

The Snowshoe Cat

Breed Seminar

Presented by the
Snowshoe breed committee
Steven Savant
2008 annual committee
30-31 August 2008



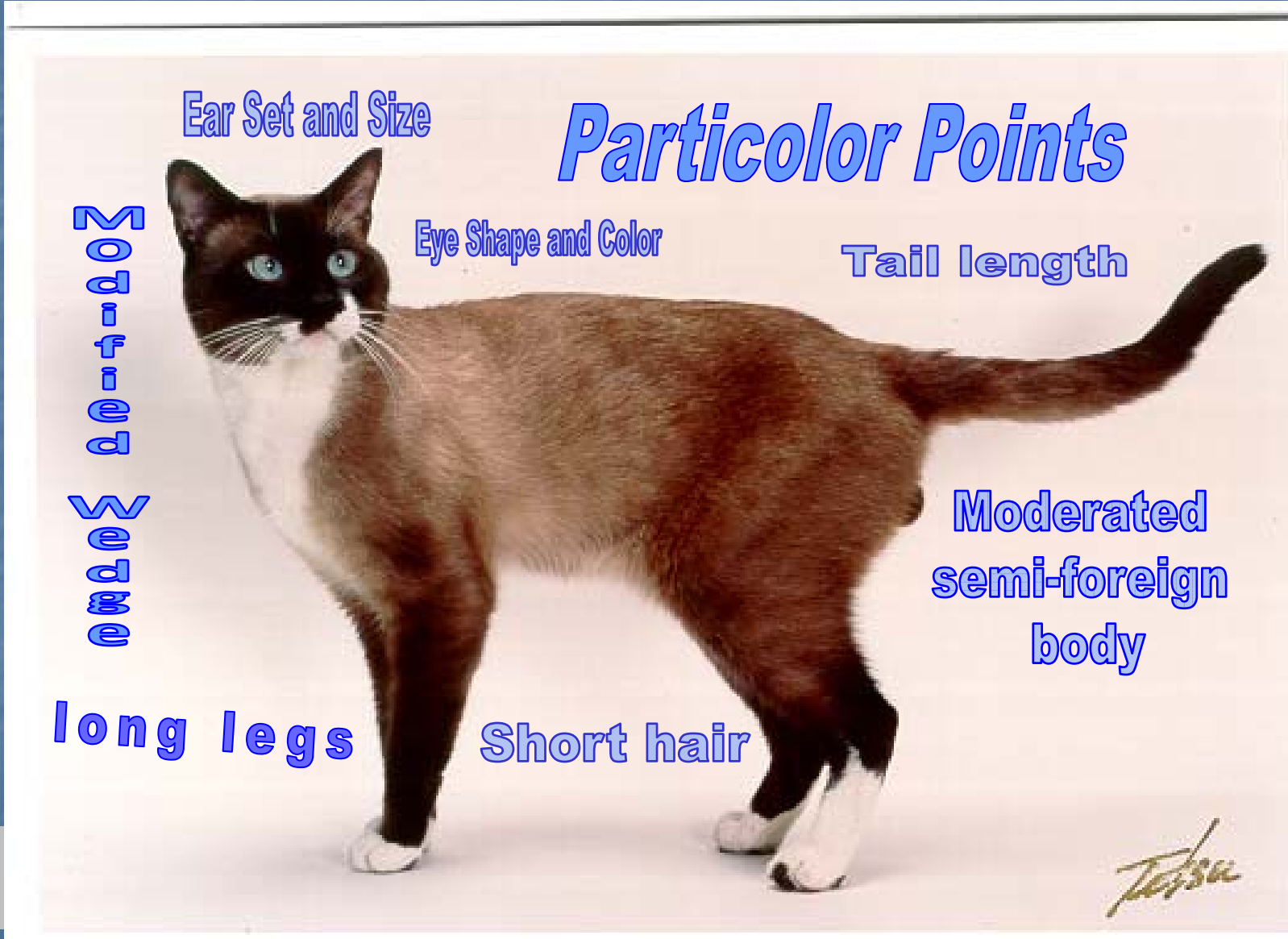
EXHIBITION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2008 International Awards

10th Best Alter



Breed Goal



Breed Program - Goals

A cat with a *unique combination* of:

Particolor points

Short hair

Modified wedge

Moderated semi-foreign body
with *long legs, giving the*
appearance of a runner or
jumper rather than a weight lifter.



Ear Set

- *. Continuation of the modified wedge*

- **Medium Broad at Base**

- Slightly rounded tips.

- **In Proportion to the body**

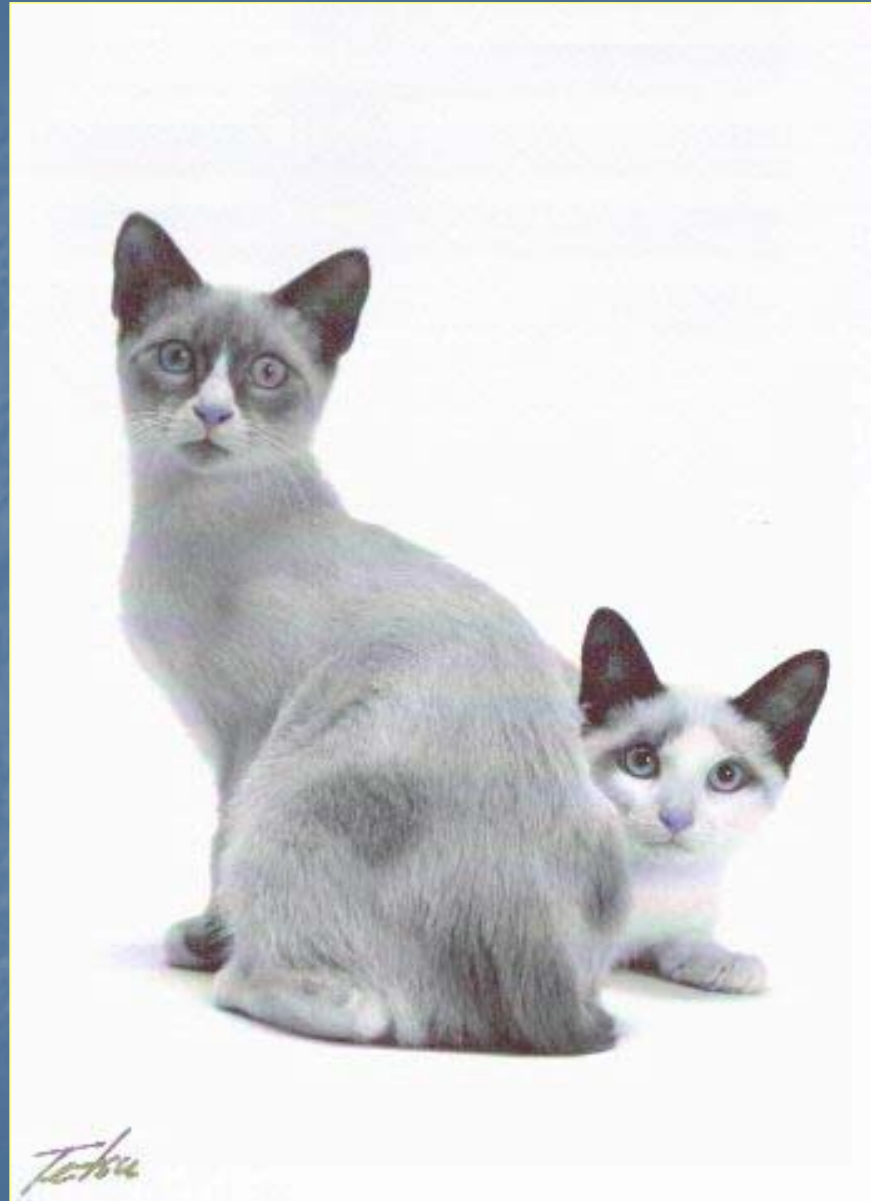
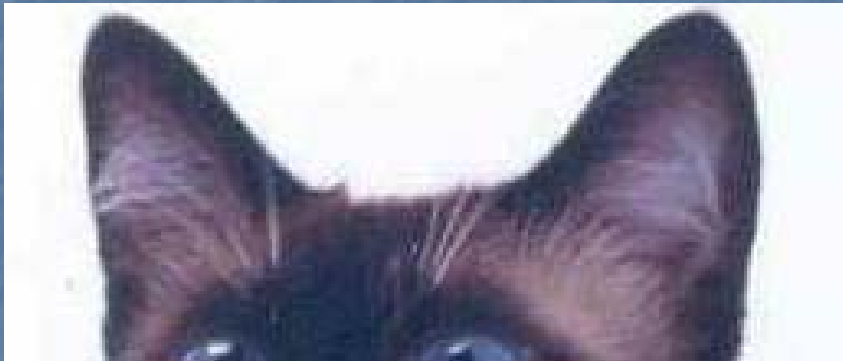


Photo by Tetsu Yamazaki

Best Ear Set - Other EAR SET

**A continuation of the wedge
Space between the ears**



**Not a continuation of the wedge
Ears too close together**



Common Misconceptions

That pattern is more important than conformation

Fact: Conformation is more important

Fact: Less points are allotted to pattern than are allotted to conformation (head, body, ears, eyes, etc)



Body - Torso

- Semi-foreign, ***moderately long but not extreme or oriental.*** Proportionately balanced. Males are medium to medium-large in size. Females are proportionately smaller than males, ranging from medium-small to medium size. Example is a male.



Photo by Tetsu Yamazaki

Tail

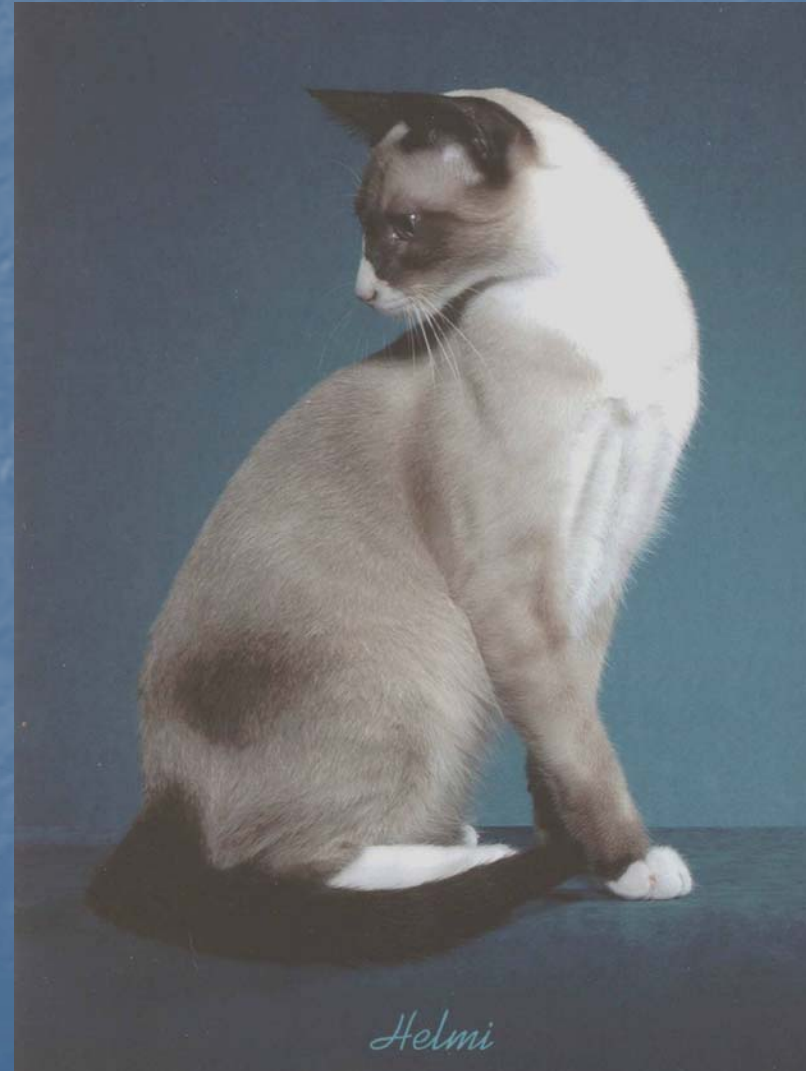
Tail – Medium at base, *slightly and gradually tapering to the end*, length in proportion to the body



Photo by Tetsu Yamazaki

Body – Legs, Feet, Boning

- Legs – *Of good length, the legs of a runner or jumper; , medium boning, in proportion with torso.*
- Feet – *In proportion to legs and torso. Oval tips.*
- Boning – *Medium.* Consideration for finer boning in smaller females. (Example here is a male.)



Common Misconceptions

- *Dark blue eyes are preferred*
- *Fact: ALL shades of blue are accepted with NO preference towards shade*



h | hv

- Shape: *Oval to medium oval or rounded oval.*
- **Slanted to the base of the ears.**
- Dq | #vkdgh#ri#eoxh1



Wkh#Suriloh

*Two distinct,
even planes
separated by
a slight stop
or gentle
curve at the
nose bridge*

**Medium width
nose with a flat
or slight nose
bump**



Body - Musculature

- *Firm and muscular*
- *Well - knit*
- *Powerful*
- *Not bulky, not delicate*
- *Surprising heft in proportion to size when lifted. Consideration for lesser heft in females*



Modified Wedge & Muzzle



Khdg#0 Vkdsh

- Broad modified wedge; cheekbones set high with gentle contours
- **Overall shape is nearly as wide as long and resembles an equilateral triangle**



Khdg

- Chin – Firm
- Nose – Medium width, not too wide, not too narrow with a flat or slight nose bump. In proportion to the head.
- Neck – In proportion to body.

P x } } oh

Proportional
to the head
with a gentle
break;
neither
extremely
broad or
extremely
broad,
square nor
pointed



P dohv#Sursruwlrqdoo|#0duj hu#
wk dq#Ihp dohv



Male

Photo by Jim Brown



Female

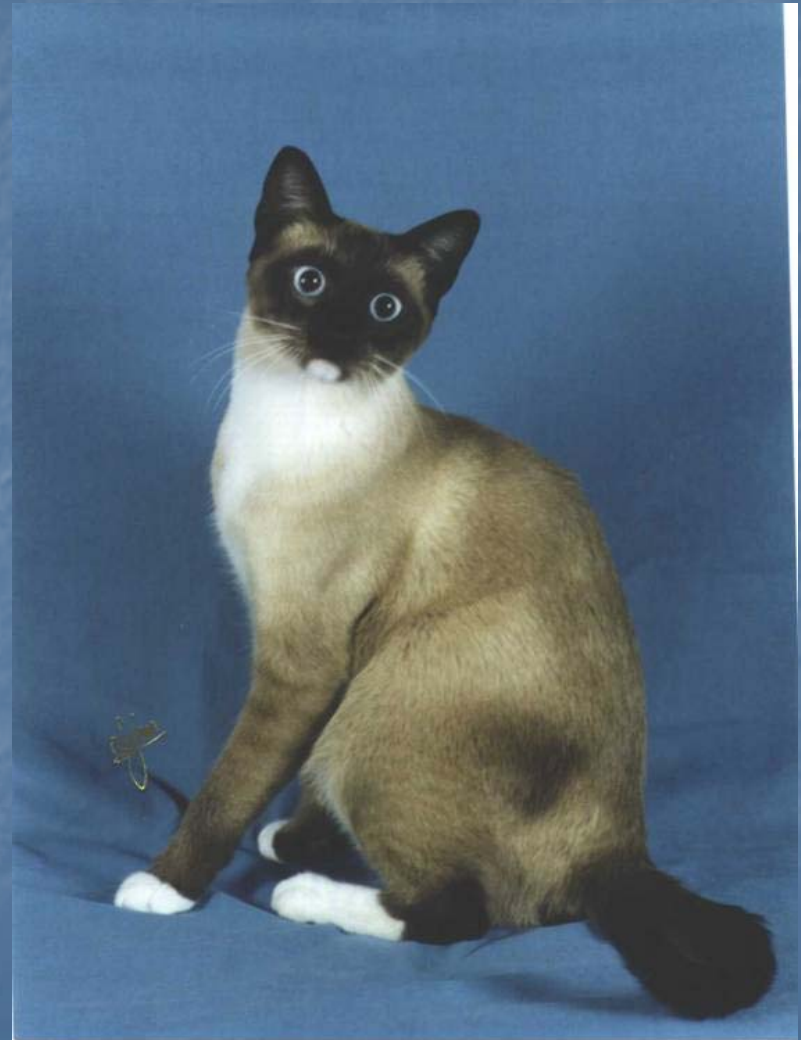
Photo by Chanan

Frp p rq#P lvfrqfhswlrqv

**What is the
difference between
a bicolor and a
mitted Snowshoe?**

Wk lv#lv#d#p lwwhg#
Vqrz vkrh

**ANY *other*
degree of facial
white is a bicolor**



Sdwwhuqv#0 P lwwhg

- *White is limited to paws, back legs, chest and chin. Cat is typically about one quarter white.*



Sdwwhuqv# Elfroru

- A white facial pattern is required
- *Various markings of white and pigment may occur*
- The cat is typically between one quarter to one half white
- *Less white is preferred over high white*



■ Ryhudoo#lsshduqf#suhgrp lqdwv#vkdsh#
dgg#ghwdlori#srlqw#dgg#z klwh#duhdv



Frp p rq#P lvfrqfhswlrqv

- That the inverted V is the preferred pattern
- **Fact: There is NO preferred pattern – all markings are acceptable and should be judged equally**



Elfroru#IDFIDO#\$DWWHUQV



There is no ‘good’ or ‘bad’ or ‘preferred’ patterning.

All patterns are ‘equal’ , in the case of a tie, the determining factor should be the **overall** appearance rather than a specific feature (i.e., “V”, blaze, muzzle “V”, mustache)



Standard for Point of Color

Roughly, the color should be a solid, uniform color. The color should be a solid, uniform color. The color should be a solid, uniform color.

- ***Some white is required on paws.*** Patches of color in white areas are acceptable. ***White areas generally occur on legs, thighs, chest and chin***
- There should be a definite contrast between point colors and white
- ***Preference should be given to clarity and contrast, not to hue***
- White on the underside of the head, throat, body, belly and uppermost part of the inner thighs commonly occurs and ***should not be penalized or credited***



Vhdo#Sr lqw#Er oruv

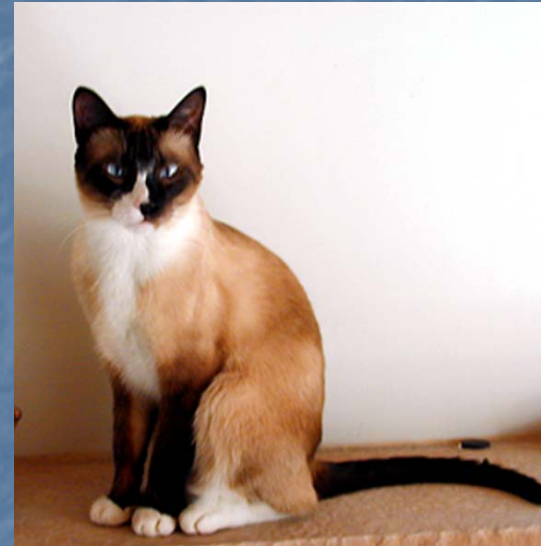
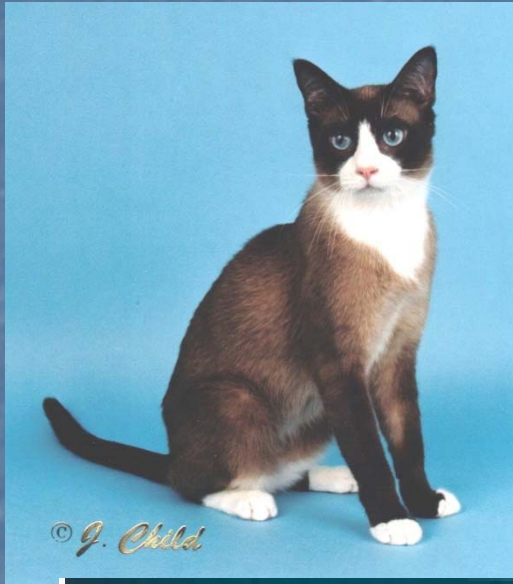


Photo by Helmi



Photo by Tetsu Yamazaki

Colors
normally
darken
with age

From

- All pointed colors. ***As defined by the TICA uniform color description for pointed cats.***
- Points Clearly defined; connected to the ears by tracings except for undeveloped points in kittens and younger cats.
- ***Nose leather and paw pads may be point color, flesh tone or mottled.***
- Body color a lighter shade of point color. ***A range of hues within each color class.***
Subtle shading to point color on back, shoulders and hips; toning to a lighter shade near chest and stomach. ***Dilute colors, especially blue points, root color may be darker or lighter than end hairs.***



Eoxh#Srlqw#Eruruv#) #Erduw#Wh{wxuh



Photo by Helmi



Photo by Helmi



Photo by McVey

Although the Snowshoe comes in all colors, lilac, chocolate and other dilute colors are rare

Frđw#Ŧ Ohqj wk /#Wh {wxuh

- Length – ***Short*** to medium - short
- Texture -

Smooth to the touch

Coat lies moderately close to body

Seasonal and geographical changes to be considered.



frqg lwlrq

- *Top health condition, with a clean, well-groomed coat and body*
- **No indication of fat or emaciation**
- *A belly flap commonly occurs and should not be penalized or credited*

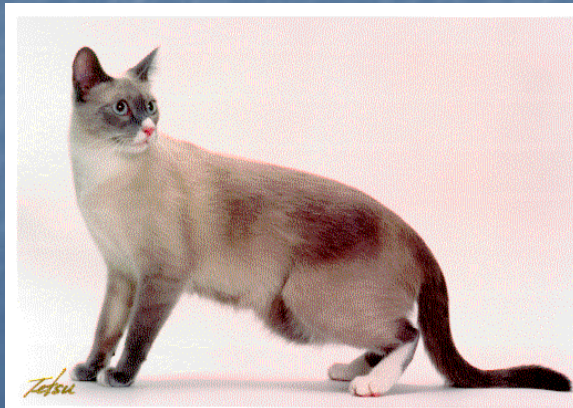


Photo by Tetsu Yamazaki

Edodqfh

Excellence in one aspect does not offset deficiency in another

- Well-balanced, with all parts in good proportion to each other; no one part more extreme than the other
- Proper proportions and balance are more important than exact size



Frp p rq#P lvfrqfhswlrqv

- Stomachs need to be white

■ Idfw=#Z k lwh#p d/#ru#
p d/#grw#eh#rq#kh#
vwrp dfk/#exw#lw#lv#grw#
fuhg lwhg#ru#dxowhg



Frp p rq#P lvfrqfhswlrqv

Paw Pads – must be pink or point color

- ***Fact: Paw pads may be either point color, pink or a mix of point color and pink***

No point color allowed in the white

Fact: Point color in the white is not penalized



Frp p rq#P lvfrqfhswlrqv

Kitten color – contrast should be clear

- ***Fact: Kittens do not have the contrast of an adult cat, it can take up to 2 years for full color to develop***

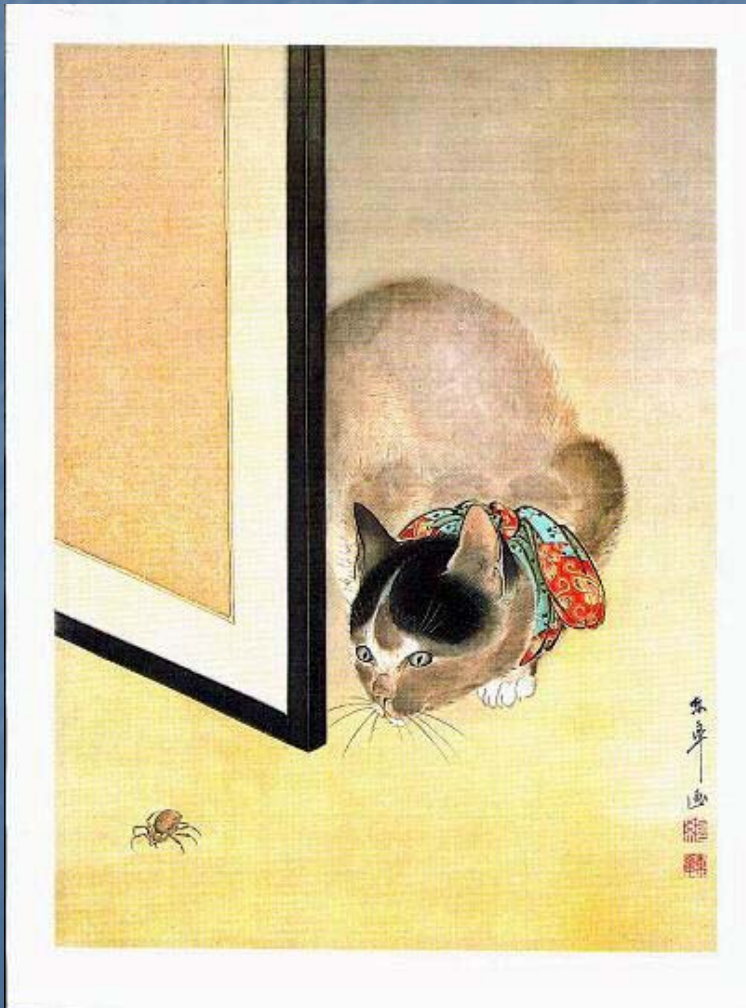


Penalties

- No white on all four paws
- Plush, wooly or double undercoat
- **Long hair**
- Eye color other than blue
- Bulky or cobby torso, frail or dainty torso, extreme torso length
- Thin, whip - like tail



The earliest documented evidence of the Snowshoe Breed is this Japanese Print



Through-out history, Siamese have occasionally thrown white-mitted babies, indicating the presence of the recessive white-spotting factor.

Rulj lq

- **The current Snowshoe breed originated in the 1960s in the state of Pennsylvania when three mitted kittens were born from a classic Seal Point Siamese**
- **The breeder liked the look and decided that the pattern could be repeated by breeding to a Particolor shorthair**



Klwr |

- Prior to 1994, all Snowshoe breed standards contained the statement that 'color and pattern shall be of equal importance to type and build' and required an inverted 'V' face with strict pattern limits
- In 1993 a proposal was submitted and approved by The International Cat Association (TICA) to remove this statement, and the inverted 'V' and strict pattern limits from the breed standard
- The new standard became effective in 1994 at the same time that the Snowshoe was granted championship status by TICA



dfrrp solvkr hqvv#J 4<<7#0 4<<;

- From 1994 through 1996, interest peaked and Snowshoes were exhibited in TICA in various parts of the USA
- The worth of the new TICA standard was proven when a Snowshoe received regional awards in the top twenty in 1995 and in the top ten in 1996
- Snowshoe web site, developed in 1997
(<http://sncats.tripod.com/>)



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- Snowshoe cat email group established 1999 ([Snowshoecats@yahoo groups](mailto:Snowshoecats@yahoo.com))
- TICA Standard changes to continue to stress conformation (2001)
- Interest in exhibition increased
- Snowshoe Rescue Network established 2001 (<http://snrescue.tripod.com/>)
- Snowshoe cat calendar published for 2002



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- **Snowshoe cat calendar published annually for 2002 and 2003**
- **Improvements to the Snowshoe web site.**
- **Improved standard effective May 2003.**
- **Established the Snowshoe Cat Lovers club to replace the Snowshoe Breed Club.**
- **Developed a web site for the rescue network.**
- **Seminars: Albuquerque, NM; Beaumont, TX (September 2002 and 2003)**

df frp solv kp hq wv # 5337 #

- **Snowshoe cat calendar published for 2005**
- **Calendar for Snowshoe Cat Rescue Network**
- **Developed Reputable Breeder standards and Code of Ethics for Snowshoe breeders.**
- **Established The International Snowshoe Cat Association (TISCA) for breeders.**
- **Developed a list of known Snowshoe breeders.**
- **Returned bi-color and mitted to different classes**
- **Seminars: Allentown PA (February 2004), Houston TX (March 2004).**



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- **Snowshoe cat calendars published for 2006 thru 2008**
- **Calendar for Snowshoe Cat Rescue Network (2006 thru 2008)**
- **Updated Seminar (2008)**



H [KIEWIRQ#DFFRP SOLVKP HQWV

- **1995 - Alter in the top 20 in SW region**
- **1996 - Alter in the top 10 in SW region**
(First Supreme Grand Champion Alter)
- **2002 - Kitten in the top 20 in GL region**
- **2003 - Kitten in the top 20 in GL region**
 - **Cat in the top 20 in GL region**
 - **Cat in the top 20 in MA region -**



H [KIEIWRQ#DFFRP SOLVKP HQWV

**2003 - First Supreme Grand
Champion (MA)**

2004 - Supreme Grand Champion (MA)

**2005 - Supreme Grand Champion
Alter (MA)**

**- Supreme Grand Champion
(MA)**



H [KIEWIRQ#DFFRP SOLVKP HQWV

- **2004 - Top 20 Regional (MA)**
- **2005 Regional Awards (MA)**
 - **Champion - 3rd Best Regional**
 - **Kitten - 21st Best Regional**
 - **Alter - 13th Best Regional**
- **2007 Regional Awards (MA)**
 - **Champion – 19th Best Regional**
 - **Alter - 19th Best Regional**



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2008 INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

10TH BEST ALTER

- 2008 Regional Awards
 - Champion – 15th Best Regional (MA)
 - Alter – Best Alter Regional (MA)
 - Alter - 16th Best Regional (MA)



Z runv#lq#Surjuhvv

- **Improvements to a standard presentation to support seminars.**
- **Promote interest in breeding for health, personality, and conformation.**
- **Expand and improve our web sites.**
- **Promote the TICA reputable breeder program.**
- **Publish a newsletter (schedule pending).**
- **Provide educational material on genetics and breeding for new breeders.**
- **Promote participation in TISCA reputable breeder program.**



Ixwxuh#Sodqv

- Expand the number of annual seminars.
- Promote interest in the breed program.
- Promote interest in exhibiting in TICA.
- Develop breeding guidelines for new breeders (Snowshoe specific).
- Develop exhibition guidelines for new exhibitors (Snowshoe specific).
- Continue and improve seminar slides.
- Continue to improve the current standard (terminology).



Txhvwlrqv
dgg#
Dqvz huv



Frequently Asked Question (FAQS)

- Q – What is the primary difference between the Snowshoe and other breeds?
- A – The ***combination*** of particolor pointed colors, short hair, modified wedge and semi-foreign conformation.





Snowshoe Breed Seminar



**Presented by
Margot Scott and
Mark Coleman
Christmas City
Cat Club
Allentown, PA
February 21, 2004**



What is a Snowshoe?

- A Snowshoe is a cat with a unique combination of:
 - Particolor Points
 - Short Hair
 - Modified wedge
 - Moderated semi-foreign body with long legs, giving the appearance of a runner or a jumper rather than a weight lifter.



Origin

- The current Snowshoe breed originated in the 1960s in the state of Pennsylvania when 3 mitted kittens were born from a classic Seal Point Siamese.
- The breeder liked the look and decided that the pattern could be repeated by breeding to a bicolor shorthair.



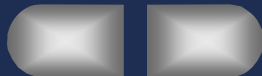
History

- Prior to 1994, all Snowshoe breed standards contained the statement that “color and pattern shall be equal importance of type and build” and required an inverted “V” face with strict pattern limits.
- In 1993 a proposal was submitted and approved by The International Cat Association (TICA) to remove this statement and the inverted “V” and strict pattern limits from the breed standard.
- The new standard became effective in 1994 at the same time the Snowshoe was granted championship status by TICA.



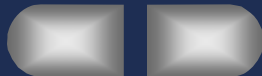
History

- From 1994 through 1996, interest peaked and Snowshoes were exhibited in TICA in various parts of the USA.
- The worth of the new TICA standard was proven when a Snowshoe received regional awards in the top 20 in 1995 and in the top 10 in 1996.
- Snowshoe web site, developed in 1997.
- Snowshoe cat email group established 1999.
- TICA standard changes to continue to stress confirmation (2001).
- Interest in exhibition increased.



History

- Snowshoe rescue network established in 2001.
- Snowshoe cat calendar published for 2002, and then again for 2003 and 2004.
- Improvements to the Snowshoe web site.
- Improved standard effective May 2003.
- Established the Snowshoe Cat Lovers club to replace the Snowshoe Breed Club.
- Developed a web site for the rescue network.
- Seminars: Albuquerque, NM; Beaumont, TX (September 2002 and 2003).



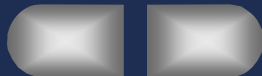
History

- **Developed Reputable Breeder standards for Snowshoe breeders.**
- **Established The International Snowshoe Cat Association (TISCA) for breeders.**
- **Developed a list of known Snowshoe breeders.**



Accomplishments

- 1995 – Alter in the top 20 in SW region
- 1996 – Alter in the top 10 in SW region
 - First Supreme Grand Champion Alter
- 2002 – Kitten in the top 20 in GL region
- 2003 – Kitten in the top 20 in GL region
 - Cat in the top 20 in GL region
 - Cat in the top 20 in MA region
 - First Supreme Grand Champion
 - Second Supreme Grand Champion



Works in Progress

- Development of a standard presentation to support seminars.
- Promote interest in breeding for health, personality, and conformation.
- Expand and improve our web sites.
- Promote the TICA reputable breeder program.
- Publish a newsletter (schedule pending).
- Provide educational material on genetics and breeding for new breeders.
- Promote participation in TISCA reputable breeder program.
- Separate bi-color and mitted to different classes



Future Plans

- Expand the number of annual seminars.
- Promote interest in the breed program.
- Promote interest in exhibiting in TICA.
- Develop breeding guidelines for new breeders (Snowshoe specific).
- Develop exhibition guidelines for new exhibitors (Snowshoe specific).
- Continue and improve seminar slides.
- Continue to improve the current standard (terminology).



And Now...

- The Snowshoe Standard

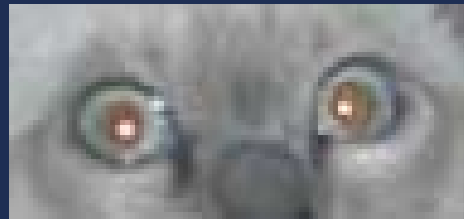
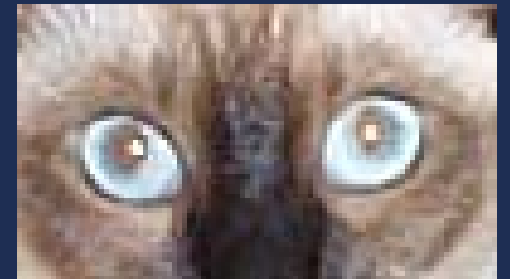
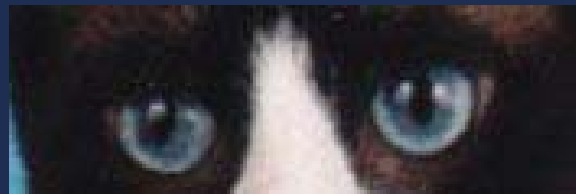
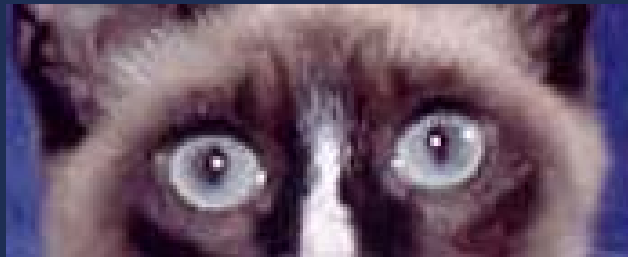
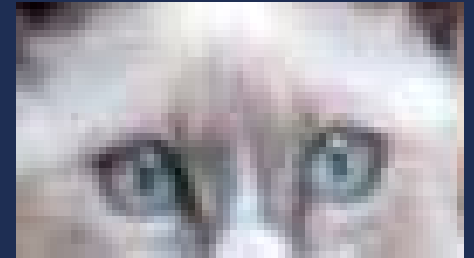
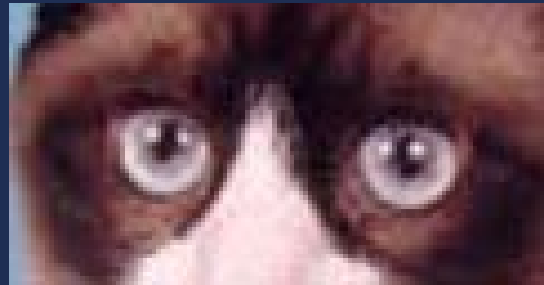
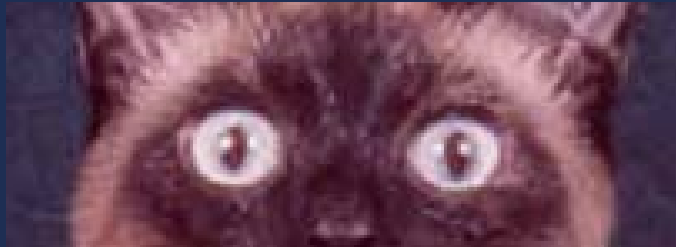


Eyes

- Oval to medium oval or rounded oval with greater length than width
- slanted to the base of the ears
- any shade of blue



Eyes

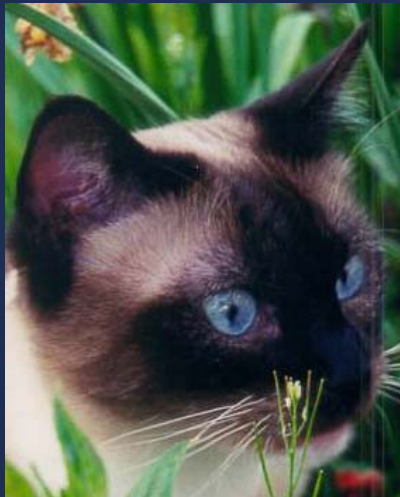
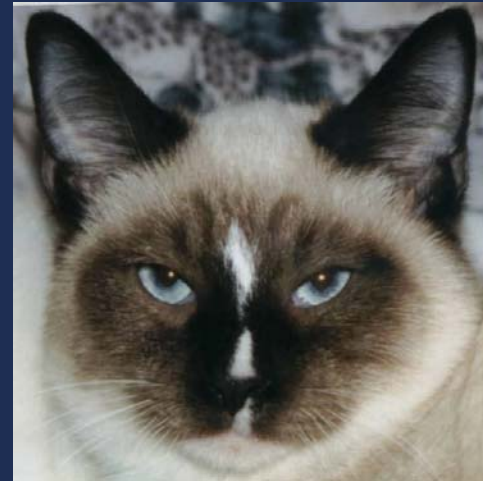


Head

- Broad modified wedge; cheekbones set with high gentle contours.
- Overall shape is nearly as wide as it is long and resembles an equilateral triangle.
- Chin - Firm.
- Nose - Medium width: not too wide, not too narrow, with a flat or slight nose bump, in proportion with the head.
- Neck - In proportion to the body.
- Muzzle – Proportional to the head with a gentle break; neither extremely broad or square nor pointed.



Head



Ear Set

- Medium broad at base, continuation of the modified wedge.
- Slightly rounded at tips.
- In proportion to the body.



Ear Set



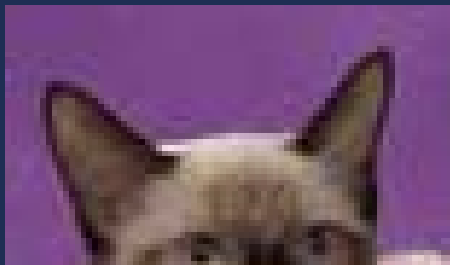
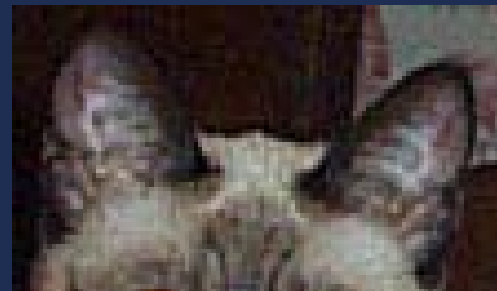
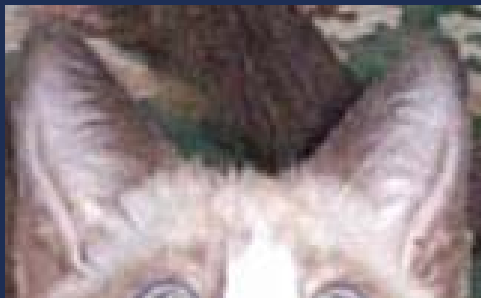
**Adult
Cats**



Kittens



Ear Set

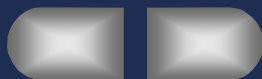
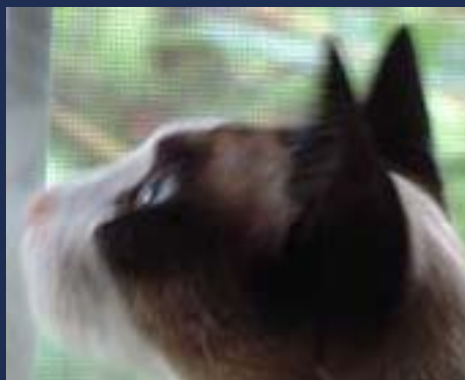


Profile

- Two distinct, even planes separated by a slight stop or a gentle curve at the nose bridge.
- Medium width nose with a flat or slight nose bump.



Profile



Body

- Semi-foreign, moderately long, but not extreme or oriental. Proportionally balanced. Males are medium to medium-large. Females are proportionally smaller than males, ranging from medium-small to medium size.



Body

- **Musculature** - firm and muscular. Well knit. Powerful. Not bulky, not delicate. Surprising heft in proportion to the size when lifted. Consideration for lesser heft in females.
- **Legs** - of good length, the legs of a runner or jumper; medium boning, in proportion with the body.
- **Feet** - in proportion to the legs and torso. Oval tips.
- **Boning** - Medium. Consideration for finer boning in smaller females.



Body



Tail

- Medium at base, slightly and gradually tapering to the end, length in proportion to the body.



Coat

- Length - short to medium-short.
- Texture - smooth to the touch, moderately close lying. Density permits the coat to lie moderately close. Seasonal and geographical changes to be considered.



Coat



Color

- All pointed colors as defined by the TICA uniform color description for pointed cats. Points clearly defined, connected to the ears by tracings except for undeveloped points in kittens and younger cats.
- Nose leather and paw pads may be point color, flesh toned or mottled.
- Body a lighter shade of the point color. A range of hues within each color class. Subtle shading to point color on back, shoulders and hips; toning to a lighter shade near the chest and stomach. In dilute colors, especially blue points, root colors may be darker or lighter than end hairs.



Color - Blue Point



Example of a
Lilac Point



Color - Seal Point



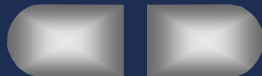
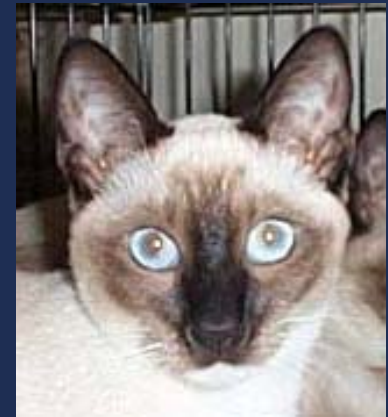
Patterns

- Some white is required on paws. Patches of color in white areas are acceptable.
- Overall appearance predominates shape and detail of point and white areas.
- There should be a definite contrast between point colors and white.
- Preference should be given to clarity and contrast, not to hue. However, white areas should be sparkling white.
- White on the underside of the head, throat, body, belly and uppermost part of the inner thighs commonly occurs and should not be penalized or credited.



Patterns - Mitted

- White is limited to paws, back legs, chest, and chin. Cat is typically about one quarter white.



Patterns - Bicolor

- A white facial pattern is normal.
- Various markings of white and pigment may occur.
- White areas generally occur on legs, thighs, chest and chin, but not penalized or credited.
- The cat is typically between one quarter white to one half white.
- Less white is preferred over high white.
- There is no “good” or “bad” or “preferred” patterning.
- All patterns are “equal” and in case of a tie, the determining factor should be the overall appearance rather than a specific feature.



Patterns - Bicolor

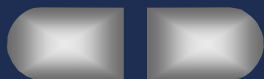


Balance

- Well-balanced, with all parts in good proportion to each other. No one part should be more extreme than the other.
- Proper proportions and balance are more important than size.
- Excellence in aspect does not offset deficiency in another.



Balance



Vertigo Ten



Proud Papa



Proud Mama



Vertigo Ten



Watusi + Belle =



Proud Papa



Proud Mama



Tenny + Briar Rose =



Proud Papa

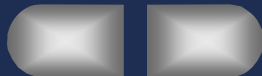


Proud Mama

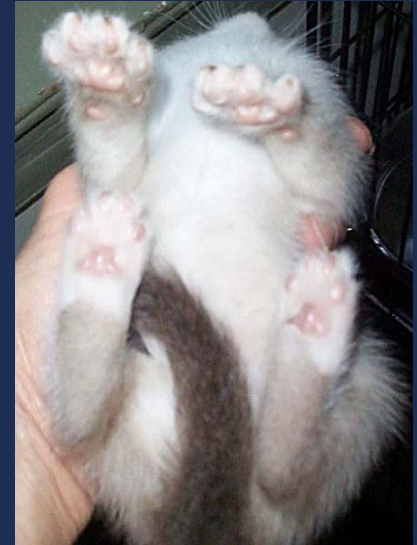


Common Misconceptions

- Inverted V – still think it is the preferred pattern – is getting better, need to remember any markings are acceptable
- Dark blue eyes are preferred – any shade of blue is accepted, no preference towards shade
- Stomachs need to be white – white can be on the stomachs, but it is not credited or faulted
- Paw Pads – can be pink or point color
- Kitten color – kittens do not have the contrast that adults have, it can take up to 2 years for full color to come in



Common Misconceptions

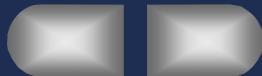


Pet Shoes

- Hi-whites (more than 50% white)
- Solid (no white)
- No Harlequins



Pet Shoes



Condition

- Top health condition, with a clean, well-groomed coat and body.
- No indication of fat or emaciation.
- A belly flap commonly occurs and should not be penalized or credited.



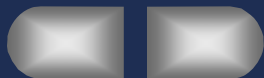
Penalties

- No white on all four paws.
- Plush, wooly or double undercoat.
- Long hair.
- Eye color other than blue.
- Bulky or cobby torso, frail or dainty torso, extreme torso length
- Thin, whip like tail.



Personality

- Loving, personable, nosey, vocal at times, curious



Personality



And yes I am a boy.



Personality



Personality



Credits

- **Photo Credits:**
 - Jim Childs
 - Helmi
 - Proud Snowshoe owners:
 - Lisa Haug, Julia Munde, Lisa Stenta, Margot Scott, Shauna McAllister, Linda Gagnon



The Snowshoe Cat

Breed Seminar

Presented by

(Snowshoe breed committee)

Sponsoring judge

Cat club - Date

Breed Goal



Breed Program - Goals

A cat with a *unique combination* of:

Particolor points

Short hair

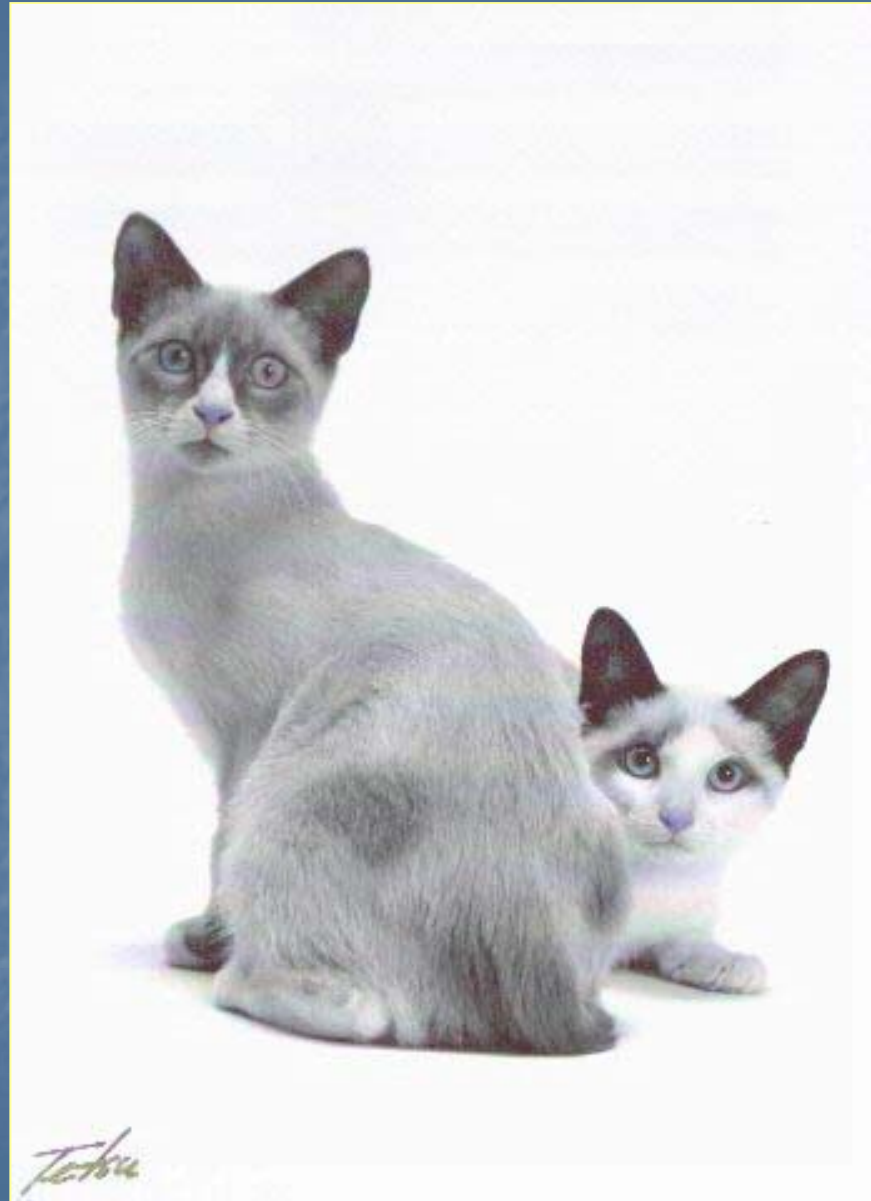
Modified wedge

Moderated semi-foreign body
with *long legs, giving the*
appearance of a runner or
jumper rather than a weight lifter.

Ear Set

- *. Continuation of the modified wedge*
- **Medium Broad at Base**
- Slightly rounded tips.
- **In Proportion to the body**

Photo by Tetsu Yamazaki



GOOD Ear Set - BAD EAR SET

**A continuation of the wedge
Space between the ears**



**Not a continuation of the wedge
Ears too close together**



Common Misconceptions

That pattern is more important than conformation

Fact: Conformation is more important

Fact: Less points are allotted to pattern than are allotted to conformation (head, body, ears, eyes, etc)

Body - Torso

- Semi-foreign, ***moderately long but not extreme or oriental.*** Proportionately balanced. Males are medium to medium-large in size. Females are proportionately smaller than males, ranging from medium-small to medium size. Example is a female.



Photo by Tetsu Yamazaki

Tail – Medium at base, ***slightly and gradually tapering to the end,*** length in proportion to the body

Body – Legs, Feet, Boning

- Legs – *Of good length, the legs of a runner or jumper; , medium boning, in proportion with torso.*
- Feet – *In proportion to legs and torso. Oval tips.*
- Boning – *Medium.*
Consideration for finer boning in smaller females. (Example here is a male.)



Photo by Jim Brown

Common Misconceptions

- *Dark blue eyes are preferred*
- *Fact: ALL shades of blue are accepted with NO preference towards shade*

