

**Board of Directors – Winter Meeting  
Agenda  
January 18- 20, 2023  
Electronic**

**Welcome and Call to Order – Harrison 7 am – 7:30 am**

**Fiduciary Duties - Adler**

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

1. Approve minutes of Aug 31 – Sept 2, 2022 - Annual Meeting  
Correction: Amend Standing Rule 103.3.1.1 was missing from minutes .....2
2. Set Spring Meeting Dates: May19– 21, 2023, Telephonic

**EXECUTIVE SESSION –Judging Program, Business Planning, Complaints 7:30 am – 12 pm**

**OPEN SESSION - Proposals January 19, 2023, 7 am – 9:30 am**

**Proposals – Judging Program – Judging Committee**

1. Amend Judging Program 41.5.7 (Meetings).....3
2. Amend Judging Program Article Nine (Acceptance of Judges from Other Cat Associations) .....5
3. Amend Judging Program Article Ten (Guest Judges) .....10
4. Amend Judging Program Article Eleven (Reinstatement).....14
5. Amend Judging Program Article Twelve (Leave of Absence and Resignation).....17

**Proposals – Standing Rules**

1. Amend Standing Rule 106.4.1 (Advisory Standing Committees) - Wood .....20
2. Add Standing Rule 106.4.1.6 (Standards Committee) – Hawksworth-Weitz .....22
3. Amend Standing Rule1012.2 (Additional Regions) – Vlach/Armel .....24
4. Add Standing Rule 1024.4 (Voting rights) – Vlach/Armel .....26

**Proposals – Junior Exhibitor Program**

1. Amend Junior Exhibitor Program - Rose .....29

**Update on 2023 Annual 9:30 am 10 am**

1. SeaCats NW Region

**Administrative 10 am –12 pm**

1. Update on Legislative Committee – Adler
2. Review Follow-up Report .....41
3. Marketing Report – Fulkerson

**OPEN SESSION, January 20, 2023, 7 am 8 am**

**Breed Standard Changes**

1. Burmilla Group (BM/BML)  
Rules Committee Comments.....42
2. Maine Coon Group (MC/MCP)  
Rules Committee Comments.....  
Presentation

**Fiduciary 8 am – 10 am**

1. Financial Reports – Fisher  
Audit –

**Administrative Continued**

1. COO update - Nevarez

**Other Business and Discussion 10 am – 11 am**

1. Move Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates to the International Region - Vlach

**Adjourn**

## Correction to 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes:

**14.** Unanimous consent by Faccioli to accept the proposal to amend various Standing Rules (Gender Neutrality). Without objection. This change goes **into effect immediately**.

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103.3.1.1 No matter when in a membership year (i.e. May 1 - April 30) a person joins TICA, ~~he/she~~ **they** must renew that membership on May 1st in accordance with By-Laws 113.1, 113.1.1 and 113.1.2.

2017.1 Judges Books. Judges must forward the Cover and the Original (white copy) of all pages of the judge's book to the Executive Office of TICA within 48 hours after the close of the show. Alternately, judges may forward a scanned document containing the cover and all white pages to the Executive Office within 72 hours after the close of the show. The scanned book must be legible, and all pages must be included, otherwise the judge's book will not be considered complete and timely, and the penalties for a late judge's book assessed. If a scanned book is used in lieu of the original, the judge must retain the original judge's book until one year after the close of the show season to which that judge's book relates, and must provide the original judge's book to the Executive Office within 48 hours if requested to do so. A copy of all pages of the judge's book is to be turned in to the master clerk at the proper time during the show. The judge retains a copy of all pages of the judge's book for ~~his/her~~ **their** personal records. At the completion of the show, the Master Clerk will submit the marked catalog and a copy of the judges' books to the Club/Show Committee. Clubs must notify all judges if they plan to use 2-part judges' books and accommodate any judge who desires a 3-part book.

601.2.14 Scores are calculated and entered into the database in the Executive Office. At the end of the show year, the scores are compiled, checked against registration information, and furnished to each Regional Director, who coordinates the awards presentation for ~~his/her~~ **their** region.

903.2.1.4 A sound system that will accommodate a central announcer with each clerk having ~~his/her~~ **their** own connection to the announcer OR a sound system such that each ring clerk may do their own announcements without benefit of an announcer.

905.3.2 Notification to all parties:

905.3.2.1 The defendant is notified by certified mail, return receipt requested, that a hearing date and time has been set and the defendant and/or ~~his/her~~ **their** representative is asked to appear. The Defendant is furnished with all the evidence against ~~him or her~~ **them**. Failure to respond is considered an admission of guilt.

905.3.2.2 When return receipt of certified letter from defendant is returned to FW Chair, petitioner is notified that a hearing has been set. As all evidence should at this time be documented, there is no need for petitioner to appear, although ~~he/she~~ **they** may appear at the hearing if desired.

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## **Amend Judging Program 41.5.7 (Meetings) – Judging Committee**

### **Rationale:**

The Judging Committee was created at the 2018 Winter Meeting to oversee, administer, and update the Judging Program. The Board's intent is that the Judging Committee assumes administration of non-disciplinary matters related to the Judging Program. This includes, but is not limited to, acceptances into or advancements within the program, continuing education, and testing. The Committee may make recommendations to the Board of Directors for changes to the Judging Program.

For consistency Article One needs to include a reference about advancements within the Judging Program. Also 415.12 regarding applications for acceptances/advancements, being considered only at scheduled Judging Committee meeting, was included in Article FIFTEEN and it should be more appropriate in include this reference as 41.5.7.1 as part of Article ONE.

### **Amend 41.5.7:**

41.5.7 Acceptances into the Judging Program **and for advancement within the Judging Program** shall require an affirmative vote by a majority of the Judging Committee members present and voting. The vote of the individual Committee Members shall be reported in the public minutes of the meeting.

**41.5.7.1 Applications for acceptance into the Judging Program and for advancement within the Judging Program shall be considered only at scheduled Judging Committee meetings.**

### **Delete 415.12:**

~~415.12 Applications for acceptance into the Judging Program and for advancement within the Judging Program shall be considered only at scheduled Judging Committee meetings.~~

### **Rules Committee Comments:**

**1. On "other rules affected by the proposed change and to ensure that the proper terms are used to convey the meaning intended and to ensure uniformity of terminology throughout"**

None

**2. Opinions on the merits (or otherwise) of the proposal (i.e. "to review proposals" as per Standing Rule 106.4.1.1)**

(A)

Looks good to me!

(B)

OK here

- (C) I'm happy with this.
- (D) Fine by me too
- (E) No problems for me

## **Amend Judging Program Article Nine (Acceptance of Judges from Other Cat Associations) – Judging Committee**

### **Rationale:**

The Judging Committee was created at the 2018 Winter Meeting to oversee, administer, and update the Judging Program. The 2019 Spring Board Meeting initiated the process of setting the Board's expectations for the Committee and defining the process with the transfer of administration of the new applicant program.

The Judging Committee took the responsibility of:

- acceptances into the Judging Program – 2019 Spring Board Meeting,
- granting Specialty Judge licenses – 2020 Annual Meeting,
- granting Allbreed Judge licenses – 2021 Spring Board Meeting,
- granting the Status of Judge Instructors – 2022 Annual Meeting.

At this point, the Judging Committee is willing to address Article NINE which govern Transfer Judges from other Associations:

- adding appropriate references to the Judging Committee,
- taking the responsibility of granting licenses.

### **Amend JP Article 9:**

49.1 Names of applicants must be published in two issues of the TREND; notices must be received by the Judging ~~Committee Administrator~~ by April 15th for application at the **August meeting Annual**, by August 15th for application at the **December Winter Meeting** and by December 15th for application at the **Spring April Meeting**. Notices must be sent to the Judging ~~Committee Administrator~~. The **Deputy** Judging Administrator will then place the notices in the TREND. At the time of sending notice of intent to the Judging ~~Committee Administrator~~, a new applicant to the Judging Program must send a photograph to the TREND Editor for publication with the notice in at least one issue of the TREND prior the ~~Board~~ **Judging Committee Meeting** at which the applicant is applying. TICA members shall be invited to send comments, favorable and/or unfavorable, to the Judging ~~Committee Administrator/Designee~~ and to the applicant's Regional Director.

49.2 Any judge who is or has been licensed by another domestic or international association who has at least 5 years of judging experience with one association, and who has judged at least 25 cat shows before applying to TICA, may apply to the Judging ~~Committee Administrator/Designee~~ for a TICA judge's license no later than May 15th for application at the **August meeting Annual**, October 15th for application at the **December Winter Meeting** or January 15th for application at the **Spring April Meeting**. The highest level for which **an Allbreed applicant may apply application may be made** is Approved Specialty. **Transfer judges who are not Allbreed in their original association shall apply at the Probationary Specialty level.** Any such application shall include a detailed description of prior training and education and shall be evaluated on a case by case basis. Applications received after the deadline will be presented at the following scheduled ~~Board~~ **Judging Committee** meeting.

49.3 Payment of ~~a \$40 an~~ application fee, a ~~\$15~~ processing fee and the appropriate ~~license~~ licensing fee, shall be **made to** and ~~forwarded to~~ the Executive Office.

49.4 Applicants must meet all of the following requirements prior to submitting their application for a TICA Judging License:

49.4.1 Must be a member of TICA in good standing at the time of application.

49.4.2 Must be a working member of an active TICA club.

49.4.3 ~~Must be a licensed~~ **have served as a Master Clerk at a minimum of two TICA shows with positive evaluations and have** ~~TICA Master Clerk or must have judged a minimum of 5 TICA shows as a TICA Guest Judge and passed the TICA Master Clerk Exam.~~

49.4.4 Be familiar with TICA By-Laws, Registration Rules, Show Rules and Breed Standards.

49.4.5 Successfully complete the applicant examination.

49.4.6 In the 2 years prior to applying, **applicants** must:

49.4.6.1 Attend a TICA judging school.

49.4.6.2 Attend a TICA genetics seminar.

49.4.6.3 Attend a TICA breed seminar.

49.4.6.4 ~~Must h~~ **Have an Approved Allbreed Judge as their** ~~for a~~ sponsor.

49.4.6.5 ~~Must p~~ **Provide** documentation in the application packet verifying fulfillment of all requirements as listed above.

49.5 The ~~Board~~ **Judging Committee** shall consider the applicant's knowledge, ability, training, experience, show and club activity, personal appearance, deportment, attitude and any other factors it deems appropriate and may grant the license in the appropriate status, deny the applicant or require additional work. **Evaluation may require the applicant and their Allbreed Sponsor to participate in an interview with the Judging Committee.**

49.6 All applicants must meet the basic requirements of 49.4; however, as the individual circumstances in each case are different, it is recommended that each applicant be considered separately for any additional requirements. The ~~Board~~ **Judging Committee** may approve the applicant at an appropriate level, require additional work, or deny the applicant. ~~With the approval of the Board, the Judging Administrator may designate someone residing in a particular country/region to act as an assistant in that country/region.~~

49.7 **Training requirements before** ~~#the license is granted; the applicant shall enter the Judging Program at the level approved by the Board, but no higher than Approved Specialty.~~

49.7.1 An applicant who is a licensed allbreed judge in **their** ~~his/her~~ current association at the time of application shall be granted a license only after the applicant has trained with TICA Instructors, handling all cats and kittens in a minimum of six different TICA shows. Prior to licensing, the applicant shall do at least one solo training session handling a minimum of 30 cats, kittens or alters. The applicant **may be required to** ~~shall~~ write breed critiques on all breeds not recognized in the association in which the applicant previously judged.

**49.7.2** ~~49.7.1.1~~ An applicant who is licensed less than Allbreed in another domestic association (~~i.e. an Association headquartered in North America~~) must complete the requirements of **44.3.2., 44.3.2.2, 44.5** and **do** a minimum of **20 training sessions and 2 solo sessions.** ~~half the training requirements in Article Four of the Judging Program. (44.7 through 44.9).~~ **Any other requirements will be assessed on an individual basis.**

~~49.7.2 — An applicant not currently licensed to judge all breeds of cats from a non-domestic association where licensing is by Group shall be granted a license only after training a minimum of 10 shows with licensed TICA Approved Allbreed Judges, six of which must be licensed Instructors, handling those breeds not currently licensed to judge, handling all applicable entries. In addition, the applicant shall do three general training sessions handling all cats and kittens in three different shows. The applicant will stay in the judging ring the entire day for all training sessions handling any additional cats the Instructor requires. Prior to licensing the applicant shall do two solo training sessions handling a minimum of 30 cats/kittens or alters. The applicant shall write breed critiques as assigned by the Judging Administrator.~~

49.8 If an applicant for advancement is denied, the applicant may not apply for reconsideration for one year. **If the candidate decides to file an appeal with the Board of Directors for review, the appeal will normally be heard at the next scheduled Board meeting. The final decision on acceptance or denial is solely at the Board's discretion.**

49.8.1 Upon reapplication the applicant need only furnish proof to the Judging **Committee Administrator / Designee** that any requirements set by the board have been met. The Judging **Committee Administrator** has all the documentation and fee-paid information and will advise the TREND editor to continue the listings in the TREND.

#### 49.9 Advancement of Transfer Judges to Provisional Allbreed

**49.9.1. Applicants who are accepted at the level of Probationary Specialty must complete the requirements in 45.7, 45.7.1 in order to advance to Approved Specialty.**

**49.9.12 Applicants who are accepted at the level of Approved Specialty must have judged a minimum of 10 shows as a TICA Approved Specialty Judge prior to requesting their Provisional Allbreed exam and applying for advancement.**

49.9.24.1 Any additional shows required shall be determined by the ~~Board upon recommendation of the Judging Committee Administrator~~, based upon the judge's background, experience, knowledge of mechanics and overall performance.

49.9.2.2 Must have successfully completed the examination for Advancement to Provisional Allbreed Judge.

~~49.9.3 Must have met the requirements of 49.9.1.~~

49.9.4.2.3 Completed Application for Advancement to Provisional Allbreed, with any attachments, must be received by the Judging ~~Committee Administrator~~ and the Allbreed Sponsor no later than May 15th for application at the **August meeting** ~~Annual~~, October 15th for application at the **December** ~~Winter~~ Meeting or January 15th for application at the ~~Spring~~ **April** Meeting. Applications received after deadline will be presented at the following scheduled Judging Committee ~~Board~~ Meeting.

49.9.5.2.4 If an applicant for advancement is denied, the applicant may not apply for re-consideration for one year. **If the candidate decides to file an appeal with the Board of Directors for review, the appeal will normally be heard at the next scheduled Board meeting. The final decision on acceptance or denial is solely at the Board's discretion.**

49.9.5.2.4.1 Upon reapplication the applicant need only furnish proof to the Judging ~~Committee Administrator / Designee~~ that any requirements set by the board have been met. The Judging ~~Committee Administrator~~ has all the documentation and fee-paid information and will advise the TREND editor to continue the listings in the TREND.

## **Rules Committee Comments:**

**1. On "other rules affected by the proposed change and to ensure that the proper terms are used to convey the meaning intended and to ensure uniformity of terminology throughout"**

The initial draft was revised by the JC, following a number of comments by Rules. The proposal above is the revised version.

**2. Opinions on the merits (or otherwise) of the proposal (i.e. "to review proposals" as per Standing Rule 106.4.1.1)**

(A)

A problem I have throughout the Judging Program is every statement that something should be sent to the Judging Committee - does this mean sent to each member of the committee? Or to one person - like the committee chair, for distribution to the entire committee?

Contd/...



(B)

When this came up before, the answer was that it was emailed to the JA, who would then distribute to the rest of the Committee. A bit like the rules that say "send to Rules and Genetics Committees". Some people send it to everyone on the committee(s) whilst others just send to the Chair(s). I don't see either situation as a deal breaker.

Now under TFMS it is, in effect, submitted to the Committee. The mechanism by which TFMS routes it to the JC (i.e. via the JA) does not need to be set out in the rules.

## **Amend Judging Program Article Ten (Guest Judges) – Judging Committee**

### **Rationale:**

The TICA Board of Directors decided at the 2019 Spring Meeting that any Licensed International Guest Judge appointed before May 20, 2019 will remain as a Licensed International Guest judge, but no new applications will be accepted. After this decision, all the Licensed International Guest Judges, except for one, have become fully licensed Approved Allbreed TICA judges.

At this point, the Judging Committee's recommendation is disbanding this program effective April 30, 2023. In order to grandfather our current judging panel, any Licensed International Guest Judge will be relicensed as Provisional Allbreed Judges on May 1, 2023.

Also regarding Guest Judges judging for TICA, the Judging Committee is recommending:

- establishing an appropriate time limit for submitting applications,
- limiting the invitation of Guest Judges to six shows instead of five weekends

### **Amend JP Article Ten:**

410.1 International Guest Judge: Approval of International Guest Judges is delegated to the Judging Committee.

410.1.1 International Guest Judge. A club may apply to the Judging Committee for approval for a licensed Allbreed judge from another cat association to judge a TICA show. ~~Application shall be made on the official TICA Application for Invitation of International Guest Judge.~~

**410.1.1.1 Application shall be made on the official TICA Application for Invitation of International Guest Judge.**

**410.1.1.2 Application must be submitted to the Judging Committee 60 days prior to the show dates.**

410.1.2 An International Guest Judge must be licensed in the formats and/or breeds to be judged. The International Guest Judge should be licensed as an Allbreed Judge; however, exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

410.1.3 Included with the application, the club must furnish documentation of the international judge's qualifications on the form provided to the Judging Administrator, with a translation to English if the original documents are in a language other than English. Documentation shall consist of one or more of the following:

- 410.1.3.1 A copy of the judge's license.
- 410.1.3.2 A copy of the licensing association's listing of judges showing the applicant judge with their current status.

410.1.3.3 Other documentation or correspondence from the office of the licensing association which indicates the judge's current status.

410.1.4 If the judge is approved by the Judging Committee, the club is responsible for furnishing the International Guest Judge copies of TICA Show Rules and Standards, and working with said judge on interpretation and clarification.

410.1.4.1 Once a Guest Judge has been approved by the committee, any subsequent invitation/application for that same judge and the same show season may be automatically approved by the Judging Administrator without presentation to the committee, as long as the AB license is still valid and no problems have been reported on previous assignments and it will not exceed the limitations as listed in 410.1.5 or 410.1.6.

410.1.5 A judge may serve as a Guest Judge no more than **six shows** ~~five weekends~~ per TICA show season except as stated in 410.1.6.1.

410.1.6 There shall be no more than two Guest Judges per show weekend or 50 percent of the rings whichever is less except as stated in 410.1.6.1.

410.1.6.1 The number of Guest Judges allowed to judge shows in isolated areas shall be considered on a case-by-case basis. Exceptions to 410.1.5 and 410.1.6 shall be considered on a case- by-case basis. For the show seasons 2021/2022 and 2022-2023 only, this provision shall also apply for any show held in any Region.

410.2 Licensed International Guest Judge. ~~A licensed international guest judge must be a licensed Allbreed judge in his/her association.~~ A Licensed International Guest Judge may judge for any TICA club upon invitation without approval of the Judging Committee or restriction of the number of show weekends.

410.2.1 ~~Any Licensed International Guest Judge appointed before May 20, 2019 will remain as a Licensed International Guest judge, but no new applications will be accepted.~~

410.2.21 In order to maintain an active guest judge's license, the international guest judge must maintain active TICA membership with payment of annual membership dues and annual license fee by October 30th of each year, must have a TICA Approved Allbreed Judge as a sponsor, and must pass the annual Refresher Exam by June 30th of each year.

**410.2.2 Effective May 1, 2023 the designation of Licensed International Guest Judge will terminate. Any remaining Licensed International Guest Judges, who otherwise meet the requirements for relicensing, will be considered licensed as Provisional Allbreed Judges.**

~~410.3 Advancement from Licensed International Guest Judge to Fully Licensed TICA Judge~~

~~410.3.1 A Licensed International Guest Judge may apply to become a fully licensed TICA judge upon completion of the following at the time of application:~~

- ~~— 410.3.1.1 Judged three years as a licensed international guest judge.~~
- ~~— 410.3.1.2 Judged a minimum of 20 TICA shows as a licensed international guest judge.~~
- ~~— 410.3.1.3 Obtained a letter of endorsement from his/her Approved Allbreed sponsor stating his/her approval of advancement.~~
- ~~— 410.3.1.4 Passed the Approval Allbreed examination (95 percent correct answers are considered a passing grade; however, all questions missed must be answered again correctly.~~
- ~~— 410.3.1.5 Met any special requirements as set for by the Board or the Judging Committee.~~
- ~~— 410.3.1.6 Must have paid a \$40 application fee and a \$15 processing fee.~~

~~410.3.2 Name of applicant must be published in two issues of the TREND; notices must be received by the Judging Administrator by April 15th for application at the Annual, by August 15th for application at the Winter Meeting and by December 15th for application at the Spring Meeting. Notices must be sent to the Judging Administrator. The Judging Administrator will then place the notices in the TREND.~~

~~410.3.3 Submit the appropriate application and supporting documentation to the TICA Judging Administrator/Designee no later than May 15th for application at the Annual, October 15th for application at the Winter Meeting or January 15th for application at the Spring Meeting.~~

~~410.3.4 Upon acceptance by the Board as a fully licensed TICA Judge, the applicant shall be licensed as an Approved Allbreed Judge.~~

#### **Rules Committee Comments:**

**1. On "other rules affected by the proposed change and to ensure that the proper terms are used to convey the meaning intended and to ensure uniformity of terminology throughout"**

(A)

410.1.5 changes from five weekends to six shows, but then 410.2 still says "show weekends". Should say just "shows" now, for consistency.

**Contd/...**

**2. Opinions on the merits (or otherwise) of the proposal (i.e. "to review proposals" as per Standing Rule 106.4.1.1)**

(A)

In my experience clubs invite Guest Judges when they either are hard pressed to find a TICA judge (remote area) or when they want to invite a specialist in a certain breed for a special show. In both cases, clubs tend to "use" that judge for the whole show weekend rather than just 1 session. That means six shows will be 3 weekends (or even 2 weekends if one of the shows is in alternative format, and that is often the case with remote areas). So this is quite a drastic change.

## **Amend Judging Program Article Eleven (Reinstatement) – Judging Committee**

### **Rationale:**

The Judging Committee was created at the 2018 Winter Meeting to oversee, administer, and update the Judging Program. The 2019 Spring Board Meeting initiated the process of setting the Board's expectations for the Committee and defining the process with the transfer of administration of the new applicant program.

The Judging Committee took the responsibility of:

- acceptances into the Judging Program – 2019 Spring Board Meeting,
- granting Specialty Judge licenses – 2020 Annual Meeting,
- granting Allbreed Judge licenses – 2021 Spring Board Meeting,
- granting the Status of Judge Instructors – 2022 Annual Meeting.

At this point, the Judging Committee is willing to address Article ELEVEN which governs Reinstatements:

- adding appropriate references to the Judging Committee,
- taking the responsibility of granting reinstatements,
- deleting the master clerking requirements since each application will be considered on a case by case basis. If master clerking experience is needed, the Judging Committee will include this requirement,
- setting a time limit on the reinstatement eligibility within ten years of the date of resignation.

### **Amend JP Article 11:**

411.1 Names of applicants must be published in two issues of the TREND. Notices must be sent to the Judging ~~Committee Administrator~~ and received by April 15th for application at the ~~August meeting Annual~~, August 15th for application at the ~~December Winter~~ Meeting and December 15th for application at the ~~Spring April~~ Meeting. The ~~Deputy~~ Judging Administrator will then place the notices in the TREND. TICA members shall be invited to send comments, favorable and/or unfavorable, to the Judging ~~Committee Administrator/Designee~~ and to the applicant's Regional Director.

411.2 Any judge formerly licensed as a TICA judge may, **within 10 years of resigning their license**, apply to the **Judging Committee Board** for reinstatement. **Applications for reinstatement at all levels must be made at the appropriate level** no later than May 15th for application at the ~~August meeting Annual~~, October 15th for application at the ~~December Winter~~ Meeting or January 15th for application at the ~~Spring April~~ Meeting. ~~Payment of a \$40 application fee, a \$15 processing fee and the appropriate license fee shall be forwarded to the Executive Office to be received no later than May 15th for application at the Annual, October 15th for application at the Winter Meeting or January 15th for application at the Spring Meeting.~~ Applications received after the deadline will be presented at the following scheduled **Judging Committee Board** meeting.

411.2.1 **To be considered for reinstatement, all applicants must:**~~Reinstatement as Provisional or Approved Allbreed.~~

411.2.1.1 ~~Must have met~~ **Meet** the requirement of 411.1

411.2.1.2 ~~Must have paid all appropriate fees.~~ **Forward** payment of an application fee, a processing fee and the appropriate license fee to the Executive Office to be received no later than May 15th for application at the August meeting, October 15th for application at the December Meeting or January 15th for application at the April Meeting.

~~411.2.1.3 Must have passed the current Master Clerk Exam~~

~~411.2.12~~ **Applicants for reinstatement as Provisional or Approved Allbreed Judge** ~~Must~~ meet any training requirements deemed necessary by ~~the Board or the~~ Judging **Committee Administrator**, assigned on a case by case basis.

**411.2.3 Applicants for reinstatement as Probationary or Approved Specialty Judge must:**

~~411.2.2 Reinstatement as Probationary or Approved Specialty.~~

~~411.2.2.1 Must have met the requirement of 410.1~~

~~411.2.2.2 Must have passed the current Master Clerk Exam~~

~~411.2.2.3 Must be a Licensed Master Clerk.~~

~~411.2.2.4.3.1 Must s~~**Successfully** complete the Reinstatement Exam no later than May 15th for application at the ~~Annual~~**August Meeting**, October 15th for application at the ~~Winter~~**December** Meeting or January 15th for application at the ~~Spring~~**April** Meeting.

~~411.2.2.5 411.2.3.2 The approved applicant shall~~ **Once approved**, train with TICA **Ring** Instructors, handling all the kittens and cats at a minimum of four (more may be required) different TICA shows, ~~before their license shall be granted. In addition, the applicant shall~~ **and complete** ~~write~~ breed critiques on any breeds **as** required by the Judging **Committee Administrator/Designee**.

411.3 Each application for reinstatement shall be considered on a case by case basis including circumstances surrounding the former judge's resignation, any changes in those circumstances, knowledge, ability, training, experience, show and club activity, personal appearance, deportment, attitude and any other factors the **Judging Committee Board** deems appropriate. The **Judging Committee Board** may grant reinstatement at the appropriate level, deny the applicant, or require additional work.

411.3.1 If an applicant for reinstatement is denied, the applicant may not reapply for 1 year. **If the candidate files an appeal with the Board of Directors for review, the appeal will normally be heard at the next scheduled Board meeting. The final decision on acceptance or denial is solely at the Board's discretion.**

411.3.1.1 Upon reapplication the applicant need only furnish proof to the Judging **Committee Administrator/Designee** that any requirements set by the board have been met. The Judging **Committee Administrator** has all the documentation and fee-paid information and will advise the TREND editor to continue the listings in the TREND.

411.4 If a license is granted, applicant shall enter the Judging Program at the level approved by the **Judging Committee Board**.

411.5 Any judge demoted by the Board may, after a period of 1 year, apply to the Board for reinstatement to ~~their~~ *his/her* previous level of certification **by applying to the Judging Committee** no later than May 15th for ~~application at the~~ **August meeting** ~~Annual~~, October 15th for ~~application at the~~ **December** ~~Winter~~ Meeting or January 15th for ~~application at the~~ **April Spring** Meeting. Applications received after the deadline will be presented at the following scheduled Board meeting.

411.6 Based on present performance **and the Judging Committee's recommendation**, the Board may grant the reinstatement, require additional work, or deny the advancement to previous certification level.

### **Rules Committee Comments:**

#### **1. On "other rules affected by the proposed change and to ensure that the proper terms are used to convey the meaning intended and to ensure uniformity of terminology throughout"**

Rules Committee made a number of suggestions to improve clarity and also consistency. These have been incorporated into the proposal above, with the agreement of the JA.

In addition, following the comments below, specific fee amounts have been deleted as they are already specified in the Fee Schedule in the preface.

#### **2. Opinions on the merits (or otherwise) of the proposal (i.e. "to review proposals" as per Standing Rule 106.4.1.1)**

(A)

I remember Carlos saying that all the fee amounts were to be moved to a table with fee schedule in the preface of the JP. Shouldn't the fees from this part (the \$40 and the \$15) be moved to? It makes sense to keep ALL the fees separate and only references to them in the rules, so we don't have to change a rule every time we need to change a fee.

(B)

I agree that fees should be listed separately in the preface. Having to change a rule every time one (or more) of the fees increase or decrease is really a waste of time.

(C)

I also agree that fees should be in a separate table, rather than in the rule itself.



## **Amend Judging Program Article Twelve (Leave of Absence and Resignation) – Judging Committee**

### **Rationale:**

The Judging Committee was created at the 2018 Winter Meeting to oversee, administer, and update the Judging Program. The 2019 Spring Board Meeting initiated the process of setting the Board's expectations for the Committee and defining the process with the transfer of administration of the new applicant program.

The Judging Committee took the responsibility of:

- acceptances into the Judging Program – 2019 Spring Board Meeting,
- granting Specialty Judge licenses – 2020 Annual Meeting,
- granting Allbreed Judge licenses – 2021 Spring Board Meeting,
- granting the Status of Judge Instructors – 2022 Annual Meeting.

At this point, the Judging Committee is willing to address Article TWELVE which governs Leave of Absence and Resignations:

- adding appropriate references to the Judging Committee,
- taking the responsibility of granting reinstatements if the leave of absence lasts for more than 1 year.

### **Amend JP Article 12:**

#### **Article Twelve - Leave of Absence and Resignation**

412.1 Any TICA judge requiring a leave of absence must notify the Judging **Committee** ~~Administrator/Designee~~, giving the effective date of the leave.

412.2 **If the leave of absence is expected to be less than one year, then all A//** dues and license fees shall be paid, and all refresher tests shall be successfully completed during the leave of absence.

412.3 If the leave of absence ~~extends~~ **is** for less than ~~1~~ **one** year, **and all dues and license fees are current and all refresher tests successfully completed**, the judge shall ~~request reinstatement from the Judging Administrator/Designee.~~ **notify the Judging Committee when they are ready to resume judging.**

**412.3.1 If dues or license fees lapse, or if refresher tests are not satisfactorily completed during the leave of absence, the judge shall be required to apply for reinstatement as set out in Article Eleven.**

412.4 If the leave of absence is **a year or more**~~more than 1 year~~, the judge must **apply to the Judging Committee for reinstatement** ~~make application to the Board to be reinstated~~. Any requirements for reinstatement established by the **Judging Committee** ~~Board~~ shall be completed.

~~412.5 If dues or license fees lapse, or if refresher tests are not satisfactorily completed during the leave of absence, the judge shall be required to reapply for acceptance into the Judging Program.~~

412.65 **The Judging Committee** ~~Board~~ shall consider the applicant's knowledge, ability, training, experience, show and club activity, personal appearance, deportment, attitude and any other factors it deems appropriate and may grant reinstatement at the appropriate level, deny the applicant, or require additional work.

413.5.1 **If an applicant for reinstatement is denied, the candidate may file an appeal with the Board of Directors for review, the appeal will normally be heard at the next scheduled Board meeting. The final decision on acceptance or denial is solely at the Board's discretion.**

412.76 A resignation submitted by a judge shall take effect immediately unless the resignation itself states an effective date, in which case the resignation shall become effective on the stated date. A judge can subsequently withdraw **their** ~~his/her~~ resignation, provided that the withdrawal is made before the effective date.

412.87 Following **the effective date of their** ~~his/her~~ resignation, a judge can apply for reinstatement as set out in Article Eleven.

#### **Rules Committee Comments:**

**1. On "other rules affected by the proposed change and to ensure that the proper terms are used to convey the meaning intended and to ensure uniformity of terminology throughout"**

Wording reviewed and amend by Rules Committee to improve clarity, and agreed by the JA.

**2. Opinions on the merits (or otherwise) of the proposal (i.e. "to review proposals" as per Standing Rule 106.4.1.1)**

(A)

My only suggestion is that for leaves over 1 year for a medical reason, certification of fitness from a doctor should be required.

Rationale - given our aging judging panel, we must be cognizant of safeguarding the health of our judges - and sometimes even though the mind is willing, the body can't comply.

Some years ago there was an amendment proposed that a judge needed to be able to stand and handle the cats in a ring (at a time when we had a judge who was judging in a wheelchair). IMO that is something that the judging committee should think about.

(B)

I agree with (A). Firstly a handler took the cat to the judge who missed that part of handling. My cat was scared as the judge looked him in the eye so it's not safe for the cat either

(C)

I think that is Standing Rule to Show Rules: 2016.4 Minimum Handling Requirements

(A)

Yes - that is in the Standing Rules - but IMO, it needs to be addressed in the Judging Program and belongs with the leave of absence rules.

(D)

I'm not convinced. The provisions of 2016.4 do include requirements to notify the club that has made a contract with the judge concerned. Clubs are more likely to read Show Rules/Standing Rules than delve into the Judging Program.

If a reference is needed in the JP, it should simply be a cross-reference to the Standing Rules.

(E)

I agree. Clubs will not automatically look at the Judging Program rules

## **Amend Standing Rule 106.4.1 (Advisory Standing Committees) - Wood**

### **Rationale:**

106.4.1 was created when the Judging Committee was formed to distinguish between advisory committees and those which took on decisions delegated to them by the Board.

With the possibility of additional Standing Committees being identified to assist members, the wording needs to be amended to reflect this aspect of their work. In any case, the pre-existing description of the Feline Welfare Committee already compromises the current wording of 106.4.1.

These revisions also avoid the necessity of creating an additional classification of Committees.

In addition, the wording should be amended to describe better the qualities required of Committee members.

### **Amend Standing Rule 106.4.1:**

106.4.1 Advisory Standing Committees. The following committees serve in an advisory capacity. **These** bringing *unique* **specialized** knowledge and skills that aid the Board to make more effective decisions **and develop and implement programs and activities designated by the Board to assist members** on behalf of the Association.

### **Rules Committee Comments:**

**1. On "other rules affected by the proposed change and to ensure that the proper terms are used to convey the meaning intended and to ensure uniformity of terminology throughout"**

None

**2. Opinions on the merits (or otherwise) of the proposal (i.e. "to review proposals" as per Standing Rule 106.4.1.1)**

- (A) Sounds good to me - good clarification
- (B) It looks good for me.
- (C) Sounds good.
- (D) I am good with this

Contd/....

(E)

The Standing Committees were set out to bring "specialized" knowledge and skills - they were intended to be part of TICA's governance structure. Our ByLaws/Rules refer to specific Standing Committees - Genetics, Rules, Legal, Judging Committee, etc.

Not all committees really fit that definition; not to say they can't be set up in our Rules, but they don't need to be set up in our Rules. E.g., Junior Exhibitor Committee.

Guess what I'm saying is that we need to be cognizant of the difference between a committee that requires specific knowledge/skill and advises the Board vs. one that is set up to "assist members."

(F)

Looks good to me

## **Add Standing Rule 106.4.1.6 (Standards Committee) - Hawksworth-Weitz**

### **Rationale:**

It has been many years since the TICA Breed Standards have been reviewed for consistency in terminology and formatting. Breeds going through the championship approval process (Preliminary New Breeds/Advanced New Breeds) would also benefit from guidance and review from experienced standard writers for the development of their breed standards. In addition, many of the existing breed standards have not been updated/revised since 2004 (or before), nor rewritten to provide standardization of terminology. This new Standards Committee would provide the needed guidance to improve our written breed standards.

### **Add Standing Rule 106.4.1.6:**

**106.4.1.6 Standards Committee To assist new breeds in developing well written and understandable breed standards; to assist existing Breed Committees with any proposed changes to their standards; act as a liaison between the existing Breed Committees, the TICA judges, and the Board of Directors to ensure that the terms used in existing Standards convey the meaning intended and to ensure uniformity of terminology through the existing Standards of the Association; and make certain all updates and new standards are incorporated into the Standards and on the TICA website.**

### **Rules Committee Comments:**

**1. On "other rules affected by the proposed change and to ensure that the proper terms are used to convey the meaning intended and to ensure uniformity of terminology throughout"**

(A)

Forming this new committee currently exists in our rules; it does not need to be defined in the rules as a Standing Committee.

1. Standing Committees are formed to provide specialized knowledge and, for the most part, are referred to within our rules and regulations as playing a part in governance.
2. Staff work should be done by staff; staff should ultimately be responsible for seeing that standard changes are accurately made and especially that they are included on the website and distributed to the JC for the Judging Panel.

If the intent is to insert this new committee into the process for making/creating/changing breed standards, then I think there should be a proposal that gives this committee a place in a process.

To me, this committee might well exist and be useful, but does not need to be defined in our organization's Standing Rules.

(B)

I agree with your comments (A). I would also add that, at present, the definition of this Committee conflicts with our existing Bylaws and Registration Rules regarding the amendment of breed standards.

**2. Opinions on the merits (or otherwise) of the proposal (i.e. "to review proposals" as per Standing Rule 106.4.1.1)**

(A)

Isn't this what Rules and Genetics are doing now? Why do we need another committee?

(B)

The breeders and their respective sections and committees already do this. I think this is unnecessary as the breeders and the committees are the experts. If the committees want help and suggestions, they ask for it. I don't feel we need another committee to oversee this.

(C)

I recall there was once a guide to breed standards - is this still around as I can't find it on the TICA web site?

(A)

TICA STANDARD GUIDELINES PACKET For BREED COMMITTEES  
can be found here  
<https://docslib.org/doc/7334020/tica-standard-guidelines-packet-for-breed-committees>

(C)

That's all very well - but that isn't the TICA site. I'm not surprised new breeds have issues with writing standards if the guidance is elsewhere! I couldn't find it on the TICA site but a Google search finds it at:  
<https://www.tica.org/phocadownload/Standard%20Guidelines.pdf>

I dislike the implication that any standard that is unchanged since 2004 is automatically suspect. Well-established breeds may not need their standards changed only because much time has passed since the last revision.

## **Amend Standing Rule 1012.2 (Additional Regions) – Vlach/Armel**

### **Rationale:**

The overall membership numbers of TICA have grown since Rule 1012.2 was put in place. With this growth, we therefore need to make a change to the number of members needed to create a new Region in TICA. Currently TICA has over 6,000 members and a total of 15 Regions (including the IN Region), so the average number of members per Region is approximately 400 members per Region. We are suggesting the new required number of members should be changed to 200 members.

### **Amend Standing Rule 1012.2:**

1012.2 Additional Regions. To apply for a full Directorship, a Region must have had a resident membership of ~~125~~ **200** or more members for the past three (3) years.

### **Rules Committee Comments:**

#### **1. On "other rules affected by the proposed change and to ensure that the proper terms are used to convey the meaning intended and to ensure uniformity of terminology throughout"**

(A)

I know this is old wording, but wondering if it should read: "or more members for the past **prior (or immediately prior)** three (3) years"

#### **2. Opinions on the merits (or otherwise) of the proposal (i.e. "to review proposals" as per Standing Rule 106.4.1.1)**

(A)

The ByLaws give the Board a great deal of latitude in creating regions with the umbrella thought that it must be financially feasible.

I frankly think it is past time to re-examine what is both financially feasible in creating/size of Board and an ideal size for an effective governance body. There is a great deal of research available regarding the size of effective governance committees.

(B)

Agree with (A) - and also - the timing of this in the post-covid world seems strange - seems like this should be put off until we have completed recovery.

I asked for membership numbers, and the two regions affected seem to be AW and SA - but there was no information about the number of years that they have been below the new required number.

(C)

While we all know money drives the organization and pays the bills, we have to also remember that one of the founding principles of the organization was it being a member driven organization.

Contd/...



(C – Contd)

Regions are more than numbers; they are identities and cultures.

You also have to be careful how many people sit on a governing body. Maybe it's time to look at a re-organization of the board and members but to eliminate regions and/or directors based on numbers right now is just not good.

(D)

Our current global membership is about 6,400 when we used to have about 8,500. This might be a consequence of the pandemic or something more complex ... we still don't know.

Hence, a proposal about increasing the numbers from 125 to 200 in this context is really a nonsense.

A region is more than a number of members. A region is a geographical area strategically determined by the Board when TICA has a business, that means shows, entries, titles, clubs, judges, etc. We need to be able to see the whole picture.

This proposal is not addressing the whole picture, neither taking in consideration statistics.

(E)

I don't see any merit in changing from 125 to 200 members, especially coming out of a pandemic and with membership numbers down in general

(A)

Setting an arbitrary number in the Standing Rules means little. It is time to consider whether this Standing Rule is even appropriate to continue.

(F)

And membership might not even be the correct criteria. There are other factors: shows, registrations etc

(G)

Geography too

(B)

For the last 20 years or so TICA has tried to keep the regions with similar membership - to keep BOD members representing similar numbers. Not saying this is correct, but that has been the opinion since I was first on the BOD about 18 years ago.

(D)

I always remember the cup that Vickie Fisher gave me at my first Board meeting. The cup was printed with the following quote: "Tradition - Just because you've always done it that way doesn't mean it's not incredibly stupid."

## **Add Standing Rule 1024.4 (Voting rights) – Vlach/Armel**

### **Rationale:**

There are currently Rules in place requiring a minimum number of members to establish a Region with full voting rights for a Regional Director on TICA's Board, but there is no Rule in place on what to do with a Region and their voting rights whose membership falls below this minimum required in 1012.2.

### **Add Standing Rule 1024.4:**

**1012.4 If an established Region has fewer than 200 members by May 1st for three (3) consecutive years (starting 2021/2022) it shall lose its voting rights as a Region but maintain an Associate Director position on the Board. If said Region maintains a membership minimum above the required 200 members then all voting rights and full Regional Directorship will be restored.**

### **Rules Committee Comments:**

**1. On "other rules affected by the proposed change and to ensure that the proper terms are used to convey the meaning intended and to ensure uniformity of terminology throughout"**

(A)

This would be better worded as "**200 members by 30th April**" - since we allow a grace period for renewals and there may be insufficient members as at 1 May but enough by 30 June.

The effective date for resuming a full directorship should also be clarified - I assume that the 200 threshold needs to be maintained for a whole membership year.

I think there are more questions than answers here - how is an Associate Director appointed if their term of office expires during the period and by whom? Should there be a limit on how long an Associate Director can hold office, since they do not appear (under our present rules) to be elected? Should Associate Directors have the same responsibilities (as listed under Bylaw 17.3.1) but not the right to vote at Board Meetings - hence there may be Bylaw changes required?

I do feel that there may also be a conflict with the Bylaws where 112.2 says that only areas outside North America can have Associate Directors.

(B)

I agree that there is a conflict with Bylaws 112.2. If the intent was that the proposed rule would only apply outside North America, the proposal should be reworded to make that clear and in line with the Bylaw.

Contd/...

(B – Contd)

The ByLaws give the Board a great deal of latitude in creating regions and boundaries. The Board makes the decision of what is viable and in the best interests of the Association. The Standing Rule setting a threshold of membership is merely a guideline for the CONSIDERATION of creation of an independent geographical area for governance and communication purposes. There is nothing in the ByLaws that says the Board HAS to create a Region if a certain number is reached. A Standing Rule which is based on an absolute number is in conflict with the ByLaws and forces the Board to take a counter action to one they have full discretion over in the rule that sets a guideline for consideration. It might be argued that this new rule is in conflict rather than being merely a "fair" opposite. I.e., one standing rule does not require the formation of a region but the second rule requires an action resulting in loss of voting rights.

I would argue that the Board actually needs neither Standing Rule and already has the power and authority to make thoughtful decisions on behalf of the Association. If the Board really wants to restrict itself more, I would suggest a Bylaw amendment that does so.

(C)

I agree with (B), the board has the latitude to deal with this IF they think there is a problem.

(D)

I also agree with (B)

## **2. Opinions on the merits (or otherwise) of the proposal (i.e. "to review proposals" as per Standing Rule 106.4.1.1)**

(A)

This is a really bad time to be doing this, in my opinion. As stated before, regions are more than numbers. This would make the board way too fluid in member numbers and a lot of people would lose board member vote and input.

(B)

We are barely out of a worldwide pandemic - a lot of "normal" cat world life was on hold for almost 3 years -

IMO, this is a really bad time to be making this type of change - let's wait a bit and see what recovery looks like in the next year or so.

(C)

I think we don't have enough info to remark on the '200' number - I would need to see each region and it's number of members for the last 3 years to even consider a number.

I also oppose the keeping of another non-voting director - Besides the argument of who would be paying the expenses for meetings, we already have one for the International area - if a region is too small, then move it back to International or merge it with another region

(D)

While it's a good idea to have a minimum number of members required to establish a region, I don't think it's a good idea to suspend the region's voting rights when that number declines. Let's imagine, that a region has about 180 members - those are 180 TICA members without adequate representation, people who cannot urge their RD to vote this or that way on proposals, because their RD has no vote. Members stop being equal and that is NOT a good idea, pandemic or not.

We have a realigning procedure. If a region is really declining in membership for a long time, its area should be divided into other regions.

(E)

I have to agree with (A) and (B)

(F)

I agree with (B). Not appropriate at this time.

(G)

While there may be merit to addressing the governance structure of the Association, it should be done with broader and strategic goals and issues in mind.

I would also comment that such a rollercoaster/instability between voting and not is not in the best interest of the organization. Having an absolute number as opposed to some comparison to the rest of the regions is also neither fair nor wise. If a Region is facing membership issues, it is the responsibility of the entire Board to address those issues and decide if maintaining a Region is viable. If so, the entire Board needs to commit the attention and resources to address those issues.

Additionally, I don't see why the Board would want to hold itself to a single factor without the before described discussion and consideration.

(H)

I like what (D) stated. Why would those paying members less than 200 lose their voice?

## **Amend Junior Exhibitor Program - Rose**

### **Rationale:**

The Junior Exhibitor Committee provided an update of their plans to re-vitalise the Junior Exhibitor Program at the 2022 Annual.

The program rules have now been reviewed and updates proposed as set out below. The main changes include:

- Removal of recommended age ranges from all levels
- Deferring the requirement to own/co-own or lease a cat to Senior levels
- Widening of the achievements at Distinction level to more than just the Judging Program
- Modifying some criteria at various Levels of the Program

### **Amend Junior Exhibitor Program**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

*TICA's International Junior Exhibitor Program provides the opportunity for young people under the age of 18 to participate in the TICA experience and learn about feline husbandry. Participants are exposed to both competition and a continuing educational process as they work their way through Levels of Achievement. The program promotes sportsmanship and self-confidence and fosters an ever-growing knowledge base of feline husbandry, breeds, grooming, and show participation and production.*

*The goals of the program are to:*

- *Educate junior exhibitors on feline health and care*
- *Mentor junior exhibitors as they build their self confidence*
- *Inspire and honor Junior Exhibitors with trophies and awards as they learn about competition and good sportsmanship.*
- *Grow the number of TICA Junior Members.*

#### **ARTICLE ONE – The Role of the Junior Exhibitor Mentor**

**81.1** The Junior Exhibitor Mentor plays an important role in the successful participation of a Junior Exhibitor in this program and the advancement through the levels. The Mentor is required to be guide, counselor, and coach.

**81.2** Qualifications to be a Junior Exhibitor Mentor

**81.2.1** Must be an **adult** TICA Member, **who may, or may not be, a family member**,

**81.2.2** Must be a working member of a TICA Club

**81.2.3** Must be familiar with the Junior Exhibitor program

**81.3** Other considerations in accepting a mentorship are whether it is possible to attend the same shows and be available for support and counseling.

**81.4** Responsibilities of a Junior Exhibitor Mentor are:

**81.4.1** Making sure the Junior Exhibitors are completing their levels and requirements.

**81.4.2** In areas/shows that do not have stewards or Assistant Ring Clerks, the requirements for stewarding/assistant ring clerking may be replaced at the discretion of and with the approval of the JE Liaison. Show management also needs to approve any Head Ring Clerk assignments. Examples of alternatives could include: putting in order and running judges slips to the master clerk, paper towel preparation and supplying the rings during the show, writing a paragraph on steward duties, or a question/answer session with a Head Ring Clerk.

**81.4.23** Helping the Junior Exhibitor accomplish their goals.

**81.4.34** Be a role model. Show and lead by example.

## **ARTICLE TWO – Eligibility for Participation**

**82.1** Participation in the Junior Exhibitor Program is open to anyone under the age of 18. A participant in the Program may remain in the Program until the close of the show season in which they turn 18 years old.

**82.2** Applicants must meet the following requirements to participate in all levels prior to Senior Novice:

**82.2.1** Be a junior member of TICA in good standing.

~~**82.2.2** Own or co-own a TICA registered kitten, cat, alter, household pet kitten or cat.~~

~~**82.3.32** Have a Junior Exhibitor Mentor~~

~~**82.3.43** Complete the *annual* application and parental/guardian “permission for participation” form~~

**82.3** To progress to Senior Novice level and beyond, the following requirement is added to those in 82.2:

**82.3.1** Own, or co-own, or be lessee of a TICA registered Kitten, Cat, Alter, Household Pet Kitten or Household Pet.

**82.3.2** Normally, the cat should reside with the Junior Exhibitor while they are the owner/co-owner/lessee. If the cat is not residing with the Junior Exhibitor due to special circumstances, a note of those circumstances should be made and the dispensation approved by the JE Liaison. The JE Liaison will assign side tasks regarding feline care.

## **ARTICLE THREE – Programs**

**83.1** The Junior Exhibitor Program and Excellence Award.

This program is for Junior Exhibitors that desire to show their cats, enjoying the TICA experience from an exhibitor perspective. Junior Exhibitors may qualify yearly for a Junior Exhibitor Excellence Award. To qualify, a Junior Exhibitor must exhibit in 4 shows a year and provide a letter of endorsement from their Regional JE Liaison. To receive the award, the junior exhibitor must adhere to TICA rules and forward copies of the catalog cover pages and the pages that name the junior exhibitor as the owner or agent to the Regional JE Liaison or Regional Director. The Regional Director shall forward the list of names to the Executive Office.

**83.1.1** The Junior Exhibitor Excellence Award shall be awarded annually at the Regional ceremonies.

**83.2** The Junior Exhibitor Program and Achievement Award.

This program is a long-term, comprehensive program that encourages and challenges the Junior Exhibitor. A Junior Exhibitor may elect to complete some or all the levels, receiving recognition for graduating from each level sequentially. Completion of each level of the program earns the Junior Exhibitor an Achievement Award.

**83.2.1** The individual level of achievement certificates shall be awarded, as earned, with a certificate, by the Regional **JE** Liaison.

**83.2.2** Regional and International Recognition and Awards are described in Article ~~Twelve~~ **Thirteen**.

**83.3** The Junior Exhibitor Program and Achievement Award, with Distinction

~~Additional requirements may be met by Junior Exhibitors who are interested in pursuing the TICA Judging Program when they reach the age of 18. Upon completion of the Junior Exhibitor Program and those additional requirements which would qualify a Junior to apply for entrance to the TICA judging program, a Junior Exhibitor is recognized as having completed the Junior Exhibitor Program, with Distinction.~~

Additional requirements may be met by Junior Exhibitors who are interested in various TICA related pursuits including the Judging Program. Upon completion of the Junior Exhibitor Program and any additional requirements the Junior Exhibitor is recognized as having completed the Junior Exhibitor Program With Distinction.

**83.3.1** Completion of the Junior Exhibitor Program with Distinction is recognized in the following areas:

- Qualification to apply for entrance to the TICA Judging Program
- Excellence in Information Technology (Website, Social Media for shows/clubs)
- Excellence in Humanitarian Programs (Shelters, TNR Clinics, Fostering)
- Excellence in Exhibiting (showing to Lifetime Achievement or some assigned level)
- Excellence in Education (outreach to youth in feline education-Cat Care 101, TICA U)
- Excellence in Individual Distinction-such as:
  - Excellence in Regional Administration (Show Reporters, Regional Websites or Newsletters)
  - Excellence in Show Production and Administration (Show Management)
  - Excellence in Breeding (producing one of more Outstanding sires or dams)
  - Excellence in Science and Feline Health (Genetics/Veterinary Sciences)

**83.3.12** The Extra Requirements Checklist is available through the Regional JE Liaison or Director and can also be found on the TICA Website.

## **ARTICLE FOUR – Levels of Achievement**

**84.1** The Junior Exhibitor Program is comprised of a series of levels, each containing progressively more complex learning and requirements, participation in Junior Exhibitor Rings, and completion of individual projects.

**84.2** The program levels ~~and recommended ages~~ are:

**84.2.1** Junior Novice: Members have enough knowledge of TICA and their breed or household pet to compete in this level ~~up to age 8~~

**84.2.2** Junior Intermediate: ~~8 to 10 years of age~~

**84.2.3** Junior Advanced: ~~10 to 12 years of age~~

**84.2.4** Senior Novice: ~~12-14 years of age~~

**84.2.5** Senior Intermediate: ~~14-16 years of age~~

**84.2.6** Senior Advanced: ~~16-18 years of age~~

~~**84.2.7** Members entering at an older age must complete all previous level assignments and must compete in at least one Junior Exhibitor ring, but no more than three, at each level until their appropriate age level is reached~~

~~**84.2.8** Age limits are a recommendation and members may compete at higher levels than recommended providing they complete all requirements for each level~~

**84.3** All requirements for one level must be met before advancement to the next level is considered. Each level is considered an accomplishment.

**84.4** Junior Exhibitors who desire to complete the program, with Distinction, ~~must complete those remaining requirements which qualify the Junior Exhibitor to pursue the TICA Judging Program. These requirements may be worked on throughout the program~~ **must complete the requirements for the appropriate distinction.**

## **ARTICLE FIVE – Junior Novice Level**

**85.1** In order to participate at the Novice Junior Level, all requirements of eligibility must have been met and application completed and submitted.

**85.2** Requirements for completion of the Novice Junior Level are as follows:

**85.2.1** Show in at least 4 TICA Shows (**either as agent or owner/co-owner/lessee**)

**85.2.2** Participate in a Fund Raiser for the Junior Exhibitors or your cat club or donate a service/time to the Junior Exhibitors or your club

**85.2.3** Participate in 2 Junior Exhibitor Rings at the Novice Junior Level.

**85.2.4** Complete the following suggested project (JE Liaison can substitute age- appropriate project at ~~his/her~~ **their** discretion).

**85.2.4.1** Writing Assignment. Each Junior Novice must submit to their mentor at least two written paragraphs (photos encouraged) which include information about their name, age, grade in school, where they live and hobbies. It should also include information about their cat, including its name, age, breed, and what makes him or her special.



- 85.2.4.2** This project can be accomplished on paper or printed from a computer project, such as a website, or PowerPoint presentation.
- 85.2.5** Create a personal notebook which will contain copies of personal projects, educational materials and other requirements during the Junior Exhibitor Program.
- 85.2.6** Complete the Junior Novice Test.

## **ARTICLE SIX - Junior Intermediate Level**

**86.1** To participate at the Junior Intermediate Level, all requirements of the Junior Novice Level must have been completed.

**86.2** The following are requirements to complete the Junior Intermediate Level:

- 86.2.1** Show in at least 4 TICA Shows (**either as agent or owner/co-owner/lessee**) after earning your Junior Novice level
- 86.2.2** Participate in a Fund Raiser for the Junior Exhibitors or your cat club or donate a service/time to the Junior Exhibitors or your club after earning your Junior Novice level.
- 86.2.3** Participate in at least 2 Junior Exhibitor Rings after earning your Junior Novice Level.
- 86.2.4** Attend at least one school, seminar or workshop after earning your Junior Novice level.
- 86.2.4.1** For purposes of this program, appropriate topics may include, but are not limited to, stewarding, ~~clerking~~, TICA rules, and breed standards. The school, seminar, or workshop must be approved by the Regional **JE** Liaison.
- 86.2.5** Steward in at least 1 show after earning your Junior Novice Level. This does not need to be an entire show/day. It may be counted towards the service requirement as stated above in Article 86.2.2.
- 86.2.6** Complete the following suggested project (JE Liaison can substitute age- appropriate project at ~~his/her~~ **their** discretion).
- 86.2.6.1** Display project. Each Junior Immediate participant must submit to their mentor, and display at a show, a poster project that uses a photo of a cat and label, **as age appropriate, a few of** the following on the photo: shoulder blades, chin, trunk or torso, flank, thigh, forehead/brow, front feet, back feet, head, ears, nose, whisker pads, neck, paws, eyes, back, tail, ribs, limbs, ~~and~~ **or** abdomen.
- ~~**86.2.6.2** Describe in writing, either on the poster or separate sheet of paper, the following problems in structure. Find and include photos of the structural problem, if possible.~~
- ~~Jaw: overshot, undershot and wry mouth~~
- ~~Eyes: entropion and epiphora~~
- ~~Nose: reduced nostril aperture~~
- ~~Spine/Tail: kinked and stiff tail~~
- ~~Limbs: hip dysplasia, polydactyl and cow-hocked legs~~
- 86.2.7** Obtain and read a copy of the TICA Show Hotel Policy and retain it in the personal notebook.
- 86.2.73** Complete the Junior Intermediate Test

## ARTICLE SEVEN - Junior Advanced Level

**87.1** To participate at the Advanced Junior Level, all requirements of the Junior Intermediate Level must have been completed.

**87.2** The following are requirements to complete the Junior Advanced Level:

**87.2.1** Show in at least 4 TICA Shows (**either as agent or owner/co-owner/lessee**) after earning the Junior Intermediate Level

**87.2.2** Participate in a Fund Raiser for the Junior Exhibitors or your cat club or donate a service/time to the Junior Exhibitors or your club after earning your Junior Intermediate Level.

**87.2.3** Participate in at least 2 Junior Exhibitor Rings after earning the Junior Intermediate Level.

**87.2.4** Attend at least one school, seminar or workshop after earning your Junior Intermediate Level.

~~**87.2.5** Obtain and read a copy of the TICA Clerking Program. Retain the copy in the personal notebook~~

~~**87.2.6** Assistant Ring Clerk at 2 TICA Shows.~~

~~**87.2.7** Obtain and read a copy of the TICA Show Hotel Policy and retain it in the personal notebook.~~

**87.2.8** Complete **one** of the following suggested projects (JE Liaison can substitute age- appropriate project at ~~his/her~~ **their** discretion).

**87.2.8.1** Display project. Each Advanced Junior must find photos of a Persian or Exotic, Oriental or Siamese, and their choice of breed (may be their own cat, whether pedigreed or HHP) and describe/contrast the ear size/shape and set, eye color and shape/size and nose type of each of the three cats. Photos are encouraged. **Submit to the mentor for review and display at one cat show.**

**87.2.8.2** Describe in writing, either on a poster or separate sheet of paper, the following problems in structure. Find and include photos of the structural problem, if possible.

- **Jaw:** overshot, undershot and wry mouth
- **Eyes:** entropion
- **Nose:** reduced nostril aperture
- **Spine/Tail:** kinked and stiff tail
- **Limbs:** hip dysplasia, polydactyl and cow-hocked legs

~~**87.2.8.2** Submit to the mentor for review and display at one cat show.~~

**87.2.9** Complete the Junior Advanced Test

## ARTICLE EIGHT - Senior Novice Level

**88.1** To participate at the Senior Novice Level, all requirements of the Advanced Junior Level must have been completed.

**88.2** The following are requirements to complete the Senior Novice Level:

**88.2.1** Show in at least 4 TICA shows after earning the Advanced Junior Level.

**88.2.2** Participate in a Fund Raiser for the Junior Exhibitors or your cat club or donate a service/time to the Junior Exhibitors or your club after earning your Junior Advanced Level.

**88.2.3** Participate in at least 2 Junior Exhibitor Rings after earning the Junior Advanced Level.

**88.2.4** Attend at least one school, seminar, **class**, or workshop after earning your Junior Advanced Level

**88.2.5** ~~Refer to the TICA Clerking Program~~ **Obtain and read a copy of the TICA Clerking Program. Retain the copy in the personal note book.**

**88.2.5.1** ~~Complete the General Requirements of the Clerking Program~~ **Act as an Assistant Ring Clerk at 2 TICA Shows.**

**88.2.5.2** ~~Complete the first level of the Clerking Program as Trainee/Assistant Ring Clerk.~~ **Set up a clerking box with the supplies that are needed to clerk.**

**88.2.5.3** **Ask your mentor, a judge or Head Ring Clerk to review the clerking box and sign off on the project.**

**88.2.6** Obtain a copy of both the TICA By-laws and the TICA Show Rules for your notebook.

**88.2.7** Complete the following suggested project (JE Liaison can substitute age-appropriate project at ~~his/her~~ **their** discretion).

**88.2.7.1** Writing project. Each Senior Novice must submit to their mentor a written report on what they learned while attending **a class on TICA clerking, Show Rules, Bylaws or in their area of Distinction.** ~~a clerking school.~~ This report should include a self-evaluation and a judge's evaluation.

**88.2.7.2** File the report in the personal notebook.

**88.2.8** Complete the Senior Novice Test

## **ARTICLE NINE - Senior Intermediate Level**

**89.1** To participate at the Senior Intermediate Level, all requirements of the Senior Novice Level must have been completed.

**89.2** The following are requirements to complete the Senior Intermediate Level:

**89.2.1** Participate in a Fund Raiser for the Junior Exhibitors or your cat club or donate a service/time to the Junior Exhibitors or your club after earning the Senior Novice Level.

**89.2.2** Participate in at least 2 Junior Exhibitor Rings after earning the Senior Novice Level.

**89.2.3** Attend at least one school, seminar, **class** or workshop after earning the Senior Novice Level.

**89.2.4** Complete the General Requirements to enter the Clerking Program

**89.2.5** Successfully complete ~~the Head Ring Clerk~~ **Exam the first level of the training program as Trainee/Assistant Ring Clerk**

**89.2.6** Complete the following suggested project (JE Liaison can substitute age- appropriate project at ~~his/her~~ **their** discretion).

**89.2.6.1** **Volunteer with a shelter, cat café, pet event or similar**  
~~Set up a clerking box with the supplies that are needed to clerk.~~

~~89.2.6.2 Ask your mentor, a judge, or Head Ring Clerk to review the clerking box and sign off on the project.~~

## ARTICLE TEN - Senior Advanced Level

**810.1** To participate at the Senior Advanced Level, all requirements of the Senior Intermediate Level must have been completed.

**810.2** The following are requirements to complete the Senior Advanced Level:

**810.2.1** Show in at least 4 TICA Shows

**810.2.2** Participate in a Fund Raiser for the Junior Exhibitors or your cat club or

donate service/time to the Junior Exhibitors or your club

**810.2.3** Participate in 2 Junior Exhibitor Rings at the Senior Intermediate Level

**810.2.4** Obtain and read **most recently updated versions** ~~copies~~ of the TICA By-Laws, TICA Show Rules, Standing Rules, TICA Judging Program (if **applicable to desired Distinction**) and add to the personal notebook.

**810.2.5** Show Management requirements (if **applicable to desired Distinction**).

**810.2.5.1** Participate in the planning and execution of a show as a Co/Junior Show Manager. If such position is not available, the ~~Junior~~ **JE** Liaison may substitute a reasonable equivalent at ~~his/her~~ **their** discretion.

**810.2.6** Mentorship. As a Senior Advanced participant, find a person working on any of the Junior Levels and help them accomplish one of their requirements.

**810.2.7** Breeds and breeding.

**810.2.7.1** Select ~~4~~ **2** breeds of interest and prepare a report on the history of each of the breeds.

**810.2.7.2** Prepare and conduct a breed specific or Household Pet presentation of approximately 15-25 minutes.

**810.2.7.3** Show at least one cat, alter or Household Pet, owned or co-Owned by the Junior Exhibitor, to a ~~Supreme~~ **Triple** Grand Champion/Alter/Master Status **or higher**.

**810.2.8** Clerking

**810.2.8.1** Refer to the TICA Clerking Program and complete Level 2 requirements.

**810.2.8.2** Successfully complete the Head Ring Clerk Exam

## ARTICLE 11 – INDIVIDUAL AREAS OF DISTINCTION

Completion of Junior Exhibitor Program with Distinction is recognized in one or more of the following areas:

**11.1** Qualification to apply for entrance to the TICA Judging Program

**11.2** Excellence in Information Technology -Website, Social Media for shows/clubs

- assist 3 clubs with web presence whether social media, summary sheets, TOES Cat Show app, banquet slide show, TFMS or TOES show set up, Regional Meeting Live Stream, Regional Tik Tok Social Media Presence

#### **11.3 Excellence in Humanitarian Programs (Shelters, TNR Clinics, Fostering)-**

- Volunteering at shelters, cat cafes, TNR clinics. Assist rescue groups at Shows; foster; community outreach at events, host food drivers or fundraisers
- Participate in the TICA Therapy Cat Program

#### **11.4 Excellence in Exhibiting**

- Exhibiting pedigreed or household pet cats to Supreme or higher; Consistent yearly exhibitor who displays terrific sportsmanship

#### **11.5 Excellence in Education**

- Cat Care 101
- Assist Regional Director or clubs with CEU or education events (like breed seminars)
- Assist or act as TICA Ambassadors at Regional or Annual Award shows- enlightening public with tours, what happens at a cat show

#### **11.6 Excellence in Individual Distinction such as:**

**11.6.1 Excellence in Art, Graphic Design and Photography:** Submit photos to Trend Editor, Yearbook Editor and/or TICA Newsletters; TICA or show club Instagram pages; assist with ad design for above; breeder pages

**11.6.2 Excellence in Regional Administration (Show Reporters, Regional Websites or Newsletters):** Assist Regional Show Reporters, Assist with Regional Award Powerpoint Presentations, Assist Regional Award Banquets

**11.6.2 Excellence in Show Production and Administration:** Junior Manager or Co-Show Manager; handle steward assignments; work front desk/hospitality, work in kitchen (if available), Master Clerk judges slips runner; assist with TOES; assist with benching charts; assist with check-in; set up/tear down; show final award plaques/bars

**11.6.3 Excellence in Breeding:** Attend or produce a breed presentation which would include genetics/inherited traits and testing that should be done prior to breeding; complete the appropriate genetic testing prior to breeding/co-breeding a litter with at least one kitten who becomes a Grand Champion/Grand Champion Alter or higher.

**11.6.4 Excellence in Science and Feline Health (Genetics/Veterinary Sciences):** Observations/internships at veterinary clinics/hospitals/medical and scientific community; learning about different scientific career opportunities in Animal Care and coursework; attend TICA CEU Classes and Health Symposiums.

**Renumber current Articles 11 (Junior Exhibitor Rings) and 12 (Regional and International Awards and Scoring) as Articles 12 and 13 respectively**

**Rules Committee Comments:**

**1. On "other rules affected by the proposed change and to ensure that the proper terms are used to convey the meaning intended and to ensure uniformity of terminology throughout"**

**Rules Chair Note:**

Rules Committee have made some minor changes in wording for consistency, clarity, or to improve readability. New wording has also been agreed by the proposer to address the situation highlighted by Rules where Stewards or Assistant Ring Clerks are not normally used in shows/regions.

As a result of review by the Rules Committee, the proposer has agreed that the requirement to own/co-own/lease a cat be deferred to the Senior Novice level – this will encourage children to take part without their parent/guardian having to deal with the admin and expense of ownership. In addition, it also avoids the issues around TFMS currently requiring all owners to have their own email address. Minor changes have then been made to ensure consistency with the new 82.3.

(A)

The JE Liaison and Junior Exhibitor Rings are defined terms used throughout the Program but there is no definition of these terms. Article One should be re-titled as Definitions and these two terms defined there.

**[Rules Chair Note:** The JE Committee are willing to address this but were unable to do so before this proposal had to be sent to the EO]

IMO, children should be able to take part in Junior Exhibitor Rings freely without necessarily having to do the full Program requirements. Appropriate definition of JE Rings would help highlight this.

**2. Opinions on the merits (or otherwise) of the proposal (i.e. "to review proposals" as per Standing Rule 106.4.1.1)**

(A)

Some history: The Junior program started out as a casual thing: basically, residing on the website and in the hearts of a handful of devotees. After existing at that level, it became obvious that TICA would have more commitment to the program and it would be consistently administered if it were formalized and enacted into "Rules." Thus, the 2009 adoption.

I'm not sure everyone would agree on what the program should look like, and that IS the question. Is it really just an informal thing, activity, etc. or is it a program. Kids don't just attend Girl Scout and Boy Scout activities and events - ditto for 4-H. To earn recognition and badges and whatever, they have to commit to the program.

Contd/...

(A – contd)

The policy question is ultimately the Board's. I do think, however, that the JE Committee has to be clear in its own thought, before moving forward with a recommendation.

So let me go back to the requirements. So would the JE Committee like ALL kids to be able to participate in JE RINGS but only those applying for and meeting requirements be formally a part of the program and competing for advancement through the levels? Seems to me that we could say, anyone can participate in JE Rings but the rest doesn't apply unless they are a part of the program.

Maybe, instead of saying: in order to participate at xxx level, we could say - in order to advance to xxxx level - or something that distinguishes a difference between participating casually and participating formally.

(B)

Personally, I see this as something akin to AKC's junior handler program. That program has goals as does ours. That being said, everyone is always talking about keeping the fancy alive...this is a starting place. I think the program is good but I do find the re-write a little "tight". I think there needs to be some wiggle room and the JE committee needs to decide, clearly, what direction they want to go.

As someone who spent her entire life working with children and this is coming from the voice of experience...there has to be something tangible to achieve. Children will do most anything that is asked of them IF they can see the end result...like most adults. What's the end game?

(C)

I agree with (B).

It's so important to attract young exhibitors, so I really don't think we should start by making them fulfil all sorts of requirements.

Let them - and/or their parents - make an impulsive decision to enter a JE ring at a show and then hopefully eventually join the program and advance through the levels.

(D)

I agree with (C) completely (I am a past Junior Liaison).

I really prefer a more flexible program that would allow for impulsive decisions and possibly more variety but I believe that the current committee wish to implement something more regimented. Time will tell whether this approach will be successful but I believe that is the current preference.

By the way, one of the earlier reasons for having ownership being required was eligibility for a junior entry discount. I was never wild about the discount as 3/4 of the discounted entries were being campaigned.

Contd/...

(E)

I went back and read the proposal as it was first posted. Actually, none of the requirements say that the JE must show their own cat, at any point. They all say "*Show in at least ... TICA Shows after earning the ... Level*" and "*Participate in at least ... Junior Exhibitor Rings after earning the ... Level*".

So the requirement to own is just that - to own. Yes, if a JE owns a cat, they are, in general, responsible for it ... unless they live with their parents and the parents care for it. Or the opposite - the parents may own several cats (be it a cattery or just a bunch of neuters) and the JE can help take care of all of them, while not officially owning any of them.

Remember, people, we are talking about children, who live with their parents or guardians. There is no way to verify who takes care of the cat(s) at home and assuming that if a cat is "owned" by a Junior, the Junior will take care of it is just that, assuming.

So, I don't see a point, really, in this requirement. And who is to say that a JE, that presents a beautifully groomed Persian or Maine Coon knows how the cat was prepared for the show? Maybe Mommy did all the work?

On the other hand, if one of the stages required that the program participants have to make a presentation about how this or that breed should be groomed for a show... ;)

Also, I want to stress that non-participants in the program should be allowed to participate in a JE ring, same as owners of non-TICA registered cats are allowed to participate in a TICA show. In both cases we want them to "try it out one time" and if they like it - here is the place where you sign up for more.



Task	Date		Owner	Status
	Created			
TICA's pedigree revision to include more genetic information How long a trainee can be inactive before being removed from trainee JP	5/18/2020		van Mullem	Ongoing/New system
	9/4/2020		Lopes	Ongoing
Standard Committee/Mentorship Committee			Hawksworth-	
	9/2/2021		Weitz/Brown/Faccioli	no-update 2022W

## **Burmilla Group (BM/BML) Standard Change**

### **Changes to Standard:**

Permissible Outcrosses: **Asian Breed Group**, **Burmese Breed Group**, **European Burmese**, **Persian Breed Group**

### **Rationale:**

The Burmilla Breed needs to expand its outcross to the Burmese Group and the Persian Group for health and vigor of the breed.

The Burmilla gene pool is extremely small and the breed has seen numerous cases of FIP and other immune compromising disease.

By expanding the Persian to the Persian breed group, the Burmilla will have access to LH and SH Exotic. Under the present standard, only LH Exotic is permitted, while the breed, worldwide, is dominated by Burmilla SH, and the SH Exotic would help to widen the gene pool.

The Burmilla is not a separate breed but part of the Asian Breed in GCCF, where the Burmilla originated. The Burmilla breed will have access to a larger gene pool by including Asians Group in the gene pool for outcross.

Adding the European Burmese is for the sake of the Central Office staff to clarify the use of Burmese and how the breed is accepted worldwide.

### **Rules Committee Summary**

From a Rules perspective, the proposed changes are correctly formatted, although the following concerns were raised by members of the Committee

### **Rules Committee Comments:**

(A)

Whilst the proposed rule change is correctly constructed, I believe that the proposed changes will not benefit the breed in the long term.

The comments regarding the alleged health threats to the Burmilla gene pool really need more evidence than a wide-sweeping assertion without any facts backing this up. Whilst the current gene pool within the US may be small (as a minority breed), TICA is an international organisation and the gene pool outside the US may well be much wider.

/Contd...

(A – contd)

As regards the Asian Group, the rationale is misleading. Most published literature on the breed focuses on the GCCF story and completely ignores the major contribution made by FIFe in being the first WCC registry to award Championship status (1995) and gain international recognition for the breed. Only the GCCF treats the Burmilla as part of the Asian group. All other major registries treat the Burmilla as a separate breed - even those that recognise the Asian group.

(I should add that in the early 2000s I worked with Therese Clarke - one of the founding breeders of Burmillas - as part of the then UK FIFe organisation. She explained to me that the Baroness von Kirchberg who made the first mating wanted to continue working within GCCF to widen the Burmilla to include the Asian group, whilst Therese and her fellow breeders agreed that they would pursue the FIFe route to Championship as a distinct breed. Therese's story is backed up by various sources outside the GCCF).

As a Transfer New Breed, TICA should be wary of moving away from the FIFe standard, which does not permit outcrosses. The current outcross policy was a compromise when the breed went to ANB (and then Championship status) as the ANB application was originally for Category I status. The Persian Chinchilla and Burmese were the two source breeds for this breed back in the 1980s. My understanding is that the only outcross permitted by the GCCF is to a Burmese.

As regards wholesale use of the Persian breed group, the inclusion of the Himalayan seems odd as Burmillas are not pointed cats. I can understand an argument for including Exotic SH as well as the Persian. I am not sure what Exotic LH are since this is not a breed name used within TICA.

I cannot understand why the Bombay should be included. The conformation of the Bombay is different to the Burmese (The BU/BO breed group is a historical one and does not follow the TICA rules for Breed Groups). A solid Bombay would add nothing to the Burmilla conformation, and any solid kittens would be unshowable, except in HHP.

(B)

The fact that the Burmilla is part of the Asian Breed Group in GCCF does not mean that the Burmilla breed will benefit greatly from outcrossing to Asians and I am still certain that this proposal is created as an easy way in for the Asian breed.

As member of the Burmese/Bombay Breed Committee I object to the use of Bombays as outcrosses for them as I do not see any way that the Burmilla will not benefit from such an outcross and none of the resulting self kittens will be registrable as anything other than HHP.

I have no objections to the use of European Burmese as all the cats that would be registered as European Burmese in CFA would be Burmese in TICA and this addition will allow TICA breeders in the US to use CFA registered European Burmese as outside studs, which can be convenient for them.

(B – contd)

With regard to the Persian Breed Group I see the point about Exotic Shorthair (I wish he would have used TICA terminology instead of CFA terminology - we don't have Exotic Longhairs in TICA), but can't see what use the Himalayans would be to the Burmilla, so I would prefer to add Exotic Shorthair rather than including the entire Persian Breed Group.

I have not heard of greater susceptibility to FIP in Burmilla and a quick Google-search gave me this quite new article on the subject: <https://pictures-of-cats.org/prevalence-of-feline-infectious-peritonitis-in-specific-cat-breeds.html>

Also, I agree with (A) about the historical reference. While the first litter of Burmilla was indeed born in 1981 in the home of a GCCF breeder, a Danish FIFe breeder worked on improving the breed and extending the gene pool from as early as 1984 and it appears from all available references (and what I remember hearing from older Danish breeders) that GCCF and FIFe breeders worked simultaneously on getting recognition, which in both cases happened in the mid 90s.

(C)

I agree with (B) on this one.

(D)

From a genetics point of view - there is no justification for eliminating Bombay or Himalayan - Burmillas can outcross to a black Persian - which colorwise is the same as a Bombay - and any Persian can be carrying points.

One of the nicest Burmese I've judged was shown as a HHP since it was a chocolate self, not sepia.

(E)

I have nothing to add.