

# **TICA Board of Directors Winter Meeting Agenda January 27 – 29, 2021**

## **Welcome and Introductions 7 am – 7:45 am**

### **Consent Agenda**

1. Approve minutes of October 15, 2020 Special Meeting
2. Set Spring Meeting date: May 21 - 23, 2021
3. Banking – **Add Vicki Jo Harrison as signatory on the General and Payroll bank accounts and remove Vickie Fisher from the Accounts**

## **Executive Session (Judging program, protests) 7:45 – 9 am**

### **Open Session**

#### **Governance 9 – 11 am**

1. Report from Realignment Committee - Stadter
2. Appointment of Judging Administrator – Harrison
3. Appointments to Abyssinian Breed Committee (select 2)  
Jean Hannum  
Steven Corneille
4. Appointment to American Shorthair Breed Committee (select 1)  
Margaret Mello
5. Appointments to Birman Breed Committee (select 1)  
Leslie Hurley  
Judith Milling
6. Appointment to Chausie Breed Committee (select 1)  
Tammy Isaacs  
Sam Harrison
7. Appointments to Donskoy Breed Committee (select 3, name Chair)  
Megan Duffy  
Alisyn Garza  
Lilia Kovalenko  
Kathryn Eden (reinstate as Chair)
8. Appointment to Peterbald Breed Committee (select 1)  
Adolfo Gonzalez Marques
9. Appointments to Toyger Breed Committee (select 2)  
Larabi Sofia
10. Appointment of Toybob Working Committee Chair
11. Review Follow-up Report

## **January 28, 2021 (Open Session Continued)**

### **Administrative 7 am – 9 am**

1. Marketing Report - Fulkerson
2. COO Update Report – Nevarez
3. Financial Report - Fisher

BREAK



**Proposals - Registration Rules 9:15 am – 10:15 am**

1. Add new 39.16 (Transfer documentation) – van Mullen
2. Add new 310.3 (frequency of litters) - van Mullem

**Proposals - Standing Rules 10:15 – 11 am**

1. Amend 209.1.1.4 (Marked catalogs) - Fralia
2. Amend 106.4.1.2 and 1017.1 (Genetics review of Proposals) - Crockett/Wood

**January 29, 2021 (Open Session Continued)**

**Proposals - Standing Rules (continued) 7 am – 8 am**

3. Add 309.2.1 (Accepting non-TICA pedigrees) - Faccioli
4. Add 1021.3 (Chartering new clubs) - Faccioli

**Tennessee Rex - Standard Change 8 am – 8:30 am**

**Clerking Program 8:30 am – 8:45 am**

1. Add 54.1.8.4 Marks on Cage Cards – Dolan

**Amend Agreement to Judge a Cat Show (Airtares) – Board 8:45 am – 9 am**

**Board Discussions**



# TICA 2021 Winter Meeting

## Realignment Committee Report

### Committee Members:

- Ralph Stadter (Chair)
- Elaine Weitz
- Brendo Russo

Esteemed Board of Directors,

Based on previous discussions and the current situation due to the pandemic, our recommendation is to not make any disruptive changes at this point in time.

There are two options which would like this Board to consider:

1. Move North Korea from the Asia East region to the Asia West Region.  
Number of members affected: 50  
Current number of members in AE: 327  
Current number of members in AW: 268

Rationale: While North Korea is geographically very close to the Asia East Region and there is show activity in South Korea, travel between North Korea and the rest of the AE Region is more difficult than travel to AW.

2. Move Saskatchewan from the Great Lakes region to the North West Region.  
Number of members affected: 18  
Current number of members in GL: 698  
Current number of members in NW: 578

Rationale: Travel to the shows in the NW region is easier for the members in Saskatchewan.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ralph Stadter  
Chair of 2020 Realignment Committee

Jean Hannum  
Khamsin Abyssinians

December 4, 2020

Greetings :

Please reinstate me on the Abyssinian Breed Committee.

I have bred and shown Abyssinians in TICA since 1988. I have had several BEST ABYSSINIANS Internationally. I have shown several Abys to International Wins. I have been Aby Breed Chair for many years in the past.

I hope this letter will be sufficient

Sincerely,

Jean Hannum  
Khamsin Abyssinians

Paris, Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

Attention: TICA Board Members

Dear all,

It is probably no secret to all of you that I have been involved with Abyssinians for almost as long as with Bengals. When I first started showing Bengals almost 20 years ago now, my best friend Valerie Fabing was starting with Abyssinians. She worked with Abyssinians with Jean Marc Lagarde and I, with Bengals with Jean Marc's brother Benoît. I very soon after that met Carlos Lopez who offered me my first Aby who finished his showing career as LA BW SGC. He was Best All Breed kitten in ES 2007-2008 and Best All Breed Cat in ES 2008-2009. I've had the pleasure to closely follow some of the best Aby breeding programs in TICA (i.e. Lidia Stemberg - El Amante, Carlos Lopez - Pampa, Jean-Marc Lagarde - Des Entrechats, Valerie Fabing - LaDifference and Brenda Russo - L'Aradia cattery among others). Over the years I have gained great experience with the raising, showing, conditioning and even breeding of Abys even if not always under my own cattery name. I am familiar with their health issues, and I know first-hand how frustrating yet rewarding it can be to show them, especially dilutes. I got my first fawn Aby back in 2008 and a more recently got another one and raised a litter for a friend. I have shown my fawn boy last show season and he ended up Best Int' fawn Aby of the year. I have been asked to judge several Aby congresses in several Associations and breeders around the world know how much I care about the breed and many reached out to me to run for breed committee this year. Unfortunately when I renewed my membership I failed to double check and did not tick the Aby box as my second breed which I only discovered after paying and applying for the Aby breed committee election in July when Frances Cardona reached out to me and told me I did not qualify and explained to me why. I am used to working with Abyssinians and Aby breeders in general, I am also familiar with the functioning of Breed Committees as I have been elected for the 3rd time on the Bengal Committee. I would like to offer my help to the Aby committee people if you would kindly let me join them by letting me fill one of the vacant seats.

Kind regards,

Steven Corneille

Margaret Mello – Appointment to AS Breed Group Committee

**Margaret Mello**

3:02 PM (1  
hour ago)

to me

I would like to be considered for the American Shorthair Breed Committee. My name is Margaret Mello. My cattery is BAYOUASH CATTERY. I live in Louisiana and am in South Central Region in TICA. I have been a member of TICA since the early 2020. I register and show my American Shorthairs exclusively with TICA , usually in SC and SE regions. I believe that I can really be of benefit to this committee. In the past, I have had Supremes and Reginal Winners. I have served on this breed committee in the past, and have the “to be chairman’s “ recommendation. I would feel honored to be considered as a member of the American Shorthair Breed Committee and would like to work for the betterment of our breed, American Shorthair, and work with people who are as committed to the breed as much as I am.

**Rick Hoskinson**

to Margaret, me, Vicki

12:37 PM (1  
minute ago)

Vickie

I highly recommend that we appoint Meg to the AS breed group committee. I would appreciate the board authorizing this.

Best regards  
Rick Hoskinson

12-5-2020

RE: Birman Breed Committee Membership – Notice of Intent

To: Charlotte Shea, Birman Breed Committee Chair

CC: Vickie Fischer, TICA President

Vicki Jo Harrison, SC Regional Director, TICA President Elect

I have noted that only two members have been elected to the current TICA Birman Breed Committee, and therefore, I would like to put forth my candidacy as an appointed member of the committee, to make up our allowed numbers.

I have been breeding Birman since 2005, and have produced multiple Regional Winners including;

RW SGC BumbleBe Dore, RW TGC BumbleBe Eclair, RW TGC BumbleBe Eon Flux of Starghatts, RW SGCA BumbleBe Everafter, RW QGC BumbleBe Gilda Radner, RW SGC BumbleBe Hey Jude, RW QGC BumbleBe Jamison Rook, RW QGC BumbleBe Madrigal Chorus, and RW DGC BumbleBe National Velvet

And I was privileged to place IW SGC BumbleBe Hollywood PartyPaws with Laura Mitobe, who subsequently showed him to and International win.

I also had a TICA Cattery of Excellence designation during the years when TICA made this available. Additionally, I have also served two previous terms on the committee, the second as Chair.

I consider myself most fortunate to have been mentored by Sharon Hunt of BirmnsRUs and Ann Hoehn of AnnBirWaves Birmans, both pillars of the Birman breed, and pioneers in introducing new colors and traits to the breed. Based upon the philosophies of these and other dedicated breeders, I continue to consider myself a steward of the breed, with the cornerstones of health, temperament and type as my guiding precepts in my breeding program.

I am proud to have mentored several new breeders and new exhibitors of both Birmans and other breeds, through TICA's mentorship program, and continue to support both, although I am no longer able to show as actively as I once did, due to my geographical location and health.

In short, I believe that I have much to offer the Birman Breed Committee and would be proud to serve again.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Leslie Hurley, BumbleBe Birmans

Mulberry, AR

*A Notice of Intent to Apply for membership in the Birman Breed Committee*

*Judith Milling publishes this Notice of Intent to present at the TICA Winter 2021 Meeting an application for approval to become a member of the Birman Breed Committee.*

*The Chair has been informed of this request and has agreed to this membership in the Birman Breed Committee.*

*Any comments can be sent to TICA  
PO Box 2684, Harlingen, TX 78551*

Birmans have been in my life as pets off and on since 1971, showing one Blue Point Female for a year in another organization in 1971. I was also working with another Birman breeder at that same time with my Seal Point Birman to use as a breeder and my Dam was also retired.

Since then, I started showing Birmans in 2010 in TICA. My Birmans are TICA retired show cats, who are Regional Winners and Breed Winners. One of my Birmans was 2<sup>nd</sup> Best International Alter in TICA and Best Alter in my Region. Most of my Birmans have earned their Supreme status or Grand status in TICA. I have a retired breeder who was Best Birman kitten in TICA.

I started breeding 8 years ago with one Dam under the mentorship of a long time Birman breeder. Since then, I have acquired and retired 3 Birman Dams, and currently have 3 breeding Dams in my cattery, which have also earned their Grand status or Supreme status. In my cattery (Rumblepuff, which is registered with TICA), I have two studs who also have their Supreme status. I raise 3 litters a year and currently working on adding my own kitten to my cattery and acquiring 2 more girls from Italy making sure all are A or AB blood types. My babies are in homes across the country and Canada and even with my veterinarian and Vet Techs.

None of my babies leave my home without the proper veterinarian required health check, spay or neuter and shots. Each new family get a complete pedigree, contract, several pages of basic information on care and feeding, buying a kitten from a reputable breeder, harmful herbs and plants and dangers in the home. They also get a gift bag of toys, canned and dry food along with packets of L-lysine and treats.

I am a current member of TICA extended out to 2024 and have been since 2009. I am currently showing a Birman kitten in this 2020-2021 season.

I am a member of the National Birmans Fanciers and Birman Breeders of the USA and Canada and belong to the Facebook Birman Club where we discuss issues and any concerns with the Breed. The interaction allows us to talk about Birmans, any health issues, and over all helpful information for new homes. DNA testing has also been done on both my Stud cats and Dams for blood typing and any health concerns which I am clear of any problems.



December 16, 2020

Dear Vickie,

I have worked with Tammy Isaacs via the Chausie Breed Committee and Chausie Cat Rescue for approximately 16 years.

In that time, she has gone above and beyond helping to get the Chausie breed to championship, spending over a decade breeding with the early generations to finally reach show generations, and showing in Exhibition, PNB, ANB and finally, Championship.

Anytime we needed any print materials, Tammy always jumped right in and used her talents to create brochures, giveaway items, posters and presentations, often without any compensation for her time or materials.

She has almost 2 decades of experience with the breed and worked directly with Bobbie Tullo our amazing mentor, to improve our lines, trade with other breeders to improve their lines and help new breeders along the way.

Most importantly, in my opinion, she is a team player that is easy to work with, never causes negative feelings, never creates division and has what is best for the breed, modestly, in her heart.

I cannot think of anyone that is more qualified and deserving to be part of the breed committee at this time.

I sincerely hope we can add her to the team.

Best regards,



Sheryl Koontz

Marechal Cattery, Chausie Breed Committee

**Sandy Hale**

4:03 PM (21  
minutes ago)

to me

Hi Vickie,

I would ask the board to add Tammy Isaacs as the third member of the Chausie Breed Committee.

Tammy has been breeding Chausie for over 18 years, Tammy worked closely with Bobbie Tullo, the international winners from Bobbie's line came from Tammy cats. (Willowind Fire)

Tammy worked with Bobbie and the other members of our group to get the Chausie's to Championship.

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Regards  
Sandy

----- Forwarded Message -----

**Date:** Wed, 16 Dec 2020 21:59:08 +0000  
**From:** Tammy Isaacs  
**To:**

To who it may concern:

I, Tammy Isaacs, would like to be the third person of the Chausie Breed Committee. I am a member in good standing of TICA and the breed committee. My TICA membership is paid up through 2024.

I have been breeding chausies for 18 years.

I have shown chausies.

I would get behind Sandy Hale and Sheryl Koontz to help in whatever way I am able to further the advancement of the breed.

Thank you for considering my application.

Tammy Isaacs

Willowind Chausies

Chausie – Sam Harrison

Dear Esteemed members of the TICA Board of Directors,

My name is Sam Harrison and I have been breeding Chausies since 2013, before spending a year or two researching the breed. I would like to ask you to please consider appointing me to the Chausie Breed Committee.

The year 2020 has clearly shown just how much our breed is still suffering from the untimely loss of our former breed chair and friend, Bobbie Tullo. Not only was she a most formidable champion and a driving force behind our breed, we relied on her in many ways. Due to the lack of her reminders regarding membership renewals and the breed committee elections, as well as Covid related health issues, I forgot to file my candidacy in a timely manner and a large number of our breed section members let their memberships lapse.

I have since familiarized myself with some of the rules and processes of TICA and encouraged several breeders to become TICA members or extend their membership in order to be eligible to vote on any changes to our rules or the breed standard and category.

This is a crucial time for our breed; we need to encourage international communication and cooperation between active breeders in order to make the most of our limited gene pool. We also need to contribute to the direction of our breed in our association as far as the future use of non-domestic outcrosses goes, as requested by this Board of Directors.

I have had some differences of opinion with the currently elected Breed Committee members. But I have reached out to them and am open to constructively cooperate and communicate with them for the sake of our Chausies.

I have the support of a sizable group of breed section members from the USA, Canada, England, Scotland, Ukraine, and the Czech Republic who have sent their letters of support to our President. I also enjoy good working relations with the wider breeders that are also TICA members and Chausie breeders from Clubs we have reciprocal agreements with.

My colleagues in the section will contact you via email to confirm their aspiration to see me take the vacant position on the Chausie Breed Committee.

We thank you for your time and look forward to hearing your decision in due course.

Kind Regards  
Samuel Harrison

**pauline turnock**

6:46 AM (2  
hours ago)

to me

Dear sir/madam.

I am a fully paid up member of TICA, also I am an eligible breed section member.

I wish to give my support to Sam Harrison as a potential candidate on the committee ( Chausie breed) as I feel he has the ability and knowledge to further this lovely breed. He has the enthusiasm and dedication to the breed that is so sorely needed.

Kind regards

Pauline Turnock

Gayzette

6:06 AM (3  
hours ago)

to me

Hello I am writing to you this morning to express my wishes on the appointment of Sam Harrison to the breed committee. I am a chair lifter and I pay my membership fees every year. Sam is the best placed piur siwger on this post, he is always near for us, answers our questions, knows the genetics of the chausie well and very hard working. He brings a lot to this breed so makes him an excellent choice as the 3rd member of the breed committee.

Francyska Lavoie

**Cara**

to Coonquest

Hello Vicky

My name is Cara Kempton of Tumblepride.

I am a paid up chausie breed member.

I would like to let you know I give my support to Sam Harrison to be placed on the committee. He has helped my  
Many thanks for your time  
Cara Kempton

### **Elena Sheremetieva**

Hello  
Im Elena Sheremetieva  
And im Chausie breed section member.  
I want to support Sam Harrison as committee.  
Because he make a lot for our chausie breed!  
And he helps a lot for all breeders and makes us stronger

С ув. Елена Шереметьева

### **Semerakovi**

Hello Vickie,

With this email, I would like to confirm my acceptance of Sam Harisson's nomination in the Chausie Committee. I  
breeding section.

Thank you and have a nice day Semerakova

Dear TICA Board,

Please accept this letter of intent to reinstate me as Breed Chair for the Donskoy committee. I am in good standing and would like to continue to work with the Donskoy Breed in TICA. Megan Duffy and Alisyn Garza, both TICA breeders in good standing, have agreed to work with me so we can have a Breed Committee for the Donskoy and continue to work on the growth of the breed and standard in the coming years.

I am attaching their letters of intent to this letter.

Thank you for your continued support of my work with the Donskoy in TICA.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Eden

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**Megan Duffy**

December 02, 2020

**TICA**

306 E Jackson St  
Harlingen, Texas 78550

Hello,

I am writing to request being placed on the Donskoy cat breed committee. I am a member in good standing and would like to take a more active role in the growth and development of the breed I love.

Sincerely,

**Megan Duffy**

Alisyn Garza. Is in good standing with TICA and would like to be part of the breed chair committee for Donskoy.

Address



**Date:** December 8, 2020 at 8:56:03 AM EST

**Subject:** KoronaAtefa, Liliia Kovalenko

Dear TICA, I am a member in good standing with TICA and would like to be part of the Donskoy breed committee.

I have been working with this breed since 2003, I have extensive breeding experience, participated in the development and correction of the breed standard, I have many diplomas of felinological courses. I pay a lot of attention to purebred breeding, the health of Donskoy and his excellent character. I am always open to communication and responsibly approach the breeding work of my cattery.

Sincerely, Lilia K.  
Nursery KoronaAtefa

December 6, 2020

Dear Board Members,

I would like to ask you to please appoint me to the Peterbald Breed Committee at the next winter meeting.

This solicitude is because I know about all the work that Susanna Shon and Joanna Bell have been doing on behalf of the breed through this Committee, which is unfortunately in an inactive status due to a vacant position according to our by-laws.

Related to this is that I believe is an opportunity for me to contribute to our breed, not only by supporting Susanna and Joana's work, but also now by filling this position.

Kind regards,

Adolfo

**Adolfo González Marqués**  
**Beyondlimits Cattery**  
**Peterbald cats**

December 6, 2020

Re: Inactive TICA PD Breed Committee

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you because the TICA Peterbald Breed Committee is currently in "inactive" status.

We find ourselves in this position as only two breed members filed in time to be considered in the recent election and therefore one position remains vacant. The person who did not file in time has now decided he does not want to pursue being on the committee.

It is my recommendation as the current and past committee chair that Adolfo Gonzalez Marques fill this position making the committee active once again.

I have known Adolfo for many years and believe him to be a definite asset to this committee and TICA as a whole. Adolfo is an actively involved TICA member as well as being a highly respected PD breeder and always available to further the growth of this association.

Please be so kind as to appoint him to this committee at the winter meeting.

Regards,  
Susanna Shon

Dear Board of Directors,

Re: Toybob Working Breed Chair

The breeding group is aware that the working breed chair must be filled as soon as we can, as it will allow the progress of the breed advancement to continue.

Unfortunately due to my own time constraints that I have encountered in my profession as well as personal life I felt that I would not be able to do allocate as much time needed to continue to volunteer to the working breed chair position as I did in the previous years. Having that said I understand that there were couple people interested in taking over the role and it is very important for the breeding group to continue the to do so with the same synergy we have accomplished thus far.

There are three very important issues that per my humbled opinion are crucial to further advancement of the breed whether there is at TICA or other organizations.

- Transparency and appropriate communication within the Toybob Breed Group
- Standard uniformity to apply across all associations, including WCC uniformity in terms of description of the cat
- Continuous research in finding the Toybob mutation (with either Dr. Lyons lab or other university research facility that we have identified)

As of now we only have Julie Ollis' candidacy to take over as a working group chair. Julie has been with TICA for many years and has been devoted to breed Toybobs for few years now. In addition, she also has many great references and there is no doubt she can do great job representing the breed.

There are just couple of hesitations that the breeding group felt about the above candidacy and this would apply to any new breed chair who would be taking over no matter who that person is, I believe. As the group had history of great divisions and arguments in the past, it is very important to stay transparent across the board and continue working where it was left off.

The breed group has reached agreement to the corrections of the standards as were presented at the September 2020, annual meeting and therefore the continuity of the submitted changes is crucial. Also, the group must focus in research participation in order to identify the bob tail mutation and that also remains critical for further advancement. In summary, there are just couple of mixed feelings in terms of the plan off actions that the new working breed chair would have for the group.

I understand that sometimes miscommunication can skew things unintentionally, therefore I would be open to continue my involvement in the Toybob advancement serving as a co-chair, as all things get passed on, in its entirety to the new breed chair. This way we would ensure the breed doesn't fall behind on their goals, stay as one, undivided group and continue hopefully successful progress in its advancement in TICA. I would also recommend for Tania Antenucci to continue be the Toybob liaison to the board as she has been involved with this breed for a while now and understands the Toybob breed goals and its priorities.

As I mentioned above, my time constraints would not allow me to be very active and serving as a co-chair I can pass on my knowledge and advice along the way so hopefully we could see the Toybobs in championship status one day.

Sincerely,

Margo Hill



**Task**

Fisher and Adler will craft a letter to see where we are with the translations(Show Rules, Registration Rules and By-Laws) from Ying Chien Wang.  
Committee - Lies, Chair - to look at revising TICA's pedigree to include more genetic information. Brenda, Liz, Vicki Jo, Elaine, AC, Danny, Lorraine Shelton, Roeann  
Recommendation from JC -- how long a trainee could be inactive before being removed from trainee Judging Program - Winter Meeting.

**Owner**

Susan Adler  
Liesbeth van Mullem  
Kat Krenn

**Date created**

05/26/20  
05/17/20  
09/04/20

## **Add New Reg Rule 39.16 (Transfer Documentation) – van Mullem**

### **Rationale:**

At the moment there are no rules regarding the transfer of the registration of a pedigreed cat or kitten after the cat or kitten is sold by the breeder.

When a breeder refuses to transfer the registration, or even to register the cat/kitten, the buyer has no option to file a complaint against the breeder as there are no rules regulating this process at this moment.

Until now TICA's view has been that TICA is a registry and does not get involved with disputes on this subject between breeder and buyer. However, these kinds of actions affect TICA's reputation in a negative way and it is time to have a rule on this subject so at least the breeder who does not comply can be suspended from services.

### **Add new Registration Rule 39.16, re-number existing 39.16 and 39.17:**

**39.16. The breeder will at the time of the transfer (unless otherwise agreed upon by both parties in writing) provide the buyer with the breeder slip or the certificate of registration and signed transfer of ownership.**

~~39.16~~<sup>7</sup> Record of lease on cats registered in this association should be filed with the registrar.

~~39.17~~<sup>8</sup> A certified three- or five-generation pedigree, of any cat registered in the stud book, ancestry record, or hybridization record, as and to the extent the pedigree is shown therein, will be furnished by the registrar upon a request signed by or consented to by the registered owner of the cat and accompanied by the required fees.

### **Rules Committee Comments:**

- (A) I think this is really needed but I know there have been delays in the past just getting paperwork out of the office - but that shouldn't really be the case going forward with the new computer system
- (B) I see the current EO delays as a temporary blip, and that shouldn't be an excuse for not putting this proposal on the rule book.  
I think the proposal is reasonable, proportionate and needed
- (C) Playing devil's advocate here - what is the penalty for this, and who is going to police it.
- (B) I think from the rationale the implication is that the buyer could cite the new rule as part of a formal complaint.



- (D) I agree with (B)
- (E) So do I - and the possibility of being able to cite the rule in a formal complaint is reason enough for me to approve it.
- (F) I agree with (E)
- (G) I would actually reverse this and have the rule read if agreed to in writing, the breeder will provide the paperwork.
- (E) Wouldn't that still allow the breeder to withhold the paperwork? As I understand the proposal this is exactly the situation Lies wishes to avoid.
- (G) I am wording it in such a way that there must be an agreement to provide papers before there can be any penalty.  
The proposal mandates that papers must always be provided unless there is an agreement not to provide papers.  
Sometimes papers are withheld pending payment, pending an exchange etc
- (E) But if you're withholding papers pending payment or an exchange, what's keeping you from putting that in writing (i.e. making an agreement to the fact?)
- I expect this proposal is based on the fact that quite a lot of breeders withhold papers for no apparent reason \*and\* that under EU law, buyers enjoy serious protection.
- (B) I would like to see the actual wording you propose before I can make any comment on it. I do have the same concerns as (E)
- (D) Perhaps the attitude of TICA has changed in recent years but I have always felt that it was my responsibility to provide registration papers for any kitten/cat I sold or rehomed, regardless of whether there is a piece of paper requiring me to. I Why should this have to be in writing? It's not like it takes a great effort or cost to provide, it should be an expectation (IMHO) for the new owner to receive the registration papers when they receive the kitten/cat unless there are circumstances that need to be met first (e.g., spay/neuter) before the papers are released, and those circumstances should surely be in writing.
- (E) It needs to be in writing, because unfortunately, not everybody thinks as you.
- (C) The problem generally is due to less than reputable breeders - during the time that I was RD, most of the "problems" about papers with breeding cats were due to breeders who would never be able to provide the papers - due to breeding cats against contracts.
- TICA's philosophy has been to help pet buyers get papers they were promised but not breeders - as the contractual arrangements should be handled through the court system.

(E) The challenge here comes with international sales. Not many breeders would take on (or be able to afford) an international lawsuit.

And the result is that the international buyer will badmouth TICA, because withholding papers for no apparent reason is perceived as TICA practice.

(B) (E) - I share your concerns.

The "traditional policy" was fine when TICA was first founded and was primarily a North American association with disputes handled via the domestic court system. That no longer applies and I do think it is high time that "traditional policy" was re-considered for the reasons (E) states above.

(C) I understand that international sales pose a different problem. I ask again - what sanctions do you propose and who will be charged with the enforcement?

Merely having a rule isn't going to change behaviors of the less than honest. If there are no "teeth" behind it, no consequences, it is useless.

(B) Well, the seller makes a formal complaint to TICA.

If the complaint is proved, the Board could instruct the EO to issue pedigree documents to the buyer, and then impose disciplinary sanctions on the seller.

I don't think it is toothless or unenforceable.

## **Add new Reg Rule 310.3 (Frequency of Litters) – van Mullem**

### **Rationale:**

In TICA's Mission Statement it is mentioned that we will encourage our members to be caring, responsible owners and breeders of cats who work together to promote the preservation of pedigreed cats and the health and welfare of all domestic cats.

However TICA, one of the largest registries of domestic cats in the world, still doesn't have a rule in place on how many times a dam may be bred in a certain period. There is a statement in TDS when registering a litter that the same dam may not be used if she had a litter in the previous 90 days. However, this is not recorded anywhere in our rules.

While other registries value the health and wellbeing of the cats, this aspect seems to be somewhat lacking in TICA. Reasons mentioned for this are that TICA is a "just" a registry and that if such a rule was put in place it would only lead to more breeders "hanging papers".

It is time to bring our rules more in line with our Mission Statement regarding the care of our cats and be a responsible owner and breeder. When such rules are in place, there are grounds to take action towards breeders who don't follow them (and hang papers on this subject).

### **Add New Registration Rule 310.3, renumber current 310.3 to 310.5:**

#### **310.3 A dam may not have more than three litters in a twenty-four month period except with the prior written approval of a veterinarian.**

~~310.34~~ The secretary shall issue a certificate of litter registration, which shall show the registration number of the litter and the serial number of each kitten. No kitten from such litter shall thereafter be individually registered unless the individual application for registration of a cat of a registered litter issued by the association is presented.

~~310.45~~-If the applicant for the litter registration is not the owner of the sire of the litter, then the owner of the sire must sign the litter application or a breeding certificate signed by the owner of the sire must accompany the application for TICA files.

~~310.56~~ In the instance of a litter with more than one sire, a separate application should be submitted for each sire, following the procedures outlined in 310.1-310.~~45~~ of this Article. A note from the breeder stating that the kittens were the product of a mixed litter should accompany such application for TICA's files.

### **Rules Committee Comments:**

#### **Rules Chair Note:**

There was no consensus on this proposal and several strongly held (and divergent) opinions on the proposal. The discussion has been provided below for the Board to review and consider.

- (A) I know that we have had to breed girls more than 3 times in two years just because if we don't, we will lose them as breeders.
- I don't know that the association should be dictating when we breed our cats or not.
- (B) My problem with this proposal is that it is not based on sound veterinary knowledge.
- (C) Again, the current rule was designed to allow breeders to be honest - accidents happen and rather than cause breeders to "hang paper" but rather to tell the truth.
- In addition, the leading reproductive vet, Dr. Susan Little, has said - in cats, a pregnant uterus is a happy uterus.
- Not all parts of the world have easy access to birth control - and repetitive cycling can cause pyometra.
- (D) It does seem very strange that the current 90 day period is not included in this proposed rule. As the rationale says, this is an unwritten rule that has been in place for a long time.
- The proposed new rule is consistent with a long-standing FIFe rule. It would be interesting if we could chase down what veterinary evidence was used to support their position.
- (B) There is also the possibility that the veterinary evidence is already outdated or that it was based on feelings/emotions as to what is healthy rather than any evidence.
- TICA should not be passing rules relating to the health of cats without current seeking veterinary knowledge and expertise.
- (A) FIFe is a primarily European registry and that is their rule. I think we need to be careful trying to take rules from other associations. Like (C) said, birth control is not approved over here like it is in some other countries. I think this could lead to paper hanging if people can't adhere to it.
- I understand the intention behind it but one size fits all doesn't really work in this case.
- As far as the rule itself, it is well-written and looks proper to me.
- (E) I agree (A) - If anything put the 90 day requirement into the rules.
- (F) I agree with (E), the only change I would support would be the 90 day rule. As a former Cornish rex breeder, the females would start cycling at five months and cycle repeatedly until bred. I would have had to spay many females if the "three times in 24 months rule" was invoked.

- (C) This is an excellent point (B) - I'm not in favor of trying to legislate what breeders do - just because some other associations have rules about it.
- (G) I agree with (C), in addition this is yet another rule that will encourage hanging of papers if a dam happens to have more than 3 litters in a 24 month period (intentionally or not)
- (B) I have some real issues with this language in the rationale
- "While other registries value the health and wellbeing of the cats, this aspect seems to be somewhat lacking in TICA."
- (H) That is the perception in Europe, especially among non-TICA members. But you will also find TICA clubs that have adopted this policy, because that is what their members want.
- (I) This is in my opinion an ethical question. Yes, there are breeds that cycle more often and others not. In Europe almost every club has this rule and I am sure they do also have members that breed CR, SI and other breeds that are known for cycling a lot. Many breeders do use Melatonin for contraception and it works pretty good.
- A cat doesn't exist only of an uterus so the quote might be correct for the uterus but what about the rest of the cat? What about the cat itself?
- My understanding is that we need to see if it fits into the rules and not if it fits for all breeds and if breeders will be happy or not. It is with like every other rule we can't make everybody happy. And at the end the members can decide if they like it or not.
- I think this rule fits perfectly for a cat association. It protects the cat and makes maybe the uterus unhappy according to Dr Little but at the end it protects the cat. And I guess the uterus is also happy with a little break.
- This rule means the cat can have every 8 months a litter. In many catteries the kittens are staying till they are 16 weeks. I don't know a lot of breeders that mate their cats while this time just because it cycles.
- So the question is do we like to support breeders that are breeding their cats 5 weeks after they delivered kittens and this constantly for 5 years just because it cycles so often? Is this the way we see a (our) cat association or do we wanted to be seen like this? If it is because of registration/money than "yes" but if we say we care for the welfare of the cat than the answer is "no".
- I support this proposal as I do believe this leads us in the right direction. A ethical way of breeding and it reflects an association that cares of the wellbeing of the cats.

(B) Some people breed their females early and often and spay early. Some space out their litters and breed the females much later in life.

Again, TICA should not mandate rules based on health without actually consulting veterinary health experts. Also, who is to say that the "permission from a vet" is from a vet skilled in reproductive health. Those vets are far and few between.

(G) I also agree, I believe that the only appropriate step to take would be to incorporate the current 90 day restriction into the rules.

(I) Well, it is less effort to just breed them 4 times a year than going to the vet – and I hope that people have a good vet as breeders – and ask for a paper stating a reason... and the vet needs to put a signature under it.

My vet would not put a signature under a paper just like this and I guess nobody would do that just because...

There are females that are in horrible condition while nursing. Who as a vet would sign a paper seeing a cat like this?

As I said for me this is clearly a question of ethics.

(A) This is where the definition of a club differs from country to country. Clubs in North America are basically social, for lack of a better word. We join together to produce shows or to just hang out. Clubs in Europe play a different role. While some produce shows, some do not. I think the clubs in Europe probably are structured a lot differently in that you made the statement that something like having too many litters would have to be reported to the club. To me, that is not a club decision but this is the difference in cultures.

Maybe instead of a rule (where it has to be adhered to and a penalty if you don't follow it) how about guidelines instead? People react better to that than a hard and fast rule sometimes.

(I) Yes, I agree with you. People do have problems with rules. Guidelines would be good if we could monitor it a bit and get some data out. But not sure if the EO is capable with the current TDS program to get things like that out of TDS.

(B) The proposal as written is okay other than I think the language in the rationale is very "loaded"  
When discussed at the Board level I would like to see some rationale as to the selection of 3 litters within 24 months, veterinary opinions etc .TICA has access to very up to date research.

(D) As she is a world-leading authority on feline reproduction, I reached out to Dr Susan Little to ask about any veterinary evidence regarding limits on number of litters. She wrote back:

Contd/...

(D – Contd)

*“I’m so disappointed that this issue STILL comes up! Veterinary studies aren’t carried out to provide evidence for or against a limit on breeding. The best evidence is the normal biology of cats - they are completely different from dogs. Each breeder should have the right to determine what is best for an individual queen as it is variable.*

*Any feline vet in the UK should be able to write a recommendation saying that it will harm some queens if a limit on litters is imposed. It will work for some queens but predispose others to pyometra and infertility.”*

Based on her comments, I feel that the proposal as it is currently written cannot be supported from a purely veterinary viewpoint.

But the issue that there is no guidance to breeders about appropriate breeding frequency (including in the two codes of ethics) IS something the Board does need to address.

(H)

I agree that this issue definitely needs addressing. I also don't believe that the [3 litters in 24 months] rule was originally adopted by FIFe due to veterinary concerns. It was more likely adopted to stop people from breeding back-to-back litters over a period of several years and to the best of my knowledge it is quite effective.

The way the rules (or lack of) are in TICA at the moment, TICA is seen as a registry that allows that with no consideration for the wellbeing of the cat.

(C)

I'd still like to see some statistics about just how many cats in the last 2 years have had more than 3 litters in 2 years - I think we are spending a lot of time on something that might not be a problem.

## **Amend Standing Rule 209.1.1.4 (Marked Catalogs) - Fralia**

### **Rationale:**

The Clerking Administrator is responsible for all of the Master Clerk trainees and their evaluations. A marked catalog is needed to see their work (mechanically correct and neatness), as the ability to attend all cats show to observe Master Clerks in action is not feasible.

### **Amend Standing Rule 209.1.1.4:**

209.1.1.4 Marked Catalogs. The show committee is required to forward one completely marked catalog to the Executive Office of TICA, the regional reporters and the appropriate regional director. within 48 hours after the close of the show if sent by first class mail or better, if sent by electronic means, within 72 hours. The show committee is also required to forward one completely marked catalog to the judging administrator, **the clerking administrator**, to each judge, the master clerk, the ring clerks and to any person who ordered a marked catalog no later than 7 days after the show.

### **Rules Committee Comments:**

- (A) I'm good with that. She is trying to be extremely pro-active with the clerks and help improve our clerking program.
- (B) I agree with the amendment.
- (C) I'm happy with it
- (D) Agree with everyone's previous comments
- (E) Looks fine
- (F) Agree with the amendment, and all of the previous comments.
- (G) I agree with the amendment



**Amend Standing Rules 106.4.1.2 and 1017.1 (Rule Changes reviewed by Genetics) – Crockett/Wood**

**Rationale:**

Recent proposals have highlighted the need for a formal review by Genetics Committee of proposed changes to Registration Rules and proposals such as a change to a Standing Rule relating to a Registration Rule.

**Amend Standing Rule: 106.4.1.2**

106.4.1.2 Genetics Committee. To advise the Board of Directors in any matter relating to breeds, breeding, colors, deformities, **changes in Registration Rules**, or any other matter in the field of genetics.

**Amend Standing Rule 1017.1, 1017.2:**

1017.1 Amendments. Proposals to amend the Show rules and Registration Rules shall be considered by the Board of Directors at regularly scheduled meetings. Proposals from the membership must be in writing and received by the Rules Committee no later than 90 days prior to the opening day of the meeting to allow time for review in order to reach the Executive Office 60 days prior to the opening day of the meeting. **Amendments to the Registration Rules must also be submitted in writing at the same time to the Genetics Committee to allow time for review in order to reach the Executive Office 60 days prior to the opening day of the meeting.** Proposals received by the Rules Committee **(and Genetics Committee where applicable)** after the 90-day deadline will be placed on the following meeting agenda. Proposals are to be submitted according to Article Seventeen of the TICA By-Laws.

1017.1.2. Proposals to amend Rules or Policies (other than the Bylaws, Show Rules and Registration Rules) shall be considered by the Board of Directors at regularly scheduled meetings. Proposals from the membership must be in writing and received by the Rules Committee **and Genetics Committee where applicable (including, but not limited to, Standing Rules affecting a Registration Rule)** no later than 90 days prior to the opening day of the meeting to allow time for review in order to reach the Executive Office 60 days prior to the opening day of the meeting. Proposals received by the Rules Committee **(and Genetics Committee where applicable)** after the 90-day deadline will be placed on the following meeting agenda. Proposals must contain a rationale for the change plus the new rule wording (or the original rule wording and the amended version).

**Rules Committee Comments:**

- (A) I think this wording covers the bases
- (B) This looks good to me, and needed.

Contd/...

- (C) Fine with me
- (D) Nothing extra from me
- (E) Nor from me
- (F) I think it is needed as well - we see the effects of recent standing rule changes being detrimental to certain breeds.

## **Add Standing Rules 309.9.2.1 to 309.9.2.4 (Accepting Pedigrees from Other Registries) - Faccioli**

### **Rationale:**

The criteria adopted by the EO for acceptance of pedigrees from other registries (as referred in Registration Rule 39.9.2) are not defined by any written rule. Unwritten rules and criteria are always subject to misunderstandings and cannot be used to resolve any conflict. A clear definition in a sensitive matter like this is also desired for transparency.

Considering further that the integrity of our registry is a permanent concern, the Regional Directors should also be required to participate in the process of selecting the registries accepted for registration.

This proposal aims to provide both written criteria and RD involvement.

### **Add new Standing Rules 309.9.2.1, and re-number existing 309.9.2:**

(Registration Rule 39.9.2 provided for context)

39.9.2 Be accompanied by a minimum of 3-generation certified pedigree (from another registry) of the cat for which application is being made and a photocopy of a registration certificate from that registry showing proof that this cat is owned by the person making the application and asking to be named the owner of this cat.

**309.9.2.1 In addition to the currently recognized registries, with effect from [effective date], the Executive Office shall accept pedigrees from other registries that meet one of the following criteria:**

**309.9.2.1.1 The registry is from a World Cat Congress member or an association with which TICA has a formal agreement for mutual acceptance of pedigrees.**

**309.9.2.1.2 The registry is an active TICA chartered club that produces TICA shows, provided that the measures and procedures implemented by the club for issuing their own pedigrees are at least as stringent or as restrictive as TICA's rules. The registry must also be approved by the relevant Regional Director.**

**309.9.2.1.3 The registry is an independent club that has licensed judges and holds shows and must also be approved by the relevant Regional Director.**

**309.9.2.2 In the best interests of the Association, the Board may approve a registry that does not meet the above criteria.**

**309.9.2.3 The EO shall maintain and make available for the membership a list of the registries recognized for registration in TICA.**

Contd/...

**309.2.2.4 The Board may direct the Executive Office to refuse recognition of new pedigrees from a registry if that registry no longer meets the above criteria.**

309.9.2.5 In the event that a registry does not issue registration certificates, the Executive Office may request additional documentation to prove ownership and authenticity.

**Rules Committee Comments:**

- (A) This all looks appropriate and thorough – I certainly can't think of anything to add or see any problem with the proposal.
- (B) I like it very much as it addresses the issues that countries outside the US face and should help entry clerks when potential new members want to enter shows as you would expect the relevant RD to be updated on local clubs/associations that issue pedigrees.
- (C) I think all of this is good - and it needs to be in our rules
- (D) This clarification will be very helpful
- (E) Who will check (and how) that "the measures and procedures implemented by the club for issuing their own pedigrees are at least as stringent or as restrictive as TICA's rules" ?
- (F) I do not feel very comfortable letting one person, in this case the RD, approve clubs/pedigrees. As someone pointed out already we do have regions with personal clashes.

Independent Clubs – I think this is not a very good idea. I do know independent clubs with shows and their own judges and they should not issue any pedigrees nor educate judges. So, I think this is really not a very good idea. I am issuing the pedigrees for our club and saw a lot of those pedigrees and approx. every second has 1 to 5 mistakes (color wise) that's why we started not to accept pedigrees from several clubs.

We should really think very carefully about this point. Once the door is open it is difficult to close it again. Maybe I am biased a bit because I saw so many wrong pedigrees and mostly they come from independent clubs. In all those years I saw so many wrong things starting from wrong color up to genetic impossible combinations, no registration numbers etc. This should be regulated a bit more.

If a TICA Club is issuing pedigrees I would love to see them doing in the same way as TICA – some TICA Clubs issue pedigrees with "black tabby".

- (G) But a club is not a registry so this is kind of contradictory in my opinion.

Contd/...

Plus the way it is, it would potentially open up the idea that a club, anywhere could issue pedigrees.

## **Add Standing Rule 1021.3 (Chartering New Clubs) - Faccioli**

### **Rationale:**

The relation between TICA and a chartered club is perceived in different ways depending on the club's location. TICA has with a central registry and the various clubs exist with the main purpose of promoting shows on its behalf and within the North American tradition.

In other associations around the world, however, clubs may be also responsible for maintaining the registries for the respective associations. Although TICA has only one central registry, the chartered clubs are allowed to maintain their own registries, and their pedigrees are accepted for registration in TICA.

There's nothing wrong with the process, the problem begins when a club seeks an affiliation with TICA with the purpose of "legitimizing" its registry with a note on its pedigrees "TICA chartered club" or "affiliated to TICA". With this simple addition, the club simulates the reality of a club authorized by its association to issue pedigrees.

For the general public there's no difference between the two situations. This is a matter of perception that we cannot manage, but something that we can do is to be more selective about the clubs we charter considering they would then carry our good name on their papers. The Regional Director is the right person to evaluate if the chartering of a new club is in the best interests of the Association.

### **Add Standing Rule 1021.3:**

(By Law 121.3 provided for context)

121.3 Guidelines. The Board of Directors shall establish charter and renewal fees and guidelines for chartering clubs, club by-laws and annual club reports.

**1021.3 The formal approval of the relevant Regional Director is required before chartering a club. If the proposed club is not approved, the Regional Director must provide reasons to the Board of Directors. The Board will then make the final decision on the application.**

### **Rules Committee Comments:**

(A)

I agree with this. My question is can there be more "teeth" put into it such as if you are chartering a club, are you doing it for the purpose of pedigrees only to give validity to those or are you doing it to put on a show and promote TICA and the fancy?

(B)

I also have a problem with giving RDs approval - we all know that there are some regions where there are personality clashes. Do we want to burden the full BOD with petty squabbles?

Contd/..

This whole issue of pedigrees is a thorny one. I am not sure we want to legitimize pedigrees just because they are issued by a TICA club with no history.

(C)

I think the additional check, as set out in the proposal, is appropriately worded. I'm not sure how we could word a rule change to give this "extra teeth". The activities that clubs undertake (or the expectations on their membership) do vary depending on location.

For example, US-based clubs seem primarily for holding shows, whereas some European clubs also act as a local registry. I believe some countries require pedigrees to be registered with a local registry. Two examples: France has LOOF – which is actually part of the French government; and in Austria I believe that the Blue Danube CC is able to act as the local registry for their own club members.

(D)

I am still not 100% convinced that this rule is desirable but at least if the club can appeal to the Board of Directors, there is some prevention of a RD preventing a club because bad relations with the club members.

(E)

Usually clubs do have a registry – so they put owner, kitten names and the pedigree numbers, date of birth, cattery name. With the name and pedigree number it is easy to find the pedigree in the program.

Why should TICA not accept pedigrees from TICA Clubs but would accept pedigrees from an independent clubs?

I would like to see more controlling on whatever pedigree comes in.

Sometimes the register number are not right. For example for FIFe pedigrees it should be always like that (PL) FPL LO XXXX. IN some cases it is without LO or FPL or no (PL) just a number.

Issuing pedigrees is not only copying it from two copies.

I got one from one of my members - kittens with white - but the parents have no white but we issue a pedigree. So some knowledge of what is possible and what not would be helpful too. I understand that the girls do not know that but I believe if we are world largest genetic registry we should issues correct pedigrees in colors that are possible and with the right registration numbers from other associations and clubs that are behind in the pedigree. So if we ask Clubs to be more restrictive for TICA we should also advise the EO how CFA, FIFe, WCF, GCCF... numbers should look like.

So the goal is that we have people that have the genetic knowledge and also do know a bit about pedigrees from other associations. This is needed to be able to verify pedigrees and not only copy them and issue a new SBT number for a kitten.

## Proposed Changes from 2018 Standard – Highlighted and bold

Tennessee Rex is a natural mutation that occurred in the feral cat population. The breed has two characteristics that define a Tennessee Rex; they are a recessive curly hair coat that gives the cat a rex appearance, and a mix of shining hairs (called Satin) that gives the cat a sparkling appearance. The two traits make the Tennessee Rex unique from any other breed of cat. The Tennessee Rex occurs in both longhair and shorthair.

**The Tennessee Rex is a naturally occurring recessive mutation that comes in both longhair and shorthair. Satin rex is a unique mutation to the cat fancy. This mutation always presents with satin and rexing together**

**HEAD: 30 40**

Shape - 6 **9**

Ears - 3 **5**

Eyes - 5 **6**

Muzzle - 5 **4**

Chin/nose - 5 **Nose 3**

**Chin 4**

Profile - 4 **7**

Neck - 2

**BODY: 30- 34**

Torso - 8 **9**

Legs/Feet - 7

**Legs 5**

**Feet 3**

Tail - 6 **4**

**Size/Boning - 5 7**

Musculature - 4 **6**

**COAT: 40 26**

Length - 5 - **2**



Texture/**Curl** - 18 **10**

**Pattern /color 4**

Color—17

CATEGORIES: All

DIVISIONS: All.

COLORS: All.

PERMISSIBLE OUTCROSSES:

Domestic Longhair/Shorthair, not a member of a recognized breed.

Head:

~~Shape: A modified wedge with gently rounded contours with breadth across prominent cheekbones.~~

**SHAPE: A modified wedge with gently rounded contours, with breadth across prominent cheekbones. The top of the head is flat to slightly round.**

~~Ears: Medium to medium large size, broad at base, cupped, slightly rounded tips. May or may not have furnishings, Set slightly low and slightly upright.~~

**EARS: Medium-Large, broad at base, cupped, slightly rounded tops. Set equally at sides and top of the head, forward-facing.**

~~Eyes: Large rounded almond, moderately wide set. Deep color preferred.~~

**EYES: Large plump almond, moderately wide set. The outside corner of the eye slanted towards the bottom of the ear. Intense color is not related to coat color except in the albino series.**

~~Muzzle: Medium long with strong whisker break, medium wide with obvious whisker pads, whiskers may be curly or wavy~~

**MUZZLE: Medium length and width with visible whisker break and noticeable whisker pads. Whiskers must be wavy or curly and may be fragile.**

~~Chin: Rounded, shallow but not receding, gently sloped in profile~~

**CHIN: The chin is round, soft, and not protruding.**

~~Profile/Nose: Two planed, flat to gently rounded forehead, gentle stop, slight nose bump.~~

**PROFILE: Medium length, straight nose bridge, to a defined change of direction at eyes forming a gentle convex stop. The forehead is flat to gently rounded, and the top of the skull is long and flat to slightly domed. The profile shows a stop/break between two somewhat parallel planes of the nose**

**bridge and top of the head.**

Neck: Short and thick. Athletic

**NECK: medium length, rounded, and well-muscled.**

Body:

Torso: Long and substantial

**TORSO: Rectangular and athletic, medium-wide chest and hips.**

Legs & Feet: Medium in length, forming a rectangle with body; rounded fully rexed paws. Longer back legs makes back higher at hips.

**LEGS: medium in length, forming a rectangle with the body. Medium boning. Males may be larger boned than females.**

**FEET: feet should be rounded**

Tail: Wide at base tapering to tip full length and rexed. Bobtails, Manx, and docked tails not allowed.

**TAIL: Wide at the base, full length**

Boning: Substantial

**SIZE/BONING: Size is variable with a preference for medium to large cats. Medium boning**

Musculature: Firm, athletic.

Coat

Length: LH — Medium long with fully plumed rexed or wavy tail. SH — Medium short with rexed tail.

Texture: In both hair lengths, the coat will be curlier where shortest, falling into waves or curls where longer. Back and upper torso may be straighter. Front portion of legs very curly including shoulders, front portion of back legs are very curly then becoming wavy at britches. Hair is soft and should not mat.

Pattern: All patterns

Color: All colors accepted; hair should shine and have a rich satin appearance.

Hair sparkles in light and also intensifies the color of the coat. Satinization of the colors may darken and intensify them. Satin is very obvious in some colors, whereas hard to see in other colors such as black.

**COAT:**

**TEXTURE/CURL:** The fur is soft with moderate to wavy rexing. The coat will be curlier when the shortest and falling into waves or soft curls where longer. The back and torso may have straighter hair, sometimes falling into a natural part down the back. Curls on legs preferably down to the paws, more curly on front of neck and shoulders, the stomach will be curly. The front of the back legs is curly, then becoming wavy at the britches. Tails should have curly or wavy rexing. Coat continues to develop with age and may be affected by hormones. Whiskers are always kinked, curly, wavy, or broken. Molting between ears and eyes in the temple region is expected.

**SATIN:** Hair should shine (sparkle) and have a rich satin appearance. Shorter hair tends to shine more than longer hair, such as on the face and feet. The hair sparkles in a good light. Satin is very obvious in some colors (reds), whereas harder to see in other colors such as Blacks.

**PATTERN/COLOR:** all patterns and colors accepted. Rich, clear colors preferred.

**LENGTH:** the Long Hairs are medium-long with a plumed tail. Short hairs are medium- short. They should not matt and are easy to groom. Length may be variable, especially if a cat is growing hair after a molt.

General Description: The Tennessee

Rex is a naturally occurring mutation that spontaneously appeared in the Tennessee Valley in 2004. Through test breeding, both satin and rexing have consistently been inherited as simple recessive genes. It is a medium to large sized cat, which is curly coated from birth. The coat consists of all types of hair (guard, awn, down) with the guard hairs being softer than

normal. The curly hair is most prominent on the neck, shoulders, chest, legs and tail. The fur on the Tennessee Rex should shine or glisten with a rich satin appearance as well as sparkle when viewed looking across the coat under lights. The satin effect gives the cat the ability to reflect sunlight giving the cat a metallic shine and sparkle in the sunlight.

The satin mutation has thus far only manifested on the rexed hair, and is believed to be linked, while the glitter gene in Bengals is not linked to rex hair. Microscope photos of the Tennessee Rex's hair shaft compared with the Satin Syrian Hamster's hair shaft show an almost identical hair shaft structure. The hair seems to be fragile on the back feet and will appear to "molt" in that area. The whiskers can be long or short, but will always be slightly or extremely curly, as well as being fragile. As kittens, the fur will "molt" in the temple area between the ear and on the stomach which will be symmetrical. The temperament is gentle and loving.

#### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**

The Tennessee Rex spontaneously appeared in 2004 in the state of Tennessee in the USA. The Tennessee Rex is a medium to large cat, curly-coated, and satin from birth. The satin and rexing are always expressed linked together and inherited as a simple recessive gene. The guard hairs are

softer than a typical cat fur due to the rexing and satin. Kittens are curly or wooly with crimping at birth, but the satin rex expression can be variable as they mature. Curls can be lost in kittens but should make a full recurrence in adults, although hormones and molting affect them at times. Kittens and cats may molt and regrow hair throughout their lives.

The Tennessee Rex is gentle and very affectionate. They are a social breed that strongly desires and seeks the companionship of its human family. These cats have fantastic temperaments. They should be outgoing and friendly. They are curious, playful, and snuggly, and like to be where the action is.

When first seeing a Tennessee Rex, one is amazed by its unique coat. It has a lustrous coat falling in curls and waves that shine like satin—the fur sparkles in the sunlight. Its “barn cat,” semi-feral ancestry crafted The Tennessee Rex breed; therefore, it should always maintain an athletic, natural breed appearance.

~~LOCKETS: Allowed~~

~~ALLOWANCES: “Molting” of coat in kittens.~~

~~WITHHOLD: No satin sparkle on coat~~

~~DISQUALIFY: Bobtailed, docked tail, rumpy tail or no tail~~

#### **ALLOWANCES:**

**Lockets**

**Molting in kittens and young adults**

**Lack of curl in kittens**

#### **PENALIZE:**

**Lack of satin in adults**

**Lack of curl in adults**

**Cobby body**

In accordance with Show Rules, ARTICLE SIXTEEN, the following shall be considered mandatory disqualifications:

a cat that bites (216.9), a cat showing evidence of intent to deceive (216.10), adult whole male cats not

having two descended testicles (216.11), cats with all or part of the tail missing, except as authorized by a board approved standard (216.12.1), cats with more than five toes on each front foot and four toes on each back foot, unless proved the result of an injury or as authorized by a Board approved standard (216.12.2), visible or invisible tail faults if Board approved standard requires disqualification (216.12.4), crossed eyes if Board approved standard requires disqualification (216.12.5), total blindness (216.12.6), markedly smaller size, not in keeping with the breed (216.12.9), depression of the sternum or unusually small diameter of the rib cage itself (216.12.11.1). See Show Rules, ARTICLE SIXTEEN for more comprehensive rules governing penalties and disqualifications.

## **Rules Committee Comments on Tennessee Rex Standard (Nov 2020)**

The Rules Committee has reviewed this revised breed standard provided by the Tennessee Rex Working Group.

Rules Committee notes that as a New Breed, a formal vote by the Breed Section is not required, and that standards are usually formally reviewed at advancement applications. However, there is nothing that prevents a Working group requesting a standard change outside of these review points. If approved by the Board, as it is a breed in the New Breeds Program the new standard can be used immediately rather than have to wait for 1 May.

The Board should also seek advice from Genetics Committee on their views of the standard.

Rules Committee has no objections to the new standard. Two comments were made by Committee members that are pertinent:

(A)

On the profile I don't think they want to use the term 'break' – isn't that like a Persian profile? Everything else looks good to me.

(B)

Most of the changes they made are changes that we, judges, have discussed with them. It looks fine to me.

## **Add Clerking Program 54.1.8.4 (Marks on Cage Cards) - Dolan**

### **Rationale:**

I think that there needs to be a rule that there cannot be anything to distinguish a cat's identity or other factors on the number card on the show cage other than number, sex, and perhaps breed and color. I have seen clerks leave sticky notes on the cards that indicate when the cat is being shown. Although it should not matter, if a judge sees that a cat is, for example, "Saturday only" on that card, he or she might subconsciously not choose it for an award, as it is not a serious competitor. With other cats that are campaigning, that might signal that the cat is leaving that night to go to another show, and is there that day because there are good odds for awards.

I am certainly not stating that this would ever be done on purpose, but the subconscious mind can have an influence. The judge's book just has the cats entered on the day that judge is judging, so the information about the other days of competition is known only to the clerks and exhibitors. The presence or absence of the cat on other days of the competition should not be displayed.

I personally saw a clerk at [the RAW Show in Corpus Christi in March 2020], do this numerous times. It certainly looked like those cats were singled out. I also heard other exhibitors asking about the notes.

### **Add Clerking Program 54.1.8.4:**

#### **54.1.8 Cage Card Numbers.**

54.1.8.1 Make sure the cards are in numerical order. Be sure there is a card for each entry. If not, make cards for those with no number. Use a broad tip felt marker for this so that the number can be easily seen.

54.1.8.2 Separate the cards into the separate classes (i.e. LH Kittens, SH Kittens, etc.) and arrange in sequence according to the judging schedule. Be sure to check Saturday/Sunday only entries and late pages. Add or remove the appropriate cards. Place a rubber band around each group. In some situations, it may be advisable to subdivide the cards for a given class into breed or division groups and place a rubber band around each group.

54.1.8.3 Ring cards are often provided in pink and blue to denote the sexes. This helps in placing the numbers on the cages so that two males are not inadvertently placed side by side. A word of warning - cards that are pink on one side and blue on the other can be easily mixed up as the day goes on. If the cards are not colored, the clerk should have some means of designating the sex on the card. Be sure that any previous markings are erased or deleted to avoid confusion. A paper clip or removable stick-on dot is an excellent way to mark each card used for a male. If you do not have these items available, mark a small "M" or "F" in pencil in one corner of the card. (It is not necessary to mark both sexes on the cards.)

Contd/...

**54.1.8.4 No individual identifying marks must be visible on the front of the ring card while on the cage in the judging ring to distinguish a cat from any other competitor (except to indicate the sex of the cat, the number of the entry and any club or TICA logo). This includes writing on the card or notes attached to the card.**

**Rules Committee Comments:**

- (A) As a ring clerk, that makes our job easier. I can tell you as a judge, I usually don't even see notations.
- (B) I would somehow indicate that a note on the back would be OK - that isn't visible to the judge.
- Or this is just a training issue.. as a clerk I don't usually put notes about Sunday only or Sat only - I do put notes about exhibitor's requests - end cage, not next to ###, leave a blank cage net to cat, sprayer, etc...
- (C) I just put them on the back when I put the card up

**(Rules Chair note: Wording of the amendment adjusted to ensure that any notes left on the card are not visible when on the cage)**

- (D) I think this is very clear
- (E) Yes, I also agree with this wording. I have never seen nor heard of any clerk making notes like that on the ring card, but keeping them on the back is a good solution.
- (F) I think this rule is not necessary at all but the last wording is very clear.



## Amend “Agreement to Judge a TICA Show” (Airfares) – Board Directive

### Rationale:

Judges are currently required to use the “lowest reasonable available fare”. Airlines have added a new class of “Economy” that boards \*last\*, no reserved seats, and no award miles, and charges extra for any luggage. Generally called “Basic”, this will often require judges to sit in middle seats for long flights and pay extra even for carry on luggage. And while it might not be considered “reasonable”, it is always the lowest available fare. This change clarifies the judging contract to exclude clubs requiring a judge to use “Basic Economy” with all its inherent unpleasantness.

This rule, first presented at the Annual 2020, was referred back to Rules Committee to adjust the wording. Suggestions from Board members were:

- 1) look at it in terms of "very restricted airline fares" rather than class of travel
- 2) reword as “travel via Basic Economy or the equivalent (i.e., no refunds, boarding last, no reserved seats, no award miles, and charges for any luggage)”

Rules Committee, after considering these and other options, proposes the following change.

### Amend Agreement Clause 2a:

2. The Club will reimburse to the Judge the following, in the event the Club has not arranged to pay these expenses directly:
  - a. Transportation costs to and from the Show by air, rail, bus or automobile at the lowest available reasonable rate including any related fees, and on the airline of the Judge’s choice, provided such airline's pricing is competitive with other airlines flying into the airport designated by the club. The Club may not require nor request the Judge to travel on connecting flights when more direct flights are available, to travel on specific airlines, require that the Judge purchase tickets from a specific travel agent, **to travel using a class that is less than standard economy**, or require that the Judge drive instead of fly to the Show if the Show is located more than 200 miles from the Judge’s residence;

(remainder of clause unchanged)

### Rules Committee Comments:

- (A) I like Option #2 better
- (B) I agree - option 2 would cover all types of cheap tickets.
- (C) OK, but I think we need to consider the wording carefully - for example would all restrictions be needed or, say, at least any three out of the list?

Contd/...

(C – Contd)

A club could argue that if only 4 out of 5 listed were ticket conditions, then it isn't a basic economy ticket :)

(D)

2) reword as Travel via “Basic Economy” or the equivalent (defined as a fare which has any one of the following: no refunds, boarding last, no reserved seats, no award miles, and charges for any luggage).

(A)

No - that doesn't work - I'm flying Alaska in a couple weeks and they charge for baggage. Southwest never has assigned seating and no airlines have refunds.

Maybe... “travel less than Economy class ?” I think we can all agree what economy is and somehow include Spirit Airlines (although you can pay to get a bigger seat and carry-on or checked bags)

(D)

How about "less than standard economy"?

(C)

I think that might work better. It might imply people can't go for bargain fares in Economy (e.g. a temporary airline promotion) so would it be better to word it as "travel using a class that is less than standard economy" ?

(D)

That works for me

(B)

Sounds good to me

(E)

Yes, I like that.