



The International Cat Association, Inc.

By-Laws

&
Related Standing Rules

PREFACE

to By-Laws, Registration Rules, Show Rules, Standing Rules
Uniform Color Descriptions and Standards

The By-Laws take precedence over ALL other Rules, followed by the Registration Rules, Show Rules, Standing Rules, and Uniform Color Descriptions, in that order. The Registration Rules, Show Rules, Standing Rules, and Uniform Color Descriptions shall take precedence over any individual Breed Standard UNLESS that Standard is MORE restrictive than the general rules applying to ALL breeds, in which case the Standard shall take precedence.

BY-LAWS
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ARTICLE ONE: *Name*

11.1 The name of this Association shall be The International Cat Association, Inc., "TICA".

101.1 The TICA logo is the registered trademark of The International Cat Association, Inc., therefore, its use by others is restricted.

ARTICLE TWO: *Objects And Powers*

12.1 The object and purposes of this Association are and shall be:

12.1.1 The registration of the pedigrees of all breeds of felines and catteries.

12.1.2 The promulgation of rules governing the management of the Association and shows sanctioned by the Association;

12.1.3 The licensing of shows to be held under the auspices of the Association;

12.1.4 The establishment of comprehensive Standards for all breeds of domesticated cats;

12.1.5 The honoring of outstanding felines, their owners and breeders for their accomplishments;

12.1.6 The dissemination of information to promote knowledge and the interest of breeders, owners and exhibitors and the general public concerning the breeding, exhibition, improvement of breeds, and the care and welfare of all cats in general;

12.1.7 The promotion of educational and friendly relations between breeders in this country and all other countries of the world.

102.1 Mission Statement. *The International Cat Association (TICA), the world's largest genetic registry of purebred and household pet cats and one of the world's largest sanctioning bodies for cat shows, has the following mission:*

102.1.1 *To encourage its members to be caring, responsible owners and breeders of cats who work together to promote the preservation of pedigreed cats and the health and welfare of all domestic cats.*

102.1.2 *To have the most accurate and comprehensive certified pedigree registry in the world.*

102.1.3 *To provide sanctioned cat shows which promote both pedigreed and non-pedigreed cats in a professional manner and which are both enjoyable and educational for exhibitors, judges and the general public.*

102.1.4 *To encourage its members to take an active role in the community to foster responsible spay/neuter awareness through public education, to become active in voluntary service at local animal shelters or outreach programs for schools and/or senior or disabled citizens, and to become involved in citizen advisory groups to foster responsible legislation regarding the health and welfare of cats.*

102.1.5 *To promote friendly relations between breeders in this country and other countries around the world.*

102.1.6 *To disseminate information to breeders, owners, exhibitors, and the general public concerning breeding, exhibition, improvement of breeds, the care and welfare of all cats and to provide materials and information regarding feline issues of regional or international importance.*

102.1.7 *To set up a foundation to encourage research on feline health issues and to provide readily available lists of resource materials on health issues to its members.*

102.2 Policy Statement. *The International Cat Association (TICA), the world's largest genetic registry of pedigree and non-pedigreed cats and one of the world's largest sanctioning bodies for cat shows, is committed to the promotion, protection and preservation of both pedigreed and non-pedigreed cats. We believe that:*

102.2.1 *The responsible breeding of pedigreed cats is of value to society because it preserves the distinct characteristics of individual domestic breeds of cats and ensures the continuation of predictable physical and behavioral traits for the admiration and the enjoyment of all cat lovers today as well as for future generations.*

102.2.2 *It is the obligation of both The International Cat Association and its members to promote the welfare of all cats through education and the use of ethical breeding practices which will help reduce the number of unwanted, unnecessary or unplanned litters.*

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102.2.3 *While recognizing the burden placed on animal welfare agencies, shelters, and pounds which work with homeless pets, the euthanasia of healthy adoptable animals is an anathema to society and fosters the devaluation of all life.*

102.2.4 *All cat lovers should cooperate with other animal lovers to promote solutions to overpopulation which will:*

102.2.4.1 *Reduce the number of stray animals by promoting the increased use of permanent pet identification which more readily ensures the return of lost animals to their owners.*

102.2.4.2 *Reduce the number of feral cats by promoting local governmental/animal shelter support for trap, test, vaccinate, alter and release programs.*

102.2.4.3 *Decrease the number of animals born each year, both planned and unplanned, by supporting spay/neuter awareness programs and by promoting spay/neuter of all non-purebred kittens and kittens sold as pets.*

102.2.5 *Legislative Policy: TICA will OPPOSE legislation regarding licensing, limits, mandatory microchip programs, mandatory data kept by animal control, and taxation on pets or pet products. TICA will generally SUPPORT efforts to improve shelter conditions, voluntary microchip programs, trap-(test)-neuter-(vaccinate)-release programs, and fund raising programs such as vanity license plates which designate part of the income for animal welfare and educational programs. NOTE: The items in parenthesis are not done in all communities that have feral programs.*

12.2 General Powers. The Association shall have the power to do all things necessary and proper to attain the objects and purposes as set forth herein, and to do whatever is necessary for the protection and benefit of the Association, and to carry on any lawful and legal business necessary and desirable for the accomplishment of the objects and purposes of the Association.

12.3 Property Powers. The Association shall have the power to acquire, through purchase or otherwise, and to own, hold, mortgage, sell, lease or improve real estate, personal property, or otherwise that may be or hereafter may become useful or convenient for the accomplishment of the objects and purposes of the Association.

12.4 Non-Profit Status. No member shall personally profit from the operation of the Association except for reasonable compensation for services actually rendered by officers and employees of the Association.

12.5. The Association shall not be held liable for acts or forbearances violating any civil or criminal statute, rule, regulation or order which are taken by any individual or entity chartered by the Association or acting under its auspices. Such individual or entity shall hold the Association harmless for any such acts or forbearance.

ARTICLE THREE: *Membership*

13.1 Qualifications. Membership shall be open to any individual person who is interested in owning, breeding or exhibiting domesticated cats. New members must complete the application for membership which includes an agreement to abide by the rules and regulations of the Association, and pay the required fee for membership dues. A member's region of record is the region where the member resides.

103.1 Membership Data. No membership data will be sold or otherwise provided to any TICA member by the Executive Office except as follows:

103.1.1 The TICA member must currently be in good standing.

103.1.2 The TICA member must agree that the Membership Data will be used only for a stated purpose, which is related to TICA's business, such as a mailing to members about shows, a pending election, a proposal to amend the Show Rules, a new TICA club, or the like.

103.1.3 The member must agree not to copy or reuse the Membership Data, or to transfer the Membership Data to any other person or organization.

103.1.4 If the Membership Data is provided on a form other than one-time use labels, all copies of it will be returned to TICA when the intended use is finished.

103.1.5 The Membership Data provided will contain ONLY names and mailing addresses, unless specifically approved by the Board of Directors.

13.1.1 No more than four people residing at the same mailing address may be voting members.

13.1.2 TICA clubs may collect and send in dues for club members. Dues must be sent with a list which shall include each club member's name and mailing address. Email address shall be included if available.

13.1.3 Membership cards may be sent only to an individual member's mailing address and not to a club's mailing address. In the case of a lost number, only the member may request confirmation of the number. Confirmation must be mailed to that member's mailing address.

13.2 Classes of Members. Members shall be divided into four classes: Life Members, Regular Members, Family Members and Junior members. A member's region of record is the region where the member resides.

13.2.1 Regular Members. Those members 18 years of age or older who have paid the regular membership fee. Regular members are eligible to vote and to receive all rights, privileges and honors accorded.

13.2.2 Family Members. Additional members of a regular member's family, over the age of 18 years, who pay family membership dues. Family members have the same rights and privileges as regular members. Only one family member per regular member may vote.

13.2.3 International Family Members. Additional members of an International member's family, over the age of 18, who pay international family membership dues. Family members have the same rights and privileges as International members, excluding a TICA TREND subscription. Only one additional family member per International member may vote.

13.2.4 Junior Members. Those members under 18 years of age who pay junior membership dues. Junior members have the same rights and privileges as regular members except the right to vote and hold office.

13.2.5 Life Members. Those members who pay the life membership fee. Life members have the same rights and privileges as regular members.

13.3 Dues.

13.3.1 Membership dues shall be established by the Board of Directors and shall be due and payable on the first of May each year for the ensuing year.

103.3.1 Membership dues shall be as follows:

<i>Regular</i>	<i>\$35</i>	<i>Five-year Regular</i>	<i>\$160</i>
<i>Family</i>	<i>\$15</i>	<i>Five-year International</i>	<i>\$180</i>
<i>Junior</i>	<i>\$15</i>	<i>Five-Year Family/Junior</i>	<i>\$ 85</i>
<i>International</i>	<i>\$40</i>	<i>Five-Year Int'l Family/Jr</i>	<i>\$ 85</i>
<i>International Family</i>	<i>\$20</i>	<i>Life</i>	<i>\$1000</i>
<i>International Junior</i>	<i>\$20</i>		

103.3.1.1 No matter when in a membership year (i.e. May 1 - April 30) a person joins TICA, he/she must renew that membership on May 1st in accordance with By-Laws 113.1, 113.1.1 and 113.1.2.

103.3.1.2 Memberships paid in April expire on April 30th of the following year.

103.3.1.3 Membership dues are not prorated.

ARTICLE FOUR: *Breed Section Membership*

14.1 **Breed Section.** A Breed Section(s) shall be established for each breed or breed group and one or more sections for household pets. Each member must show proof of ownership of the breed or breed group in order to belong to one Breed/Breed Group Section as a part of his or her membership otherwise they will be assigned to the Household Pet Section.

14.1.1 Any member may belong to additional Breed/Breed Group Sections by applying for and paying an additional fee AND by showing proof of one of the following:

14.1.1.1 Individual registration of a cat of the breed/breed group in the three years immediately preceding application.

14.1.1.2 Registration of a litter of the breed/breed group in the three years immediately preceding application.

14.1.1.3 Showing a kitten, cat, or alter of the breed/breed group in the three years immediately preceding application.

14.1.1.4 Ownership of a kitten, cat or alter of the breed/breed group.

14.2 **Duties.** Members of each Breed/Breed Group Section shall sponsor the breed/breed group and be responsible for developing a comprehensive standard for the breed/breed group and proposing amendments and revisions of the standards for the breed/breed group.

104.2 Each Breed/Breed Group Section is strongly encouraged to present at least one Breed/Breed Group Seminar every 3 years.

14.3 **Eligibility to Vote for Breed Committees.**

14.3.1 Any member of TICA in good standing (see 113.1) who was ALSO a member of a specific breed section 6 months prior to the first day of the month in which that specific breed section's ballot is to be mailed shall be eligible to vote on that ballot.

14.3.2 For those breed sections that have been merged into a breed group section, membership (as defined in 14.3.1) in only one breed of the breed group is sufficient to allow the member to vote on any ballot concerning the breed group section.

14.3.3 For those breed sections that have not been merged into a single breed group section, membership (as defined in 14.3.1) in any breed section of the breed group is sufficient to allow the member to vote on any ballot concerning the breed group, but a member must be a member (as defined in 14.3.1) of the specific breed section to vote on any ballot that concerns that specific breed only, and not the entire breed group.

14.3.4 For those championship breed sections or breed group sections that consist of breeds whose only difference is the hair length, a member who is qualified to vote on issues concerning either hair length of the breed may also vote on any ballot concerning the entire breed sections or breed group sections. Members whose section membership is only for a non-championship breed, trait and/or hair length may not vote on issues that affect the championship breed, trait and/or hair length, including acceptance of a non-championship breed for championship competition.

ARTICLE FIVE: *Elected Officials*

15.1 Elected Officers.

15.1.1 Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be comprised of a President, a Vice President and Regional Directors. No member of the Board of Directors, or any of its committees, with the exception of the President, or the Vice President, when acting as President, shall be authorized to take any action, including but not limited to, entering into any contract or obligation binding TICA, speaking for the Board of Directors, or stating the policy of TICA, unless the Board of Directors has specifically authorized such action by an individual member. The President, and the Vice President, when acting as President, is authorized to take any action on behalf of the Association necessary to conduct the day-to-day operations of the Association. The President is the official spokesperson for the Association. This does not apply to Board Members or other officials whose duties are outlined in the By-Laws.

15.1.2 International Officers.

15.1.2.1 The President and Vice President shall be elected by the membership at large to serve a term of 3 years or until a successor is duly elected.

15.1.2.2 If the President should be absent, incapacitated or refuse to act, the Vice President shall assume the duties of the President.

15.1.2.3 If for any reason the office of Vice President shall become vacant, the Board shall elect a new Vice President from its members for the balance of the unexpired term.

15.1.3 Regional Directors.

15.1.3.1 The Regional Directors shall be elected by the members of the Region where the Director resides to serve a term of 3 years or until a successor is duly elected.

15.1.3.2 If for any reason the office of Regional Director shall become vacant, the Board of Directors shall appoint a qualified member from the Region to assume the office for the balance of the unexpired term.

15.2 Elected Breed/Breed Group Committees

15.2.1 The members of each Breed/Breed Group Section shall elect a Breed Committee, each member to serve a term of 3 years or until a successor is duly elected or appointed in the event of a vacancy.

15.2.1.1 The number of Breed/Breed Group Committee members shall be determined as set forth in the Standing Rules and may be increased or decreased based on the number of Breed/Breed Group Section members and the needs of the Breed/Breed Group Section.

105.2.1 Breed Committees. *The number of breed Committee members shall be determined by the number of Breed Section Members as of April 30th of the election year as extracted from the membership program. The following formula will be applied:*

Under 75 Breed Section Members: 3 Committee Members

75-150 Breed Section Members: 5 Committee Members

Over 150 Breed Section Members: 7 Committee Members

105.2.2 *The filing fee for election to Breed Committees is \$10.*

15.2.1.2 The Breed/Breed Group Committee member receiving the highest number of votes shall become the Breed/Breed Group Committee Chairperson.

15.2.1.2.1 In the event of a two-way tie, the two receiving the highest number of votes may serve as co-chairpersons, OR may determine between themselves the chairperson OR may request a run-off. It shall be the responsibility of the two concerned to advise the Executive Office which option they are exercising.

15.2.1.2.2 In the event of a three-way or greater tie, a run-off election shall be held to determine the chairperson.

15.2.1.3 If for any reason the Breed Committee Chair is vacated, the Breed Committee member who received the next highest number of votes shall become the Breed Committee Chair. The vacant seat on the Breed Committee shall be filled with the Breed Section member who received the next highest number of votes. If all members who ran in the election for Breed Committee are already serving, the Breed Committee may complete the term with a vacant seat(s) or request that the vacancy be filled by appointment of the Board of Directors. The Breed Committee shall notify the Executive Office of any such changes. Notices of Breed Committee resignations and replacements shall be published in the TICA TREND.

15.2.2 Qualifications for Election to a Breed/Breed Group Committee. Candidates for election to a Breed/Breed Group Committee shall provide documentation of having met the following requirements for election:

15.2.2.1 Have met the eligibility requirement(s) to vote in any TICA election (See By-Laws 113.1).

15.2.2.2 Have met the requirements for Breed/Breed Group Section membership (See By-Laws 14.1)

15.2.2.3 Have paid TICA membership dues for the 3 years of the applicable term.

15.2.2.4 Have a TICA Registered Cattery (except for the HHP Breed Committee).

15.2.2.4.1 Have bred and registered with TICA a minimum of two litters of the appropriate breed (except for the HHP Breed Committee).

OR

15.2.2.5.2 Have owned and shown a cat of the appropriate breed in a minimum of five shows within the three show seasons immediately preceding the election. (**Note:** Applicants for Household Pet Breed Committee(s) must meet this requirement to qualify for breed committee election.)

15.2.2.5.3. Breed Group Membership. For those breed sections that have been merged into a breed group, membership in only one breed of the breed group is sufficient to allow the member otherwise qualified to seek membership on the breed group committee.

15.2.3 No member shall be a member of more than three breed committees.

15.3 No person shall be eligible to serve as an elected officer (See By-Laws 15.1) of this Association who is an officer of another similar association, or who has any outstanding indebtedness to TICA or to a TICA club.

15.4 Resignation of elected officers shall take effect immediately unless the resignation itself states an effective date, in which case the resignation shall become effective on the stated date.

15.5 In order to avoid a possible conflict of interest no person(s) who is a principal(s) in any show production company shall be eligible to serve as an officer or director of this association. Should any such person be elected in the 1994 elections that person shall have the option of severing all connections with the production company or withdrawing from office. Should any person withdraw from office under this section the person receiving the next highest number of votes shall take the position.

ARTICLE SIX: *Appointed Officials, Committees, and Employees*

16.1 Business Manager/Executive Secretary. The Board of Directors shall employ a Business Manager/Executive Secretary to manage the business affairs of the Association at a salary commensurate with the duties and time required to accomplish the task. The Business Manager/Executive Secretary may also be the Treasurer of the Association.

16.2 Appointed Officials. The Board of Directors may appoint a qualified person or persons to serve at the discretion of the Board and may set a reasonable salary for the following:

- 16.2.1 Administration of matters pertaining to judges;
- 16.2.2 Administration of the judging program and instruction;
- 16.2.3 Computation of championship and household pet annual awards;
- 16.2.4 Editing of the Association Newsletter;
- 16.2.5 Editing of the Annual Edition;
- 16.2.6 Advertising;
- 16.2.7 Tally membership ballots;
- 16.2.8 Any function that from time to time may be necessary and proper to further the objects and purposes of the Association.

16.3 Deputy Regional Directors. Each Regional Director may appoint as many Deputy Regional Directors as necessary to effectively manage the Region. Deputy Regional Directors shall serve at the discretion of the Regional Director.

16.4 Appointed Committees. Committees shall be appointed from time to time in accordance with the provisions of the Standing Rules to these By-Laws.

106.4 Standing Committees. *The President, with the advice of the Board of Directors, shall appoint persons knowledgeable in the fields specified to serve on the following standing committees. Any other committees, which from time to time may be necessary and proper for the effective and efficient operation of the Association, may be created by the President and appointments to them are made by the President, with the advice of the Board. Rules committee shall have a chairperson, members as needed and a Board member who works with the committee as a liaison director. Board members may not be included in the Rules committee other than the liaison.*

106.4.1 Rules Committee. *To review all proposed amendments to the By-Laws, Show Rules, Registration Rules and Standards of the Association, to note other rules affected by the proposed change and to ensure that the proper terms are used to convey the meaning intended and to ensure uniformity of terminology throughout the By-Laws, Show Rules and Standards of the Association.*

106.4.2 Genetics Committee. *To advise the Board of Directors in any matter relating to breeds, breeding, colors, deformities or any other matter in the field of genetics.*

106.4.3 Legal Committee. *To advise the Board of Directors on legal rights, obligations, and liabilities and to offer legal opinions and interpretations of proposed amendments to By-Laws, Show Rules, Registration Rules and Standards of the Association, and to offer advice regarding other matters which may affect the Association including contracts and agreements; to investigate and advise the Board of the facts surrounding complaints, to act as hearing officers or in any other matters delegated by the Board of Directors. The chairperson is authorized to appoint any such as hoc committee as may be advisable to assist with such investigations.*

106.4.4 Feline Welfare Committee. *The role of the Feline Welfare Committee is to assist TICA members with feline welfare issues, to make recommendations to the TICA Board of Directors regarding programs to promote feline welfare and responsible breeding, to create and assist in programs that will aid TICA members with feline welfare issues and to assist in the resolution of complaints made to TICA regarding the welfare of cats.*

106.4.5 Legislative Committee. *To identify legislation and areas affected; to coordinate with other animal organizations to defuse any negative action that would endanger the continuation of owning, breeding or showing cats; to solicit support of the Regional Director in a target area who will appoint two regional members for the purpose of encouraging attendance at meetings and/or writing letters to the people responsible for passing laws/ordinances.*

16.5 No person who is an officer of another similar association shall be eligible to serve under this article.

ARTICLE SEVEN: *Duties of Officers*

17.1 Duties of the President and Vice President.

17.1.1 Duties of the President: The President shall serve as the Chief Executive Officer of the Association and the Chairperson of the Board of Directors. The President shall preside at the Annual Convention and all other meetings of the membership and the Board of Directors. The President shall perform all duties delegated to that office by these By-Laws or by the Board of Directors. The President shall enter into no contracts or file no lawsuits in the name of the Association without specific authority from the Board of Directors.

17.1.2 Duties of the Vice President: In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall serve as President and Chairperson of the Board of Directors and shall perform all other duties delegated to that office by these By-Laws, the President or the Board of Directors.

17.2 Duties of the Board of Directors.

17.2.1 The business affairs, government, policy formulation and implementation of the Association and such other duties as may be specified in the By-Laws, Show Rules and Registration Rules of the Association shall be under the jurisdiction of the Board of Directors.

17.2.2 The Board of Directors shall adopt standing rules and guidelines governing the affairs of the Association including but not limited to the function of all employees, appointed officials and committees, the Judging Program, method of determining Annual Awards, the requirements for recognition of new breeds and colors. The Board of Directors shall do anything necessary and proper that is lawful and not prohibited by these By-Laws for the welfare and benefit of the Association.

17.3 Duties of the Regional Directors.

17.3.1 The Regions shall be represented by Regional Directors. The Regional Directors shall have charge of the efficient operation of the Regions including but not limited to scheduling shows for the Regions, the appointment of Deputy Regional Directors, the promotion of Regional Awards, the promotion of judging schools and seminars in conjunction with shows, the recruitment of new clubs and new members of the Association, the dissemination of information to the clubs in the Regions and the Board of Directors and all other duties delegated to that office by these By-Laws or the Board of Directors.

17.3.2 The Regional Directors shall attempt to resolve complaints which have been filed or called to the attention of an official of TICA.

17.4 Duties of the Breed Committees. It is the duty of the Breed Committee to represent the Breed/Breed Group Section members on any proposed Breed Standard change, amendment or deletion, submitted by any bona fide voting members of the Breed/Breed Group Section. Any proposal submitted to the Breed Committee must be approved by a majority vote of the Committee prior to the Breed Committee Chairperson forwarding the proposal to the Genetics and Rules Committees for review and approval. It is the responsibility of the Breed Committee Chairperson to forward any approved proposal to the aforementioned Committees within 5 days of approval by the Breed Committee and to return any proposal not approved by the Committee to the person or persons originally submitting the proposal. Individual Breed Committee members may attach comments to any breed proposal submitted to the aforesaid committees or individuals. Upon approval of the Genetics and Rules Committees, the proposal must be forwarded to the Executive Office for balloting of the Breed/Breed Group Section in accordance with 118.2.

ARTICLE EIGHT: *Business Manager/Executive Secretary*

18.1 Employment.

18.1.1 The Business Manager/Executive Secretary shall be an employee of the Association, employed by contract specifying a salary and signed by the Secretary and the President with approval of the majority of the Board.

18.1.2 The Business Manager/Executive Secretary shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of Directors but shall NOT be a voting member of the Board or take any part in the politics of the Association.

8.1.3 The Business Manager/Executive Secretary shall be bonded in an amount specified by the Board of Directors.

18.2. Duties.

18.2.1 The Business Manager/Executive Secretary shall attend all official meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors.

18.2.2 The Business Manager/Executive Secretary shall work under the guidelines established by and be responsible to the Board of Directors. Such guidelines may include but not necessarily be limited to:

18.2.2.1 The maintenance of a current, complete list of all members and their addresses to be furnished to the Board of Directors;

18.2.2.2 The taking and transcribing of minutes of any Association meeting upon request of the Board of Directors;

18.2.2.3 The preparation of a quarterly financial report and the timely submission of same to the Board of Directors.

18.2.2.4 The securing of a certified audit of the Association's books and records annually and the timely submission of same to the Board of Directors;

18.2.2.5 The registration of cats and catteries and the issuance of club charters, show licenses, show supplies and membership cards;

18.2.2.6 The issuance of ballots to the Board of Directors when requested; and

18.2.2.7 Such other duties as may be delegated to the office by these By-Laws or the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE NINE: *Annual Convention*

Membership Meetings and

Meetings of the Board of Directors

19.1. Annual Convention.

19.1.1 The Board of Directors shall select the time and place for the Annual Convention which shall be rotated as equitably as possible from region to region considering the invitations extended and the facilities available.

109.1 Annual Convention.

109.1.1 Annual Convention. Labor Day weekend each year is reserved for the Annual Convention. No other shows may be held the weekend of the Annual Convention with the following exception. A club may receive permission to hold a show on the Annual weekend upon application to the Board. Application must state specific reasons for the request for exemption and why such a show would have no impact on the Annual.

109.1.1.1 The rotation for the Annual Conventions shall be: Mid Pacific - 2010, Mid Atlantic - 2011, Great Lakes - 2012, Northwest -2013, Northeast - 2014, International - 2015, Southwest - 2016, South Central - 2017, Southeast - 2018.

109.1.1.2 Proposals to host the Annual Convention in the designated region must be received for the Annual Meeting 3 years prior to the proposed convention.

109.1.1.3 In the event no club submits an acceptable proposal, any club in any region may submit a proposal to host the Annual Convention by the agenda deadline for the Winter Meeting 2½ years prior to the convention and a notice soliciting such proposals shall be published in the TICA TREND.

109.1.1.4 The subsequent designated order of rotation will remain the same.

19.1.2 Written notice of the Annual Convention shall be made to the members not less than 90 days prior to the Annual Convention.

19.1.3 At least one session shall be held where members may present any questions, suggestions, discussion or proposals relating to the affairs of the Association. No official action may be taken in matters requiring membership ballot and committee action under the Association By-Laws, Show Rules, or Registration Rules.

19.1.4 Each officer and the Business Manager/Secretary/Treasurer shall present an annual report at the Annual Convention. The Business Manager/Secretary/Treasurer's report shall include total number of members, number of shows for the year, receipts, expenditures, assets and liabilities of the Association.

19.2 Meetings of the Board of Directors.

109.2 Meetings of the Board.

109.2.1 Meetings of the Board shall be held in January (Winter Meeting), in May (Spring Meeting) and the week immediately preceding Labor Day weekend (TICA Annual). All of these Board Meetings shall be scheduled for a minimum of 2 days.

109.2.2 The Winter and Spring meetings may be held in person, or electronically at the discretion of the Board.

109.2.3 Any club may apply to the Board to hold a show in conjunction with either the Winter or Spring Meeting.

109.2.3.1 The meeting venue must be at or near a major international airport at a hotel with adequate meeting space, full restaurant service and airport shuttle.

109.2.4 Additional meetings of the Board may be held in accordance with By Law 19.2.1.

109.2.5 Minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors shall be completed within 10 working days following the meeting.

19.2.1 Board of Directors meetings may be called by the President or the Vice President upon 21 days notice by mail, fax, or any other suitable electronic media. Such notice shall state the time, place and purpose of the meeting.

19.2.2 The Board of Directors shall meet at least once each year in conjunction with the Annual Convention.

19.2.3 The number of Directors of the Board which shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business in a regularly called meeting of the Board of Directors shall be one-half of the elected Board plus one.

19.2.4 All meetings shall be open to the public unless the matter under discussion concerns personnel matters or contract negotiations, or is of a sensitive business nature related to business strategy for the organization, or is of such a nature that it may be embarrassing, derogatory or humiliating to an individual, in which case the Board of Directors may go into closed session.

19.2.5 Except as otherwise provided in these By-Laws, an affirmative vote of a majority of Board Members present and voting is necessary for action by the Board of Directors at a regularly called meeting of the Board of Directors.

19.2.6 All action by the Board of Directors shall become effective immediately upon adoption unless some other effective date is specified in the By-Laws, Show Rules or Registration Rules of the Association or in the proposal itself.

19.2.7 The full minutes, excluding specific information that may be discussed under Article 19.2.4, or pending contract negotiations, of the meetings of the Board of Directors shall be provided to any member upon the request of that member and payment by the member of the cost of reproducing and mailing those minutes.

109.3 *Time Limit for Board Meetings. Any input to any subject being at issue before the Board of Directors by anyone, other than a duly elected Regional Director or other duly elected officer of TICA, unless requested by the Board of Directors, shall be limited to a maximum of 2 minutes total.*

ARTICLE Ten: *Board of Directors*

Action by Mail Ballot

110.1 Board Ballot. For business conducted between meetings the Board of Directors may take any action within its jurisdiction by mail, fax, or any other suitable electronic media in use by the Executive Office.

1010.1 Board Ballots. Any Board Ballot submitted to the Executive Office shall be in writing, or it shall be disregarded. The Ballot must also contain a rationale for the Ballot.

1010.1.1 Notification. The Board shall be notified of the Board Ballot results within 72 hours maximum of the ending date of the Ballot.

110.2 Procedure.

110.2.1 Proposals for ballot action may be originated by any Board Member. The proposed action shall be submitted to the Business Manager/Executive Secretary with as full an explanation as possible and a request that the matter be submitted to the Board Members for a vote. The President and Vice President may submit any matter to the Board Members directly. The ballot shall note the date it is mailed, the date it is returnable, and whether it is returnable to the Business Manager/Executive Secretary or the President as the case may be. The ballot shall contain a space for "yes", "no" and "abstain" vote, the date and the signature.

110.2.2 Except as otherwise provided in these By-Laws, adoption of any proposal by mail ballot shall require an affirmative vote of a majority of all Board Members holding office after all Board Members have been balloted for the shorter of a period of 10 days or 3 days after a majority vote has been attained and the remaining uncast ballots would not affect the outcome of the voting.

110.2.3 Effective Date: All action by the Board of Directors by mail shall become effective immediately upon adoption unless some other effective date is specified by the By-Laws, Show Rules or Registration Rules of the Association or in the proposal itself.

ARTICLE ELEVEN: *Expenses*

111.1 Officers' Expenses.

111.1.1 The President and Vice President shall be reimbursed reasonable amounts for postage and telephone upon their submission of detailed itemized statements.

111.1.2 Regional Directors shall be reimbursed reasonable amounts for postage upon their submission of detailed itemized statements if funds are available.

111.1.3 The President, Vice President and Directors shall be reimbursed reasonable travel expense to the Annual Convention and may be reimbursed reasonable expenses incurred in attending any Board of Directors or membership meeting if funds are available. Directors' travel expenses shall be reimbursed firstly from the Regions' escrow account.

111.2 Business Manager/Executive Secretary's Expenses. The Business Manager/Executive Secretary/Treasurer shall be reimbursed reasonable travel expenses to the Annual Convention and any other meeting where the Business Manager/Secretary/Treasurer's presence is required by the Board of Directors.

111.3 Other Expenses. Reimbursement of reasonable expenses of any officer, appointed official, committee member or employee may be authorized by the Board of Directors.

1011.3 No funds will be dispersed to any appointed official committee, or committee member unless funds are available for that purpose. Failure to disperse such funds will under no circumstances create any indebtedness on the part of the association to any person or group.

1011.3.1 Standing Committees must have approval from the Executive Office before expenditure in order to be reimbursed for expenses.

1011.3.2 Air Travel at the lowest possible fare and hotel room rate plus tax for the nights required for the meeting shall be paid to those appointed officials whose attendance is required by the Board for Board meetings. If the official is judging the show and consequently has paid airfare, this shall relieve TICA of this responsibility. If the official chooses to stay with a friend, or make guest arrangements other than the hotel, this shall relieve TICA of this responsibility for the nights on which no hotel accommodations are required.

1011.4 Guidelines for Expenses of Directors. (See Board Governance.)

ARTICLE TWELVE: *Regions*

112.1 North America. The Board of Directors shall be empowered to establish Regions as needed and economically feasible so that the membership is adequately represented. The area comprising each region shall be published.

112.2 Other Countries. Other countries outside North America shall be represented by an Associate Director to handle the needs of that particular country. Countries will be grouped into regions according to their geographic location. When sufficient residents of a region become members of the Association the Board will establish a full directorship for that region including a Regional Director who shall be entitled to vote and enjoy all rights and privileges of Regional Director.

1012.1 Regional List

Asia (AA)

Japan
North/South Korea

Great Lakes (GL)

Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kentucky
Manitoba, CN
Michigan
Minnesota
Missouri
Nebraska
North Dakota
Nunavut, CN
Saskatchewan, CN
South Dakota
Ohio
Wisconsin

International (IN)

(Non-voting Regional Area)

Australia
Brunei/Darussalam
China
Hong Kong
Indonesia
Malaysia
New Caledonia
New Zealand
Philippines
Singapore
South Africa
Taiwan
Thailand
Pakistan

Mid Atlantic (MA)

Delaware
District of Columbia
Maryland
New Jersey
Pennsylvania
Virginia
West Virginia

Mid Pacific (MP)

Nevada (northern)
Northern California
Utah

Northeast (NE)

APO
Connecticut
Maine
Massachusetts
New Brunswick, CN
New Hampshire
New York
Newfoundland, CN
Nova Scotia, CN

Prince Edward Island, CN
Ontario, CN
Quebec, CN
Rhode Island
Vermont

Northwest (NW)

Alaska
Alberta, CN
British Columbia, CN
Idaho
Montana
Northwest Territory, CN
Oregon
Washington
Wyoming
Yukon, CN

Northern Europe (EN)

Belgium
Belorussia
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
Germany
Latvia
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Norway
Poland
Russia
Sweden
The Netherlands (Holland)
Ukraine

South America (SA)

Argentina
Bolivia
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Ecuador
El Salvador
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Uruguay
Venezuela

South Central (SC)

Arkansas
Colorado
Kansas
Louisiana
Mexico
New Mexico
Oklahoma
Texas

Southern Europe (ES)

Albania

Austria
Bosnia-Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
France
Gibraltar
Greece
Hungary
Israel
Italy
Kuwait
Macedonia
Malta
Moldova
Monaco
Montenegro
Portugal
Qatar
Romania
Saudi Arabia
Serbia
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Switzerland
Turkey
United Arab Emirates

Southeast (SE)

Alabama
Florida
Georgia
Guadeloupe
Martinique
Mississippi
North Carolina
Puerto Rico
South Carolina
Tennessee
U S Virgin Islands

Southwest (SW)

Arizona
Hawaii
Nevada (southern)
Southern California

Western Europe (EW)

Channel Islands
England
Iceland
Ireland
Isle of Mann
Northern Ireland
Scotland
Wales

1012.2 Additional Regions. To apply for a full directorship, a region must have had a resident membership of 125 or more members for the past 3 years.

1012.3 Isolated Areas. Areas in which exhibitors have limited show opportunities due to geographic isolation and other factors, such as travel constraints, the area's average exhibitor base, and the average number of rings available in the area during a show year. An Isolated Area designation qualifies the area for Isolated Area title requirements and other considerations.

1012.3.1 Isolated Area List: Asia - South Korea; Northern Europe - Belorussia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Russia, Sweden, Ukraine; Northwest - Alaska area, South America - Entire Region; South Central - Mexico; Southwest - Hawaii, International - Entire Region; Southern Europe - Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Israel, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Turkey; Western Europe - Channel Islands, Iceland, Ireland, Isle of Mann, Northern Ireland.

1012.4 Criteria for Determination of Isolated Area Status.

1012.4.1 The following criteria shall be used in determining Isolated Area status:

1012.4.1.1 The number of licensed judges in an area/region.

1012.4.1.2 The number of shows per year in an area/region.

1012.4.1.3 The number of rings per year in an area/region.

1012.4.1.4 The existence of a quarantine which limits or precludes exhibitors from showing.

1012.4.1.5 Distances which severely restrict travel to shows in an area or region.

1012.4.2 Any area which has sufficient judges for clubs in the area to produce shows on a regular basis in a given show season shall not be considered "Isolated".

1012.4.3 If the number of shows and/or number of rings in an area outside of North America falls within the range of shows and/or rings within North American Regions in any given show season, that area shall not be considered "Isolated".

ARTICLE THIRTEEN: *Membership Voting*

113.1 Qualification. Each member in good standing, one whose dues are paid and who has no outstanding indebtedness to TICA or to any TICA club, and who is not/was not on the Temporary Suspension List on the qualifying date, who was a member in good standing 6 months prior to the first day of the month in which a ballot is to be mailed, shall be eligible to vote.

1013.1 Each Member shall be entitled to one vote. In addition, one Family membership per one regular member shall entitle that member to one additional vote. See By-Laws 13.2.2.

113.1.1 Expired memberships not renewed before July 1st shall lapse and may not be renewed retroactively.

113.1.2 Persons whose membership has expired will be considered new members if they renew their membership after June 30.

113.2.1 All voting of the membership shall be by secret ballot and known only by the firm counting the ballot.

113.2.2 All membership ballots shall be sent to each member eligible to vote by either one of the following methods, or by a combination thereof:

113.2.3. First class mail postmarked at least 45 days prior to the date announced for counting ballots as set forth in the Standing Rules.

113.2.3.2 The method used by an established firm whose business is to conduct electronic voting for stockholders, memberships organizations and the like, which utilizes security in such elections. At least 45 days, prior to the date announced for counting the ballots, shall be allowed for return of ballots. Further specific procedures relating to such electronic voting shall be set forth in the Standing Rules.

113.2.3.3 Lost or misplaced ballots shall be replaced as set forth in the Standing Rules.

113.3 Counting Procedure.

113.3.1 Membership ballots may be counted by a CPA selected by the Board of Directors, by an official appointed by the Board of Directors, or by a firm in the business of conducting electronic voting.

113.3.2 Any ballot received after the required return date set forth on the ballot will not be counted.

113.3.3 All counting of membership ballots shall be computed and the vote certified within 10 working days of the last day ballots may be received.

113.3.4 All ballots shall be retained by the person or entity charged with those ballots for a period of at least 1 year and shall be recounted upon order of the Board of Directors.

113.3.5 All ballots must be received by the person or firm designated to count the vote through the mail or by fax or by the designated electronic method or by any other commercial delivery service.

1013.2 *Ballots. On or before October 31st, the Executive Office shall forward ballots to each member as follows:*

1013.2.1 *The Executive Office shall include with each ballot a return envelope, printed on whatever colored paper is most difficult to duplicate by photocopying or scanning yet is still practicable for use and addressed to the Certified Public Accountant who has been designated to count the ballots, and include a signature line for the member to validate the ballot.*

1013.2.2 *The Executive Office shall affix to the return address area of the envelope a label containing the name, address, membership number and region of the member or breed committees.*

For example:

Joe Member

123 Main Street

Anywhere USA

NW-1234-R

or

AB-PS NW-1234-R

Signature:-----

CPA

PO Box 1111

New York, NY 10000-000

1013.3.3 *The ballots shall not contain the entire text of any proposed amendment to the By-Laws, Show Rules and Registration Rules. The proposed text shall be included with the ballot. For example, the ballot may be in the following format:*

2005 General Membership Ballot

This Ballot must be received by the CPA on or before December 15, 2005

President:

----- *John Smith*

----- *Jane Doe*

----- *Write In* -----

Vice President

----- *Jane Smith*

----- *John Doe*

----- *Write In* -----

Proposal 1

----- *Yes*

----- *No*

Proposal 2

----- *Yes*

----- *No*

2005 Northwest Regional Ballot

This Ballot must be received by the CPA on or before December 15, 2005

Regional Director

----- *Fred Smith*

----- *Sue Doe*

----- *Write In* -----

2005 Siamese Breed Committee Ballot

This Ballot must be received by the Ballot Official on or before December 15, 2005

Vote for not more than five

----- *John Smith*

----- *Jane Doe*

----- *Susan Roe*

----- *Michael Jones*

----- *William White*

1013.3.4 *In the event a return envelope or ballot is lost or misplaced by a member, the member must request a duplicate envelope and ballot from the Executive Office in writing. Further, that member must certify to the Executive Office, in writing, the date on which the member placed the duplicate ballot and envelope in the mail and the Executive Office must receive that certification by the last date of the election.*

1013.3.5 *Members residing outside of North America may submit their ballots to the CPA via facsimile, provided they request a facsimile ballot from the Executive Office in writing; submit the facsimile ballot including all the information required on the return envelope, and the member's signature. The member must certify to the Executive Office, in writing, the date on which the facsimile ballot was faxed to the CPA. In the event a mailed ballot is received by the CPA from the same member that has submitted a ballot via facsimile, the mailed ballot will be counted and the facsimile ballot discarded.*

1013.3.6 *Membership Ballot Rationale. The Annual Membership Ballot shall contain all Board approved proposed amendments or additions/deletions to the TICA Show Rules, Registration Rules, and/or By-Laws with a brief explanation of why the issue is on the ballot.*

1013.4 *Validation of Ballots.*

1013.4.1 *The Executive Office will forward to the CPA a list of members eligible to vote, sorted by region and then alphabetically.*

1013.4.2 *The Executive Office shall also forward to the CPA a listing of the members requesting duplicate ballots and the date the member placed the ballot in the mail.*

1013.4.3 *The CPA shall not begin opening or tallying the ballots until the close of the election.*

1013.4.4 *After the close of the election, the CPA shall sort the sealed envelopes by region if a ballot for regional directors is included in that election.*

1013.4.5 *The ballots shall be validated, while still sealed, as follows:*

1013.4.6 *The CPA shall not count any ballot with an unsigned envelope.*

1013.4.7 *The CPA shall compare the ballot to the valid membership list, and determine that the voting member is, in fact, eligible to vote.*

1013.4.8 *The CPA shall compare the postmark date on any ballot submitted by a member who has requested a duplicate ballot, and count only the ballot with a postmark date on or near the date certified by the member that the ballot was mailed.*

1013.4.9 *The CPA shall compare any ballot received via facsimile to the valid membership list, and determine that the voting member is, in fact, eligible to vote, and shall not count any facsimile ballot that is unsigned or for which member the CPA has received a ballot via mail.*

1013.4.10 *The CPA shall then open each envelope and determine that the envelope contains only one general ballot and only one ballot for the*

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1013.4.11 *If the envelope contains only one general ballot and one proper regional ballot or one proper breed section ballot for each breed in which the member is entitled to vote, the CPA shall separate the envelope from the ballot.*

1013.4.12 *The CPA shall only begin tallying ballots after the above procedures are complete. The CPA shall not tally any votes for officers or proposals if such vote is not legible.*

1013.5 *Notification of Results.*

1013.5.1 *After tallying all validated ballots, the CPA will certify to the President and to the Executive Office of TICA the results of the election, who then shall inform all of the candidates.*

113.4 **Affirmative Action.**

113.4.1 Unless otherwise specifically provided, all membership action shall be by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members voting.

113.4.2 All issues once submitted to a membership vote shall not be resubmitted for a period of 1 year.

113.4.3 The result of all membership voting shall be published in the next issue of the newsletter.

ARTICLE FOURTEEN: *Election of Officers*

114.1 Time of Election. Election of officers shall take place in October every third year by ballot of the membership.

1014.1 *Intervals* The regional Directors from the Mid Pacific, Northeast, Northern Europe, South America, Southeast, Western Europe and Southwest regions are elected every 3 years beginning in 1994. All other Regional Directors are elected every 3 years beginning in 1995.

1014.1.1 *If a region is added, or adjustments are made to a region or regions, the first term of the new Regional Director will be determined in such a way that no more than one-half the Board of Directors will stand for election or re-election in any given year.*

114.1.1 Beginning in 2005, the President and Vice-President shall be elected every 3 years in the same years that Breed Committees are elected.

114.1.2 The President and Vice-President elected in 2001 shall serve an additional year in order to make the transition in election years.

1014.2 *Fees.*

1014.2.1 *Filing Fees.* The filing fee for election to the Board of Directors is \$25. The filing fee for election to Breed Committees is \$10.

1014.2.2 *Membership Fees.* Any member qualifying for an elected office shall be required to pay membership dues for the entire term of office for which he qualifies in addition to the filing fees.

1014.2.3 *TREND Fee.* The fee for a 500-word article to be published in the TICA TREND is \$30. Candidates may include a photo with the statement. Statements are limited to the August/September and October/November TREND.

1014.2.4 *No other advertisement, endorsement or article on any candidacy may be printed in the official newsletter. Candidates who are drafted by write-in vote of the membership shall fulfill all qualifications of those filing for office.*

114.2 Announcement of Candidates. After the initial election, any member who has been a member in good standing for 2 consecutive years

immediately preceding shall be eligible to seek office and shall declare his candidacy in writing to the Executive Office not more than 6 months nor less than 2 months before the election month with the filing fee established by the Board of Directors. If no member in the region or no member in the Breed/Breed Group Section has been a member for the 2 years immediately preceding the election, the 2 year membership requirement shall not apply. This shall entitle the candidate to be listed as a candidate for the office sought in every issue of the newsletter including the newsletter prior to the ballot being mailed to the membership. Each candidate shall be entitled to publish a summary of his/her experience, credentials and platform in accordance with Standing Rules.

114.3 Election.

114.3.1 The election ballot shall contain a list of candidates. The ballot for election of President, Vice President and Regional Directors shall also contain lines for write-in votes. The provisions of ARTICLE THIRTEEN shall apply to election of officers.

114.3.2 The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected. In the case of a tie, a run-off election shall be held.

114.3.3 No person may hold more than one elected position on the Board of Directors at one time.

114.3.3.1 A Regional Director who is elected President or Vice-President must resign as Regional Director effective on the date of assuming the office of President or Vice-President.

114.3.3.2 Appointment of a new Regional Director shall be in accordance with 15.3.2 of these By-Laws.

114.4 Run-Off Elections. If a run-off election is required, a run-off ballot shall be mailed to each member eligible to vote. The provisions of ARTICLE THIRTEEN shall apply to run-off elections.

114.5 Elected officers shall take office January of the ensuing year.

114.6 Responsibilities of Members. Each member shall be responsible to ensure that his ballot is properly authenticated and forwarded as set forth in 113.3.5 above. No member shall attempt to invalidate or otherwise tamper with the TICA election process in any manner whatsoever.

ARTICLE FIFTEEN: *Recall*

115.1 Recall Petition. Members of the Association, a Region or Breed/Breed Group Section may petition for recall of a National Officer, Regional Director or Breed Committee member, respectively. Upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Association, the Region, or the Breed/Breed Group Section, the President or Vice President, Regional Director or a member of the Breed Committee, respectively, shall be removed from office immediately.

115.2 Notice. Notice of intent to present a petition to have a ballot published for recall of a specified person or persons shall be filed with the Executive Office. Within 30 days of the filing of the notice, the recall petition shall be filed with the Executive Office. The Business Manager/Executive Secretary shall immediately forward a copy of the Petition including the reasons to the person(s) whose recall is sought.

115.3 Signatures and Fee. For recall of the President or Vice President, the petition shall contain a minimum of 250 signatures; for Regional Director, signatures of 150 or one-half of the members of the Region; for Breed Committee, signatures of 50 or one-half of the members of the Breed/Breed Group Section. In every case, it shall be accompanied by the appropriate fee as specified in the Standing Rules.

1015.3 *The filing fees for recall shall be:*

<i>For the President or Vice President</i>	<i>\$250</i>
<i>For a Regional Director</i>	<i>\$150</i>
<i>For Breed Committee</i>	<i>\$ 50</i>

115.4 Publication and Ballot. Notice that the petition has been filed and the reason given therein shall be published in the next available newsletter. Any rebuttal submitted together with a restatement of the reasons for recall shall be printed in the next following newsletter. The ballot, without further comment, shall be mailed to each member eligible to vote on the matter. The provisions of ARTICLE THIRTEEN shall apply to recall.

115.5 Form. Every recall petition must include the following:

115.5.1 An attribution declaring who created the recall petition must be printed in boldface type (at least 12 point) at or near the top of each page.

115.5.2 If circulated to obtain signatures at a show a disclaimer must be printed in boldface type (at least 12 point) at or near the top of each page with the following statement: "This petition is distributed in accordance with TICA By-Laws, ARTICLE FIFTEEN - Recall, and does not constitute an endorsement by the show committee of the opinions/statements made herein."

115.5.3. Factual written evidence must be presented in support of the proposed recall.

ARTICLE SIXTEEN: *Initiative and Referendum*

116.1 Petition. Notwithstanding anything else in these By-Laws, upon a petition signed by at least 100 members in good standing from a minimum of three regions and composed of the greater of six members or 10 percent of the membership of each of the three regions, accompanied by a filing fee as specified in the Standing Rules, any amendments of the By-Laws, Show Rules, or Registration Rules of the Association, and any matters concerning the business affairs, government and policy of the Association, shall be submitted to the membership for a mail vote.

1016.1 The filing fee shall be \$100.

116.2 Notice. Notice of intent to present a petition to have a ballot published for initiative or referendum shall be filed with the Executive Office. Within 30 days of the filing of the notice, the petition shall be filed with the Executive Office.

116.3 Publication and Ballot. Notice that the petition has been filed and reason given therein shall be published in the next available newsletter. Any rebuttal submitted together with a restatement of the reasons for shall be printed in the following newsletter. The ballot shall be mailed to each member eligible to vote on the matter. The provisions of ARTICLE THIRTEEN shall apply.

116.4 Effective Date. Unless otherwise specified in the By-Laws, Show Rules or Registration Rules of this Association or in the proposal itself, all action taken by the membership by initiative or referendum shall become effective immediately upon certification that the proposal has been adopted by a majority vote.

116.5 Form. Every petition must include the following:

116.5.1 An attribution declaring who created the petition must be printed in boldface type (at least 12 point) at or near the top of each page.

116.5.2 If circulated to obtain signatures at a show a disclaimer must be printed in boldface type (at least 12 point) at or near the top of each page with the following statement: **"This petition is distributed in accordance with TICA By-Laws, ARTICLE SIXTEEN - Initiative and Referendum and does not constitute an endorsement by the show committee of the opinions/statements made herein."**

116.5.3 Factual written evidence must be presented in support of the proposed petition.

ARTICLE SEVENTEEN: *Show Rules and Registration Rules*

117.1 Amendments.

117.1.1 The members of the Association may, by an affirmative mail vote of a majority of the members voting, adopt, repeal, alter, amend or modify the Show Rules or Registration Rules of the Association. Said Rules shall not be inconsistent with the By-Laws of the Association.

1017.1 *Amendments. Proposals to amend the Show rules and Registration Rules shall be considered by the Board of Directors at regularly scheduled meetings. **Proposals from the membership must be in writing and received by the Rules Committee no later than 90 days prior to the opening day of the meeting** to allow time for review in order to reach the Executive Office 60 days prior to the opening day of the meeting. Proposals received by the Rules Committee after the 90-day deadline will be placed on the following meeting agenda. Proposals are to be submitted according to ARTICLE SEVENTEEN of the TICA By-Laws.*

1017.1.1 *Proposals must be on the approved form, E-4000 Proposal to Amend Rules (available from the Executive Office or the TICA web site).*

1017.1.1.1 *Notification. Members are to be notified of action taken at the Board Meeting on proposals submitted by them with a target date of 10 working days after completion of the minutes.*

117.1.2 Procedure. Any member may submit a proposal to amend the Show Rules or Registration Rules. Said proposal shall be submitted in accordance with the Standing Rules 1017.1, 1017.1.1, and 1017.1.1.1.

117.1.3 Guidelines. The Board of Directors shall establish and publish guidelines or standing rules for the submission of proposed amendments to the Show Rules and Registration Rules.

117.1.4 Effective Date. Amendments to Registration Rules shall take effect immediately unless the proposal itself provides another effective date. Any changes in the Registration Rules which will affect the way a cat may be shown

shall take effect May 1 of the ensuing year. Amendments to Show Rules shall take effect May 1 of the ensuing year, unless the proposal itself provides another effective date. The May 1 restrictions do not apply to breeds advancing to PNB or ANB status.

117.1.5 Ballot. The provisions of ARTICLE THIRTEEN shall apply to Show Rules and Registration Rules amendments.

117.1.6 New Breeds and/or Colors. The pertinent provisions of the Show Rules and Registration Rules shall be automatically amended to include new colors and/or new breeds when said new colors and/or new breeds are recognized.

117.1.7 Alternative Procedure. The Show Rules and Registration Rules may be amended pursuant to ARTICLE SIXTEEN of these By-Laws.

117.2 Emergency Power. The Board of Directors shall be empowered to amend the Show Rules and the Registration Rules to correct conflicts, when such correction is required either for clarification or to serve the best interest of the Association. Any such amendment shall be submitted to the membership for ratification within 60 days and shall be null and void unless it is so submitted, or if the membership fails to ratify it.

ARTICLE EIGHTEEN: *Standards*

118.1 General Requirements for New Breed Advancement.

118.1.1 No breed may be recognized for championship competition until the requirements set forth in ARTICLE THREE of the Registration Rules have been met.

118.1.2 Procedure. Proposals for advancement shall be submitted pursuant to ARTICLE THREE of the Registration Rules. The Board of Directors may recognize the breed for competition, defer it pending additional information, reject it, or refer it to a membership vote. The Board shall assign a Registration Category (I-IV) to the breed being accepted for championship under the provisions of ARTICLE SEVEN of the Registration Rules; recommendation of the Genetics Committee will be considered in assigning a Registration Category.

118.2 Amendment of Existing Standards. Proposed Standard amendments including but not limited to the addition or deletion of colors or the adoption of a new Standard for a recognized breed shall be submitted by the Breed Committee Chairperson to the Genetics, and Rules Committees 120 days prior to the Board meeting at which the changes are to be considered. The Genetics and Rules Committees shall act on the proposal within 15 days of receipt. Upon approval of the Genetics and Rules Committees, the Executive Office shall issue a ballot to all bona fide voting members of the Breed/Breed Group Section(s) no less than 100 days prior to the Board Meeting at which the changes are to be considered, to be counted by the official TICA Ballot Judge. Financial responsibility for said poll shall rest with the requesting party(ies).

1018.2 Amendments. *Proposals to amend Standards shall be considered by the Board of Directors at regularly scheduled meetings and must be in writing and received in accordance with ARTICLE EIGHTEEN, 118.2 of the TICA By-Laws. **Proposals must be received by the Genetics and Rules Committee no later than 120 days prior to the opening day of the meeting.** Proposals received after the 120-day deadline will be placed on the following meeting agenda.*

1018.2.1 *Proposals must be on the approved form, E-4010 Proposal to Amend Standards (available from the Executive Office or www.tica.org).*

1018.2.1.1 *Notification. Members are to be notified of action taken at the Board Meeting on proposals submitted by them with a target date of 10 working days after completion of the minutes.*

1018.3 *A member who is a member of more than one breed section within a breed group shall receive a ballot for each breed section belonged to within the group.*

118.2.2 Breed/Breed Group Section Members shall have at least 45 days from the date of mailing to return the ballot to the TICA Ballot Judge.

118.2.3 Upon receipt of the results of the poll, the Executive Office shall place the proposed changes on the Agenda of the next Board Meeting with the official results of the poll. The Board of Directors may approve the proposal, reject it or refer it back to the Breed/Breed Group Section(s) with suggestions for revision.

ARTICLE NINETEEN: *Publications*

119.1 Rules. The Association shall publish the By-Laws, Show Rules, Registration Rules, Standards and all standing rules for sale at a reasonable price established by the Board of Directors.

1019.1 *Logos and references to titles and awards from cat registries other than TICA may not be used in any TICA publication including individual clubs' show flyers or show catalogs except as allowed in 1019.1.1. Breed awards from independent breed clubs (i.e MCBFA, RFCI, etc.) are exempted from this rule.*

1019.1.1 *In combined TICA and Traditional Shows outside North America, logos, titles and awards in the traditional association used in a combined show flyer and/or catalog will be allowed provided the other association is not a North American association.*

119.2 Newsletter. The Association shall publish the TICA TREND, at least bi-monthly, which shall contain information as set forth in the Standing Rules.

1019.2 *The following shall be included in every issue of the TICA TREND: Names, addressees, phone numbers and email addresses of Board Members, Judges and Judge Trainees; Temporary Suspension List; Late Judges Books; Disciplinary Actions; Dates/Locations of Annual/Winter/Spring Meetings.*

1019.2.1 *The following shall be included in at least two issues of the TICA TREND per year: Names, addresses, phone numbers of Breed Committee Chairs and Standing Committee Chairs; List of Standing Committee Members; List of Clerks; Names and addresses of Show Reporters.*

1019.2.2 *The following shall be published in the TICA TREND as required: Board Meeting Minutes in the first available TICA TREND following Board Meetings; Results of Board Mail Ballots; Annual audit report of the Association; Regional Awards (Aug/Sep); International Awards (Oct/Nov); Candidate Election Statements (Aug/Sep, Oct/Nov); Hall of Fame, TICA Treasure, Lifetime Achievement; Annual Service Awards; Membership Ballot Results; Photos of Applicants to the Judging Program; Notices of Intent - Breed/Trait Advancements; Officers' Reports; Recall Petitions/Rebuttals; Initiative and Referendum/Rebuttals.*

1019.2.3 *Each issue of the TICA TREND shall contain current news of the Association, informative articles, paid advertisement, and any other material authorized by the Board of Directors or dictated by the rules of this Association.*

1019.3 *The names and dates of service of Retired/Resigned Judges for the current show season shall be listed in the TICA Yearbook annually.*

119.4 **Other Publications.** The Association may publish any other article, information, pamphlet, ad or publication deemed necessary for the welfare and benefit of the Association.

119.5 All publications except the Annual Edition shall be dated and have pages numbered.

119.6 Any time any publication, i.e., newsletter, bulletin, information sheet, or any written material other than show flyers or show catalogs to be distributed to the general public, or any part of it, uses the official TICA logo that publication must display the following disclaimer in legible size type: "The opinions expressed in this publication are those of its authors alone and do not reflect the views of The International Cat Association. The use of its logo in no way implies approval by The International Cat Association of its content nor does it indicate that this is an official publication of that Association." Use of the logo without this disclaimer shall be a violation of these By-Laws and subject to discipline thereunder.

ARTICLE TWENTY: *Annual Awards*

120.1 The Association shall present annual awards to the winning cats, kittens, alters, household pets and household pet kittens.

120.2 The Board of Directors shall establish a system for computing wins and determining the winners of international awards and regional awards.

ARTICLE TWENTY-ONE: *Chartered Clubs*

121.1 Application. The Association may charter clubs upon receipt of an application for a club which has at least five members who are also members of this Association, the charter fee, a copy of the club's by-laws which are in conformity with the Association guidelines, a list of the names and addresses of the club's officers and members and such other information as the Board of Directors may require. Reasonable restrictions may be imposed to avoid conflicts with existing clubs.

1021.1 Members. *Five members including all officers of each TICA club must be TICA members in good standing.*

1021.1.1 Fees.

1021.1.1.1 *The fee to charter a new club shall be \$50 with the license fees for the first show to be waived. All other fees for a show shall apply.*

1021.1.1.2 *Newly chartered clubs shall be exempt from license fees for their first show for a period of 1 year.*

121.2 Club Charter Renewal. All clubs shall pay an annual charter renewal fee.

1021.2 Charter Renewal. *Charter renewal fees shall be \$25 and are due and payable each May 1st together with a current Officer's list with addresses. Lifetime chartered clubs are required to provide a current Officers' List with addresses.*

1021.2.1 *If the club charter renewal fee is not received by May 31st, a surcharge of \$10 per month is added to the renewal fee for a maximum of 4 months.*

1021.2.2 *A \$10 fee will be assessed to any club where the Officers' List with addresses is not received by May 31st.*

1021.2.3 *Failure to pay charter renewal fees, surcharges, and/or provide an Officers' List after 4 months from May 31st shall place a club, including Lifetime chartered clubs, in inactive status. Reactivation of a club including a club with a Lifetime Charter, shall be up to the equivalent of 3 years' charter fees.*

121.3 Guidelines. The Board of Directors shall establish charter and renewal fees and guidelines for chartering clubs, club by-laws and annual club reports.

ARTICLE TWENTY-TWO: *Discipline*

122.1 Enforcement of Rules. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to enforce the rules of the Association and to that end the Board of Directors shall be empowered to assess reasonable penalties for infraction thereof and for acts and conduct detrimental to the best interest of the Association or the welfare of cats.

1022.2.1 The fee for filing a complaint or protest shall be based upon the number of single-sided pages submitted, including the complaint form and any attachments and documentation. All fees shall be payable by cash, credit card, certified check or money order.

1022.2.1.1 The filing fee for ten pages or less shall be \$75.

1022.2.1.2 The filing fee for more than ten pages shall be \$75, PLUS \$5 for each page over ten.

1022.2.1.3 There shall be no fee for filing a response of ten pages or less. For each page over ten, the fee shall be \$5 per page.

122.2 Procedure. Disciplinary power may be exercised only after due notice and an opportunity to be heard are first given to the party accused.

122.2.1 Complaints. The complaining party must submit the complaint on the official form set forth in the Standing Rules to these Bylaws. The complaining party must state the specific By-Law, Show Rule, Registration Rule or other rule alleged to be violated by the accused party, and attach all documents and other evidence which they contend supports the complaint. Any complaint must be filed with the Executive Office not later than 180 days after the alleged incident occurred, and be accompanied by a non-refundable filing fee as set forth in the Standing Rules.

122.2.2 Show Protests. Protests charging misconduct or violation of the rules of the association, arising in connection with a show, shall be submitted in writing with any evidence and a filing fee as set forth in the Standing Rules, to the Show Committee within 10 working days following the completion of the show. If the protest is against the actions of the club, the show committee of the club, a member of the club or show committee, or production company, the protest can optionally be filed with the Executive Secretary of the Association, with the filing fee as set forth in the Standing Rules, to be handled by the Board of Directors pursuant to this article. A copy of the protest shall also be sent to

the show committee. The Board of Directors shall commence action on the protest, pursuant to this article, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the protest in the Executive Office. These fees are non-refundable. The filing fees shall not apply to protests filed by the Feline Welfare Standing Committee in its abuse protocols.

122.2.3 Any non-documentary evidence in support of a complaint or a response must be submitted in the form of a declaration or affidavit, signed or sworn under penalty of perjury by the person providing that declaration or affidavit, and include a statement that the facts contained therein are within the personal knowledge of that person.

122.2.4 Any documentary evidence in support of a complaint or a response must be declared or sworn, under penalty of perjury, to be true and correct copies of such documents.

122.2.5 The Board of Directors may refer the matter to the Legal Committee for a finding before any action is taken. The findings of the Legal Committee shall be advisory only and not binding on the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may conduct a hearing itself or appoint a Legal Committee or person to conduct the hearing. All parties shall have the right to be present, in person, with or without counsel or to be represented by counsel and to present a statement, evidence or witnesses in their behalf.

122.3 Injunction. The Board of Directors may enjoin the accused and any member or club involved to cease and desist from any alleged misconduct until a decision is rendered in the matter.

122.4 Interim Suspension of Services. In the event that criminal charges have been filed and are pending against an individual for violation of animal cruelty, welfare or related laws, the Board of Directors may suspend TICA services to such individual until such time as those charges are resolved and/or a hearing is conducted under this Article. In the event such an individual is a Judge or Trainee, the Board of Directors may suspend the individual's judging license or authorization to participate in the TICA Judging Program until such time as those charges are resolved and/or a hearing is conducted under this Article.

122.5 Discipline By Other Animal Associations. In the event an individual has been disciplined by another animal-related association or organization having standards for discipline at least as high as TICA, the Board of Directors may immediately, or after a hearing or investigation, suspend TICA services to that individual or impose such other discipline as may be warranted, including,

but not limited to, imposition of the same or similar discipline as imposed by such other association. Such individual shall, however, be provided with the opportunity to provide evidence and argument indicating why such suspension of services or other discipline should not be imposed or continued.

122.6 Penalties.

122.6.1 Except as provided in 122.6.2, reasonable penalties for misconduct or violation or infraction of the Association's rules may be imposed by a majority of the Board of Directors, and may include reprimand, suspension or revocation of judge's license, except that reprimands to judges and suspension of judge's licenses of 90 days or less shall be governed by the rules contained in the Judging Program, suspension from showing, suspension of registrations or confirmation of awards for any given period, suspension or expulsion from membership in the Association, suspension or revocation of Club Charter, or suspension of all TICA services.

122.6.2 Suspension of all TICA services includes the following:

122.6.2.1 Participation in a TICA sanctioned show in any capacity, including, but not limited to, acting as an entry clerk, ring clerk, master clerk, show manager or any other show official;

122.6.2.2 Participation in a TICA judging school, clerking school or breed committee;

122.6.2.3 Holding an office in a TICA sanctioned club;

122.6.2.4 Registration of cats and/or litters;

122.6.2.5 Confirmations of titles;

122.6.2.6 Scoring for regional and international awards.

122.6.2.7 Serve on a committee or in any other capacity.

122.6.3 An elected officer or director of the Association may not be expelled by the Board of Directors from membership in the Association or as officer and director, but may be suspended from membership in the Association and as officer and director for misconduct or violation or infraction of the Association's rules by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Board of Directors, including the individual being suspended. In the event of such suspension, the Board of Directors must submit a ballot within 60 days to the membership, or a portion of the membership, which elected the individual, requesting a vote on the suspension or expulsion of the individual from membership and as officer and director. The suspension by the Board shall end if the ballot is not so submitted or if the membership does not vote in favor of suspension or expulsion.

ARTICLE TWENTY-THREE: *Judges, Trainees, and Applicants*

123.1 Classification of Judges.

123.1.1 Instructor. An Allbreed Judge licensed to conduct judging schools and seminars and to instruct trainees.

123.1.2 Approved Allbreed Judge. A judge licensed to judge Allbreed and/or Specialty shows.

123.1.3 Provisional Allbreed Judge. A judge licensed to judge Allbreed and/or Specialty shows.

123.1.4 Approved Specialty Judge. A judge licensed to judge Longhair only or Shorthair only or both, who has not qualified as Provisional Allbreed Judge.

123.1.5 Probationary Specialty Judge. A judge licensed to judge Longhair only or Shorthair only or both, who has not qualified as Approved Specialty Judge.
Those persons licensed to judge only Household Pets in a Longhair and/or Shorthair Specialty format.

123.1.6 Trainee. One who has been accepted into the judging program who has not completed the requirements for a license.

123.1.7 Household Pet Judges.

123.1.8 Judge Emeritus. A retired judge who may be accorded the honor for outstanding service as a judge to this Association and to the cat fancy in general. An honorary title bestowed on a judge who is retiring from judging. A Judge Emeritus is exempt from license fees, record forms, CEUs, and is exempt from the annual Refresher Test UNLESS that judge is actively judging.

1023.1.8 *Selection of a retired judge for the title of "Judge Emeritus" should be guided by the following criteria:*

1023.1.8.1 Years of Service.

1023.1.8.2 Overall contributions to TICA (i.e. clerking program administrator, legal counsel, etc.)

1023.1.8.3 Overall contributions to the Cat Fancy (i.e. humanitarian endeavors, publications, etc.).

1023.1.8.4 Any other considerations deemed worthy by the Board of Directors.

123.1.9 **Distinguished Judge.** An honorary title of Distinguished Judge which shall be granted to any judge with 25 or more years of judging experience as a licensed TICA judge and who has attained the status of Approved Allbreed Judge. To retain the title of Distinguished Judge, the judge **MUST** lead a judges' conference or breed seminar, or conduct a judging school or genetics seminar (if qualified) at least once every 2 years. A Distinguished Judge is exempt from other CEU requirements and license fees; however, they must complete the refresher test and record form.

123.1.10 **Judge of Merit.** An honorary title of Judge of Merit which shall be granted to any judge with at least 20 years of judging experience as a licensed TICA judge. Judges of Merit shall meet all requirements for re-licensing, including license fees, refresher test, record form and CEU requirements; Judges of Merit are encouraged to lead a Judges' Conference or Breed Seminar, or conduct a Judging School or Genetics Seminar (if qualified), and if they do so, no further CEU's shall be required for that year.

123.1.11 Beginning at the 25th Annual Meeting and thereafter, only time as a licensed TICA judge shall be used for computing judging time for honorary awards; however, titles shall be retained by judges previously so honored.

123.2 **Judging Program.** The Board of Directors shall adopt standing rules governing the Judging Program.

123.3 **Training Program.** The Board of Directors shall adopt standing rules governing the Training Program.

123.4 **Judge's Responsibility.** All judges and trainees have a responsibility to stay abreast of the Standards and Color Classifications and current rules of this Association. All Judges shall be furnished with changes to Standards, Show Rules or Color classification.

123.5 License Fees. The Board of Directors shall establish judge's license fees.

123.6 Judges' Association. The Judges of this Association may elect to form a Guild for the purpose of advising the Board of Directors on judging procedures, applicants, testing, show rules, and for the general knowledge and education of judges.

123.7 Judging Schools and Seminars. All judges are required to attend continuing education classes as set out in the Judging Program.

123.8 Judges Awards. Each year, the membership shall be asked to select the most outstanding TICA judge for the year. The judge selected shall be presented with an engraved plaque at the Annual Banquet.

ARTICLE TWENTY-FOUR: *By-Law Amendments*

124.1 The members of the Association may, by an affirmative mail vote of a majority of the members voting, adopt, repeal, alter, amend or modify the By-Laws of this Association.

124.1.1 Procedure. Any member may submit a proposal to amend the By-Laws. Said proposals shall be first submitted to the Executive Office in writing stating the article and section to be amended and the wording of the new or amended section(s). The Executive Office shall then distribute the proposal pursuant to the direction of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may approve, reject or refer the matter back to the appropriate committee. A committee may not reject a proposal on substantive grounds. If the Board of Directors approves the matter, it shall be submitted to a membership vote on the annual ballot in October.

1024.1 Amendments. Proposals to amend the By-Laws shall be considered by the Board of Directors at regularly scheduled meetings. Proposals from the membership must be in writing and received by the Rules Committee no later than 90 days prior to the opening day of the meeting to allow time for review in order to reach the Executive Office 60 days prior to the opening day of the meeting. Proposals received by the Rules Committee after the 90-day deadline will be placed on the following meeting agenda. Proposals are to be submitted according to ARTICLE TWENTY-FOUR, 124.1.1 of the TICA By-Laws.

1024.1.1 Proposals must be on the approved form, E-4000 Proposal to Amend Rules (available from the Executive Office or the TICA web site).

1024.1.1.1 Notification. Members are to be notified of action taken at the Board Meeting on proposals submitted by them with a target date of 10 working days after completion of the minutes.

124.1.2 Guidelines. The Board of Directors shall establish and publish guidelines or standing rules for the submission of proposed amendments to the By-Laws.

124.1.3 Effective Date. Amendments to the By-Laws shall take effect immediately unless the proposal itself provides another effective date.

124.1.4 Ballot. The provisions of ARTICLE THIRTEEN shall apply to By-Law amendments.

124.1.5 Alternative Procedure. The By-Laws may be amended pursuant to ARTICLE SIXTEEN of these By-laws.

124.2 Emergency Power. The Board of Directors shall be empowered to amend the By-Laws to correct conflict, when such correction is required either for clarification or to serve the best interest of the Association. Any such amendment shall be submitted to the membership for ratification within 60 days and shall be null and void unless it is so submitted, or if the membership fails to ratify it.

ARTICLE TWENTY-FIVE: *Parliamentary Procedure*

125.1 Meetings will be guided by Roberts Rules of Order, Revised, except in cases where there is a conflict with the Association By-Laws, in which case, the Association By-Laws will prevail.

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