



Pedigree Ragdoll Breed Cat Club (PRBCC)
Review cycle: Annual (November 2025)

Purpose of This Policy

The PRBCC aims to maintain a safe, respectful, inclusive, and supportive online community for all members, breeders, exhibitors, and Ragdoll enthusiasts. This policy sets expectations for conduct on official PRBCC platforms and outlines the actions PRBCC may take if behaviour falls below expected standards. This policy works in conjunction with the PRBCC Data Protection Policy (2025). Where personal data is involved, both policies apply.

Representation Clause (Authority to Speak on Behalf of PRBCC)

Only the following individuals may make statements on behalf of PRBCC:

- The PRBCC Chair
- Committee Members with delegated authority
- The PRBCC Social Media / Communications Officer
- Any person specifically authorised in writing by the Committee

Members, exhibitors, or other individuals:

- Must not present personal opinions as PRBCC policy
- Must not imply endorsement or official status
- Must clearly state when expressing personal views
- Must not share confidential PRBCC business, Committee discussions, or data

Any misrepresentation may result in disciplinary action.

Inclusivity & Accessibility Clause

PRBCC is committed to:

Inclusivity

Our platforms must remain welcoming to everyone regardless of:

- Age
- Disability or neurodiversity
- Race or ethnicity
- Religion or belief
- Sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation
- Personal background or experience

Bullying, bigotry, exclusionary language, or discriminatory behaviour will not be tolerated.

Accessibility

We encourage members to:

- Use clear, considerate communication
- Avoid jargon where possible
- Provide content descriptions (e.g., for images when relevant)
- Be patient and respectful to individuals who require clarification or support

PRBCC will make reasonable adjustments to ensure our online content is accessible to all users.

Expected Standards of Behaviour

All users must:

- Interact with kindness, courtesy, and respect
- Share accurate, constructive, and helpful information
- Avoid judgmental, inflammatory, or argumentative behaviour
- Uphold welfare-first values and GCCF-aligned good practice

Unacceptable Behaviour

The following are strictly prohibited:

- Harassment, bullying, intimidation, or personal attacks
- Discrimination or hate speech
- Defamation of PRBCC, its officials, members, or breeders
- Posting confidential information (in breach of PRBCC Data Protection Policy)
- Public accusations, complaints, or disputes
- Trolling, provocation, or inflammatory content
- Unapproved advertising or kitten sales
- Sharing misleading or harmful breeding or welfare advice

Content in breach of these rules may be removed without notice.

Escalation & Intervention Procedure

(For transparency to members and consistency for admins)

Stage 1 – Soft Intervention

- Comment removed or declined
- User receives a polite reminder of policy rules
- Logged internally

Stage 2 – Formal Warning

- The user is notified privately
- The content breach is explained
- User is reminded that further breaches may lead to restrictions
- Logged by the Committee

Stage 3 – Temporary Restrictions

- User's commenting access is restricted OR
- User is muted or suspended for a defined period
- Written notification provided

Stage 4 – Blocking / Removal

For serious or repeated breaches:

- The user may be blocked from the PRBCC platforms
- All future engagement is restricted
- Committee notified within 24 hours

Stage 5 – Formal Disciplinary Referral

If behaviour is severe, repeated, or harmful:

- Referred to the PRBCC Disciplinary Sub-Committee
- Handled in line with Club Rules and GCCF Byelaws

Repeated Breaches Clause

Any individual who repeatedly violates this policy may face:

- Removal of posts
- Warnings
- Temporary or permanent access restrictions
- Referral to the PRBCC Disciplinary Sub-Committee
- In severe cases, a recommendation for GCCF escalation

The Committee may impose stricter sanctions when behaviour shows patterns of hostility, misinformation, harassment, or disregard for welfare or community safety.

Complaints, Disputes & Welfare Concerns

Social media is not a place to raise:

- Complaints about breeders
- Welfare concerns
- Disputes with PRBCC officials or members
- Allegations or accusations

These must follow the PRBCC Complaints Procedure and, where necessary, GCCF processes. PRBCC reserves the right to remove posts which may provoke or escalate disputes.

Data, Privacy & Consent

This policy works in conjunction with the PRBCC Data Protection Policy (2025).

Users must not:

- Share photos of people or cats owned by others without permission
- Post private messages, emails, or screenshots
- Share personal data of any member, exhibitor, breeder, or official
- Post contact details without consent

Any breach may result in immediate removal and potential disciplinary action.

Final Statement

By engaging with PRBCC platforms, users agree to:

- Follow this Social Media Policy
- Follow the PRBCC Data Protection Policy
- Engage respectfully and responsibly
- Protect the welfare, dignity, and integrity of the Ragdoll breed

PRBCC aims to maintain a kind, respectful, educational, and supportive community.