GENERAL DESCRIPTION: The Chartreux is a sturdy French breed coveted since antiquity for its hunting prowess and its dense, water repellent fur. Its husky, robust type is sometimes termed primitive, being neither cobby nor classic/domestic. Though large, Chartreux are extremely supple and agile cats; refined, never coarse or clumsy. Males are much larger than females and slower to mature. Coat texture, coat color and eye color are affected by sex, age and natural factors.

The qualities of strength, intelligence and amenability, which have enabled the Chartreux to survive the centuries unaided, should be evident in all exhibition animals and preserved through careful selection. The Chartreux has a gentle but seldom used voice and is a calm, affectionate cat.

The robust body is large and well-proportioned but never gross. The shoulders are large and muscular with a well-developed chest giving a solid, sturdy appearance. The males will be more massive than the females, with the mature male weighing from 10-14 pounds and the mature females at least 6-9 pounds. The legs are straight, fine-boned and comparatively short for the body size.

PENALIZE: Severe nose stop. Snubbed, humped or upturned nose. Broad, heavy muzzle. Almond-shaped eyes. Eyes too close together giving an angry look.

WITHHOLD ALL AWARDS (WW): Green eyes. White lockets.

Temperament must be unchallenging; any sign of definite challenge shall disqualify. The cat may exhibit fear, seek to flee, or generally complain aloud but may not threaten to harm. 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), and 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.