

# SHOW RULE CHANGES FOR 2020 AND BEYOND

*BY Monte Phillips*

At its October 2020 meeting, the CFA Board approved several changes to show rules. Most will take effect at the beginning of the next show season, but one is immediately effective. In addition, throughout this season, the Board has put rule exemptions or rule changes in place that ONLY apply to the current 2020-2021 season. This is for two reasons. First, the season start was significantly delayed by government requirements in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and second the ability of clubs to put on real shows will be mixed depending on where you live. Add to that travel restrictions (e.g., you can not cross the Canadian-US border and return) and the problem with shows is magnified.

This article is going to be in two parts. The first will deal with those show rules passed in October that will be effective next and future show seasons. I will also include the one rule that went into effect on October 7th of this year for all seasons. The second part will deal with rule changes, exemptions, etc. that have been put in place throughout this season that ONLY apply to the 2020-2021 show season. These changes will go away as of May 1, 2021. With that, here are the changes that will apply to all show seasons starting May 1, 2021.

**Show Rule 3.02** and all of its parts was modified to correspond to the changes made to the judging program regarding the guest judging program. At its August meeting, the Board created a two-tiered guest judging program, with some judges considered Approved Guest Judges (AGJ), and others considered Guest Judges (GJ) that were not yet fully approved. The judging program contains the rules for advancement on how a judge from another organization enters and advances into the guest judging program. Show Rule 3.02 defines the show rules for clubs to select and use guest judges, i.e., judges from organizations other than CFA to judge at CFA shows. The first change was to allow clubs to hire judges at the AGJ level without obtaining approval from the CFA's Guest Judging Committee. The second was to increase the amount of time in advance a request to hire a GJ guest judge needed to be sent to the Guest Judging Committee from 45 to 60 days. The third limited the number of assignments a GJ could do during a show season to 5, while not changing the AGJs limit of 10. Finally, the recommendation that guest judges do their assignment on the second

day of a two-day show was changed to a requirement for GJs, and no restriction for AGJs.

**Show Rule 6.35** was revised to make several changes to the show entry process for shows in China only. First, the rule was revised to recognize that there would be more than one entry clerk handling shows in China. The second change dropped the exact e-mail address for obtaining show flyers for Chinese shows. The third change was to change the universal closing time for shows to 9:00 PM Chinese time (yes, all of China is in the same time zone). The final change banned the receipt of e-mail entries, and required all entries be submitted through the China WeChat app or the online Chinese entry form, with that address specified in the associated rule.

**Show Rule 12.04** was revised to require judges to only keep their show records for 45 days instead of the current 90.

**Show Rule 12.05** was revised to eliminate the requirement for clubs to submit an evaluation to Central Office for judging performances by AGJs.

We're now at the show rule, **26.01**, that was made effective immediately. The essentials of this rule change were to remove the requirement for exhibitors to confirm their first agility title. That would now be done automatically by Central Office for every agility title.

**Show rule 27.06b** was revised to adjust the points required for the tiered champion and premier titles of Bronze, Silver, and Gold based on where the points were earned. Currently, the requirements to earn the grand titles are not the same throughout the world. While 200 points for Grand Champion and 75 points for Grand Premier are required in the United States, that is not the case in many countries. For example, only 25 points are required for the Grand Premier title in Indonesia. This rule change sets up a table of point requirements for the Bronze, Silver, and Gold champion or premier title based on the total points required for the Grand title in the Country/Province where the show was held.

**Show Rule 28.04b** was modified to raise the number of points required for a grand in Vietnam from its current 75/25 to 90 points for grand champion and 40 points for grand premier. This

makes the point requirements for Vietnam equivalent to Taiwan.

**Article XXXI** color class definitions for the Japanese Bobtail were revised to match what was previously approved last April for color class 6790/6791 and 6690/6691 for color class OJBC (other Japanese Bobtail colors). The sentence regarding hybridization was removed.

**Article XXXVI** regarding international division award areas was revised to remove Vietnam from the Malaysian award area and add it, as well as Laos, Cambodia, and Myanmar to the Thailand award area.

That's it for show rules that were approved for all show seasons going forward from 2021-2022 onward. This next section are the changes that have been put in place by show rule changes or board exemptions that apply ONLY to the remainder of the 2020-2021 show season. A short disclaimer. Since these are show rule changes or exemptions just for this season, they are subject to change at any time by further board action as the season is pretty fluid due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Show Rules 3.09-11** - Due to the COVID19 virus pandemic, judges under contract with shows already licensed may cancel their contract up to six weeks prior to the opening day of the show and may exhibit at a show that weekend.

**Show Rule 3.13** was waived to allow up to 50% guest judges, excluding regions 1-7.

CFA Clubs are permitted to contract licensed ACFA, TICA or CFF judges of good standing for the 2020-2021 CFA show season only, provided the Guest Judge's residence is no further than 200 miles (322 Kilometers) away from the event show hall, and no CFA Judge with a residence no further than 200 miles away from the event show hall is willing and available to officiate the show. All guest judging approvals shall be determined at the discretion of the Guest Judging Committee and subject to all present rules, with the exceptions of Guest Judging Rules 10.1, 10.2, and 10.3, within which only the prohibitive or more restrictive language contrary to this motion will be waived for the 2020-2021 CFA Show Season Only. Requests declined by the Guest Judging Committee shall be reviewed by the CFA Executive Committee only by written appeal submitted by the requesting club to the committee.

CFA Judges are permitted to guest judge for ACFA, TICA or CFF feline organizations during the 2020-2021 show season only, providing that the contracting organization's planned show hall is within a 200 mile (322 Kilometers) distance of the CFA Judge's residence. All guest judging approvals shall be at the discretion of the Guest Judging Committee and shall be subject to all present show rules and guest judging rules, with the exceptions of Guest Judging Rules 10.1, 10.2, and 10.3, within which only prohibitive or more restrictive language contrary to this motion will be waived for the 2020-2021 CFA show season only. Requests declined by the Guest Judging Committee shall be reviewed by the CFA Executive Committee only by written appeal submitted by the CFA Judge to the committee.

**Show Rule 4.03** - The requirement to qualify as a traditional date is not affected by the cancellation of shows.

**Show Rule 4.04** regarding late fees is waived for all shows in Regions 1-9, i.e., for Regions 1-9, all late licensing fees are waived for the remainder of this show season.

All ID clubs, including those in China, may license shows up to 7 days prior to the show date without incurring a late fee.

Although not a show rule, the fee structure for licensing shows was adjusted for shows with one to four rings to \$ 50.00 (plus applicable insurance fees) for the remainder of the 2020-2021 season.

Allow a cat to grand with the points earned requirement regardless of how many qualifying rings it has, AND to transfer to grand with less than the number of qualifying rings required for the champion/premier title if it meets the total points requirement for grand. The owner still needs to file the champion/premier claim form and pay that fee, but they do not need to have the requisite number of qualifying rings if the cat otherwise meets the grand champion/grand premier requirements.

Grant an exception to **Show Rule 27.03(a)** and change the number of different judges required for champion or premier confirmation to two (2) anywhere in the world, including regions 1-7.

Grant an exception to **Article XXXVI - National/Regional/ Divisional Awards Program - Awards - International Division Awards** to allow shows in Hong Kong to count a Super Specialty

ring as two rings towards the formula for the number of awards in Hong Kong.

The portions of **Article XXXVI** regarding the issuance of all Regional/National Type awards, including National and Regional Breed Wins, do not apply to the 2020-2021 season. Titles being awarded include Champion (CH), Premier (PR), Grand Champion (GRC), Grand Premier (GRP), Grand Household Pet (GH), Grand of Distinction, Distinguished Merit (DM) and Champion/Premier tiered titles. National Winner (NW), National Breed Winner (BW), Regional Winner (RW), titles would not be awarded.

Regions are free to create their own end-of-season awards program for the 2020-2021 show season with no limits on the type of awards offered in any competitive category, but no permanent titles will be associated with these awards. For example, besides best thru 25th best cats/kittens and household pets, they could have best, 2nd and 3rd best of each breed in championship, kitten, and premiership in each breed/division. Overall best Persian and Exotic, etc.

**Article XXXVI, National/Regional/Divisional Awards Program** – Scoring, fourth paragraph regarding exhibiting in the region of final assignment shall be waived.

CFA has issued guidelines for **CFA Virtual Cat Competitions** as follows: Corporate and CFA affiliated: Clubs, Regions, China Area, International Division Area and Breed Councils are permitted to host CFA Virtual Cat Competition(s) with the permission of their Regional Director/Area Chair. CFA Central Office will not score CFA Virtual Cat Competitions and no CFA titles will be awarded. CFA judges may officiate multiple Virtual Cat Competitions at the same time. Payment for judges and clerks is at the discretion of the Virtual Cat Competition host and should be determined before acceptance of an assignment. Non-CFA breeds and colors may be allowed (if allowed state on application request and public announcement). Virtual Cat Competition(s) must be approved by the Regional Director or Area Chair. Approved Virtual Cat Competitions may use the CFA entry form or

entry clerk program, although these are not required. Virtual Cat Competitions may include photos, pre-recorded or live videos, or any combination of these. CFA clubs may invite anyone to officiate at these events; i.e., celebrity judge, club member, CFA judge, or judge from any other association. Virtual Cat Competition application request and public announcement to include:

- a. Official CFA approved logo
- b. Hosting entity
- c. Virtual Cat Competition Date(s)
- d. Format
- e. Judges for each class
- f. Will CFA Shows Standards apply? *Yes or No*
- g. Will non-CFA breeds and colors be accepted? *Yes or No*
- h. Entry Clerk & contact information
- i. Entry fee(s) if applicable
- j. Entry opening and closing dates & times
- k. Entry requirements
- l. Where will results be posted (results may be posted on social media or a website but must be publicly available)
- m. When will results be posted?
- n. Hosting entity contact person with contact information

CFA judges may officiate at any Virtual Cat Competition, whether sponsored by a CFA club, another association, or an unaffiliated group. CFA Judges still must abide by the Judges Code of Ethics.

Any assistance is always greatly appreciated, so if you can think of a rule that you would like to see revised, please let me know which rule, what you think it should say, and WHY. Without a why, nothing will happen. Please feel free to forward them to your Show Rules Committee Chair at [jouvencebleu1@gmail.com](mailto:jouvencebleu1@gmail.com).