

My name is David Nudleman and I am running for a position in the Ragdoll Breed Committee. I am an Approved All Breed TICA judge who represents our breed as both a breeder and exhibitor and I have been breeding and showing blue eyed pointed Ragdoll cats since 2003. My reason for running for one of the breed council positions is that I feel very strongly that the current ragdoll standard still does not give a clear picture of the perfect Ragdoll. I also feel very strongly that education is the key to understanding our breed. However, we cannot properly educate our breed group members and judging panel if our standard is not written for the perfect Ragdoll.

Additionally, I also feel that we need to develop a definitive look to our breed so they are recognized as Ragdolls and not the breeds used to add genetic diversity. Currently we are seeing a trend for short baby doll looking faces, rounder heads, cobbier bodies, longer coats and tiny ears. Since our breed is a moderate length breed this would seem to be leading out breed into other pointed breed territory. This is not what we want our Ragdoll Breed to look like! I know I do not want to see this happen! To that end I have been working towards educating breeders around the world through breed seminar presentations, personal communication and hands on observations.

Lastly, I feel very strongly about the following agendas:

1. That the Ragdoll breed needs to be maintained as blue eyed pointed breed!
2. That we need to continue to upgrade the standard!
3. That we need to educate all members of the breed group no matter how long they have been breeding!
4. That we need to support and mentor our newer breeders!
5. That we need to be kind to one another, especially at shows, in order to reach our breed group goals.
6. To help our group recognize that all breed group member's opinions matter and should be validated not ignored.
7. That we need to reeducate the judging panel; once we know the direction the breed is moving towards!

Once we take care of our internal affairs then we can work on making our breed even more spectacular than it already is! If elected I will work towards that end! I thank you in advance for your support and vote.

David Nudleman TICA Approved All Breed Judge and Ragdoll Committee Candidate.