



We don't have a regular Newsletter, but there are occasions when we need to circulate news or information among our members and exhibitors. Sometimes a circular or leaflet on a specific topic is the answer, but when there is not enough to say on a topic, leaflets are inappropriate and these infrequent "newsletters" appear.

Why now? There seem to be some things that some breeders or exhibitors are unaware of, or have forgotten, so the topics for this news-sheet have arisen from questions that officers have been asked, or that judges, stewards and/or other officials have noticed, as well as new procedures and anything else that seems appropriate.

CAGE DECORATION

Coloured curtains and cushions are allowed in cages all day, and it has been noticed that some coverings used on cage bases are not "kitten friendly" in cold weather. Silks and satins on hard cushions are not very warm and snugly. Perhaps on cold days, especially for shorthaired kittens that might "feel the cold" and be unhappy, owners could bring a little warmth with them.

HOT WATER BOTTLES

You can bring one for your feline and they are permitted in cages. They should be well wrapped to avoid contact with hot surfaces, and to help retain the heat. It doesn't matter that the "hottie" will cool down slowly. It should help the kitten (or cat) settle happily into the cage, and exhibits that should have smooth, close-lying coats, won't need to "fluff up" to keep warm.

LITTER TRAYS

Although most exhibits do not need a litter tray left in the show cage, there should be one directly under the cage so it can be popped into the cage by a steward if the kitten or cat is scratching at base of cage, or showing other signs of need.

UTH AND UTJ CATS

There's been recent mention of "duty of care" towards handlers (Judges & Stewards) at shows.

This does not only apply to organisers, but also to an owner benching a cat that has been UTH or UTJ, knowing it is likely to play up again.

SOMETHING NEW

ROLLED UP TOWELS ON TOP OF CAGES

No, they are not there for judges and stewards to dry their hands, but they are used during judging.

The idea was brought back from New Zealand by a GCCFSA judge who judged recently when there was ice and snow outside.

Each cage had a white towel on top, neatly rolled, supplied by the exhibitor. The steward or judge took the towel and laid it on the judging table, then the exhibit was put on the towel, rather than on a cold surface. The towels had "familiar smells" and the judge reported that there were no problems with unhappy or uncooperative cats.

In future, if you place a neatly rolled white towel on your cage, it will be placed on the judging surface so your kitten or cat doesn't have to stand on a cold table (and towel will be rolled up and replaced on the cage afterwards).

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT:

CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR EMERGENCY

(from NZCF show rules):

10. (a) It is mandatory for carrying cages to be left under every exhibit's benching cage during Shows, so that all cats could be evacuated speedily in case of an emergency such as a fire.

Their Rule 10 (c) is good, too:

All Clubs should organise an efficient evacuation procedure for their Shows.

Perhaps this is something we should all think about, even as a possible addition to our own show rules, to be voted upon this year.

REGISTRATION & TRANSFER OF REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR SHOWS:

Make sure you are familiar with the Show Rules relating to registration. If it is found that your cat or kitten is not correctly registered as required in Show Rule 1.1. he/she could forfeit any certificates won. Show Rule 1.1. is printed overleaf.

ADELAIDE ROYAL SHOW CHANGE OF JUDGE

The contracted US judge advised that he was unavailable due to ill health. Arrangements have been made for another CFA AB judge: Sheila Mizzi, from Vermont

TITLES / HONOURS

There seems to be confusion about certificates required for new titles. The requirements are:

Champion/Premier:

Four Challenge/Award of Merit Certificates under three different Judges in the Open Class (OM,OF,NEM,SPF). One certificate can be from another recognised body.

Grand Champion/Premier: Four Certificates under three different Judges in the Champion/Premier Class, or where applicable interstate, in the Open Class. One certificate after Champion/Premier can be from another recognised body.

Double Grand: Six Certificates under four different Judges in Grand Champion/Premier Class, or where applicable interstate, in the Open Class. One Certificate after Grand can be from another recognised body.

Bronze Double Grand: Twenty-four (24) Certificates or ten (10) further Certificates after the date of application for Double Grand Champion. Three after Double Grand can be from another recognised body.

Silver Double Grand: Ten (10) further Certificates after the date of application for Bronze Medallion, three of which can be from another recognised body.

Gold Double Grand: Ten (10) further Certificates, after date of application for Silver Medallion, three of which can be from another recognised body.

Make sure your cat qualifies as above and lodge your application with the Honours Registrar. Once a cat earns a title, it can no longer be shown in previous class - see definitions in Show Rules and Information, "Open Class - All entire cats (Except Champions, Grand Champions, etc.)

Cats "upgraded" before they are entitled to be, or entered in their "old" class after they have "gone up" can result in them being OUTCLASSED - even weeks after event - and forfeiting certificates gained since the error was made.

GCCFSA recognises titles awarded by all ACF and CCCA affiliates for entry into our shows, so a FASA (CCCA affil) registered cat is accepted with title as recognised by FASA. Show Rules & Information - rule 25

Remember to advise Show Managers of any change of status by the Wednesday prior to the show - or be prepared to have your cat outclassed.

ACF YEARBOOKS

The idea of pre-ordering resulted in increased SA sales, and we now have only a few ordered books on hand. If anyone else would like a book, please let Nell know so we can get them. Cost is \$7

ACF CALICO BAGS

GC Delegates were handed a supply of bags to sell at \$5 each - Nell & John have been seen walking round shows with them.

SHOW RULE 1.

Registration

1.1 ALL PEDIGREED exhibits five months of age and over, on the day of the show and domiciled in S.A. for three months must be individually registered with GCCFSA or FASA. All pedigreed exhibits under five months of age on the day of the show must be litter registered. Show Managers must check with appropriate Registrar. All Experimental & Registered Experimental Desexed exhibits six months of age and over, on the day of the show, must be litter registered.

All pedigreed cats or kittens, used for breeding and/or exhibiting, born after 30th June 1962 and domiciled in South Australia must be registered with GCCFSA or FASA.

ACF AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Rules are changing.

At present time all titled cats are eligible and are entered by the Show Manager / Show Secretary.

A of E certificates are awarded to Best Male, Best Female, Best Desexed Male, Best Desexed Female in each of three groups (Groups 3 & 4 compete together in group 3 for this award only.)

Cats Reg with any ACF or CCCA affiliates are eligible (GCCFSA or FASA in SA).

Change, subject to September ratification: ALL exhibits to be eligible - not only titled cats - as long as they placed in top five.

WHEN CAN TITLE BE USED?

In GCCFSA, as soon as cat earns it. In ACF, as soon as the application is approved. Titles are NOT retrospective and if a cat was a Champion when he sired a kitten, and later becomes a Gold Double Grand Champion, the name and title as on registration certificate remains the same, Show entries should use details shown on registration certificate.

QUESTIONS - WHO TO ASK

If you have questions about any GCCFSA rules, ask the GCCFSA official concerned, or GCCFSA Secretary. If you want to know something about a show, ask the show manager. If it's about a registration, ask the appropriate registrar. If not sure, ask GC Secretary and be pointed in the right direction (or get an answer). GCCFSA officers can speak for GCCFSA, and they know the rules or know who can advise you.

BREEDERS DIRECTORY

All Cat Breeders registered with The Governing Council of The Cat Fancy of South Australia Inc are invited to advertise in the "Breeders' Directory".

New issue printed for Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society Show each year and is available free of charge in cat section at Adelaide Royal Show. This means that a listing could be read by 1000s people, and later by their families & friends, making it very good advertising value. Now on the GCCFSA Web Site, too. (E-mail address and/or web page URL can be hyperlinks on the web.) Contact Nell Evans, now. Closing date 13th but can accept to 17th

WHERE TO GET FORMS

GC forms are in the stationery box at shows, usually found near the GC Reps' table. Self serve on an honour system - put 5 cents in for each application form you take, to help with printing costs.

They can also be downloaded and printed from GCCFSA web site at <http://users.chariot.com.au/~gccfcsa>

FEES (From "Show Rules & Information")

Registration of Litter under 6 months, Kittens under 9 months, transfers, Honours applications, duplicate registration: \$5.00. Litter over 6 months, kittens (ownership) over 9 months, certified pedigree, copy of pedigree: \$10.00; Prefix application \$20.00

WHERE TO SEND FORMS

GROUP 1 & GROUP 4

Robyn Fryar, 36 McMahon Ave, Para Hills, 5096. . . . Phone: 8264 3712

GROUP 2 & MEMBERSHIP

Ms Christine Bentley, 56 Bagalow Cres., Smithfield, 5114. . . . Phone: 8254 1917

GROUP 3 & EXPERIMENTAL

Miss Judith Russack, 32 Farrant Street, Prospect, 5082. . . . Phone: 8344 7659

HONOURS & PREFIX

Miss Muriel Howarth, 139 Devonport Tce., Prospect, 5082. . . . Phone: 8344 3533

SHOW RULES & INFORMATION

GCCFSA's "Show Rules Booklet" usually goes to print after AGM., so it's available at first shows. Every exhibitor needs to know the Show Rules (most entry forms have a declaration that exhibitors will abide by them), and booklets also contain other information. Cost of 2003 issue is \$1.00

EMERGENCY EXITS AT SHOWS

Some people are parking trolleys in a manner or position that blocks doorways in cat show venues. Please remember that conditions of hire include rules that these exits be kept clear at all times.

Driveways also must be kept clear for emergency vehicle access.

VOLUNTEERS

Generally the cat fancy tries to keep costs to a practical minimum for the benefit of all breeders and exhibitors. This means there is "they" to come in and do anything, and no employees to handle registrations, mail, etc. This raises two issues:

Registrars & other officers:

All positions in GCCFSA are voluntary, and we are glad to have people willing to take them on. We do not expect anyone to drop everything and carry out Council duties immediately - just as soon as they can.

Cat Shows: Help really is needed with everything, and this includes certificates, catalogue marking, kitchen, etc as well as setting up to pulling down - if you see it, someone did it, either before or on the day. More workers means each can do less, and some of us are no longer as young and/or as fit as we once were.

"LOOK AT MY CAT" - but please, NOT until judging is over (side classes, groups & supreme too). Most judges will happily give a private critique in afternoon.