be reported to the FIFe General Secretary.

## 5.3 Registration of titles

### 5.3.1 List of FIFe titles

| Title | Abbr.* | Remark |
|---|---|---|
| **Championship/Premiership titles** | | |
| Kitten Champion | KCH | These titles are placed before the full name of the cat |
| Junior Champion | JCH | |
| Champion | CH | |
| Premier | PR | |
| International Champion | IC | |
| International Premier | IP | |
| Grand International Champion | GIC | |
| Grand International Premier | GIP | |
| Supreme Champion | SC | |
| Supreme Premier | SP | |
| **Winner titles** | | |
| Junior Winner | JW | This title is placed after the full name of the cat |
| Distinguished Senior Winner | DSW | |
| National Winner | NW | These titles + the year are placed before the full name and before possible Championship/Premiership titles of the cat |
| International Winner | IW | |
| American Winner | AW | |
| Baltic Winner | BW | |
| Black Sea Winner | BSW | |
| Central European Winner | CEW | |
| Eurasian Winner | EAW | |
| Mediterranean Winner | MW | |
| North Sea Winner | NSW | |
| Scandinavian Winner | SW | |
| World Winner | WW | |
| **Merit titles** | | |
| Distinguished Merit | DM | These titles are placed after the full name of the cat |
| Distinguished Show Merit | DSM | |
| Distinguished Variety Merit | DVM | |

* for breeds with preliminary recognition or for preliminary recognised varieties of a recognised breed, the abbreviations of the titles Kitten Champion, Junior Champion, Champion, Premier, International Champion and International Premier will be preceded by a “P” indicating a preliminary title (i.e. PKCH, PJCH, PCH, PPR, PIC, PIP)

All FIFe show titles are only available for FIFe registered cats (and house cats), owned by individual members of national FIFe Members.

All certificates for a KCH, JCH, CH/PR, IC/IP, GIC/GIP, SC/SP title must have been obtained in the same variety (EMS code) / group.

### 5.3.2 Distinguished Merit (DM)

The FIFe title of “Distinguished Merit (DM)” shall be awarded to a cat according to the following rules:

a. The required number of offspring to obtain the titles IC/IP or higher*, alternatively all Merit titles and all Winner titles (→ § 5.3.1)*, should be a minimum of 5 for both a female cat and a male cat. Among the offspring of the male at least one of the above titles or higher must have been achieved after 01.01.2023.
b. Only FIFe registered titles are valid.
c. The owner may claim the title “DM” in the same manner as other existing titles are claimed.
d. The “DM” shall be placed after the full name of the cat.

# 6 Rules for recognised breeds

## 6.1 List of recognised breeds

| EMS-code | Breed name | Sister breed |
|---|---|---|
| ABY | Abyssinian | SOM |
| ACL | American Curl Longhair | ACS |
| ACS | American Curl Shorthair | ACL |
| BAL | Balinese | OLH, OSH, SIA |
| BEN | Bengal | BGL non (→ § 8.1) |
| BLH | British Longhair | BSH |
| BML | Burmilla | TIF non (→ § 8.1) |
| BSH | British Shorthair | BLH |
| BUR | Burmese | --- |
| CHA | Chartreux | --- |
| CRX | Cornish Rex | --- |
| CYM | Cymric | MAN |
| DRX | Devon Rex | --- |
| DSP | Don Sphynx | --- |
| EUR | European | --- |
| EXO | Exotic | PER |
| GRX | German Rex | --- |
| JBS | Japanese Bobtail Shorthair | JBL non (→ § 8.1) |
| KBL | Kurilean Bobtail Longhair | KBS |
| KBS | Kurilean Bobtail Shorthair | KBL |
| KOR | Korat | --- |
| LPL | LaPerm Longhair | LPS |
| LPS | LaPerm Shorthair | LPL |
| MAN | Manx | CYM |
| MAU | Egyptian Mau | --- |
| MCO | Maine Coon | --- |
| NEM | Neva Masquerade | SIB |
| NFO | Norwegian Forest Cat | --- |
| OCI | Ocicat | --- |
| OLH | Oriental Longhair | BAL, OSH, SIA |
| OSH | Oriental Shorthair | BAL, OLH, SIA |
| PEB | Peterbald | --- |
| PER | Persian | EXO |
| RAG | Ragdoll | --- |
| RUS | Russian Blue | NEB non (→ § 8.1) |
| SBI | Sacred Birman | --- |
| SIA | Siamese | BAL, OLH, OSH |
| SIB | Siberian | NEM |
| SIN | Singapura | --- |
| SNO | Snowshoe | --- |
| SOK | Sokoke | --- |
| SOM | Somali | ABY |
| SPH | Sphynx | --- |
| SRL | Selkirk Rex Longhair | SRS |
| SRS | Selkirk Rex Shorthair | SRL |
| THA | Thai | --- |
| TUA | Turkish Angora | --- |
| TUV | Turkish Van | --- |

### 6.1.1 Sister breeds

Sister breeds are breeds which share the same standards except for coat length and/or pattern. For recognised breeds, sister breeds can be inter-mated without permission, except if indicated otherwise in the Breeding & Registration Rules.

This definition also applies to preliminary recognised breeds (→ § 7.1) and non-recognised breeds with preliminary abbreviations (→ § 8.1).

### 6.1.2 Pure breeding

A cat is considered “pure bred” when its pedigree shows ancestors in a recognised variety for the same breed or sister breed in at least 3 generations prior to the actual cat. This definition also applies to preliminary recognised breeds (→ § 7.1).

### 6.1.3 Special restrictions and registration rules for some breeds

For progeny of two cats within a recognised breed in a colour, pattern and/or coat length specifically excluded in the sub-articles to this article or in the FIFe breed standard, any cat of the excluded variety must be registered as longhair / shorthair progeny with the indication of the originating breed:

- XLH * (EMS-code of the originating breed)
  and as its description: “Non recognised longhair” + the description for colour, pattern, etc. according to the EMS system
- XSH * (EMS-code of the originating breed)
  and as its description: “Non recognised shorthair” + the description for colour, pattern, etc. according to the EMS system.

* - the asterisk - stands for additional information according to the EMS-system, i.e. lower-case basic colours letters, etc.

Cats with the indication “(EMS-code of originating breed)” cannot be used for breeding without the permission from the FIFe Member*, except if indicated otherwise for the originating breed in the Breeding & Registration Rules*.

## 6.2 ACL/ACS (American Curl Longhair and Shorthair)

ACL/ACS with straight ears are to be registered as ACL/ACS x * 71 (i.e. as an unrecognised variety) in the RIEX registry.

ACL/ACS with straight ears can be used in the breeding programme for ACL/ACS.

## 6.3 BEN (Bengal)

Novice cats are not permitted.

Any crossing with other breeds is prohibited, except with sister breed Bengal Longhair (BGL non).

Bengals of generations F1–F4 are not allowed for breeding.

Charcoal varieties are *preliminary* recognised varieties, i.e. they must be registered as *BEN * 14* in the RIEX register. Charcoal Bengal can be used in breeding programmes for BEN/BGL non.

Registration example
*BEN ns * 14 24* – Bengal black silver charcoal spotted

## 6.4 BLH/BSH (British Longhair and Shorthair)

No progeny of cats suffering from osteochondrodysplasia (→ § 3.6.2), regardless of ear-type, may be registered as a BLH/BSH.

## 6.5 BUR (Burmese)

The FIFe shall only recognise the following EMS-codes in Burmese: n, a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, j.

The FIFe will not encourage any person or federation to produce Burmese in any other colour varieties than those listed above.

When breeding Burmese:

- Silver and/or agouti varieties and/or piebald spotting are not allowed for breeding
- Offspring in a non-recognised variety shall be registered as XSH * (BUR)
- Burmese cats used in breeding must have a DNA-test for GM2 gangliosidosis, unless both parents are proven to be free from GM2 gangliosidosis
- These breeding principles are to be followed:
  - GM2-free x GM2-free
  - GM2-free x GM2-carrier
- The cats that need testing according to this rule must be identifiable by microchip or tattoo
- Test results must be registered and published in accordance with § 3.5.1
- The breeder must inform buyers of Burmese cats about the GM2 gangliosidosis-disease and the registration policy.

## *6.6 DRX (Devon Rex)*

*When breeding Devon Rex:*

- *All Devon Rex cats must have be DNA test for CMS (Congenital Myasthenic Syndrome), unless both parents are proven to be free from the CMS.*
- *Only the following matings are allowed:*
  - *CMS free x CMS free*
  - *CMS free x CMS carrier*
- *Homozygous CMS cats are not allowed for breeding*
- *Cats to be tested according to this rule must be identifiable by microchip; the microchip ID number must be clearly stated on the test result certificate*
- *Test results must be registered and published in accordance with § 3.5.1*
- *The breeder must inform buyers of Devon Rexes, if the parents are carriers, about the CMS-related diseases and the registration policy.*

## 6.7 DSP (Don Sphynx)

DSP can only be used for breeding DSP.

Appearances of offspring and how these must be registered when mating DSP x DSP:

| Appearance | EMS code | Breeding restriction |
|---|---|---|
| hairless | DSP * | All DSP can only be used for breeding DSP |
| flock coat | DSP * | |
| long coat | DSP x * 81 | |
| short coat | DSP x * 82 | |
| brush coat | DSP x * 83 | |

- * means additional information following the EMS-system, i.e. lower-case basic colour letter etc.

Registration of tabby, silver and golden
For hairless tabby varieties of DSP, always EMS code “21” must be used regardless of the genotype. For non-hairless (81/82/83) tabby varieties the EMS codes 11, 12 or 22-25 must be used.

For hairless varieties of DSP, the EMS-codes “s” (silver) and “y” (golden) shall not be used regardless of the genotype. For non-hairless varieties (81/82/83) silver and golden must be registered.

Registration of “flock” coat variety: DSP *
The word “flock” means the cat has residual flock hair of no more than 2 mm. in length on the whole body.
DSP with flock coat structure is a recognised variety.
No specific EMS code needs to be added for the flock coat structure.

Registration of long/short coat variety: DSP x * 81/82
The gene that causes the DSP hairlessness is a dominant gene, i.e. kittens with normal fur / coat can be born out of two pure bred hairless cats. Coated cats are an integrated part of the breed DSP.
DSP with long/short coat must be registered as a non-recognised (“x”) variety and by using the code for longhair (81) or shorthair (82).

Registration examples:
DSP x n 21 33 81 Don Sphynx seal tabby point longhair
DSP x f 03 24 82 Don Sphynx bicolour black tortie spotted shorthair

Registration of “brush” coat variety: DSP x * 83
The word “brush” means the cat has fine wavy, often wiry, hair of more than 2 mm. in length on the whole body, with bald areas on the head, upper part of the neck or on the back.
DSP with brush coat structure must be registered as a non-recognised variety (“x”) and by using the code for brush (83).

Registration examples:
DSP x n 21 33 83 Don Sphynx seal tabby point brush
DSP x f 03 24 83 Don Sphynx bicolour black tortie spotted brush

## 6.*8* EUR (European)

FIFe shall not recognise any other coat length than shorthair in the European (EUR).

Longhair cats *must* be registered as XLH * (EUR).

Chocolate, lilac, cinnamon, fawn (i.e. EMS codes b, c, h, j, o, p, q and r) and golden, shaded, shell, ticked tabby and pointed (i.e. EMS-codes y, 11, 12, 25, 31, 32 and 33) are not permitted and must be registered as XSH * (EUR).

In case of outcross, it is only permitted to use domestic shorthair cats from Europe. The domestic shorthair cats in question should be DNA tested (to rule out the longhair gene, the colour chocolate and the pointed gene) and be registered as XSH *.

## 6.*9* JBS (Japanese Bobtail Shorthair)

Golden, shaded, shell, ticked tabby and pointed (i.e. EMS-codes y, 11, 12, 25, 31, 32 and 33) are not permitted in the Japanese Bobtail Shorthair (JBS) and must be registered as XSH * (JBS).

## 6.*10* KBL/KBS (Kurilean Bobtail Longhair and Shorthair)

Only cats imported from the Kurile Islands, with certification, may be entered in the Novice class for recognition. No outcross breeds are permitted.
Chocolate, lilac, cinnamon, fawn and pointed patterns are not permitted and must be registered as XLH * (KBL) or XSH * (KBS).

## 6.*11* KOR (Korat)

The FIFe shall not recognise any other variety than blue in the Korat.

The FIFe will not encourage any person or federation to produce colours other than blue in the Korat.

When breeding Korats:

- Only blue KOR shall be used, and only blue offspring from blue KOR parents can be registered as Korat (KOR).
- Offspring in a variety other than blue shall be registered as XSH * (KOR) / XLH * (KOR)
- Only Korats imported from Thailand may be entered in the novice class for recognition. Their origin must be officially proven by documentation.
- Korat cats used in breeding must have a DNA-test for GM, unless both parents are proven to be free from GM.
- These breeding principles are to be followed:
  - GM-free x GM-free
  - Non-carrier x carrier – provided that all offspring are GM-tested.
- If a desired mating is not completely covered by points above, the FIFe Member must approve such a mating in advance after having received a well-founded application. The FIFe Member states all conditions if the application is granted.
- The cats that need testing according to this rule must be identifiable by microchip or tattoo
- Test results must be registered and published in accordance with § 3.5.1
- The breeder must inform buyers of Korat cats about the GM-diseases and the registration policy.

## 6.*12* LPL/LPS (LaPerm Longhair and Shorthair)

LPL/LPS can only be used for breeding LPL/LPS.

Registration of straight coat variety: LPL x * 84 / LPS x * 84
The gene that causes the LPL/LPS curls is a dominant gene, i.e. kittens with normal fur / straight coat can be born out of two pure bred LPL/LPS.
Straight coated cats are an integrated part of the breeds LPL/LPS.
LPL/LPS with straight long/short coat must be registered as a non-recognised variety (“x”) and by using the code for straight coat (84).

## 6.*13* MAN/CYM (Manx and Cymric)

A Manx/Cymric having at least three generations of MAN/CYM (MAN/CYM 51, 52, 53 and 54) prior to the actual cat must be registered in the LO register.

Remark: Manx/Cymric having MAN/CYM 54 in its pedigree in one or more of the three generations prior to the cat in question, will be registered in the LO register.

## 6.*14* MAU (Egyptian Mau)

Novice cats are not permitted.

## 6.*15* MCO (Maine Coon)

The Novice class is only open to longhair cats born in Northeast America. Their origin must be proved officially by documentation.

Any crossing with other breeds is prohibited.

The FIFe shall not recognise any pointed variety in the Maine Coon (MCO).

Chocolate, lilac, cinnamon, fawn and pointed patterns are not permitted and must be registered as XLH * (MCO).

MCO with blue eyes are only allowed with EMS codes w, 01 and 02. In any other variety they must be registered as XLH * 61 (MCO) and cannot be re-registered or used for breeding.

*When breeding Maine Coons:*

- *All Maine Coon cats with blue eyes or odd-eyed (EMS codes 61 and 63) must have a DNA test for the PAX3 gene, unless both parents are proven to be free from the PAX3 mutation*
- *Only the following matings are allowed:*
  - *PAX3 free x PAX3 free*
  - *PAX3 free x PAX3 carrier:*
    *if a cat is a proven PAX3 carrier, no matter the eye colour, then it only can be mated to PAX3 free cats. The use of carriers is only allowed until 31.12.2026.*
- *Cats to be tested according to this rule must be identifiable by microchip; the microchip ID number must be clearly stated on the test result certificate*
- *Test results must be registered and published in accordance with § 3.5.1*
- *The breeder must inform buyers of Maine Coons, if the parents are carriers, about the PAX3-related diseases and the registration policy.*

## 6.*16* NEM (Neva Masquerade)

Novice class is only accepted for cats born in the former USSR.
Any crossing with other breeds is prohibited, except with sister breed Siberian (SIB).

Chocolate-, lilac-, cinnamon- and fawn-pointed patterns are not permitted and must be registered as XLH * (NEM).

## 6.*17* NFO (Norwegian Forest Cat)

The FIFe shall not recognise any pointed variety in the Norwegian Forest Cat (NFO).

Chocolate, lilac, cinnamon, fawn and pointed patterns are not permitted and must be registered as XLH * (NFO).

When breeding Norwegian Forest Cats:

- Cats shall be DNA tested for the GBE-1 gene (GSD IV - glycogen storage disease), unless both parents of the breeding cat are proven not to be carriers of GSD IV
- Cats to be tested after this rule must be identifiable by microchip or tattoo, and the microchip or tattoo ID number shall follow the test documentation to the laboratory and be clearly stated on the test result certificate
- The following breeding principle must be observed:
  - carriers must not be mated with carriers
- Test results must be registered and published in accordance with § 3.5.1.

## 6.*18* OCI (Ocicat)

Reds, creams and tortie-tabbies are not allowed and must be registered as: XSH * (OCI).

Cinnamon and fawns showing high levels of rufism may resemble red or cream but can never produce female tortie-tabbies.

## 6.*19* PEB (Peterbald)

PEB can only be used for breeding PEB.
Permitted outcrosses are BAL, OLH, OSH and SIA (→ § 6.21).

PEB must be DNA tested for CEP290 (PRA-rdAC) prior to mating, unless both parents of the breeding cats are proven not to carry PRA (N/N).
Cats to be tested after this rule must be identifiable by microchip or tattoo, and the microchip or tattoo ID number shall follow the test documentation to the laboratory and be clearly stated on the test result certificate.

Only the following matings are allowed:
- PRA non-carrier (N/N) x PRA non-carrier (N/N)
- PRA non-carrier (N/N) x PRA carrier (N/rdAC).

The results must be registered and published in accordance with § 3.5.1.

Appearances of offspring and how these must be registered
when mating PEB x PEB or when mating PEB x BAL/OLH/OSH/SIA:

| Appearance | EMS code | Breeding restriction |
|---|---|---|
| hairless | PEB * | All PEB can only be used for breeding PEB |
| flock coat | PEB * | |
| brush coat | PEB * 83 | |
| long coat | PEB x * 81 | |
| short coat | PEB x * 82 | |

* means additional information following the EMS-system, i.e. lower-case basic colour letter etc.

Registration of tabby, silver and golden
For hairless tabby varieties of PEB, always EMS code “21” must be used regardless of the genotype. For non-hairless (81/82/83) tabby varieties the EMS codes 11, 12 or 22-25 must be used.

For hairless varieties of PEB, the EMS-codes “s” (silver) and “y” (golden) shall not be used regardless of the genotype. For non-hairless varieties (81/82/83) silver and golden must be registered.

Registration of “flock” coat variety: PEB *
The word “flock” means the cat has residual flock hair of no more than 2 mm. in length on the whole body. PEB with flock coat structure is a recognised variety. No specific EMS code needs to be added for the flock coat structure.

Registration of “brush” coat variety: PEB * 83
The word “brush” means the cat has fine wavy, often wiry, hair of more than 2 mm. in length on the whole body, with bald areas on the head, upper part of the neck or on the back.
PEB with brush coat structure is a recognised variety and must be registered by using the EMS code for brush (83).

Registration examples:
PEB n 21 33 83 Peterbald seal tabby point brush
PEB f 03 24 83 Peterbald bicolour black tortie spotted brush

Registration of long/short coat variety: PEB x * 81/82
The gene that causes the PEB hairlessness is a dominant gene, i.e. kittens with normal fur / coat can be born out of two pure bred hairless cats. Coated cats are an integrated part of the breed PEB.
PEB with long/short coat must be registered as a non-recognised variety (“x”) and by using the code for longhair (81) or shorthair (82).

Registration examples:
PEB x n 21 33 81 Peterbald seal tabby point longhair
PEB x f 03 24 82 Peterbald bicolour black tortie spotted shorthair

## 6.*20* RAG (Ragdoll)

The FIFe shall not recognise any other variety than Siamese pointed with blue eyes in the Ragdoll; any other variety must be registered as XLH * (RAG).

## 6.*21* RUS (Russian Blue)

The FIFe shall not recognise any variety other than blue in the Russian Blue.

The FIFe will not encourage any person or federation to produce colours other than blue in the Russian Blue.

When breeding Russian Blues:
- only blue shorthair progeny from blue parents can be registered as Russian Blue (RUS)
- shorthair progeny in a variety other than blue must be registered as XSH * (RUS)
- longhair progeny: sister breed Nebelung - NEB non (→ § 8.4).

## 6.*22* SIA/BAL/OSH/OLH (Siamese, Balinese and Oriental Shorthair/Longhair)

SIA/BAL/OSH/OLH must be DNA tested for CEP290 (PRA-rdAC) prior to mating, unless both parents of the breeding cats are proven not to carry PRA (N/N).

Cats to be tested after this rule must be identifiable by microchip or tattoo, and the microchip or tattoo ID number shall follow the test documentation to the laboratory and be clearly stated on the test result certificate.
Only the following matings are allowed:

- PRA non-carrier (N/N) x PRA non-carrier (N/N)
- PRA non-carrier (N/N) x PRA carrier (N/rdAC).

The results must be registered and published in accordance with § 3.5.1.

Crosses of Siamese and Balinese of all varieties with silvers of any variety are prohibited.
At the breeder's request, exceptions may be allowed by the FIFe Member. In such cases the FIFe Member will be responsible for the determination of the colours of the offspring.

## 6.23 SIB (Siberian)

Novice class only accepted for cats born in the former USSR.

Any crossing with other breeds is prohibited, except with sister breed Neva Masquerade (NEM).

Chocolate, lilac, cinnamon, fawn with or without pointed patterns are not permitted and must be registered as XLH * (SIB).

Pointed cats in other colours must be registered as NEM *.

*SIB with blue eyes are only allowed with EMS codes w, 01 and 02. In any other variety they must be registered as XLH * 61 (SIB) and cannot be re-registered or used for breeding.*

## 6.24 SIN (Singapura)

Other colour varieties than seal sepia ticked tabby (brown Burmese pointed ticked tabby) are not permitted and must be registered as XSH * (SIN).

## 6.25 SOK (Sokoke)

Only Sokoke cats imported from the Sokoke district in Kenya (Africa) may be entered in the Novice class for recognition. Their origin must be officially proved by documentation.

## 6.26 SPH (Sphynx)

For hairless breeds like SPH, the EMS-codes "s" (silver) and "y" (golden) shall not be used regardless of the genotype.

## 6.27 SRL/SRS (Selkirk Rex Longhair and Shorthair)

SRL/SRS can only be used for breeding SRL/SRS.

Permitted outcrosses for SRL/SRS are BLH/BSH.
All outcross breeding and registration of kittens must follow § 9.1.

Registration of straight coat variety: SRL x * 84 / SRS x * 84
The gene that causes the SRL/SRS curls is a dominant gene, i.e. kittens with normal fur / straight coat can be born out of two pure bred SRL/SRS.
Straight coated cats are an integrated part of the breeds SRL/SRS.
SRL/SRS with straight long/short coat must be registered as a non-recognised variety ("x") and by using the code for straight coat (84).

## 6.28 THA (Thai)

Crossbreeding is not allowed.

Only recognised colours shall be used. Cinnamon, fawn, silver, golden and white are not permitted; offspring in these colours must be registered as XSH * (THA).

Cats bred or imported from other organisations cannot be registered or shown as THA if any other breed occurs within the first four generations of ancestors prior to the cat (visible in a FIFe pedigree).

Only THA imported from Thailand may be entered in the novice class for recognition.
Their origin must be officially proven by documentation.

## 6.29 TUA (Turkish Angora)

The FIFe shall not recognise any pointed variety in the Turkish Angora (TUA).

Chocolate, lilac, cinnamon, fawn and pointed patterns are not permitted and must be registered as XLH * (TUA).

## 6.*30* TUV (Turkish Van)

The FIFe shall only recognise the following EMS-codes in TUV: n, a, d, e, f, g (tabby and non-tabby). Offspring in a non-recognised variety must be registered as XLH * (TUV).

The FIFe will not encourage any person or federation to produce Turkish Vans in any other colour varieties than those listed above.

Only cats imported from Turkey and surrounding countries may be entered in the Novice class for recognition. Their origin must be officially proved by documentation.

# 7 Rules for preliminary recognised breeds

The rules regarding an individual preliminary recognised breed shall be transferred to § 6 if and when full recognition is obtained for the breed.

If full recognition is not obtained before the period for preliminary recognition has expired:

- the breed with preliminary recognition will automatically be transferred to the list of non-recognised breeds with their preliminary abbreviations in § 8.1 and the EMS code will be followed by a “non”
- the rules regarding the breed will be transferred to § 8
- registration of cats born and preliminary titles achieved during the Preliminary Recognition phase will remain as they are
- cats born after the Preliminary Recognition phase must be registered in the RIEX register and “non” added after the breed abbreviation to indicate that this is now a non-recognised breed.

## 7.1 List of preliminary recognised breeds

| EMS-code | Breed name | Sister breed | Preliminary recognition phase |
|---|---|---|---|
| BOM | Bombay | --- | 01.01.2023 – 31.12.2027 |
| LYO | Lykoi | --- | 01.01.2023 – 31.12.2027 |

## 7.2 BOM (Bombay)

Bombay (BOM) is a solid black cat. No other colour nor any pattern shall be recognised by the FIFe.
Permitted outcross is Burmese brown (BUR n).
All colours of Burmese (BUR) are permitted in the ancestry.
American Shorthair (AMS non) is permitted in the third and previous generations of the ancestry during the preliminary recognition phase, after full recognition AMS are not permitted in the ancestry.

Appearances of offspring and how these must be registered when mating BOM x BOM or when mating BOM x BUR n/XSH n 31 (BOM):

| Appearance | EMS code | Breeding and registration restrictions |
|---|---|---|
| black | BOM | --- |
| brown burmese pointed | XSH n 31 (BOM) | Can only be used for breeding BOM, cannot be re-registered |
| any other variety | XSH * (BOM) | Can not be used for breeding BOM without the permission of the FIFe Member, cannot be re-registered |

* means additional information following the EMS-system, i.e. lower-case basic colour letter etc.

When breeding Bombay:

- All cats used in breeding BOM must have a DNA-test for Burmese Head Defect (BHD), unless both parents are proven to be free from BHD
- These breeding principles are to be followed:
  - BHD-free x BHD-free
  - BHD-free x BHD-carrier
- Test results must be registered and published in accordance with § 3.5.1
- The breeder must inform buyers of Bombay cats about the BHD-disease and the registration policy, when selling a BHD-carrier.

It is highly recommended to test breeding cats for pointed, chocolate and dilute to avoid non-recognised colours in the offspring.

## 7.3 LYO (Lykoi)

Lykoi is a cat with a specific amelanistic (roan) appearance.
All colours and patterns are recognised.
Permitted outcross in the preliminary phase is domestic shorthair (XSH).
Non-roan offspring of this outcross must be registered as LYO x * 84.

Appearances of LYO * roan and XSH offspring and how these must be registered:

| Appearance | EMS code | Breeding and registration restrictions |
|---|---|---|
| roan | LYO * | All LYO can only be used for breeding LYO |
| non-roan | LYO x * 84 | |

* means additional information following the EMS system, i.e. lower-case basic colour letter etc.

# 8 Rules for non-recognised breeds

## 8.1 List of non-recognised breeds

For registration purposes use the following list of abbreviations:

| EMS-code | Breed name | Sister breed | Remark |
|---|---|---|---|
| ABL non * | American Bobtail Longhair | ABS non | |
| ABS non * | American Bobtail Shorthair | ABL non | |
| ALH non * | Asian Longhair | ASH non | A group of cats incorporating Asian Tabby, Burmilla and Bombay as recognised in GCCF only |
| ASH non * | Asian Shorthair | ALH non | |
| AMS non * | American Shorthair | --- | |
| AMW non * | American Wirehair | --- | |
| AUM non * | Australian Mist | --- | |
| BGL non * | Bengal Longhair | BEN (→ § 6.1) | |
| BRX non * | Bohemian Rex | --- | |
| JBL non * | Japanese Bobtail Longhair | JBS (→ § 6.1) | |
| MBT non * | Me-kong Bobtail | --- | |
| NEB non | Nebelung | RUS (→ § 6.1) | |
| RGM non * | RagaMuffin | --- | |
| TGR non | Toyger | --- | |
| TIF non | Tiffanie | BML (→ § 6.1) | |
| TOL non * | Tonkinese Longhair | TOS non | |
| TOS non * | Tonkinese Shorthair | TOL non | |

* means additional information following the EMS-system, i.e. lower-case basic colour letter etc.

Cats belonging to non-recognised breeds which are not listed above must be registered as:

- XLH * followed by the fully written breed name between brackets for a longhair breed
- XSH * followed by the fully written breed name between brackets for a shorthair breed.

* means additional information following the EMS system, i.e. lower-case basic colour letter, etc.

The list of non-recognised breeds with their abbreviations is maintained and updated by the FIFe Board on recommendation from the Breeding & Registration Commission.
From 01.01.2012 the abbreviations for Scottish Fold (SFL non / SFS non) are deleted from the list in § 8.1 and cannot be re-created.

## 8.2 Breeding with non-recognised breeds

The FIFe Member must grant permission before breeding with a non-recognised breed, except if indicated otherwise in § 8.
The application for such breeding must contain at least information on the breed, a full breeding programme, the intended standard and scale of points together with the philosophy of the breed.
The permission for a breeding programme can be for a specific number of generations (1, 2, 3 or more), or for an unspecified period until preliminary recognition is achieved.
If the FIFe Member has granted this permission, the progeny of such breeding may be registered in the RIEX register.

## 8.3 BGL non (Bengal Longhair)

Novice cats are not permitted. Any crossing with other breeds is prohibited, except with sister breed Bengal - BEN. Bengals of generations F1–F4 are not allowed for breeding.

Charcoal varieties must be registered as *BGL non * 14*, i.e. as a non-recognised breed and variety in the RIEX register. Charcoal Bengal can be used in breeding programmes for BGL non/BEN.

Registration example
*BGL non ns * 14 24 – Bengal Longhair black silver charcoal spotted*

## 8.4 JBL non (Japanese Bobtail Longhair)

Golden, shaded, shell, ticked tabby and pointed (i.e. EMS-codes y, 11, 12, 25, 31, 32 and 33) are not permitted in the Japanese Bobtail Longhair (JBL non) and must be registered as XLH * (JBL non).

## 8.5 NEB non (Nebelung)

When breeding Nebelung:

- only blue longhair progeny from blue parents can be registered as Nebelung - NEB non
- longhair progeny in a variety other than blue must be registered as XLH * (NEB non).

## 8.6 TGR non (Toyger)

Only “TGR non” without any other breed in the ancestry (i.e. 4 generations prior to the cat) can be registered as “TGR non”. The only permitted variety is black mackerel tabby, and no additional EMS code can be used. Outcross to other breeds – recognised or not recognised – is not permitted.

# 9 Rules for non-recognised longhair/shorthair (XLH/XSH)

## 9.1 Cats resulting from crossbreeding

### 9.1.1 Definition

A crossbreed is regarded as the result of a mating with:
- two individually recognised breeds (as listed in § 6.1 and 7.1)
- two non-recognised breeds with preliminary abbreviations (as listed in § 8.1)
- two unrecognised breeds, i.e. XLH *, XSH *, XLH * (target breed), XSH * (target breed)
- a recognised breed and a non-recognised breed with preliminary abbreviation
- a recognised breed and an unrecognised breed
- an unrecognised breed and a non-recognised breed with preliminary abbreviation.

Crossbreeding can only be performed if the FIFe Member grants permission.

The application for crossbreeding must contain at least information on the target breed, the purpose of the crossbreeding, a full breeding programme and breeding plans, and in the case of non-recognised breeds, the proposed standard.

The permission for a breeding programme can be for a specific number of generations (1, 2, 3 or more), or for an unspecified period until the target breed standard is achieved.

In order to obtain re-registration in the target breed, one or more cats participating in a breeding programme can be shown in the Control class (class 13b, → § 9.1.3) at any generation. It is the National FIFe Members’ responsibility to check and confirm that all requirements as laid down in § 9 are fulfilled prior to permitting cats to be shown in the Control class (class 13b).

The rules mentioned in § 9.1 do not apply to mating with sister breeds, which progeny must be entered directly in the Pedigree book in accordance with § 4.1 and 4.2.

### 9.1.2 Registration as XLH * / XSH * with a target breed

Cats resulting from the crossing of two breeds must be registered in the RIEX register (→ § 4.3).

These cats must be registered as longhair resp. shorthair progeny with a target breed:
- XLH * (EMS-code of target breed)
  and as its description: “Non recognised longhair” + the description for colour, pattern, etc. according to the EMS system
- XSH * (EMS-code of target breed)
  and as its description: “Non recognised shorthair” + the description for colour, pattern, etc. according to the EMS system.

(* means additional information following the EMS-system, i.e. lower-case basic colour letter etc.)

The addition “(EMS-code of target breed)” may only be used for progeny of two cats within a breeding programme as detailed in § 9.1.1.

Progeny of random matings or crossbreeding without permission must be registered as XSH * resp. XLH * without this addition.

### 9.1.3 Re-registration in the target breed

A cat with the addition “(EMS-code of target breed)” may be re-registered in its target breed after meeting one of the following requirements:

1. a) being exhibited at a minimum age of 4 months during an international cat show in the “Control Class” (class 13b) and

   b) being judged in accordance with Show Rules § 5.4 by at least two FIFe judges whom the FIFe member must provide with a written explanation as to why the cat is presented in this class and

   c) by obtaining the qualification “Excellent” (for recognised breeds) according to the target breed standard or “I” (for non-recognised breeds) according to the proposed standard (→ § 8) from both the judges.

**OR**

2. a) being judged in accordance with Show Rules § 5.4, however outside the show hall and at a minimum age of 3 months by at least two FIFe judges whom the FIFe member must provide with a written explanation as to why the cat is presented, and

   b) by obtaining the qualification “Excellent” (for recognised breeds) according to the target breed standard or “I” (for non-recognised breeds) according to the proposed standard (→ § 8) from both the judges.

Re-registration must be marked in the RIEX register and on the pedigree by adding “(RR)” after the registration number.

#### 9.1.4 Special EMS codes for the registration of XLH/XSH with certain target breeds

In order to enable the correct registration of cats with a target breed in case of cats resulting from crossbreeding, the following EMS-codes may be used for the indicated target breeds:

| EMS-code | Appearance | Only applies to target breeds |
|---|---|---|
| XLH/XSH * 81 | long coat | DSP, PEB, SPH |
| XLH/XSH * 82 | short coat | DSP, PEB, SPH |
| XLH/XSH * 83 | brush coat | DSP, PEB |
| XLH/XSH * 84 | straight coat | CRX, DRX, GRX, LPL/LPS, SRL/SRS |

Registration examples:
XSH n (SPH) non-recognised hairless black (target breed: Sphynx)
XSH n 82 (SPH) non-recognised shorthair black (target breed: Sphynx)
XSH n (DRX) non-recognised shorthair black (target breed: Devon Rex)
XSH n 84 (DRX) non-recognised shorthair straight coat black (target breed: Devon Rex)

## 9.2 Novices

#### 9.2.1 Definition

Novices are cats where the parents are unknown, or cats without a pedigree (→ sub articles for BEN, KBL/KBS, KOR, MAU, MCO, NEM, SIB, SOK and THA in § 6).

#### 9.2.2 Registration as XLH * / XSH * with a target breed

When the FIFe Member has granted permission to the registration, novices shall be registered with a target breed in the RIEX register:

- XLH * (EMS-code of target breed)
  and as its description: “Non recognised longhair” + the description for colour, pattern, etc. according to the EMS system
- XSH * (EMS-code of target breed)
  and as its description: “Non recognised shorthair” + the description for colour, pattern, etc. according to the EMS system.

(* means additional information following the EMS-system, i.e. lower-case basic colour letter etc.)

Novices registered with a target breed can only be used in a breeding programme (for the target breed) which is approved by the FIFe Member.

#### 9.2.3 Re-registration in the target breed

Novices with the indication of a target breed as outlined in § 9.2.2 shall be re-registered in the target breed in the RIEX register after meeting the following requirements:

a) being exhibited at a minimum age of 12 months during an international show in the Novice class (class 13a; remark: a cat may only be entered once in the Novice class),

b) being judged in accordance with Show Rules § 5.4 by at least two FIFe judges whom the FIFe Member must provide with a written explanation as to why the cat is presented in this class

c) having obtained the qualification “Excellent” (for recognised breeds) according to the target breed standard or “I” (for non-recognised breeds) according to the proposed standard (→ § 8) from both the judges.

After fulfilling the above requirements, a novice can be entered at shows in the target breed. Re-registration in the target breed must be marked in the RIEX register and on the pedigree by adding “(RR)” after the registration number. Novices re-registered in the target breed can only be used in a breeding programme (for the target breed) which is approved by the FIFe Member.

# 10 Recognition of new breeds

## 10.1 Definition of a new breed

A new breed is a breed not listed by the FIFe as a recognised breed.

## 10.2 Recognition process of new breeds

The goal of the process to obtain recognition of a new breed is twofold:
1. to establish the new breed has a solid base within FIFe
2. to get as many judges as possible acquainted with the new breed.

To recognise a new breed the steps as described in the following sub-articles must be executed.

### 10.2.1 Step 1 – Set up a Breed Council for the new breed

A Breed Council shall be established for the breed. The membership requirements for a Breed Council of a new breed are laid down in § 2 of the Breed Council Rules.

The Breed Council shall consist of at least **3** members from **3** different countries who shall elect a Breed Council secretary. The Breed Council coordinates all administrative work involved in the recognition process and will be supported by the 3 relevant commissions: Breeding & Registration Commission (BRC), Judges & Standards Commission (JSC) and Health & Welfare Commission (HWC). For issues related to the recognition process a direct contact is allowed between the Breed Council secretary and these commissions. All correspondence should always be sent to/by the Breed Council secretary.

### 10.2.2 Step 2 – Preparation of the preliminary recognition of the new breed

The requirements which must be fulfilled before preliminary recognition of the new breed can be proposed are:
1. at least **3** individual members of at least **3** FIFe Members in different countries must have bred each at least **1** litter of the breed in the previous **2** years
2. pedigrees must be presented of at least **3** different cats showing **5** consecutive generations of the breed for recognition prior to the cat or **5** generations of breeding according to the suggested breeding restrictions and registration rules for the breed
3. pedigrees must be presented of at least **15** different cats showing **3** different generations of the same breed for recognition prior to the cat or **3** generations of breeding according to the suggested breeding restrictions and registration rules for the breed
4. all these cats must be owned or bred by a FIFe Member's individual member
5. all these cats must have been correctly registered according to FIFe rules in the Pedigree Books of at least **3** different FIFe Member countries
6. all these cats must have pedigrees in accordance with § 4.5.

The Breed Council:
- *informs the commissions of their intention to begin the recognition process no later than 1st of November preceding the General Assembly of the following year*
- collects and sends the scans of the original pedigrees (cats bred/owned) to the BRC for their check and approval
- sets up specific breeding restrictions and registration rules (if any) for the breed in cooperation with the BRC
- collects information on health issues in the breed, based on the guidelines given by the HWC (for example – but not limited to – litter sizes and number of kittens born) and sends this information to the HWC for their consideration
- sends general information about the breed (origin and history, development, colours, etc.) to the JSC
- sets up the preliminary breed standard in cooperation with the JSC (format, wording, consistency with other breed standards).

The JSC sets up the description of the varieties which are not yet recognised in any other breed and/or not described in the General Part of the Standards.

### 10.2.3 Step 3 – Propose the preliminary recognition of the new breed

After the confirmation from the 3 commissions has been received that all the necessary tasks and requirements in the previous step have been fulfilled, a joint proposal for preliminary recognition of the breed will be forwarded by the commissions to the next General Assembly.

The necessary information and documentation must be sent on a regular basis to the commissions. All such information and documentation must be received no later than the 1st of January in order to forward the proposal to the General Assembly of the same year.

The proposal must be forwarded in all FIFe languages and must at least include:

- the preliminary breed standard including the scale of points, the table of varieties (EMS codes) and the category to which the breed belongs; all and only varieties (EMS codes) which are genetically possible according to the presented pedigrees can be included in the proposal
- the description of varieties which are not yet recognised in any other breed and/or not described in the General Part to the Standards (if any)
- the specific breeding restrictions and registration rules (if any)
- the report of the JSC (introduction of the breed, history, colours, etc.)
- the report of the BRC (pedigree information on cats bred/owned)
- the report of the HWC (health issues)
- the recommendation from each commission for the preliminary recognition of the breed.

The JSC is to organise a lecture on the breed on the judges' seminar following the General Assembly, with cats of the breed present.

### 10.2.4 Step 4 – The preliminary recognition phase of the new breed

After the proposal in the previous step has been accepted by the General Assembly, the preliminary recognition phase of the new breed starts on the 1st of January of the next year.

During this phase cats of the preliminary recognised breed must be exhibited at FIFe shows in accordance with § 5.5.4 of the Show Rules and they will receive judges' reports.

The requirements which must be fulfilled before full recognition of the preliminary recognised breed can be proposed are:

1. at least **1** year must have passed since preliminary recognition was obtained for the breed
2. at least **5** individual members of at least **3** FIFe Members in different countries must be actively breeding the breed during the preliminary recognition phase, i.e. at least a total of **15** different litters
3. at least **40** different cats of the breed must each have been exhibited in show classes 7 – 12 in at least **3** different shows during the preliminary recognition phase; at least 15 of these cats must have the title PIC/PIP registered
4. all these cats must have been entered for shows in accordance with their registered pedigree details
5. each cat must have been judged by at least **3** different judges (countersigning is possible)
6. all these cats must have received the qualification **"Excellent"** from the judges
7. the shows must have been organised in at least **3** different countries
8. all these cats must be owned or bred by a FIFe Member's individual member
9. all these cats must have been correctly registered according to FIFe rules in the Pedigree Books of at least **3** different FIFe Member countries
10. all these cats must have pedigrees in accordance with § 4.5.

The Breed Council:

- collects and sends scans of the original pedigrees (cats bred and cats shown) to the BRC for their check and approval
- sets up specific breeding restrictions and registration rules (if any) for the breed in cooperation with the BRC
- collects information on health issues in the breed based on the guidelines given by the HWC (for example – but not limited to – litter sizes and number of kittens born) and sends this information to the HWC for their consideration
- collects scans of the original judge's reports and – if applicable – the accompanying diploma (stating the name and other data of the cat), to be sent to the Breed Council by the cat's owner
- sends the scans of the judge's reports + diplomas to the JSC
- sets up the final breed standard in all FIFe languages in cooperation with the JSC (format, wording, consistency with other breed standards).

If after **5** years a preliminary recognised breed has not obtained full recognition, it will automatically return to the status "non-recognised breed".

#### 10.2.5 Step 5 – Propose the full recognition of the new breed

After the confirmation from the 3 commissions has been received that all the necessary tasks and requirements in the previous step have been fulfilled, a joint proposal for full recognition of the breed will be forwarded by the 3 commissions to the next General Assembly.

The necessary information and documentation must be sent on a regular basis to the commissions. All such information and documentation must be received no later than the 1st of January in order to forward the proposal to the General Assembly of the same year.

The proposal must be forwarded in all FIFe languages and must at least include:

- the final breed standard, including the scale of points, the table of varieties (EMS codes), the category to which the breed belongs and the groups (if any) in which the varieties of the breed will be judged at shows; all and only varieties (EMS codes) which are genetically possible according to the presented pedigrees can be included in the proposal
- the description of varieties which are not yet recognised in any other breed and/or not described in the General Part to the Standards (if any); this is the task and responsibility of the JSC
- the final breeding restrictions and registration rules (if any)
- the report of the BRC (pedigree information on cats bred/shown)
- the report of the JSC (information on cats shown / evaluation of issued judges reports and results)
- the report of the HWC (health issues)
- the recommendation from each commission for the full recognition of the breed.

# 11 Recognition of new varieties

## 11.1 Definition of a new variety

Variety is used as a concept covering a cat's coat colour or any other trait.
A new variety is an EMS code not earlier recognised in a specific breed.

## 11.2 Recognition process of new varieties

The goal of the process to obtain recognition of a new variety is twofold:

1. to establish the new variety has a solid base within FIFe
2. to get as many judges as possible acquainted with the new variety.

To recognise a new variety the steps as described in the following sub-articles must be executed.

#### 11.2.1 Step 1 – Set up a Breed Council for the breed to which the new variety belongs

Breeders within FIFe seeking the recognition of a new variety in a specific breed may send an application to the secretary of the Breed Council for the breed, indicating the relevant EMS codes.

The Breed Council is responsible to coordinate the work involved in the recognition process and its administration and will be supported by the 3 relevant commissions: Breeding & Registration Commission (BRC), Judges & Standards Commission (JSC) and Health & Welfare Commission (HWC).

For issues related to the recognition process a direct contact is allowed between the Breed Council secretary and these commissions. All correspondence should always be sent to/by the Breed Council secretary.

If no Breed Council exists a Breed Council shall be established for the breed.

#### 11.2.2 Step 2 – Prepare the preliminary recognition of the new variety

The Breed Council collects the scans of the original pedigrees of the cats belonging to the new variety:

- at least **10** different cats, showing at least **3** generations of the same breed or sister breed prior to the cat*, unless a verified DNA test is provided for the individual cat in which case, the pedigree and the DNA test may be accepted*
- the cats must be registered in a FIFe organisation and owned by a FIFe Member's individual member
- the cats must have been correctly registered according to FIFe rules in a FIFe Member's Pedigree Book in at least **3** different countries
- all these cats must have pedigrees in accordance with § 4.5.

### 11.2.3 Step 3 – Propose the preliminary recognition of the new variety

The Breed Council:
– sends the application for recognition to the 3 relevant commissions
– sends the pedigree scans to the BRC for their check and approval
– sets up the changes in the breed standard (if any) and in the table of varieties (EMS codes) in all FIFe languages in cooperation with the JSC
– sets up specific breeding restrictions and registration rules (if any) for the variety in all FIFe languages in cooperation with the BRC
– collects and sends information on health issues of the variety based on the guidelines given by the HWC for consideration of this commission.

The JSC sets up the description of the variety in all FIFe languages if the variety is not yet recognised in any other breed and/or not described in the General Part of the Standards.

When the tasks and requirements in this step have been fulfilled, the 3 commissions will forward the application to the FIFe Board.

This application must include:
– the changes in the breed standard (if any) and in the table of varieties (EMS codes) in all FIFe languages
– the specific breeding restrictions and registration rules (if any) for the variety in all FIFe languages
– the recommendation from each commission for the preliminary recognition of the new variety.

The FIFe Board will decide on the permission to start the preliminary recognition phase of the new variety. The date on which permission is given will be considered the approval date.

The JSC is to organise a lecture on the variety on the judges' seminar following the General Assembly, with cats of the variety being present.

### 11.2.4 Step 4 – The preliminary recognition phase of the new variety

The preliminary recognition phase of the new variety starts on the approval date as indicated in the previous step. During this phase cats of the preliminary recognised variety must be exhibited at FIFe shows in accordance with § 5.5.4 of the FIFe Show Rules and they will receive judges' reports.

The requirements which must be fulfilled before full recognition of the preliminary recognised variety can be proposed are:
1. at least **5** individual members of at least **3** FIFe Members in different countries must be actively breeding the variety during the previous **3** years, i.e. at least a total of **10** different litters; each litter must have at least **1** kitten of the variety concerned
2. at least **20** different cats of the variety must have been exhibited each in show classes 7 – 12 in at least **3** different shows after the approval date; at least 8 of these cats must have the title PIC/PIP registered
3. all these cats must be entered for shows in accordance with their registered pedigree details
4. each cat must have been judged by at least **3** different judges (countersigning is possible)
5. all these cats must have received the qualification **"Excellent"** from the judges
6. the shows must have been organised in at least **3** different countries
7. all these cats must be owned or bred by a FIFe Member's individual member
8. all these cats must have been correctly registered according to FIFe rules in a FIFe Member's Pedigree Book in at least **3** different countries and must have pedigrees in accordance with § 4.5
9. the changes in the breed standard (if any) and in the table of varieties (EMS codes) must be available, including the group (if any) in which the new variety will be judged at shows
10. the description of the variety if the variety is not yet recognised in any other breed and/or not described in the General Part of the Standards must be available
11. the specific breeding restrictions and registrations rules (if any) for the variety must be available.

The Breed Council:
– collects and sends scans of the original pedigrees (cats bred and cats shown) to the BRC for their check and approval
– sets up specific breeding restrictions and registration rules (if any) for the variety in the breed in cooperation with the BRC
– collects information on health issues in the variety of the breed based on the guidelines given by the HWC and sends this information to the HWC for their consideration
– collects scans of the original judge's reports and – if applicable – the accompanying diploma (stating the name and other data of the cat), to be sent by the cat's owner
– sends the scans of the judge's reports + diplomas to the JSC
– sets up the changes in the breed standard in cooperation with the JSC.

### 11.2.5 Step 5 – Propose the full recognition of the new variety

After the confirmation from the 3 commissions has been received that all the necessary tasks and requirements in the previous step have been fulfilled, a proposal for full recognition of the variety will be forwarded by the 3 commissions to the next General Assembly.
The necessary information and documentation must be sent on a regular basis to the commissions. All such information and documentation must be received no later than the 1st of January in order to forward the proposal to the General Assembly of the same year.

The proposal must be in all FIFe languages and must at least include:
– the changes in the breed standard and the scale of points (if any), the changes in the table of varieties (EMS codes) and the group (if any) in which the new variety will be judged at shows; all and only varieties (EMS codes) which are genetically possible according to the presented pedigrees can be included in the proposal
– the description of varieties which are not yet recognised in any other breed and/or not described in the General Part to the Standards (if any)
– the breeding restrictions and registration rules of the new variety (if any)
– the report of the BRC (pedigree information on cats bred/shown)
– the report of the JSC (information on cats shown / evaluation of issued judges reports and results)
– the report of the HWC (health issues)
– the recommendation from each commission for the full recognition of the variety.

The Breed Council of the breed concerned must receive all relevant documents in order to give its opinion on the subject of recognition no later than 15th of April of the year in which the proposal for recognition is forwarded to the General Assembly.

# Appendix I – Genetic tests

**Annex to the FIFe Breeding & Registration Rules, § 3.5.1 Test programmes, listing commercially available genetic tests that are obligatory or recommended before breeding.**

The Health & Welfare Commission has the permission to update the list when new tests are available. This ensures that breeders can make informed decisions to improve the health and welfare of their cats.

It is a good practice for breeders to keep one or more buccal swabs for each cat of all breeds. These swabs should be placed in an envelope clearly marked with the cat's name and microchip number before being stored in a dry place. This simple procedure allows for future genetic testing, including parentage testing and the analysis of possible coat traits, without the need to collect a new sample.

In addition to the tests listed in the Annex, it is highly recommended that all cats intended for breeding undergo blood group testing, for preventing neonatal isoerythrolysis, a potentially fatal condition in kittens.

| Breed | Test (gene) | Indication |
|---|---|---|
| ABY/SOM | Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency (***PKLR)*** | Recommended |
| | Retinal Degeneration II (CEP290) | Recommended |
| BAL/SIA, OLH/OSH, PEB | Gangliosidosis (GLB1) | Recommended |
| | Retinal Degeneration II (CEP290) | **Obligatory** (→ § 6) |
| BEN | Bengal progressive retinal atrophy (*CEP29, KIF3B*) | Recommended |
| | Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency (***PKLR***) | Recommended |
| BLH/BSH | Autoimmune Lymphoproliferative Syndrome (FASLG) | Recommended |
| | Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD1) | Recommended |
| BML | Hypokalaemia (WNK4) | Recommended |
| BOM | Burmese Head Defect (ALX1) | **Obligatory** (→ § 7) |
| BUR | Burmese Head Defect (ALX1) | Recommended |
| | Gangliosidosis (HEXB) | **Obligatory** (→ § 6) |
| | Hypokalaemia (WNK4) | Recommended |
| DRX | Congenital Myasthenic Syndrome (COLQ) | ***Obligatory*** *(→ § 6)* |
| EXO/PER | Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD1) | Recommended |
| | Progressive Retinal Atrophy (*AIPL1)* | Recommended |
| KOR | Gangliosidosis 1 (GLB1) and 2 (HEXB) | **Obligatory** (→ § 6) |
| LPL/LPS | Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency (***PKLR)*** | Recommended |
| MCO | Dominant Blue Eyes (PAX3) | ***Obligatory*** *(→ § 6)* |
| | Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (MyBPC3/A31P) | Recommended |
| | Spinal Muscular Atrophy (LIX1) | Recommended |
| NFO | Glycogen Storage Disease type IV (GBE1) | **Obligatory** (→ § 6) |
| RAG | Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (MyBPC3/R818W) | Recommended |
| SIN | Hypokalaemia (WNK4) | Recommended |
| | Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency (***PKLR***) | Recommended |
| SPH | Congenital Myasthenic Syndrome (COLQ) | Recommended |
| SRL/SRS | Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD1) | Recommended |

More information providing the scientific basis for each obligatory or recommended test, fostering a deeper understanding of FIFe breeding policies and their direct impact on cats' health, can be found at www.fifeweb.org/health/

FIFe Health & Welfare Commission
Edition 30.09.2025

# Appendix II – Health examinations

**Annex to the FIFe Breeding & Registration Rules, § 3.5.1 Health examinations, listing examinations that are obligatory or recommended before breeding.**

As a matter of responsible breeding and in the interest of cat welfare, several examinations are recommended for all cats of all breeds.

Prior to breeding, all breeding cats, both male and female, should undergo an examination by a specialised veterinarian. These include:

- an electrocardiogram or ultrasound examination for heart diseases (including, but not limited to, HCM),
- an ophthalmic examination to check for conditions such as PRA, cataracts or entropion,
- a manual palpation or an X-ray to check for hip dysplasia and patellar luxation,
- an **obligatory** test for umbilical hernia, as cats with an umbilical hernia are not allowed for breeding (→ § 3.6),
- an **obligatory** test for males before breeding to check that both testicles are normal and descended into the scrotal sac (→ § 3.2).

It is recommended that cats used for breeding be tested for FeLV and FIV before the first mating and with sufficient frequency thereafter.

Deaf cats are not allowed for breeding (→ § 3.6). While simple examination can provide an initial assessment, BAER (Brainstem Auditory Evoked Response) testing is the preferred method for determining a cat's hearing status due to its superior accuracy and ability to detect unilateral or bilateral deafness and it is to be preferred when testing white cats prior to breeding (→ § 3.6.4).

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# Appendix III – Exceptions to the cattery name rules

Permit Belgium, who must respect an official governmental cattery registration, to have an exception to § 5.2.3.

In case of an identical or similar cattery name, the official country code (→ FIFe General Rules, Annex 2) must be added to the cattery name.

# STATUS OF CHANGES

*For previous changes than those listed below, please refer to the separate document "FIFe Statutes, Rules & Standards – History of Changes" available in the section "Rules & Forms" on the FIFe website.*

| Page | Breed(s) | Status | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | ***Edited 01.01.26*** |
| *3, 4* | *KBL/KBS* | *Addition* | *Carnelian (EMS code: x *t) is a non-recognised variety in KBL/KBS* |
| *5* | *SIB* | *Change* | *Siberian with blue eyes only permitted in combination with EMS codes w (white), 01 (van) or 02 (harlequin)* |
| *6* | *BLH/BSH* | *Change* | *Description of tipped pointed to shaded pointed (11 33)* |
| *6* | *BLH/BSH* | *Addition* | *Shell pointed (12 33)* |
| *6* | *CYM/MAN* | *Change* | *The longie (EMS code 54) is a fully recognised variety* |
| | | | ***Edited 01.10.25*** |
| *3, 4, 5* | *BLH/BSH* | *Change* | *Corin (EMS code: u) is a preliminary recognised variety in BLH/BSH* |
| | | | ***Edited 01.06.25*** |
| *3, 4, 5* | *SIB/NEM* | *Change* | *Corin (EMS code: u) is a preliminary recognised variety in SIB/NEM; Corin remains a non-recognised variety in BLH/BSH und KBL/KBS* |
| *3, 4, 5* | *BEN* | *Change* | *Charcoal (EMS code: 14) is a preliminary recognised variety in BEN* |

# FIFe EMS system

The FIFe Easy Mind System (EMS) is a system used to describe cats by codes.
The code for a specific colour, pattern or other trait is always the same, no matter the breed.
The EMS System, which is not a genetically based system, is intended to be both easy and logical.
With a little practice anyone should be able to speak EMS as fluently as his native tongue.

# FIFe EMS system codes

## FULLY RECOGNISED BREEDS

| | |
|---|---|
| ABY | Abyssinian |
| ACL | American Curl Longhair |
| ACS | American Curl Shorthair |
| BAL | Balinese |
| BEN | Bengal |
| BLH | British Longhair |
| BML | Burmilla |
| BSH | British Shorthair |
| BUR | Burmese |
| CHA | Chartreux |
| CRX | Cornish Rex |
| CYM | Cymric |
| DRX | Devon Rex |
| DSP | Don Sphynx |
| EUR | European |
| EXO | Exotic |
| GRX | German Rex |
| JBS | Japanese Bobtail Shorthair |
| KBL | Kurilean Bobtail Longhair |
| KBS | Kurilean Bobtail Shorthair |
| KOR | Korat |
| LPL | LaPerm Longhair |
| LPS | LaPerm Shorthair |
| MAN | Manx |
| MAU | Egyptian Mau |
| MCO | Maine Coon |
| NEM | Neva Masquerade |
| NFO | Norwegian Forest Cat |
| OCI | Ocicat |
| OLH | Oriental Longhair |
| OSH | Oriental Shorthair |
| PEB | Peterbald |
| PER | Persian |
| RAG | Ragdoll |
| RUS | Russian Blue |
| SBI | Sacred Birman |
| SIA | Siamese |
| SIB | Siberian |
| SIN | Singapura |
| SNO | Snowshoe |
| SOK | Sokoke |
| SOM | Somali |
| SPH | Sphynx |
| SRL | Selkirk Rex Longhair |
| SRS | Selkirk Rex Shorthair |
| THA | Thai |
| TUA | Turkish Angora |
| TUV | Turkish Van |

## PRELIMINARY RECOGNISED BREEDS

| | |
|---|---|
| BOM | Bombay |
| LYO | Lykoi |

## PRELIMINARY RECOGNISED VARIETIES

| | |
|---|---|
| ** 14* | *Charcoal (only for BEN)* |
| **u* | *Corin (only for SIB/NEM and BLH/BSH)* |

## NON-RECOGNISED BREEDS

| | |
|---|---|
| ABL non | American Bobtail Longhair |
| ABS non | American Bobtail Shorthair |
| ALH non | Asian Longhair |
| AMS non | American Shorthair |
| AMW non | American Wirehair |
| ASH non | Asian Shorthair |
| AUM non | Australian Mist |
| BGL non | Bengal Longhair |
| BRX non | Bohemian Rex |
| JBL non | Japanese Bobtail Longhair |
| MBT non | Mekong Bobtail |
| NEB non | Nebelung |
| RGM non | RagaMuffin |
| TGR non | Toyger |
| TIF non | Tiffanie |
| TOL non | Tonkanese Longhair |
| TOS non | Tonkanese Shorthair |

OTHER NON-RECOGNISED BREEDS

| | |
|---|---|
| XLH | non-recognised longhair breeds |
| XSH | non-recognised shorthair breeds |

## NON-RECOGNISED VARIETIES

| | |
|---|---|
| *x *t* | *Carnelian (only for KBL/KBS)* |
| *x *u* | *Corin (only for KBL/KBS)* |

## HOUSECAT

| | |
|---|---|
| HCL | Housecat Longhair |
| HCS | Housecat Shorthair |

The EMS codes for housecats are only to be used for show purposes.

## Non-recognised

| | |
|---|---|
| non | non-recognised breed |
| x | non-recognised variety |

## Colours

| | |
|---|---|
| * | stands for additional information following the EMS system, i.e. lower-case letter of the basic colour, and so on |
| n | black |
| a | blue |
| b | chocolate |
| c | lilac |
| d | red |
| e | cream |
| f | black tortie |
| g | blue tortie |
| h | chocolate tortie |
| j | lilac tortie |
| o | cinnamon |
| p | fawn |
| q | cinnamon tortie |
| r | fawn tortie |
| w | white |

## Dilute modifier (m)

| | |
|---|---|
| m | dilute modifier |
| x am | caramel known to be based on blue |
| x cm | caramel known to be based on lilac |
| x pm | caramel known to be based on fawn |
| x em | apricot known to be based on cream |
| x *m | caramel where base colour is unknown |

## Agouti modifier (t)

**Amber** (only for NFO) /

***Carnelian*** *(only for KBL/KBS) – "x" variety:*

| | |
|---|---|
| nt | amber */ black carnelian* |
| at | light amber */ blue carnelian* |
| dt (d) | red based on amber */ carnelian* |
| et (e) | cream based on amber */ carnelian* |
| ft | amber tortie */ black tortie carnelian* |
| gt | light amber tortie */ blue tortie carnelian* |

## Silver, Corin, Golden

| | |
|---|---|
| s | silver |
| **u* | *corin – only for SIB/NEM and BLH/BSH; preliminary recognised variety* |
| *x *u* | *corin – only for KBL/KBS; non-recognised variety ("x")* |
| y | golden |

## Amount of white

| | |
|---|---|
| 01 | van |
| 02 | harlequin |
| 03 | bicolour |
| 04 | mitted (only for RAG) |
| 05 | Snowshoe pattern (only for SNO) |
| 09 | unspecified amount of white |

## Agouti

| | |
|---|---|
| 11 | shaded |
| 12 | shell |
| *14* | charcoal (only for BEN/BGL non); *preliminary recognised variety in BEN* |
| 21 | tabby |
| 22 | tabby blotched |
| 23 | tabby mackerel |
| 24 | tabby spotted |
| 25 | tabby ticked |

## Pointed

| | |
|---|---|
| 31 | Burmese pointed |
| 32 | Tonkinese pointed |
| 33 | Siamese pointed |

## Tail

| | |
|---|---|
| 51 | rumpy |
| 52 | rumpy riser |
| 53 | stumpy |
| 54 | longie |

## Eye colours

| | |
|---|---|
| 61 | deep blue |
| 62 | copper or deep orange |
| 63 | odd eyed: one deep blue eye, the other one according to the standard for the breed |
| 64 | green |
| 65 | golden yellow – Burmese eye colour |
| 66 | aquamarine (bluish green) – Tonkinese eye colour |
| 67 | intense deep blue – Siamese eye colour |
| x * 68 | albino - non-recognised variety ("x") |

## Ears

| | |
|---|---|
| 71 | straight ears |
| 72 | curled ears |

## Hair structure

only for DSP/PEB:

| | |
|---|---|
| 81 | longhair |
| 82 | shorthair |
| 83 | brush |

only for LPL/LPS, LYO, SRL/SRS:

| | |
|---|---|
| 84 | straight coat (LYO: non-roan) |

# FIFe EMS system – user manual

## General principles and restrictions

Please note the following general principles and restrictions:

- an asterisk (*) stands for any information according to the EMS System
- individual EMS codes will always be separated from each other by a space, unless specifically indicated otherwise
- individual numerical EMS codes are always shown in ascending order
- if a breed is limited to only one specific occurrence of a trait, the code for this trait is never used in that full EMS code.

## Breeds

The codes of the breeds are always indicated in three capital letters.
BSH, PER

## Non-recognised breeds (non)

If the cat belongs to a non-recognised breed, always put “non” after the breed code.
BRX non, RGM non

## Non-recognised varieties (x)

If the cat belongs to a non-recognised variety, write an “x” before the colour code.
*BSH x dy 01 11, BSH x nu 03 24, BSH x nsu 22*

## Colours (a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, j, n, o, p, q, r, w)

The colour codes are always indicated in lower case letters.
ABY p, BSH a

If the cat’s breed is limited to only one colour and the cat does not show any pattern, do not use any colour code.
RUS (and not RUS a)
BOM (and not BOM n)

## Silver (s) / *Corin (u)* / Golden (y)

If the cat shows silver *and/or corin,* or golden, it will always have a lower-case letter, which is not separated by a space from its main colour code(s).
BSH *s, PER *y 11, SIB *u

*Corin*
*The code for Corin (“u”):*

- *must be used in any variety to register the genotype based on a valid DNA confirmation*
- *cannot be used in any variety of red and cream cats to register the phenotype*
- *can only be used in any other variety together with an agouti code (11-12, 21-25) to register the phenotype.*

*SIB nsu 22 – Siberian black silver corin blotched*
*BSH du 22 (d 22) – British Shorthair red blotched*
*SIB eu 24 (e 24) – Siberian cream spotted*
*SIB nu (n) – Siberian black*
*BSH du (d) – British Shorthair red*
*NEM nu 09 21 – Neva Masquerade seal corin tabbypoint with white*

Silver/golden
The code for silver or for golden may not be used for hairless and flock varieties of SPH, DSP and PEB, regardless of the cat’s genotype.

## Modifiers (m, t)

The code for dilute modifier “m” is applicable to for example Siamese.
SIA x *m

The modifier code “t” is only applicable to NFO (amber) *and KBL/KBS (carnelian)*.
NFO *ts, KBL x *t 09 22
The EMS codes “dt (d)” and “et (e)” may only be used for registration purposes.
The EMS codes “dt” and “et” may only be used to register the genotype of red/cream progeny from two amber cats always together with their phenotype “d” respectively “e” in brackets.

The code for modifier is not separated by a space from its main colour code.

## Amount of white (01-09)

If the cat shows an amount of white, write the code for that amount of white.
PER * 01, BSH * 03

Code 04 is only applicable to RAG.
Code 05 is only applicable to SNO.

If the cat’s breed is limited to only one kind of white amount, do not use any code.
TUV * (and not TUV * 01)

## Agouti (11, 12, 14, 21-25)

If the cat is agouti, the code of the pattern must be indicated.
PER * 11
BSH * 22

Code 14 (charcoal) is only applicable to Bengal.
*BEN * 14 24, BGL non * 14 22*

If the cat’s breed is limited to only one pattern, do not use any additional code for pattern.
ABY n (and not ABY n 25)
SOM n (and not SOM n 25)
Exception:
OCI * 24 (and not OCI *)

If the cat's breed is limited to only one colour/pattern, do not use any additional code for colour nor for pattern.
SIN (and not SIN n 25)
SOK (and not SOK n 22)

If the cat is agouti in a pointed, a hairless or a flock variety, always code 21 must be used, regardless of the cat's genotype or phenotype:
RAG * 04 21 (and not RAG * 04 22-25)
SPH * 03 21 (and not SPH * 03 22-25)
SIA * 21 (and not SIA * 22-25)
Exception: For BLH/BSH, code 11 must be used for *shadedpointed varieties and code 12 for shellpointed varieties.*

If the cat has an agouti with van (01) – including tabby TUV – or harlequin (02) pattern in other varieties than pointed or hairless or flock:
- if the agouti pattern is known or can be clearly defined either as shaded, shell or as blotched, mackerel, spotted or ticked, use the appropriate code for the pattern (11, 12, 22-25)
- else code 21 must be used.

If the cat is agouti with bicolour (03) pattern or any amount of white (09), in other varieties than pointed or hairless or flock, the agouti pattern must be identifiable (11, 12, 22-25) and the code 21 may not be used.
PER * 03 22 (and not PER * 03 21)
MCO * 03 23 (and not MCO * 03 21)
CRX * 09 24 (and not CRX * 09 21)

## Pointed (31-33)

If the cat is pointed, always use the appropriate code.
PER * 33, SPH * 32

If the cat's breed is limited to only one pointed variety, do not use any code for pointed.
SBI * (and not SBI * 33)
BUR * (and not BUR * 31)
SIA * (and not SIA * 33)
TOS non * (and not TOS non * 32)

## Tail (51-54)

These codes are only applicable to CYM and MAN.
CYM * 51, *MAN * 54*

## Eye colour (61-67)

The code for eye colour must be used if:
- the cat is white ("w") **or**
- the cat is non-pointed and has an amount of white (01, 02) **or**
- the cat is non-pointed with blue eyes (61).

PER * 02 61, PER * 02 62, PER * 02 63
TUV * 61, TUV * 62, TUV * 63
NFO w 61, NFO w 62, NFO w 63, NFO w 64
EXO x n 22 61, SIB n 61, BSH x b 61

In MCO *and SIB*, blue eyes (61) are only permitted in combination with EMS codes w, 01 or 02. Other varieties with blue eyes must be registered as XLH * 61 (MCO) *respectively XLH * 61 (SIB)*.

The code for eye colour also must be used for EXO/PER or BLH/BSH if:
- the cat is silver tabby without white **and**
- its variety is not limited to one eye colour.

PER *s 22 62, PER *s 22 64
BSH *s 23 62, BSH *s 23 64

The code for eye colour is never used if:
- the cat's breed is ABY, BEN, BML, OCI, SOK or SOM
- the cat's breed is limited to only one eye colour
  SBI * (and not SBI * 67)
  NEM * 02 (and not NEM * 02 67)
  BUR * (and not BUR * 65)
  RUS (and not RUS 64)
  SIA * (and not SIA * 67)
  Exception: SIA/BAL w 67 (and not SIA/BAL w)
- the cat's variety is limited to only one eye colour
  BSH a (and not BSH a 62)
  CRX * 01 32 (and not CRX * 01 32 66)
  MAU ns 24 (and not MAU ns 24 64)
- the cat's variety is bicolour (03) or with any amount of white (09)
  PER * 03 (and not PER * 03 62)
  MCO * 09 (and not MCO * 09 63)
  BSH * 03 24 (and not BSH * 03 24 64)
  Exceptions:
  BLH/BSH bicolour silver tabby varieties and PEB * 03/09 (see their standards)
- the breed is EUR or the breed is judged in groups, always except for white (w), non-pointed van (01) / harlequin (02) varieties and non-pointed varieties with blue eyes (61)
  MCO n (and not MCO n 62)
  NFO ns 22 (and not NFO ns 22 62)
  EUR ns 23 (and not EUR ns 23 64)

## Ears (71-72)

These codes are only applicable to ACL/ACS. Code 71 is a non-recognised variety for ACL/ACS.
ACL x * 71

## Hair structure (81-84)

The codes for hair structure are only applicable to:
- DSP and PEB (81, 82, 83), LPL/LPS (84), LYO (84) and SRL/SRS (84)
  DSP x * 83, LPL x * 84, LYO x * 84, PEB * 83
- cats resulting from crossbreeding
  (→ Breeding & Registration Rules § 9).

# FIFe Breed Council Rules

Date of issue: 01.01.2026

## STATUS OF CHANGES

*For previous changes to the rules than those listed below, please refer to the separate document "FIFe Statutes, Rules & Standards – History of Changes", available in the section "Rules & Forms" on the FIFe website.*

| § | Status | Remarks |
|---|---|---|
| | | ***Edition 01.01.26*** |
| | | *No modifications* |

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# 1 Purpose – Advisory body

The Breed Councils are to be established for each breed in order to serve FIFe in an advisory capacity on breed standards, breeding rules and health issues. The Breed Council is to channel opinions and suggestions from the individual FIFe breeder through the Breed Council Secretary.
The Breed Councils are represented at the General Assembly by the Breed Council Administrator.

# 2 Eligibility and membership requirements

1. A member must have a FIFe registered cattery name.
2. A member must be at least 25 years old and must be a member in good standing, for at least 5 calendar years, of a National FIFe Member.
3. A member must have bred and registered with a National FIFe Member at least 5 litters of the appropriate breed.
4. A member must either have:
   – bred at least one Grand Int. Champion or Grand Int. Premier of the appropriate breed or
   – have exhibited a cat of the appropriate breed owned by him at FIFe shows at least 3 times per year within the previous 3 calendar years.

A National FIFe Member may grant exceptions regarding the requirements 3 or 4 for membership of a Breed Council on a motivated application from the breeder.

Membership by eligible individuals in any breed may be obtained by submitting a completed membership application to the National FIFe Member. This application must be certified by the National FIFe Member.

A membership runs from January 1 to December 31.

The Breed Council Administrator sends a list of Breed Council members to the relevant FIFe Members before 31st October. The Breed Council members must pay their renewal fee before 31st January to be entitled to participate in the Breed Council activities, as per articles 6, 8 and 9. If the payment of the membership fee is received after 31st January, it shall be considered as a new application and the member will not be entitled to vote. After having checked all requirements and the payment, the FIFe Member will inform the Breed Council Administrator about the confirmed renewed members.

Upon receipt of the membership application/renewal and fee(s) the Breed Council Administrator will place the member's name on the membership list.

Membership in more than one Breed Council is permitted.

For Breed Councils of breeds which are not fully recognised the following requirements apply:
1. A member must have a FIFe registered cattery name.
2. A member must be at least 25 years old and must be a member in good standing, for at least 2 calendar years, of a National FIFe Member.
3. A member must have bred and registered with a National FIFe Member at least 1 litter of the appropriate breed.
4. Chapter 8 of the Breed Council Rules does not apply.

# 3 Fees

The General Assembly shall set an annual fee.

For inclusion in the official Breed Council members list, Breed Council members are required to pay the annual fee, which is listed in Annex 1 of the General Rules.

# 4 The National FIFe Member's responsibility

The National FIFe Member is responsible for:
- forwarding applications to the Breed Council Administrator
- submitting the fees of its Breed Council members to the FIFe Treasurer by the 31 March each year
- certifying each year that Breed Council membership requirements 1, 2 and 3 in article 2 are fulfilled.

If a Breed Council member's membership in a FIFe organisation ceases during the year or his cattery name in the Book of Cattery Names of FIFe is deleted, the National FIFe Member must inform the Breed Council Administrator. The Breed Council member will be deleted from the Breed Council membership list.

# 5 Breed Council Administrator

1. The Breed Council Administrator is an individual selected for his abilities.

2. The Breed Council Administrator is appointed by the Board for a period of three years, at time of election of the General Secretary, and must be a member of a National FIFe Member.

3. The Breed Council Administrator is the contact person for the Breed Council secretaries, the Board, the Commissions, the National FIFe Members and other relevant bodies.

4. The Breed Council Administrator is responsible for:
   - upholding the Breed Council Rules
   - receiving membership applications for the breed councils
   - maintaining a list of breed council members
   - submitting a list of the Breed Council members to the FIFe Treasurer for invoicing the National FIFe Members
   - informing the Breed Councils about proposals, concerning their breeds, which have been submitted to the General Assembly
   - forwarding proposals from the Breed Councils to the appropriate commission(s)
   - representing the Breed Councils at the General Assembly (without voting rights)
   - organising the ballot for the Breed Council Secretary
   - preparing a written annual report for the Board, this should contain at least:
     - an overview of Breed Councils and their members
     - a summary of Breed Council activities.

# 6 Breed Council Secretary

## 6.1 Requirements for eligibility

See the Membership Requirements above.

A secretary for each Breed Council is to be elected from the members and by the members of that Breed Council for a period of three years.

A candidate must declare his intention to run for secretary of a Breed Council by submitting his declaration in writing to the Breed Council Administrator by the 31 October in the year of election.

## 6.2 Elections

Elections will be held every 3 years in November/December, effective from the 1st of January the following year.

Electronic ballots for the election of Breed Council secretaries must be returned to the Breed Council Administrator in accordance with voting instructions.

Only those Breed Council members who have paid their dues by the 31 October preceding the November/December in which the election is held shall be eligible to vote in the election.

In the event of a tie between/among the candidates for Breed Council Secretary, the membership that was eligible to vote in the election that resulted in a tie shall re-vote amongst the candidates who had equal votes. If the result is again a tie, the winner shall be determined by lot.

## 6.3 Responsibility

The Breed Council Secretary is responsible for:
- receiving and evaluating proposals from the breed council members
- arranging and organising a ballot on proposals
- sending the approved proposals in line with article 8 and evaluations in line with article 9
- being the contact person between the Breed Council members and the Breed Council Administrator
- preparing the Breed Council annual report to be sent to the Breed Council Administrator by the end of January.

# 7 Vacancies

The FIFe Board shall appoint a replacement for any vacancy occurring in the office of a Breed Council Secretary.

# 8 Submission of proposals

## 8.1 Eligibility

To be eligible to forward proposals, the Breed Council must consist of members from at least 8 different National FIFe Members. Exceptions can be granted by the FIFe Board.

## 8.2 Procedure for proposals

1. Proposals from the members of each Breed Council are to be forwarded to the Secretary of the specific Breed Council.
2. The Breed Council Secretary will evaluate these proposals and seek the advice and/or the opinion from the relevant commission(s) through the Breed Council Administrator. The secretary must obtain the opinions of other members of the particular Breed Council in a poll.
3. For a proposal to be eligible for submission to the General Assembly at least 50% of a specific Breed Council(s) affected must participate in the voting, the approval of a 2/3 majority of the members voting must be obtained.
4. The proposals of the Breed Council accepted in the way described in article 8.2.3 have to be forwarded in all 3 FIFe languages with the results of the poll to the Breed Council Administrator who will forward them to the respective commissions (Health & Welfare, Judges & Standards and Breeding & Registration), by the 31st January. They must also have the approval, with a 2/3 majority of the commission concerned, to be eligible as a proposal for the General Assembly.

# 9 Evaluation of proposals

Proposals for the General Assembly concerning the specific breeds received through the Breed Council Administrator from the Board, Commissions or National FIFe Members will be sent to the Breed Council members by the Breed Council Secretary for evaluation.

The Breed Council Secretary will organise a ballot within 15 days after receipt of the proposal(s) and, after having received the result, will send the Breed Council Administrator a written recommendation.

At least 50% of a specific Breed Council(s) affected must participate in the voting which must be supported by a 2/3 majority of the members voting in the specific Breed Council.