

COMPETITION CLASSES

- * **KITTEN** competition is for unaltered or altered, pedigreed kittens between the ages of four and eight months.
- * **CHAMPIONSHIP** competition is for unaltered, pedigreed cats over the age of eight months.
- * **PREMIERSHIP** competition is for altered, pedigreed cats over the age of eight months.
- * **PROVISIONAL** competition is for those breeds that have not yet achieved championship status.
- * **MISCELLANEOUS** competition is for those breeds not yet accepted for Provisional status, but accepted for registration and showing in the Miscellaneous Class.
- * **VETERAN CLASS** is for any male or female, altered or unaltered, not younger than seven years on the opening day of the show that if the owner chose to, could otherwise be shown in the championship or premiership classes.
- * **HOUSEHOLD PET** competition is for all randombred or non-pedigreed cats. Entries must have all their physical properties, and must not be declawed. Kittens must be older than four months on the opening day of the show and those entries older than eight months must be neutered or spayed. Pedigreed cats with disqualifying features are eligible to be entered in the Household Pet Class.

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP

Young people are important to the sport of pedigreed cats. Youngsters who learn about good sportsmanship, cat care, breed standards, presentation and cat shows will be valuable to the sport in the future. Junior Showmanship classes are held so that young people can: Experience winning and losing among those who are similar in age; Learn the correct way to present and handle the breed they own; Practice presentation skills in competition; Improve their knowledge about their breed and others; Prepare to show in regular classes in the future.

More information on the Junior Showmanship program can be found on the CFA web site at www.cfainc.org/shows/jr-showmanship.html.

RIBBONS & AWARDS

Spectators at cat shows are often confused about the ribbons that are awarded by the judges. Here's a full explanation of how the ribbons are awarded in the Championship and Premiership classes. The procedure is the same for Kittens, except they are not awarded the Winners Ribbon nor the Best Champion/Premier of Breed ribbon.

When a kitten turns 8 months of age, it is considered to be an adult and begins its adult show career in the OPEN class in either the Championship or Premiership Classes. A judge will handle and evaluate all of the OPEN cats in a color grouping, first the males and then the females. He will award a **First Place (Blue)** ribbon in the Open class to one male and one female and also **Second Place (Red)** and **Third Place (Yellow)** ribbons (depending upon the number of Open cats of that color). First place in the OPEN class is usually accompanied by a **Winners Ribbon (Red/White/Blue)**. Once a cat has been awarded six Winners Ribbons, it becomes a CHAMPION. If in the Premiership Class, it will become a PREMIER.

After the judge has handled the OPEN cats, he judges the CHAMPIONS (or PREMIERS) in that particular color group, and awards first, second and third ribbons to the best three males and the best three females. He then moves on to the GRAND CHAMPIONS (or GRAND PREMIERS) and repeats the process. When all the cats in a color group have been appraised, the judge awards **Best of Color Class (Black)** and **Second Best of Color Class (White)**.

Once the judge has evaluated all of the cats in a breed or color division within a breed, he will award the **Best of Breed or Division (Brown)** and **Second Best of Breed or Division (Orange)**. The judge will also choose the **Best Champion of Breed or Division (Purple)** from all of the Champions competing in that breed or division. The cat receiving the Best Champion ribbon will receive one point toward its Grand Championship title for each Champion it defeated in that breed. Cats with the title of Premier in the Premiership Class also are awarded this ribbon and the recipient will receive one point toward its Grand Premiership title for each Premier it defeated in that breed.

Upon completion of judging all of the cats in a class (i.e. Kittens, Championship or Premiership), the judge will hold a FINAL during which they will present rosettes to their choice for the Top Ten awards. Remember, though, that each ring is basically an individual show so a cat that is chosen Best in Show by the judge in Ring 1, may not always be given the same award by the judge in Ring 2.

Household Pets are judged in one group without regard to sex, age, coat length or color. There is no written standard for Household Pets and they are judged for their uniqueness. Each Household Pet reflecting good health and vitality receives a **Merit Award (Red/White)**.