



2020 Special Meeting Minutes

Appendix

[Abstract](#)

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Proposal to Amend Standards – Attachment

List below the current wording to the standard to be amended:

1. **COLORS:** Brown Tabby, Seal Sepia Tabby, Seal Mink Tabby, Seal Lynx Point, Black Silver Tabby, Seal Silver Sepia Tabby, Seal Silver Mink Tabby, Seal Silver Lynx Point. Spotted or Marbled Patterns ONLY
2. **PATTERN:** Spotted or Marbled.
3. **COAT/COLOR/PATTERN:** Brown Tabby: All variations of brown are allowed. Markings various shades of brown to black. Light spectacles encircling the eyes and a virtually white ground color on the whisker pads, chin, chest, belly and inner legs is desirable.

Seal Sepia Tabby, Seal Mink Tabby, and Seal Lynx Point Tabby: Pattern can be various shades of brown. There should be very little or no difference between the color of the body (pattern) markings and point color.

List below the changes to the current standard (include revised wording):

1. **COLORS:** Brown Tabby, Seal Sepia Tabby, Seal Mink Tabby, Seal Lynx Point, Black Silver Tabby, Seal Silver Sepia Tabby, Seal Silver Mink Tabby, Seal Silver Lynx Point. **Spotted, marbled, charcoal spotted and charcoal marbled patterns only.**
2. **PATTERN:** **Spotted, marbled, charcoal spotted and charcoal marbled patterns only.**
3. **COAT/COLOR/PATTERN:** Brown Tabby: All variations of brown are allowed. Markings various shades of brown to black. Light spectacles encircling the eyes and a virtually white ground color on the whisker pads, chin, chest, belly and inner legs is desirable.

SeeTICAUniformColorDescription(71.8.3).

Seal Sepia Tabby, Seal Mink Tabby, and Seal Lynx Point Tabby: Pattern can be various shades of brown. There should be very little or no difference between the color of the body (pattern) markings and point color.

Charcoal Tabby: The face should include a mask that is dark in color. It should run over the nose and connect at the cheekbones. In addition, the eyes shall be encircled by near white colored goggles. There should be a broad dark dorsal stripe running the length of the back (preferable but not required in the color point series ONLY).

Rationale for proposed change:

Charcoal is a wild derived trait which can be traced back to even the earliest examples of the Bengal breed from the 1980s and in recent years has been selectively bred and developed to create a very distinctive appearance setting it apart from its respective counterparts. As the breed has long since celebrated these unique traits derived from its wild ancestry (such as the whited tummy), we feel that the charcoal's distinctive appearance differentiates it from its respective counterparts enough to establish a separate categorization to allow for it to be judged appropriately and appreciated for its uniqueness.

BENGAL BREED GROUP (BG/BGL) HEAD	35 points
Shape	6
Ears	6
Eyes	5
Chin	3
Muzzle.....	4
Nose	2
Profile	6
Neck	3
BODY	30 points
Torso.....	5
Legs	4
Feet	4
Tail	5
Boning.....	6
Musculature	6
COAT/COLOR/PATTERN	35 points
Texture	
Pattern	15
Color	10

CATEGORIES: All.
DIVISION: Tabby, Silver/Smoke.
COLORS: Brown Tabby, Seal Sepia Tabby, Seal Mink Tabby, Seal Lynx Point, Black Silver Tabby, Seal Silver Sepia Tabby, Seal Silver Mink Tabby, Seal Silver Lynx Point.
Spotted, Marbled, Charcoal Spotted, Charcoal Marbled Patterns ONLY. PERMISSIBLE OUTCROSSES: None.

HEAD:

BG Shape: Broad modified wedge with rounded contours. Longer than it is wide. Slightly small in proportion to body, but not to be taken to extreme. The skull behind the ears makes a gentle curve and flows into the neck. Allowance to be made for jowls in adult males. Overall look of the head should be as distinct from the domestic cat as possible.

BGL Shape: Broad modified wedge with rounded contours. Longer than it is wide. Slightly small in proportion to body, but not to be taken to extreme. The skull behind the ears makes a gentle curve and flows into the neck. Allowance to be made for jowls in adult males.

Feathering behind the ears and into ruff, giving a frontal effect of roundness framing the head is desirable. A mane is acceptable but not required. Overall look of the head should be as distinct from the domestic cat as possible.

BG Ears: Medium to small, relatively short, with wide base and rounded tops. Set as much on side as top of head, following the contour of the face in the frontal view, and pointing forward in the profile view. Light horizontal furnishings acceptable; lynx tipping undesirable.

BGL Ears: Medium to small, relatively short, with wide base and rounded tops. Set as much on side as top of head, following the contour of the face in the frontal view, and pointing forward in the profile view. Horizontal furnishings are desirable. Lynx tipping is permissible.

Eyes: Oval, almost round. Large, but not bugged. Set wide apart, back into face, and on slight bias toward base of ear. Eye color independent of coat color

except in the lynx points. The more richness and depth of color the better.

Chin: Strong chin, aligns with tip of nose in profile.

Muzzle: Full and broad, with large, prominent whisker pads and high, pronounced cheekbones. Slight muzzle break at the whisker pads.

Nose: Large and wide; slightly puffed nose leather.

Profile: Curve of the forehead should flow into the bridge of the nose with no break. Bridge of nose extends above the eyes; the line of the bridge extends to the nose tip, making a very slight, to nearly straight, concave curve.

Neck: Long, substantial, muscular; in proportion to the head and body.

BODY:

Torso: Long and substantial, not oriental or foreign. Medium to large (but not quite as large as the largest domestic breed).

BG Legs: Medium length, slightly longer in the back than in the front.

BGL Legs: Medium length, slightly longer in the back than in the front. Britches should be medium to short. Toe hair is acceptable.

Feet: Large, round, with prominent knuckles.

BG Tail: Medium length, thick, tapered at the end with a rounded tip.

BGL Tail: Medium length, thick, tapered at the end with a rounded tip. The tail hair should be long and voluminous. Allowance for shorter tail hair in kittens.

Boning: Sturdy, firm; never delicate.

Musculature: Very muscular, especially in the males, one of the most distinguishing features.

Revised 05/01/17 **Bengal Breed Group Standard, 05/01/2017 COAT/COLOR/PATTERN:**

BG Length: Short to medium.

Allowance for slightly longer coat in kittens.

BGL Length: The coat should be medium to long in length lying close to the body, with furnishings. Allowance for slightly shorter coat in kittens.

Texture: Dense and luxurious, closely lying, unusually soft and silky to the touch.

Patterns: Spotted, Marbled, Charcoal Spotted, Charcoal Marbled Spotted: Spots shall be random, or

aligned horizontally. Rosettes showing two distinct colors or shades, such as paw print shaped, arrowhead shaped, doughnut or half-doughnut shaped or clustered are preferred to single spotting but not required. Contrast with ground color must be extreme, giving distinct pattern and sharp edges.

Strong, bold chin strap and mascara markings desirable. Virtually white undersides and belly desirable. Blotchy horizontal shoulder streaks, spotted legs and spotted or rosetted tail are desirable. Belly must be spotted.

Marbled: See TICA Uniform Color Description (74.1.1.2.1).

Charcoal Spotted/Marbled: See TICA Uniform Color Description (71.8.3). **Colors:** Brown Tabby: All variations of brown are allowed. Markings various shades of brown to black. Light spectacles encircling the eyes and a virtually white ground color on the whisker pads, chin, chest, belly and inner legs is desirable.

Seal Sepia Tabby, Seal Mink Tabby, and Seal Lynx Point Tabby: Pattern can be various shades of brown. There should be very little or no difference between the color of the body (pattern) markings and point color.

GENERAL: The goal of the Bengal breeding program is to create a domestic cat which has physical features distinctive to the small forest-dwelling wildcats, and with the loving, dependable temperament of the domestic cat. Keeping this goal in mind, judges shall give special merit to those characteristics in the appearance of the Bengal which are distinct from those found in other domestic cat breeds. A Bengal cat is an athletic animal, alert to its surroundings; a friendly, curious, confident cat with strength, agility, balance and grace. It is a medium to large cat which exhibits a very muscular and solid build. Its wide nose with prominent whisker pads and large oval, almost round eyes in a slightly small head enhance the wild appearance and expressive nocturnal look. Its very slight, to nearly straight, concave profile and relatively short ears with wide base and rounded tips add to the Bengal's distinctive and unique appearance. The short, dense coat has a uniquely soft and silky feel. The coat may be glittered or not glittered, with neither type to be given preference. A thick, low-set, medium-length tail adds balance to the cat. **ALLOWANCES:** Smaller size, in balanced proportion, of females. Slightly longer coat in kittens. Jowls in adult males. Eyes slightly almond shaped. Mousy undercoat. Paw pads not consistent with color group description.

PENALIZE: Spots on body running together vertically forming a mackerel tabby pattern on spotted cats; circular bulls-eye pattern on marbled cats; substantially darker point color (as compared to color of body markings) in Seal Sepia, Seal Mink, or Seal Lynx Point cats **EXCEPT in the case of any Charcoal Sepia, Charcoal Mink or Charcoal Lynx Point cats.** Any distinct locket on the neck, chest, abdomen or any other area.

WITHHOLD ALL AWARDS (WW): Belly not patterned.

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.

TICA Ragdoll Proposed Standard Changes

Submitted for the 2020 Spring Meeting

The following changes are submitted by the Ragdoll Breed Committee on behalf of the Ragdoll Breed Section for approval by the TICA Board of Directors after discussion by the Rules and Genetics Committee as well as a poll of the entire Breed Section.

Head

1. Proposed Change: Shape

Current:

Broad modified wedge, with slightly rounded contours, slightly rounded forehead (not domed), appearance of flat plane in area between ears, skull medium in size.

Proposed:

Broad modified wedge, with slightly rounded contours, with the appearance of a flat plane in area between ears when looking at the head from the front, skull medium in size.

Rationale:

The TICA Guidelines for Standards writes that head shape should be described as seen from head-on, not in profile. The words "slightly rounded forehead (not domed)" belong in the profile description, as they cannot be seen from head-on.

2. Proposed Change: Eyes

Current:

Blue, large, oval, moderately wide-set, outer aperture to fall in line with base of ear.

Proposed:

Blue, deeper color preferred. Large, oval, moderately wide set. Emphasis should be on correct shape, size and placement.

Rationale:

We would like to add the description "deeper preferred" to correspond to the UCD and make our standard more specific as to what our ideal is. However, we would also like to emphasize that correct shape, size and placement are more important overall than color. The breed committee would like to remove the "outer aperture to fall in line with base of the ear" because after testing it through many photos and examples, we feel it is inaccurate.

3. Proposed Change: Chin

Current:

Well-developed.

Proposed:

well-developed, with good depth, forming a perpendicular line with the upper lip and tip of the nose.

Rationale:

We feel this wording is clearer in its description of the chin we want to see on a Ragdoll.

4. Proposed Change: Profile

Current:

Chin well-developed in line with nose. Straight nose to bridge followed by change of direction to gentle curve to brow. Appearance of flat plane between ears.

Proposed:

Straight nose to bridge, followed by a concave curve to the brow. Convex curve to the forehead. Appearance of a flat plane between the ears.

Rationale:

Remove chin description, because it is already covered in the section "chin", no need to have it twice. Replacing "change of direction" with "concave curve" because a poll of TICA judges confirmed unanimously that it is a more accurate description. Also, the Ragdoll breed standards of WCF, CFA, LOOF and FIFe also use "curve", not one uses "change of direction". Promotes consistency among standards of varying associations. Adding "convex curve to the forehead" to clarify that the forehead is not flat, only the top of the head between the ears has the appearance of a flat plane.

Coat

5. Proposed Change: Length

Current:

Semi-long, allow for shorter coats on unaltered adults and seasonal variations.

Proposed:

Semi-long, allow for shorter coats on unaltered adults and seasonal variations. Correct coat texture is more important than coat length.

Rationale:

Correct coat texture is essential to keeping the Ragdoll coat low maintenance and non-matting. It should be given more consideration than the overall length of the coat.

6. Proposed Change: Texture

Current:

Silky soft, plush. Minimal undercoat gives the coat body, but coat still falls smoothly. Not wooly or cottony.

Proposed:

Silky soft. Minimal undercoat gives the coat body, but coat still falls smoothly. Not wooly or cottony.

Rationale:

After asking judges at a RD breed seminar what they thought of our coat description, they agreed that the word "plush" should be removed, as this word is used in the British Shorthair/British Longhair standard to describe their coat, and is not a correct descriptor for our breed.

Color

7. Proposed Change: Bicolor Pattern

Current:

Feet and Legs: All white preferred. Small spots of point color allowable.

Paw Pads: Pink preferred, but mixture of color on paw pads acceptable because of two colors in pattern.

Proposed:

Feet and Legs: All white preferred.

Paw Pads: Pink preferred.

Rationale:

The pattern description should clearly describe the ideal pattern. Any allowances for less than perfect should be in the allowances section. Also, the current wording allows for spots of point color on the feet, legs, and paw pads on a bicolor only. If allowances are to be made, they should be for both the mitted and bicolor patterns.

8. Proposed Change: General Description

Current:

The Ragdoll is a semi-long haired, blue eyed pointed cat with a sweet personality. The Ragdoll grows large and heavy but is slow to mature and may not reach full weight and size for four years. Full color is not reached until 3 years old. The Ragdoll is muscular with little fat except on the lower abdomen fatty pad.

Proposed:

The Ragdoll is a semi-long haired, blue-eyed, pointed cat with a sweet personality. They are a well-balanced cat of moderate type, with no extremes, and no one feature overpowering another. The Ragdoll grows large and heavy but is slow to mature and may not reach full weight and size for four years. Full color is not reached until 3 years old. The Ragdoll is muscular with little fat except on the lower abdomen fatty pad.

Rationale:

We are currently seeing a trend to more extreme types in our breed, and we feel it is important to emphasize that the Ragdoll is and should stay a breed with moderate type and no extremes. Also, overall balance is an important feature that should not be overlooked.

9. Proposed Change: Allowances**Current:**

Seasonal changes in coat length.

Proposed:**General:**

Seasonal changes in coat length, shorter coats on unaltered adults and kittens. Females may be smaller than males.

Mitted and Bicolor Patterns only:

Feet and Legs: Small spots of point color in designated white areas

Paw Pads: Spots of point color on paw pads or colored paw pads

Rationale:

Adding allowances already mentioned in the current standard in other sections (i.e. under COAT and TORSO). These allowances should be made specifically here in the allowances section as well. The current standard also makes allowances for small spots of point color and colored paw pads, but in the incorrect section in the standard, and only for the bicolor pattern. This change should help clarify things, as well as treat both mitted and bicolor patterns equally.

10. Proposed Change: Penalize**General:****Current:**

Short tail, pointed ears, short legs; cobby body, round eyes, Roman nose, straight profile, woolly/cottony coat texture.

Proposed:

Very small ears, any eye shape other than oval, Roman nose, straight profile, cobby body, short legs, short tail, woolly/cottony coat texture.

Rationale:

Putting penalties in more logical order according to the standard (head, body, coat). Addition of very small ears and eye shape other than oval (instead of just round eyes). Removal of "pointed ears".

11. Proposed Change: Withhold All Awards (WW)

Current:

General: Crossed eyes, any eye color other than blue.

Pointed: Any white.

Mitted: Lack of white chin.

Bicolor: Any dark markings inside the white "V" including the chin.

Proposed:

General: Any eye color other than blue. Persian doming.

Pointed: Any white.

Mitted: Lack of white chin.

Bicolor: Any dark markings inside the white "V" including the chin.

Rationale:

Move crossed eyes to DQ to be more in keeping with the rules. Add Persian doming as it is considered a serious fault.

12. Proposed Change: Disqualify (DQ)

Current:

None.

Proposed:

DQ: Crossed eyes, visible or severe tail faults, severe cow hocks.

Rationale:

The rules already state that a judge must penalize or DQ (depending on severity) these faults at their discretion. Adding them to our standard as a DQ would help ensure the health and soundness of our breed by explicitly telling the judges, we do not want severe faults being rewarded in the show ring.