

# **American Cat Fanciers Association, Inc.**

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## **REGISTRATION RULES**

Effective May 1, 2017

# ACFA REGISTRATION RULES

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## AMERICAN CAT FANCIERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

### REGISTRATION RULES

#### Article I - DEFINITIONS

Sec 1. **Cat:** The Word "cat" in these rules governing registration shall include any and all kittens and adult cats whether male, female, neuter or spay.

Sec 2. **Association:** When the words "the Association", or the initials "A C F A" or "ACFA" are used in these rules they shall mean the American Cat Fanciers Association Inc.

Sec 3. **Breeder:** The "Breeder" of a cat is the person who is the registered owner of record or lessee of the dam at the time of mating.

Sec 4. **Purebred:** A cat belonging to a recognized breed of this Association with characteristics maintained through generations of unmixed descent.

Sec 5. **Hybrid:** The first generation progeny resulting from the mating of two different breeds of cats.

Sec 6. **Mixed Breed:** a cat, which contains hybrid cats in its background or a mixture of various breeds.

Sec 7. **Book of Registry:** The Official Record of all cats registered in ACFA denoting their pedigree and breed lineage.

Sec 8. **Registered Cat:** a cat whose pedigree of ancestry is entered in the ACFA Book of Registry, or has proof of entry in a similar registry of an association recognized by ACFA to have equal standards for acceptance in its registry.

Sec 9. **Owner of Record:** The "owner of record" is defined as the first name appearing in the list of owners on the registration application, transfer of registration or registration certificate.

Sec 10. **Co-ownership:** co-ownership is defined as the joint ownership of a cat by two or more individuals.

#### Article II: REGISTRATION BOOKS

The Association shall maintain a Book of Registry for the registration of cats of breeds recognized either as purebred, hybrid, probationary or experimental breeds, **and those breeds recognized by other recognized association that do not violate ACFA's definition of acceptable breeds.**

#### Article III: BREEDS RECOGNIZED

Sec 1. **Breed Classification:** The following are the definitions of the various breed classifications in ACFA.

- a. **Natural Breed.** Produced or existing in nature. Any cat registered as a Natural Breed must be of the same breed as the Sire and Dam and all other ancestors reflected in its pedigree of ancestry.
- b. **Developed Breed.** To have worked out gradually, evolved. Any cat registered as a Developed Breed must be of the same breed as its Sire and Dam. Other breeds, which were accepted in the development of the breed, may appear in its pedigree of ancestry as noted in Section 2.
- c. **Mutant/Hybrid.** An animal with inheritable characteristics that differ from those of the parents [mutant]. The offspring of crossbred animals [hybrid]. Cats registered as Mutants or Hybrids may be the resultant of a Sire and Dam of a different breed [both Sire and Dam being of the same breed], the combining of a Mutant or Hybrid and a different breed of cat. A pedigree of ancestry may reflect the different breeds accepted as producing the Mutant or Hybrid cat.

Sec 2. **Breeds by Classification:** The following are the breeds recognized for Championship competition and their classification:

- a. **Natural Breeds.** Abyssinian; American Shorthair; Chartreux; Egyptian Mau; Japanese Bobtail [LH/SH]; Korat, Maine Coon Cat; Manx; Norwegian Forest Cat; Persian; Pixiebob LH/SH; Russian Blue, Russian Shorthair; Siamese; Siberian; Turkish Angora; Turkish Van.

## b. Developed Breeds.

Australian Mist: Immediate ancestry must reflect three generations of only Australian Mist.

Bengal: Immediate ancestry must reflect three generations of only Bengal

Birman: Immediate ancestry must reflect three generations of only Birman.

British Longhair: Immediate ancestry must reflect three generations of only British Longhair or British Shorthair. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect ESH and PER.

British Shorthair: Immediate ancestry must reflect three generations of only British Shorthair or British Longhair.

European Burmese: Immediate ancestry must reflect three generations of only European Burmese.

Havana Brown: Sire and Dam must be Havana Brown, however, pedigree of ancestry may reflect Russian Blue, Siamese, American Shorthair or Oriental Shorthair.

Kurillian Bobtail [LH/SH]: Sire and Dam must be Kurillian Bobtail LH or Kurillian Bobtail SH. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect unknown parentage.

Ragdoll: Immediate ancestry must reflect three generations of only Ragdoll. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect Birmans and Pointed Himalayans.

## c. Mutant/Hybrid Breeds.

American Bobtail [LH/SH]: Sire and/or Dam must be ABS, ABL or ABT. May reflect domestic and/or unknown ancestry in their pedigree only on cats born before January 1, 2007.

American Curl [LH/SH]: Pedigree of ancestry may reflect ACL, ACS, AMC or domestic cats of unknown parentage.

American Wirehair: May be produced and registered as follows: AWH X AWH; ASH X AWH [straight coat]; or AWH X ASH.

Balinese: Sire and/or Dam must be a BAL X BAL, BAL X OLH, BAL X OSH, or BAL X SIA. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect BAL, OLH, OSH or SIA.

**Bombay: Sire and/or Dam must be Bombay or Bombay x Sable Burmese or Bombay x Black ASH. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect Black ASH.**

Burmese: Sire and/or Dam must be Burmese, Burmese x Bombay, or Copper Cat/import from Asia (see Article IV Sec. 5f). Pedigree of ancestry may reflect Black ASH.

Burmilla Longhair: Sire and Dam must be Burmilla SH, Burmilla LH or European Burmese. Pedigree ancestry may reflect Chinchilla Persian.

Burmilla Shorthair: Sire and Dam must be Burmilla SH, Burmilla LH or European Burmese. Pedigree ancestry may reflect Chinchilla Persian.

Cornish Rex: Sire and Dam must be CRX. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect CRX, ASH and/or SIA.

Cymric: Sire and/or Dam must be CYM or MAN. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect CYM and/or MAN.

Devon Rex: Either Sire and/or Dam must be DRX. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect DRX, SIA and/or ASH. Allowable outcrosses: ASH, SIA, BSH, BOM, BUR, and EUR.

Exotic Shorthair: Sire and Dam must be ESH, or ESH and PER, or ESH and HIM, or ESH and LEX. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect ASH, BSH, BUR, ESH, HIM, PER or LEX.

Himalayan: Sire and Dam must be Himalayan or HIM and PER. Three generation pedigree of ancestry may reflect HIM and PER.

LaPerm Longhair: Sire or Dam must be either: LPL X LPS, LPL X LPL, LPL X DLH and LPL X DSH are the only allowable outcrosses to the LaPerm Longhair. As of January 2020, the LaPerm LH may have only LaPerm Parents.

LaPerm Shorthair: Sire or Dam must be either: LPS X LPS, LPS X LPL, LPS X DLH and LPS X DSH are the only allowable outcrosses to the LaPerm Shorthair. As of January 2020, the LaPerm SH may have only LaPerm Parents.

Longhair Exotic: Sire and Dam must be ESH x ESH, ESH x LEX, LEX x LEX, ESH x PER, or ESH x HIM, LEX x HIM, LEX x PER. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect ASH, BSH, BUR, ESH, HIM, PER or LEX.

Nebelung: Sire and Dam must be NEB X NEB, NEB X RUS, or NEB X RSH.

Pedigree of ancestry may only reflect Russian Blue or Russian Shorthair as the allowable Outcrosses.

Ocicat: Sire and Dam must be OCI or OCI and ABY. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect ABY, ASH [silver tabby only] and/or SIA.

Oriental Longhair: Sire and Dam must be OLH or OLH, OSH, SIA or BAL. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect OLH, BAL, OSH or other recognized breeds of shorthairs.

Oriental Shorthair: Sire and Dam must be OSH, OSH and SIA, OSH and OLH, or OSH and BAL. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect OSH or other recognized breeds of shorthairs.

**Peterbald:** Sire and Dam must be OSH or SIA and Don Sphynx (Don hairless). A three generation of registered cats is all that is required for registry. Allowable outcrosses are Oriental Shorthairs, Siamese, and Don Sphynx (Don hairless). First generation crosses between Sphynx and Oriental Shorthair or Siamese are "X" hybrids and are considered as first generation. They are showable as first generation. Pedigrees from foreign organizations may list other breeds – such as Havana Browns. These are actually the same as Chestnut Oriental Shorthairs and should not be excluded from registry.

**RagaMuffin:** Either Sire or Dam must be registered as a RagaMuffin in ACFA or an association recognized by ACFA. Allowable outcrosses are Siberian or Ragdoll. Ragamuffins transferring from another association must present a five (5) generation pedigree reflecting breeding only Ragamuffin to Ragamuffin or Ragamuffin to recognized outcross. The Ragdoll will cease to be an allowable outcross as of May 1, 2010. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect one parent as a DLH, PER, HIM, RGD or SIB. Every Ragamuffin in the pedigree of ancestry must have a least one parent that is registered as a Ragamuffin.

**Scottish Fold [LH]:** Sire and Dam must be either: SFL, SFS; SFL and SFS; SFL or SFS and ASH; SFL or SFS and BSH; SFL or SFS and BLH. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect SFL, SFS, ASH, and/or BSH, BLH, PER, ESH or LEX. PER may be reflected only in ancestry of BSH imports

**Scottish Fold [SH]:** Sire and Dam must be either: SFS; SFL; SFS and SFL; SFS or SFL and ASH; SFS or SFL and BSH; SFS or SFL and BLH. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect SFS, SFL, ASH, BSH, BLH, PER, ESH and/or LEX.

**Selkirk Rex (LH & SH):** Sire and Dam must be either: SRL, SRS, BLH, BSH, PER, HIM, ESH and LEX. Outcross to BLH, BSH, PER, HIM, ESH, LEX until December 31, 2019 indefinitely. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect SRS, SRL, BSH, PER, HIM, ESH, LEX. Offspring from Miss DePesto of Noface (original Selkirk Rex - unregistered domestic SH) bred to an unregistered male will be allowed to be registered as Foundation Selkirk Rex.

**Singapura:** Sire or Dam must be Singapura. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect Domestic Shorthair cats From source of origin (Singapore) that display the phenotype compatible to the current breed Standard (ticked tabby, sepia agouti or sepia). Such cats are to be registered as Singapura Foundation Cats. Any descendant of Singapura to Singapura Foundation Cat breeding Regardless of number of generations removed from such may be shown, if representative Of the Singapura Breed Standard.

**Snowshoe:** Sire and Dam must be SNO, or SNO x SIA, or SNO x Natural Point, Champagne Point, Blue Point or Platinum Point TNK. Pointed and white, blue-eyed North American born domestic shorthair cats of unknown or unregistered parentage will be allowed to be registered as Foundation Snowshoes upon approval of application by a majority of the SNO Breed Executive Committee members.

**Somali:** Sire and/or Dam must be SOM or ABY. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect SOM and ABY.

**Sphynx:** Sire and/or Dam must be Sphynx. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect DRX or ASH. Pedigree of ancestry may reflect domestic shorthair in 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> generation.

**Tonkinese:** Sire and Dam must be TNK, or TNK to BUR, or TNK to EUR, or TNK to SIA, or SIA to BUR. SIA, BUR, and EUR in the pedigree of ancestry must be of the four traditional colors of the SIA [Lilac, Blue, Chocolate, Seal] and BUR [Sable, Champagne, Platinum, Blue] and EUR (Platinum, Blue, Sable (Brown) and Champagne). Immediate ancestry of the European Burmese must reflect five generations of only European Burmese.

**Sec 3. Registration Numbers.** Each cat registered in ACFA will be given an individual registration number which will denote: [1] breed of cat; [2] color pattern; [3] color; [4] year registered; [5] individual serial number and [6] generation coding for ancestry on record or generations removed from a hybrid breeding. Letter/number coding for breed, color pattern and color are noted below and are available under separate cover.

**Sec 4. Breed Codes.** The following codes are assigned to the recognized Championship, Probationary [PRO] and Experimental [EXP] breeds:

ABS - American Bobtail SH	DRX - Devon Rex	PBL - Pixiebob LH
ABL – American Bobtail LH	EGY - Egyptian Mau	PBS – Pixiebob SH
ABY – Abyssinian	ESH - Exotic Shorthair	PER – Persian
ACL - American Curl Longhair	EUR – European Burmese	PTB – Peterbald
ACS - American Curl Shorthair	HAV - Havana Brown	RGD – Ragdoll
ASH - American Shorthair	HIM – Himalayan	RMF - Ragamuffin
AUS – Australian Mist	JBL - Japanese Bobtail Longhair	RUS – Russian Blue
AWH – American Wirehair	JBT - Japanese Bobtail Shorthair	RSH - Russian Shorthair
BAL – Balinese	KBL – Kurilian Bobtail Longhair	SFL - Scottish Fold Longhair
BEN - Bengal	KBS – Kurilian Bobtail Shorthair	SFS - Scottish Fold Shorthair
BIR – Birman	KOR – Korat	SIA – Siamese
BOM – Bombay	LPL – LaPerm Longhair	SIB - Siberian
BLH – British Longhair	LPS – LaPerm Shorthair	SIN – Singapura
BSH - British Shorthair	LEX - Longhair Exotic	SNO – Snowshoe
BUL – Burmilla Longhair	MAN – Manx	SOM – Somali
BUS – Burmilla Shorthair	MCC - Maine Coon Cat	SPH – Sphynx
BUR – Burmese	NEB - Nebelung	SRL – Selkirk Rex Longhair
CHX – Chartreux	NFC - Norwegian Forest Cat	SRS - Selkirk Rex Shorthair
CHY - Chantilly [EXP]	OCI – Ocicat	TNK – Tonkinese
CRX - Cornish Rex	OLH - Oriental Longhair	TUR - Turkish Angora
CYM – Cymric	OSH – Oriental Shorthair	TVN - Turkish Van

#### Sec 5. **Color Pattern Codes:**

ACFA Breed Color/Pattern Codes are available under separate cover.

The second digit of the pattern code will designate the sex of the cat [Male 0-2-4-6-8, Female 1-3-5-7-9].

The last character of the color code, if other than zero, is used to note a variation of the indicative color, special pattern genes in cat's ancestry, other colors in the pedigree of ancestry or other distinctions pertinent to the breed. Central Office may prepare additional codes as needed for review and approval by the Board of Directors before use. Contact Central Office for a current listing of the variable codes.

Sec 6. **Championship Breeds and Colors:** Breeds recognized for Championship competition in ACFA are listed in Show Rules, Article X. Colors recognized in each breed are listed in individual breed Standards.

### Article IV: BOOK OF REGISTRY

Sec 1. **Contents:** The Book of Registry will contain all cats, which have been registered in ACFA. The registration number of each cat will reflect the extent of pedigree contained in the official files of this Association. Coding used in the registration number will be as per Article III, Sections 4 through 6 and Section 2 through 4 of this Article.

Sec 2. **Foundation Registration:** Foundation registration is provided for: [1] those cats resulting from a hybrid breeding program of registered purebred cats -or- [2] cats with "unknown" or "unregistered" ancestry and will reflect the mixed breeding or unknown/unregistered cats within a three generation pedigree.

a. **Foundation Coding:** Cats entered in the Book of Registry under the Foundation Registration Rules will contain the code letter "F" in the last section of their registration number.

b. **Generation Coding:** In addition, the type coding [X,F,S] will be followed by a single digit suffix [-X, -1, -2, -3] reflecting the number of generations that the cat being registered is removed from a mixed breeding or unknown/unregistered ancestor. Such coding will be:

[1] -X Cat is a hybrid representative of the breed.

[2] -1 Sire and/or Dam is/are a hybrid cat.

[3] -2 Cat is two generations removed from a hybrid cat [i.e.; Grand Sire and/or Dam is/are a hybrid of unknown/unregistered cat.

[4] -3 Cat is three generations removed from a hybrid or unknown/unregistered cat.

**NOTE:** For the purposes of these rules, a hybrid cat is the first generation progeny of mixed breeding [e.g.; Sire is a Himalayan and Dam is a Persian].

c. Foundation Rules: Cats may be entered in the Book of Registry under one of the following rules:

Rule 1: The cat to be registered is the resultant first generation progeny of the mating of two different recognized and registered breeds of cats [hybrid]. Such cat will have the suffix "X" placed at the end of its registration number.

Rule 2: When a hybrid cat, which is a creditable representative of a recognized breed, is mated to another hybrid cat of its breed, then the litter from this breeding shall be registered as representatives of the breed and may be individually registered as the first generation of the breed, -1.

Rule 3: When a hybrid cats which is a creditable representative of a recognized breed is mated to another Foundation registered cat of the same breed, or a cat of the same breed registered as per the rules in Section 3 below, then the litter from this breeding shall be registered as the first generation of the breed, -1.

Rule 4: When a Foundation registered cat that reflects one or more generations from a hybrid cat is mated to another registered cat of its breed reflecting an equal [or more] generations removed from a hybrid breeding, the litter from this breeding will be registered as one generation removed from the Sire or Dam reflecting the least generations from a hybrid breeding [e.g.; a -1 cat bred to a -1 Foundation registered cat will produce a litter that may be registered as -2 foundation registered cats.]

Rule 5: When the cat to be registered has an "unknown" or "unregistered" cat in its ancestry within three generations, it will be registered under this rule. The suffix -1, -2, -3 added to its registration will note how many registered generations the cat is removed from the unknown or unregistered ancestor.

Note: Breeds authorized unknown/unregistered ancestors within 3 generations are noted in Section 5.

**Sec 3. Standard Registration:** Standard registration is provided for cats which have three [3] to six [6], or more, generations of pure breeding reflected in their pedigree contained in the official files of ACFA.

a. Standard Coding: Cats entered into the Book of Registry under the Standard Registration Rules will contain the letter "S" in the last section of their registration number.

b. Generation Coding: Cats registered under the rules of this section may have a suffix of -1, -2, -3 added to their registration number reflecting the extent of pure breeding on their pedigree as contained in the official files of ACFA. Such suffixes are:

[1] -1, the ACFA Book of Registry only contains records of three generations of purebred background.

[2] -2, the ACFA Book of Registry only contains records of four generations of purebred background.

[3] -3, the ACFA Book of Registry only contains records of five generations of purebred background.

c. No Suffix Added: Cats with the "S" in the last section of their Registration Number that do not have a single digit suffix following their Registration Number are those that reflect six, or more, generations of pure breeding contained in the ACFA Book of Registry.

d. Standard Rules: Rules pertaining to the registration of cats under this section are:

Rule 1: When both the Sire and Dam have six or more generations of pure breeding recorded in the ACFA Book of Registry, such cats will be registered with the "S" coding and no single digit suffix.

Rule 2: When the Sire and/or Dam are not registered in this Association but can show proof of three to six, or more, generations of pure breeding, the extent of proof will determine the suffix to be added to the Registration Number. The pedigree, to the extent provided, will then be recorded in the ACFA Book of Registry.

Rule 3: When imported cats registered in the Office Registry of the country from which exported and the application for registration is accompanied by the export certificate [or facsimile copy] showing three to six, or more, generations of pure breeding complete with registrations numbers; any suffix added to the Registration Number will depend on the extent of the pedigree submitted with the application for entry in the ACFA Book of Registry.

Rule 4: When a Foundation Registered -3 cat is mated to another Foundation -3, or ACFA registered cat with three or more generations of purebred ancestry in the Book of Registry, then the litter may be individually registered with an "S1" generation coding.



Rule 5: If, at a later date, the owner of a cat, registered in accordance with these rules, provides information noting additional generations of the cat's pedigree, it may be re-registered and the generation suffix revised accordingly.

**Sec 4. Hybrid and Experimental Breeds:** When a cat or kitten is the first generation resultant from a mixed/hybrid breeding of two registered cats of Experimental, Probationary or Championship status recognized by ACFA, it shall be Foundation Registered and entered in the Book of Registry as a hybrid cat of the breed resulting from such hybrid breeding [e.g.; The Persian bred to a Himalayan would be registered as a hybrid Himalayan.] In such cases, the entire litter, if individually registered, would have the suffix "X" added to their Registration Numbers, unless exempted by Article V, Sec 5.

**Sec 5. Rules Pertaining to Specific Breeds:**

- a. Abyssinian: [1] All kittens, regardless of color, in an Abyssinian litter with an ancestor other than Ruddy in the prior three generations will have an appropriate designation incorporated into the registration number to denote the possible presence of the other color genes. [2] In addition, if the color other than Ruddy is present in a litter, all kittens in that litter must carry the appropriate designation [as noted in Section 1 above] which will denote the presence of the additional color genes.
- b. American Bobtails: The two sections, both Longhair and Shorthair, shall forever be joined under a Joint Breed Executive Committee and a single Breed Chairperson. American Bobtails, LH & SH, that are the progeny of a registered ABS, ABL or ABT Sire and Dam, but reflect unknown ancestry or domestic in the 2nd and 3rd generation of its pedigree, may be registered in ACFA, however such cats **may not** be exhibited in Championship competition.
- c. American Curl: both Longhair and Shorthair: All American Curls can be traced back to the original, Shulamith, who was an unregistered longhair domestic of unknown parentage. Outcrossing to non-pedigreed domestic cats of like type will continue until 1-1-2015. Kittens may be individually registered as LH or SH, depending on length of hair.
- d. American Shorthair: American Shorthairs registered with another association [as specified by the Board of Directors] that is the progeny of a registered ASH Sire and Dam, but reflects unknown ancestry on its pedigree, may be registered in ACFA.
- e. Bengal cats that are the 4th generation from the Asian Leopard Cat are eligible for registry. If the parents are not registered with ACFA a three-generation certified Pedigree of Ancestry with only Bengal to Bengal and a registration slip from a recognized association are required. Bengal cats must be registered before being entered in ACFA shows.
- f. Burmese: Imported Natural Burmese/Copper Cats from Asia, including those of undocumented parentage (unknowns), may be registered as foundation Burmese Cats. These imported cats may not be shown in ACFA, however their offspring mated with other registered Burmese/Bombay cats can be registered and shown in ACFA.
- g. Korat: Registration is closed to all "F-1" Korats not having proof of Thai origin. Proof of Thai origin shall consist of a pedigree signed by the breeder in Thailand; Air Way bill; Ship's Manifest; Rabies and/or Enteritis Certificates issued in Thailand; or Custom receipts issued at Port of Entry in the country of residence of the receiving Korat breeder. New, imported, Korats with proof of origin and ancestry in Thailand will be identified with the prefix K-7-12-T preceding the registration, which may not be allotted until, or unless, such proof of origin has been submitted. Korats must be registered in ACFA before being entered in ACFA shows.
- h. Norwegian Forest Cat: [1] All imported cats must be registered with an import certificate. If the cat has been shipped, it also must have shipping papers included with application. If the cat has been hand carried, a letter with foreign health certificate must accompany the registration application. The only European registries that are accepted will be FiFe Clubs. [2] Cats may be imported that are first generation provided they are accompanied by the Council of Breeding Certification and may only come from one of the Scandinavian countries. First generation cats may be exhibited. [3] No foundation [first generation] cat may be registered that has been born in the United States.
- i. Pixiebob LH/SH:
1. Outcrossing to other recognized breeds is not acceptable. However, a Pedigree of Ancestry may reflect one or more of the following cats (exclusively) although these cats are a minority in the breed: Jamaica of Stone Island (Manx), Cassiz Wildwood Bencito (Bengal), Pharoah (Bengal), or WillowPlace Magic Sensation (Maine Coon).
  2. Pedigree of Ancestry may reflect unknown (Legend Cats) in the fourth generation and beyond.

3. Pedigree of Ancestry must reflect three generations of registered Pixiebob to Pixiebob.
4. The Pixiebob Longhair and the Pixiebob Shorthair breed sections shall be joined under a Joint Breed Committee and have a single Breed Chairperson representing them.

j. Selkirk Rex: All Selkirk Rex can be traced back to the original, Miss DePesto of Noface, who was an unregistered domestic SH. For Foundation registration ONLY, kittens of this cat sired by an unregistered male will be allowed to be registered as Selkirk Rex, and appear in the Selkirk Rex pedigree. Kittens may be individually registered as LH or SH, depending on length of hair.

k. Siamese: For an individual cat not litter registered with ACFA, the pedigree of ancestry as evidenced by a five-generation certified pedigree from another association as recognized by ACFA shall reflect no oriental shorthair/oriental longhair in the pedigree of ancestry.

l. Snowshoe: Snowshoes that are the progeny of a registered Snowshoe Sire or Dam but reflect unknown or unregistered ancestry in the second or third generation of its pedigree may be registered in ACFA and exhibited in Championship competition. Foundation (first registered generation) cats must have been born in North America.

m. Turkish Angora: Turkish Angoras imported from Turkey will be accepted for registration and Championship competition when the application is accompanied by import papers and a signed statement from the breeder attesting to the fact that the cat is the product of at least 3 generations of pure Turkish Angora to Turkish Angora breeding.

n. Turkish Van: Turkish Vans imported from Turkey will be accepted for registration and Championship competition when the application is accompanied by import papers and a signed statement from the breeder attesting to the fact that the cat is the product of at least 3 generations of pure Turkish Van to Turkish Van breeding.

#### Sec 6. **General Rules:**

- a. Class Re-registration: A cat may be re-registered if it has been registered and shown in an improper breed and/or color class. However, the owner must surrender the original registration certificate and all confirmations at time of application for re-registration.
- b. Re-Registration, Grandfather Clause: Cats registered prior to the adoption of these Rules, and such rules change the registration status of the cat, may apply for re-registration. Owners must submit the original Certificate of Registration with the application and fee when requesting the cat to be re-registered.
- c. Cloning: No cat produced as the result of embryo transplant or cloning will be eligible for ACFA registration.

### **Article V: LITTER REGISTRATION**

Sec 1. **Sire/Dam Registered:** A litter of kittens may be registered with ACFA by the breeder making application on the appropriate Litter Registration form accompanied by the appropriate fee. When the Sire and Dam are both registered with ACFA, only their names and ACFA Registration Numbers need to be provided on the form. If the Sire and/or Dam are not registered with ACFA, the litter may be registered as prescribed in "a" and "b" below.

a. Sire Not Registered: If the Sire of the litter is not registered with ACFA but is registered with another association recognized by ACFA, the three [3] generation pedigree of the Sire, with the Registration Numbers of the other association, must be completed on the Litter Registration application form unless exempted under Article IV, Sec 5 of these rules. Proof of registration must accompany application.

b. Dam Not Registered: If the Dam of the litter is not registered with ACFA but is registered with another association recognized by ACFA, the three [3] generation pedigree of the dam, with the Registration Numbers of the other association, must be completed on the Litter Registration application form unless exempted under Article IV, Sec 5 of these rules. Proof of registration must accompany application.

Sec 2. **Litter Application:** The application to register a litter shall show the names and Registration Numbers of the Sire and Dam, the date of birth, the number of male and female kittens, the name of the breeder, breeder's Cattery and ACFA Cattery Registration number, owner of Sire and Owner of the Litter [if different from the breeder].

**Sec 3. Application for Registration (Litter Slip):** ACFA shall issue a Litter Slip for each individual kitten in the litter. The Litter Slip shall contain the breeder's Cattery name and number [if registered with ACFA], Litter Registration Number, birth date of litter, breed of litter, name and registration number of Sire and Dam and name of owner of litter. In order to register a kitten from a litter, the original Litter Slip must be submitted; no reproduction or alteration will be allowed.

**Sec 4. Owner of Sire of Litter:** If the applicant for the Litter Registration is not the owner of the Sire of the litter, then the owner of the Sire must sign the Litter application in the space provided. A Breeding Certificate may be provided to the Association Executive Director, signed by the owner of the Sire in lieu of the signature on the Litter Registration application.

**Sec 5. Dual Registration:** Litters, which may contain kittens representing two different breed names recognized by ACFA, and approved by the Board of Directors and the respective Breed Sections to fall within this rule, will be registered as the basic breed. However, kittens registered from such litters may be individually registered as either breed, depending on phenotype.

a. American Bobtail Long Hair: Litter registered as American Bobtail Longhair. Kittens may be individually registered as American Bobtail Short Hair (ABS) or American Bobtail Long Hair (ABL), depending on length of the hair.

b. American Bobtail Short Hair: Litter registered as American Bobtail Shorthair. Kittens may be individually registered as American Bobtail Long Hair (ABL) or American Bobtail Short Hair (ABS), depending on length of the hair.

c. American Curl Longhair: Litter registered as American Curl Longhair. Kittens may be individually registered as American Curl Longhair or American Curl Shorthair, depending on the length of hair.

d. American Curl Shorthair: Litter registered as American Curl Shorthair. Kittens may be individually registered as American Curl Shorthair or American Curl Longhair, depending on the length of hair.

e. Australian Mist: Litter registered as Australian Mist.

f. Balinese: Litter registered as Balinese. Kittens may be individually registered as Balinese, Oriental Longhair or Oriental Shorthair depending on which standard they fit and length of hair.

g. Bombay: Litter registered as Bombay. Kittens may be individually registered as Bombay (black) or Burmese (Sable).

h. British [LH]: Litter registered as British Longhair or British Shorthair. Kittens may be individually registered as British Longhair or British Shorthair depending on the length of hair.

i. Burmese: Litter registered as Burmese. Kittens may be individually registered as Bombay (black) or Burmese (Sable).

j. Burmilla Shorhair: Litter registered as Burmilla Shorthair. Kittens may be individually registered as Burmilla Shorthair or Burmilla Longhair depending on the length of hair.

kj. Cymric: Litter registered as Cymric. Kittens may be individually registered as Cymric or Manx, depending on the length of hair.

l. Exotic Shorthair: Litter registered as Exotic Shorthair. Kittens may be individually registered as Exotic Shorthair or Longhair Exotic, depending on length of hair.

m. Japanese Bobtail Longhair: Litter registered as Japanese Bobtail Longhair. Kittens may be individually registered as Japanese Bobtail Longhair or Japanese Bobtail Shorthair.

n. Japanese Bobtail Shorthair: Litter registered as Japanese Bobtail Shorthair. Kittens may be individually registered as Japanese Bobtail Shorthair or Japanese Bobtail Longhair.

o. LaPerm Longhair: Litters will allow for Split registration between LH and SH depending upon the length of hair.

p. LaPerm Shorthair: Litters will allow for Split registration between LH and SH depending upon the length of hair

q. Longhair Exotic: Litter registered as Longhair Exotic. Kittens may be individually registered as Longhair Exotic or Exotic Shorthair, depending on length of hair.

r. Manx: Litter registered as Manx. Kittens may be individually registered as Manx or Cymric, depending on the length of hair.

s. Oriental Shorthair: Litter registered as Oriental Shorthair. Kittens may be individually registered as Oriental Longhair or Oriental Shorthair depending on the length of hair. Oriental Shorthair kittens must have the variable code for Longhair in the registration number.

t. Pixiebob Longhair: Litter registered as Pixiebob Longhair. Kittens may be individually registered as Pixiebob Shorthair or Pixiebob Longhair depending upon length of hair.

u. Pixiebob Shorthair: Litter registered as Pixiebob Shorthair. Kittens may be individually registered as Pixiebob Shorthair or Pixiebob Longhair depending upon length of hair.

v. Scottish Fold Longhair: Litter registered as Scottish Fold Longhair. Kittens may be individually registered as Scottish Fold Longhair or Scottish Fold, depending on hair length.

w. Scottish Fold Shorthair: Litter registered as Scottish Fold Shorthairs. Kittens may be individually registered as Scottish Fold Shorthair or Scottish Fold Longhair, depending on length of hair.

x. Selkirk Rex Longhair: Litter registered as Selkirk Rex Longhair. Kittens may be individually registered as Selkirk Rex Shorthair or Selkirk Rex Longhair, depending on hair length.

y. Selkirk Rex Shorthair: Litter registered as Selkirk Rex Shorthair. Kittens may be individually registered as Selkirk Rex Longhair or Selkirk Rex Shorthair, depending on hair length.

#### Article VI: CATTERY NAME

Sec 1. **Permanent Registration.** Cattery names may be permanently registered with the Association upon written application and payment of the required fee.

Sec 2. **Transfer of Cattery Name.** A registered Cattery name may be transferred under the following conditions:

a. Owner Transfer: The registered owner may surrender the Certificate of Cattery Name Registration, accompanied by a written assignment of transfer to a new owner, and payment of the required fee.

b. Inactive Cattery Name: An inactive Cattery name may be transferred to a new owner if all of the below criteria are met:

[1] The Cattery name has never been used as a prefix for a cat registered in ACFA.

[2] All attempts to locate the registered owner of the Cattery name have failed.

[3] The name being transferred is already registered in another association to the individual requesting the transfer.

Sec 3. **Use of Cattery Name.** Cattery names may not be used unless registered with ACFA with the exception of those noted in "b" below.

a. Registered Cattery Name: A breeder's Cattery name, if registered with ACFA, will be added automatically as a prefix to the name of any cat of their breeding individually registered with ACFA, unless ACFA is otherwise instructed by the breeder.

b. Foreign Cattery Name: Imported Cats will be allowed to use the foreign breeder's Cattery name prefix even if the breeder's Cattery name is not registered with ACFA. Exceptions to this rule are those breeders residing in countries represented in the ACFA International Division.

Sec 4. **Cattery Name Prefix/Suffix.** A cat's name may include only one Cattery name prefix [breeder's] and only one Cattery name suffix [owner's Cattery name if different than breeder]. No prefix or suffix Cattery name is authorized as part of the registered name of the cat unless the Cattery name is registered with ACFA.

a. **Prefix:** The use of a breeder's registered Cattery name is restricted to a prefix. When a cat is registered with ACFA, the breeders' Cattery name will be added automatically as a prefix to the cat's name unless the breeder requests, in writing, his/her Cattery name not be part of the cat's registered name. Once added, the prefix Cattery name may not be removed.

b. **Suffix:** A new owner's registered Cattery name may be added as a suffix preceded by "of", when it can be done without violating Article VII, Sec 4a of these rules. The suffix Cattery name may be dropped when the cat transfers ownership and is re-registered by the new owner with his/her Cattery name added as the new suffix.

**Sec 5. Name Restrictions.** The following restrictions apply to the registration of Cattery names.

- a. A Cattery name, characters and spaces combined, may not exceed fifteen [15] letters.
- b. Abbreviations or variations of registered Cattery names are not permitted.
- c. Names of catteries may not be duplicated.

## **Article VII: GENERAL REGISTRATION RULES**

**Sec 1. Owner of Record.** All registrations, certificates, pedigrees (except as noted in Article VII Sec 9), and duplicate requests will be released to the owner of record. All litter registrations will be released to the owner of the litter as evidenced by the submitted litter application.

**Sec 2. Change/Rescind Registration.** The American Cat Fanciers Association reserves the right to change or rescind any registration erroneously registered in violation of these rules, together with any registrations that have been made of any descendants of such cats. Central Office may require a "certified" pedigree, from a registry recognized by ACFA, when deemed necessary.

**Sec 3. Documents submitted to ACFA.**

- a. Applications for Registrations, Certificates of Breeding, Certified Pedigrees or Export Certificates will not be returned when submitted as supporting documents for registration purposes. Copies of these supporting documents may be requested from the ACFA Central Office when accompanied by the proper fee. Such copies, however, will only be forwarded to the owner of the cat for which the copies are requested.
- b. Information on a pedigree will include, at a minimum, cat's name, registration number, breed and color, in English.

**Sec 4. Cat's Registered Name.** The following rules apply to the naming of cats:

- a. **Length:** A cat's name, including Cattery names and the word "of" may not exceed thirty-five [35] letters, characters and spaces combined.
- b. **Duplicate Names:** Names of cats may not be duplicated.
- c. **Ancestral Names:** Cats may not be named after an ancestor without the written permission of the owner of the ancestor. Written permission must be filed with Application for Registration.
- d. **Name Choices:** Second and third choice of name may be given on the Application for Registration form. Otherwise, it may be necessary to return the application if the name chosen is not available.
- e. **Name Changes:** The name of the cat may be changed within 60 days of registration unless the cat has been exhibited or had a litter of kittens. After the 60 day grace period, the name of a cat may not be changed in any manner except for the [1] correction of clerical errors in the ACFA Central Office and [2] addition of suffix Cattery name as provided in Article VI above.
- f. **Voided Registrations:** Registrations made to an owner without that person's knowledge will be voided.

**Sec 5. Application for Registration.** Each application for Individual and Litter Registrations must be made on the official form of the Association.

- a. **Breeder's Signature:** Each application for registration must be signed by the Breeder.

b. **Sire/Dam Not ACFA Registered:** If the cat has not been Litter Registered with ACFA, and the Sire and Dam are not registered in ACFA, the Application for Individual Registration must be accompanied by a photo copy, or other similar facsimile, of a registration certificate of the cat or kitten from another association with equally high registration requirements. Such cat or kitten must be from a minimum of three [3] generations of known and registered parentage unless exempted under Article IV, Sec 5 of these rules.

c. **Sire or Dam ACFA Registered:** If either the Sire or Dam is registered in the book of Registry of this Association, the ancestors of such ACFA registered Sire or Dam need not be shown on the application blank. Registration numbers in other associations must be shown for all ancestors not registered with ACFA.

d. **Complete All Information:** The owner of the cat to be registered must complete all information requested on the Registration Application with the exception of the Registration Number. This will be assigned by the Executive Director of the Association.

e. **Unknown/Unregistered Ancestry:** A cat of a “**Recognized**” Experimental Breed that has unknown or unregistered cats in its pedigree of ancestry may be registered in ACFA for breeding purposes only upon application to, and approval by, the ACFA Board of Directors. Cats registered under the Rule may not be exhibited in the Championship Class when recognized unless otherwise stated in Registration Rule, Article IV, Sec 5.

Sec 6. **Disputed Registration.** A disputed registration is an application for registration that is submitted but cannot be processed because of insufficient or inaccurate information. Central Office will forward all pertinent information to the Chair of the Genetics Committee for action. The Genetics Committee may request any additional information, including genetics testing, to assist in their review of the disputed registration. After this review, the Genetics Committee shall make a recommendation to Central Office regarding further processing of the disputed registration. Any recommendation for registration should include all appropriate special coding or restrictions as deemed necessary. They shall have 60 days to forward their recommendation to Central Office. In the event genetic testing is required this timeline may be extended.

Sec 7. **Registration Certificate:** A certificate will be issued by the Association evidencing the registration of a cat. Such certificate shall show the registration date, name of cat, registration number, date of birth, breed and color, names and registration numbers of Sire and Dam, name of owner and name of breeder.

Sec 8. **Transfer of Ownership:** The registered ownership of a cat may be transferred to another owner upon filing with the Registrar a written assignment of ownership, signed by the current Registered owner(s) and payment of the transfer fee. All owners listed on the front of this certificate must sign to facilitate the transfer.

Sec 9. **Certified Pedigrees:** A certified pedigree of 3, 4, 5 or more generations of any cat registered in the ACFA Book of Registry, as, and to the extent the pedigree is shown therein, will be furnished by the ACFA Central Office upon a request signed, or consented to, by the registered owner of the cat and accompanied by the proper fee.

Sec 10. **Leases:** A record of lease on cat registered in the Association should be filed with the ACFA Central Office on the form provided for this purpose. A copy shall accompany each litter registered by lessee.

## Article VIII: ACCEPTANCE OF NEW BREEDS

Sec 1. **Recognized Experimental Breeds:** All purebred or hybrid breeds of cats, which are of a registerable status and are not a recognized breed for Championship or Probationary status in this Association may be registered as a recognized Experimental breed. Acceptance is at the discretion of the Board of Directors and nothing in these rules shall be construed to require the Board of Directors to accept any application for Experimental Breed Status or to advance any Experimental or Probationary Breed for any reason.

**NOTE:** This Section does not apply to new colors of breeds, which are recognized breeds for Championship competition.

Sec 2. **Procedures for New Experimental Breeds.**

a. **Application:** The application to ACFA for acceptance of a recognized Experimental Breed will include:

[1] **Standard of Perfection:** Proposed Standard for the breed to include the colors and color patterns desired.

[2] **Pedigree of Ancestry:** Five [5] generation pedigree of ancestry denoting the breeds used in the Experimental Breed's development, if available.

[3] **Historical Background:** Statement of historical background on the development of the proposed breed to include originator of breed; length of time breed has been in existence; any breeding or genetic problems

encountered during the development of the proposed breed; goals for the breed; and other information that may be considered pertinent for the Board of Directors' consideration.

[4] Photos: Photos of the proposed breed to show overall type of the cat and samples of the color and color patterns to be recognized.

[5] Active Breeders: List those breeders engaged in the development and breeding of the proposed breed. Any breed applying for acceptance by ACFA as an Experimental breed must be represented by 10 ACFA members with ACFA registered Catteries.

- b. Referral to Board: Application, fee and supporting documentation for acceptance must be received by Central Office no later than 60 days prior to a convened session of the Board. Application fee shall be established by the Board.
- c. Genetics Review: Central Office will submit the application for Experimental Status to the Genetics Committee for comment on breeding practices, standards and genetic health. After review by the Genetics Committee, the application may then be submitted to the Board of Directors at the next convened session.
- d. Breed Code: If approved by the Board of Directors as a recognized Experimental Breed, Central Office will assign a Breed Code and a Breed Standard will be published.

### Sec 3. **Maintaining Experimental Status**

- a. Upon breed acceptance to Experimental Status, 25 cats must be registered within 30 days. It is recommended that the registrations be prepared in advance of the Board meeting.
- b. Within six months of acceptance, a minimum of six of the *ORIGINAL* Catteries must register at least one litter.

Sec 4. **Probationary Breeds:** Breeders of Experimental Breeds desiring consideration of their breed for Championship status must apply to the Board of Directors for advancement to Probationary Breed status within three years of advancement. Procedure of application for such advancement will be as follows:

a. Application: a letter of application will be submitted to ACFA endorsed by a minimum of ten [10] active breeders [and members of the Association] of the Experimental Breed requesting advancement to Probationary status. The letter of application will include:

[1] A complete Standard of Perfection to include the Color Standards.

[2] A general description of the breed and, if a hybrid breed, a listing of the breeds accepted in the hybrid breeding program.

[3] Full color photos of the breed at such angles required to visually depict what is described in the Standard and provide a representative sampling of color patterns and colors accepted.

b. Referral to the Board: Upon receipt and review of the application, the Executive Director of ACFA will forward the letter of request, along with all information provided by the applicants, to the Board of Directors for review. The Executive Director will also include a statement that the breeders have met all requirements of advancement to Probationary status and a ballot for the acceptance of such advancement by the Board.

c. Maintain Status: Once accepted as a Probationary Breed, the following criteria must be met to maintain Probationary Breed status. If a Probationary Breed fails to meet these criteria in any one Show Season, the Board of Directors may revert the breed back to Experimental status.

[1] The Breed must be exhibited in a minimum of ten [10] different ACFA Shows during the Show Season. A Show, for the purpose of this Rule, is a "weekend." A Back-to-Back Show conducted on a single weekend counts as only one [1] show of the required ten [10] shows.

[2] The ten [10] shows in which the Breed is exhibited must be in a minimum of three [3] different ACFA Regions.

[3] Cats entered in ACFA Shows to fulfill the above requirements must represent a minimum of twenty [20] different cats, kittens and/or Alters.

**Sec 5. Recognition for Championship Status:** A Probationary Breed may, upon application by the breeders, be advanced to Championship status as follows:

- a. Exhibited: Have been exhibited in the New Breed and Color Class [NBC] of ACFA Licensed Shows for a minimum of two [2] years.
- b. List of Breeders/Members: Can provide proof that there is a minimum of twelve [12] ACFA Members, representing a minimum of two [2] ACFA Regions, who are actively breeding and exhibiting the Probationary Breed.
- c. List of Shows: Provide a list of all ACFA Shows in which the Probationary Breed has been exhibited in the New Breed and Color Class [NBC].
- d. Standard of Perfection: Submit an updated copy of the Standard of Perfection to include color and color patterns.
- e. Registration Rules: A statement as to the accepted breeds [if hybrid] that are recognized in the breeding program.
- f. Board Approval: When all of the above criteria have been met, the Board of Directors will review the application and accompanying documentation. If all prerequisites have been met, the Board may then accept the advancement of the Probationary Breed to Championship status by a majority vote of the Board.
- g. Maintain Status: Once recognized for Championship status, a breed must continue to meet the criteria for exhibition as set forth in Sec 4c, above, during its first two [2] years of recognition to maintain its Championship status. If a newly recognized breed fails to meet this criteria in any one Show Season, the Board of Directors may revert the breed back to Probationary status.

**Sec 6. Breeds Already Recognized by Other Associations:** A breed which has been exhibited in the Championship Class of two (2) major cat fancy organizations (recognized by the ACFA Board of Directors) for a minimum of one (1) year may be granted Championship status in ACFA in two ways.

- a. The Board of Directors may grant Championship status by majority vote at a convened session.
- b. An ACFA member with an ACFA registered cattery may propose Championship status for a breed. The proposal **MUST** be received by Central Office no less than 60 days prior to the convened session where it is to be considered. The Board of Directors may, by majority vote, grant Championship status to the proposed breed at the convened session.

When a breed from other cat fancy organizations is proposed for ACFA Championship status by either of the above methods, the proposal will include:

- a. Standard of Perfection: Complete Standard of Perfection to include the color and color patterns.
- b. Description: General description of the breed
- c. Photos: Full color photos of the breed.
- d. Historical Background: Any other information that may be considered pertinent for the Board of Director's consideration such as historical background, development of the breed, length of time breed has been in existence, any breeding or genetic problems encountered during the development of the breed.
- e. Registration Rules
  1. A statement regarding registration classification, as per Article III, and rules for other breeds in the ancestry if it is a Developed or Mutant/Hybrid breed.
  2. A statement regarding applicable Rules Pertaining to Specific Breeds as per Article IV, Sec. 5.
  3. A statement regarding any dual litter registration as per Article V, Sec. 5.
- f. Genetics Review: Central Office will submit the proposal for Championship Status to the Genetics Committee for comment on breeding practices, Standards and genetic health prior to Board consideration.

**Breed Code:** If approved by the Board as a recognized Championship Breed, Central Office will assign a Breed Code and a Breed Standard will be published.

**Sec 7. Effective Date:** This effective date of acceptance of Championship status will be the first day of the new show season following the Board's approval for advancement.



**Article IX: FEES**

The amount of all fees in connection with registrations, championship confirmation and certificates, and any other services provided in these rules shall be set by the Board of Directors.

**Article X: AMENDMENTS**

Sec 1. These Registration Rules may be amended as provided in the Bylaws of the Association.

Sec 2. Proposed amendments must be forwarded to the ACFA Central Office no later than April 30<sup>th</sup> each year, in the format as prescribed in Bylaw, Article XVI, Amendments to Association Rules.