

# HIGHLANDER BREED GROUP (HG/HGS)

The Highlander (HGS) and Highlander Longhair (HG) are medium to large muscular and athletic appearing cats. Distinguishing features are the straight to slightly convex forehead, wide nose bridge, blunt profile, and the loose relaxed curl to its wide based ears.

<b>HEAD</b> .....	40 points
Shape.....	6
Ears.....	10
Eyes.....	5
Chin.....	5
Muzzle.....	5
Nose.....	4
Profile.....	5

<b>BODY</b> .....	40 points
Torso.....	9
Tail.....	10
Boning.....	7
Musculature.....	7
Legs/Feet.....	7

<b>COAT/COLOR/PATTERN</b>	20 points
Length.....	5
Texture.....	5
Pattern.....	5
Color.....	5

**CATEGORY:** All

**DIVISION:** Solid, Tortie, Tabby, Silver/Smoke

**COLORS:** All

**PERMISSIBLE OUTCROSSES:**  
Domestic longhair/shorthair, not a member of a recognized breed.

## **HEAD:**

Shape: Wide, inverted pear-shaped head with substantial width to the muzzle.

Eyes: Medium to large sized, set far apart. Set on a slight bias. Slightly flattened or hooded oval in shape. Eye color is independent of

coat color except in the Pointed and Mink Category.

Ears: Small to medium in size, wide at the base, set as much on the top of the head as on the side and as erect as possible. Ears must be firm at the base with flexible ear tips curled back. Loose, relaxed curl with the ear tips more rounded than pointed. No preference given to the direction in which the ears point. Ear furnishings and ear tufts are desired but not required. Kittens may have a greater degree of curl but should loosen by adulthood. In adult males, ears maybe set lower due to jowling.

Muzzle: Full, wide, strong with a definite break. Prominent whisker pads should make the muzzle appear squared.

Chin: Strong and deep. Must align with the top of the jaw.

Profile: Rounded back skull, straight to slight rounded forehead, with a change of direction at the eye ridge, may have a slight curve to nose bridge. Nose, muzzle and chin form a straight line in profile.

Nose: Wide with substantial nose leather.

## **BODY:**

Torso: Medium in size with noticeable depth. Rectangular in shape. Straight back with hips higher than shoulders. Overall muscled, athletic appearance. Males are proportionally larger than females.

Legs: Medium in length, back legs longer than front.

Feet: Medium to large, rounded with large knuckles. Longhair (HG) must have toe tufts.

Tail: Shortened and thick. Bone length must be a minimum of two inches in adults with proportional length in kittens. Should not extend past the hock with the leg extended. There may be extra flesh, hooks or kinks in the tail. Kinks and curls are allowed with no point difference between straight or kinked tails.

Boning: Moderately heavy and substantial.

Musculature: Well-muscled.

### **COAT/COLOR/PATTERN:**

Length: (HGS) Short in length, laying loosely against the body. Dense.

Length: (HG) Longhair up to 2½ inches falling smoothly to the sides, with shaggy belly hair that is longer than the rest of the coat.

Texture: There will be texture variations depending upon the color and coat length of the cat.

#### Pattern:

Tabby: All tabby patterns are allowed.

Pointed: Expression of the underlying tabby pattern is desirable.

### **OTHER:**

Balance: All parts of the body in proportion.

Condition: Should reflect excellent health, good muscle tone.

Temperament: Must be unchallenging.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:** The Highlander is a muscular, athletic cat. Highlander cats come in both shorthair and longhair. Physical characteristics include a straight to

slightly convex forehead and wide nose, with the nose and muzzle forming a blunt look in profile. The curled ear is seen in profile as a loose, relaxed curl. The ears are wide-based and open.

**LOCKETS:** Withhold all awards.

**ALLOWANCES:** Tarnishing in silvers. Kittens may have a greater degree of ear curl than adults. The curl will loosen as the kitten matures.

**PENALIZE:** Ears that are not open or wide based, ears too small or low set. Tail too long or too short. Excessive dip in the nose.

**DISQUALIFY:** Ears not erect. No tail or docked. Full length tail. Polydactyl.



*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.*