



THE AUSTRALIAN CAT FEDERATION (INC.)

BY-LAWS - PART 5 AWARDS

5.1 ACF (Inc.) DISTINGUISHED MERIT (ACF DM)¹

- 5.1.1 ACF's Distinguished Merit Award (ACF DM) is effective 1st January 1999.
- 5.1.2 This is a title "ACF DM" to follow the name of the cat in question conferred by ACF (Inc.) on cats which have produced outstanding offspring.
- 5.1.3 The title may be added to pedigrees retrospectively.
- 5.1.4 It is **OPEN ONLY** to cats which are registered with an ACF (Inc.) Member or ²Provisional Member Body.
- 5.1.5 There are differing criteria for male and female cats, and the requirements are as follows:
- (a) Male cat has sired:
 - (i) five (5) offspring which have won ACF Award of Excellence (AoE) title; or
 - (ii) three (3) offspring which have won Best of Group at ACF (Inc.) National shows.
 - (b) Female cat has produced:
 - (i) three (3) offspring which have won ACF Award of Excellence (AoE) title; or
 - (ii) two (2) offspring which have won Best of Group at ACF (Inc.) National shows.
- 5.1.6 In the event of a cat winning AoE awards as an entire, and then winning an additional 10 Certificates as a neuter (and these wins have been recorded with the ACF (Inc.) Secretary in the usual way), the latter win also counts towards the parents' scoring.³
- 5.1.7 Application Fee: No Fee required.
- 5.1.8 Applications:
- (a) to be made on the appropriate form, with copies of proof of wins in accordance with above criteria;
 - (b) to be sent direct to the ACF (Inc.) Secretary.
- 5.1.9 The application form is available from ACF (Inc.) Member or Provisional Member Body, the ACF (Inc.) web site or from the ACF (Inc.) Secretary.

¹ 2014: Amended to include "ACF" before "DM".

² 2019: Amended to include Provisional Member Body and to maintain consistency of terms with other By-Laws.

³ 2010: Amended to revert to original criteria.

5.2. ACF (INC.) AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL TITLES

5.2.1 ACF (Inc.) Australian National Title is given as follows:

- (a) Entire Pedigree Cats:
 - ACF AUST. NAT. CHAMPION
 - ACF AUST. NAT. GRAND CHAMPION
- (b) Neutered Pedigree Cats:
 - ACF AUST. NAT. PREMIER
 - ACF AUST. NAT. GRAND PREMIER
- (c) Neutered Domestic Cats:⁴
 - ACF AUST. NAT. COMPANION PREMIER
 - ACF AUST. NAT. COMPANION GRAND PREMIER

5.2.2 There are two ways to qualify for the ACF (Inc.) Australian National Titles:

- (a) Three (3) Challenges / Awards of Merit / Companion Merit awarded at three (3) different* ACF (Inc.) National Shows, under three (3) different judges.
or
- (b) Two (2) Challenges / Awards of Merit / Companion Merit, awarded at two (2) different* ACF (Inc.) National Shows, by two (2) different judges; plus three (3) Challenges/Awards of Merit/Companion Merit, awarded at other shows by ACF (Inc.) International Judges or overseas judges.

5.2.3 The last Challenge/Award of Merit/Companion Merit to be awarded at least twenty (20) months after the first.

Note: *"different ACF (Inc.) National Shows" means shows held in different years.

5.2.4 Application Fee: \$25.00

5.2.5 Applications must be:

- (a) made on the appropriate form; and accompanied by the relevant original award certificates, which qualify for the title according to the necessary requirements, as shown above and payment.
 - (i) endorsed photocopies of certificates may be submitted in lieu of originals.

5.2.6 If the cat is registered with a Member or ⁵Provisional Member Body of the ACF (Inc.) application must be certified by and submitted through the ACF (Inc.) Member or Provisional Member Body to the ACF (Inc.) Titles Registrar.

5.2.7 If the cat is registered with a CCA Member Body as listed in By-Laws Part 1 sub-clause 3.2.1.1 application may be made through the ACF (Inc.) Member or Provisional Member Body in the state of residence; or may be sent direct to the ACF (Inc.) Titles Registrar, with relevant original certificates, payment and a copy of the cat's Certificate of Registration.

5.2.8 The application form is available from ACF (Inc.) Member or Provisional Member Body, the ACF (Inc.) web site or from the ACF (Inc.) Secretary.

⁴ 2012: Added new category to cover Domestic cats.

⁵ 2019: Amended to include Provisional Member Body and to maintain consistency of terms with other By-Laws.

5.3. ACF (INC.) AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

- 5.3.1 All adult cats registered with any Member or ⁶Provisional Member Body of ACF (Inc.) or CCCA members as listed in By-Laws Part 1 sub-clause 3.2.1.1 are eligible.
- (a) The Award of Excellence (AoE) to be issued in the following manner:
- (i) Eligible are Titled or Untitled: Male, Female, Neuter or Spay pedigree cats separated into Group One, Group Two, Group Three.
- (b) Cats must be entered in the class by the Show Manager. The class is to be a **FREE CLASS**⁷.
- (c) Maximum Certificates to be awarded per show are:
- (i) One certificate per SEX per GROUP, ie:
- no more than six (6) certificates to be awarded per show for entires;
 - no more than six (6) certificates to be awarded per show for desexed.
- 5.3.2 In the case of "multiple rings" show, each ring to be considered as a "separate show" and certificates to be awarded accordingly.
- 5.3.3 There are eight levels available:
- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| (a) Award of Excellence | (AoE) |
| (b) Bronze Award of Excellence | (AoE/Bze) |
| (c) Silver Award of Excellence | (AoE/Sil) |
| (d) Gold Award of Excellence | (AoE/Gld) |
| (e) Sapphire Award of Excellence | (AoE/Sap) |
| (f) Ruby Award of Excellence | (AoE/Rby) |
| (g) Emerald Award of Excellence | (AoE/Emd) |
| (h) Diamond Award of Excellence | (AoE/Dia) |
- 5.3.4 A record of certificates issued at each show to be kept and checked by each Member Body's title recorder, who shall verify applications.
- 5.3.5 The ACF Award of Excellence may be awarded posthumously.
- Note: ACF (Inc.). AOE certificates earned when a cat was a Champion (entire cat) etc. can be carried on toward the final award after the animal is de sexed.
A cat may be awarded the AoE title as an entire and a second AoE title as a desexed exhibit.
- 5.3.6 The awarding of a certificate is to be regarded as a mark of excellence in a particular exhibit. It is not to be regarded as an automatic award in any respect.
- (a) For a cat to be considered "of sufficient merit" the judge needs to certify "I deem this cat to be of a standard of excellence of not less than 95%".⁸
- 5.3.7 Application Fee: \$25.00 for each level of application.
- 5.3.8 Applications for each level must be:
- (a) made on the appropriate form; and accompanied by the relevant ten (10) original award certificates, which qualify for the title according to the necessary requirements, as shown above and payment.

⁶ 2019: Amended to include Provisional Member Body and to maintain consistency of terms with other By-Laws.

⁷ 1996: Inserted AOE class to be an automatic entry for all pedigree exhibits and free.

⁸ 2010: Amended: standard for receiving an AoE award.

(i) endorsed photocopies of certificates may be submitted in lieu of originals.

- 5.3.9 If the cat is registered with a Member or Provisional Member Body of the ACF (Inc.) application must be certified by and submitted through the ACF (Inc.) Member or Provisional Member Body to the ACF (Inc.) Titles Registrar.
- 5.3.10 If the cat is registered with a CCCA Member Body as listed in By-Laws Part 1 sub-clause 3.2.1.1 application may be made through the ACF (Inc.) Member or Provisional Member Body in the state of residence; or may be sent direct to the ACF (Inc.) Titles Registrar, with relevant original certificates, payment and a copy of the cat's Certificate of Registration.
- 5.3.11 The application form is available from ACF (Inc.) Member or Provisional Member Body, the ACF (Inc.) web site or from the ACF (Inc.) Secretary.

5.4. ACF (INC.) COMPANION AWARD OF HONOUR⁹

- 5.4.1 All adult companion cats registered with any Member or ¹⁰Provisional Member Body of ACF (Inc.) or CCCA members as listed in By-Laws Part 1 sub-clause 3.2.1.1 are eligible.
- (a) Cats must be entered in the class by the Show Manager. The class is to be a **FREE CLASS**.
- (b) Maximum Certificates to be awarded per show are:
- (i) One certificate per ring per show:
- awarded to the Best Adult Companion in Show where a minimum of three (3)¹¹ adult companions are entered; and
 - where the cat is the highest placed adult companion in the top three (3) awards.
- 5.4.2 In the case of "multiple rings" show, each ring to be considered as a "separate show" and certificates to be awarded accordingly.
- 5.4.3 There are eight levels available:
- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------------|-----------|
| (a) | Companion Award of Honour | (AoH) |
| (b) | Bronze Companion Award of Honour | (AoH/Bze) |
| (c) | Silver Companion Award of Honour | (AoH/Sil) |
| (d) | Gold Companion Award of Honour | (AoH/Gld) |
| (e) | Sapphire Companion Award of Honour | (AoH/Sap) |
| (f) | Ruby Companion Award of Honour | (AoH/Rby) |
| (g) | Emerald Companion Award of Honour | (AoH/Emd) |
| (h) | Diamond Companion Award of Honour | (AoH/Dia) |
- 5.4.4 A record of certificates issued at each show to be kept and checked by each Member Body's title recorder, who shall verify applications.
- 5.4.5 Application Fee: \$25.00 for each level of application.
- 5.4.6 Applications for each level must be:
- (a) made on the appropriate form and accompanied by the relevant ten (10)¹² original Award of Honour Certificates which qualify for the title according to the necessary requirements, as shown above along with payment.
- (i) endorsed photocopies of certificates may be submitted in lieu of originals.
- 5.4.7 If the cat is registered with a Member or Provisional Member Body of the ACF (Inc.) application must be certified by and submitted through the ACF (Inc.) Member or Provisional Member Body to the ACF (Inc.) Titles Registrar.
- 5.4.8 If the cat is registered with a CCCA Member Body as listed in By-Laws Part 1 sub-clause 3.2.1.1 application may be made through the ACF (Inc.) Member or Provisional Member Body in the state of residence; or may be sent direct to the ACF (Inc.) Titles Registrar, with relevant ten (10) original certificates, payment and a copy of the cat's Certificate of Registration.
- 5.4.9 The application form is available from ACF (Inc.) Member or Provisional Member Body, the ACF (Inc.) web site or from the ACF (Inc.) Secretary.

⁹ 2016: Added New category for Domestic cats

¹⁰ 2019 Amended to include Provisional Member Body and to maintain consistency of terms with other By-Laws.

¹¹ 2019: Amended number of entries required from 5 to 3.

¹² 2019: Amended number of awards required for each status from 15 to 10

5.5. ACF (INC.) (ENCOURAGEMENT) AWARD¹³

5.5.1 The purpose and eligibility are defined as:

- (a) an encouragement award, to be awarded to an exhibit, which in the designated judge's opinion represents noteworthy progress in a difficult-to-achieve aspect of that breed;
- (b) it is open to all pedigree exhibits at any ACF (Inc.) Member or ¹⁴Provisional Member Body's show;
- (c) a judges' slip for the award will be provided to the designated judge.

¹³ 2015: Added section to define requirements for ACF Award.

¹⁴ 2019: Amended to include Provisional Member Body and to maintain consistency of terms with other By-Laws.