

Council of Federated Cat Clubs of Queensland Inc.



(CFCCQ)

(Member of the Co-ordinating Cat Council of Australia Inc)

BREEDER'S CODE OF ETHICS

To implement this aim each member / breeder shall: -

- 1 Ensure at all times that all cats and kittens are hygienically housed, properly fed, watered, groomed and receive prompt veterinary attention if and when required.
- 2 Observe the rules and regulations of the CFCCQ. pertaining to any outbreak of infectious disease.
- 3 Take care not to mate a female under 10 months or to over-breed a queen, ensuring that she has no more than a maximum of two litters each 12 months, except under exceptional circumstances.
- 4 Not allow any entire cats under that member's care to roam free, except under supervision, to prevent mis-matings and spread of disease.
- 5 Ensure that a pedigreed cat is not mated to a pedigreed cat of another breed unless the CFCCQ. approves such mating.
- 6 Matings shall only be accepted between cats owned by registered Breeders
- 7 Breed cats for the purpose of improving the standard of the breed and not primarily for the pet market.
- 8 A kitten shall not leave the breeders premises under the age of 10 weeks, thus allowing vaccination to be commenced before date of sale.
- 9 Ensure that a kitten does not leave before that kitten is fully weaned, healthy, vaccinated and litter trained.
- 10 Provide all purchasers of cats/kittens sold or placed by that member with all dietary, grooming and immunization certificates.
- 11 Each member shall accept reasonable financial responsibility for the health status of kittens for at least one (1) week after the date the new owner takes possession of the kitten.
- 12 The sale of cats/kittens to commercial wholesalers or retail pet dealers is strongly not recommended. A member shall not directly allow a cat/kitten to be given as a prize or donation to a contest of any kind.
- 13 Not knowingly misrepresent the characteristics of the breed, nor falsely advertise or mislead any person regarding the pedigree or performance of any cat/kitten on the show bench.
- 14 Ensure that, when selling or transferring a cat/kitten to another person, all documents required by CFCCQ. regulations will be provided on completion of condition of sale to the purchaser or the transferee. The vaccination certificate MUST be given to the new owner with a minimum one (1) vaccination given.
- 15 Ensure that the Certificate of Registration is transferred by the current owner to the new owner's name when the cat/kitten has been sold for show and/or breeding.

RECOMENDED BREEDING PRACTICES

1. SELECTION OF BREEDING STOCK

Animals should be: -

- (a) Healthy
- (b) Of good temperament
- (c) Of lines free from any known genetic fault
- (d) Not displaying any generally accepted genetic fault

2. GENERAL CARE OF BREEDING STOCK

- (a) Entire female cats must not roam free unless under supervision. Calling females must be confined.
- (b) Entire male cats must not roam free.
- (c) Must be groomed regularly and handled daily.
- (d) Must be given facilities for climbing and scratching.
- (e) Be given a balanced and varied diet.
- (f) Be housed in hygienic conditions.
- (g) Be provided with hygienic toilet facilities that are kept clean and disinfected regularly.
- (h) Food and water bowls to be changed at least once a day.
- (i) Receive prompt veterinary attention if and when required.
- (j) Be vaccinated in accordance with the current veterinary advice.
- (k) Be treated on a regular basis for internal and external parasites, in accordance with the current veterinary advice on various Parasitic Cycle controls.

3. MINIMUM DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

- (a) Cats should be fed a varied diet except on veterinary advice to the contrary.
- (b) Guidelines for suitable meals:
Raw meat (no preservatives) Kidney, Heart, Raw Liver (not more than once weekly) Tinned food
Cheese, cottage cheese, egg yolk (not egg white) Dried food
FRESH WATER MUST ALWAYS BE AVAILABLE.
ADULT CATS SHOULD BE OFFERED FOOD TWICE A DAY.

4. MINIMUM HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

- (a) Outdoor units must protect cats from rain, wind, extreme heat and cold, and must be partially enclosed to provide a sheltered sleeping area
- (b) Unit must be designed and maintained to avoid injury and/or escape.
- (c) The structure to be non-porous or coated with non-toxic materials to facilitate easy cleaning.
- (d) Units must be kept clean.
- (e) Cleaning and disinfecting agents should be used only in the recommended concentrations. Where a disinfectant solution has been applied, the area should be allowed to dry before the animal/s is allowed to return, as some solutions can be absorbed through the skin/paw pads. PHENOLS, PINE OIL, EUCALYPTUS OIL must not be used.
- (f) Minimum cage size for a single cat confined at nighttime only or for no longer than (8) eight hours = 1200mm long x 400mm wide x 600mm high / 4ft x 1.4ft x 2ft.
- (g) Minimum permanent unit size for a single adult cat = 1600mm long x 1600mm wide x 1950mm high / 5ft x 5ft x 6.6ft or equivalent area.
- (h) Minimum permanent unit size for two to four (2-4) cats = 3600mm long x 2400mm wide x 1950mm high / 10ft x 8ft x 6.6ft. No more than four cats to be housed on a permanent basis in a unit this size, as cats are territorial animals and over-crowding causes undue stress.
- (i) Animals housed in units within homes, garages, etc must have access to sunshine and such areas must be well ventilated at all times.

- (j) Where cats are permanently confined to units, provide adequate scratching posts and high level shelving for exercise. Also see Section 8 - Stud Quarters and Care

5. CARE OF THE PREGNANT QUEEN AND KITTENING

- (a) Queens shall not be over-bred. Maximum of two (2) litters per every twelve (12) months is recommended.
- (b) All breeders to familiarise themselves with the kittening process, prior to breeding a litter.
- (c) Increase food amounts to the Queen as pregnancy progresses and/or as the Queen requires. Ensure an adequate calcium supply during pregnancy and lactation.
- (d) Provide a clean, adequately sized box and bedding at least one (1) week prior to expected kittening.
- (e) Assist the kittening process where necessary.
- (f) Queens must not be left unattended for lengthy periods during labour and, when labour is deemed to be unproductive, veterinary advice must be sought immediately.
- (g) Once all kittens are born, replace bedding and/or box and change bedding at least every two (2) days.
- (h) Queen and kittens to be kept in a draught free but well ventilated area.
- (i) Check the Queen daily for undue bleeding and signs of mastitis.
- (j) Check kittens daily for weight gain.
- (k) Seek veterinary advice on sickly or deformed kittens.
- (l) Eyes should be checked daily in small kittens and if eye infections occur veterinary treatment should be sought.

6. KITTEN CARE & WEANING

- (a) Kittens shall not be taken away from their mother until such time as they are fully weaned.
- (b) Between four to six (4-6) weeks kittens may be introduced to suitable foods. For example:
 - Cereal
 - Baby food (chicken, fish, beef broth)
 - Specially prepared commercial kitten food

FRESH WATER MUST ALWAYS BE AVAILABLE

- (c) Between six to twelve (6-12) weeks, or when ready, kittens may be introduced to: Finely chopped or minced meat, chicken, and rabbit, grated cheese, cottage cheese, egg yolk and tinned food.
- (d) Provide shallow litter trays suitable for kittens as soon as kittens are mobile.
- (e) Kittens shall be fed a minimum of three (3) times a day until three to four (3-4) months of age; after which they may be fed twice daily.
- (f) Kittens' quarters shall be safe, to avoid injury from falling.
- (g) Kittens shall be vaccinated in accordance with the current veterinary advice.
- (h) Kittens must be treated on a regular basis for internal and external parasites, in accordance with the current veterinary advice on various parasitic cycle controls.

7. SALE OF KITTENS

- (a) No kitten may be sold or given under the age of ten (10) weeks of age.
- (b) As Kittens sold at less than 12 weeks of age cannot be fully vaccinated and wormed, it is the breeder's responsibility to ensure that the new owners are provided with current vaccination records and fully informed of the requirements. Kittens can and should have their first vaccination at less than 10 weeks but will not be fully vaccinated until 12 to 16 weeks.
- (c) Kittens shall be healthy, fully weaned and litter tray trained.
- (d) No kitten with any infectious disease shall be sold or placed.
- (e) Breeder shall provide purchasers with: Diet, grooming and care information.
Pedigree may be supplied (but in the case of Pet Only, pedigree may be withheld until proof of desexing of the kitten is supplied to the Breeder's satisfaction).

- (f) It is not recommended that cats and/or kittens be sold to commercial cat wholesalers or retail pet dealers. They may not be given as a prize or donation for a contest of any kind, or be advertised as a give-away.
- (g) A Breeder shall not misrepresent the characteristics of the breed, nor falsely advertise or mislead any person regarding the pedigree or performance of any kitten on the show bench or as a pet.
- (h) Kittens sold as breeding stock shall only be sold to registered breeders.
- (i) It is highly recommended that all pet kittens be altered (i.e. neutered or spayed) before going to their new homes and definitely by no later than six months of age. It shall be the Breeder's responsibility to ensure that the purchaser is made aware of any current law in this regard.
- (j) Breeders shall keep record of names and addresses of all purchasers.

8. STUD QUARTERS & CARE

- (a) Quarters must be as roomy as possible with the minimum size being = 2100mm long x 2100mm wide x 1950mm high / 7ft x 7ft x 6.6ft with an area set aside within the enclosure for the introduction of visiting queens.
- (b) Quarters shall be kept clean in order to keep the odour to a minimum.
- (c) Climbing and scratching facilities must be provided, plus a high shelf for the Stud to retreat to after mating.
- (d) Studs require plenty of companionship both human and feline. On a daily basis, some time should be spent grooming and handling the Stud. A feline companion such as an Altered (i.e. neutered or spayed) cat may be beneficial.
- (e) Each Stud must have individual quarters.
- (f) Current vaccination certificates must be sighted before accepting a visiting Queen.
- (g) It is recommended that certificates for FIV, FeLV, PKD and any breed specific conditions be sighted before accepting a visiting Queen
- (h) Visiting Queens should be examined for cleanliness and state of health prior to introduction to the Stud.
- (i) Matings shall only be accepted from cats owned by registered Breeders.
- (j) Queens should be permitted to remain with the Stud for a reasonable time after mating and not be removed from the Stud Quarters before a minimum of three (3) matings have been witnessed.

9. DISPOSAL OF BREEDING STOCK

- (a) Entire over 9 months of age:
No breeding cat shall be excessively passed around, be leased, loaned or sold in total more than three (3) times in it's breeding life before being altered (i.e. neutered or spayed). It is the owner's responsibility to ascertain the acceptability of the prospective owner's [lessee, borrower, buyer] premises and standard of care before the cat is relocated. The prospective owner must be a registered breeder.
- (b) Altered (i.e. neutered or spayed):
It is the Owner's responsibility to desex all stock no longer required or unsuitable for breeding. Altered breeding stock may be found homes if necessary, to avoid overcrowding in the cattery.

10. BREEDERS REGISTRATION

- (a) All Breeders must be registered with an approved Governing Cat Control Body.
- (b) No person may knowingly cross breed two breed groups without having applied to a recognised council and been granted an experimental license to do so.
