



Show Organisation and Procedures

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AMENDED – 14TH JANUARY 2025
AMENDED – 10TH JUNE 2025
AMENDED – 12TH AUGUST 2025
AMENDED – 13TH JANUARY 2026
AMENDED – 10TH FEBRUARY 2026

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SHOW ORGANISATION PROCEDURES

These Show Organisation Procedures shall govern all shows held by Cats NSW Inc. and its Affiliate Clubs

DEFINITIONS

Cats NSW	means Cats New South Wales Incorporated
ACF	means the Australian Cat Federation Incorporated
Affiliated Club	means an affiliated member club of Cats NSW Inc
CCCA	means the Co-ordinating Cat Council of Australia Inc
Recognised Body	means affiliate members of the ACF and the CCCA
ANCATS	means Australian National Cats Incorporated

AMENDMENTS

DATE	CLAUSE	DESCRIPTION
18.04.2017	2.3	Judges payments
18.04.2017	6.2	Vaccination Rule updated
18.04.2017	6.3	Adult Vaccination Rule added
15.02.2023	3.7	Amend kitten age from 12 weeks to 10 weeks
15.02.2023	9.5	Amend kitten age from 12 weeks to 10 weeks
15.02.2023	10.4	Replace Open Style shows may have up to 3 rings, plus Specialty Rings to Open Style shows may have up to 6 rings plus Specialty Rings
15.02.2023	13.3	Under 5 th place Top 5 – 1 point added Best in Group – 5 points and Supreme Exhibit 5 points
15.02.2023	14.2	Amend kitten age from 12 weeks to 10 weeks
15.02.2023	14.3	Amend kitten age from 12 weeks to 10 weeks
15.03.2023	6.1	Amend vetting rules for every cat and kitten in venue
15.03.2023	12.7e	Amend to allow members who live more than 400km from Sydney GPO to use challenge points from interstate ACF bodies towards titles.
16.01.2024	13.5	Add new award and description to Cat of the Year Awards
13.02.2024	15.0	Add new allowances for judging groups and COTY points slips for Northern NSW shows
14.05.2024	5.1	Remove requirement for list of exhibitors in show catalogue
24.09.2024	12.7e	Amend to allow members who live more than 200km from Sydney GPO to use challenge points from interstate ACF and CCCA, and intrastate CCCA shows in their majority of challenges.
7.01.2025	6.3	Amend adult cat vaccination requirements
7.01.2025	13.3	Add eligibility and awards made to Associate member exhibits

DATE	CLAUSE	DESCRIPTION
14.01.2025	14.11	Add definition of junior development class
14.01.2025	16.0	Add new section – junior development class
10.06.2025	13.12	Add new rule to clarify that registration pending exhibits not eligible for COTY points
12.08.2025	6.0	Section deleted – refer to show rules section 3
13.01.2026	3.4	Insert new rule to provide options for how breeds are arranged into groups for the purpose of judging.
13.01.2026	3.5 – 3.10	Consequential renumbering of these rules resulting from insertion of new rule 3.4
13.01.2026	7.4	New rule to address requirements for judges notes for specialty rings
13.01.2026	12.8	New rule to address awards for breed specific specialty rings.
13.01.2026	13.3	Insert new rule for eligibility for COTY awards
13.01.2026	13.6	Amend top 5 to top 7 COTY awards for members pedigreed exhibits Added new COTY awards for members, associate members
13.01.2026	13.7	New rule to include best of breed awards for members and associate members combined
13.01.2026	13.8	New rule to include exhibitors' choice award
13.01.2026	13.9	Amend top 5 to top 7 COTY awards for members companion exhibits
13.01.2026	13.13	New rule to clarify that Specialty Rings are not eligible for COTY points.
13.01.2026	14.1	Amend definition of litter class open
10.02.2026	14.1	Amend rule to remove requirement for litters to be litter registered.

1.0 **SHOW EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE**

- 1.1 Each Affiliate Club intending to hold a show shall appoint a Show Executive comprising of a Show Manager and Show Secretary and may appoint a Show Committee and such other persons as the Club deems appropriate.
- 1.2 Members of the Show Executive must be current financial members of Cats NSW.

2.0 **JUDGES**

- 2.1 All Judges and Stewards officiating at a Cats NSW show must be licensed with Cats NSW or to an organisation whose Judge's credentials are recognised by ACF.
- 2.2 All Judges from overseas organisations must be licensed or accredited to the organisation whose Judge's credentials are recognised by ACF.
- 2.3 An Affiliate must offer a minimum payment of \$50.00 **IN CASH** to each local Judge officiating at the show.

International or Interstate Judges are to be offered airfares/transfers, accommodation, meals and out of pocket expenses such as airport parking, transfers etc as part of the contract negotiations with the Affiliate

- 2.4 A ratio of 1 Judge per 100 exhibits is recommended

3.0 **SHOW SCHEDULE**

- 3.1 Not less than sixty (60) days prior to the Show date, each Affiliate Club intending to conduct a show shall submit a draft show schedule to the Cats NSW Committee for review and approval.
- 3.2 The format and contents of the draft schedule shall comply with the Show Organisation and Procedures or as directed by the Cats NSW Committee.

- 3.3 The Show schedule shall indicate the number of rings in the show.
- 3.4 The Show Organisation Team may nominate how breeds are arranged into groups for the purpose of judging. The following options are available:

a) Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4 – according to the grouping of breeds provided by ACF.

Group 1 - Birman, Exotic, Maine Coon, Nebelung, Neva Masquerade, Norwegian Forest Cat, Persian, Ragdoll, Siberian, Turkish Angora & Turkish Van.

Group 2 - Balinese, Foreign White Shorthair, Foreign White Longhair, Oriental Shorthair, Oriental Longhair, Peterbald, and Siamese

Group 3 - Abyssinian, American Curl Longhair, American Curl Shorthair, American Shorthair, Australian Mist, Bengal, Bengal Longhair, Bombay, British Shorthair, British Longhair, Burmese, Burmilla Longhair, Burmilla Shorthair, Cornish Rex, Cymric, Devon Rex, Donskoy, Egyptian Mau, Japanese Bobtail Longhair, Japanese Bobtail Shorthair, Korat, La Perm Longhair, La Perm Shorthair, Lykoi, Mandalay, Manx, Munchkin, Ocicat, Pixiebob Longhair, Pixiebob Shorthair, Russian, Scottish Fold Longhair, Scottish Fold Shorthair, Scottish Longhair, Scottish Shorthair, Selkirk Rex Longhair, Selkirk Rex Shorthair, Singapura, Snowshoe, Somali, Sphynx, Tonkinese, Toyger

Group 4 – Desexed Companion Kittens and Desexed Companion Cats.

b) Longhair, Shorthair, Companions

Longhair – includes all the breeds listed in Group 1 above.

Shorthair – combines the Group 2 and Group 3 breeds listed above into a single group.

Companions – as per Group 4 above.

- 3.5 A copy of the signed Judges' contracts must be submitted with the draft schedule.
- 3.6 Judge's assignments are to be listed and the Judges are to be identified by their governing body
- 3.7 A reduction in entry fee may be allowed when an exhibit is ineligible to be judged in a ring
- 3.8 The show schedule is to identify the cut-off date for kittens eligible to be entered in kitten class's show are specified on the summary sheet of the show schedule.
- 3.9 Kittens must be at least 10 weeks of age as at the date of the show.
- 3.10 The Show Secretary is to issue to all Judges and the Show Representative a copy of the approved Show Schedule as soon as it is available.

4.0 **SHOW REPRESENTATIVE & SHOW SECRETARY**

- 4.1 The Cats NSW Committee shall appoint one or more persons to be the Show Representative at a show.
- 4.2 The Show Representative may be consulted by the Show Committee and give advice as to the Cats NSW Show Rules and the Show Organisation & Procedures.
- 4.3 The Show Representative shall forward to the Cats NSW Secretary a written report on the general conduct of the Show within 7 days of the close of the show.

4.4 The Show Secretary shall forward the Top 5 results and catalogue to the Cat of the Year Point Scorer's within 7 days of the show.

4.5 The Show Secretary shall forward a marked catalogue to the Cats NSW Secretary within 7 days of the show.

5.0 **SHOW CATALOGUE**

5.1 The Show Committee shall prepare a show catalogue that must contain at least the following information and any such additional information that the schedule approval letter may require.

- a) A statement that the show is conducted under the Show Rules and the Show Organisation and Procedures of Cats NSW Inc;
- b) The full name, date of birth, registered number, exhibitor, names of sire and dam, and breeder of each exhibit;
- c) The names of the Show Representative, the Show Executive and the Affiliate Club's Executive Officers;
- d) The names of Judges with their licencing governing body, and their assignments;
- e) Veterinary Inspection procedure;
- f) Where possible, the names of all Floor Stewards, plus their assignments
- g) The names of the Ring Co-ordinators for open style shows;
- h) Details of all awards intended to be made at the show.

6.0 **VETERINARY INSPECTION**

Section deleted – refer to Show Rules Section 3

7.0 **JUDGING REQUIREMENTS**

7.1 Judging slips shall be prepared for each judge for:

- a) each separate Pedigree breed and colour section allowing the award of a Best in Section for Kittens and Challenge for Cats;

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- b) each Companion section allowing the award of a Best in Section for Kittens and Award of Merit for Cats;
 - c) Judging to Best of Breed for Kitten (Male, Female, Neuter & Spay), Entire Cat (Male & Female), Desexed Cat (Neuter & Spay);
 - c) Judging to Top 5 Kittens (Male, Female, Neuter & Spay), Entire Cats and Desexed Cats for each Group;
 - d) Judging to the Best Kitten in Show, the Best Entire Cat in Show and the Best Desexed Cat in Show between the Best in each Group;
 - e) Judging between the Best Kitten in Show, the Best Entire Cat in Show and the Best Desexed Cat in Show for the Supreme Exhibit in each Ring

7.2 The date of birth of the exhibit must be shown on the judging slip.

7.3 The number of kittens entered in each litter in a Litter Class is to be specified on the Judge's paperwork.

7.4 Judging notes/slips for each Specialty ring are to indicate which exhibits are eligible for entry into the Specialty ring and what awards will be given. Breed specific Specialty rings, where exhibits are judged to their respective standards and by a qualified judge, may be eligible for Challenge points.

8.0 JUDGES ACCOMMODATION

8.1 It is recommended that an Affiliate Club provide hotel or motel accommodation for out of area Judges in the days/evening prior to the show.

8.2 An officiating Judge is not permitted to stay at or visit an exhibitor's place of residence in the five (5) days prior to a show, unless that exhibitor's exhibits are not entered in any classes which the officiating Judge is judging or is likely to judge.

8.3 Refer to Section 2.0 of the Show Rules document for further requirements relating to officiating Judges

9.0 EXHIBITIONS

- 9.1 An Affiliate Club may conduct an exhibition of cats to promote to the public responsible cat ownership, and pedigreed and companion cat showing.
- 9.2 The Affiliate Club shall apply in writing to the Cats NSW Committee of its intention to conduct an exhibition.
- 9.3 If approved, the Affiliate Club shall maintain a record of all club members and exhibitors involved in the exhibition and submit such record to the Cats NSW Secretary.
- 9.4 Veterinary Inspections are to be conducted in accordance with Clause 3.0 of the Show Rules.
- 9.5 All exhibits must be benched in show cages, be at least 10 weeks of age, and have been vaccinated as per Clause 3.0 of the Show Rules

10.0 AUSTRALIAN OPEN STYLE SHOWS

- 10.1 Unless an Affiliate Club requests and gains the approval from Cats NSW Committee, all shows shall be Australian Open Shows.
- 10.2 Exhibits are benched in their cages in judging bays, and then brought to a judging table by either the Judge or Steward officiating at the show.
- 10.3 Exhibitors may observe the judging of exhibits.
- 10.4 Open style shows may have up to 6 rings, plus Specialty Rings
- 10.5 An exhibitor may request that their exhibit be withdrawn from a ring prior to the commencement of judging in that ring. All requests are to be made to the Show Manager.

11.0 **COMBINED SHOWS**

- 11.1 When 2 or more Affiliate Clubs agree to hold a combined show, the maximum number of rings shall be 2 for each Affiliate Club except where the Cats NSW Committee has given its written approval to vary this condition.

12.0 **CHALLENGE AWARDS AND TITLES**

- 12.1 Challenge awards will be awarded to the Best Male, Best Female, Best Neuter and Best Spay in each recognised colour section of each recognised breed including experimental generations where ACF has applied no special requirements to their acceptance as a recognised breed if, in the opinion of the Judge, the exhibits reach the required standard.
- 12.2 When a Challenge award has been withheld in a ring, the exhibit is ineligible for any higher award in that ring, including Best of Breed.
- 12.3 Challenge points awarded shall be 10 points plus 1 point each for each cat entered and present in the class, to a maximum of 20 points.
- 12.4 UTH exhibits are to be regarded as being present in ALL rings of a show.
- 12.5 A Best in Group Entire Cat and Best in Group Desexed Cat is automatically a 20 point Challenge.
- 12.6 ACF awards may be awarded to the Best Male Cat, Best Female Cat, Best Neuter Cat and Best Spay Cat in each of Groups 1, 2 and 3. All entries in an adult group are entitled to compete for this award whether titled or not. Refer to the ACF website for details on ACF awards and how to claim these awards from the ACF Secretariat.
- 12.7 Cats NSW Inc. Championship Awards are:
- a) Champion, Grand Champion, Double Grand Champion for each level:
Male Cats 70 - challenge points,
Female, Neuter and Spay Cats - 60 challenge points.

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- b) Bronze, Silver and Gold Double Grand Champion for each level:
 - 100 challenge points.
 - c) Challenge points in excess of the total for a level may be carried over to the next level.
 - d) Challenges awarded by a judge licenced by a non-recognised governing body may not be used for Cats NSW Inc. titles.
 - e) Applications for all titles must include a majority of challenge points gained at Cats NSW Inc. Show, Cats NSW Inc. Affiliate Club shows or at ACF National shows. Members who reside more than 200km from Sydney GPO are able to include challenges from interstate ACF and CCCA shows, and intrastate CCCA shows in their majority of challenges.
 - f) Challenge points won as an entire cat may be counted for awards as a desexed cat.
 - g) After gaining a title, if a cat is desexed (or is subject to a colour change) the cat may retain the title and proceed to a higher award status.
 - h) Platinum, Sapphire, Ruby, Emerald & Diamond Grand Champion 10 Best in Group (20 point) challenge certificates for each higher title.
- 12.8 Breed specific Specialty Rings when judged by a qualified judge may be eligible for Challenge points. They are not eligible for ACF Awards.
- 13.0 **MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS PEDIGREED & COMPANION KITTEN/CAT OF THE YEAR ELIGIBILITY AND AWARDS**
- 13.1 Kittens and Cats may accumulate points in the Cats NSW Inc. Members' or Associate Members Kitten/Cat of the Year Awards, only whilst it is in the ownership of a financial member or associate member of Cats NSW Inc.
- 13.2 Points will be counted from the date the membership is accepted.
- 13.3 To be eligible for a COTY Top 7 award, a cat must have attend a minimum of two Cats NSW or affiliate shows in the year.

13.4 Points will be awarded as per the following:

1 st place Top 5	5 points
2 nd place Top 5	4 points
3 rd place Top 5	3 points
4 th place Top 5	2 points
5 th place Top 5	1 point
Best In Group	5 points
Supreme Exhibit	5 points

13.5 Only points gained at Cats NSW shows, The Sydney Royal Easter Show and the ACF National Cat Show when held in NSW or the ACT will be counted.

13.6 The following awards shall be presented to members pedigreed exhibits as follows:

- Top 7 Kittens in Group 1, 2 & 3
- Top 7 Entire Cats in Group 1, 2 & 3
- Top 7 Desexed Cats in Group 1, 2 & 3

Highest Point Scoring Exhibit Group 1

The Group 1 exhibit that scores the highest number of points in the kitten, entire cat or desexed cat section.

Highest Point Scoring Exhibit Group 2

The Group 2 exhibit that scores the highest number of points in the kitten, entire cat or desexed cat section.

Highest Point Scoring Exhibit Group 3

The Group 3 exhibit that scores the highest number of points in the kitten, entire cat or desexed cat section.

Exhibit of the Year

Awarded to the exhibit who achieves the highest number of points throughout the year, as an aggregate of points won in all sections. This includes kittens who move into the entire or desexed cat section during the year and entire cats who move into the desexed cat section during the year.

Prefix of the Year

Awarded to the highest scoring Prefix in Groups 1,2,3. This is only for prefix's held by full financial members of Cats NSW. Points will be calculated by adding all points of any cat that holds that prefix. The prefix with the highest number of points will be awarded prefix of the year in each group.

Baby Kitten of the Year

Awarded to the overall highest scoring Baby Kitten (10weeks – 6mths) owned by a Cats NSW Member.

Veteran Cat of the Year

Awarded to the overall highest scoring Veteran Cat (aged between 7yrs up to 10yrs) owned by a Cats NSW Member.

Golden Oldie Cat of the Year

Awarded to the overall highest scoring Golden Oldie (10 years plus) owned by a Cats NSW Member.

New Exhibitor of the Year

An award will be made to the highest scoring new exhibitor. Eligibility for this award is only for those Cats NSW members who are showing cats for the first time in any registering body.

Returning Exhibitor of the Year

An Award made to the highest scoring returning exhibitor of the year. To be eligible and exhibitor must be a member or associate member of Cats NSW and have not shown Cats in any registering body for a minimum of 5 years before the current year.

- 13.7 The following awards will be awarded to Cats NSW members and Associate Members combined:

Best of breed

Each judge will be asked to award an overall best of breed at each Cats NSW or affiliate show. 1 point will be awarded for each best of breed an exhibit receives the exhibit with the highest number of points will be awarded Best of Breed. This award is open to all Cats NSW members and Associate members combined.

- 13.8 The following award will be awarded to a show exhibitor regardless of their body of registration.

Exhibitors' Choice

At all Cats NSW (and optional for affiliate club shows) each exhibitor will be provided a voting slip (suggest adding this to the bottom of vetting slips) to have one vote for their choice. Exhibitors will be asked not to vote for their own exhibit but will obviously be an honesty-based system. This award is open to all exhibits regardless of their body of registration. Slips will be collected and counted with the show rep and 1 other person then numbers forwarded to the COTY recorder.

- 13.9 The following awards shall be presented to members companion exhibits:

Top 7 Companion Exhibits

- 13.10 The following awards shall be presented to associate members pedigreed exhibits as follows:

1st place Kitten in Groups 1, 2 & 3

1st place Entire Cat in Groups 1, 2 & 3

1st place Desexed Cat in Groups 1, 2 & 3

Highest Point Scoring Associate Member Exhibit

Awarded to the exhibit who achieves the highest number of points throughout the year, as an aggregate of points won in all sections. This includes kittens who move into the entire or desexed cat section during the year and entire cats who move into the desexed cat section during the year.

13.11 The following award shall be presented to associate members companion exhibits: 1st place Companion Exhibit

13.12 Exhibits entered with registration pending are not eligible for COTY points.

13.13 Specialty Rings are not eligible for COTY points.

14.0 **DEFINITION OF CLASSES**

14.1 Litter Class Open

A litter shall comprise all the living progeny under the age of four months of one kitting of a Brood Queen. A litter is defined as being two or more kittens.

14.2 Baby Kitten Class Open - optional class

At least 10 weeks of age and under four months on the day of the show.

14.3 Kitten Class Open

At least 10 weeks of age and under nine months on the day of the show. Exhibits nine months and over on the day of the show shall be classified as adults.

14.4 Entire Cat Open Class

Open to entire male cats & female cats over nine months of age. All cats must be entered in this class in at least one Ring of a show, unless Cats NSW Committee approval is sought and granted for special circumstances such as a Veteran / Golden Oldie class.

14.5 Desexed Cat Open Class

Open to all neuter and spay cats nine months of over nine months of age. All cats must be entered in this class in at least one Ring of a show, unless Cats NSW Committee approval is sought and granted for special circumstances such as a Veteran / Golden Oldie class.

14.6 Companion Classes

Open to any desexed kitten or cat that cannot be entered into any class other than Companion/Domestic pet classes. Companion kitten and cat classes are not judged by official standards, but on condition, quality of coat and temperament.

14.7 Veteran Class

Cats seven years and over on the day of the show.

14.8 Any Other Colour/Any Other Variety

Kittens or Cats which are registered but do not comply with the pattern or colour standards of their breed may not be shown at CATS NSW shows in the pedigreed cat classes unless they form part of a litter class entry from an experimental programme.

Experimental programme kittens and cats can be entered "On Exhibition Only" for the purpose of being assessed by the judges.

14.9 Best in Show

Only Kitten Best in Section or Cat Challenge winners will be eligible for BEST IN SHOW awards.

14.10 Supreme Exhibit

Best in Show award winners or Best Entire Cat, Best Desexed Cat and Best Kitten may compete together for SUPREME EXHIBIT in GROUP or SUPREME EXHIBIT in RING.

14.11 Junior Development Class

Open to entrants aged 5 – 17 years with two age classes (refer 14.11.1 and 14.11.2) judged in one ring only of a show.

14.11.1 5 – 12 years

14.11.2 13 – 17 years

15.0 **NORTHERN NEW SOUTH WALES SHOWS**

15.1 The following awards shall be presented at shows conducted within 200km of the Queensland border:

Top 5 Kittens in Group Longhair/Shorthair

Top 5 Entire Cats in Group Longhair/Shorthair

Top 5 Desexed Cats in Group Longhair/Shorthair/Companion

15.2 A separate award slip must be completed for Group 2 Kittens, Entire Cats and Desexed Cats for the purposes of awarding COTY points.

16.0 **JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT CLASSES**

16.1 The goal of this class is to provide each participant with an opportunity to develop as an individual and to develop their knowledge of felines and their care and presentation in each facet of a cat show.

16.2 An entrant in this class must be under the age of 18 years at the beginning of the calendar / show year.

16.3 There are two age divisions being:

5 to 12 years

13 to 17 years

16.4 An entrant must be a financial member of a cat registering body either in their own right or as part of a family membership.

16.5 An entrant does not have to own the cat he/she has chosen to exhibit.

16.6 An entrant's cat must be eligible for either the pedigreed or companion class.

16.7 An entrant does not have to exhibit the same cat during the show year.

16.8 An entrant's cat must be entered into it relevant open or age class

16.9 Judging is by entrant and not by cat, therefore pedigreed and companion cats may both be in the same judging division.

16.10 This is a NO charge class, offering entrants a free assessment of their competency.

16.11 Judges will place entrants 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each age division. These placings will carry points as follows which will accumulate during the calendar / show year:

Each entrant	1 point
1 st place	10 points
2 nd place	7 points
3 rd place	5 points

16.12 Assessment of each entrant by the judge will be based upon the following:

- General knowledge of the exhibit
- Dress and presentation of the entrant
- Confidence and communication
- Handling of their exhibit
- Awareness of hygiene and cleanliness at a cat show
- Understanding of processes at a cat show.