

Greetings everyone,

My name is Heather Sands. I have been exhibiting & breeding blue-eyed pointed ragdolls for over 10 years under the Cattery name: Snugglerags. I am a candidate for Breed Committee and I am committed to KEEPING this breed a blue-eyed pointed breed.

I have been very active in this organization- showing and assisting with shows. My debut as a show manager will be this March in San Mateo so I am hoping you will all come out and support the show:-). Exhibiting & breeding ragdolls is my passion.

I have been incredibly blessed with nice show cats and have bred multiple kitties that have gone on to earn RWs, SGCs, IWs and even (3) LAs. None of this happens overnight. It takes a lot of patience, a lot of work, a lot of sacrifices and with many disappointments along the way. I attribute my understanding of the Standard by exhibiting at the highest level. I have also had wonderful opportunities to mentor ragdoll breeders who I meet at shows. I think this is difficult to do by email alone. Finally, to attend Ragdolls Congresses with the Best of the Best are momentous occasions to see with your own eyes what can and is being produced by some in our breed section. I have supported many of the Congresses and will continue to do so (both IRC & RAW).

It is no secret that I believe the Standard needs to be tightened up. Some have commented that tightening the Standard is not going to necessarily impact breeding decisions and that is probably true, however, it will impact show decisions. I've heard repeatedly by well respected judges that a Standard which is very clear and a judge who is now presented with a cat that meets that Standard almost perfectly will be a top winner regardless of whether the breed is particularly appealing to that judge or not.

On a personal side, our (4) children are all adults now and we are now grandparents to (5) adorable children all under 5. I do work during the week as a Cardiology Nurse Practitioner and, from time to time, lecture at a local University.

I am running for BC to tighten the Standard and would propose & support the following:

- 1) adding the prefer a deeper (not darker) blue with regard to eye-color
- 2) tail faults should be a dq
- 3) a van should be a dq

- 4) remove the spots & dots on the legs
 - 5) moving the appearance of the flat plane from the profile to where it belongs in the Standard
 - 6) Although I think white tail tips are 'cute' I don't think they belong in the Standard any more than spots and dots were.
- Thank you for your time & consideration.

Heather Sands