

HOUSEHOLD PETS

The Household Pet comes in all colours and combination of colours. Coat lengths may be short and sleek, full and fluffy, any combination of these, or somewhere in between. Tails may be long, short, kinky or non-existent. Eye colour may or may not be coordinated with the coat colour according to the whims of Mother Nature. All coat colour and eye colours, coat and tail lengths shall be acceptable. The most important consideration is overall condition, well fed and altered (6 months and over). A Household Pet seems to smile with good health and contentment.

PERSONALITY/TEMPERMENT (35)

Alert, friendly and easy to handle. Allowance may be made for nervousness due to unfamiliarity with shows. If a cat must be removed from the cage by the handler and is then fully amenable to being handled by the Judge, no penalty shall be attached.

CONDITION (45)

COAT – Absolutely clean and free of any trace of matts or parasites. Well groomed. Pleasant appearance and feel. Eyes, ears, nose, mouth and claws must be clean. Eyes and nose must be free of any matter. CLAWS MUST BE CLIPPED.

BALANCE & PROPORTION (10)

Nicely proportioned. A small head on a large cat or vice versa would be somewhat disproportionate. Proper weight for its size. Overweight or underweight shall both be considered undesirable. Muscle tone to be sound. Some allowances may be made for older Household Pets.

BEAUTY/COLOUR (10)

Recognized in all colours and patterns. These points shall be assigned according to the taste of the individual judge. Judges notice pleasing markings, colours and patterns. Overall grace and balance are often factors to be considered in determining beauty.

Click on this link for descriptions of Basic Colours and Patterns:

<https://www.cca-afc.com/Breeds/Colours>

CONSIDERATIONS

Household Pets of apparent purebred background shall be judged exactly the same as all other Household Pets. They shall be neither penalized nor rewarded solely on the basis of their resemblance to one of the recognized breeds.

Physical anomalies not allowed by most purebred standards shall be acceptable for the Household Pet. No penalty shall be attached for crossed eyes, kinked tail, extra toes or the like. Missing body parts such as an eye, leg, tail or ear or part thereof shall not incur any penalty. As many Household Pets are deemed strays, there shall be no penalty attached to such physical damage unless it appears the problem is an ongoing one indicating lack of care.

WITHHOLD AWARDS

- * If cat is dirty or in poor condition.
- * Unable to handle.
- * Lacking claws (declawed).

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GENERAL PREFACE

It is important to consult the individual breed standard for breed-specific disqualifications. The following list applies to all breeds unless otherwise indicated.

WITHHOLD AWARDS (W/A) FOR:

1. More or fewer than five toes on each front paw and four toes on each back paw. Pixie-Bobs are exempt from this disqualification.
 2. White lockets, buttons, or toes on any cat, except where part of the natural colour or pattern, or unless otherwise specified in the breed standard.
 3. Any entry that is declawed. Clear nail-tip covers are allowed.
 4. Any deformity or disfigurement — hereditary, congenital, or acquired. Household Pet entries are exempt from this disqualification.
 5. A cat showing evidence of intent to deceive (e.g., the presence of powder or chalk residue in the coat after normal grooming; the use of tints, colour rinses, or other artificial colouring concealment media; sanding or shaving).
 5. An entry, without provocation, attacks a judge or other person within the ring area, the entry shall be deemed vicious and disqualified (D.V. Disqualified, Vicious).
 6. Kinks, visible or invisible. Kink is defined as a rigid deflection of the tail line, whether visible or not. Small, invisible bumps or calcium deposits shall be considered a fault. Refer to individual breed standards for exceptions to this rule.
 7. Wrong eye colour (unless otherwise specified in a breed's standard).
 8. Crossed eyes in any breed. Household Pet entries are exempt from this disqualification.
 9. Maloccluded jaws.
 10. Monorchidism (the absence of one testicle) or cryptorchidism (the absence of both testicles) is grounds for withholding awards in the Championship (whole adult) or Miscellaneous (whole adult) classes.
 11. Any entry that scores less than 90 points.
6. Excellence in one aspect of the standard shall not offset a deficiency in another. Because the standard specifically describes the various parts of the cat's appearance, all judges shall conduct their judging in accordance with these specifications.
 7. All entries should possess the appropriate weight, condition, and balance for their breed. Balance is the overall physical picture of the cat. The cat must 'fit together', and no single quality **should** be emphasized. Judges shall not penalize any fault by more than the cat would have earned if perfect in that detail.
 8. Judges shall penalize or disqualify N.F.A (No Further Award) for poor condition, indicating illness or poor care.
 9. If an entry has fleas, fungus, ear mites, etc., the judge shall N.F.A. the entry and notify the Show Manager.
 10. An obviously pregnant or lactating queen will be disqualified as N.F.A. (No Further Awards).
 11. Natural lighting should be used wherever possible. Allowances should be made for harsh artificial lighting, which may distort eye and coat colour.
 12. An entry presented in the judging ring showing noticeable effects of a sedative (e.g., third eyelids visible, overly glassy eyes, inability to stand or sit, lack of coordination or muscle control) shall not receive an award. The judge will record N.F.A (No Further Award) in their judge's book.
 13. Any cat too nervous or intractable to handle by the judge or the owner / agent must be disqualified (D.U.H. – Disqualified, Unable to Handle).
 14. A judge may disqualify any entry whose owner / agent draws specific attention to himself or his entry when benching the cat in the judging ring or at any time during judging. Judges shall enter D.L.E. (Disqualified, Lack of Etiquette) in their books.
 15. When an entry's colour or pattern has been misclassified, the entry shall be transferred to its correct class with the owner's permission.
 16. Cats recovering from recent surgery (or injury) where the incision (or wound) has not completely healed, stitches removed, etc.; must be disqualified (N.F.A. – No Further Awards).

FACTORS TO CONSIDER:

1. A weak, receding, or protruding chin is considered a serious fault. Deductions can be made for chin, profile, and balance.
2. Allowance should be made for stud jowls in males. Usually, males are proportionally larger than females.
3. Allowance is to be made for seasonal variations in coat.
4. Allowance should be made for faint tabby markings in kittens and young cats, except when they are part of the normal colour pattern.
5. Allowance should be made for undeveloped eye colour and undeveloped coat colour in kittens and young cats.

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