

**2024 CFA ANNUAL MEETING**  
**Saturday, June 29, 2024**

**(56) INTERNATIONAL DIVISION MEETING.**

**Attending In Person:**

Kathy Calhoun, Chair  
John Colilla, China Subcommittee Co-Chair  
Jan Rogers, Subcommittee Chair Africa, W Asia, Middle East  
Alex Chan, Translator  
Phebe Low  
Rain Fung  
Virginia Liu  
PakHei Leung  
Russell Law  
Christine Choi  
Nicholas Pun  
Allen Shi  
Charlene Jin  
Leoni Zhang  
Wang Xiu Ran (5D)  
Nguyen Kieu Ngoc  
Ngoc Ngo  
Keratiya (Zuns) Cruvongpaiboon  
Thomas Yui  
Fanny Ng  
Stella Liu  
Gavin Cao  
Agnes Sun  
Carrie Feng  
Alex Chun Lap  
Kit Fung

**Attending via Zoom:**

Matthew Wong, Co-Chair  
Allen Raymond  
Howe Gao  
Chris Lee  
Suki Lee  
Pao Badia

- ***Welcome and Introductions***

**Calhoun:** Good morning, everyone. I hope everyone is having a good time so far here in Coralville, and those that are on the Zoom thank you for getting up and getting going at all

different times of the day and night globally. We do appreciate it. We appreciate all the hard work that the board has done so far and all year long, so what I would like to do is start with introductions. I am Kathy Calhoun, the Co-Chair of the International Division Committee.

**Chan:** Hello everybody. I'm Alex Chan. Today I'm going to do translation for the Chinese

English. **Colilla:** Hi, I'm John Colilla. I'm the Co-Chair for the China International Committee.

**Rogers:** I'm Jan Rogers. I have Asia West. **Calhoun:** For our guests, can we start with Phebe?

**Low:** Hi, I'm Phebe from Hong Kong. I have the Black Cat Club. **Leung:** I am PakHei from

Hong Kong, Universal Feline Fanciers. **Law:** Russell Law here, Hong Kong, United Feline

Odyssey. **Fung:** I am Rain from Hong Kong Black Cat Club. **Lieu:** Good morning. Virginia Liu,

Hong Kong. My club is called Galaxy, thank you. **Choi:** Hi, I am Christine Choi from Hong

Kong Universal Feline Fanciers. **Pun:** Nicholas Pun, Hong Kong and Macao Cat Club. **Shi:**

Allen Shi from Shanghai, Oriental Diamond Cat Fanciers, China East Advisor and just been

accepted as a CFA trainee as shorthair. **Jin:** I am Charlene, secretary of the Last Chance club and

I am an Associate Judge and Allen's wife. **Zhang:** Hello everyone. I am Leoni Zhang from

China and the secretary of Starry Sky Cat Fanciers Club and Golden Panda Club. **Ran:** Hello, I

am 5D. I'm from China. **Ngoc:** Hello, I am from Vietnam Cat Club. **Cruvongpaiboon:** Hello, I

am Zuns from Thailand, shorthair Associate Judge. **Yui:** Good morning, everyone. I am Thomas

from Hong Kong. My cat club is Glamorous International and my wife Fanny, she is the

secretary. **Liu:** Hello, I am Stella Liu. I'm from Shanghai, China. Magic Wing International Cat

Club, thank you. **Feng:** Hi. Carrie Feng from Tianjin China. We belong to the north of China and

my club is Angel Fairy Sphynx Club. I am so thankful for everybody who supported question

#20 and #22. Thank you so much for our Sphynx breed.

**Calhoun:** Alright, would our board members please introduce themselves. **Webb:**

Russell Webb, Vice President of CFA. **Anger:** Rachel Anger, Secretary. **Krzanowski:** Carol

Krzanowski, Director at Large. **Currle:** Kenny Currle, Southern Region Director. **Mathis:** Anne

Mathis, Director at Large. **Shelton:** Mike Shelton, Southwest Regional Director. **Hayata:**

Yukiko Hayata, Region 8 Director, but it's changing to Aki Tamura. **Huhtaniemi:** Good

morning, everyone. I'm Pauli Huhtaniemi, Director at Large. **Moser:** Pam Moser, former Region

2 Director. **DelaBar:** Pam DelaBar, Regional Director, Region 9 – Europe. **Noble:** Paula Noble,

Regional Director, Region 3. Gulf Shore Region. **Dunham:** Cathy Dunham, Midwest Regional

Director. **Raymond:** Ed Raymond, CFA Legal Counsel. **Mastin:** Rich Mastin, President.

**Griswold:** Marilee Griswold, Director at Large. **Newkirk:** I'm Darrell Newkirk, Director at

Large.

**Calhoun:** Alright, thank you very much. Now we're going to cyber space, on the Zoom

call. Let's start with Matthew. **Wong:** Hi, it's Matthew Wong from Hong Kong. **Raymond:**

Allen Raymond from Thailand. **Gao:** Howe Gao. **Calhoun:** Chris Lee? I see Suki is there. Turn

up the volume. **Lee:** This is Suki from Hong Kong. **Calhoun:** Let's go ahead and get started.

Hopefully all the folks on the Zoom call will be able to hear us and if they have questions and

comments, we will get the technical issues resolved. **Newkirk:** Kathy, you had a couple of late

arrivals. **Calhoun:** OK, who? Alex, Gavin. **Luk:** Hi, I'm Alex Luk from Hong Kong Cats club

and I'm doing Persian and Exotics. **Calhoun:** Agnes and Gavin? **Cao:** Hi, my name is Gavin

Cao. I'm from China. I've been breeding since 2007, Scottish Fold and Devon Rex breeder. Also

a double specialty judge for CFA. **Sun:** Hello, I'm Agnes Sun from Shanghai, China. I'm a

China longhair Associate Judge and breed Ragdolls. Thank you. **Calhoun:** Alright, we have one

more. We're just doing introductions. **Badia:** Hello, this is Pao from Thailand. **Calhoun:** Has

everyone in the room had an opportunity to introduce themselves? I know we may still have a few problems online, but most of the people that are online, at least their names are showing up, so that's good. Everybody should have an agenda. If you don't, there's a couple of extras here.

- **Show Rule Review**

*2.03 BAY Check-In involves the verification by attendance at the close of check-in that all cats of a particular color-class within all categories of a breed (i.e., kittens, championship, and premiership combined) are present for judging and possess no obvious characteristics that would warrant them not being showable, e.g. out of condition, color not recognized for competition, e.g. out of condition, color not recognized for competition, obvious illness. This process may be implemented at shows in China where a color class has more entries than the total number of judging cages to be used in the smallest judging ring at that show (12 or 16). Cats required to participate in this check-in are not eligible for late arrival and once marked absent, will be considered absent for the duration of the entire show, including both days of a two-day show. For example, if color class 2500/2501, solid color British Shorthairs has seven kittens, nine championship, and one premiership cat entered with the smallest ring comprising 16 cages, that color class would qualify for bay check-in as the total number entered in that color class is 17. illness. This process may be implemented at shows in China where a color class has more entries than the total number of judging cages to be used in the smallest judging ring at that show (12 or 16). Cats required to participate in this check-in are not eligible for late arrival and once marked absent, will be considered absent for the duration of the entire show, including both days of a two-day show. For example, if color class 2500/2501, solid color British Shorthairs has seven kittens, nine championship, and one premiership cat entered with the smallest ring comprising 16 cages, that color class would qualify for bay check-in as the total number entered in that color class is 17.*

**Calhoun:** On the agenda, we're going to start with bay check-in. I know bay check-in has been a bit of controversy. The primary reason for bay check-in is to ensure – we want to make sure of fair play, that every cat who is entered and participating in the show is unique, and that every cat is in good condition. So, bay check-in is a method of doing that. One of the things that I hope we get to, currently bay check-in specifically calls out China. It is my desire that we expand that because the same premise and reasons to be that we do this in China exist anywhere, in my opinion. So, that would be something that I hope that we would work on adjusting moving forward. Now, in all fairness, we know that bay check-in adds additional time to the day and it also kind of turns into somewhat of a chaotic – called out because of the length as to when shows in certain areas in China close. It's supposed to be the end of the day on Thursday, but still there's the matter of getting all of the cats entered into the system and recognize and determining whether or not bay check-in, those requirements have been met, that bay check-in should be put in place. The other piece of it is that we also have to get in touch with judges to administer bay check-in. They are highly likely to be in transit at that time. So, we would like to kind of socialize the idea. Of course, it's a show rule so we won't be asking for any show rule changes or supporting any show rule changes this year, but we would like to see us move the closing date to perhaps Wednesday or maybe even earlier. I would like to get some feedback from folks that have to execute that, as to how you would be impacted with Monday ideally, because the rest of the world is Monday, or at the very least a Wednesday cut-off for entries. Any feedback? Are we all OK with that? Are we just saying yes?

**Fung:** I judge in China quite often. Sometimes I get the instruction or an email from CFA to conduct bay check-in before the show. Sometimes I get the instruction the night before the show or at the morning time at the show, so for me it's extra work because bay check-in, normally we spend one hour, sometimes two hours, to finish the bay check-in because all the cats should be presented in the ring. Sometimes they occupy 2, 3 or 4 rings in the show. Most of the shows now in China are in shopping malls. This bay check-in sometimes is not very friendly to cat fancy or to the public. I think the bay check-in a few times we only find 2 or 3 absent and for under condition only a few cats. So, as some of the judges also know, the shows start a bit late in the afternoon. After the bay check-in, we start the judging about 2 p.m., so you can imagine the show finish is very, very late. We only found 2 cats absent or under condition, so do you think it's worth to spend this time for bay check-in? I wish everyone can think about it. John is also here. You did the bay check-in before. **Calhoun:** We're going to have this translated. **Fung:** I checked the rules. Is it not compulsory to do the bay check-in? **OK.** When you do the bay check-in, not every show in China does a bay check-in but for some cat clubs it's not fair. If you do the bay check-in, you have to do it at every show – over the amount, do the bay check-in. Maybe I am bad luck. I got to the last three shows, I do the bay check-in. This is my opinion. I wish everyone can think about, is it necessary to do bay check-in? **Chan:** Maybe I first do the translation to know what's happening. [translates] **Cao:** I'm also judging in China a lot for the clubs and I also did bay check-in once or twice. A few things. First of all, unless I misread the show rule, bay check-in is not mandatory. I remember something along the lines that it's at the discretion of the judge whether or not bay check-in should be done, but right now it has been done for all the clubs and all the shows. Of all the shows I have been judging, like Kit Fung said, they are having no problem with the cats in terms of absentees. We normally get 2 or 3 that are absent. So, the bay check-in rule is only applying to CFA China. It was implemented at a time where it was probably necessary, because some of the clubs were doing stuffing and basically it was a different time. To my knowledge, all the show-producing clubs and the people like 5D, Agnes, Jon Lee, from my observation there has been no such activity right now for a long time in China. So, I'm not entirely sure if the current situation and the show-producing clubs that we have right now, this bay check-in rule is still valid. #3, there has been a separate charge that has been proposed for China for bay check-in, which is \$20 per show. Normally when it comes to fees for Chinese, we don't complain, we just pay up, but I'm not entirely sure why, when a club is doing nothing wrong, they are following the rules, they are just doing their entries, why should we impose an extra \$20 on the show for these Chinese clubs when they hit a certain number? We should be encouraging the clubs to get entries, which ties in with all the income increases or try to combat the budget issues. I've already talked with a few club owners, as well. I'm not really sure why China should be specially treated so that the clubs will need to pay \$20 for a show rule that's no longer valid. We should be relying more on the judges that are going over or that are judging there. If we see problems or if we see potential issues of stuffing, like one cat going to multiple cages, we're not dumb, right? There is a possibility to call it out and to notify CFA or try to deal with it, but we need to think about whether or not bay check-in should be needed in China at all at this moment. Thank you.

**Calhoun:** Let me do a little bit of clarification. Bay check-in is not required by all clubs in China to do. It is when there are more cats in a color class in kittens, the premiership class and championship cats. When there are more cats in a color class across all three categories, they can come up in one ring. It depends on the number of cages within that ring, the smallest one being 12 or the smallest one being 16. So, if you have more cats than you have cage space and you

cannot visibly see them all at the same time, that's when it kicks in. A lot of really small shows it does not kick in, but your feedback is very, very good. You mentioned that it was somewhat – a judge will get the information that they have to do this the night before or the morning of. This is because of the late closing dates of the shows, because we don't know how many entries there are. That's one of the reasons for the discussion about moving the closing dates to earlier in the week. I also agree with you wholeheartedly that there's no reason why China should be called out. If it happens anywhere, it happens. To the other point that you made and is very well taken, we don't see that much of it anymore, but the question would be; do we not see that much of it anymore because we are instituting the rule, or we don't see it very much anymore because it's not being done? I don't have an answer to that question. I think this is something for the board to have conversations about, where we want to go with this moving forward. Good point about the additional fees that the club has to pay for bay check-in. I think there's a question mark around that. That doesn't sound like that is exactly fair, but those are all really good points and I think that all this feedback will be taken to the board. There will be no decisions today, but this is exactly what we want is feedback from folks that actually have to execute. Does this make sense? Are these days gone because we do this? **Mastin:** Kit and Gavin, do all clubs in China wish to eliminate that rule? **Cao:** I can't speak for all the clubs, but we have club owners here so maybe we will listen to their opinions. **Mastin:** I think it would be helpful to both of you to bring that information to the board – how many of the clubs in China that put on shows would like to see that rule either changed or eliminated. If it's only coming from one or two clubs, it doesn't come with very much weight to the board. **Cao:** I think it's probably better of the ID Committee actually organizes some kind of a poll to give a more [inaudible] to answer the question. **Badia:** Hello. I think that we spoke about bay check-in before on the last ID call that we had. It was you and Ed Raymond, Allan as well, and we talked about equality, so I am up for having the same rules for everybody. At the same time, we know that count manipulation in other countries does not happen the same way in Thailand. We spoke about it before. I guess it should be on the transcript or the minutes of our last meeting, but I don't think that including bay check-in is in any way helping to reduce the count manipulation that we have in Other ID. That would be more equal I guess, but really not being helpful to tackle the problems that we're having here. **Calhoun:** To address your question, yes. In my opinion, I don't like any area-specific rules. That is my position on that across the board. I think what happens anywhere could happen anywhere, and if we think it's a good rule, it should be applied globally. We are a global organization and I don't think any specific area should be called out for a specific rule. Now, is that going to address count manipulation in all ways, shape and form? Probably not. I would agree with that, but can you address this type of manipulation? Yes, we can, but the question being, does it make sense anymore? I think maybe the idea came up that maybe there should be some sort of a survey of the clubs so we can get some data. Now, I would kind of doubt that any club wants to do this, but I think we should do a survey and get some feedback and have some open-ended questions. The opportunity is not just a yes or no – comments as to your feelings, and we can move on from there. I think this is great, great feedback.

**Calhoun:** Does anybody have anything else to add that hasn't already been said?

**Raymond:** The other hat that I wear is the Chairman of the Show Rules Committee. Bay check-in is not mandatory, as Gavin said. It depends on the numbers, but it also depends on the International Chair for China declaring that bay check-in needs to happen, so it is discretionary in that regard. It's not simply a numbers game. **Calhoun:** From this seat, what we have done is that whenever the numbers are there, we don't say, "we'll do it here and we won't do it for this

other club.” When the entries hit the number, the entries hit the number. We’re blind to where it is, in all fairness. To what Ed said and everybody has said that word “may” happen. It doesn’t have to happen, so it depends on how it is being administered. The way it’s administered here, if the numbers hit then we do it. **Newkirk:** Thank you, Kathy. Over the years we have seen an explosive growth in China and we thank all you guys who breed and show cats. I’ve judged some absolutely beautiful cats around the world and especially in China. Like Kathy, I hate specific rules for areas of the ID. It just is not fair. However, having said that, some of the stuff was brought on by the activities that went on. To me, stuffing is really hard to define because I think if I want to enter 6 cats in the show, that’s my money and that’s my cats, and I think I ought to be able to do it, but I’m not going to run to a pet shop and pick up 3 or 4 cats just to help my cats garner more points for a year-end award. So, I think the bay check-in was something that was very good, something that curtailed a little bit of the activity that we didn’t want going on, and so like Gavin and Allan and the rest of the ID, the rest of you that have shows in China, if you guys think that this is no longer something we need, should we change that you are going to be monitored. If you go back to some of that old activity that caused the concern to invoke this rule, then that rule may come back if it’s the choice to eliminate it. I think that you guys do a great job over there. I happened to be invited in March to come over there. I had a wonderful time. It had been a long time since I have been to China. I love the camaraderie, I love my friends over there, I love the food. As you can see, I’m a foodie. Anyway, I think this is something that needs to be looked into. We want fairness for everybody, and singling out a certain area of our International Division to invoke a rule that is maybe no longer needed is something we need to explore. **Shi:** I know the bay check-in rule came from stuffing from 2017 or 2018. I am going to say I still support this rule, because it’s a kind of way to make the show in China fair. I agree with Darrell. We all hate separate rules only for one area. However, you know, the Chinese people may be the most clever people. So, the stuffing, this is now happening in CFA shows in China, also in TICA shows, also in some WCF shows, FIFe shows and local China organization shows. So, all the organizers, if you do not have this rule, I think the only judge can come to China will know what will happen. So, this rule will have very clear feedback for all exhibitors to know what happens in China. If you run a show the honest way, you don’t have to worry about it. I support this to continue. Thank you. **Chan:** [translates]. **Lau:** The last season I had as show manager and master clerk, I spent more time for check-in. It’s true. I know bay check-in is very important. For the judging and for the breeder and for the cat handler, I think it’s so good, but we spend many, many more time with bay check-in. The judging schedule is a mistake. I think that maybe we can improve the number. I see the shows crossing six cages, so more than six cages in the class, we have bay check-in. I think it’s hard work at our shows, so please. I think so. **Calhoun:** Stella, I kind of keyed in on that. I think that’s a pretty good idea. What you are saying is that the number of cats in a color class being either 12 or 16 is too low, that perhaps the number should be 32 or whatever is a reasonable number that would really lend you to think that there may be something that is out of order. That’s a good take-away. Thank you for that. **Sun:** We have put on a lot of the shows for last season, our team. Also, I think bay check-in is not so friendly for all the clubs in China. For example, we had a show which has 17 seal point and white Ragdolls for all three categories, which 2 or 3 may be in championship and all the others for kitten class. However, we have to do the bay check-in according to the show rule because it’s more than 16. However, think about it. Only 2 or 3 in championship and all the others in kitten class. They cannot be all in the ring at the same time. Why do we have to perform the bay check-in? Second, just like Gavin said, a lot of the China shows are performed in the

shopping center. The shopping center, we all know, starts from 10 a.m. and closes at 10 p.m. We have to prepare for the bay check-in. We have to inform all the exhibitors to arrive at the show hall as early as possible, but you know, just like in Shanghai, a lot of exhibitors think about the cost. They do not arrive one day before their events, so they just drive out from their home in the early morning and they arrive at the show hall like 11:00 or whatever. If you push them to leave home early, I don't think it's very safe to drive a long way and perform the bay check-in. We waste another 2 or 3 hours. Then they see the show has a large entry, and we have to end the show at 10 p.m. or 11 or 12 p.m. I don't think it's fair for all the exhibitors and the judges to perform bay check-in. For example, just like Stella said, the low number like 16 I don't think is fair. Maybe 32 or whatever. **Calhoun:** Do we have any other comments? If not, we will close with Kenny. **Currle:** One of the advantages of the Associate Program is that we've got a lot more sophistication over there in China. Pre-COVID, we only had one or two judges that were actually officiating from China, so we did rely on a lot of the U.S. judges and we did see things that necessitated implementing this rule. To me, we've come far enough to drop this rule. They can self-govern themselves. That's my point of view, that I put trust in what they decide to do because you've got a lot of people that are involved because of that Associate Program and you can still oversee it. That would be my point of view. I trust them. I think they've got a lot better knowledge. If they're in the Judging Program, they sign a Code of Ethics, so they need to follow that. Let's put a little trust in them. That's all I have to say. **Calhoun:** Thank you, Kenny. Good points. OK, I think we've talked about this. I think a survey is in order. A lot of good points about the numbers and whether we need this or not. I think we do trust the integrity of the judges and we have a lot more expertise in the area. There's a lot of good feedback. This is just exactly what we need, and that's why we're here.

***3.01** A member club must not call upon persons who are not on the CFA judges list or Guest Judges at the Approved Guest Judge level for judging engagements without first having secured approval from the Guest Judge Administrator of the Judging Program.*

**Calhoun:** The next couple of items focus on other specific show rules that we may have had a stumble on that we just need to make sure that we reinforce what the show rule is. 3.01 [reads]. We just want to refresh that show rule and make sure that folks are paying attention. Wendy is like nodding her head back there. Stand up and introduce yourself so everyone knows who you are. **Wendy Heidt:** I am the current Guest Judge Administrator and an allbreed judge for CFA. Yes, I regularly am getting requests for clubs that already have signed show contracts from guest judges, so judges that are not CFA judges or CFA-approved guest judges. Like Satu, there are a handful of our judges who are from other associations that have great experience with CFA and they don't need prior approval, but if they have not judged for CFA very much or they are not involved and they need approval before you contract them. So yes, please contact me before you contact any judge to make sure that it is an acceptable person. **Chan:** [translates]. **Calhoun:** Does anybody have any questions about that show rule? **Badia:** We could not hear because we can only hear when you are speaking in the microphone. Would you please repeat very quickly what was said, please? **Heidt:** Yes. My name is Wendy Heidt. I am the Guest Judge Administrator and a CFA approved allbreed judge. It is a show rule that clubs who wish to engage judges who are not CFA approved guest judges or CFA judges need prior approval before contacting any judge they are interested in hiring. Unfortunately, I have been getting contracts that are already signed by judges who are not CFA-approved judges when clubs are sending in the show license. That is against show rules. It's just a reminder to let me know. It's

also dates. They must be contracted prior to 60 days before the show, in order to do our due diligence with what we need to do for guest judges. **Badia:** Thank you very much, Wendy.

**Calhoun:** Any other questions about the show rule?

*3.08 A contract that has been signed by both the judge and an officer of the club is binding on both judge and club. If a club wishes to make minor changes to the contract (format, day change on a back-to-back), the contract does not need to be rewritten. When agreed upon by both parties, these changes may be made and forwarded to the Central Office by email or fax. Any Club or individual making changes to the contract without permission from the judge will be subject to fine or suspension from CFA.*

**Calhoun:** We're going to move on to Show Rule 3.08. [reads] So, the contract is a binding agreement, and all elements on that contract – if they need to be changed, you have to have the consensus and agreement, reviewed by the judge, in order to make changes. As it says, they don't necessarily have to be rewritten, but both parties are committing to the specifics on that contract between the judge and the club. So, date changes on a back-to-back, the type of ring that judges will judge, whether they are doing super specialty, OCP. All of these, if it is not indicated on the original contract, has to be agreed upon by the judge and Central Office needs to know this so that changes throughout the system. **Chan:** [translates]. **Calhoun:** Does anyone have any questions about that?

*6.29 Number of entries permissible: a. No club shall accept more than 450 entries to be judged by any one judge over a full two-day period. For shows where the judge will not have a ring or the entries available for more than one day, no club shall accept more than 225 entries.*

**Calhoun:** We will go on to 6.29. [reads] That's a hard rule. That's the number – 225 if it's a one day or back-to-back. If it's a two day show, the judges are actually judging two days, Saturday and Sunday, or whatever your two days may happen to be, then 450. There's no adjustment in that. We can't come to Central Office or the Committee or the Judging Program and adjust that to a higher number. Are there any questions about that? **Newkirk:** Who would ever have thought that I would ever encounter this issue, but I did at a China show where the entry clerk didn't understand that the entries had to stop at 225. It was a new club, their first show, and it was a mess. There were I think 234 cats entered and it created the most confusion I have ever seen in a show. I didn't really know what to do. What we ended up doing, and I'm not sure it was correct; maybe I can get some advice if I ever encounter that again, but what we did was we plugged those extra cats in to cats that were absent on the day. At that show, I think it was like 2:00 before we ever got started. It was a full show. One judge who was a guest judge judged until 1:30 in the morning. So, I guess what I'm asking for is some advice. What would be the correct procedure? What should we do? I was at a loss. I had never encountered that before.

**Calhoun:** I don't actually have the answer to that, but I have another item that may help to get in front of something like that, which would be when the shows close, because if a show closed on a Monday for that Saturday or on a Wednesday for that Saturday, that would have surfaced. That would have surfaced, so not only do we kind of mention this globally, we don't like – I don't; I'm putting on my Diversity and Inclusion hat – I don't like anything that is specific to a specific area. This is one of the ways everywhere else we close shows on Monday, but we don't. There were a lot of reasons in the past, because of other things that were occurring that we close shows very, very late. But, two things. If OCP continues, it gives you more time to figure out how that



is going to be executed. If there's an issue with the number of entries, again it gives you more time to say whoa. It gives you an opportunity to fix these sorts of things. I don't have the answer to your question, Darrell, but Cathy Dunham might be able to help. **Dunham:** I do hold another hat. I am the new Shirley Dent at Central Office, but I am also a major stakeholder in the entry clerking program itself. There should be a hard cut-off of entries. While you might be more entries than 225 in the database, the entry clerks need to have some education about only putting in 225 of those cats, and then the rest of them become a waiting list and it needs to be announced fairly quickly that those cats – if they know somebody is not coming, they need to substitute a cat out, then a cat from the waiting list goes in. So, I am happy to work with the International Committee and any of you that are putting on shows or any of the entry clerks in the ID to help you understand how to do that. The other thing that I would say is, it was just as confusing to us, Darrell, when the show came in. So, please reach out to me. I'm happy to help you through any of it. We can do a Zoom meeting, we can do whatever we need to do to help educate the clubs and the entry clerks to help resolve some of those issues. **Griswold:** I get questions, even from clubs in the United States, because they don't necessarily understand the difference between a two-day show and a back-to-back or a 6x6. So, I may check, "this is a two day show" and they say, "what's the difference?" So, we have very few two day shows anymore, but a two day show is where one judge – the same judge – will judge on both days and will judge half of the cats on one day, half of the cats on the second day. So far as I know, China doesn't really do two day shows, so there should be a limit of 225 on all your back-to-back shows and one day shows, unless you are going to do a two day show, which is a very different format that requires your judges to be there and judge on both days. Most of what I see in the ID and China are back-to-backs, and those have the limit of 225. I just wanted to make sure, because the two day format was something we used to have a lot and now we hardly ever do anymore. I think there is sometimes confusion because it is a two day show, but it's actually a back-to-back show, so your entry limit is different for those. **Calhoun:** Thank you, Marilee. Do we have any other questions? **Chan:** [translates].

**6.35 b.** *The entry clerk will close the show to additional entries when the entry limit is reached or 9:00 p.m., China time, on the Thursday before the show, whichever is first.*

**Calhoun:** Let's move on to – we've already kind of touched upon the last one. [reads] How would people feel about changing that date to Wednesday, or the same day being Monday, that every other area in the globe for CFA does? Comments, concerns? **Newkirk:** This sort of goes back to what we talked a little about earlier; that is, special rules for outside the United States. I'm still a little bit unclear on why you guys need an extended date to accept entries, so if someone in China can explain that to me, I would love to hear from you. Here in the States on Monday night at 9 p.m. – my time on the west coast anyway. I do live on the west coast! Maybe I don't know where I do live. Anyway, can somebody explain that to me? I understand that sometimes you need approval for halls and stuff like that which delays it, but I honestly don't understand why you guys need to keep your shows open until Thursday. Everywhere else, we have got to close on Monday night. **Sun:** I think Tuesday or Wednesday would be fine, but Monday is too early, especially at the busy season. A lot of exhibitors just back home on Monday, so if we close on Monday that doesn't make sense and we may lose more entries. **Calhoun:** Any other comments? **Yui:** [inaudible] answer the question. I think for the entry, people want more time, over Monday or Tuesday or Wednesday, because they want to wait for the official result. In Hong Kong, we have shows next weekend and the next weekend and the

weekend after, so consecutive shows [inaudible] before they enter the cat. So, let's say the cat is a grand already so they won't enter the next show, or if they still need more points they will enter the next show. This is the system which will affect the cut-off date. **Newkirk:** OK. I'll go back again to my same point. If you guys want to be treated like us, which I hope you do, our exhibitors here have the same problems that you just pointed out. I don't work anymore, but I don't exhibit anymore, so I don't have to worry about getting a deadline to enter a cat. My cat that I have is 17 years old and she was a beautiful cat but she hated the show hall. She did one of those screams that stopped everybody in their tracks, and that was the last time she was ever in a ring, so her career ended early. I understand that people – I hate saying this, because it seems like everything we base on is pre-COVID or post-COVID, but it's just a fact of life. Things changed once we emerged from the COVID epidemic. I think that this might be sort of an excuse to be a little bit lazy. I don't mean that basically in a derogatory manner, because I think you guys are all astute and you know what's going on, but I still think that if you've got your cat and you are campaigning, you can enter that cat on Friday the weekend before even, so it doesn't have to wait until Thursday. It just creates a really, really big issue. I don't know how you guys do it. How do you close Thursday night and get all that stuff together, get it printed and ready for a Saturday morning show? That's a little nuts as far as I'm concerned, and I would think you guys would want the shows to close a few days early just to give you a little bit more time to get everything organized for the show. You're trying to get set up and everything else for your show, so I'm not sure that this is really needed. Basically, I would like to see you guys conform to the rest of us. **Dunham:** While I understand the comments that were made and I fully agree with Darrell. One of the things that I am seeing on the scoring side is, if you are wanting your scores before you enter another show, I need the previous week's show in a timely manner because I am in some cases getting them a week, two weeks after the event happens and that's not helping you at all, make any decisions about entering the show. So, I encourage you all, as you finish your shows, get them to me so that I can score them and post the points, so you know where you are standing and what you want to do. The scoring part for me seems to be a lesser reason to hold entries later if I can't provide the information to you. I just encourage all of the clubs in the ID Division to get them to Central Office, whether it's via scan or mail, and I'm happy to help you through any of it. Just contact me, call me, email me. I'm happy to help you through all that so that you have the information you need. **Badia:** As an exhibitor and also a show organizer, the expenses that we have to bring the judges from outside and put on a show are possibly more expensive than putting on a show in the U.S. Also, in terms of money, what would it mean for us. \$100 is much more than what would be \$100 in the U.S. Then, as you might have already realized, usually our entry fees are also pretty more expensive compared to the amount of rings in the U.S. Just like 1, 2 or 5 more entries can make the break even actually, having losses in a show or not having losses in a show. Then we also have the quarantine issues between countries here in ID. These are problems that sometimes we cannot solve until literally 3 or 4 days before the show. So, I understand, and I want something equal as well for the rest of the world, or be the same as in the U.S., but here I think that would bring a challenge to the amount of entries that we have and we crave for each and every entry, no matter if it is coming from Vietnam, from Indonesia, from China or the opposite. When we want to go to that country, we have to do all the paperwork and pay a lot, as well, so this will challenge us. What you have to realize is yes, we have to work more than printing the catalog and everything, but we make it happen. If we have losses in every show, as happens at the moment, then there's just no other way but to stop organizing shows. I would just not challenge anything that would possibly bring outside interest.

**Liu:** Don't get me wrong, I concur with the decision. I agree with the Monday cut-off date, but in ID situation [inaudible] and judges' costs, etc. The more time for us to do the entry as well, because there are many newbies in Hong Kong and Asia or in Thailand and something like that. It's a lot of work for the entry clerk to extend the show closing. I want it Monday, but sometimes we have to wait until Wednesday or Thursday. You know what I mean? **Calhoun:** Darrell, you jumped the line there. **Newkirk:** I did, but I wanted to make it timely. I'm OK with whenever you guys close your shows. I just wanted to challenge you, to get you to think about maybe altering that timeline. It doesn't affect me. I know it affects you guys, so I just want you to think about maybe moving it up a day or two. We used to keep shows open here until we instituted that rule for the Monday cut-off, because we didn't want people sliding cats in there at the last minute trying to manipulate the count – I hate that word, but that's basically what it was. I'm not accusing you guys of keeping shows open, to manipulate the count. Don't get me wrong there, OK? But just think about it. Everybody here in the States adapted to that rule and if you have your cut-off date for your closing a day or two earlier, people are going to get used to that. If they really want to show their cats, they are going to plop them in. **Calhoun:** Thank you, Darrell. **Law:** I've got mixed feelings about this. UFO also produces shows, and at the same time I typically enter 5 or 6 cats per show, consistently, throughout the years. Phebe knows it. My feelings as a show organizer in that sense, I do agree that a Monday close gives the club and CFA Central Office a lot of time to actually prepare for the show than 5 days later. At the same time, the first show of the season just a couple weeks ago, I'm sure that the club when they look at the count on Monday and see the number of cats entered [inaudible] have 40 cats in championship, maybe 22 cats in premiership, another 18 kittens. You look at counts and you know that you're going to suffer a huge loss – huge, huge loss, which would be about thousands of U.S. dollars. That's the time that we decide, maybe we want some extra days. I'll make some calls to close friends to try to beg for more cats to be entered, to try to level the costs, not to try to make more profits. There's the struggling we have – real struggling – when you have totally 50 cats and you have 6 U.S. judges plus another 2 Japanese judges, look at the cost of the show hall, the huge set-up fee, and then you know you're going to take more cats. [inaudible] confined to the rules or should I try, try, try to get some more extra days to make calls and try to get friends to enter. I know it sounds a bit weird, but I wish we had the space to get some stuffed cats. We can't even afford to manipulate counts in this way. We cannot even afford to manipulate the count. When you have 14 cats in championship, 21 cats in premiership and 18 kittens, maybe less, that's the time. Exhibitors these days, we all know that runners, the campaigners, they don't make up the counts. They always are the minority. You need newbies. If you look at the last page of the show book, the list of exhibitors, it's short, super short. There aren't any ? these days. I showed Phebe's show, the Hong Kong Cat Lovers' Association, like 22 years ago. The list of exhibitors is 2 pages long. Now it's a half a page. You don't have as many people showing cats, so people are very, very calculative. Of course, the campaign cats, I always enter my cats like weeks before the show ends, but you need people to enter their champions, the premiers, the opens, to actually make up the counts that make a show worthwhile financially. These are actually the cats that the exhibitors are extremely calculative. They are looking at the online entry, they are looking at the breed summary online and see, "holy hell, it's getting late, and what cats should I be entering?" When coming, we have for the first time in CFA historically two shows in the same place 25 miles apart, and there's something to think about. They will happen. That's the time when I'm speaking for the ? of the normal exhibitors – two shows, 25 miles apart, which show should I be entering? They are all looking at the counts, the online

counts. If you are talking with the people who organize the shows Monday and you count 30 cats in total, 40 cats in total, that's the time people hesitate. Should we allow for 2 or 3 more days so we can ring up people, very, very close friends, to people I saved their lives years ago so they have to repay me by entering like 10 cats. Darrell, I agree Monday cut-off is a very good idea. We need time to arrange for that, but the reality is that our counts vary these days. I think in China is better, Thailand is better, and even Indonesia is better. In Hong Kong we have a lot of shows but the counts are like the absolute lowest for maybe the 22-23 years I have been in the cat fancy, so they could be subject to more discussion between the people in the ID with the board and how we can maybe massage a bit between the Monday cut-off and maybe 1 or 2 or 3 more days and see which we can work comfortably with. That's the reality that many clubs are facing in the ID, especially Hong Kong these days. **Calhoun:** Thank you, Russell. **Feng:** I hope it can average Wednesday. Darrell, we are all young and we need work. I leave my home from Friday and I'm back home to Monday. We need entries and also some entry clerks they will be back home Monday very late and they are doing the entry work Tuesday or Wednesday. Some exhibitors, they need to choose the shows. In China, we always one week we have 2 or 3 shows. They need to choose which show they will go, so they need to wait for the breed summary. Also, sometimes it comes in English, too, so that means we are back to home and check on the work side and ? how the show summaries for Shanghai show, Tianjin show, anywhere. So, that's why our entry is late on Thursday, because they need to know about waiting for the entry clerk's entries, so that is one of the reasons we are late. **Calhoun:** Thank you. **Zhang:** My point is that as show manager and CFA, we are trained to attract more and more people to join us. Not only exhibitors, but also the visitors. As you all know, most China shows will be held in the shopping malls in China. Usually the shopping mall manager will provide us free flyer, also free posting on their website home page with the news about the cat show which helps us a lot to attract more exhibitors, the newbies, maybe also from other associations, some weird associations in China. The flyers, the news on the website of the show hall, they know there will be that show. Usually the shopping mall will not post all the flyers earlier before the show. Time is limited. The promotion time is limited for the shopping mall, so every minute counts for us to attract more and more visitors and exhibitors, especially the ones who are not so familiar with the cat show culture, because I have to admit that the cat show culture is not so well known in China as it is in the United States. That's my point. **Liu:** I have suggestion for the entry clerk. Last season I had more and more shows. We have 2 or 3 shows in different cities, so maybe we have sometimes the entry clerk has no update. We get an update Thursday, so maybe the closing Friday, I think Friday is so good. Yeah, Friday is the close. I have a choice of which city, but I have a long time to pay the tickets for my cat, so I am just always staying in Shanghai. I think we have the CFA in China have the new breeder joining us after maybe [inaudible] so I would suggest the entry clerk close entries Friday. Thank you.

**Calhoun:** OK. We have 5 minutes left. Darrell, did you have your hand up? We will close this discussion. We're not going to have time to talk about OCP. I would like to just have a minute or two. If anybody has something that is not on the agenda that they would like to bring forth. **Newkirk:** I'll make it quick. Thank you, guys. I asked you to explain to me why you need this and I get it. I understand. We want to help you. I just tossed that out there because I wanted you guys to give me some feedback why you should maintain that exception to close a little later. Russell, you did a beautiful job. Carrie, you did a beautiful job. Leonie, you did a great job.

**Calhoun:** Thank you so much.

- **OCP Rings**

*In an OCP ring which is judged as part of an existing ring, the finals awards for Champions when fewer than 85 cats are entered will be Best through 10th Best Allbreed Champion, Best, 2nd Best and 3rd Best Longhair Champion, and Best, 2nd Best and 3rd Best Shorthair Champion. For Championship entries of 85 or more, the finals awards for Champions will be Best through 10<sup>th</sup> Best Allbreed Champion, Best through Fifth Best Longhair Champion, and Best through Fifth Best Shorthair Champion.*

*In an OCP ring which is judged in a stand-alone ring, the finals awards for Champions will be Best through 10<sup>th</sup> Best Allbreed Champion. In an OCP ring which is judged as part of an existing ring, the finals awards for Premiers when fewer than 50 cats are entered will be Best through 10th Best Allbreed Premier, Best and 2nd Best Longhair Premier, and Best and 2nd Best Shorthair Premier. For Premiership entries of 50 or more, the finals awards for Premiers will be Best through 10th Best Allbreed Premier, Best through Third Best Longhair Premier, and Best through Third Best Shorthair Premier.*

**Calhoun:** OCP rings. The show rules have been advised to make it very, very clear. If you have questions, we can also discuss it separately.

- **2023 – 2024 Award Banquet**

*The International Division – Other than Mainland China, will be held on August 11, 2024 in Bangkok, Thailand.*

*The International Division China Banquet will be held, will be held on August 31, 2024 in Dalian, China.*

- **Open Discussion**

- *What are the concerns of the ID?*
- *How can the committee serve you better?*
- *Other ideas and considerations?*

**Calhoun:** We have another group coming in, the breed councils. We would be more than happy to talk about questions and additional comments online. Is there anything new that you would like to bring up in the next 2 minutes? **Cao:** Two things. One is about the representative office in China. We are saying that we need to grow and we need to get more income. We have a lot of cities in China that we're not serving right now because we cannot get the NGO licensing, so I am imploring the board to again look into this seriously and try to help us out. The Chinese government is different but it's not monstrous. We've got to try to be able to establish ourselves legally in China and try to cover more area, more cities, get more people to put on shows and to open more revenue in China. **Calhoun:** Keep in mind we are streaming live, so we want to make sure that – **Cao:** OK, that's it. The second point is, we need to also think about how to get more revenue towards this. We are only relying on registration and on membership, right? In China, I think a lot of people know for a fact that we can also get sponsorship from big brands and that

will bring extra revenue to us, to our region and to CFA as a whole. So, we also need to look into that. As a follow-up question, we need to think long term. Once we get the money, how will this money be spent? First of all, some of it has to be within our region. That way, you can build up the growth in China and also there are different factions in China, so we want this money to be spent fairly to all the clubs that are producing shows, not a specific group. **Calhoun:** Gavin, I'm really sorry, but we have another group coming in and they are here. You are making some really great points and we would be more than happy to go and have a conversation about that, but in all fairness, we've got the breed council folks and they are sitting here and we have come into their time, but I do appreciate it. I apologize for having to end this, but we have to respect the other group that is coming. Thank you so much.

(57) **BREED COUNCIL SECRETARIES' MEETING.**

- ***Welcome and Introductions***

**Wilson:** Good morning, everyone, and welcome. This is always a privilege for us as Breed Council Secretaries to have an opportunity to speak to the members of the CFA board. I hope that we can be seated and listen to each other respectfully. I have passed out agendas and there is a sign-up sheet. There's two sign-up sheets going around. If you haven't signed in, you can look for that or you can come and sign it when you get here, just with your name and your breed. We'll quickly do introductions. There will be no applause please. We'll start with Carissa and go down the front row, and then around this way and this way like a snake. If you just say your name and your breed, that would be great, thanks.

**Attending In Person:**

<b>Beth Reilly</b>	Abyssinian
<b>Carol Johnson</b>	American Shorthair
<b>Jan Rogers</b>	American Wirehair
<b>Karen Lane</b>	Birman
<b>Jeri Zottoli</b>	Bombay
<b>Ginger Meeker</b>	British Shorthair
<b>Keith Kimberlin</b>	Burmilla
<b>Orca Starbuck</b>	Chartreux
<b>Mike Blees</b>	Cornish Rex
<b>Linda Peterson</b>	Devon Rex
<b>Melanie Morgan</b>	Egyptian Mau
<b>Lynn Cooke</b>	Exotic
<b>LeAnn Rupy</b>	Havana Brown
<b>Kendall Smith</b>	Japanese Bobtail
<b>Cheryl Coleman</b>	Korat
<b>Dennis Ganoe</b>	LaPerm
<b>Desiree Bobby</b>	Lykoi
<b>Bethany Colilla</b>	Maine Coon Cat
<b>Joy Yoders Dey</b>	Manx
<b>Brooke Cole</b>	Norwegian Forest Cat
<b>Carissa Altschul</b>	Persian
<b>Laura Gregory</b>	RagaMuffin
<b>Annette Wilson</b>	Russian Blue
<b>Marilee Griswold</b>	Scottish Fold/Straight
<b>Laura Jo Barber</b>	Selkirk Rex
<b>Betsy Arnold</b>	Siamese
<b>Lucy Drury</b>	Siberian
<b>Ikuyo Takase</b>	Singapura
<b>Charlene Munro</b>	Somali
<b>Sheri Shaffer</b>	Representing Tonkinese
<b>Meg Lambert</b>	Toybob

<b>Alene Shafnisky</b>	Turkish Angora
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**Attending via Zoom:**

<b>Lorna Friemoth</b>	Balinese/Javinese
<b>Sammi Kerr</b>	Bengal
<b>Wendy Klamm</b>	European Burmese
<b>Dotti Olson</b>	Oriental
<b>Cyndee Hill</b>	Sphynx

**Wilson:** And the board members, starting with John Colilla. **Colilla:** John Colilla, Great Lakes Region Director. **Anger:** Rachel Anger, CFA Secretary, typing all your names. **Krzanowski:** Carol Krzanowski, Director at Large. **Currle:** Kenny Currle, Southern Region Director. **Shelton:** Mike Shelton, Southwest Region Director. **Calhoun:** Kathy Calhoun, Treasurer. **Mathis:** Anne Mathis, Director at Large. **Hayata:** Yukiko Hayata, Region 8. **Webb:** Russell Webb, CFA Vice President. **Huhtaniemi:** Pauli Huhtaniemi, Director at Large. **Moser:** Pam Moser, former Region 2 Director. **DelaBar:** Pam DelaBar, Region 9 – Europe Director. **Noble:** Paula Noble, Region 3 Director. **Dunham:** Cathy Dunham, Region 6 Regional Director. **Raymond:** Ed Raymond, Legal Counsel. **Mastin:** Rich Mastin, President. **Griswold:** Marilee Griswold, Director at Large and Scottish Fold Breed Council Secretary. **Newkirk:** Darrell Newkirk, Director at Large. **Wilson:** We forgot us. Annette Wilson, Russian Blue Breed Council Secretary. **Morgan:** Melanie Morgan, Egyptian Mau Breed Council Secretary. **Wilson:** The members of my committee – Melanie Morgan, Carla Bizzell and Krista Schmidt. Alright, we’ve done that part really well.

**Wilson:** I forgot the people on the screen because I can’t see them. Can they talk? Would you introduce yourselves please? **Klamm:** Wendy Klamm, European Burmese Breed Council Secretary. **Friemoth:** Lorna Friemoth, Balinese Breed Council Secretary. **Kerr:** Sammi Kerr, Bengal Breed Council Secretary. **Hill:** Cyndee Hill, Sphynx Breed Council Secretary. **Olson:** Dotti Olson, Oriental Breed Council Secretary. **Wilson:** I’m sorry, I have to keep looking over my shoulder. Someone give me the high sign.

- ***Breed-Specific Legislation*** *banning specific breeds and/or traits is becoming more widespread. How can we fight back?* (Pam DelaBar)

**Wilson:** Next, we have on our agenda, breed-specific legislation. I’m sure you heard yesterday or if you listened to the Zoom of the board meeting on Thursday, you can’t not be aware of what is going on. Pam DelaBar is going to speak to this issue briefly and give us some input and give us some ideas of where this is going next. **DelaBar:** This is not going to be the most warm and fuzzy briefing you have to start this meeting. We have several countries that have big time problems. You’ve read about some of them on FaceBook. Switzerland has basically banned the breeding of Persians, Exotics, all rex breeds, Japanese Bobtails, all hairless breeds. Austria is starting now to ban at shows cats that they think are overtyped Persians or overtyped Exotics. In Germany, we have portions of Germany where blue-eyed white cats are not allowed. We have in Sweden – even Sweden does not allow the breeding of B blood group cats. Our biggest problems lately have been in the Netherlands. The Netherlands has banned the owning and breeding of brachycephalic dog breeds. It has not yet come to the cats, but we



recently had a woman have 8 week old kittens taken away from a nursing mother. They were a hairless breed. We do not know where the kittens went and the woman is being held on felony charges for breeding hairless cats. This is where we're having problems, and it's not just CFA, it's not just TICA, and we are working and coordinating with FIFe and with the World Cat Federation. We were made aware that this is not just a Europe problem, this is a worldwide problem. What we're experiencing now in Europe will come to be in the U.S., so hopefully this is a head's up for many of you. The International Society of Animal Genetics and the World Small Animal Veterinary Association, the Hereditary Disease Association have targeted three breeds in a paper that Leslie Lyons shared with us these views. The breeds were Persians, Exotics and other brachycephalic breeds, such as British Shorthair. Manx – they said we should start phasing out the breeding of Manx because of the four genes that are involved that can cause the manifestation of the Manx parents, and Scottish Fold because of the osteochondrodysplasia. Leslie brought us this information at the World Cat Congress in Tasmania a year ago, and we addressed our concerns with her about the report. She started just recently – and we had the meetings last month – what we call the “brachy group” for brachycephalic breeds. This is a Zoom meeting and she was able to hold it twice. I know Annette is a member of the group and I am also a member of the group. We have other members on this that are from other associations. We're starting to focus on and basically identify what are our problems. To fight the legislation, we need to develop or bring out scientific facts. There is up-to-date information on the small nostrils, the nares, on Persian-type cats. That is something that we need to address. I talked to Carissa Altschul. We need to fight the emotion that the animal rights people are putting to our veterinarians. Of course, veterinarians see problem cats; they are not always seeing our healthy cats. We need to fight this emotion with fact, so we need to participate in as many of these health studies as we can get in, so we can fight the legislation, especially the legislation you're going to see more of in the United States. Many of the problems are with over-type, extreme-type cats. With the Manx, we want to see which one of these genes is the good gene. I talked with Marilee on the Scottish Fold, and there's room for continued studies on what makes the gene that causes OCD to actually activate in the cat. One of our problems in Europe is basically from Eastern Europe, where we have people breeding fold to fold. You saw yesterday at the meeting, some of these poor cats – hairless cats that are also Munchkins with curled ears and other things that people are trying to make money out of. There are even organizations that are springing up now so these people can register these breeds of cats and have some validity in their eyes, but it's doing us a great deal of harm in Europe with this. The sad thing is, the cats don't care that they look funny, they just want to purr. Mars and Royal Canin have come out and have, of course, backed the breeders. We are part of their income stream, so we did get their support. One of the things they want to do is train veterinarians on brachycephalic obstructive airway syndrome – BOAS, not BAOS.

**DelaBar:** So, what can we do? I addressed the judges on Thursday night and said, we need to ensure that we are rewarding and awarding the healthy cats. If we put up a cat that's over-typed and may have some problems with the BOAS, then people are going to think, “oh, this is what I need to breed so I can get rewarded at the shows.” These are the cats that are going to show up at the veterinarian. Please, please, with the judges, we are addressing this problem. It's a perception actually that's association-wide, throughout CFA, FIFe, WCF and the other associations. We all need to check how we are rewarding and judging the cats. Another thing we can do is take a look at the standard portion where it says Condition on the first pages, right under Jeanne Singer's wonderful preface. We need to make sure that that actually states

something besides just platitudes. One thing we can do, and this came up from Anthony Nichols who is with GCCF out of the UK, and this is something for CFA and you all – the Breed Council Secretaries. We can address problems and look at our breeds with what we call a “breed improvement project.” We can bring in veterinarians to check and see what we can work on. We need to seriously look at requiring microchipping. We cannot identify cats unless they’ve got that nifty tattoo in their ear or a microchip – an ISO microchip. I can tell you that when I was doing disaster work, the easy way to get an animal that was lost in a disaster was being able to read its microchip and being able to put it back with its owner. I can also tell you, when I was in charge of Animal Welfare, we had an absolutely horrible case that involved a breed council secretary who had several cats in for breeding. The only cat that got back to its owner was the only one that was microchipped. We also need this for research. We can have confidential research if we have cats that are microchipped, and we can do things by microchip when we need to look at requiring DNA testing for our particular breeds. If you look back, it didn’t take too long for us to get a handle on PKD, although I understand there are some new possible mutations of that problem. We can establish our goals by each breed. It’s very common for us in Europe to require certain testing for the cat to be bred, like for my Norwegian Forest Cats, we have a set time on when they are heart scanned, so we are ensuring that we’re breeding or have the potential of breeding healthy cats. We need to establish the goals by breed. I’m looking at, what can we do right now with some of the breeds that we are having problems with, with legislation. We’ve already done it with Scottish Folds. We allow the showing of Straight Ear Scottish. There is no registration on fold-to-fold breeding. The gene that causes the Japanese Bobtail is the same gene throughout all of southeast Asia. We need to look at opening up our gene pools to possibly include these cats that share the same gene. For Manx, we need to look at allowing rumpy risers and stumpies to be shown, especially the stumpies because they are vital to the breeding programs. When we get our act together, under these breed improvement projects, we need to publicize what we’re doing. The public needs to know we’re serious about keeping our cats from extinction. Many of us have breeds that are ancient, have developed through their environments like the Siberian with its triple coat, Norwegians with the double coats, Siamese with their heat-restricted point color, and we can work to make sure that we keep not only our cat fancy going, but the history of these breeds going, as well.

**DelaBar:** Now, on another project that’s going on, Texas A&M University and Leslie Lyons at University of Missouri plus some other genetics people are developing the design of a project that’s going to take the long sequencing of DNA and developing what they call this “pan genome project.” It is to have a total gene identity by breed and what they’re looking for is the best male Persian, the best female Persian, how we are going to have these identified. It’s going to cost money, because it’s not just a scrape. This is going to be either tissue or a vial of blood. That’s how extensive that they need the sample to be. When we get more information on this, I will be happy to share it with you, because I think it’s important and it establishes more credibility of our breeds and gives us more credibility, as we are the “preservation breeders” to keep these breeds going. Later, I know there’s a whole bunch on here. If you have any questions, either catch me on Facebook or try to message me or my emails. I would be happy to share all the information. Now, I am going to be setting up a groups.io email for the World Cat Congress delegates that want to work on this and when Rachel and I were at the World Cat Congress in March, we were able to get the World Cat Congress delegates to say that we support not only our breeds, but the breeders who are working hard to have healthy cats and continue breeding. I have the total statement here, but we got that through and everyone is thinking now – there’s 9

organizations that are part of the World Cat Congress – everybody is backing this effort, so it is one that we can also work on, especially when we are developing our breed improvement projects, but I'll be happy to take your questions later, if that's OK. Alright?

**Wilson:** Thank you, Pam. I can't think of one more important item on our agenda than this issue. It shouldn't be a surprise to any of us, but now we have an opportunity to get serious about it. Carissa, you wanted to respond. **Altschul:** I am on the brachy group. Pam was mentioning it and I have already been talking with my breed council. It's definitely kind of an eye-opening thing for many of them, but I guess it shouldn't be. One thing that we discussed just now in our breed council meeting is, there will be some modifications brought on our ballot. We discussed different standards in different associations, and kind of settled on for the nares or nostrils, we're going to say "open". We're going to add that to our standard for the nose, so it will say, "short, broad, snub with open nostrils". It's a starting place. I kind of have to get everybody on the same page there, so that's the first step. We're not ignoring this. We're not going to bury our heads in the sand about it. Additionally, we are going to put an additional DQ in our standard for a nose leather that is above the topline of the eye, because that is that ultra type that Pam is referring to. It's something I haven't seen personally for a very long time, but I have seen it. It's not pretty and it's not what we're looking for with our breed. I also challenged the Persian breeders when we are at shows – and we are getting so much more gate now – we have to emphasize, not just with our breed but with other breeds that we are focusing on breeding on health, and these are the things that we are doing. So, for example, when I am at a show and I do this already. When somebody sees a Siamese and they go, "oh, that cat looks starved!" I'm like, "oh, no. You don't realize that that is the body type. They are layered with muscle. That is what they are." I encourage the other Breed Council Secretaries to reach out to your members and if a spectator makes a comment that is not favorable about any of these breeds, especially the ones who are under attack, that you find a way to turn that around and be like, "no, no, no, those breeders are breeding for health. The look of the breed is part of it, but health is also important." We stand together or divided we fall. I really hope that the Breed Council Secretaries whose breeds at this point, they're not coming through you but they will. They are saying British Shorthairs are brachycephalic, then there is nothing I can do with my breed standard to fix that as far as Persians, because I can't give my Persians a muzzle – not that I would want to, but if British Shorthairs are considered brachycephalic, then there's nothing I can do as far as that, but we have to change the public's perception of what a Persian or an Exotic or a Scottish Fold is. One thing that really drives me crazy and I'm going to have to look into it is this Persian skull that I see being trumpeted around that supposedly is a Persian brachycephalic skull which has an undershot jaw with about a centimeter of space between the lower and upper teeth. They say, "this is what they all look like underneath." It's like, no it's not, but yet that is used over and over and over again against us. So, Pam is right, we have to face this. We need to take healthy cats to the vets. We need to show the community and the public and legislators that we are breeding healthy cats, because if we don't jump on this, we will be extinct, whether or not we want to be. So, I hope everyone is listening. If you have a natural-type breed and you think, "oh, they're not going to come for me," they will. They just haven't yet. They're picking the easier targets and they're going to come for the rest later. **Wilson:** Thank you, Carissa. **Meeker:** When I first heard about this, I contacted Leslie Lyons directly. I've known Leslie for about 30 years and we're pretty good friends. What I heard in the first message is, "they're coming after your breed and they want to do away with you." What Leslie wrote back in answer to that was, *Howdy. You're only getting part of the message. The concern is cats with health issues due to*

*being brachycephalic. British Shorthair is amongst the brachycephalic breed but more moderate than the Persian and the Exotic. We are not looking to do away with breeds. We are focusing on the most extreme cats and breeds with associated health issues to preserve the breeding of healthy animals.* I think that's what our preservation breeder concept is essentially about. I don't think anyone in this room says, "gee, I think I'll breed a litter of kittens that will be crippled and will cause a lot of heartache to 6 different families." I believe that the majority of breeders in CFA are truly interested in preserving their breeds and producing healthy, viable long-lived animals, so I asked Leslie what as British Shorthair breed council members could do to help solve this problem. She said, *A helpful thing would be, compare your standard to the Persian and the Exotic. What is different in the wording that prevents the British Shorthair from going as extreme as Persians?* We're watching this happen across the world. British are getting really extreme and I would encourage those people that love those extreme British Shorthairs to look at the Exotic breed if that's the head structure they want, but those cats are getting finaled, graded and placed high in national wins across the world. So, the judges also have a part in helping us preserve the breeding of healthy cats. Some of these issues are lethal, and when you cease to acknowledge nares, be it on a British Shorthair or a Persian or an Exotic, that cat will ultimately die from increased pressure in the cardiopulmonary system. If that's what you want, then I'm sorry, we have many approaches to accomplishing this goal. Changing the standards are on the list of possible approaches. I think Leslie recognizes that this is a multi-faceted problem and it's going to take input, leadership, strength and discipline from all of us. Thank you. **Wilson:** Thank you, Ginger. I think what I'm hearing over and over here is education about our healthy breeds, and I think we need to start with helping our judges understand how to convey that, because they are our ambassadors at the show, so I'm looking at Anne Mathis thinking that maybe this is something we could do a short presentation on at some point with some examples, actually showing examples of what the cat looks like and what you should be saying and so on. I think having the buzz words in place and knowing what to say when there is a slinky breed or a brachycephalic breed or a Manx or whatever and explaining about the health of the cats. It's only going to help and I'm looking to you all for coming up with ideas on how to do that. Does anybody else want to speak about the brachycephalic? Anything else on this subject? **Starbuck:** I just wanted to talk about the idea of establishing our goals with each breed and these breed improvement projects. I'm not sure how this is planned to be codified, but in the last few years I have been working with GCCF Chartreux breeders as they have been getting to championship status for their breed in GCCF. GCCF has something interesting that we don't have a breeding policy for each breed. I've been working with them to develop this policy for the Chartreux, but each breed has one. It describes the breed, talks about the breed structure, talks about the genetics within the breed, undesirable recessives or other traits that are seen in the breed, the breed's history, other breeds that were used in the breed's founding, health issues that are known to be in the breed and how to check for these for breeders, breeding strategies, inbreeding levels, genetic diversity. Generally it codifies together information that's useful to both breeders in the breed and also potentially to judges and others that are interested in healthy structure in this breed and what to look for in the breed. So, I definitely recommend that if people are thinking about how to codify goals for the breed and health issues or something in a document for each breed, that these breeding policies that GCCF has might be something to look at as an idea or model. **Wilson:** Thank you. Actually, the gentleman from GCCF mentioned that. Maybe you could share some links to that if someone has access to that. **Starbuck:** Absolutely. So, all of the breeding policies are actually on the GCCF website on each breed's page. **Wilson:** Could you

email it to the Breed Council Secretaries' group? If you could just send a link to everyone, that would be wonderful. **Starbuck:** Yes, absolutely. We finished the Chartreux one. It has been an interesting process. They also have a genetics committee in GCCF and we worked with the genetics committee to make sure that the breeding policy is comprehensive and makes sense, so it has been a really interesting process. I'm happy to talk to anyone who is curious about how they do it. **Wilson:** Thank you. **DelaBar:** That was part of my report that I gave to the board on Thursday under the breed improvement project, it becomes the policy that each breed is developing. Anthony Nichols is from GCCF and I have had dealings with him before on the LaPerm. Ginger, just to let you know, currently right now Lufthansa does not allow British Shorthairs on their flights. This is catching up to us in several ways. The EU which just recently had parliamentary elections – I think it was like the 9<sup>th</sup> of June – has developed a proposal on animal welfare to effect all 29 countries of the European Union. It's focused right now on livestock and the movement of livestock within the countries. It is also focused on how animals have been basically sneaked over the borders coming from eastern Europe into European Union. Dogs are the biggie that they are checking with right now, and then they will be going with cats. I will give Annette the link to the English version of this. The operative language for the European Union is English. That helps me a lot. It is very interesting. Some of the countries are overreacting and saying, "we're going to get ahead of this." In Spain, a few days ago they wanted to limit breeding by private breeders – and the operative word there is "private" – by private breeders to two litters a year, so that just opens things up to commercial breeders. If somebody wants to bring a cat, they are going to find a way to get it, especially on Facebook and like that. **Wilson:** Thank you, Pam.

**Morgan:** This battle is real. Annette is right, this is the most important thing that we can face. It's one of the reasons we're here as preservation breeders. We need to be advocates for our breeds. We need to be the examples of responsible breeding for healthy cats, and I think that we need to not just give it lip service. We need to realize that we need to be champions for all the breeds, not just one specific breed or another, the ones that are under challenges now. What Pam mentions about breeding restrictions are real. The way that we need to do that I think is to come up with a plan. I think that microchipping, the fact that we don't require that at this point, is huge. That's a very small first step. DNA testing for our breeding cats. To me I'm always flabbergasted that people wouldn't do whatever testing is available for any cat that's going to be put into your breeding program. What I would like to ask all of you is, I think that we should have a group of the people that come from the people sitting in front of me and on that screen who would like to work on a break-out group. This brachycephalic group is doing Zoom meetings. I think that we shouldn't just sit back and say, "yeah, each breed should do their own individual thing." Let's put together a group that will actually start to spearhead this and put together plans for breeding policies. I have always thought GCCF was on the right track with that. When we introduced the Egyptian Mau there, I had multiple involved discussions with their genetics committee about how to [inaudible] but that's another story. Anyway, I would like to see some of that happen. I would certainly put myself on the volunteer list to work on that group. I would like to see if maybe my friend sitting right here might be willing to do that, and any one of you all. **Wilson:** Did we have anyone else who wanted to speak to it? **Shafnisky:** I just want to be a little bit brief, because I hope you all understand by now that these laws, once they start they mutate about every two years and add in new breeds, so this is going to come for you. No matter how healthy you think your breed is, no matter what structure you think is going to protect you, they are coming for you. But, what I wanted to emphasize is, a lot of times the

Breed Council Secretary role can be a little bit passive, so if someone brings a change or suggestion to us, or the board brings something to us, this is an issue that we need to build into the Breed Council Secretary's job. We need to be proactive. We can't just sit back and say, "oh, someone will email me when there's a problem." We need to get involved. We need to push forward and really run point on this and communicate with our breed council members to really push that issue. **Wilson:** Thank you, Alene. Ginger, did you have your hand up again? **Meeker:** Yes, I did. I think the elephant in the room is, what do we do about cats that are not being bred to these standards? What is CFA going to do about backyard breeders? What is CFA going to do about designer breeds? What is CFA and our members going to do about all the cats that end up in very bad situations, and need to be rescued for a number of reasons? This is the other side of the breeding practice that we would like to see in place. I think by taking this stand, we can make CFA the primary breeders' association, but we also have to look at a lot of stuff that's going on behind the scenes, be realistic and honest, and determine what accountability we're also going to take for those folks that, for whatever reason, are in trouble and need help. **Wilson:** Thank you. **Drury:** I couldn't agree with Ginger more. I have very little contact with most Siberian breeders. There's only a small percent of the Siberian breeders out there that participate in CFA or TICA. I'm seeing, coming out of Siberian breeders, they get a champion title on a Siberian. They go to one show, they get a title on them. Same with TICA. They go to one show, get a title on them, then they're selling these as pedigreed Siberians, show quality, and they don't even look like a Siberian. How do you fight that? Anyone can register and get a cattery registration. There's no policing of it, there's no quality check on them, and they can get those low level titles very easily and nobody questions it. They don't know that they just have to basically show up and not get disqualified. I see cats go through again. We need support of the judges. If a Siberian doesn't look like a Siberian, the number should go down. Then we get exhibitors who get all excited, they buy a Siberian and, "why can't I do anything?" Well then, you're stuck in the position of, it doesn't exactly look like the standard but you don't want to hurt somebody's feelings because you want them to come back. There's not that many, so somehow getting the control on who we say is a registered CFA cattery, do they really know? We talk about education. You have to have judge, you take a test. The clerk has to take a test, but a breeder doesn't have to know anything about genetics. They just import a couple cats, put them together and sell them as pedigreed kittens. So, I think we need to think about that in terms of what we call our registered catteries. The people in this room are not the problem, but we can put all the rules in place we want about our breeds, but people are registering their catteries. Even if they're not titled, they can call them pedigreed and they are doing all these bad things. **Wilson:** Thank you, Lucy. It has always been an issue. It has obviously been an issue. I started out with a Russian Blue that could barely get a winner's ribbon from what we would call a back yard breeder, but it was registered. I learned by going to the shows and seeing what was going on and talking to other breeders. If we don't get these people in the show hall, they don't have any opportunity to be educated at all. We need to look for these people, we need to contact them and we need to help them. **Lambert:** I think the importance of microchipping, I think that is the way to keep cats from being registered, that your cat has to be microchipped to get a number. There's a small association in Quebec, a French Canadian cat association limited to Quebec, and what they do is, for every individual you register, they send you the chip. We're only talking Quebec, so it's a smaller area. They have veterinarians that you can contact who will then insert the chip for you at a reduced fee because of being connected or tied into this association. I think if we could find a way to help alleviate the cost of microchipping, it would be a big step forward. I do think that insisting, requiring cats

to be microchipped is a really good first step. **Wilson:** Thank you. **Klamm:** I really think the breeding policies that GCCF does would be wonderful for CFA. I think also that [inaudible], she indicated through the chat, she indicated she would also be part of the group. **Wilson:** Thank you. **Morgan:** Back to the microchip, one of the cool things about the new eCat system that I liked is that there is a tag thing where I can put in my cat's microchip numbers, but to the board, we have been asking for this for a while. I believe we would really like to see a space on that registration slip for that microchip number to be noted. It's important, it needs to be done, it's a step towards letting us be the champions for our breeds. **Wilson:** Thank you, and it's the first step towards requiring it. We can't require it if we don't have a place to record it. We don't have a lot of time left, and while I certainly agree that this was really important, I think we've got maybe a little plan going forward for the subgroup of people willing to work on this, on a continuing basis, and hopefully can get together soon and start putting some things together and sharing it on the Breed Council Secretaries' list. I want to thank Pam DelaBar for being not only full of knowledge about this, but succinct.

- ***Registration and Exhibition of cats with multiple mutations (Cyndee Hill, Sphynx BCS)***

**Wilson:** Yesterday, we had a number of things happen during the annual meeting that will make the rest of these things a little bit brief. We passed two advisory show rules, or a show rule on our registration policy change to the board for consideration and exhibiting cats with multiple mutations. Cyndee Hill, the Sphynx Breed Council Secretary, who was on the Zoom but I think she dropped off. **Hill:** I'm here. **Wilson:** She jumped on this issue months ago and has been working continuously and without sleep putting something together, getting it approved from the Household Pet side, getting it approved from a whole lot of people including other Breed Council Secretaries to come up with something that could be presented from the floor. She did a fabulous job, and Desiree did a very good job of explaining it and presenting it yesterday. Thank you all. [applause] So, I believe Ed [Raymond] as Chair of the Show Rules Committee will be working with Cyndee to come up with wording that would work, and then the board will take a look at that in October.

- ***Registration and Pedigree Fraud – How do we recognize this and how can we help prevent it?***

**Wilson:** The next thing on the agenda is registration and pedigree fraud. Karen Lawrence is here. She does fraud investigation on registrations for CFA and will briefly speak to us about how can we recognize this and how can we help prevent it. As you all know, the new eCats has an on-demand cattery offspring report. You should take a look at that on a frequent basis. One of my breed council members found a fraudulently registered cat the day eCats came out, so it's a valuable resource for us. Is Karen by a microphone? **Lawrence:** First of all, after what I've heard this morning, registration fraud seems to be a little bit on the lower level side of what's going on. Let me reassure you, CFA's computer system has not been hacked. There has not been a data breach of the registration information, so that you can rest assured that that has not happened. Your registration information is secure. What has happened is that brokers have been getting information from registered litters. What they are doing basically in China is registering litters through a broker. Basically, it's a language issue. The brokers register the litters. The breeder might say, "OK, I've got two kittens in the litter." The broker registers 6 or 8. He sends back two litter slips to the breeder, which means that there are 6 or 8 additional blue slips floating around,

and that's what they are using to register. As some of you know, some of you have been through this, basically we need to stop giving them this information. You need to get your breed council members to not post information on their websites. Do not post a copy of your cattery registration slip with your cattery registration number on it. Do not post a copy of your cat registrations with your cat registration number on it, your PIN number and breeder and sire and dam registration numbers. Don't do it. We had somebody last week that posted copies of their eCat screen shots on Facebook. I begged for them to take that offline. Just take it down, and they eventually did, but there was somebody the other day that posted a copy of their cattery registration certificate because they were so proud that they now have a CFA registered cattery. All of this information is just taken and used to falsely register litters. So, what's happening is that they are registering a litter using the sire and dam that they now have the registration numbers for, they are picking any cattery name just off the wall, whatever they want, and they are registering litters and consequently registering cats. We discovered that they were basically all paid for by the same person, and that was the broker who was handling it all. So, we know what's happening. We have pinned down several breeds that have been involved and we have taken it to the board as fraudulent registration matters. The board is voiding the registrations that we have proof of. They are voiding the litter registrations; they're not voiding individual registrations. What we're doing with the individual downstream registrations is, making them not for breeding and not for showing. We're not letting people that own the downstream cats know about this, basically because the broker's email address is the only address that we have on the litter registration. We don't have the actual contact information for the breeder in China, so we just literally have no one to contact. There's a serious privacy issue involved here, as well. We can't release the names of cats, we can't release the registration numbers. CFA has privacy policies. The privacy policies in Europe will stop us from doing this, as well. Basically, what we're doing is, we're stopping it when we can. If you download your cattery report and your offspring reports, go through them with a fine tooth comb. Look for absolutely anything that is out of place, even if it comes down to an owner's name that you don't recognize. Feel free to contact me, feel free to contact Central Office. They will send it on to me and we can take a look at it. **Wilson:** Thank you so much, Karen. Please get this information out to your breed council members and explain to them why they should look at this on a frequent basis and let them know that Karen would be the contact. Sometimes, it's as simple as looking at a cat's registration. When we sell cats and they register the name, it's not always names that we would pick but the one that my breed council member found, it's like when they name bands. You just pick out 4 nouns and a hatful of words and come up with a name. She's like, "well, nobody would name their cat that," and that's what triggered her to look into it. **Shaffer:** Listening to Karen, it reminded me of something. I haven't reviewed my contract, looking at it in a really long time and why I don't put registration numbers on the contracts. I have my cattery number on it, so I guess I'll be taking that off for when I place kittens or anything like that. **Wilson:** Treat your registration documents and your cattery registration like your credit cards. Don't put that information out there. Thank you so much Karen for being here. **Raymond:** You heard Karen talking about cattery registration and people putting out their registration certificates. Keep in mind, CFA does not register catteries, it registers cattery names. You are breeders of CFA registered cats. You don't have CFA registered catteries. So, one of the things that I encountered when I was the ombudsman was, a lot of buyers coming in saying, "I bought from a CFA registered cattery. What are you going to do for me?" Nothing, because we don't register catteries. So, I would urge your members to be careful in the verbiage that they use on their



websites and on their contracts. Thank you. **Wilson:** Thank you, but I think the actual form says *Cattery Registration* on it, so we should look at that. **Raymond:** We have changed the website to say *Cattery Name Registration* but I don't know what the form says.

- ***Breed Council Secretary/Chair Elections for 2025-2027 term are open, see link below for declaration form. Deadline is prior to August 1 (Annette Wilson)***

**Wilson:** The next thing on the agenda is Breed Council Secretary/Chair elections are up this year. Melanie has volunteered to go around and harangue everybody who hasn't declared yet. On the back of your agenda are the links and the deadlines. The lines are on the back here, and of course I will send this online as a reminder, but I want to have everybody, every breed to have a declaration for Breed Council Secretary. Melanie is going to come and hunt you down. If you're not interested in doing that anymore, then it's your responsibility to find your replacement. There you go.

- ***Breed Specific Registration Rule changes and Breed Standard changes (Annette Wilson)***

**Wilson:** The next item is the breed specific registration rule changes and breed standard changes. As you know, yesterday the delegation passed an amendment to the Bylaws so that breed specific registration rules will now be subject to 60% of the breed council members voting on any such change. It's always important, as your breed councils shrink a little bit, that getting the 60% of members voting can be difficult, so I'm going to task you all to remind your current members to renew and also seek out other people. I wish there was a way that Breed Council Secretaries could get notified when someone actually qualifies or they meet the qualifications. Those are all things that are somewhere in the database, and so that you can go after them and harangue them – no, invite them to join the breed council and explain how important it is for them to be part of this process. **Altschul:** I thought the rule was changed some time ago that it was 60% of those voting, not 60% of the breed council. **Wilson:** That is correct. I want to thank, of course, everybody who supported this amendment and got up to speak their support.

- **Housekeeping:**

**Wilson:** Next, we have a couple of housekeeping things.

- *Any specific breed's outcross policy will no longer be printed in the Show Standards booklet (currently follows the Color Classes).*

**Wilson:** Currently the breed standards have been including a specific breed's outcross policy, so if they outcross to other breeds that's been included after the color class information that's actually a show rule and not part of the standards. Because we're always looking for ways to save a space when printing things and when some of the outcross policies have gotten rather complex and complicated, we're not going to print those in the standards anymore. They will be in the individual breed registration rules that are linked to the breed book page of the individual breeds.

- *As we move toward clarifying and cleaning up formatting of current standards, we would like BCS to consider voting on a general ballot item allowing Central*

*Office to make corrections to grammar/punctuation/typographical errors such as spelling/formatting with final approval by BCS.*

- *For example, standardize the word following a colon (:) to be lower case. The 't' in the word 'the' has been changed from upper case to lower case.*
- *CURRENT: SHADED GOLDEN TORTIE: The undercoat is ivory to neutral beige...*
- *CORRECTED: "SHADED GOLDEN TORTIE: the undercoat is ivory to neutral beige..."*

**Wilson:** As we move toward clarifying and cleaning up formatting of current standards, I'm asking the Breed Council Secretaries to consider putting a ballot item on this year. It's not going to be for all of you, because this is really only an issue for a handful of standards. It would be a general ballot item that would allow Central Office to make corrections to grammar/punctuation/typographical errors such as spelling, formatting and so on. The Breed Council Secretary would have final approval of any changes made, and you would certainly be able to take a look at it or run it by the Breed Council Secretaries, so they're not just going to change it willy nilly, but if you are asked to put this on your ballot this year, I would appreciate if you would at least consider it. There are some examples there. That's just an example of a capitalization, so we kind of want to have some standardization of how the standards are formatting. Does anyone have any questions about that?

- ***Other Items?***

**Wilson:** Does anybody have any other items? **Shafnisky:** I just would like to encourage everyone because a lot of you seem to have a great interest in the legislative issues that we talked about earlier. Please try to come to the Legislative Roundtable that takes place at 1:00 this afternoon. We're all anxious to get together for the annual, but this is frankly one of the most important issues. It is the most important issue facing our hobby around the world. **Wilson:** Thank you, Alene.

**Wilson:** Any other items? **Altschul:** This is one that came up recently that I kind of wanted to address. Recently, a few years ago, we changed the rule that allowed a cat that was X colored to change at any point its color to Y color and keep all of its titles. I thought originally it was just coming into play for red, red tabby and subsequent whatever, but now it's for everything. We were discussing this in my breed council meeting because it became an issue at a show where a cat was being shown as a color that's red and the judges were not able to find the red markings on the cat. The exhibitor was told, "you need to change your cat to this color" that did not have red "and show it as red, and once you're done showing it, switch it back to the color with red" because it had to have red because it had a red sire, "then you can just keep all the points." We are allowed to do that within this new rule. So, definitely some concerns because I know we want our pedigrees to be correct and we show phenotypically, so technically it's not wrong to tell this person to show their cat as the color without red, get all the titles and then flip it back to the color with red once they are done showing it. I understand why we made this change, because we want our pedigrees to be correct and sometimes some things might not show

up particularly in, for example, a very high white bi-color. You might not see everything that's going on with that cat. A very, very high white cream and white might turn out to be an agouti cream smoke, cream-silver tabby and white or something like that, but in this case, you have a cat that is going to be shown as what is genetically impossible, because again it has a red sire. I'm not really sure what the answer is here because I understand that we want that. I'm bringing it to all the Breed Council Secretaries and the board and you so that everyone is aware how this policy is being interpreted in the show hall, and definitely caused a lot of consternation. It was a question of whether or not this was even a protestable thing for them to be showing a cat in a color they know it could not be, and they had actually already been told by Central Office they couldn't register it as the color without red. They were told by judges to show it as the color without red, so there's a lot going on with this policy and I think it needs to be re-looked at how we want to apply it, that perhaps a cat could not be shown as something that is completely genetically impossible. I'm turning it over to you guys. **Wilson:** Thank you. Does your breed specify – Persian, I assume – that there should be a certain amount of tabby markings or whatever? To me, while I can't find it, I'll give it the benefit of the doubt and take off 5 points and move on, or to the other extreme is, I don't award it because it doesn't meet the color description. It's more than just, can I show the cat and keep the points if I change the color, it's does the cat meet the standard? **Altschul:** It was able to be shown as the other color and did quite well. The color could not genetically be. **Anger:** That was me that gasped over here when you were telling that story. How do you say the word – gasped? That was me, then my chin hitting my knees was the second noise. If the judge that did that is in the room I apologize, but our job is not to teach people how to cheat. To me, that's cheating. That may be too strong a word, but I think it's a Judging Program issue, that we need to educate our judges (a) a little better on genetics, and (b) that that's not an acceptable piece of advice to be giving exhibitors, to capitalize on a loophole. I understand it's hearsay and third-party on your part, then fourth- and fifth- when it trickles to us, but I get the gist of it. If I was an exhibitor and I got that kind of advice from a judge, what do you do? You follow that advice, so I think the problem is systemic from a judging issue, if that's where the advice came from, so we need to take that as a to-do item to address. **Altschul:** Judges have to judge what they see on the table. It was more than one judge and I don't hold them being wrong here. They can't judge the pedigree. Judges only judge what's on the table, so I think the problem is multi-factorial. I think we created a loophole that we didn't mean to make. Unintended consequences. **Anger:** That's a different kind of problem if you have a cat that's not appearing to be what it genetically is. Then, the dilemma is, do you show this cat? Do you breed it? It's not, "OK, here's how we get around that issue." When we implemented the rule, there was discussion at the board table that, will this be abused? Probably, but for the greater good and the people that are honestly applying the exception that we made, I think it has been a game changer. Instances like this were anticipated but thank you for bringing this to our attention. **Wilson:** Actually, I'm thrilled that nobody suggested that they use a little bronze colored powder. I mean, 20 years ago that's what they would have done. I am joking. **Johnson:** I may go back too far, but my closing recollection is, when you change the color you lose the points. **Wilson:** That rule has been changed. **Johnson:** The other thing is that maybe CFA also needs to look at this, because tortoiseshells often do not have enough red to show. It depends on the color, but there has to be a way to register that cat in the color that it is phenotypically, and not just genetically. This is kind of a catch 22 because you also want to use those programs to catch people that cheat, but this is a very common occurrence. I can tell you, we have seen it in American Shorthairs, depending on the colors. Red is there. You know it has to be there,

particularly if it's red silver patched, but sometimes you can't find it and yet we would like to show those cats because they are nice conformation of the breed. Everything else of that cat is wonderful. To say that that's not a breedable cat really isn't real, either, because we get red cats out of those queens. **Wilson:** OK, if color and pattern have points in your standard, then the idea whether it's a show cat or not is moot. It's part of your standard. It might have great structure. I've had little blue point kittens that have really nice structure too, but we can't show them. They are the wrong color. I know that's an extreme example but it's part of your standard and there's only a couple standards that have no points on color or pattern. **Johnson:** I understand that, but genetically that red can be anything from zero to 100%. **Wilson:** It doesn't mean it's not a breeding cat, but if your standard has so many points on color and pattern, and a cat doesn't exhibit the color and pattern that it is genotypic, we judge the entire standard not just to everything by color and pattern. I need to go to someone else. Keith had his hand up and we're almost out of time. **Kimberlin:** Addressing the issue of the red factor here, I used red European Burmese in my Burmilla program and I have gotten silver tortie females with almost no red, and so they have been home. They are not being shown because they do not have enough red to be a tortie phenotypically, so I recently bred one of those torties – and I know she is a tortie because she produced red males. I have two females in that litter that I cannot see any red on them at all and they could be either just black or tortie. So, I contacted my friend Lorraine Shelton and asked her, I said, “is there any DNA test for red, because I have these torties that I can't see the red.” I'm looking for either a pink toe or a little space on the nose and couldn't find anything. She sent me to a lab that does DNA testing in China that can test for red, so I contacted them and yes, they can test for red. So, you can DNA test to find out if a cat that does not have any tortie on it is actually a tortie and does carry the red gene. That's all I wanted to say. **Wilson:** Thank you, Keith. Keith, I wonder if you could send a link to that lab to the Breed Council Secretaries' list. **Kimberlin:** Yes, either I can or Lorraine can, because Lorraine sent it to me. So yes, I will do that. **Wilson:** Thank you.

**Shafnisky:** Just to let you know, the Legislative meeting is in the Kirkwood Room at 1:00. **Wilson:** Kirkwood Room at 1:00 for the Legislative Roundtable meeting. Be there or be square.

- ***Important Links:***

*Breed Council Secretary declaration form and updated declarations can be found here:*

*<https://cfa.org/cfa-breed-councils/declared-candidates/>*

*(note: if you are not going to run, please talk to your BC members and see if someone is interested! You can direct anyone interested to this page to review what the requirements are:*

*<https://cfa.org/cfa-breed-councils/secretaries/>*

*BC Deadlines and Guidelines for writing ballot proposals can be found here:*

*<https://cfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/change-guidelines.pdf>*

**THANK YOU FOR BEING THE GUARDIAN AND PROTECTOR OF YOUR BREED!**

**Wilson:** Thank you everyone for coming and participating. Thank you to the board for allowing us to have this meeting. I hope you find it as valuable as we do. We really like looking at your smiling faces on a Saturday morning. Alright, we're done.

**BREEDS AND STANDARDS 2024 TIMELINE/DEADLINES**  
**General Guidelines---Subject to Change**

<b>August 1:</b>	Breed Council membership deadline for voting on current term proposals
<b>August 1:</b>	New Breed/Color Application and Advancement deadline
<b>August 15:</b>	Breed Council Secretaries must be notified of any breed color or advancement requests that might affect their breed
<b>September 1:</b>	Proposed breed standard/registration rule/color class ballot items to Breeds & Standards Committee for review
<b>September 15:</b>	Breed Council proposed standard/registration/color class changes must be received by Central Office (upon prior review by Breeds & Standards Committee)
<b>November 1:</b>	Breed ballots will be uploaded by Central Office and available for on-line voting