

HOW DO I EXHIBIT MY CAT OR KITTEN?

- You Exhibit your cat by entering him/her into a cat show that is run by CatsNSW Inc..
- You then take your cat to the show and it is judged by registered judges against other cats entered in the same show, in various classes and groups.
- Shows normally run from 9am to 4pm, and exhibitors are expected to stay until the Supreme Exhibit in each ring is announced.

HOW TO ENTER A CATSNSW SHOW:

- First you go to the CatsNSW website look under “Shows”
- Then look for the available show and click on that show.
- Fill out the forms and enter the kittens/cats, you will need to also include a copy of their pedigree papers. All instructions are in the paperwork.

WHAT EQUIPMENT DO I NEED FOR THE SHOW?

- Cage – Bought, borrowed or hired from CatsNSW
- Curtains and a base for the cage - borrowed or made.
- Water bowl - bird bowls that screw onto the cage bars are very good, or small plastic bowls are fine.
- Food bowl Kitten/cat food – dry or wet
- Upto date Vaccination papers for both Adults and Kittens- (MUST BE BOUGHT TO EVERY SHOW)
- Litter tray & litter - preferably Cat Mate or similar. NOT clumping litters as this may get caught in the cats coat if they decide to sleep in the litter tray, which they often do ☺.
- Grooming kit – e.g. brush or comb, tissue, baby wipes, extra towel, plastic bags etc.
- Favourite small toy to put in the cage with your cat.
- Camera. You’ll be snapping away.

You can put all your equipment in a small carrier or trolley, or in a large carry bag.

PRE-SHOW GROOMING:

Showing a cat is like entering it into a beauty contest.

Your cat must be well presented and groomed. Most shorthaired cats require little grooming, just regular brushing or stroking with the hand or a damp chamois.

However, longhaired and semi-longhaired cats require bathing, blow drying, and grooming before each show to ensure their coats are in tip top show condition.

Check with your breeder, and other longhair exhibitors, as to the best way to do this, and what shampoos or conditioners to use.

SHOW CURTAINS.

The show cages are decorated with coloured curtains and a cover to fit on the base of the cage. For your first show, talk to your breeder about borrowing some curtains, or contact Cats NSW Secretary. Once you become more involved in showing, you can make your own curtains, or have them made for you.

Curtains can be in variety of colours to compliment your cat.

For instance, you wouldn't put a white cat on white curtains. They can be as simple or detailed as you like, but remember that a judge must be able to see your cat clearly when judging. Curtains are attached to the cage with ties or Velcro.

The base of the cage can be a padded pillow case, but we suggest a padded cushion that matches your curtains. It can be a long day for a cat to spend on a hard cage floor. The cushion may be the same size as the cage, or only half the size of the cage. You can put a round bed in your cage, but this sometimes makes it difficult for the judge to see your cat.

THE DAY OF THE SHOW

The show day begins with Vetting In or In Cage Vetting, usually between 7.00am and 8.30am.

You will need to collect your Vetting Slip and info generally on a table near the entrance of the room,

All exhibits must pass an inspection by one of the qualified Veterinary Surgeons/ or Suitably qualified person. If an exhibit is found to be

suffering from any disease it will not be permitted to enter the show hall, and must be removed from the precincts of the show. The Rule is "One out, All out" on a contagious disease, so if an exhibitor has brought along 3 exhibits to the show, and one is vetted out, that exhibitor is not permitted to bring any of the exhibits into the show.

After Vetting In has taken place, time is then spent by exhibitors setting in their cats, with curtains and bases being used in all cages, place your cat inside its dedicated cage and have the cage number showing on the cage, with the Kitten/Cat Vaccination record on top of the cage if it is IN CAGE VETTING.

WHAT GROUP IS YOUR CAT?

Sexes of Cats: Male (entire male); Female (entire female);
Neuter (castrated/desexed male); Spay (castrated/desexed female)

Ages of Cats:

Kitten – up to 9 months of age:

Cat – 9 months of age and over

Group 1 – Longhairs

Group 2 – Siamese Oriental Peterbald

Group 3 – All others

Group 4 – Companions

Groups 1 – 4 are then each divided into sections or bays:

Kittens

Entire Cats

Desexed Cats

Companions

The cages are arranged in these groups, starting with kittens.

There are normally two or three judges at a show, and all judging usually starts at the same time. If the judges are All Breeds judges, they will judge every cat entered in the competition. The exception to this is if a kitten or cat entered has been bred by the judge and sold within the previous 6 months. The kitten or cat is excluded from that judges' ring, but will be judged in the other rings.

Each judge is assisted by a steward. The judge will use a table placed in front of the cages. On the table there may be a judging stand if the judge requires it, a spray bottle of disinfectant, paper towels, and the stewards' box. The steward's role is to assist the judge in any way needed such as opening cage doors or taking cats out of the cages. The judge will clean their hands between each cat, and the steward will clean the judging table and their own hands after handling any cats.

You can sit at the front of the judging table (social distancing now applies) and watch the cats being judged. The judge will examine each cat by mentally comparing it against a written standard that describes the ideal specimen of each breed. The standard assigns points to all aspects of the cat including body shape, coat, colour, pattern and overall condition with the ideal specimen achieving 100 points. The judge decides how closely each cat matches this ideal, deducting points where the cat differs from the ideal.

The judge will talk about each cat as he/she examines them but will not usually state a numerical score for each cat. The judge will privately rank the cats and kitten within a section then make their awards.

All entries receiving a Top 5 placing are awarded points that accumulate throughout the year and are used to determine the winners in the Cat of the Year competition. (Members ONLY)

Challenge - Challenge points are awarded to a male and female adults in each colour section by breed. These Challenge points count towards Titles and are only given to Adult Cats. We accept 4 Challenges for CatsNSW Shows and 2 Challenges from any other ACF or CCCA Affiliates Only.

WHAT NOW THE SHOW HAS ENDED?.

You may pack up our cage and cat and leave the venue, we always appreciate any help for the Show Team to take down bunting or stack chairs.

Hopefully you will have enjoyed your very first cat show, and will be looking forward to the next one. Cat shows can become addictive, and sometimes competitive, but the most important thing to remember is that shows are fun and a social outing with lots of people who love their cats like your do.

At the end of every show, the cat is always the winner with or without a ribbon 😊

If you have any questions or queries, no matter how small, please do not hesitate to contact our Secretary@catsnsw.com.au.

Links with further information are on our Website:

[Show Rules](#)