

Fact Sheet: Changes to the Show Rules for Opens and Champions/Premiers

1. **Enter your open as an open** – Central Office needs to see your cat in the show catalog listed as an open to correctly award Qualifying Rings. Continue to enter opens as opens.
2. **Check the catalog to make sure your open is listed as an open.** If your cat is not listed as OP, do NOT correct this on the Absentee & Transfer sheet at check-in. You will have to do a catalog correction with the master clerk. Your confirmation might list your open as a CH/PR. If it does, you must check the catalog when you get to the show.
3. **Opens will earn a Qualifying Ring for each judge that does not DQ, WC (wrong color) or otherwise withhold awards.** One Qualifying Ring equals one Winners Ribbon. Multiple opens in the same color class can use the same Qualifying Ring.
4. The most common question is **“If there are four or more in the color class, how will I know if my cat earned a QR or was DQ’d?”** The same way we know whether a clear ribbon was a dash or DQ now – ask!
 - a) Discretely check with the ring clerk after the ring clerk has checked the judge’s class sheet.
 - b) Ask the master clerk. The judges’ class sheets are available for exhibitors to examine as required by the show rules.
 - c) Wait for Herman. If your cat is not close to 200 points, you can wait for Herman to post updated ring information
5. **Sunday Transfers** – the **open to champion/premier** case is gone. Since all opens start out competing as champions/premiers and are already listed in the judges’ books as CH/PR, there is no longer a need to make this transfer.
6. **Sunday Transfers** – the **champion/premier to grand** case is still possible, now including **opens to grand**. If your open earns the 6th QR on the first day of a 2 day show (not a 6x6, but a single show held over 2 days) and has 200 banked champion points, you can transfer the open to grand for the 2nd day of the show, but you must claim the CH/PR title at the show or have pre-claimed it online. No cat can transfer to grand without first completing ALL of the requirements for champion/premier, including paying the \$15 claim fee.
7. **Claiming the Champion/Premier title – same as usual.** You can claim the champion title online before the show. As soon as Central Office scores the show, they will update your cat’s record automatically. You can still claim it at the show or afterwards by sending the form to CFA, with the appropriate fee.
8. **Opens are eligible for the purple ribbon and the CH/PR final spots.** Opens compete as champions/premiers, and thus can earn grand points. These points are “banked” until the open completes the requirements for the champion/premier title, including submitting the ch/pr claim and paying the \$15 fee (can be paid online before the show or at the show with the master clerk).
9. **Novices in the International Division are not affected.** Novices will still compete for winners ribbons and will not count as champions. Any winners ribbons won as a novice will count as qualifying rings when the novice is registered.