

CFA Judging Program Accelerated Application Process

Dear CFA Judges, Breeders and Exhibitors,

Now that the minutes for the CFA Board of Directors have been published for June 27, 2019, you may be wondering about the discussion related to the topic "Accelerated Application Process" for the CFA Judging Program. This process was proposed as a result of many conversations with the CFA BOD over the last several years and I'd like to explain it to you and ask you for some guidance and input.

The Accelerated or Alternative Application Process is designed to provide a process for candidates wanting to enter the CFA Judging Program who have devoted themselves to the breeding of pedigreed cats for more than 20-25 years. It is not intended as a "quick way" to get into the judging program through relaxed application requirements. Actually, the application requirements are more strenuous in many ways.

- Eligibility - The candidate must have or be:
 - Bred a minimum of 25 CFA grand champions; at least 15 must have been in his/her primary breed.
 - Bred and exhibited at least one National Winner, five Regional or Divisional Winners or have a comparable accomplishment in CFA such as bringing a new breed to the attention of CFA, mentoring within a breed, addressing a genetic or health issue within a breed.
 - An active member of a CFA Breed Council.
 - An active member in a CFA Member Club.
- Application Process
 - Submit an application to the Applications Administrator which must include:
 - A detailed resume of the candidate's CFA accomplishments.
 - Breeds of cats the candidate has bred and exhibited.
 - Number of cats bred and exhibited.
 - Description of the impact the candidate has had on their own breed.
 - CFA background and experience.
 - Statement of why the candidate wishes to become a CFA Judge
 - Proof of payment of the application fee
 - Coordinate with the Application Administrator to schedule practical testing at a scheduled BAOS
 - Send the application fee to the CFA Central Office
- Acceptance Process
 - Pass with a score of 90% a closed book, written examination which is to be proctored at a CFA BAOS, Annual Meeting, or other CFA function designated by the CFA JPC which is mutually convenient. This written test addresses:

- Show and judging mechanics
- Ethics
- Basic Genetics
- Questions related to any breeds eligible for registration with CFA.
- Pass with a score of 90% a practical, In-The-Ring examination which requires the candidate to enter a testing ring with several cats and:
 - Complete a blank judge's book with the name of each breed, the color and pattern and gender of each individual cat.
 - Handle each cat with standard handling skills.
 - Rank the cats by breed and in an Allbreed Final.
 - Present them to the audience.
- Interview with the CFA Board or a CFA Panel which will be conducted at an in-person BOD meeting or designated CFA event.
- If accepted, the candidate will enter the CFA JP as a double specialty trainee with the requirement to satisfactorily complete a minimum of three color classes in each specialty.

In order to gather information and ideas, Pat Jacobberger and I will be holding two focus groups at the CFA International Show the afternoon of October 11, 2019. One focus group will be made up of 12 CFA judges and the other will be made up of 12 breeders/exhibitors.

We are looking for 4 breeders/exhibitors who have over 25 years of experience; 4 who have 10 to 25 years experience; and 4 who have less than 10 years of experience. If you are planning to attend the International Show and would like to participate please contact Pat Jacobberger at Voyageur13661@icloud.com by August 31, 2019. We will select the participants by September 9, 2019.

If you are unable to attend the International show and wish to share your thoughts, please write to me at emau@emaucats.com.

Thank you!

Melanie Morgan