

# SAVANNAH

The overall impression of the Savannah is a tall, lean, graceful cat with striking large dark spots and other bold markings on a luxurious tawny, gold, orange, silver, black or black smoke background. The cat is a replica of the tall, lean, muscular Serval cat of the African plains from which it originated. Affectionate and outgoing, with exceptionally long neck, legs and ears. The Savannah is both unusual and beautiful.

## I – BODY/CONFORMATION (40)

(8) BODY – The torso is long, lean and well-muscled with a full deep rib cage, prominent shoulder blades, a slight, but not extreme tuck-up and a rounded rump. The hip and thigh are full and long and somewhat heavy in proportion to the rest of the body.

(7) BONING – Medium boning with density and strength.

(7) MUSCULATURE – Firm, well developed, yet smooth.

(8) LEGS – Longer than average, well muscled, without appearing heavy or overly delicate. Back legs are slightly longer than the front legs.

(3) FEET – Oval, medium in size.

(7) TAIL – Medium to thick in width. Medium in length, ending between the hock and just above ground level when standing with preferred length just below the hock. Tail should taper slightly to a blunt end. Whippy tails are not desired.

## II – HEAD TYPE (40)

(6) SHAPE – The face forms a equilateral triangle. The triangle is formed by the brow line over the eyes; the sides follow down the jawbone with a rounded finish at the muzzle. Above this triangle the forehead and ears form a rectangle from the brow line to the tops of the ears. The head is small in proportion to the body.

(4) CHIN – From the frontal view the chin tapers to follow the triangle of the head. In profile, the nose is slightly protruding so that the angle from the nose to the chin slants back, which may cause the chin to APPEAR recessed.

(4) MUZZLE – The muzzle is tapered with no break. It falls within the bottom portion of the facial triangle that runs from the brow to the point of the chin. Whisker pads are not pronounced.

(3) NOSE – Viewed from the front, the nose is wide across the top with low set nostrils, in profile, there is a slight downward turn at the end, giving a rounded appearance. Nose leather is slightly convex, and wraps up over the nose.

(7) EARS – Ears are remarkably large and set high on the head. Wide with a deep base. Upright with rounded tops. The outside base of the ear should start no lower on the head than the height of the eyes. The inside base of the ears is quite close at the top of the head. Ideally, a vertical line can be drawn from the inner corner of the eye up to

the inner base of the ear. Ear furnishings may be present. Light coloured, horizontal bars (known as *occelli*) on the back of the ears are desirable.

(6) EYES – Medium sized and set underneath a slightly hooded brow. The top of the eye resembles a boomerang set on the exact angle so that the corner of the eye slopes down the line of the nose. The bottom half of the eye has an almond shape. The eyes are moderately deep set and low on the forehead with at least one eye width apart. Tear stain markings are present along and between the eye and the nose. All eye colours are allowed and are independent of coat colour.

(4) PROFILE – The forehead is a straight to slightly convex curve from the top of the head to the ridge just above the eye where there is a slight change of direction and a straight to very slight concave curve from that ridge to the tip of the nose. In profile, the face also forms a triangle from the top of the eye to the tip of the nose, turning to follow the jaw line and back up to the eye.

(6) NECK – Long and lean.

## III – COAT TEXTURE/LENGTH (8)

Short to medium in length with good substance and a slightly coarse feel to it. Coarser guard hairs cover a softer undercoat, the spots have a notably softer texture than the guard hairs. The coat is not inordinately dense and lies relatively flat against the body.

## IV – COLOUR / PATTERN (12)

(4) COLOUR – Black, brown (black) spotted tabby, silver spotted tabby, black smoke ONLY. No preference is given to ground colour on the brown spotted tabby. Bold, solid markings are preferred on all tabbies. In any variation the lips are black, and the tear duct lines are prominent.

On the spotted Savannahs the nose leather can be pink to brick red, solid black, or black with a light pink or brick red center stripe. In black Savannahs, the nose leather must be solid black. Paw pads in any variation should be deep charcoal or brownish black.

(8) PATTERN – SPOTTED PATTERN ONLY. The spotted Savannah pattern is bold, dark-brown to black spots which can be round, oval, or elongated solid spots. A series of parallel stripes, from the back of the head to just over the shoulder blades, fan out slightly over the back and the spotting pattern follows the line of the stripes from the shoulders continuing the length of the body. Smaller spots will be found on the legs and feet as well as on the face.

NOTE: The black Savannah may have ghost spotting. Visible spotting pattern on the smoke Savannah is preferred. In all colours any visible pattern must be spotted.

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## V – CONDITION & BALANCE

The breed is to display firm muscular development. The Savannah is an exceptionally graceful, well-balanced cat with striking colour and pattern.

## TEMPERAMENT

Confident, alert, curious and friendly cat.

## OBJECTIONS

### DEDUCT

* Spots that are any colour other than solid dark brown to black.	3-8
* Rosettes.	3-8
* Vertically aligned spots, mackerel tabby type stripes	1-6
* Any distinct white locket/spot on the neck, chest, abdomen or other areas.	4
* Cobby body.	2-5
* Small ears.	1-3

## WITHHOLDS

All grounds for withholding awards listed in the General Preface (with the exception of #2 which is penalized not disqualification).

## RECOGNIZED COLOURS

Black, brown spotted tabby, silver spotted tabby, black smoke ONLY.

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BREED ORIGIN:	Hybrid
ALLOWED ANCESTRY:	Serval, Savannah, domestic shorthair, Egyptian Mau, Ocicat or Oriental Shorthair.
REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS:	F1
SHOWING REQUIREMENTS:	F4 minimum of 4 generations Savannah to Savannah only

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## SAVANNAH

BLACK

BLACK SMOKE

BROWN SPOTTED TABBY

SILVER SPOTTED TABBY

# SAVANNAH

## BROWN SPOTTED TABBY

**Coat:** Ground colour various shades of gold to orange. Markings are a variation of round, oval and elongated spots. A series of parallel stripes, from the back of the head to just over the shoulder blades fan out slightly over the back and the spotting pattern follows the line of the stripes from the shoulders continuing the length of the body. Smaller spots will be found on the legs and feet as well as on the face. Colour is very dark brown or black. Lips are black. Prominent black tear duct lines one the inner sides of each eye. Rims of eyes, lips, and nose should be outlined with black.

**Nose Leather:** Brick red, black, or black with a light red or pin line running down the center..

**Paw Pads:** Deep charcoal or brownish black.

**Eye Colour:** Amber to light green.

**Objection:** Spots that are any colour other than dark brown to black. Vertically aligned spots or mackerel tabby type stripes.

## SILVER SPOTTED TABBY

**Coat:** Ground colour silver. Markings are a variation of round, oval and elongated spots. A series of parallel stripes, from the back of the head to just over the shoulder blades fan out slightly over the back and the spotting pattern follows the line of the stripes from the shoulders continuing the length of the body. Smaller spots will be found on the legs and feet as well as on the face. Colour is very dark brown or black. Lips are black. Prominent black tear duct lines one the inner sides of each eye. Rims of eyes, lips, and nose should be outlined with black.

**Nose Leather:** Brick red, black, or black with a light red or pin line running down the center..

**Paw Pads:** Deep charcoal or brownish black.

**Eye Colour:** Amber to light green.

**Objection:** Spots that are any colour other than dark brown to black. Vertically aligned spots or mackerel tabby type stripes.

## BLACK

**Coat:** Solid black. **Black markings on a black background is the ideal.** Markings are a variation of round, oval and elongated spots. A series of parallel stripes, from the back of the head to just over the shoulder blades fan out slightly over the back and the spotting pattern follows the line of the stripes from the shoulders continuing the length of the body. Smaller spots will be found on the legs and feet as well as on the face. Colour is very dark brown or black. Lips are black. Prominent black tear duct lines one the inner sides of each eye. Rims of eyes, lips, and nose should be outlined with black.

**Nose Leather:** Black.

**Paw Pads:** Deep charcoal or brownish black.

**Eye Colour:** Amber to light green.

**Objection:** Spots that are any colour other than dark brown to black. Vertically aligned spots or mackerel tabby type stripes.

## BLACK SMOKE

**Coat:** Black with a thin line of white at the base of the hair. Evident when coat is parted. **Markings are a variation of round, oval and elongated spots.** A series of parallel stripes, from the back of the head to just over the shoulder blades fan out slightly over the back and the spotting pattern follows the line of the stripes from the shoulders continuing the length of the body. Smaller spots will be found on the legs and feet as well as on the face. Colour is very dark brown or black. Lips are black. Prominent black tear duct lines one the inner sides of each eye. Rims of eyes, lips, and nose should be outlined with black.

**Nose Leather:** Black.

**Paw Pads:** Deep charcoal or brownish black.

**Eye Colour:** Amber to light green.

**Objection:** Spots that are any colour other than dark brown to black. Vertically aligned spots or mackerel tabby type stripes.

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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:

- More or fewer than five toes on each front paw and four toes on each back paw. Pixie-Bobs are exempt from this disqualification.
- 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.
- Any entry that is declawed. Clear nail-tip covers are allowed.
- Any deformity or disfigurement — hereditary, congenital, or acquired. Household Pet entries are exempt from this disqualification.
- 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).
- 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).
- 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.
- Wrong eye colour (unless otherwise specified in a breed's standard).
- Crossed eyes in any breed. Household Pet entries are exempt from this disqualification.
- Maloccluded jaws.
- 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.
- Any entry that scores less than 90 points.
- 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.
- 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.
- Judges shall penalize or disqualify N.F.A (No Further Award) for poor condition, indicating illness or poor care.
- If an entry has fleas, fungus, ear mites, etc., the judge shall N.F.A. the entry and notify the Show Manager.
- An obviously pregnant or lactating queen will be disqualified as N.F.A. (No Further Awards).
- Natural lighting should be used wherever possible. Allowances should be made for harsh artificial lighting, which may distort eye and coat colour.
- 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.
- 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).
- 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.
- When an entry's colour or pattern has been misclassified, the entry shall be transferred to its correct class with the owner's permission.
- 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:

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

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