

**The Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc.**  
**2009 BREED COUNCIL POLL**

**BURMESE**

Total Members: 82  
 Ballots Received: 47  
 60% of Voting: 29

1. Modify show rule 32.01, Championship Breeds/Divisions & Colors to eliminate the Sable and Dilute divisions. Burmese shall compete as a single breed within their four natural color classes.

**CURRENT  
 BURMESE**

**Sable Division**

Sable 0400/0401

**Dilute Division**

Dilute Colors 0402/0403

*(Blue, Champagne, Platinum)*

**PROPOSED  
 BURMESE**

Sable 0400/0401

Champagne 0402/0403

Blue 0404/0405

Platinum 0406/0407

**YES: 25      NO: 22**

**RATIONALE:** The number of Burmese being bred and shown are insufficient to warrant two divisions. At the time the Malayan breed was returned to the Burmese breed, it was perceived they were not equal to the sable cats in terms of type and acceptance. They were therefore kept separate in the two divisions. This is clearly not the case today. For the past two years the highest scoring Burmese came from the dilute division and in general, the dilute cats now score on a par with their sable counterparts. The Burmese breeders feel that it is time for a single "Best of Breed" award.

2. Restore the original 0400-series breed prefix for the registration of all Burmese. NOTE: This would apply only on a go-forward basis and is not a request to retroactively re-number cats already registered.

**CURRENT:** Sable Burmese whose pedigree does not contain cats with 1400 series prefixes are registered as 0400/0401. All other Burmese are registered with a 1400 series prefix (1400/1401 for sable, 1402/1403 for champagne, 1404/1405 for

blue and 1406/1407 for platinum).

**PROPOSED:** CFA shall register Burmese using 0400/0401 for sable, 0402/0403 for champagne, 0404/0405 for blue, and 0406/0407 for platinum, and shall stop using the 1400 series prefixes.

**YES: 32      NO: 15**

**RATIONALE:** The 1400 prefix series was originally introduced when CFA accepted the dilute Burmese under the designation of the Malayan breed. When the Malayan breed was subsequently returned back to the Burmese breed, the 1400 series prefixes were retained, including 1400 for the sables with the Malayan cats behind them. This led to the coexistence of 0400 and 1400 prefixed sable cats, which perpetuated the notion that 0400 cats were pure sable while 1400 cats would carry the dilute colors. Breeders have in fact demonstrated time and again that some 0400 cats do throw dilute colors while some 1400 cats never do. This demonstrates that the separate prefix designations are meaningless and should be eliminated. On a go-forward basis all sable Burmese should therefore be assigned a 0400 prefix designation. Additionally, the other three colors should be prefixed using the appropriate 0400 series number completing the transition from Malayan to Burmese.

3. Revise the breed standard tail fault language.

**CURRENT**

**PENALIZE:** distinct barring on either the front or rear outer legs. Trace (faint) barring permitted in kittens and young adults. Elongated muzzle with severe narrowing, resulting in a wedge shaped head which detracts from the rounded contours of the head. Green eyes.

**DISQUALIFY:** kinked or abnormal tail, lockets or spots. Blue eyes. Crossed eyes. Incorrect nose leather or paw pad color. Malocclusion of the jaw that results in a severe underbite or overbite that visually prohibits the described profile and/or malformation that results in protruding teeth or a wry face or jaw. Distinct barring on the torso. Any color other than the four accepted col-

ors of sable, champagne, blue and platinum.

**PROPOSED**

**PENALIZE:** distinct barring on either the front or rear outer legs. Trace (faint) barring permitted in kittens and young adults. Elongated muzzle with severe narrowing, resulting in a wedge shaped head which detracts from the rounded contours of the head. Green eyes. Abnormal tail.

**DISQUALIFY:** ~~Kinked or abnormal~~ tail, lockets or spots. Blue eyes. Crossed eyes. Incorrect nose leather or paw pad color. Malocclusion of the jaw that results in a severe underbite or overbite that visually prohibits the described profile and/or malformation that results in protruding teeth or a wry face or jaw. Distinct barring on the torso. Any color other than the four accepted colors of sable, champagne, blue and platinum.

**YES: 33            NO: 14**

**RATIONALE:** In the process of examining Burmese cats, a number of judges have been excessively palpating and manipulating the tail, especially the tip of the tail searching for abnormalities. These actions have caused significant discomfort to the cat and possible damage to the tail itself. In some cases the owners have noted that the tail was swollen or more tender after judging and the cat was more agitated. Last year at the request of the Burmese Breed Council, the judges were contacted and asked to cease this level of excessive manipulation of the tail, and yet several judges continue this practice. Moving the abnormal tail to the penalize section will discourage overmanipulation of the tail and the resulting discomfort it can cause. It will also make the breed standard more accurately reflect the wishes of the breeders.