

PROGRESSIVE RAGDOLL BREED CAT CLUB

Rules & Constitution

1 Name

The name of the club shall be THE PROGRESSIVE RAGDOLL BREED CAT CLUB hereafter called 'the Club'.

2 Aims and Objectives

- a) To promote interest in the Keeping, breeding and exhibiting of Ragdolls of all colours and patterns under GCCF rules, in part by holding shows, seminars and exhibitions.
- b) To ensure the continued health and wellbeing of the breed in general.
- c) To encourage and promote the breeding of new colours and patterns through a GCCF recognised out-crossing programme if applicable.
- d) To establish friendly working relationships with the breed clubs and individual breeders involved.
- e) To establish and maintain a comprehensive Welfare/Rescue scheme for the breed and where appropriate liaise with other rescue groups.
- f) To offer help, advice and support to new owners, exhibitors and breeders.
- g) To abide by the Rules and relevant clauses of the Constitution of the GCCF and to represent the interests of the club members at GCCF Council Meetings and at the Breed Advisory Committee (BAC).

- h) In co-operation with other affiliated clubs, via the BAC, to establish Standards of Points and Breeding Policies for Ragdolls, and to nominate persons for appointment as Judges of Ragdoll Cats.
- i) To establish and maintain a Ragdoll breeding policy which breeding members are recommended to follow
- j) To establish and maintain a Code of Ethics that Registered breeder PRBCC members are required to follow

3 Officers & Committee

- a) The Club shall have a Patron, a President, and not more than three Vice Presidents, chosen for their services to the Club and/or breed.
- b) The affairs of the Club shall be managed on behalf of the members by a committee comprising of nine, consisting of Chair, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and six other elected members of the Club, one of which will be elected vice chair from its members (all those Proposed and elected must be fully paid up members). Five serving members shall constitute a quorum and one of these persons must be the chair or vice chair. Only two persons from one family group related by blood or partnership may serve on the committee concurrently. In matters not covered by, or specified in, these rules, the Committee shall have the power to act.
- c) No Officer or Committee member of the Club may also be an officer or committee member of any organisation in the UK that is not affiliated to the GCCF and whose activities include the registration of and/or licensing or holding of shows for pedigree cats.

- d) No Officer or Committee member of the club may also be an officer or committee member, either elected or co-opted of any other Ragdoll breed club affiliated to or aligned with the GCCF without prior consent of the committee.
- e) A Patron, President and Vice Presidents may be proposed by the Committee at their discretion, to the AGM for approval and shall hold office permanently or until retirement.
- f) Two members of the Committee shall retire each year and shall be eligible for re-election.
- g) Committee members shall be elected by ballot at the AGM and nominations, in writing, proposed, seconded and signed by the nominee must have been received by the Secretary four weeks prior to the AGM. (members for re-election need only give notice in writing to the secretary 4 weeks before the AGM). In the event that at the AGM a post becomes available after the closing date for nominations then the chair shall ask for nominations from the floor. Nominees must have been members for two complete consecutive years before proposals for the committee is allowed.
- h)
 - i) The Chairman shall be elected by the members at the AGM and shall run for three years and be eligible for re-election
 - ii) The Honorary Secretary shall be elected by the members at the AGM and shall run for three years and be eligible for re-election
 - iii) The Honorary Treasurer shall be elected by the members at the AGM and shall run for three years and be eligible for re-election
 - iv) The GCCF delegate/s shall be elected by the members from the committee at the AGM and shall run for 3 years and be eligible for re-election.

Officer and delegate Nominees must follow the same procedure as that of the committee election and must have been members for three complete consecutive years and served one complete year on the committee before officer and delegate proposals are allowed.

The Vice Chair shall be appointed for a term of one year from the Committee, at a meeting immediately following the AGM. The Committee shall also appoint from among its' members a Membership Secretary, a Show Support Secretary, a Welfare/Rescue Officer, a Public Relations Officer, website officer(s) and a Cup Secretary.

- i) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt members to fill vacancies occurring during the year, these members will cover the remaining term of the retiring members post subject to confirmation via members vote at the next AGM, and such co-opted members shall have full voting rights.
- j) The committee shall have the power to set up sub-committee and/or working parties and to co-opt such additional members as may be found necessary to foster the work of the Club. These additional members shall have full voting rights within any sub-group they are a part of and each group must be chaired by a member of the main committee
- k) The Committee shall meet not fewer than four times in a year and in addition extra meeting shall be held at the discretion of the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary on concert. Any Committee member who is absent without notification for three consecutive or $\frac{3}{4}$ or more of a year's meetings without reasonable cause, shall be deemed to have resigned and the member so informed.
- l) All members of the Committee shall have one vote. The Chair, or acting Chair, may at any meeting exercise a casting vote in addition to a personal vote to resolve a tie.

- m) Committee meetings may take place in person or using online facilities.

4 Powers of the Committee

- a) The property, management and finance of the Club shall be vested jointly in the Committee which shall have the power to:

- i call Club meetings
- ii formulate rules
- iii offer advice in any dispute
- iv elect members
- v suspend, expel or refuse the renewal of membership of any member or official from the Club, if their activities are detrimental to the welfare, breeding or exhibiting of cats, or likely to prove harmful to the character, reputation or interests of the Club.

- b) All Officers or members of the Club who under these rules or in pursuance of these rules have the custody of any books, documents, computer records, monies, or property belonging to the Club shall on request from a senior Club Officer. i.e. President, Vice President, Chair or Vice Chair, surrender them to the Committee.

- c) Any complaint which is brought to the attention of the Committee and is covered by section 12 of the GCCF Constitution shall be passed immediately by them, without discussion or consideration, to the Secretary.

- d) Any complaints other than those covered by rule 4c above shall be dealt with by the Committee at their discretion and as appropriate.

5 Membership

- a) Membership shall consist of an unlimited number of Ordinary, Joint, Junior (to age 18), Senior (OAP), Honorary and Overseas members. All shall have full voting rights except Junior and Honorary members.

- b) Membership of the Club shall be open to any person interested in the objects of the Club, at the discretion of the Committee. The Committee shall not be required to divulge the reasons for their decisions for acceptance or refusal of membership.

- c) Membership of the Club shall imply acceptance of the rules of the Club.

- d) Any member who has been refused renewal of membership, suspended or expelled by the Committee, except where Article 12 of the GCCF Constitution applies, may appeal against the decision and request a General Meeting where their case may be put to the membership. The appellant shall have the right to state their case and if the appeal is allowed, the member will be reinstated by a simple majority of the members present.

- e) The subscription for the various classes of membership shall be determined from time to time by the committee, subject to approval at the AGM, and shall be due on January 1st of each year. New applicants received after October 1st shall cover the following year. Members whose subscriptions are in arrears shall be reminded and if in arrears after the 1st March shall be deemed to have resigned, any renewal made after this date will require Committee approval as if a new member.

- f) Any member of the Club may resign at any time on giving notice in writing to the Membership Secretary and by so doing shall relinquish and forfeit all claims against the Club, its property or funds.

- g) Application for a prefix must be sent to the Club secretary on the appropriate GCCF form. The Club will support such an application only after an applicant has been a member of the Club for a minimum of twelve months and is mentored by a nominated Committee member, or a person approved by the Committee.

6 Finances

- a) The financial year of the Club shall run from January 1st to December 31st.
- b) All monies received by the Club shall be deposited into the relevant Building Society and/or Bank accounts bearing the name of the club and full records shall be kept of all such transactions by the honorary treasurer.
- c) All cheques drawn on behalf of the Club must be signed by two of the designated signatories, who will be the Chair, the Treasurer of the Club and one other designated member of the Committee. Any amount in excess of £100 must be approved by the Committee before payment.
- d) A suitable independent person to examine the accounts for both the club and the GCCF annual returns shall be appointed annually at the AGM.
- e) All reasonable expenses incurred by the Officers, GCCF Delegate/s or BAC Representatives on behalf of the Club, shall, subject to approval by the Committee and the presentation of receipts, be defrayed from the Club funds. Monies for travel etc. may be advanced at the discretion of the Committee but shall not normally cover the attendance of the committee meetings by a member.
- f) A proportion of all subscriptions and fees paid for enrolment onto the registered breeders list, to be recommended by the Committee and ratified

at the AGM, shall be paid into the Welfare and Rescue Funds along with any monies donated or earned for those purposes.

7 Meetings

- a) The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than November 30th and at a place to be determined by the Committee. Notification of the AGM and nomination requests will be sent out to members six weeks prior to the meeting. All matters for the Agenda and nominations must have been received by the Honorary Secretary four weeks prior to the meeting. The Agenda shall be circulated together with other relevant papers to the membership not less than Two weeks (fourteen days) before the meeting. Other General Meetings may be called at the discretion of the Committee.
- b) A special General Meeting shall be called by the Honorary Secretary on receipt of a written demand signed by ten or more fully paid up members, specifying the exact business to be discussed, on a surety of £75, this sum to be returned or disbursed at the discretion of the Committee. Such a meeting shall be held within six weeks of the Honorary Secretary receiving the request and the papers shall be sent to all fully paid up members not less than fourteen days before the meeting.
- c) Ten members shall constitute a quorum at a General Meeting this includes committee members.
- d) Every member present at a meeting except the presiding officer shall have one vote excepting Junior and Honorary members. There shall be no voting by proxy. In the event of votes cast being equal, the presiding officer shall have the casting vote.

8 Affiliation and BAC Representation

- a) The Club shall be represented at GCCF Council Meetings by the number of Delegates permitted under GCCF rules.

- b) Affiliation provides that the GCCF shall have disciplinary powers in regard to the Club and its members in accordance with the GCCF Constitution.

Every affiliated club shall fulfil the following conditions:

- It must have not less than fifty subscribed members.
- Its rules must provide that the Council shall have disciplinary powers in regard to its members in accordance with the Constitution.
- No Delegate may serve on the committee of, or act in any official capacity for any other registering body.(cat)
- A club failing or ceasing to fulfil these conditions or any part of them shall cease to be affiliated.
- If a member is suspended for any reason by the GCCF, he or she shall cease to be a member of the Club. On expiry of the suspension, re-application for membership shall be required (if so desired) with payment of another joining fee (if appropriate).

- c) The Club shall be a member of the relevant Breed Advisory Committee and shall be represented at BAC meetings by the number of representatives permitted under the BAC constitution.

- d) Such representatives shall be elected from the Committee at the committee meeting following the AGM. The committee may also appoint other members of the club who may have be deemed to have beneficial skills to represent the committee at BAC meetings. In the event that a representative is unable to attend a BAC meeting, a substitute shall be appointed by the officers of the Club. In the event that a representative should cease to be a member of the Club, the Committee shall appoint a substitute to attend meetings until the next meeting following the AGM

9 Trophies

- a) All trophies shall become the property of the Club upon donation, to be awarded at the discretion of the Committee in consultation with the donor.

A record of this will be kept by the Cup Secretary and the Show Support Secretary.

- b) Points, rosettes, trophies and other prizes shall only be awarded to fully paid-up members. If a member resigns from the Club then any and all trophies held by that member must be returned immediately to either the Show Support Secretary or the Cub Secretary.
- c) Any member who fails to return a trophy on time and in an acceptable condition may at the discretion of the Committee be barred from holding Club trophies.
- d) All trophies falling into an insurable category shall be so insured by the Club.

10 Alteration of rules, amalgamation and winding up

- a) These rules may only be altered at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting. Any proposed alteration to the rules must be notified in writing to the Honorary Secretary and the precise wording of such an alteration must appear on the agenda for that meeting. Any such alteration shall require a two-thirds majority of those present and eligible to vote
- b) The Club may be wound up or amalgamated with another Cat Club only at a Special General Meeting and notice of such a motion must appear on the Agenda for that meeting together with a proposal for the disposal of the Club's assets. Any such motion shall require a two-thirds majority of those present and eligible to vote.

11 Online usage

To establish and maintain policies that members are required to follow when using the clubs online facilities, these policies will include the use of the clubs website facilities (breeder/kitten/stud lists etc) and social networking groups that are maintained by the club.

Appendix to Rules and Constitution

12 Duties of the Committee

a) Honorary Secretary:

Shall conduct the correspondence of the Club in conjunction with other officers as necessary

Shall, in conjunction with the Chair and Vice Chair, call the General Meeting and committee meetings as required and keep minutes of the meetings of the Club and its Committee which shall be available for inspection by any paid up member on request.

Shall present an annual report to the AGM.

b) Honorary Treasurer:

Shall conduct the financial business of the Club

Shall open Building Society and/or Bank accounts as directed by the Committee, such as General Fund, Welfare Fund, Rescue Fund, Publicity Fund and Show Account as and when necessary.

Shall be authorised to draw cheques in accordance with Rule 6c to pay the legitimate expenses of the Club.

Shall make recommendations as to such matters as the rates of subscription and the deposit of funds.

Shall present running balances of all the funds of the club at committee meetings.

Shall present an accounts and balance sheet to the AGM which have been checked by a suitable independent person, and present an income and expenditure account and balance sheet to the AGM.

Shall present an annual report at the AGM.

c) Membership Secretary:

Shall hold and maintain a list of all members which shall be open to inspection by any paid up member on request.

Shall maintain the Club's Stud list.

Shall maintain the Club's Kitten list.

Shall maintain the Club's Registered Breeders list.

Shall present new applications for membership to the Committee for consideration.

Shall liaise with the Treasurer on the status of the membership.

Shall liaise with the Public Relations Officer on recruitment.

Shall present an annual report to the AGM.

d) Show Support:

Shall have the keeping and ordering of the Club's rosettes.

Shall endeavour to collect and maintain records of all members' Ragdolls shown in order to be able to award club rosettes and trophies at the AGM on a show year concurrent with that of the GCCF.

Shall collect written printed records etc. on Ragdolls for the Club's records.

Shall liaise with Show Managers of shows, where Ragdolls may be shown, to arrange club classes and/or show support.

Shall liaise with the Public Relations Officer with material on progress of the breed/prize winners etc.

Shall present an annual report to the AGM.

e) Cup Secretary:

Shall have the keeping, maintenance and ordering of the Club's trophies.

f) Rescue/Welfare:

Shall have overall responsibility for the organisation and implementation of a nation-wide welfare network, including active rescue, where deemed necessary after consulting with at least two other members of the Committee.

Shall be responsible for the instigation of welfare and fundraising.

Shall have the authority to liaise with other rescue/welfare groups.

Shall present an annual report to the AGM.

g) Public Relations:

Shall be responsible for maintaining a positive profile for the Club within the Cat Fancy, including promotion and advertising within the financial restraints of the Club.

Shall present an annual report to the AGM.

h) Delegates:

Shall attend Council meetings of the GCCF when held and represent the views and interests of members.

Shall report to the Committee on the business to be conducted by the Council and the decisions made there.

Shall present an annual report to the AGM.

i) Webmaster:

Shall be responsible for the update and maintenance of the Club's web site.

j) Magazine Editor:

Shall be responsible for issuing the club's annual magazine and various newsletters.

In addition to all the above mentioned responsibilities, Committee members may be asked to take on additional duties and responsibilities as agreed by the Committee to meet the demands of changing circumstances. Such additional responsibilities shall be notified in writing to the Committee member concerned.



RULES AND CONSTITUTION

Revised 2016