

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

**SIBERIAN**

Total Members: 14  
 Ballots Received: 7  
 60% of Voting: 5

**1. PROPOSED:** clarification of the tarnishing on silver cats in the Color/Pattern section as follows:

**COLOR/PATTERN:** all colors and combinations are accepted with or without white. White is allowed in any amount and in all areas. White or off-white allowed on chin, breast and stomach of tabbies. Buttons, spots and lockets are allowed. Strong colors and clear patterns are desirable. Tarnishing on silver is acceptable.

YES: 7      NO: 0

**RATIONALE:** The proposed change removes the concept of penalty and focuses on what is occurring in the breed.

**2. PROPOSED:** clarification of the fatty area that may be on the belly.

**TORSO:** the body is medium in length, and well muscled with the back arched slightly higher than the shoulders, with a barrelshaped, firm belly giving the sensation of solid weight. Moderate stomach pad or famine pouch on lower abdomen acceptable.

YES: 5      NO: 2

**RATIONALE:** the proposed change allows for the stomach pad (famine belly) to be accepted instead of making the cat appear over weight.

**3. PROPOSED:** clarification of the tarnishing on silver in the Allowances section as follows:

**ALLOWANCES:** because the Siberian is a slow maturing breed, coat and physical structure should be taken into consideration when judging kittens and young adults. Buttons, spots and lockets are allowed. Tarnishing on silver is acceptable.

YES: 7      NO: 0

**RATIONALE:** the proposed change keeps tarnishing on a silver cat from being a disqualification.

**4. PROPOSED:** modify registration requirements by providing an additional method for importing Siberians from Russia.

**CURRENT Pedigree Requirements:** 3 generations

**CURRENT Foreign Cat Requirements:** certified pedigrees from Russia (especially WCF) OK with unknown or unregistered cats in background.

**NEW/ADDITIONAL Requirements:** open registration limited to 5 years. The cat or kitten must have travel documentation from Russia and the cat or kitten must be a moderately long to longhaired Russian Domestic Cat. Open registration would close April 30, 2014. Registration would then revert to 3 generation certified pedigrees from other registering organizations.

**NOTE:** The current process would still be in effect in addition to this method.

YES: 3      NO: 4

**RATIONALE:** currently in CFA, one needs at least a two generation pedigree and transportation papers from the point of origin to register a Siberian kitten or cat. This breed is still relatively new to CFA and since it is a native forest breed of Russia, additional cats need to be brought in to increase the gene pool to avoid inbreeding problems and maintain health and good size in this breed. If we have open registration, then a Siberian breeder could go to Russia and pick out cats or kittens and bring them back to the US and be able to register them even if they do not have a pedigree. Transportation papers showing that Russia was the point of origin of the cat or kitten would be required for registration and the kitten or cat would have to meet the requirements of being a moderately long to longhaired Domestic cat.

**FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY**

**5.** This poll has been developed to find out how the Siberian Breed Council feels about the advancement of the Ragamuffin.

0 **YES, the RagaMuffins should be advanced to Championship Status.**

**7 NO, the Ragamuffins should NOT be advanced to Championship Status.**

**RATIONALE:** Consider the “DEFINITION OF A BREED” below.

The Breed Councils were given three opportunities to provide input to us on an overall CFA breed policy. Each time, they told us (BOD) by a resounding majority that they wanted CFA to remain a conservative registry that maintains the right of your own breed to be unique on the show bench and in the eyes of the public. The key word in this statement is “remain.”

***Definition of a Breed***

*A breed is a group of domestic cats (subspecies felis catus) that the governing body of CFA has agreed to recognize as such. A breed must have distinguishing features that set it apart from all other breeds.*

*The definition presumes the following:*

*At the time of recognition for registration CFA will assign a new breed into one of four classifications - Established, Hybrid, Mutation or Natural.*

*No breed of any classification may be merged in whole or in part with a Natural or Established breed.*

*For those breeds who do not have any other source of new bloodlines; i.e., importation, other registries or current outcrosses to other recognized breeds; and for whom the need to outcross for health and vitality appears necessary, the CFA Board will grant approval of an outcrossing plan when 60% of the voting breed council membership approves such a proposal. In addition to this required breed council approval any such outcrossing proposal must include the following:*

*(a) A summary of the problem and/or problems that have caused the request to be made.*

*(b) Relevant statements from qualified veterinary and/or genetic professionals establishing that outcrossing is the best course to follow to correct the problem cited in (a) above.*

*(c) A statement establishing that no other source of new bloodlines is available to the breed seeking this option.*

*(d) The source of the desired outcross.*

*(e) A guarantee to breeds that might be used as an outcross in such a program that any look-alike cats produced by such outcrossing will not at any time seek to be returned either to the registry or show classes of the breed and/or breeds being used for outcrossing nor will petitions to show such offspring in any other breed classes be entertained.*

*(f) A description of the registration procedures to be used in the establishment of the outcrossing program and approval by the*

*CFA Executive Director of such procedures.*

*The establishment of classes in any breed which:*

*(a) in the case of a hybrid or currently outcrossing breed, mimic\* the parent breed(s); or,*

*(b) in the case of a new breed, mimic\*, an existing breed, will not be permitted. AOV classes are not affected by this stipulation.*

***\*Definition of mimic:***

*A class of cats would be said to mimic either (a) the parent breed, or (b) an already existing breed, when such a class of cats so closely resemble (a) the parent breed, or (b) already existing breed, that the defining features of the two groups are considered to be basically the same and the differences between the two groups cannot be said to be definite.*