

STANDING RULE #7

QUALIFICATION, TRAINING, AND LICENSING OF JUDGES

PART I PURPOSE

The purpose of the CFF Judging Program is to prepare and to maintain high quality personnel in the art and technique of handling, evaluating, and placing of cats according to CFF show rules.

PART II CATEGORIES

Each person, in or applying for the CFF Judging Program, shall be classified as one of the following:

1. Applicant
2. Trainee
3. Probationary
4. Approved Specialty(ies)
5. Approval Pending All-breed
6. Approved All-breed judge
7. Guest Judge from another association.

PART III ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR JUDGES' TRAINING PROGRAM

1. The applicant must:
 - a. be sponsored by exactly three (3) CFF member clubs, in one of which he is an actively participating member in good standing, and be of good reputation in the cat fancy;
 - b. have been active in CFF for at least three (3) years prior to application;
 - c. have owned and shown a cat from Novice to Grand Champion;
 - d. have had a CFF-registered cattery for a minimum of three (3) years. He shall have bred and registered a litter, and have shown one of his own breeding to a CFF champion, or have shown two (2) cats from Novice to Grand Champion in either the championship or altered championship class.
 - e. have served as Show Manager or co- manager at two (2) separate CFF shows;
 - f. be a certified ring clerk, having successfully clerked three (3) shows within one (1) year prior to application to the judging program.
 - g. be 21 years of age or older; (see paragraph 3 this section for exception)
 - h. hold no offices or judgeships on organizations with purposes similar to those of CFF or in affiliated clubs of those similar organizations (unaffiliated breed clubs are excepted);
 - i. complete and return to the Judging Coordinator (JC) an official, notarized application form, a check payable to CFF for \$50.00, and letters from exactly three (3) sponsoring clubs ninety (90) days prior to a meeting of the CFF Executive Board;
 - j. each of the three (3) clubs sponsoring the applicant must use the applicant at their next sanctioned show.
2. At the next meeting of the Executive Board, the JC shall announce the names of the persons who have met the requirements and who will be tested for admission to the CFF Judging Program.
3. In special circumstances, the Executive Board may consider applications from a person less than 21 years of age. All of the above requirements except g must be met. The application shall be circulated with the agenda, and discussed and voted upon at the next meeting.

PART IV TESTING OF APPLICANTS

1. An applicant must complete the comprehensive examination within thirty (30) days of receipt of the test and the necessary Rules and obtain a score of 90% or higher. If the candidate fails the test, he may request a second, different examination. Failure to pass the second test will result in the applicant not being admitted into the program. The applicant may re-apply after one (1) year.
2. After passing the comprehensive examination, the applicant must attend a judging school that is conducted by one or more CFF All-breed (AB) judges who have been appointed by the President of CFF in concurrence with the Judging Coordinator (JC). The school shall include instructions in judging mechanics, the handling of different breeds, the pacing of judging, and five (5) written mechanics tests supplied by the JC. The completed tests, along with the AB judges' comments on the applicant, shall be sent to the JC, who will announce in the Newsletter the name(s) of the candidate(s) who have passed the judging examination and have been advanced to Trainee status in the program. Anyone who fails the judging school examination may request a second chance; a second failure drops the applicant from the program.

PART V TRAINING

1. For each Trainee, the JC shall appoint an All-breed judge to serve as a counselor. This counselor shall advise the Trainee on specific problems, paperwork, promptness, consistency in judging, and on conducting finals throughout the training and probationary period. A package of requirements and recommendations for the counselor will be supplied by the JC.
2. A Trainee must judge at least three (3) HHP shows and handle groups of twelve (12) or more cats under at least five (5) different AB judges. The groups to be handled shall be predetermined by the JC and the counselor. The Trainee must request permission to handle cats at a show from the Show Manager and the AB judge.

A Trainee will be allowed two (2) groups per show day under two (2) different judges. The trainee will either leave the show hall until after the 2nd group is completed or go to the ring where the 2nd group will be done until the assignment is completed." After each group, the Trainee shall discuss with the AB judge the merits and faults of each cat and answer any questions the AB judge may ask. The Trainee must spend one (1) day at a show with the Counselor while the Counselor judges. The Trainee shall answer questions from the Counselor and prepare, on paper, without knowledge of the Counselor's final awards, an Alters Final, using the awards hung earlier by the Counselor. In each instance, as with the HHP shows, the AB judge and the Counselor shall complete an evaluation form supplied by the JC and returned to the JC. The JC will, in turn, send a copy of the evaluation to the Trainee and the Counselor shall have a copy. Fourteen (14) or more favorable evaluations will allow the JC to present the Trainee to the Judges' Review Board for advancement to Probationary status. If less than fourteen (14) are favorable, more assignments are required until fourteen (14) favorable evaluations are completed. The Trainee is expected to observe all rules and regulations that govern all members of the judges program, except as noted in Show Rules Article IX.

A form having spaces to record the shows done as training for advancement shall be drawn up the JC and sent to the Trainee. This form shall be signed and dated by the Trainee and the Counselor and returned to the JC for circulation to the Review Board for advancement. The date the Review Board advances the candidate shall begin the year in the category. It will be the responsibility of the Trainee to have the form available for signature.

PART VI PROBATIONARY, APPROVED SPECIALTY(IES), AND APPROVAL PENDING ALL-BREED JUDGES

Advancement of judges from Probationary status to Approved All-breed shall be at their own pace, with a minimum of five (5) shows and one (1) year spent in each category. If the judge receives no demerits for mechanical errors and the club and supervisory judges' evaluations are favorable, the judge's work and the evaluations from the clubs shall be examined by the Review Board, which consists of the JC, the Counselor, and three (3) AB judges, one of whom shall be elected at each Executive Board meeting. Demerit points will prevent the above judge from advancing at that time. The Review Board may advance the judge to the next status, except in the case of advancement to Approved All-breed, where they may recommend advancement to the Executive Board for a vote at the next scheduled meeting. Any person who is refused advancement twice in one status may appeal the decision to the CFF Executive Board. All voting on the advancement of judges to All-breed status shall take place at either the Annual or Semi-annual meetings only. Information on judges due for advancement to Approved All-breed must be included with the package sent to the clubs and individual members. This advancement must be by two-thirds (2/3) vote.

A form shall be drawn up by the JC and sent to all training judges with spaces for the shows in which they have done training for advancement. This form shall be signed and dated by the training judge and the Counselor and returned to the JC for circulation to the Review Board for advancement. The date the Review Board advances the candidate shall begin the year in the category. (See also Standing Rule #18.) It will be the responsibility of the training judge to have the form available for signature.

PART VII ACCEPTANCE FOR EXPERIENCED JUDGES FROM OTHER ASSOCIATIONS

1. An experienced judge applying for CFF affiliation must:
 - a. have been an active judge affiliated with one of the associations with which CFF has reciprocity arrangements (see CFF Show Rules, Article VIII, Section 3b) within six (6) months prior to application;
 - b. have been approved for All-breed status in his former association (if not, he must complete the entire CFF Judges Training Program as specified for new applicants);
 - c. meet the following eligibility requirements as described in Standing Rule #7, Part III, Section 1: Eligibility for Judges Training Program, Section 1 g & h;
 - d. complete and return to the JC an official application form, notarized, with a check for \$50.00, along with a letter from one (1) CFF sponsoring club of which they are a member, ninety (90) days prior to a CFF meeting of the Executive Board;
 - e. include with the application form and application fee of \$50.00, a carbon or photostatic copy of his resignation from the association with which he was formerly affiliated, as well as his resignations from any offices or memberships in its affiliated clubs and/or the parent organization;
 - f. satisfactorily complete the CFF "Qualifying Examination". If this requirement has been met prior to application to CFF, he must have satisfactorily completed the Refresher Questionnaire for each year since taking the Qualifying exam, and he must have paid his annual CFF license fee for each year.
2. At the next meeting of the Executive Board after an experienced judge's application, club endorsement, and proper resignations have been received by the JC, he shall be accepted into the judging program after receiving a favorable two-thirds majority vote of those present and voting.
3. The JC will notify the applicant of acceptance as an Approval Pending All-breed judge.

PART VIII

APPROVED ALL-BREED JUDGE

1. The Approved All-breed judge may occasionally be required to:
 - a. participate in the Judges Training Program;
 - b. submit questions to the Judging Coordinator for use in the Annual Refresher Examination.
2. In order to accept an assignment from an international association for a guest judge, a CFF judge must have been in the Approved All-breed status for a minimum of one (1) year and have judged a minimum of five (5) AB shows. He must notify the JC of all show dates accepted for another association. The notice must be in writing.

PART IX.

MAINTENANCE OF CFF JUDGING STATUS

1. To maintain his status, a CFF judge must:
 - a. Continue active membership in a CFF member club.
 - b. Perform the duties of judges as stated in the CFF Show Rules.
 - c. Continue ethical conduct and show decorum as stated in the CFF Show Rules and Standards.
 - d. Pass with a minimum grade of 90% the Annual Refresher examination on Show Rules, Breed Standards, and procedures. The examination will be prepared by the JC, using questions submitted to the Committee appointed by the President of CFF and consisting of a minimum of three (3) qualified persons, two (2) of whom must be CFF Approved All-breed judges. This examination will focus primarily on recent changes in CFF Show Rules, Breed Standards, and procedures. It will be an open book examination. The Judging Coordinator will be responsible for updating the rigorous "Qualifying Examination", and will take questions for updating the annual Refresher Examination. Any judge who fails the periodic Refresher Examination must take the test again within two (2) weeks. If he fails it the second time, he will be automatically suspended from officiating at any CFF-sanctioned show, including any for which sanctions have already been granted and judging panel approvals have been received by the clubs from the JC. The same suspension rule will apply to any judge who fails to respond by the deadline date for return of the Annual Refresher.
 - e. Any judge who accumulates 20 demerits in one show or a total of 30 demerits in a show season shall have his performance record submitted to the Judges Review Board for further action. (See page 27.7 for demerit points.)
 - f. Pay the annual CFF license fee of \$20.00. CFF judges must forward this fee, payable to CFF, to the JC by May 1. This fee will be concurrent with the show season. No judge will be allowed to officiate at any CFF-sanctioned show while in arrears. A new judging trainee shall not be required to pay the fee for the judging license until he actually becomes a judge.
 - g. Attend such schools and seminars as may be required.
 - h. Judge, clerk, and/or exhibit entries at a minimum of three (3) CFF shows or shows held by organizations with which CFF has reciprocity per show season. One show activity in a two-year period must be done at a CFF show.
 - i. Any judge residing 350 miles or more from most CFF shows, who attends a CFF Annual or Semi-Annual meeting, shall be considered to have fulfilled one of the requirements stated in letter h above.
2. A CFF judge must notify the JC in writing of his acceptance of a guest judging assignment for another association.
3. A judge who fails to satisfy the requirements of this section is subject to suspension or cancellation of his license in accordance with the By-laws, Article XIV.

PART X. GUEST/INTERNATIONAL JUDGES

1. All CFF judging regulations apply to judges from other associations officiating at CFF shows.
2. To qualify for CFF judging assignments, a guest judge must:
 - a) be a member of the judging panel of an association with which CFF has reciprocity arrangements (see CFF Show rules, Article VIII, Section 3b)
 - b) International guest judges may come from any Feline Registry outside the confines of the United States approved by the Executive Board.
 - c) take and pass a CFF mechanics test
 - d) be of approved status in his own association.
 - e) maintain membership in good standing and judging status in his own association.
3. Requirements for license fees for Guest/International Judges shall be determined by the agreement between CFF and the registries with which there is reciprocity. The CFF license fee from judges in another registry, if required by the agreement, must be forwarded to the JC, payable to CFF, by May 1 of each year. (See Section 2 a & b of Part X.)
4. Any judge resigning from the CFF judging list and applying for permanent status in another association shall not be allowed to request guest judging status in CFF for a period of three (3) years after the date of resignation.

PART XI. JUDGES LIST

The CFF Judging Coordinator will compile a list of all eligible CFF judges and Trainees and submit a current version of that list for publication in each issue of the Newsletter.

The All-breed section of the Judges list will include the names, current addresses, and phone numbers of Approved All-breed judges and Approval Pending All-breed judges. The Longhair and Shorthair Specialties section will include the names, current addresses and phone numbers of Approved Specialties judges and Probationary judges. Those specialty judges who are qualified for one Specialty only will be listed separately and their specialty will be indicated. The Guest Judges' section will include the names, current addresses and telephone numbers of qualified guest judges. In the event that one of the associations with which CFF has reciprocal arrangements drops one of their judges whose name appears on the CFF guest judges listing, the guest judge will be permitted to complete any assignments in CFF shows which have been sanctioned by the CFF Judging Coordinator, but no other assignments will be approved without the specific consent of the Executive Board.

The CFF Judging Coordinator will send an amended Judges List to those associations with which CFF has reciprocity agreements. The amended list will indicate those judges who are not allowed to accept guest judging assignments from other associations. A separate section of the Judges List will give the names of judges on the panels of those associations with which CFF has reciprocal arrangements as last furnished by the Associations to the CFF Judging Coordinator and specifying which judges have qualified as Guest Judges under the rules of CFF. In the event that one of these other Associations with which CFF has reciprocal arrangements drops any of their judges whose name appears on the CFF Guest Judge listing, the Guest Judge will be permitted to complete any assignments in CFF shows which have been sanctioned by the Judging Coordinator, but no other assignments will be approved without the specific action of the Executive Board.

The CFF Judging Coordinator will send current Show Rules and Breed Standards to each Trainee and licensed Judge.

PART XII. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

For just cause, a licensed CFF judge may request a year's leave of absence. At the end of the year, the judge may return to the active list in the status held prior to the leave, after passing with a minimum grade of 90% the current Refresher Examination. The Judge may request an extension of the leave for one (1) additional year, again for just cause. At the end of the second year, the Judge must pass with a minimum grade of 90% the current Qualifying Examination. The Judge may then return to the prior status upon receiving approval of the CFF Executive Board. During the leave of absence, the Judge must continue payment of the annual license fee (as stated in Standing Rule 7, Part IX, Section 2). The Judging Coordinator will continue to send current Show Rules and Breed Standards to the Judge on leave.

Requests for leaves of absence and extensions shall be made to the CFF Judging Coordinator and shall be granted by the CFF Judging Coordinator.

PART XIII. REMOVAL OF A JUDGE FROM THE CFF JUDGING PROGRAM

1. Any Judge whose name has been removed from the CFF Judges' List by the Executive Board for cause shall not be permitted to judge any show for any CFF member club for such a period of time as decided by the Executive Board, nor may that Judge be permitted to officiate as a guest judge for other associations.
2. If a Judge resigns from CFF's judging program, any judging contract entered into by said judge, which calls for a judging assignment on or after the effective date of such resignation, shall immediately become null and void. The Judging Coordinator shall notify any club affected by a judge's resignation.

PART XIV. RIGHT OF APPEAL

Any decision by the judging coordinator regarding the qualification, training, and licensing of Judges or other matters handled through the Judging Program is subject to the right of appeal. This appeal is to be made through the President to the Appeal Board by the Trainee or Judge. Such a right of appeal must be made in writing to the President of the Federation within thirty (30) days of the decision in question. The Trainee/Judge and the Judging Coordinator must agree to abide by the decision of the Appeal Board.

STANDING RULE #7

DEMERITS

Penalty Points for Voided Wins:

All Kittens, Championship and Alters

Top Five (5) Points

Top Ten (10) Points

5	BEST	10	
4	SECOND	9	
3	THIRD	8	
2	FOURTH	7	
1	FIFTH	6	
	SIXTH	5	
	SEVENTH	4	
	EIGHTH	3	
	NINTH	2	
	TENTH	1	
Best Novice	2	Second Best Novice	1
Best Grand	3	Second Best Grand	1
Best Champion	3	Second Best Champion	2
LH or SH		LH or SH	
Best Master	3	Second Best Master	2
Best of Breed	2	Second Best of Breed	1
Best Master, Grand Champion, or AB Champion - AB Ring			5
Second Best Master, Grand Champion or AB Champion - AB ring			4
Best Longhair or Best Shorthair - AB Ring			3
Second Best Longhair or Best Shorthair - AB Ring			2
Failure to indicate a "W" for winner in Judges Book			1

Demerits will be assigned accordingly from this list and may be accumulative.