



**A GUIDE TO SHOWING FOR
NEW EXHIBITORS**

WELCOME TO ALL NEW EXHIBITORS

Please take the time to browse through this information - it has been compiled specifically with the novice Exhibitor in mind. It is a simple document intended to give you an insight into the workings of a typical day at a Championship Show and hopefully it will help alleviate any anxieties that you may have regarding proceedings surrounding Show Day. It also gives simple explanations on terminology used at a Show and gives a step by step guide of the progression of the day as a whole.

Best of luck, but more importantly, have an enjoyable Show Day!

GUIDELINES FOR SHOW DAY

On arrival at the venue, proceed to the entrance door where you will be welcomed by a Volunteer who will ask you for your name. You will be handed an envelope known as a "Tally" envelope. On this envelope you will find the following information; your name, the name of your cat or kitten and the Pen Number that has been assigned to you for the day.

You will then proceed to the "Vetting In" area. Here your cat or kitten will be taken from its carrier and the Vet on duty will carry out a brief examination. They will check ears, eyes, coat and mouth to ensure that there are no evident signs of illness. This is a very important step taken specifically to eliminate, wherever possible, a cat or kitten entering the show with a problem and potentially infecting others present on the day.

It is your responsibility to ensure that your cat/kitten is in top condition for the show - with no signs of fleas, ear mites, sore eyes etc. Please do not ignore this important advice as rejection by a vet at this point can be embarrassing and disappointing for the exhibitor. The vet will also check your vaccination certificate, which has to be dated at least 7 days prior to show date. Please **DO NOT FORGET** to bring your cat/kitten's Vaccination Certificate on Show Day as it is essential for entry to the show!!

Enter the Show Hall and proceed to your assigned Pen. Each of the aisles is clearly marked with Pen Numbers and the number is also clearly displayed on the front of each Pen.

Before removing your cat/kitten from its carrier, set the Pen up with the following accessories: White Show blanket; White Litter Tray (plus litter); White drinker (with fresh water). If you do not have these items they can be purchased from one of the stalls. Also, if your cat is wearing a collar, it should be removed now until after the Show.

Take the time to settle your cat/kitten. Remember this is a whole new experience for them too. The earlier you arrive at the Show, the more time you will have to reassure

them and also carry out any last minute grooming to make him/her look their best for the Judges.



Store your cat carrier, show bag and any other belongings (no valuables please) under the Show Bench, directly beneath your cat/kitten's pen. Don't forget to remove food dishes and any distinguishable items from your cat/kitten's pen, if you don't, it could be disqualified. Water must remain in the pen at all times.

At approx. 10.00am (this varies from show to show), all Exhibitors will be requested to vacate the Show Hall as the judging is about to commence. At this time most Exhibitors take the opportunity to grab a cup of tea or coffee, relax and browse through the Show Catalogue, which will go on sale only after judging commences. The catalogues may be purchased from one of the Committee who will position themselves near the door to the main Show Hall.

The Show catalogue is compiled in numerical Class order. If, for example, your cat/kitten is entered in Class 50, flick through the catalogue until you find this Class number - under this heading you will note your cat/kitten's pen number and details relevant to your exhibit, i.e. Name (Pedigree name); Breed No.; Sire & Dam; Date of Birth and the name of the Breeder(s). These are the details that have been taken from your original Entry Form. The onus is on the Exhibitor to provide accurate information for entry into the catalogue. Inaccurate details could lead to your cat/kitten being disqualified. Exhibitors are requested to point out to the Show Manager, at the earliest possible moment, any errors in regard to their own entries which may appear in the Show Catalogue. If pointed out at a reasonable time during the Show, errors which have occurred as a result of typing, printing or other managerial mistakes, will be corrected in the Judges' Books and other relevant paperwork. If an error cannot be corrected and it was a managerial mistake, the Show Manager may refund the entry fees on request.

Awards Board (this will be in a convenient location outside the main Show Hall). This is where the completed Judges Slips will be posted as each Class is judged.



The Judges Slips will have the Class No. on the top of each one. Under this will be the Pen numbers of the cats/kittens entered in that particular Class and the Judge will place each cat or kitten in order of merit i.e. 1st, 2nd, 3rd etc. The Judge may also award a BOB (Best of Breed); CC (Challenge Certificate); PC (Premier Certificate).



Challenge Certificates are awarded to entire cats only
Premier Certificates are awarded to neutered cats only
Certificates are not awarded to kittens, but they can be awarded BOB.

Each cat/kitten is judged against a specific Standard of Points for its particular breed as laid down by the GCCF (Governing Council of the Cat Fancy).

The Judges slips are processed at the Top Table which is manned by a team of experienced volunteers. Rosettes will be placed on the pens as results are received and Challenge or Premier Certificates, if applicable, will be distributed to the Pens.

At 12 30 - 1.30 pm: (differs from Show to Show) Exhibitors will be allowed back into the Show Hall along with the public.

PLEASE NOTE: you should not approach your pen if judging is still in progress and the Judge has not yet looked at your cat/kitten. This can sometimes happen due to the sheer volume of entries. When the Judges break for lunch, you may attend to your cat/kitten and replace the food dish.



BEST IN SHOW (at approximately 3.30 p.m.)

Qualifying Cats/Kittens are appraised at the Best in Show Pens for the exhibitors and public to watch.

NON-PEDIGREE SECTION

Non-Pedigree Household Pet – the winner will be determined normally from BOB winners.

PEDIGREE SECTION

Best of Section, followed by Best In Show

This is where the 1st placed Cats/Kittens in each category i.e. Persian Kitten, Adult or Neuter, will be judged against each other to determine the Best of Section winner. This process will happen for each of the Sections.

Pedigree Pet – the winner will be determined normally from the BOB winners.

The Judges will choose the overall BEST IN SHOW Exhibit from the winners of each Group. This is the most coveted Title of the Show Day!

At around 4.30 p.m: The Show Manager will announce that the Show is over and that Exhibitors are free to leave.

Please ensure that you take all of your personal belongings with you at the end of the day.

SHOW DAY CHECK-LIST

1. Escape proof Cat Carrier
2. Vaccination Certificate
3. White Show Blanket
4. White Litter Tray
5. Small bag of cat's favourite litter
6. White Drinker
7. Small bottle of fresh drinking water
8. Small white food bowl
9. Food
10. Grooming utensils (brush/comb etc.)



TITLE AND SHOW INFORMATION FOR EXHIBITORS

BOB = Best of Breed

BOV = Best of Variety

BIS = Best in Show

CNH = Could not Handle

W/H = Withheld

PEDIGREES

- Kittens are placed but do not win certificates/titles

The details below are for fully recognized breeds. Preliminary breeds don't win certificates.

ADULTS (9 MONTHS +)

- You need to win **3 Challenge Certificates** under *three* different judges to become a **CHAMPION**.
- You then compete for **GRAND CHAMPION** and must be awarded **3 Grand Challenge certificates** under *three* different judges.
- Next you compete for **IMPERIAL GRAND CHAMPION**. For this you need **5 certificates** under *five* different judges.
- After that there is a **new class called OLYMPIAN**. You need to win **5 certificates** for **Bronze**, then a further **5** for **Silver** and finally another **5** for **Gold**.
- The title **UK** is *only awarded* at the **Supreme** and to enter the cat must be a **Grand Champion** or **Imperial Grand Champion**. **Two certificates** are needed for the title.

NEUTERS (9 months +)

These follow the same process as for adults but the titles are:

- **PREMIER** – 3 Premier certificates.
- **GRAND PREMIER** – 3 Grand Premier certificates.
- **IMPERIAL GRAND PREMIER** – 5 Imperial Grand certificates.

- **IMPERIAL** – as for Adults above.
- **UK – *Supreme only***. The cat must be a **Grand Premier** or **Imperial Grand Premier** to enter.

NON PEDIGREES

There are two sections, **Household Pets** and **Pedigree Pets**.

- **Titles** can be won in each section
- **MASTER CAT** – 3 Master Cat Certificates
- **GRAND MASTER CAT** – 3 Grand Master Cat Certificates
- **IMPERIAL GRAND MASTER CAT** – 5 Imperial Grand Master Cat Certificates.
- **OLYMPIAN MASTER CAT** – 5 certificates for **Bronze**, then a further 5 for **Silver** and finally another 5 for **Gold**
- **These titles need to be claimed for** – see the GCCF website www.gccfcats.org

