



## FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE FELINE - FIFe

### FIFe Show Working Group: Report to FIFe Members - January 2012

#### 1. Introduction

At the FIFe General Assembly 2011 in Bucharest, Romania, the FIFe Show Working Group presented a status report regarding their work in 2010/11 to collate data regarding FIFe shows and presented a broad list of potential adjustments to the current system to make a well-balanced, competitive category system.

Since the FIFe GA 2011 the Show Working Group have refined the data collation of FIFe shows and developed a shortlist of potential category systems which it is believed to meet the requirements of a more balanced category system. This shortlist has been developed based on the internal workings of the group and utilised some of the feedback already received from FIFe Members at/after the FIFe GA 2011.

It is the aim of this document to present options to FIFe Members such that they can provide feedback to the Show Working Group who can then develop a proposal for the FIFe Board to present to the FIFe GA 2012 in Albufeira, Portugal. It is very important to the Show Working Group to receive feedback from all FIFe Members such that any proposal made to the FIFe GA 2012 is based upon a broad consensus within FIFe.

#### 2. Options short listed

The Show Working Group has short listed a total of 4 options as follows.

- a. A two category system combining the existing categories I & II resp. categories III & IV.
- b. A two category system based strictly on a longhair/shorthair split.
- c. A three category system based on moving colour judged breeds from the existing category II (RAG/SBI/TUV) to existing category I and combining the existing categories III & IV.
- d. A three category system based on moving colour judged breeds from the existing category II and BRI/CYM/MAN to the existing category I and combining the existing categories III & IV.

Appendix 1 shows the details of which breeds will be in the new categories for each option.

Table 1 below is a summary of the number of breeds and an estimate of the number of cats in the new categories for each option (based on the 2010 FIFe Show Survey).

**Table 1**

OPTION	1st CATEGORY		2nd CATEGORY		3rd CATEGORY	
	breeds	% cats	breeds	% cats	breeds	% cats
a.	12	61 %	31	39 %	-	-
b.	16	59 %	27	41 %	-	-
c.	5	25 %	7	36 %	31	39 %
d.	8	37 %	7	35 %	28	28 %



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Below are some general statements regarding the four options short listed.

### Option a

This is the simplest option to convert to from the existing four category system. This proposal absorbs the current smaller categories (I/IV) into the larger categories (II/III). It can be seen from the numbers in Table 1 that there will still be a slight imbalance in the number of cats in the two new categories. However this is counterbalanced by there being more breeds in the smaller category. In addition, if one looks into the future, it is probable that the majority of future recognised breeds can be put into the smaller category which should balance the categories more.

### Option b

This option is the only option short listed that divides breeds into categories based on a feature of the cat i.e. length of the coat. This option will have the effect of separating some sister breeds into different categories. There is a slightly better balance in breeds and number of cats than in option a.

### Option c

The first 3 category system short listed simply puts breeds that are judged by colour from existing category II together with PER/EXO leaving only group judged semi longhair cats in their own category. The third new category is then a combination of existing categories III and IV. This provides an acceptable balance of the number of cats per category.

### Option d

This option is a variation of option c. where BRI, MAN and CYM are also moved to the same category as PER/EXO and the colour judged semi longhair cats. This provides the best balance of the number of cats in each category.

### **3. Options not short listed**

The working group has studied the following options without finding a solution that meets the requirements of the mandate for the group.

A modification to the existing four category system has been studied. There have been a number of suggestions/proposals over the last years to modify the existing system to provide a well balanced category split. None of these proposals have met with favour within FIFe and the working group has not been able to find a solution to present here.

The working group was very attracted to a system based on breeds to be able to bring back the Best in Breed concept to FIFe shows. However, with the imbalance in numbers between breeds, the current judging system and the time limitations imposed by the current predominating one day show system, the working group was not able to find an acceptable solution for a breed based concept.

### **4. Best in Show**

With a reduction in the number of categories the working group sees the possibility to make some modifications to the BIS competition.

The following three possibilities have been considered.

1. Males and females to be kept separated from the age of 3 months, i.e. there will be a BIS kitten male and female and a BIS junior male and female.
2. The BIS for adults may be split further such that there is a BIS adult male and female from classes 7 and 9 and a BIS adult male and female from classes 5, 3 and 1. This will give the opportunity for "young adults" to compete for their own BIS. The working group do not see that the number of neuters seen at FIFe shows warrants a similar BIS split.



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3. The breed BIS introduced 01.01.2012 may be extended to include sister breeds. This will mean that for example PER/EXO, ABY/SOM and SIA/BAL/OLH/OSH/SYL/SYS could have their own breed BIS in some of the short listed options. The requirements regarding the number of cats will remain.

### **5. Timeframe for Implementation/Retraining of Judges**

The working group has not studied in detail the requirements for retraining of judges. This will be a task for the FIFe Judges and Standard Commission if any proposal for a new category system is passed at the FIFe GA. However the working group is able to make some general observations.

Existing FIFe Judges are lifetime appointed by FIFe in their existing categories. The working group can therefore see no possibility to enforce existing judges to retrain to fit a new category system. Of course these judges will remain qualified for certain breeds and can be used by clubs. They will have to refrain from voting in any BIS where breeds are present that they are not qualified to judge.

The working group believes that if a new category system requiring judges to retrain in the whole of an existing category then the existing training system should essentially be followed. If a judge needs to retrain in a small number of breeds then an abbreviated training system may be utilised.

Existing first time students will also be affected by any new category system as they will have to modify their training to prepare for the implementation of the new system.

The working group sees the following timeframe for the changes. A proposal for a new system is presented at the FIFe GA 2012. If a proposal is accepted, the FIFe Judges and Standard Commission prepares proposals for modifications to the judge training system and judge retraining to suit the new category system to be presented at the FIFe GA 2013. These proposals can take effect from 01.06.2013. The new category system will be implemented from 01.01.2015.

### **5. Feedback from FIFe Members**

A feedback form is provided with this report. It is the hope of the Show Working Group that each FIFe Member will take the opportunity to provide feedback such that the best consensus can be achieved.

The feedback requested is to rank the four options for a new category system from "Best" to "4<sup>th</sup> Best". For each option, please indicate your rating on a scale from 10 to 1. A rating of 10 represents an option that you think is excellent, a rating of 1 represents an option that you think is very bad. Additional space is provided for your motivation and comments which are most welcome.

Further feedback is also requested regarding the options for extending BIS. Here a simple yes or no is required. Again, additional space is provided for motivation and comments.

Finally, there is space allowed for any other comments that FIFe Members may have.

To enable an eventual proposal to be made for presentation to the FIFe GA 2012, please send your feedback by the 15th of March 2012 at the latest to Mr. Steven Jones, [steven.l.jones@akersolutions.com](mailto:steven.l.jones@akersolutions.com)

We thank you in advance for your cooperation!

FIFe Show Working Group

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## FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE FELINE - FIFe

### Appendix 1

#### Option a

Category I	
EXO	ACL
PER	ACS
	MCO
	NEM
	NFO
	RAG
	SBI
	SIB
	TUA
	TUV

Category II			
ABY	DRX	MAN	BAL
BEN	DSP	MAU	OLH
BML	EUR	OCI	OSH
BRI	GRX	RUS	PEB
BUR	JBT	SNO	SIA
CHA	KBL	SOK	SYL
CRX	KBS	SOM	SYS
CYM	KOR	SPH	

#### Option b

Category I			
PER	ACL	CYM	BAL
	MCO	KBL	OLH
	NEM	SOM	SYL
	NFO		
	RAG		
	SBI		
	SIB		
	TUA		
	TUV		

Category II				
EXO	ABY	DRX	MAN	OSH
ACS	BEN	DSP	MAU	PEB
	BML	EUR	OCI	SIA
	BRI	GRX	RUS	SYS
	BUR	JBT	SNO	
	CHA	KBS	SOK	
	CRX	KOR	SPH	

#### Option c

Category I	
EXO	RAG
PER	SBI
	TUV

Category II
ACL
ACS
MCO
NEM
NFO
SIB
TUA

Category III			
ABY	DRX	MAN	BAL
BEN	DSP	MAU	OLH
BML	EUR	OCI	OSH
BRI	GRX	RUS	PEB
BUR	JBT	SNO	SIA
CHA	KBL	SOK	SYL
CRX	KBS	SOM	SYS
CYM	KOR	SPH	

#### Option d

Category I		
EXO	RAG	BRI
PER	SBI	CYM
	TUV	MAN

Category II
ACL
ACS
MCO
NEM
NFO
SIB
TUA

Category III			
ABY	DSP	MAU	BAL
BEN	EUR	OCI	OLH
BML	GRX	RUS	OSH
BUR	JBT	SNO	PEB
CHA	KBL	SOK	SIA
CRX	KBS	SOM	SYL
DRX	KOR	SPH	SYS