

The Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc.

JUDGING PROGRAM RULES

April 2024

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SECTION 1

AGENTING: For application purposes, agenting is defined as having possession of a cat at least the night before the show, completing all grooming and exclusively handling the cat at the show.

ALLBREED JUDGE: A judge who has been authorized to judge any type of show or portion thereof, including Allbreed shows.

APPLICANT: An individual, eighteen (18) years of age or over, who has filed a CFA Judging Program Application with application fee to the Application Administrator of the Judging Program Committee (hereinafter referred to as the "JPC"). The Applicant may apply under Breeding or Exhibiting options.

APPLICATION ADMINISTRATOR: The JPC member who is responsible for providing application information and for receiving completed applications for review prior to presenting to the JPC and the Board of Directors.

APPRENTICE JUDGE: A judge who has satisfactorily completed all assigned breed/division color class evaluation work and who has been advanced to the status of Apprentice Judge by a two-thirds (2/3) favorable vote of the Board of Directors.

APPROVAL PENDING JUDGE: A judge who has satisfactorily completed all requirements as an Apprentice Judge and who has been advanced to the status of Approval Pending Judge by a two-thirds (2/3) favorable vote of the Board of Directors.

APPROVED GUEST JUDGE: A Guest Judge from another association recognized by CFA, who has judged sufficient shows to become approved according to Section 12 rules.

APPROVED JUDGE: A judge who has satisfactorily completed all requirements as an Approval Pending Judge and who has been advanced to the status of Approved Judge by a two-thirds (2/3) favorable vote of the Board of Directors.

ASSOCIATE JUDGING PROGRAM: The limited program authorized by the Board of Directors to serve underserved and/or isolated designated areas by developing a limited number of individuals to become single specialty judges in those specific designated areas.

ASSOCIATE JUDGE: An individual who has been predominately trained by online methods. The Associate Judge is limited to judge in the specific geographical area in which they were accepted as determined by the Board of Directors.

ASSOCIATE JUDGE TRAINEE: An Applicant who has been accepted into the Associate Judging Program and who must complete all requirements necessary to be advanced to Associate Judge.

BREED AWARENESS AND ORIENTATION SCHOOL (hereinafter referred to as “BAOS”): A School that is open to all interested parties, and that all Applicants must attend. It can be in person, which includes handling opportunities, or online with no handling. It includes instruction on colors/patterns, ring etiquette, show mechanics, marking a judge’s book, as well as psychology of judging and applying to the Judging Program. Included are break-out sessions for all longhair breeds and all shorthair breeds.

BREED FOCUSED EXPERIENCE: Requirement for a Pre-Applicant to the regular Judging Program. Four options are available to the Pre-Applicant in completing this requirement which include cattery visits, independent breed handling at a show, judge-supervised breed handling at a show, and online breed specific classes.

CUSTODIAL CARE: For application purposes, custodial care is defined as: housing the kitten/cat in the Applicant’s home for a minimum of three (3) months, caring for it, taking the kitten/cat to and from the show hall, grooming the cat at the show, having the cat in the Applicant’s care throughout the show, and taking it to and from the rings. Custodial care kittens/cats MUST reside with the Applicant and be exhibited by the Applicant at a minimum of three (3) shows and a change in title.

DOUBLE SPECIALTY JUDGE: A judge who has been authorized to judge both Longhair specialty shows and Shorthair specialty shows or any portion of either or both.

FILE ADMINISTRATOR: The JPC member who works with a Trainee while in training and through advancing the judge to Approved Status.

FUN SHOW: A show that is held in conjunction with a CFA licensed show or a stand-alone not aligned with another cat organization. The fun show must not score the entrants or place any titles on the cats participating, other than for awards at that specific show. No ring type or judge type can be designated. It is the responsibility of the CFA judge accepting a fun show assignment to investigate the fun show format to ensure it aligns with the above criteria, including scoring, ring type or judge type designations.

GUEST JUDGE: An Approved Specialty or Allbreed judge from another association recognized by CFA who may be asked to judge a CFA show according to the rules in Section 12.

JUDGING PROGRAM COMMITTEE (JPC): A committee of Allbreed Judges and one or more exhibitor member(s) who administer the Judging Program Rules.

INACTIVE STATUS: A judge who is prohibited from accepting assignments for any reason, as determined by the Board of Directors. However, all other licensing provisions must be met (see Section 11 on licensing).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

a. A period of judging inactivity not exceeding one year may be granted to a judge by the Board of Directors at the request of the judge or the JPC.

b. A medical leave of absence may be granted by the Board of Directors when requested by the judge, the JPC, or at the discretion of the Board of Directors. A judge on medical leave for five (5) years will automatically be retired from the Judging Program.

MENTOR: An Allbreed Judge who provides assistance and support to an individual considering applying to the CFA Judging Program, from the Pre-Application process to Approved status. A Mentor may not act in this capacity for family members or individuals with whom they co-own or co-breed cats. The Mentor may assist a maximum of three individuals at a time. The role of a Mentor will neither supersede nor interfere with the role of any member of the JPC. Mentors will be approved by the designated JPC member(s).

MENTOR COORDINATOR: The member of the JPC who works with Pre-Applicant, Applicant, or any other applicable judge as needed, to select and assign a mentor.

PRE-APPLICANT: An individual who has made contact with the Applications Administrator of the JPC and who has received application information and has been paired with a Mentor.

PROBATIONARY STATUS: The period during which a person who has been accepted by the Board of Directors to Trainee, Apprentice Judge or Reconsideration status may be dropped without notice or explanation by a 2/3 favorable vote of the Board of Directors. A recommendation may or may not be made by the JPC for this action.

RECONSIDERATION STATUS: A formerly licensed CFA Judge who has been accepted into the Judging Program by a two-thirds (2/3) favorable vote of the Board of Directors and is taking the refresher course.

REFRESHER COURSE: A course for prior and current CFA Judges who have been absent from judging (see Section 11 on licensing for specific time frames). This course is designed to enable the judge to refresh and enhance their breed knowledge and skills. Hands-on judging will be performed while working under the guidance of an Approved Allbreed judge. Evaluations will be completed by the supervising judge and will be returned to the JPC. The JPC will review these reports and make their recommendation to the Board of Directors. The status of the judge satisfactorily completing the Refresher Course will be determined by a two-thirds (2/3) favorable vote of the Board of Directors. The number of color classes/solo classes will depend on the evaluations submitted by the supervising judge.

SERVICE AWARDS: The Service Award is awarded to judges to celebrate their Years of Service to CFA as judges, in 5 year increments.

SINGLE SPECIALTY JUDGE: A judge who is authorized to judge either an all Longhair specialty show (or any portion thereof) or an all Shorthair specialty show (or any portion thereof), but not both.

TRAINEE: An Applicant who has been accepted into the Judging Program by a two-thirds (2/3) favorable vote of the Board of Directors and is taking color class training prior to consideration for advancement to Apprentice Judge.

SECTION 2

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

REGULAR PROCESS:

2.1 The Applicant must be at least eighteen (18) years of age, understand and be able to speak English.

2.2 The Pre-Applicant will select a Mentor from the panel of Approved Allbreed Judges (cannot be a family member), which must be approved by the Mentor Coordinator. All requirements for application to the Judging Program must be met at the time the application is dated and filed with the Application Administrator. All application-related material must be sent in single file PDF format. Application Deadlines and all forms necessary for applying to the Judging Program are located on the CFA Website.

2.3 An Applicant may apply for single specialty only. They may apply for the second specialty when they have been advanced to Approval Pending First Specialty, and they have met the second specialty requirements. Judges applying to the CFA Judging Program from other associations may apply for double specialty, refer to Section 3.

2.4 A First Specialty Applicant has two clerking options:

OPTION ONE (1):

Have a current Master Clerk License

Or

OPTION TWO (2):

Have a current clerking license, and take and pass a test on Show Mechanics and Ring Management with a score of seventy-five (75%) percent or better.

2.5 An Applicant has two Experience options:

OPTION ONE (1) for Breeders:

Provide a copy of the registration of a CFA cattery name registered for a period of at least five (5) years

Or

OPTION TWO (2) for Exhibitors:

Provide proof of seven (7) years of active CFA exhibiting.

2.6 An Applicant has two (2) options for meeting club membership requirements:

OPTION ONE (1):

An Applicant must present a letter from at least one CFA member club which verifies a record of not less than five (5) years of active participation as a club member. The letter must carry the signature of the club's president and secretary. If the Applicant holds one of these offices, another club officer must sign the letter.

- a. A detailed summary of club activities must be provided.
- b. Experience as a show manager or show secretary is recommended.

OPTION TWO (2):

An Applicant must present a letter from at least one CFA show-producing club which verifies a record of show production for the past three (3) consecutive years. The letter must be signed by the club's president and secretary. If the Applicant holds one of these offices, another club member must sign the letter.

- a. A detailed summary of the past three (3) consecutive years must include the name of the club and dates of the shows and the duties performed. It must include if the Applicant was present at the entire shows from beginning to end of either a one (1) day or two (2) day show.

2.7 A First Specialty Applicant has two (2) options to meet the requirements for acceptance into the CFA Judging Program:

OPTION ONE (1) – for Breeders:

- a. An Applicant must have five (5) years of breeding experience within ten (10) years immediately prior to application. If the Applicant has breeding and/or exhibiting experience beyond the ten (10) year period which is being included in application requirements, a breed-focused experience session will be provided by a CFA Allbreed Judge selected by the JPC. A detailed summary of breeding experience must be provided.

Requirement: An application cannot be filed sooner than five (5) years from the date of birth of the Applicant's first registered litter (within the appropriate specialty. A copy of the actual litter registration bearing the Applicant's own cattery name must be submitted).

- b. An Applicant must have exhibited at least ten (10) cats to CFA Grand Champion/Grand Premier status in the appropriate specialty. A minimum of six (6) of these cats must be of his/her own breeding.

OPTION TWO (2) – for Exhibitors:

An Applicant must:

- a. Have actively exhibited for seven (7) years within the past ten (10) years immediately prior to application. If the Applicant has exhibiting experience beyond the ten (10) year period which is being included in the application requirements, a breed-focused experience will be provided by a CFA Allbreed Judge selected by the JPC.
- b. Take and pass a CFA course on Breeding Management.
- c. Provide the Grand Certificate for the Applicant's first Grand Champion/Grand Premier.
- d. File an application seven (7) years or more from the date of the first Grand Champion/Grand Premier.
- e. Have exhibited a minimum of fifteen (15) cats to CFA Grand Champion/Grand Premier status.

2.8 Exhibiting Requirements for both the Breeder and Exhibitor Options: An Applicant must have bred and/or shown cats in the appropriate specialty to the extent that a minimum of fifteen (15) points are accumulated from the table set below for the first specialty and a minimum of ten (10) points are accumulated for the second specialty. Only one (1) set of points is allowed per cat (example: NW and RW on the same cat would only be counted for the higher of the two wins; being eight [8] points).

First Specialty Exhibiting Requirements (must equal or exceed fifteen [15] points):

National Winner (NW)	8 points
National Best of Breed (BW)	7 points
Regional Winner (RW)	5 points
Distinguished Merit (DM)	5 points
Divisional Winner (DW).....	5 points
Second Best of Breed (National).....	4 points
Third Best of Breed (National)	2 points
Additional Grand Champion/Grand Premier	1 point

Second Specialty Exhibiting Requirements (must equal or exceed ten [10] points):

National Winner (NW)	8 points
National Best of Breed (BW)	7 points
Regional Winner (RW/DW)	5 points
Distinguished Merit (DM)	5 points
Divisional Winner (DW).....	5 points
Second Best of Breed (National).....	4 points
Third Best of Breed (National)	2 points
Additional Grand Champion/Grand Premier	1 point

First Specialty Applicants must submit both Scorecard A and Scorecard B. Second Specialty Applicants only submit scorecard B.

- a. Complete Scorecard Section A indicating at least ten (10) Grand Champions/Grand Premiers for the Breeder option and fifteen (15) Grand Champions/Grand Premiers for the Exhibitor option.
- b. Complete Scorecard Section B indicating a minimum fifteen (15) point accumulation and submit with the first specialty application to the JPC. Cats listed as Grand Champion/Grand Premier in Scorecard Section a. may be included in Scorecard Section b., provided they have achieved the higher title listed.

Note: The Applicant must have a minimum of at least one (1) Regional Winner or National Breed Winner beyond Grand Champion/Grand Premier. There is no limit on the Grands used to make up the fifteen (15) points after the initial ten (10) for the Breeder option or fifteen (15) for the exhibitor option.

2.9 A detailed and specific history of exhibiting experience, including agenting for first specialty Applicants (agenting of various breeds is encouraged as a way to familiarize a first specialty Applicant with different breeds, however, it will not count toward Custodial Exhibiting) must be submitted as part of the application. An Applicant must have experience including exhibiting two (2) or more breeds in the specialty for which they are applying in addition to his/her major breed. An Applicant will be expected to furnish detailed specific information regarding these activities.

2.10 Custodial Care and Exhibiting Experience: For application purposes, custodial care is defined as: housing the kitten/cat in the Applicant’s home for a minimum of three (3) months, caring for it, and taking the kitten/cat to and from the show hall, grooming the cat at the show, having the cat in the Applicant’s care throughout the show and taking it to and from the rings. Custodial care kittens/cats MUST reside with the Applicant and be exhibited by the Applicant at a minimum of three (3) shows. Any cats that are shown that do not meet the minimums can be listed on these forms and will count as additional agenting experience but will not count toward minimum requirements for additional breeds and custodial care. The Applicant will be expected to furnish detailed specific information regarding these activities. Photos are required in the Applicant’s home and at the show. Custodial care must have the oversight of the Applicant’s mentor, as well as the mentor’s signature on the appropriate form. Such oversight may include, but not be limited to Zoom calls, visits to the cattery or other means of assuring the requirements are met.

For application purposes, Agenting is defined as having possession of the cat at least the night before the show, completing all grooming and exclusively handling the cat at the show.

For Application purposes a change in title must be one (1) of the following:

- a. Kitten to BW, RW DW or NW
- b. Open/Champion, Open/Premier to Grand Champion or Grand Premier
- c. Grand Champion/Grand Premier to BW, RW, DW or NW

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS BY SPECIALTY:

LONGHAIR APPLICANT (1ST SPECIALTY): In addition to their primary breed, the Applicant has three (3) options:

OPTION ONE (1) –

The Applicant must have custodial care of or have owned and exhibited each of the two (2) longhair body types (Persian/Exotic and other body types), i.e., the Applicant's primary breed plus a minimum two (2) additional breeds. Persian/Exotic must be primary OR one of the additional body types.

Or

OPTION TWO (2)

The Applicant may agent, meeting the above criteria, six (6) different longhair cats, showing each a minimum of three (3) shows, and achieving a change in title on each.

OR

OTPION THREE (3)

The applicant may have custodial care of or have owned and exhibited one (1) of the long hair body types and have agented four (4) different longhair cats showing each a minimum of three (3) shows and achieving a change in title on each.

LONGHAIR APPLICANT (2nd SPECIALTY): The Applicant has three (3) options. They may:

OPTION ONE (1)

Have custodial care or ownership while exhibiting a minimum of three (3) different body types to a change in title.

Or

OPTION TWO (2)

Agent six (6) cats to a title change on each.

OR

OPTION THREE (3)

Have custodial care or ownership of one long hair body type and exhibit to a change in title and have agented four (4) different long hair cats showing each a minimum of three (3) shows and achieving a change in title on each.

SHORTHAIR APPLICANT (1ST SPECIALTY): In addition to their primary breed, the Applicant has three (3) options:

OPTION ONE (1)

The Applicant must have had custodial care of, or have owned and exhibited each of the three (3) shorthair body types (Oriental/Foreign, Intermediate/Semi-Foreign/Moderate and Substantial), i.e. the Applicant's primary breed plus a minimum of three (3) additional breeds making a total of 4 cats. Oriental/Foreign must be primary OR be one of the additional body types. Each must be exhibited to a title change.

Or

OPTION TWO (2)

The Applicant may agent, meeting the above criteria, eight (8) shorthair cats, showing each a minimum of three (3) shows and achieving a change in title. Each of the three (3) body types must be included.

OR

OPTION THREE (3)

The applicant may have custodial care or ownership of one (1) short hair body type and agent six (6) different short hair cats a minimum of three (3) shows and exhibit to a change in title, keeping in mind the criteria to have exhibited all three of the shorthair body types.

SHORTHAIR APPLICANT (2nd SPECIALTY): The Applicant has three options:

OPTION ONE (1)

The Applicant must have custodial care or ownership of a minimum of four (4) different breeds consisting of three (3) different body types and exhibiting each to a title change.

Or

OPTION TWO (2)

The Applicant must agent eight (8) cats consisting of the three body types, exhibiting each to a title change.

OR

OPTION THREE (3)

The applicant must have custodial care or ownership of one shorthair body type and exhibit it to a change in title, and must agent six (6) cats for a minimum of three shows and to a change in title.

Applicants may request a list of the breeds that fall into the various body type categories from the Application Administrator. Any exceptions requested for lack of body type and/or breeds in a specific area must be approved by the JPC in writing.

For all cats that are custodial care, for the purpose of meeting requirements, a form can be found on the CFA website or the link may be provided by the Application Administrator. The Applicant and breeder must complete all information. The Applicant, the cat's owner and the Applicant's mentor must sign and date the form. Any violation of the conditions of custodial care, ownership or agenting shall cause the Applicant to be ineligible for consideration to the Judging Program for a period of two (2) years, after which they may reapply.

2.11 Breed-Focused Experience: The Applicant has four (4) options for breed-focused experiences. The Applicant may choose as many options as desired to complete the required number of experiences. (Please note: Option Four [4] may be used only with permission of the Application Administrator in consultation with the Applicant's mentor in situations where specific breeds are not available).

- a. Longhair Applicants must submit a minimum of five (5) breed-focused experiences which include a variety of body types.
- b. Shorthair Applicants must submit a minimum of seven (7) breed-focused experiences which include a variety of body types.

OPTION ONE (1) – Cattery Visits:

- a. The owner of the visited cattery must be a current Breed Council Member OR be an active participant in CFA and has bred at least one (1) CFA Grand Champion and two (2) litters in the past two (2) years. In all cases, a variety of breeds of varying body types are recommended.
- b. The Applicant must evaluate a minimum of seven (7) cats/kittens in the same visit. Comments, including strengths and weaknesses on all cats handled, are required and one (1) or two (2) photographs showing the Applicant handling the cats visited.

OPTION TWO (2) – Independent Breed Handling at a Show:

- a. Breed Handling Experience: The Applicant will choose a show where a minimum of seven (7) cats of the same breed, in all three (3) combined competitive categories, will be present. (This can be done via the breed summary ahead of time to avoid a wasted visit). More than one (1) breeder/owner/exhibitor is preferred, but not mandatory. A breeder/owner/exhibitor's entries may only be used one (1) time for handling credit on a specific breed.

- b.** The Applicant will handle, in the benching area, all cats of the selected breed. The owner of each cat will affirm that the experience took place by signing the appropriate form. The Applicant will, in written format, compare and contrast the cats to the breed standard. The Applicant will, in the case of kittens, describe how kittens meet or fail to meet the breed standard, and what challenges this particular breed has in showing kittens. The Applicant will observe at least two (2) judges judging each class. The Applicant will note how the judge ranks each cat and comment on why he/she agrees or disagrees with the ranking. The Applicant may observe a second breed on day two (2) of a two (2) day show. The Applicant may carry out this experience while exhibiting a cat of his/her own.

OPTION THREE (3) – Judge Supervised Breed Handling at a Show:

At shows where a large class of any one breed is present, and a judge (not judging the show) is willing to provide breed handling instruction. This will be counted as a breed focused experience. Documentation on the breed handled, the number of cats, and the Applicant’s participation must be documented by the judge conducting the class.

OPTION FOUR (4) – Online Breed Specific Classes:

There are available, online, tutorials on specific breeds and their handling. Review of the on-line class with a substantial write up of what was covered and learned will be counted as one (1) breed focused experience. These may be used only with permission in advance.

2.12 The Pre-Applicant must mark a judge’s book in the ring of a CFA Allbreed Judge, as one of the requirements for the application. The paperwork includes color class sheets, breed summary sheets, and finals sheets. The absentees and transfers must be included and marked appropriately.

The requirements and process are as follows:

- Approximately six months prior to application submission, the Pre-Applicant will work with their Mentor to select a show and Judge to complete the requirement.
- Once agreed, the Pre-Applicant will reach out to the Judge and the club to obtain permission and approval.
- The Pre-Applicant will complete the document “Permission To Mark A Judges Book”, with all requested information and required signatures, and email it to their Mentor and applicable Application Administrator.
- Prior to the show, the Pre-Applicant will reach out to the Show Manager and ask for a judge’s book, breed sheets and final sheets.
- Upon arrival at the show, the Pre-Applicant will sit discreetly in the ring on the opposite side of the table from the Ring Clerk, not impeding the traffic flow or judging in the ring. They will also provide the Judge the “Marking a Judges Book Judges Guide”.
- The Pre-Applicant will mark the judge’s color class sheets, breed sheets and finals sheets exactly as the Judge has hung their ribbons in class judging and in the final. This should be done without

any assistance from the judge or clerk other than providing information on absentees, transfers and any disqualifications.

- At the completion of judging, before leaving the show hall, the Judge will check the Pre-Applicant's paperwork, and if error free will sign the last page and include the statement "I have reviewed the paperwork and found it to be identical to mine and error free". The judge will keep the yellow copy of the color class sheets and the pink copy of the breed and final sheets with their show paperwork.
- Within 5 days of the end of the show, the Pre-Applicant will scan the paperwork and email it to their Mentor and the appropriate Application Administrator for review by a member of the Judging Program Committee.
- The paperwork must be found error free when reviewed. If errors are found, the process must be repeated until an error free session is recorded.

2.13 A Pre-Applicant must attend a BAOS within the previous two (2) years for the appropriate specialty in which the application is made.

2.14 The first specialty application must include a statement explaining why the Applicant wants to be a CFA Judge.

2.15 First Specialty Application Package.

a. Completed Applicant signed First Specialty Application form also signed by their Regional Director or International Chair/Sub-Committee Chair. This application becomes a part of the total application submitted.

b. All other requirements as detailed in Section 2 specific to Longhair or Shorthair Specialty application.

c. Recent Color Photo of the Applicant.

d. Proof of payment to CFA of the current application fee through the CFA Website.

e. Proof of Master Clerk license, or certified clerk license plus proof of Master Clerk Test score (2.4).

f. CFA Cattery Registration for Breeder Option or proof of seven (7) years of active exhibiting for exhibitor Option (2.5).

g. Club Membership signed verification letter (2.6).

h. Club Activities Resume (2.6).

i. Scorecard A and B (2.7-2.8).

j. Litter Registration Certificate for Breeder Option Applicant or Certificate of first Grand for Exhibitor Option Applicant (2.7).

- k.** Exhibitor Resume (2.9).
- l.** Forms for Custodial Care, Agenting and a listing of Exhibiting Experience for First Specialty breeds (2.10).
- m.** Breed-Focused Experience applicable to First Specialty breeds (2.11).
- n.** Proof of attendance at a BAOS for first specialty, within the two (2) years prior to application date (2.13).
- o.** Statement of why you want to be a CFA Judge (2.14).
- p.** The Breeder Applicant must be an active member in good standing of a CFA Breed Council at the time of application.

The following items are not included in the Application Package, but sent directly to the Application Administrator.

- a.** Three (3) CFA Club recommendations (2.20).
- b.** Three (3) letters of personal recommendation (2.20).
- c.** Error-free marked Judges Book with Judge's Statement (2.12).

Second Specialty Application Package.

- a.** Completed and Applicant-signed Second Specialty Application.
- b.** Proof of payment to CFA of the current application fee through the CFA website.
- c.** Scorecard B (2.8).
- d.** Exhibitor Resume of Second Specialty cats/kittens (2.9).
- e.** Forms for Custodial Care, Agenting and a listing of Exhibiting Experience for Second Specialty breeds (2.10).
- f.** Breed-Focused Experience applicable to Second Specialty breeds (2.11).
- g.** Proof of attendance at a BAOS in second specialty within 2 years prior to application date (2.13).

2.16 An Applicant from the Continental USA and Canada must have exhibited in at least two (2) regions outside his/her region. Applicants from Regions 8 (Japan), 9 (Europe) and the International Division are not required to exhibit outside of their regions.

2.17 An Applicant must be of good reputation, both in the cat fancy and his/her community.

2.18 An Applicant must have a complete understanding of the CFA Standards, CFA Show Rules, Judge's Code of Ethics, and the CFA Judging Program Rules.

2.19 An Applicant who is an officer, director or judge in an organization structured for purposes similar to those of CFA, will be expected to furnish proof of severance from same, within fifteen (15) days of his/her admission to the CFA Judging Program. Henceforth, he/she may not join any such organization in any capacity noted above while a part of the CFA Judging Program.

Employment with an organization structured for purposes similar to those of CFA is strongly discouraged as it may be considered a conflict of interest.

2.20 Recommendation Letters – Regular Applicant – First Specialty

a. Currently licensed CFA Judges and CFA Board Members shall not be solicited to submit character references to fulfill Applicant requirements.

b. The formal recommendation of at least three (3) CFA clubs is required, at least two (2) of which must be clubs that have produced a CFA show in the twenty-four (24) month period prior to the date of the Applicant's consideration for acceptance by the Board of Directors. Club recommendations should be discussed at a regularly scheduled meeting, be recorded in the minutes of that meeting, and carry the signature of the club's president and secretary. If Applicant holds one (1) of these offices, another club officer must sign. These letters are to be sent directly to the Judging Program Applications Administrator and must be kept confidential.

c. Multiple recommendations stemming from one (1) source will be treated as a single recommendation.

d. Personal letters of recommendation (at least three [3] are required) are to be mailed directly, scanned and emailed or faxed (signature required) to the Application Administrator, and must be confidential. Letters of recommendation, or copies thereof, must not be sent to the Applicant, nor may an Applicant ask for any preview of the recommendations.

2.21 Informal Requirements for First Specialty Application:

There are many things over and above knowledge of standards and mechanics which are necessary for the complete judge.

Listed below are some, but by no means all, of the intangible prerequisites for a judge who will be a credit to CFA. The Executive Board is keenly aware of the responsibility it bears to its member clubs, the exhibitors at its shows, and those who pay admission to attend such shows, to use great care and selectivity in licensing those to be entrusted with the title of CFA Judge.

Many of these intangible requirements, which go into the making of a judge of whom CFA can be proud, are innate; others may be acquired. Some require a wide exposure to and a deep interest in all breeds of cats which cannot be acquired in too short a space of time.

It is expected that each person wishing to become a CFA Judge will have sufficient dedication to this ambition to survey his/her own potentialities for judging as objectively as he/she would be expected to judge entries in the show ring and the self-discipline to wait until he/she is absolutely certain that he/she is ready for the responsibilities of judging before making application to the Judging Program.

Each Applicant accepted to the Judging Program becomes the recipient of much time and effort on the part of many people which will be wasted if the application has been made prematurely.

A few of these abilities and traits of character are:

a. Knowledge and skill in the handling of the breeds of cats covered by the specialty for which the application is made. There are subtle differentiations between the breeds as to the approach each will respond to most favorably.

b. The patience and ability to keep, under internal and external stress and disturbance, that calm demeanor which will serve to reassure nervous cats.

c. Self-confidence without arrogance.

d. The ability to control emotions and temper, both with humans and with cats, under any and all circumstances.

e. The ability to reach a firm and reasoned decision, and adhere to it without wavering or self-doubt.

f. The ability to set aside personal preferences and prejudices and consider each entry solely on the basis of the current CFA Standard.

g. The ability to retain complete control of the judging ring, while at the same time maintaining harmony and rapport with those working in the ring.

h. The ability to retain composure in the face of possible unpleasant atmosphere and comments from onlookers.

i. The faculty for the discreet showmanship which can hold an audience's attention, while at the same time maintaining complete dignity and making the cats, which are the reasons for the show, the focal point of attention, thereby enhancing interest in all cats. At all times, it is the cat which should be given the limelight.

SECTION 3

REQUIREMENTS FOR JUDGES APPLYING TO THE CFA JUDGING PROGRAM FROM OTHER ASSOCIATIONS

3.1 An Applicant who is or has been a judge in similar associations within any CFA region will be considered for application by the JPC. All such Applicants, whatever their background, must prove their proficiency by completing breed/division color class evaluations when accepted to the CFA Judging Program by vote of the Board of Directors. Although judging experience in a similar organization does not entitle an Applicant to any preferential treatment, the application requirements outlined in Section 2 may be satisfied by similar achievements in a prior association.

3.2 Consecutive steps from Apprentice, Approval Pending to fully Approved, must be met by all Applicants accepted into the Judging Program, regardless of how much experience they had in judging in a similar association.

3.3 Judges from other associations wishing to apply to CFA must submit:

- a.** A formal application signed by their Regional Director.
- b.** A detailed history of cat fancy activities in CFA and/or their association.
- c.** A statement why the Applicant wants to become a CFA Judge.

All requirements must be met at the time the application is dated and filed with the Application Administrator.

The Application should be filed with the Application Administrator electronically and a copy kept by the Applicant. See Section 4 for an outline of the mechanics of application.

3.4 The Applicant must be at least eighteen (18) years of age.

3.5 The transfer Applicant using the Regular Application Process must meet/have met comparable application requirements to CFA's within their association including, at a minimum:

- a.** Have/had a registered cattery for a minimum of seven (7) consecutive years.
- b.** Have shown/bred cats that attained titles comparable to CFA's of the number and quality required in Section 2.
- c.** Have completed a minimum of five (5) years judging in their association, and have achieved the level at which they are applying to CFA.
- d.** Completed and passed a CFA clerking test and completed one error-free clerking assignment before applying.
- e.** Have judged a minimum number of shows in their association in the two years prior to application, to ensure their skills are current (number to be determined by the JPC or the Board of Directors). A list of shows judged during this period (including dates and locations) should be supplied with the application.

3.6 Depending on an individual's qualifications, no Applicant will be accepted at a level higher than Approved Double Specialty (for judges without minimum Guest Judging Evaluations) or Approval Pending Allbreed (for judges that meet the Guest Judging requirements in Section 3.8).

3.7 Attendance at a CFA BAOS is required within two (2) years of acceptance.

3.8 Transfer judges that have satisfactorily completed a minimum of eight (8) guest judging assignments in the four (4) years preceding acceptance may, at the discretion of the JPC and the Board of Directors, have post-acceptance clerking and training requirements waived in part or in total. All guest judging evaluations must be on file with the JPC. The Application should include a list of Guest Judging assignments for CFA in this period.

3.9 Clerking Requirements: An Applicant must successfully complete a minimum of two (2) assistant ring clerking and two (2) chief ring clerking assignments before beginning training (either prior to or just

after acceptance to the Judging Program). Completed evaluations must be verified by the JPC. If clerking requirements are completed prior to application, they must be listed and documented in the Application. If a guest judge Applicant has a sufficient number of satisfactory guest judging evaluations, the clerking requirement can be waived.

3.10 Training Classes: Upon acceptance, a minimum of three (3) training classes in each specialty must be completed. The first shall be a supervised training class. When successfully completed, the next two (2) assignments shall be solo assignments in each specialty. After completion of training, the judge will be presented at the next scheduled Board of Directors meeting and if approved by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote, will be licensed as an Approved Double Specialty Judge.

3.11 Upon being licensed as an Approved Double Specialty Judge, the judge will be required to complete eight (8) successfully evaluated assignments in each licensed specialty. Once completed and approved by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Directors, the judge will be licensed as an Approval Pending Allbreed Judge and will follow the standard advancement process thereafter.

3.12 Approved Guest Judges may apply to the program by submitting an application, a resume detailing their breeding and exhibiting accomplishments, a history of CFA Guest Judging by show and date and a letter of intent to attend a BAOS within 2 years of acceptance. These applicants will be accepted as Approval Pending Allbreed Judges and will follow the standard advancement process thereafter.

SECTION 4

ASSOCIATE JUDGING PROGRAM

4.1 Application to the Associate Judging Program will be for specific underserved and/or isolated designated areas. Applications will only be accepted when the Board of Directors designates an open application period for a designated area. The Board of Directors will determine the number of Applicants to be accepted.

4.2 A qualified Applicant eighteen (18) years or older who is approved by the Board of Directors with a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote will be accepted only as a single specialty Associate Judge Trainee.

4.3 An Associate Judge Trainee must successfully complete all training as scheduled, including but not limited to online classes, video handling requirements and in-person training if offered by the JPC.

4.4 Upon successful completion of all training, the JPC will present those names of the eligible Associate Judge Trainees to the Board of Directors for advancement to Associate Judge Single Specialty only. A two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote will be required for advancement.

4.5 An Associate Judge is licensed only as a Single Specialty Associate Judge and only in his/her designated geographic area, as determined where the application was completed and approved.

4.6 Application requirements:

a. The Applicant must:

- 1.** Show proof of breeding a minimum of four (4) years by providing a copy of a litter registration certificate that is dated at least four (4) years prior to application.

2. Show proof of exhibiting a minimum of four (4) years with a minimum of two (2) breeds shown in the same specialty where applying.
 3. Have shown a minimum of five (5) cats to Grand Champion or Grand Premier, three (3) of which must be of the Applicant's breeding.
 4. Have attained title of RW, DW, NW, BW on two (2) cats, one (1) which must be of the Applicant's breeding.
- b. The Applicant must:
1. Be a licensed Ring Clerk, Master Clerk preferred
- OR
2. Pass a basic clerking test
 3. Be a current member in good standing in a CFA Club for at least two (2) years. The Applicant must submit a letter signed by the secretary of the club or another officer in the event the Applicant is the club secretary.
 4. Submit a letter signed by a club secretary or president showing show production experience, either for his/her own club or for another CFA club.
 5. Provide a summary of the Associate Applicant's service to CFA.
 6. Show proof of attendance at any/all feline topic seminars including but not limited to feline breeding, grooming, BAOS.
 7. Submit the completed application in PDF format to the Associate Judge Administrator.

4.7 An Associate Judge may clerk only in the opposite specialty in his/her own designated area, but may clerk both specialties or allbreed if performing as a clerk outside their own designated area.

4.8 Associate Judge Trainees and Associate Judges must adhere to the provisions of Section 11 (Licensing), Section 13 (Continuing Education) and Section 14 (Conduct of All judges) as well as to the Show Rules as they pertain to judges.

SECTION 5

REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSOCIATE JUDGES FOR APPLICATION TO THE CFA REGULAR JUDGING PROGRAM

5.1 Associate Judges who are licensed as Associate Single Specialty-only judges and wish to transfer to the regular Judging Program must first meet all necessary requirements and apply to the regular Judging Program in their first specialty.

5.2 The following requirements may be waived by the Application Administrator when the Associate Judge has completed ten (10) judging assignments with error free paperwork.

- a. Marking a Judges Book (2.12)
- b. Breed Focused Experience (2.11)
- c. Clerking License Requirement (2.4)

5.3 The name of each Associate Judge Applicant to the regular Judging Program will be submitted to the Board of Directors at the first meeting held at least four (4) months after receipt by the Application Administrator of the completed application. Application deadlines are listed on the CFA website. Please note that applications are reviewed only at the February, June and October Board of Directors meetings.

SECTION 6

PROCESS FOR FIRST AND SECOND SPECIALTY APPLICATIONS

First Specialty Application:

6.1 Once the Applicant has completed the Application in PDF format with the required information and signatures and has forwarded the complete package by email to the appropriate Application Administrator, the Applicant's name will be posted on the CFA website. This CFA website pre-notice of first specialty Applicant's name must be three (3) months prior to the next scheduled Board meeting, where the Application is to be considered. Every effort will be made to list the Applicant's name in other official CFA forms of communication for receipt of letters of recommendation or concern. Applications will be reviewed at the February, June and October board meetings.

6.2 The Application Administrator working with the individual making the Application may make comments on the quality of the Application and his/her experience working with the individual.

6.3 If the Applicant is accepted into the Program, the application fee will be used to cover some of the expenses of CFA activities until the Applicant is advanced to Approved Judge status.

6.4 The Applicant may withdraw his/her application within thirty (30) days of the date appearing on the CFA website and the application fee will be returned. The Applicant may reapply after one (1) year.

6.5 If the Application is not approved by the Board, fifty (50%) percent of the application fee will be retained by CFA and the remainder will be returned to the Applicant. The Applicant may reapply after one (1) year and must pay the current application fee.

6.6 An Application which has not been completed within one (1) calendar year of the date appearing on the application will be become inactive. If Applicant wishes to apply for admission to the Judging Program at a later date, such Application will be treated as a new application and must be accompanied by the current application fee.

6.7 Signed positive and negative letters must be documented and must be submitted to the appropriate Application Administrator no less than six (6) weeks prior to an Applicant's review by the Board.

6.8 The Application Administrator will forward any negative letters to the Applicant, who will be given the opportunity to provide a written response. Any negative letter and written response will be presented to the Board of Directors as part of the application file.

6.9 When Applicant has successfully completed the Application process, their file will be forwarded to the Board of Directors. The Application Administrator will inform the Applicant when the Application has been submitted to the Board of Directors. The JPC may make recommendations and comments, either negative or positive, at the request of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will review the Application and make a decision as to whether or not the Applicant will be accepted into the Judging Program.

6.10 The Application Administrator working with the individual making the application may make comments on the quality of the application and their experience working with the individual.

Second Specialty Application

6.11 When an Approval Pending First Specialty judge has met the second specialty requirements, they may apply for the second specialty. Applicant must complete and sign a Second Specialty Application and forward the Application package in PDF format, by email, to the appropriate Application Administrator. Second Specialty Applications must be complete and received at least six (6) weeks prior to the board meeting where they will be considered. Application deadlines are posted on the CFA website. Applications will be reviewed at the February, June and October board meetings.

6.12 The Application Administrator working with the individual making the application may make comments on the quality of the application and their experience working with the individual.

6.13 The Application Administrator will inform the Second Specialty Applicant when the Application has been submitted to the Board of Directors. The JPC may make recommendations and comments, either negative or positive, at the request of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will review the Application and make a decision as to whether or not the Single Specialty Judge will be accepted into the Second Specialty of the Judging Program.

SECTION 7

ACCEPTANCE TO THE JUDGING PROGRAM

7.1 The name of each Applicant (first/second specialty) will be submitted to the Board of Directors at the first meeting held no less than four (4) months for first specialty Applicants and at least six (6) weeks for second specialty Applicants after receipt by the JPC of the completed required documentation, including all related material. Please note: applications are only reviewed at the February, June and October meetings, excluding the Associate Judging Program.

7.2 Acceptance/advancement upon completion of requirements is by written ballot vote of the Board of Directors. After consideration by the JPC and the Board of Directors of all required documentation, related material, and all other pertinent information as relates to these Applicants which has been made available to the JPC and the Board of Directors, a two-thirds (2/3) favorable vote of the members present of the Board of Directors is required for acceptance/advancement.

7.3 The Board of Directors may, at its discretion, announce a moratorium on the acceptance of applications for admission to the Judging Program for a specified time period.

7.4 The Board of Directors cannot determine whether any Applicant, no matter how highly recommended, will be able to translate theoretical or technical knowledge of standards, handling techniques, and mechanics into actual practice in the judging ring. For this reason, acceptance to the Judging Program will be in the status of Trainee and only after he/she has demonstrated his/her abilities in the various stages of the program to the satisfaction of the JPC and the Board of Directors will he/she be advanced to a higher status. In no instance will any step in the program be omitted. All requirements stated are irreducible minimums.

7.5 An Applicant, once accepted, will not be dropped from the program except by action of the Board of Directors by a two-thirds (2/3) unfavorable vote of the members present.

SECTION 8

TRAINEES

8.1 Color Classes for Trainees – Breed/Division Color Class Evaluations

a. Applicants who have been accepted to the Judging Program are designated as Trainees and are eligible to do breed/division color class evaluation work under the supervision of an Approved Judge; however, no Trainee shall be assigned to any Approved Judge who personally recommended the Trainee for acceptance to the Judging Program.

b. The Trainee and File Administrator will jointly select shows that are appropriate for the Trainee to train. The Trainee does not contact the Training Judge or the Show Manager before approval has been obtained from all parties. Trainee must complete the first part of the Trainee Permission Form and send it to the File Administrator. File Administrator secures approval from the Show Manager for a Trainee to train at the show. The File Administrator then verifies the willingness of having Training Judge(s) train at the show. The completed form is sent to the Show Manager for signature.

c. The File Administrator will assign the Trainee to the Training Judge who he/she feels will best benefit that Trainee. Shows where a Trainee is authorized to work with more than one (1) Training Judge at the same show will count as one show/class credit.

d. Trainees are permitted at the following format shows:

- Saturday or Sunday of a back-to-back show;
- Two (2) day Allbreed shows (may train both days);
- One (1) day all Longhair or one (1) day all Shorthair shows;
- Two (2) day specialty shows (one [1] day given to Longhair, and one [1] day given to Shorthair);
- One (1) day four (4) to six (6) ring shows, on a limited basis.

e. Only one (1) Trainee is allowed per specialty. The number of Trainees allowed is limited to two (2); one (1) Longhair and one (1) Shorthair.

f. Trainees may not schedule evaluation training on two (2) consecutive weekends, except in specific situations outlined in this section or when it is considered by the JPC to be advantageous to the Trainee's progress. Exceptions will be infrequent.

g. At the discretion of the File Administrator, exceptions may be made to these provisions, when necessary, provided that no breed is handled by more than one (1) Trainee for color class purposes.

h. The File Administrator reserves the right to deny permission to any Trainee to work at any show with a permissible format when, in the opinion of the File Administrator, the circumstances of that show will not serve to adequately further the Trainee's progress.

8.2 Supervised Color Classes For Trainees

a. The Training Judge will determine, along with the guidance of the File Administrator, what breed/division color classes the Trainee will judge. When it has been determined what color classes the Trainee will handle, he/she will duplicate the judge's slips for his/her awards, copying carefully from the official judge's book. The Trainee may request that a judge's book be provided by the club which will attempt to (but is not obligated to) honor the Trainee's request.

b. In order to save time and avoid undue handling of the exhibits, it is suggested that the Trainee remove each cat to be judged from the judging cage and place it on the judging table. The Training Judge will then make his/her examination, in each case, while the Trainee stands back and observes the handling and techniques used by the Training Judge. When the Training Judge is finished with the entry, the Trainee will examine it and return it to its judging cage.

This procedure may be reversed at the discretion of the Training Judge.

c. Prior to the hanging of any ribbons by the Training Judge, the Trainee will mark his/her judging slip for each cat handled, giving comments on each exhibit, and will award 1st, 2nd, 3rd, in the male and female color classes; Best of Color and 2nd Best of Color, Best and 2nd Best of Breed/Division and Best Champion of Breed/Division, if appropriate.

These decisions are to be arrived at independently and without consultation at the time of marking. Each entry must be judged by the CFA standard for the breed and color.

d. Thereafter, the Training Judge will hang all ribbons according to his/her own decisions. The written awards of the Trainee have no official bearing on the awards given by the Training Judge.

e. When a breed/division color class has been completed by both the Training Judge and the Trainee, they should confer privately to compare and discuss awards.

f. Trainees must complete the color class slips in duplicate and give one (1) copy at the show to the Training Judge. The remaining copy must be scanned and emailed/faxed or mailed to the File Administrator, along with a catalog marked both with the finals of the Training Judge and the breeds/divisions/color classes that were used for training.

8.3 Prior to scanning or mailing this copy to the File Administrator, the Trainee must make a copy of this record for personal reference in the future. Trainees must be proficient in the marking and utilization of all CFA judging forms. These materials must be scanned and emailed/faxed or mailed within two (2)

days after the show to ensure the Trainee has the opportunity to be informed of his/her use of such records prior to the Trainee's next scheduled color class session.

8.4 Solo Color Classes For Trainees

a. When the Trainee has judged satisfactorily a sufficient number of color classes to be deemed ready for more advanced work by the File Administrator, he/she will be assigned to judge color classes along with the Training Judge under whose tutelage he/she is working, observing his/her work from a point outside the ring. Solo classes may take place over a two (2) day period.

b. The Training Judge and the File Administrator will decide which color classes, breeds or divisions will be judged by the Trainee. The Training Judge will take the stand and judge the entries and mark his/her judging book. The Trainee's classes will be printed with the classification as to Champion or Grand Champion status. The Trainee is then called to the ring by the Training Judge, who will observe the Trainee from the audience as the Trainee judges the entire class. The Trainee will award 1st, 2nd, 3rd, in the male and female color classes; Best of Color and 2nd Best of Color, Best and Second Best of Breed/Division, and Best Champion of Breed/Division, if appropriate.

c. The ribbons/permanents used will be from the supply provided to the judge at his/her table. The Trainee will hang ribbons in accordance with his/her decisions and mark the awards in his/her judge's book. At the completion of the Trainee's judging, he/she will remove his/her ribbons and the Training Judge will return to the ring to hang the official ribbons. The Trainee's awards have no official status. At the discretion of the Training Judge, he/she may request the Trainee to prepare and present a top five (5)/top ten (1) final.

d. A private discussion between the Training Judge and the Trainee will follow.

NOTE: It is expected that there will be some differences in the decisions of the Trainee and the Training Judge. The Trainee will be asked to present justifiable reasons for his/her decisions and may be asked to do additional color class work.

e. The Training Judge in each instance will complete and sign an evaluation form which may be scanned and emailed/faxed or mailed to the appropriate File Administrator. Judges are requested to make pertinent comments on both the tangible and the intangible aspects of a Trainee's qualifications for judging in addition to answering the specific questions on the form and also to make any suggestions which they feel will be helpful to a Trainee for the future and for the File Administrator in making a realistic evaluation of a Trainee's progress. It is important that both the JPC and the Board of Directors have as much information as possible on the performance of a Trainee in the ring before the Executive Board must decide whether to promote, defer or drop a Trainee from the Program.

8.5 When the services of a Trainee are used to judge Household Pets, he/she will be reimbursed as specified in the CFA Show Rules.

8.6 Trainees must not discuss possible invitations to judge or accept any invitations contingent on advancement by the Board of Directors to the status of Apprentice Judge.

8.7 Trainees will have two (2) years to complete the required breed/division color class evaluation training. An extension may be granted by the Board of Directors for medical reasons or extenuating

circumstances. Those Trainees not completing color classes in two (2) years may re-apply after a two (2) year period.

8.8 Second Specialty Trainees in the Regular Program may not begin training in the second specialty until they have advanced to Approved status in the first specialty. (This does not preclude an individual advancing to Approved first specialty and Trainee second specialty at the same Board of Directors meeting).

SECTION 9

APPRENTICE JUDGES

9.1 The names of Trainees who have met the above requirements to the satisfaction of the Judging Program Committee will be presented to the Board of Directors for possible advancement to the status of Apprentice Judge.

9.2 After consideration by the JPC and the Board of Directors of all required documentation, related material, and any other pertinent information about the Trainee which may have become available, the Board of Directors will cast a written ballot vote. A two thirds (2/3) favorable vote of the members present is required for advancement to Apprentice status.

9.3 In Regions 1-9, clubs may invite any Apprentice Judge from any region or division to judge any breed or color for which the Apprentice Judge is authorized.

9.4 Apprentice Judges will adhere to all rules and regulations as set forth in the CFA Show Rules for judges.

9.5 Apprentice Judges will charge a fee as stipulated in the Show Rules for Apprentice Judges. In the event a judge is in the apprentice status in one category and in a higher status in another category, he/she will charge the Apprentice fee for the portion of the show which he/she judges in the apprentice status in addition to the judging fee for the higher status. The Apprentice Judge will be reimbursed by the hiring club for transportation, lodging, meals, taxis and tips.

9.6 Apprentice Judges, who have any question about the procedures in this Program or about the interpretation of the Show Rules and Standards, are urged to consult their File Administrator before attempting to judge a show. No consultation is permissible at a show.

SECTION 10

ADVANCEMENT PROCEDURES FOR APPRENTICE AND APPROVAL PENDING JUDGES

10.1 The following conditions must be met as requirements for advancement before any other factors are considered. In no instance will any step of the program be omitted.

a. Apprentice specialty judges must satisfactorily judge a minimum of six (6) complete championship shows and handle a minimum of three hundred (300) cats.

b. Approval Pending single specialty judges must satisfactorily judge a minimum of six (6) complete championship shows.

c. Judges approved in one (1) specialty and Approval Pending in the second specialty must satisfactorily judge a minimum of eight (8) complete championship shows, in accordance with the provisions in this Section.

d. Approval Pending Allbreed Judges must satisfactorily judge a minimum of eight (8) complete championship shows, in accordance with the provisions in this Section.

10.2 Location of shows for each advancement level include:

a. **Judges (double specialty or higher) residing in Regions 1-7 or country or area (for China):** A minimum of two (2) shows must be judged outside the judge's region of residence or not less than five hundred (500) miles or four hundred (400) kilometers from their place of residence for each advancement consideration.

b. **Judges (double specialty or higher) residing in Region 8 (Japan):** A minimum of two (2) shows must be judged at least two hundred forty (240) kilometers away from the judge's residence in Japan for each advancement consideration.

c. **Judges (all) residing in Region 9 (Europe) and the International Division:** A minimum of two (2) shows must be judged at least four hundred (400) kilometers away from the judge's residence in Europe or the judge's residence in the International Division, for each advancement consideration.

10.3 Requirements for any specific advancement must be completed within a forty-eight (48) month period. Apprentice Judges not fulfilling these requirements will be dropped from the Judging Program; Approval Pending Specialty Judges will be dropped to Apprentice Specialty status. This requirement shall not apply to Approval Pending Allbreed Judges.

10.4 For each show judged by an Apprentice or Approval Pending Judge, an evaluation form, supplied by the File Administrator must be completed and signed by a majority of the show committee and mailed or scanned and emailed to CFA Central Office with the show package or separately within thirty days (30) of the date of the show.

10.5 After consideration of the evaluation forms by the JPC and the Board of Directors, reports on the work of the judge and any other pertinent information which has been made available to the JPC and the Board of Directors, a two thirds (2/3) favorable vote of the members present of the Board of Directors is required for advancement.

10.6 Apprentice and Approval Pending Judges and Trainees judging any show, including Household Pet shows, must notify the appropriate File Administrator of any judging assignments they have accepted, a minimum of thirty (30) days prior to the first day of the show. No credit will be given for the work at any show for which such pre-notice has not been sent to the JPC at the stipulated time, the exception being shows for which the judge is acting as a last minute substitution, in which case the appropriate File Administrator must be notified when the contract is signed.

10.7 All requirements for advancement contained in this Section are strictly irreducible minimums and fulfilling them does not guarantee consideration for advancement. Anyone in the Judging Program whom the majority of the JPC feels would be best advised to complete further shows will have the option of withdrawing his/her name for consideration for advancement by the Board of Directors. The JPC will explain to the candidate the problems with their candidacy, what they can do to rectify the situation and

(should the candidate decide to go forward) what the consequences would be if the Board of Directors does not advance them.

SECTION 11

LICENSING

11.1 Payment of the annual fee (as determined by the Board of Directors) is a requirement for relicensing or, in the case of a Trainee, remaining on the Judging Panel. This fee is due at the beginning of each calendar year.

11.2 Approved, Approval Pending and Apprentice Judges, including Associate Judges, are licensed annually. Each name will come up before the Board of Directors for review prior to licensing.

11.3 Advancement to the status of Approval Pending or Approved judge constitutes an automatic licensing in that status for the remainder of that licensing period.

11.4 An Approved Judge who has been inactive for more than twelve (12) months may request permission from the JPC to take the Advanced Refresher Course in his/her particular status. The Advanced Refresher course will involve advanced color class and breed/division work under the supervision of an Approved Allbreed Judge designated by the JPC. A written report will be submitted to the JPC by the supervising judge.

11.5 Failure to relicense an Approved or Approval Pending Judge requires notification and a hearing before the Board of Directors, as stipulated in Article XIII of the CFA Bylaws.

11.6 Any judge in the Apprentice or Approval Pending category receiving five (5) or more no votes will be advised in writing and the specific reason(s) for concern will be noted.

11.7 Every judge and Trainee, including Associate Judge Trainee and Associate Judge, must satisfy the continuing education requirements specified in Section 13.

11.8 Satisfactory completion of the bi-annual Judges' Test with a score of eighty-five (85%) percent or higher is a requirement for relicensing.

11.9 Any judge receiving a score of less than eighty-five (85%) percent must be retested with an alternate test within ninety (90) days of receiving the original test results, and attain a score of eighty-five (85%) percent or higher. Retests are subject to a re-take fee equal to the licensing fee, which is due with the licensing fee.

11.10 If the retest score is less than eighty-five (85%) percent, the judge will complete a Refresher Course.

11.11 Tests postmarked after the deadline will be subject to a fee equal to the licensing fee, which is due with the licensing fee. A judge who has failed to return his/her test shall not be relicensed.

11.12 Trainees hold no license and remain in the Judging Program in a probationary status by the Board of Directors.

11.13 Trainees and Apprentice Judges may be dropped from the Judging Program at any time without notice or hearing for violation of any of the existing rules and regulations, and for violation of any which may hereafter be adopted. They may also be dropped from the Judging Program when, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, it has become evident that such Trainee or Apprentice Judge does not have sufficient handling ability, knowledge of mechanics, breeds, and standards; or is unable to translate his/her knowledge into actual practice in the show ring; or that he/she does not possess the intangible qualities necessary for the smooth and authoritative control of a show ring in all its aspects; or, in short, has not demonstrated the necessary knowledge, ability, and qualities required to contribute to CFA's prestige and public image. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the Board of Directors present is required to drop a Trainee or Apprentice Judge from the Judging Program.

11.14 A Trainee who has been dropped from the Judging Program or a judge who has been dropped from the panel of judges through failure to relicense may reapply after the lapse of two (2) years. Judges who reapply will be considered for reinstatement in the next lower status than that held when not relicensed.

11.15 Each Applicant for admission to the Judging Program, and to the Associate Judging Program, each Trainee, each Associate Judge Trainee, each Associate Judge, and each member of the CFA panel of judges, must agree to the following statement before being considered for admission or advancement, or permitted to function under this program as a CFA judge:

"I understand that only those Applicants with unquestionable moral character and impressive credentials will be considered for acceptance into the CFA Judging Program. I agree to abide by and accept any recommendations and decisions made by the Judging Program Committee, the Board of Directors or CFA regarding this application, as well as any consideration for advancement in the future. All decisions shall be binding and final, in accordance with current and future CFA Show Rules and CFA Judging Program Rules."

11.16 Each Applicant, Trainee or member of the CFA panel of judges, including the Associate Judging Program, will maintain his/her cats in such a manner that meets or exceeds the minimum standards/requirements for a CFA Approved Cattery.

11.17 Each Applicant, Trainee or member of the CFA panel of judges, including the Associate Judging Program, agrees to abide by the Judges' Code of Ethics currently in effect, and will sign the Judges' Code of Ethics annually at the time of payment of the application fee or the annual license fee.

11.18 The Board of Directors, at the recommendation of the JPC or at the request of any judge, supported by suitable written request, may grant a judge or Trainee a leave of absence for a period not exceeding one (1) year. The judge or Trainee will be authorized to commence participation in the Judging Program in the same status as when he/she was placed on leave of absence.

11.19 Approved Judges must officiate at least three (3) CFA shows in two (2) years in order to be relicensed. Judges who have not fulfilled this requirement will be placed in Inactive Status and must complete a Refresher Course before returning to active Specialty or Allbreed status.

11.20 When there is verifiable concern about any judge being able to continue his/her judging duties and/or ability to travel to officiate at a show, the Board of Directors, or CFA Executive Committee may:

a. Request that medical clearance by the treating physician be supplied and verified before the judge may fulfill any existing assignment or accept any new assignment.

b. Place a judge on Medical Leave of Absence until such medical clearance is supplied and verified.

11.21 Responsibility for cancelling shows and associated travel arrangements remain the obligation of the judge and must be undertaken immediately upon Board of Directors/Executive Committee action.

11.22 Service Awards

The Service Award is awarded to judges to celebrate their Years of Service to CFA as judges.

a. Service Awards start to accrue on the first day of the month and year of advancement to Apprentice for the first specialty or at whatever status a person from another association becomes a judge in CFA.

b. Judge must have met a full five (5) years of service to receive an award.

c. Service Awards are announced at each Annual in five (5) year increments.

d. A leave of absence (LOA) beyond one (1) year will deduct the time of the LOA in whole-year increments from the accrual date. If longer than one (1) year and six (6) months, the time will be rounded up. Completion of the judges' bi-annual test, if due, and judges' dues must be paid during the period of the LOA.

e. A suspension will deduct the time of suspension in whole-year increments from the accrual date. If longer than one (1) year and six (6) months, the time will be rounded up.

SECTION 12

JUDGING INVITATION CLARIFICATIONS

12.1 Judging Invitations to CFA Judges by Non-CFA Associations

a. Invitations to CFA judges from clubs affiliated with non-CFA cat associations not domiciled in the U.S. are subject to the approval of the JPC and may be considered only by Approved Allbreed, Approval Pending Allbreed or Approved Specialty Judges. A judge may judge only the specialty/specialties in which he/she is approved.

b. Judges invited to guest judge for eligible international cat associations MUST request permission and receive approval from the JPC prior to signing a contract. Such approval is conditional upon there being no licensed CFA show scheduled within a five hundred (500) mile (or equivalent kilometer) radius or within a country in Europe of the subject show, at the time the approval is granted. CFA show(s) licensed after approval has been granted will not negate the approval. The request for approval must contain:

1. Judges Name

2. The Invitation from the Affiliated Association
3. Name of the club hosting the show
4. Show location, date and format.

c. Requests to judge fun shows, 4H shows or to conduct seminars require approval of the designated JPC member.

1. Fun Shows judging will not be approved for shows licensed by an Association other than CFA, though may be approved if for an unaffiliated feline club.
2. Fun Show judging will not be approved if FFF or ICE judges are also officiating.
3. Fun Show judging will not be approved as an in-conjunction show, sharing a show hall or second day at the same venue where an ICE or FFF show occurred.
4. Associate judges of single specialties may judge all types of cats at a Fun Show.

12.2 Judging Invitations to CFA Judges from International Division CFA Clubs

a. Invitations from CFA clubs in the International Division may be considered by Approved or Approval Pending Judges, including those that are Approved in one specialty and at least Apprentice in the second specialty, or judges at any level that reside in the International Division. A Judge may judge only the specialty/specialties in which he/she is approved.

b. Associate Judges may judge only in their designated area. They may not accept invitations outside their designated area.

12.3 Invitations to Non-CFA Judges to Judge a CFA Show

a. Invitations from CFA clubs for non-CFA Judges are subject to the approval of the JPC and may be considered only by Approved Allbreed, Approval Pending Allbreed or Approved Specialty Judges whose license from an accepted association is on file with the Judging Program Committee and who have been actively judging with their parent association for a minimum of five (5) years. Judges at the Approved Guest Judge level may guest judge for CFA a maximum of ten (10) times per show season and a maximum of three (3) times per club, per show season. Judges at the Guest Judge level may be approved to guest judge for CFA a maximum of five (5) CFA shows per show season, and a maximum of three (3) times per club, per show season. A judge may only judge the level at which they are licensed. When the show format includes a specialty ring, guest judges will serve as a specialty judge unless a specialty-only CFA judge would be serving as the required specialty judge. The following information must be provided to the JPC:

1. Judge's Name
2. Judge's Affiliated Association
3. Name of Club hosting the show
4. Show Location, date and format.

b. CFA judging contracts will be used on all authorized CFA shows. CFA Show Rules and CFA Breed Standards are to be followed by ALL judges authorized to officiate as Guest Judges at CFA shows.

c. A Guest Judge Evaluation Form will be completed by the club for all judges at the Guest Judge Level and mailed to Central Office or the Judging Program Committee within thirty (30) days of the show. No further guest judging requests will be approved for that club until all outstanding evaluations have been submitted by the club. Evaluations are no longer required for Guest Judges at the Approved Guest Judge Level.

d. Requirements to move from Guest Judge to Approved Guest Judge. The Guest Judge will:

1. Have reviewed a minimum of 4 (LH) and 6 (SH) breed presentations online and passed the post-tests OR have attended a breed Awareness and Orientation School.
2. Maintain positive evaluations from clubs.
3. Have at least three satisfactory observation reports on file within the preceding three years.
4. Will be recommended by the JPC for presentation to the Board of Directors for approval to advance to Approved Guest Judge.

12.4 Responsibilities in using Guest Judges:

a. Guest Judge

1. Must maintain a current resume of credentials and contact details
2. Must understand CFA Judging Rules, ring mechanics and Show Rules
3. Must agree to take a review/test of CFA Show Rules and Mechanics upon request.
4. Must agree to an improvement plan if paperwork errors are found.

b. CFA Clubs must:

1. Request approval from the JPC for use of a Guest Judge at least 60 days in advance of the show. The request must include the names of CFA judges officiating at the show and the show format.
2. Agree to assign an experienced CFA Licensed clerk to the Guest Judge's ring and instruct the clerk and/or master clerk to assist with any paperwork issues.
3. Complete a Guest Judge evaluation form containing all required signatures and forward to Central office within 30 days of the show.

c. JPC or Central Office will:

1. Maintain a list of Approved Guest Judges.

2. Notify the Guest Judge of approval prior to a contracted show and provide links to the current Show Rule, Breed Standards, Judges Ethics, and How to Mark a Judges Book instructions. Included will also be the JP Rules and the guest judge evaluation form.
3. Notify the show manager, show secretary and regional director or area representative of approvals to judge.

12.5 Any Guest Judge may be dropped a level or have approval removed for future CFA shows if they are found to violate the CFA Show Rules, or the CFA Judges Code of Ethics. Continued errors in mechanics will require attending a clerking school prior to any further assignments.

12.6 Guest Judges may apply to become CFA Judges by following the requirements in Section 3. Approved Guest Judges may apply using the process defined in 3.12.

SECTION 13

CONTINUING EDUCATION OF ALL TRAINEES AND JUDGES

13.1 Beginning May 1, 2011, all Trainees, judges, Associate Judge Trainees and Associate Judges must accrue twelve (12) continuing education units (CEU's) over a five (5) year period to continue to be licensed as a CFA Judge. The five (5) year period begins on the date an individual enters the CFA Judging Program. Judges may select from the following methods to meet the requirements.

a. Attendance at a CFA Judge's Workshop will earn CEU's based on the number of scheduled workshop hours; one (1) CEU earned for each hour of the workshop.

b. Attendance at the general session and a Longhair or Shorthair portion of the BAOS including the practical lab will earn ten (10) CEU's.

c. Participation as an instructor at a BAOS which includes the presentation of three (3) breeds and conducting a portion of the practical lab will earn twelve (12) CEU's.

d. Working with a Trainee at a CFA Show for an official supervised or solo session will earn five (5) CEU's.

e. Completion of each breed presentation and test from the online library of CFA Breed Presentations will earn one (1) CEU. Judges who want to review some or all of the topics for personal reasons, as well as to fulfill continuing education courses, are encouraged to complete as many as they wish.

f. From time to time, the CFA Judging Program will grant Continuing Education credit for other activities related to the judging of the pedigreed cat, such as breed seminars and attendance at other courses.

13.2 Continuing Education Report Card:

a. Each Trainee, Associate Judge Trainee and Associate Judge is responsible for the completion and submission of a CEU Report Card no less than sixty (60) days before the end of each five (5) year period.

b. The Record Keeper for the CFA Judging Program will record and provide information to the Judging Program Chair as judges complete their records.

SECTION 14

CONDUCT OF ALL TRAINEES AND JUDGES

14.1 Every Trainee and every judge, in whatever status, shall at all times conduct himself/herself in such a manner as shall bring credit on himself/herself, his/her association, his/her fellow judges, and the cat fancy.

14.2 It is expected that all courtesy will be extended by the judge to other judges, spectators, show committees, show secretaries, and other persons or organizations connected with CFA activities.

14.3 It is expected that each person in the Program will reply promptly to any inquiry seeking his/her services.

14.4 Each person connected in any capacity with this Program should conduct himself/herself at all times in a professional and dignified manner, in and out of the judging ring, remembering that he/she is serving in the capacity of an Ambassador for CFA, and seek to be a credit to this organization.



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