

THE INTERNATIONAL CAT ASSOCIATION, INC.

2009 Annual Board Meeting
September 2-5, 2009
Orlando, FL

The meeting was called to order by President, Vickie Fisher at the Wyndham Resort Hotel in Orlando, Florida on September 2, 2009 at 9:05AM. The following Board members were present:

Vice President, Bobbie Tullo
Asia Regional Director, Motoko Oizumi
Great Lakes Regional Director, Jamie Christian
Mid Atlantic Regional Director, Lisa Dickie
Mid Pacific Regional Director, Linda Kay Ashley
Northeast Regional Director, Donna Madison
Northwest Regional Director, Ellen Crockett
Northern Europe, Interim Regional Director, Ralph Stadter

South America Regional Director, Carlos Arrieta
South Central Regional Director, Cheryl Hogan
Southeast Regional Director, Jo Parris (telephonically)
Southern Europe Regional Director, Genevieve Basquine
Western Europe Interim Regional Director, Martin Wood
Legal Advisor, Laurie Schiff
Micki Takei Landa, Translator

President's Welcome and Remarks

The President welcomed the Board and reminded them that TICA was celebrating its 30th year anniversary. In pointing out that it was up to the Board of Directors to ensure the health and welfare of our Association through their decisions and deliberations, they were challenged to "think outside the box."

She presented a "Most Valuable Player" award to South Central Director, Cheryl Hogan for her work on the website, developing and promoting sponsorship agreements, creating new marketing material and other activities.

She stated that the TICA Yearbook's advertising was more than \$3,000 over last year's advertising and that there were still sales of the yearbook to be seen.

New brochures have been completed for The International Cat Association, Finding the Perfect Kitten, and the Spectators' Guide to a TICA Cat Show. Work was ongoing for the Questions and Answers about Spaying and Neutering brochure.

A new TICA e-newsletter is now going to over 10,000 addresses. The importance of correct email addresses should be stressed, with the Executive Office verifying email addresses as they conduct business transactions.

Enhancements to the TICA website included the ability of clubs to apply for a show license on the website and download informative flyers. The Executive Office is looking at a newly-designed registration certificate which would allow members to download and print their own certificates. It was also pointed out that the Executive Office has begun to email registration numbers, immediately, when they are assigned, and ahead of actual mailing of certificates.

Consent Agenda

1	Unanimous consent	Accept the Consent Agenda	Without objection
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Governance (Breed Committee Appointments)

2	Unanimous consent	Appoint Odile Caillard to the Persian Breed Committee	Without objection
3	Unanimous consent	Appoint Laura Holland to the Household Pet Breed Committee	Without objection
4	Unanimous consent	Appoint Kit Goodwin to the Turkish Angora Breed Committee	Without objection

Fiduciary

The President presented year end budget results and preliminary year end financial statements, noting that the year ended with a loss from operations. The Board discussed that a factor in the loss was the investment in computer programming needed to implement the new divisions within the Uniform Color Descriptions. The President pointed out that the Association needed to be careful to manage postage and freight, Yearbook, and TREND costs.

The President indicated that the books had been turned over to the Auditors in order to complete the fiscal year audit and that tax refunds would be applied for. It has been requested that the audited financial statements be presented as comparative statements with the prior year.

5	Crockett/Tullo	Accept the Financial Report	Carried unanimously
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Executive Session (Complaints)

6	Unanimous consent	Go into Executive Session	Without objection
7	Unanimous consent	Allow Micki Takei Landa, translator, and Laurie Schiff to remain in Executive Session	Without objection
8	Christian/Hogan	Take no action on the Pat Harbert complaint	Carried
9	Hogan/Christian	Audit Pat Harbert's registration records specifically including registrations and subsequent breedings from HHP	Carried
10	Christian/Madison	Set a hearing for the Colwell v Grashel complaint	Carried
11	Stadter/Crockett	Take no action on the deSartis v Thurston complaint	Carried
12	Christian/Ashley	Take no action on the Flowell v Forrest complaint	Carried
13	Crockett/Ashley	Take no action on the Harmel v Favin complaint	Carried

14	Christian/Levine	Take no action taken in the Price v Shields complaint	Carried
15	Parris/Madison	Have the Judging Administrator provide counsel in the Price v Shields complaint	Denied
16	Hogan/Ashley	Have the Judging Administrator notify the entire Judging population: The decision of any judge when judging according to TICA rules is unequivocally supported; however, a judge should be mindful and aware of the perception of both exhibitors and spectators	Carried
17	Unanimous consent	To leave Executive Session	Without objection

Proposals

18	Madison/Levine	Deny the proposal on Registration Rule 33.9.4 : A proposed New Trait that has not been approved by the parent breed or breed group, and ultimately rejected by the TICA Board, must wait 3 years from the date rejected by the TICA Board before submitting an application to be reconsidered for advancement to Championship status.	Carried Ashley/Crockett/ Christian/Oizumi opposed
19	Crockett/Christian	Take no action on Registration Rule 33.7.1 . Purpose. This category is for new breeds which are still in active development or Breeds shown in other organizations but currently at Registration Only status . Use of both hybrid crosses and outcrosses to cats of unknown or unregistered parentage is permitted for Experimental breeds . There are no limitations or restrictions on the breeding programs for such Experimental breeds.	Carried Wood/Basquine opposed
20	Wood/Tullo	Approve the addition of Standing Rules 205.2.4: At show management's discretion, and providing the relevant professional body permits this, a qualified and registered Veterinary Nurse (or equivalent) may act as the show veterinarian for the purposes of this rule and Show Rule 25	Carried Basquine/Crockett/ Oizumi/Christian/ Dickie opposed

21	Stadter/Madison	Correct Standing rules 601.2.1.7 to read: The cutoff date for scoring corrections from exhibitors is May 7th. [Add:] Any corrections including [End of addition] corrections/ additions/deletions of suffixes must be received from exhibitors in the Executive Office by May 7th [Add:] in writing. [End of addition].	Carried unanimously
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The Proposal to Amend Standing Rule 901.4.1, regarding renaming the Junior Achiever to Junior Exhibitor Excellence Award, was deferred to Friday, pending the outcome of discussions on the new Junior Exhibitor Program.

Marketing Report

The Board reviewed and discussed the Marketing Update report from Deb Decker, TICA's Marketing Manager. Short-term goals include continuing to build TICA's "brand" worldwide, position TICA as "the authority" on cats and the cat fancy, attract top-tier corporate sponsors, and develop and provide value-added services or products for TICA members, breeders and exhibitors. It was also noted that traffic to TICA's website has increased significantly since the website's launch in March, 2009.

The Board meeting was recessed.

Thursday, September 3, 2009

The Board meeting was reconvened at 9AM.

Martin Wood, Interim Regional Director for Western Europe presented a video that was aired on Animal Planet in the UK and that was taken at the CoonTICA's 2008 Easter Purrade. The Board members expressed their feelings about how well the video captured what showing cats meant to different people and their motivations for doing so. Martin was asked to express the Board's congratulations to the producer of the program and inquire as to TICA's ability to use excerpts from the program for its website.

Breed Reports

The Board reviewed the report from the Genetics Committee, followed by the Chausie, Highlander, Kurilian Bobtail, Serengeti and Thai reports. Carol Streit and Patti Struck presented the Savannah report.

Business Plan

The Board reviewed TICA's key success indicators. It was noted that TICA membership has increased 53% over the past 10 years, with a 36% growth in the past 5 years.

A review of the number of cats exhibited in TICA shows indicates that 33% more cats attend TICA shows than 10 years ago, that TICA licenses approximately 38% more cat shows, and that the average number of cats entered per show has remained somewhat constant with the exception of 2000-2004 when entries averaged out at a somewhat higher level.

Registration levels have increased 44% over the past 10 years, with registration growth being slowed over the past year.

The Board noted that, while the number of clubs and shows is growing, our growth in licensed judges is very flat. TICA has fewer than 4% more licensed judges available for shows than 10 years ago.

The President then asked the Board for specific topics they wished to discuss.

Regional Funds. The Board discussed the appropriate use of Regional Funds and their reporting. TICA does not control regional funds. Most regions have a treasurer and the sources and uses of funds are discretionary, depending upon the wishes of the respective regions. Since TICA only reimburses the partial expenses of Directors to attend Board meetings, many regions reimburse directors for the difference. While the TICA Regional Rebate must only be used to offset the cost of Regional Awards and ceremonies, most Regions find that Regional Funds are used to supplement the awards and costs.

While TICA's rules only require an accounting and reporting of the use of the TICA Regional Rebate, Board members felt that their members would prefer a full accounting of each Region's fund. Lisa Dickie, Regional Director, MA, has developed a template to report Regional Fund activity and each Region was asked to be consistent in reporting their Region's fund activity.

World Cat Congress. As a result of discussions at the 2009 World Cat Congress meeting, the President asked the Board for their feelings as to the purpose of the World Cat Congress and what they would expect from the organization. Generally, it was felt that the existence of the WCC and the mission of promoting harmony in the cat fancy, was an important role. Other expectations for the WCC included establishing a unified stance against anti-breeder legislation, attempting to unify breed standards, acceptance of pedigrees among members, a unified attempt to market the cat fancy, and working towards the free travel between countries of cats for show purposes.

Household Pet Committee. The Board discussed the purpose and function of the Household Pet Committee. It was felt that the role of the Committee, since it was not to define a standard for breeding, might have a different role from the other "breed" committees. Ellen Crocket, Director, NW, was asked to send suggestions to the Rules Committee about restructuring the HHP Committee.

Noting that the HHP Committee is not fully complete, the following action was taken.

22	Unanimous consent	Appoint Audrey Hobbs to the Household Pet Breed Committee	Carried unanimously Parris not present
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Fee for Experimental Breeds. It was noted by the Executive Office that there is no fee for setting up and registering an Experimental Breed in the Experimental Registry. Time and computer programming is required to do so. The Board instructed the Rules Committee to review changes that might be necessary within the Registration Rules to impose a fee.

Administrative

23	Dickie/Crockett	Accept the \$49 per diem daily rate up to 7 days reimbursement to the directors and appointees	Carried unanimously Tullo not present
24	Crockett/Hogan	Pay up to 6 nights for hotel rooms for directors and appointees	Carried unanimously
25	Dickie/Crockett	Increase the per diem rate for Saturday to \$80	Carried unanimously

The Board meeting was recessed.

Friday, September 4

The Board Meeting was reconvened at 8AM.

Executive Session

26	Unanimous consent	Go into Executive Session	Without objection
27	Unanimous consent	Allow Marylou Anderson, Judging Administrator, Alberto Leal, Translator for Carlos Arrieta, Laurie Schiff, Legal Advisor and Micki Takei Landa, Translator for Mrs. Oizumi to remain in Executive Session	Without objection
28	Stadter/Ashley	Move Dorothy Lewis to Judge Emeritus.	Carried
29	Parris/Ashley	Advance Marion Yates to LH/SH trainee	Carried
30	Parris/Christian	Advance Kim Chenault to LH/SH trainee	Carried
31	Basquine/Stadter	Advance Katarina Krenn to LH/SH trainee.	Carried
32	Wood/Hogan	Advance Valerie Davidson to LH/SH trainee.	Denied
33	Levine/Tullo	Advance Canie Brooks to Probationary Specialty Judge	Carried
34	Parris/Christian	Advance Kim Tomlin to Provisional Allbreed Judge	Carried
35	Christian/Madison	Advance Susan Lee to Provisional Allbreed Judge	Denied
36	Basquine/Tullo	Advance Pascal Remy to Approved Allbreed Judge	Carried
37	Oizumi/Tullo	Advance Hisae Tasaki to Approved Allbreed Judge	Carried
38	Christian/Ashley	Advance Robin Sessler to Approved Allbreed Judge	Denied
39	Ashley/Levine	Advance Kitty Ruttan to Approved Allbreed Judge	Denied
40	Ashley/Levine	Advance Heather Roberts to Approved Allbreed Judge	Carried
41	Christian/Crockett	Advance Amanda Bright to Approved Allbreed Judge	Carried
42	Parris/Madison	Reinstate Lynn Sherer to Approved Allbreed	Denied
43	Ashley/Christian	Reinstate Juliana Slater to Approved Allbreed	Denied
44	Crockett/Ashley	To destroy the ballots	Carried

45	Madison/Crockett	Take no action on Dany v Verbeeren	Carried
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The Judging Administrator reported that Chiho Shindo and Lori Smith have been dropped from the Judging Program.

46	Unanimous consent	Leave Executive Session	Without objection
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Proposals: Judging Program

47	Crockett/Levine	Accept the amendment to ARTICLE VIII for the Judging Program. See Appendix	Denied Crockett/Madison in favor Proposal Fails
48	Crockett/Levine	Accept the ARTICLE XII with the changes noted below: 412.2.1 Keep the judges conferences. 412.5 Keep the clerking school limited to one 412.5.1 A maximum of one may be earned 412.4 Conference stays in	Carried Arrieta/Madison/ Tullo/Basquine opposed Passes, As Amended Effective Immediately
49	Unanimous consent	Go into a Committee of the Whole to allow the Judging Administrator to speak	Without objection

Junior Exhibitor Program

50	Hogan/Tullo	Accept the Junior Exhibitor Program to include grandfathering in those participants already in the program at their appropriate levels. See Appendix	Carried unanimously Passes, Effective Immediately
51	Unanimous consent	Delete Standing Rule 901.4.1	Without objection

Breed Advancements

52	Madison/Tullo	Advance the Napoleon to PNB status	Denied Hogan/Madison/ Parris/Tullo in favor Ashley felt there was too much bowing in the legs, and that they needed more work
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Presentations

Sam Pollock from the HelmsBrisco Company, a site selection company, gave a presentation as the availability of their free service in finding and negotiating both hotel/motel and show site facilities around the world.

Michael Butler, President of Embrace Pet Insurance and a new TICA sponsor, explained the Embrace Insurance package and their plans to provide free, limited term insurance to TICA members and their kitten buyers.

A presentation for The International Feline Foundation (TIFF) was delivered by Steve Savant. TIFF was formed in response to a provision in TICA's charter/mission statement and seeks full support and cooperation from TICA as its official nonprofit feline welfare arm.

Presentations for the 2012 Annual were made. Natural Cat Club presented a presentation to host the event in Chicago, IL and Great Lakes Cat Consortium presented a presentation to hold the event in Columbus, OH.

53	Crockett/Madison	Reflecting outcome of the secret ballot, propose Columbus, OH for 2012 Annual Banquet/Board Meeting	Carried
54	Unanimous consent	Destroy the ballots	Without objection

The President declared a Members Open Meeting.

55	Unanimous consent	Go into Executive Session	Without objection
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The President thanked Donna Madison and Jo Parris for their service to TICA and the Board.

Meeting adjourned.