

# Minutes of TICA Board of Directors - 2025 Winter Meeting

Location and Date: Las Vegas, Nevada, January 23 – 26, 2025

President, Vicki Jo Harrison  
Vice President, Luiz Paulo Faccioli  
Asia East RD, Hisae Tasaki – *joined electronically.*  
Asia West RD, Jeff Shi  
Europe North RD, Liesbeth van Mullem  
Europe South RD, Kurt Vlach – *joined electronically.*  
Europe West RD, Evita Naumenko  
Great Lakes RD, Donna Maddox  
Mid Atlantic RD, Brenda Russo - *joined electronically.*  
Mid Pacific RD, Susanna Shon  
Northeast RD, Christian Cherau  
Northwest RD, Elaine Hawksworth-Weitz  
South America RD, Mariela Toriggia  
South Central RD, Jim Armel  
Southeast RD, Laurie Patton  
Southwest RD, Laurie Schiff  
International Associate RD, Lisa Dickie – *joined electronically.*

Also in attendance: Susan Adler, Legal Counsel; Frances Cardona, Business Office Manager; Carlos Lopez, Judging Administrator; Danny Nevarez, Chief Operating Officer; Rebecca Torres, Administrative Assistant and Kathleen Han, Translator for Jeff Shi.

*The meeting was called to order by President, Vicki Jo Harrison, at 8:06 AM PST.*

*Dickie was not present on Thursday, January 23, 2025.*

*Maddox was not present at the beginning of the meeting but joined shortly after the meeting started.*

*Adler went over the Fiduciary responsibility of the Board of Directors.*

**1. Unanimous consent by Faccioli to approve the consent agenda. Without objection.**

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1. Approve minutes of August 27 - 30, 2024 – Annual Meeting
  2. Set Spring Meeting Dates: May16 – 18, 2025 (electronic)
  3. Appoint Deborah Kinsley to the Maine Coon (MC/MCP) Breed Committee
  4. Appoint Teresa Logan to the Scottish Fold/Straight (LH/SH) Breed Committee
  5. Appoint Mette-Maaria Saarela to the Russian Blue Breed Committee
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**2. Unanimous consent by Faccioli to go into Executive Session to include Adler, Cardona, Nevarez, Torres, Han, and Stringer. Without objection.**

*Board conducting a Strategic Planning Session on Thursday, January 23, 2025.*

*Harrison went over the Executive Session follow-up report.*

*Harrison announced that the meeting would continue in Executive Session on Friday, January 24, 2025, followed by Open Session after the lunch break.*

**3. Unanimous consent by Faccioli to recess for the day at 5:06 PM PST. Without objection.**

**Meeting was called to order by President, Vicki Jo Harrison, at 8:16 AM PST on Friday, January 24, 2025**

**4. Unanimous consent by Faccioli to allow Carlos Lopez, Judging Administrator, in Executive Session. Without objection.**

*Lopez presented the Judging Committee reports.*

5. Motion by Faccioli/Hawksworth-Weitz to set a hearing for Unangst on the Judging Committee vs Unangst complaint. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Motion by Vlach/Tasaki to take no action on the Tsuruoka vs Yano complaint. Motion carried unanimously.

*Lopez was excused from Executive Session.*

7. Motion by Cherau/Patton to take no action on the Spiteri vs Gulley complaint. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Motion by Patton/Armel to take no action on the Sanchez vs Marks complaint. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Motion by Schiff/Shon to move the Kawahara vs Miyagawa (Koyama) hearing to the 2025 Spring Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Motion by Cherau/Patton to suspend all TICA services for He (Miller) on the Shamaeva vs He (Miller) complaint. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Motion by Schiff/Shon to permanently suspend all TICA services for Grace Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Unanimous consent by Faccioli to leave Executive Session. Without objection.

13. Unanimous consent by Faccioli to defer the Minuet Tall breed advancement application to the Spring Meeting pending the review of the new breed Standard. Without objection.

14. Unanimous consent by Faccioli to go into the committee of the whole. Without objection.

15. Motion by van Mullem/Patton to accept the Siberian proposed breed standard changes pending a positive result of the breed poll. The vote to accept the proposal was tied. Harrison voted for the proposal and broke the tie. Motion carried with Armel, Faccioli, Hawksworth-Weitz, Schiff, Shon, Torrigia and Vlach against and Shi abstaining. **Maddox/Harrison:** The breed group should make this decision. *Note – poll did not pass, see appendix.*

16. Motion by van Mullem/Naumenko to accept the proposed Persian/Himalayan/Exotic Shorthair breed standard changes pending a positive result of the breed poll. Motion carried with Shi and Vlach abstaining. **Vlach:** I would like to have seen the poll results before voting. *This change goes into effect May 1, 2025. Note – poll passed, see appendix.*

17. Motion by Faccioli/van Mullem to accept the Maine Coon/Maine Coon Polydactyl proposed breed standard changes pending a positive result of the breed poll. Motion carried with Vlach abstaining. **Vlach:** I would like to have seen the poll results before voting. *This change goes into effect May 1, 2025. Note – poll passed, see appendix.*

*The Board conducted a Welfare/Health Discussion to identify areas where TICA can make the greatest impact as an Association. Maddox conducted an interactive exercise to explore and prioritize the high-level areas where TICA can have the most impact. This was an ongoing exercise during the meeting and will continue through the TICA Board list.*

*Mission Statement, see appendix.*

*Welfare notes, see appendix.*

*Genetics research report, see appendix.*

18. Unanimous consent by Faccioli to recess for the day at 5:24 PM PST. Without objection.

**Meeting was called to order by President, Vicki Jo Harrison, at 8:10 AM PST on Saturday, January 25, 2025**

*Vlach was having issues connecting to the meeting and joined the meeting shortly after it started.*

*Shi reported that he would have a different translator starting Saturday afternoon, John Mao.*

*Faccioli presented the realignment committee report. See appendix.*

19. Motion by Schiff/Faccioli to exercise the Boards emergency powers as follows: Postpone implementation of any changes to Show Rule 212.3 until the show year beginning May 1, 2026, to resolve the two conflicting versions ratified by the membership. Motion carried unanimously. *This motion was later reconsidered, see **motion #50 and #51**.*

20. Motion by Schiff/Faccioli to resubmit the rule changes that were listed on the previous membership ballot as proposal 7 and proposal 8 to a vote of the membership in the following order with the instructions to only select one because the proposals conflict and the ballot to be presented in the following way: choice 1 do not change Show Rule 212.3; choice 2 will be proposal 7; choice 3 will be proposal 8. Motion carried unanimously. *See appendix for proposal 7 and proposal 8. This change will be part of the **March 2025 Membership Ballot**.*

21. Motion by Maddox/Patton to take no action on the proposal to add Show Rule 23.10 (Multiple Mutations). Motion carried unanimously.

22. Motion by Faccioli/Maddox to take no action on the proposal to add Show Rules 210.9.1 & 210.9.2 (Use of Cat Carriers). Motion carried unanimously.

23. Motion by Faccioli/Toriggia to take no action on the proposal to amend Standing Rule 601.2.21 & 901.4.5.3 (Gender Neutrality). Motion carried unanimously.

*The proposal to add Standing Rule 1012.5 (Realignment) was withdrawn and will be resubmitted at the Annual Meeting – comment from **Faccioli**: we are not making any regional changes in this proposal.*

24. Motion by Schiff/Russo not to make changes, except for Asia West, to the current regional structures until after we have agreed on the rules relating to realignment. Motion failed with Cherau, Hawksworth-Weitz, Maddox, Russo, Schiff, and Tasaki in favor. **Armel/Faccioli/van Mullem/Vlach**: I do not think Asia West should be the one region excluded.

25. Motion by Cherau/Armel to accept the proposal to add Standing Rule 1015.3.1 (Signatures). Motion carried unanimously. *This change goes into **effect immediately**.*

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#### 1015.3.1 Signatures

For the purposes of Article 15 and Article 16 of the Bylaws, physical signatures, digital signatures and electronic signatures may be used. Digital and electronic signatures may be collected through the use of a third-party web site including, but not limited to, organizations that are in the business of providing online petition services.

1015.3.1.1 In all cases a signature by itself is not acceptable. It must be associated with whatever document the signatory is signing.

1015.3.1.2 Physical signatures shall also include scans, digital photos and facsimiles of a signed document.

1015.3.1.3. Electronic signatures shall include, as a minimum, the member's name and their email address (as recorded in their TFMS account). Electronic signatures may be submitted either individually or as part of an electronic file containing multiple members' electronic signatures. All submitted files shall be in a form capable of being read by the Executive Office.

#### 1015.3.2 Fees

The filing fees for recall shall be:

For the President or Vice President \$250

For a Regional Director \$150

For Breed Committee \$ 50

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26. Motion by Maddox/Armel to defer the proposal to add Standing Rule 308.2 (Cattery Name Requirement) to the Spring Meeting providing time for the EO to assess technical capabilities and associated cost. Motion carried unanimously.

27. Motion by Faccioli/Patton to accept the proposal to amend Judging Program Article 1 and Delete Article 20 (Judges' Newsletter). Motion carried unanimously. *This change goes into **effect immediately**.*

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Add JP 41.1.14:

41.1.14 Prepare and send a newsletter, electronically, to all participants in the Judging Program no less than twice a year.

#### **Article Twenty – Judge's Newsletter**

~~420.1 The Judging Administrator shall prepare and send, no less than bi-annually, a newsletter to all persons participating in the Judging Program, all Board members and the Executive Office.~~

~~420.2 At some point during each year, to be determined by the Judging Administrator, s/he or his/her Judging Administrator Designee shall send to each participant in the Judging Program a copy of the annual judge's record form, the judge's refresher examination and a reminder of dues and judge's license fees to be paid by October 30th of each year.~~

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**28.** Motion by Faccioli/Torriggia to accept the proposal to amend Judging Program Article 10 (Guest Judges). Motion carried unanimously. *For brevity, see the appendix for the proposal. This change goes into **effect immediately**.*

**29.** Motion by Faccioli/Torriggia to accept the proposal to amend Judging Program Article 15 (License Renewals). Motion carried unanimously. *For brevity, see the appendix for the proposal. This change goes into **effect immediately**.*

**30.** Motion by Faccioli/Torriggia to accept the proposal to amend Judging Program Article 16 (Penalties). Motion carried unanimously. *This change goes into **effect immediately**.*

~~416.1 Failure to fulfill judging requirements shall include failure to comply with the Bylaws, Show Rules and other rules, including the Judging Program, specifically Article Sixteen, of this Association.~~

~~416.2 The penalty for failing to fulfill judging requirements for the annual renewal of judging license shall be assessed by the Judging Committee Board of Directors on a case by case basis, and may include a fine or non-licensure, suspension, demotion or any other penalty.~~

~~416.3 The following penalties shall be automatically assessed for failure to: unless the judge is an Approved Allbreed Judge, in which case the Judging Administrator shall notify the judge that a hearing shall take place at the next meeting of the Board of Directors:~~

~~416.3.1 Penalties shall be assessed for failure to:~~

~~416.3.1-1 Satisfactorily complete the Annual Refresher **Test by June 30th.**~~

~~416.3.1-2 Pay membership dues and/or license fees by October 30th.~~

~~416.3.1-3 Forward a complete Judge's Yearly Record form by June 30th.~~

~~416.3.1-4 **Forward Provide** judges' books to the Executive Office within 48 or 72 hours **per as required by** Standing Rule 2017.1~~

~~416.3.1-5 Properly **notify respond** to the Executive Office **with an appropriate correction within 10 days**, show committee and the appropriate exhibitors, upon notification by the Executive Office that a mistake which requires correction has been made in a judge's book, **of the correction within 10 days.**~~

~~416.3.1-6 Provide the Yearbook Editor with a new picture every 3 years.~~

~~416.43.2 Penalties:~~

~~416.43.2-1 First offense – \$25 fine and letter of reprimand from the Judging Administrator.~~

~~416.43.2-2 Second offense (within any 12-month period) – \$50 fine.~~

~~416.43.2-3 Further offenses – may include, but are not limited to, **an additional fine or non-licensure, or a referral to the Board for possible disciplinary action**, suspension, demotion or any other penalty, except that an Approved Allbreed Judge may not be demoted without a hearing.~~

~~416.53.3 Extenuating circumstances, when applicable, shall be taken into consideration.~~

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**31.** Motion by Faccioli/Torriggia to accept the proposal to amend Judging Program Article 17 (Code of Ethics). Motion carried unanimously. *For brevity, see the appendix for the proposal. This change goes into **effect immediately**.*

**32.** Motion by Faccioli/Torriggia to accept the proposal to amend Judging Program Article 18 (Discipline). Motion carried unanimously. *For brevity, see the appendix for the proposal. This change goes into **effect immediately**.*

**33.** Motion by Faccioli/Torriggia to accept the proposal to delete Judging Program Article 19 (Household Pet Judging Program). Motion carried unanimously. *This change goes into **effect immediately**.*

~~Article Nineteen – Household Pet Judging Program~~

~~(Note: Any judge who holds a Household Pet judging license on May 1, 2004 may retain his/her license by continuing to fulfill the annual requirements for relicensing of all judges as stated in the Judging Program, Article Fourteen.)~~

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**34.** Motion by Faccioli/Patton to take no action on the proposal to amend Clerking Program 51.2.4.3.5 (Clerking requirements for Judges). Motion carried unanimously.

**35.** Motion by Cherau/Naumenko to accept the proposal to amend Junior Exhibitor Program 83.1 (JE Excellence Award) as amended. Motion carried unanimously. *This change goes into **effect immediately**.*

~~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 be exhibitor in four (4) shows a year~~ **must show in a minimum of two shows per show season** and **have been** provided a letter of endorsement from their JE Regional 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/co-owner or agent to the JE Regional Liaison ~~or Regional Director.~~ **for their records. If the Junior Exhibitor is utilizing a different cat/breed in the**~~

Junior Exhibitor Ring, it should be noted on the Evaluation Form by the Liaison (or responsible party). The Regional Liaison will then forward the Junior Exhibitor names in points order to the Regional Director. 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 Award ceremonies.

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**36. Motion by Cherau/Patton to accept the proposal to amend Junior Exhibitor Program 813.2 and add new 813.3 (Extra Points). Motion carried unanimously. *This change goes into effect immediately.***

813.2 Extra Points Junior Exhibitors may earn additional points for activities related directly to shows and activities related to certain activities outside of a show.

813.2.1 Show Related A maximum of 150 extra points will be awarded per show, up to a maximum of seven (7) shows per season, Extra points are earned at shows for the completion of the following activities, as approved by Show Management on the JE Junior Exhibitor Extra Points Activity form.

813.2.1.1 Ring Clerk: half day (25 pts); 1 day (50 25 pts); 2 days (100 50 pts); 3 days (150 75 pts)

813.2.1.2 Ring Steward: ½ day (10 pts); 1 day (25 pts); 2 days (50 pts); 3 days (75 pts)

813.2.1.3 Show set-up/break-down: (25 50 pts) set-up or break-down only; (50 100 pts) for both

813.2.1.4 Show hospitality: ½ day (10 pts); 1 day (25 pts); 2 days (50 pts); 3 days (75 pts)

813.2.1.5 Master Clerk: ~~75 pts~~ Solo 1 day (50 pts); 2 days (100 pts); 3 days (150 pts); Co-Master Clerk 1 day (25 pts); 2 days (50 pts); 3 days (75 pts)

813.2.1.6 Entry Clerk: ~~75 pts~~ Solo (150 pts)/Co-Entry Clerk (75 pts)

813.2.1.7 Co/Junior Show Manager: (75 pts)

813.2.1.8 Front Gate Admissions/Visitor Meet and Greets: (50 pts)

813.2.1.9 Show Raffle Ticket Sales: (25 pts)

813.2.1.10 Show Website/Social Media Postings: Up To (75 pts) dependent on work performed

813.2.2 Extra Curricular/Outside Show Hall Points Extracurricular points are earned at events outside the show hall and are not show specific. A maximum of 100 extracurricular points will be awarded per show season as approved by the Regional Liaison on the Junior Exhibitor Extracurricular Points form.

813.2.2.1 Manning TICA Booth at Pet Expo/Vet Conferences (50 pts)

813.2.2.2 Attending Cat Related Seminars (50 pts)

813.2.2.3 Volunteering at feline rescues, cat cafes or similar institutions (50 pts)

813.2.2.4 Hosting Cat Care 101 at outside show hall events (25 Pts)

~~813.2.2 A maximum of 150 extra point will be awarded per show at a maximum of seven (7) shows.~~

813.3 Cumulative show season scores are the sum of the following:

813.3.1 The top 7 JE ring scores for the season; and

813.3.2 ~~Any extra~~ Extra show points from a maximum of seven (7) shows and extracurricular points, as earned in accordance with JE Program ~~Room~~ Rule 813.2.

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**37. Motion by Cherau/Naumenko to accept the proposal to amend Junior Exhibitor Program 83.3 (Excellence Categories). Motion carried unanimously. *This change goes into effect immediately.***

83.3 The Junior Exhibitor Program and Achievement Award, 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 additional requirements, the Junior Exhibitor is recognized as having completed the Junior Exhibitor Program with Distinction.

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 of youth in feline education (Cat Care 101, TICAU)

Excellence in Individual Distinction such as:

**Excellence in Art, Graphic Design and Photography – Photos, Catalogue Covers, Inserts, Ad Design**

Excellence in Regional Administration (show reporters, regional websites or newsletters)

Excellence in Show Production and Administration (show management)

Excellence in Breeding (producing one or more Outstanding Sires or Dams)

Excellence in Science and Feline Health (genetics/veterinary sciences)

Excellence in Clerking (license in Head Ring and Master Clerking)

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*van Mullem gave update on the 2025 Annual - TICACATS - Dresden, Germany, EN Region. See appendix.*

*Fisher presented the 2024 Audit report and financial reports. See appendix.*

*Note - the audit report for June 30, 2024, was received.*

*Note – the financial reports were received.*

**38.** Motion by Cherau/van Mullem to approve the Genetics Committee Chair payment of hotel fees up to 2 nights. Motion carried unanimously.

**39.** Motion by Cherau/Armel for the Genetics Committee Chair to receive full reimbursement for airfare and travel costs. Motion carried unanimously.

**40.** Motion by Cherau/Faccioli to approve the per diem rates for the Genetics Committee chair up to 3 days as follows: \$86 per day and \$64.50 travel days. Motion carried unanimously.

**41.** Motion by Cherau/Faccioli to approve the Judging Committee Chair payment of hotel fees up to 3 nights. Motion carried unanimously.

**42.** Motion by Cherau/Patton for the Judging Committee Chair to receive full reimbursement for airfare and travel costs. Motion carried unanimously. Motion carried unanimously.

**43.** Motion by Cherau/Faccioli to approve the per diem rates for the Judging Committee Chair up to 4 days as follows: \$86 per day and \$64.50 travel days. Motion carried unanimously. Motion carried unanimously.

**44.** Motion by Cherau/Faccioli to approve Board Members payment of hotel fees for up to 5 nights. Motion carried unanimously.

**45.** Motion by Cherau/Armel for the Board Members attending the meeting to receive full reimbursement for airfare and travel costs. Motion carried unanimously.

**46.** Motion by Cherau/Faccioli to approve the per diem rates for the Board up to 6 days as follows: \$86 per day and \$64.50 travel days. Motion carried unanimously.

*Nevarez presented the COO report, see appendix.*

**47.** Unanimous consent by Faccioli to recess for the day at 4:01 PM PST. Without objection.

**Meeting was called to order by President, Vicki Jo Harrison, at 8:10 AM PST on Sunday, January 26, 2025**

Vlach was not present at the beginning of the meeting but joined shortly after the meeting started.

*Harrison went over the public follow-up report. See appendix.*

*Patton left the meeting to catch her flight but joined electronically.*

*Committee Updates:*

*Annual committee – will have a report at the Spring Meeting.*

*Rules update/archive – no current update.*

*Junior Exhibitor program update – proposals passed; next step is to work on updating forms for our website.*

*Mentor program update – no current update.*

*Project Committee Updates – no current update – will start working on these projects after this meeting.*

*Club Toolbox*

*Educational Portal*

*Translation project*

**48.** Motion by Armel/Shon to return the 3K that was returned to TICA by the Southeast region to The Balk Creek Relief charity. Motion carried unanimously.

**49.** Motion by Armel/Faccioli to allocate 5K to the Southwest region for fires relief. Motion carried unanimously.

**50.** Motion by Russo/Faccioli to reconsider motion **#19**. Motion carried unanimously.

**51.** Motion by Schiff/Faccioli to exercise the Boards emergency powers as follows: Postpone implementation of any changes to Show Rule 212.3 until the show year beginning May 1, 2026, to resolve the two conflicting versions ratified by the membership. Motion carried unanimously. *This change will be part of the **March 2025 Membership Ballot**.*

**52.** Unanimous consent by Faccioli to go out of the committee of the whole. Without objection.

**53.** Unanimous consent by Faccioli to go into Executive Session to include Adler, Cardona, Nevarez, Torres, and Mao. Without objection.

**54.** Unanimous consent by Faccioli to leave Executive Session. Without objection.

**55.** Unanimous consent by Faccioli to adjourn at 11:51 AM PST. Without objection.