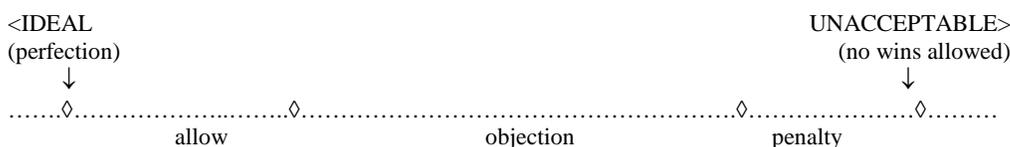


GENERAL PREFACE

The following shall apply to all breeds except as noted:

Excellence in one aspect of the standard shall not offset deficiency in another. Inasmuch as the standards specifically state the number of points allotted for various parts of a cat's anatomy, all judges shall conduct their work in accordance with these specifications and not according to any preferred method of comparison. Balance is the overall picture of the cat physically. The cat must "fit together" and not emphasize any particular quality. Judges should not penalize for any fault a greater amount than the cat would have earned if perfect in that detail. Type over color should be the final consideration.

The following terms shall be used as defined here to encompass the entire range of quality of any characteristic from the ideal to the unacceptable. These terms can be placed on a scale representing this range.



This scale goes from total conformance to the standard to total unacceptability and can be applied to any feature of the cat in a consistent way, no matter the specific number of points allotted to that feature.

The term "allowance" is given the narrow range just less than ideal. This is assuming that two cats are equal in all respects except for a feature for which allowance is to be made, then if one is perfect in that feature and does not need allowance for seasonal effect or whatever, then it should win over the other cat if the second cat does need an allowance to be made for that same feature.

The term "objection" shall be less negative than "penalty" and shall extend from the lower end of the range for "allowance" to the upper end of the range for "penalty". "Penalty" shall extend from the lower end of objection to just before the unacceptable end of the scale.

NOTE: Both objection and penalty can be modified as to severity, e.g., a moderate objection would lie in the middle range, a severe penalty would lie near the right end of the penalty range.

Judges should penalize for bad condition including poor care. Weak, receding or protruding chin is to be considered a serious fault. Failure of teeth to meet or other tooth or jaw deformities is a serious fault; points can be deducted on chin, profile and balance for these items. (EXCEPTION: failure of front teeth to meet, providing jaw is straight, is allowed in the Persian breed and the Exotic Longhair and Shorthair breeds.

Judges should make allowances for the following: Stud jowls in males. Males to be proportionately larger than females. Seasonal variation in coat. Faint tabby markings except where part of the normal color pattern; undeveloped eye color; and undeveloped coat color in kittens and young cats up to 12 months of age in Persians, Exotic Longhairs and Exotic Shorthairs.

Judges shall withhold wins for any of the following:

Incorrect number of toes – more or fewer than four toes on each back paw, five on each front paw; splayed toes are an objection.

Kinks – Exception: Japanese Bobtail. A rigid deflection in the line of the tail, visible or invisible, shall be considered a kink. Small invisible bumps shall be considered a fault. Excessive manipulation of the tail is forbidden.

Eye color outside the standard – Point value allotted to eye color in the standard if for strength and quality of the accepted color.

Crossed eyes – The veterinary medical term for crossed eyes is strabismus. A crossed eye technically is any deviation from the normal. This would also include the wall-eye, the only difference being a matter of direction. The so-called crossed eye rolls in the direction of the nose; the wall-eye rolls in the direction of the medial edge of the pinna. The condition may occur on one or both eyes. Both conditions would be apparent to the immediate observer.

White locket or white toes – if not part of the natural color pattern: i.e., white, calico, tortoiseshell and white, particolor, and bi-color. EXCEPTIONS: American Curl, Cornish Rex, Devon Rex, Longhair Fold, Norwegian Forest Cat, Scottish Fold, Shorthair Curl, York Chocolates.

Deformity or disfigurement – Hereditary, congenital or acquired.

Markings outside the standard – On all cats of the tabby variety.

Evidence of intent to deceive – As, for example, the presence of powder or chalk remaining in the coat after normal grooming; or the use of tints, color rinses, or other artificial coloring or concealment media; sanding or shaving.

Cats not amenable to handling – Which may include the assistance of the exhibitor. All domesticated breeds of cats are expected to be gentle; cats should be well-balanced temperamentally as well as physically.