

SHOW RULE CHANGES FOR 2017-2018 - THE APRIL BOARD MEETING

BY Monte Phillips

At the April 2017 board meeting, the board chose to revise three rules in the current show rules, and make them effective for the 2017-2018 show season. These rule changes came out of the International Divisions' report and agenda items. In addition, the awards agenda item discussed the need to revise the current point minimums required for a national award. A portion of that discussion also was covered in the show rules report to the board. Both groups (show rules & awards) agreed that there should be no changes to the current point minimums. I'll discuss the reasoning behind that decision after the show rules that were changed, and why they were changed.

The first rule revised was show rule 4.04. This is the show rule that deals with applying for a show license. The rule was revised to eliminate the postmark date allowance, and require that the determining date for license fees and whether a license would be granted would be the day the application for license was RECEIVED in Central Office, not the date it was postmarked. In addition, although not specifically a part of the show rules, the fees for late arrival of license application packages were raised. Specifically, if an application is received between 60 and 89 days before the proposed date of the show, the late fee will be \$ 75.00 (not the current \$ 50.00). In addition, if the application is received between 30 and 59 days before the proposed date of the show, the late fee will be \$ 150.00 (not the current \$ 100.00). Also, just a reminder, the show rules were changed such that no show will be licensed whose application is received less than 30 days before the proposed date of the show.

The next two revisions apply specifically to people who live and show in the International Division. First, for those areas that are able to have greater than 160 rings of competition in a show season, the Board agreed to raise the maximum number of divisional winners for that area to 25 from its current limit of 15. The divisional point minimums were not changed, and still apply.

Second, for cats whose owners live in the Singapore Divisional Award area, only points accrued at shows in Singapore will be counted towards this divisional award. These cats can still earn divisional points at the CFA International show, but otherwise, only points in Singapore will count. Of course, they can earn points at any location towards a national award in the International Award area.

Now on to point minimums. The board reviewed the current values (4300 for Championship, 1800 for Kittens, and 2200 for Premiership) and determined to make no changes to these values for the 2017-2018 season.

Point minimums were put in place when the national awards were expanded to three areas for the 2015-2016 show season. Prior to that time, there was only one national award area, which covered the world. When the awards were expanded, the awards committee recognized that there would be areas where the cats placing in the top 25 in Kittens, Premiership, and even Championship would have few points. The committee was concerned that awarding these cats the national win title could dilute the meaning of that title. As such, the committee wanted to make sure the title continued to be the most prestigious in CFA by requiring cats to at least meet certain point requirements for each of the categories of competition (Championship, Kitten, and Premiership). The question became what value should be used.

The current values were selected to be approximately 75 percent of what the point requirements were for 25th best cat in each category during the 2014-2015 season. Since then, an analysis was done of the average scores for the 25th best cat for the previous five show seasons, and it turned out that the minimums selected still matched the original values. Specifically, the 75 percent marks for Championship was 4328.90, for Kittens 1783.30, and for Premiership 2317.40. With the exception of Premiership, these values rounded to the nearest 100 are exactly what the point

minimums are today. In Premiership, the minimum currently used is 100 points less than what the statistics would suggest it should be.

In looking at the scores for this show season, where the counts have been significantly down from prior years, we see that with the exception of kittens, all of the other competitive categories in Regions 1-9 will have more than 25 cats that reach or exceed the minimum scores. That can also be said for China, with the exception of Premiership. Overall, where there used to be a total of 75 national awards available, it looks like this year we will be awarding 51 national awards in Championship, 50 in Kittens, and 26 in Premiership, for a total of 127 national awards.

Given the total number of national awards in each category will exceed the old values of 25, and that every category in Regions 1-9 (with the exception of Kittens, which only missed by less than five points) will also have more than 25 cats exceed the point minimums, the board determined that there was no need to make any revisions to the values now in use.

Again, if there are any questions on these new rules that I have inadvertently left unanswered, please don't hesitate to contact me at jouvementbleu1@gmail.com. ALSO, if there is any rule you think needs to be changed, please provide me with the rule number, what you believe it should say, and your rationale for making such a change. If it makes sense, we'll include it for the October rulemakings board meeting.