

Section: 3. Judges' Qualifications and Recognition of Judges

3.1. General

- 3.1.1. Judges in all categories are:
- a) required to use the ACF Inc. Book of Standards when judging for an ACF Inc. Member Body or one of its associated clubs; and
 - b) encouraged to join the ACF Inc. Judges' Guild.

3.2. Cadet Judge

- 3.2.1. Those who have been accepted into this training programme are known as Cadet Judges.
- 3.2.2. Training shall be undertaken in accordance with the Judges Training Curriculum.
- 3.2.3. If already an Open/Senior Judge in another breed group, the individual becomes a Cadet Judge in the group for which they are undertaking training.

3.3. Junior Judge

- 3.3.1. Those who have satisfactorily completed training as a Cadet Judge and are undertaking a mentor-assessed period of skill development similar to an internship becomes a Junior Judge in the group for which they have just qualified. This also applies to an Open/Senior Judge for another breed group extending their licence.
- 3.3.2. Assessments shall be undertaken in accordance with the Judges Training Curriculum.
- 3.3.3. As breed standards have been written for adult exhibits, a Junior Judge can judge and issue certificates/awards applicable, for all pedigreed or companion exhibits, and side-class.
- 3.3.4. A Junior Judge shall only judge for Member Bodies within their own state or territory, except where a Junior Judge is an already qualified Open Judge in another group, in which case they may undertake a junior assignment interstate in conjunction with an open assignment if the club concerned agrees to this and a suitably qualified ACF National Panel Judge is available to supervise the junior assignment.

3.4. Open Judge

- 3.4.1. An Open Judge must be at least 18 years of age at the time of appointment.
- 3.4.2. Judges who have satisfactorily completed the requirements specified for Junior Judges can be accepted on to the Open Judges Panel of a Member Body.
- 3.4.3. Open Judges can judge all classes in the group/s for which they have qualified and been appointed. They are eligible to judge interstate for any Cat Control Body recognised by ACF Inc. [refer to ACF Inc. By-Laws Part 1: Clauses 1.3 and 1.4].

3.5. Senior Judge

- 3.5.1. An Open Judge can be designated a Senior Judge after completing 6 judging assignments.
- 3.5.2. Senior Judges can be recommended by their Member Body, for listing on the ACF Inc. National Panel of Judges in the manner specified in Section 3: Clause 3.6.2.

3.6. ACF Inc. National Judges

- 3.6.1. Judges who are listed on a Member Body's open panel of judges and have been accepted by the ACF Inc. for inclusion on its National Panel of Judges are known as ACF Inc. National Judges.
- 3.6.2. When submitting the names of judges for inclusion on the ACF Inc. National Panel of Judges (whether new judges or those already listed for another group) the Member Body Secretary shall complete the required form [refer to FORM X7/ X7A] and forward to the

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Secretary AFC Inc.

- 3.6.3. Listing on the ACF Inc. National Panel of Judges is subject to:
- ACF Inc. being satisfied as to the judges' qualifications;
 - receipt by the Secretary ACF Inc. of the signed ACF Inc. Judges Code of Ethics [refer to FORM X6] and Judges Details for Web listing [refer FORM X8];
 - being an Active Judge as defined under Section 1 clause 1.1(h); and
 - being normally domiciled in Australia.
- 3.6.4. A list of all ACF Inc. National Judges will be compiled and maintained by the Secretary ACF Inc.
- 3.6.5. The list will be updated regularly and be sent to the Member Body to check that the details shown for their judges are current and that the judges listed are active judges.
- 3.6.6. Where a judge has been deemed inactive they may continue to be listed as such on the National Panel of Judges.
- 3.6.7. Australian National Judges are eligible to officiate at ACF Inc. National Shows.

3.7. ACF Inc. International Judges

- 3.7.1. Judges who are listed on the ACF Inc. National Panel of Judges and have been accepted to be listed on the ACF Inc. International Panel of Judges are known as ACF Inc. International Judges. The list will be maintained in the manner of the ACF Inc. National Panel as outlined in Section 3: Clauses 3.6.3 to 3.6.5.
- 3.7.2. Acceptance on to the International Panel of Judges is subject to completing the required documentation [refer to FORM X9] and providing proof of having undertaken the overseas assignment/s to the Secretary ACF Inc.
- 3.7.3. Documents providing acceptable proof of overseas assignments include (but are not limited to) relevant page/s of the show catalogue, with translation where necessary, documentation provided to the judge by an international cat organization hosting the assignment and/or a letter from the host club/council attesting to completion of the assignment.
- 3.7.4. Judges who have been accepted on to the ACF (Inc.) National Panel of Judges who originally qualified as judges outside Australia must provide proof of assignments undertaken overseas as per Section 3: Clause 3.7.3 before being accepted on to the ACF Inc. International Panel of Judges.
- 3.7.5. Where ACF Inc. Judges have participated in an overseas group tour, the organiser of the tour can provide a group submission, with proof as outlined above of judging assignments undertaken, in lieu of individual submissions from participating judges.

3.8. Judges Transferring from a Body recognised by ACF

- 3.8.1. Judges transferring from a Cat Control Body, which has mutual recognition with the ACF Inc. [as defined in ACF By-Laws Part 1: Clauses 1.3 and 1.4], to a Member Body will be accepted at a level appropriate to their training and experience by the Member Body as evidenced by the licence issued by the former Cat Control Body and by the last 3 judging assignments undertaken.
- After acceptance of a transferring judge onto its own Judges' Panel, and the subsequent recognition of that judge as a Senior Judge (if not Senior when accepted), a Member Body may recommend this judge for listing on the ACF (Inc.) National Panel of Judges [refer to FORM X10].
- 3.8.2. Listing on the ACF Inc. National Panel of Judges is subject to:
- ACF Inc. being satisfied as to the judges' qualifications;
 - receipt by the Secretary ACF Inc. of the signed ACF Inc. Judges Code of Ethics [refer to FORM X6] and Judges Details for Web listing [refer FORM X8];
 - being an active judge as defined under Section 1 clause 1.1(h); and

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- d) being normally domiciled in Australia.
- 3.8.3. Judges transferring with a new Member Body which was mutually recognised previously with the ACF Inc. [as defined in ACF By-Laws Part 1: Clauses 1.3 and 1.4], will be accepted at a level appropriate to their training and experience by ACF Inc. as evidenced by the licence issued by the former Cat Control Body and by the last 3 judging assignments undertaken.
- a) the subsequent recognition of that judge as a Senior Judge (if not Senior when accepted), the new Member Body may recommend this judge for listing on the Australian National Panel of Judges [refer to FORM X10].
- b) listing on the ACF Inc. National Panel of Judges is subject to compliance with Section 3: Clause 3.8.2.
- 3.8.4. A person transferring from a Cat Control Body, which has mutual recognition with the ACF Inc. [as defined in ACF By-Laws Part 1: Clauses 1.3 and 1.4], to a Member Body [or with a new Member Body under Section 3: Clause 3.8.3] who is yet to complete their judge's training [ie. does not hold the ACF equivalent of Open Judge status] under their former Cat Control Body will have their existing training assessed and where applicable recognised as prior learning [RPL].
- a) The ACF Member Body will:
- (i) determine the stage of training reached and the requirements necessary in order to complete training under the ACF Judge Training Programme; and
- (ii) with the agreement of the person transferring:
- set out in writing the requirements to be completed to achieve ACF Open Judge status [refer to FORM 14]; and
 - appoint the Tutor Panel.
- b) The Member Body may seek the opinion of the ACF Inc. Judges Guild as to the sufficiency of the agreed requirements reached under clause 3.8.4 (a) (ii) above.
- c) Following the subsequent recognition of that judge as a Senior Judge, the Member Body may recommend the judge for listing on the Australian National Panel of Judges [refer to FORM X10 & X10A].
- d) Listing on the ACF Inc. National Panel of Judges is subject to compliance with Section 3: Clause 3.8.2.
- 3.8.5. A person transferring from a Cat Control Body, which has mutual recognition with the ACF Inc. [as defined in ACF By-Laws Part 1: Clauses 1.3 and 1.4], to a Member Body [or with a new Member Body under Section 3: Clause 3.8.3] who is deemed to be an inactive judge by their previous Cat Control Body will have requirements necessary to "reactivate" their licence assessed [refer to MODULE 6].
- a) The Member Body shall, taking into consideration their previous experience as a judge and the length of time they have been absent from judging determine, with the agreement of the returning judge:
- (i) the requirements of a refresher course of training with emphasis on breeds /colours/patterns added since their absence from judging; and
- (ii) the Tutor Panel which in this case shall comprise 3 ACF National Panel of Judges that satisfy the requirements of Section 2: clause 2.3.2.
- b) Following satisfactory completion of the requirements under clause 3.8.5 (a)(i) undertake a competency assessment comprising:
- (i) a written assessment of their knowledge of the ACF Breed Standards in the relevant Group/s with emphasis on any new breeds/colours/patterns added since their absence from judging; and
- (ii) a practical assessment of their judging competency as per the ACF Judges Training Curriculum.
- c) The Member Body may seek the opinion of the ACF Inc. Judges Guild as to the sufficiency of the agreed requirements reached under clause 3.8.5 (a) & (b) above.

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- d) The results of the competency assessment may require the person to undertake a further course of training and/or judging assignments.
- e) Following the subsequent recognition of that judge as a Senior Judge, the Member Body may recommend the judge for listing on the Australian National Panel of Judges [refer to FORM X10 & X10B].
- f) Listing on the ACF Inc. National Panel of Judges is subject to compliance with Section 3: Clause 3.8.2.

3.9. Judges Transferring from a Body not recognised by ACF

- 3.9.1. Judges transferring from a Cat Control Body not recognised by ACF Inc. [as defined in ACF By-Laws Part 1: Clauses 1.3 and 1.4] will be required to apply to their Member Body providing documentation of their training, level of experience (licence) and evidence of the last 3 judging assignments undertaken [refer to FORM X11 & X11A].
- 3.9.2. The application and documentation will be forwarded to the Secretary ACF Inc. who will seek the opinion of the ACF Inc. Judges Guild Executive for implementation of competency assessment as follows:
 - a) require the competency of their training and experience be assessed by a panel of 3 ACF National Panel Judges as follows [refer to Module 6]:
 - (i) undertake a "refresher" course of training [refer to Module 6];
 - b) following satisfactory completion of the requirements under clause 3.9.2 (a)(i) undertake a competency assessment comprising:
 - (i) a written/verbal assessment of their knowledge of ACF Breed Standards; and
 - (ii) a practical assessment of their judging competency as per the ACF Judges Training Curriculum and that:
 - the practical assessment be carried out at a show/s in order to achieve a minimum of 20 cats representative of 75% of the breeds/colours/patterns in each of the relevant Group/s.
 - c) results of the competency assessment may require the judge to undertake a further course of training and/or judging assignments.
- 3.9.3. This opinion will be conveyed to the ACF Inc. Executive Committee. The ACF Inc. Executive Committee will make the final decision regarding the status of the application and advise the Member Body accordingly. The ACF Inc. Executive Committee will manage the competency assessment process.
- 3.9.4. Following the subsequent recognition of that judge as an active Senior Judge, the Member Body may recommend the judge for listing on the Australian National Panel of Judges [refer to FORM X11 & X11A].
- 3.9.5. Section 3: Clause 3.6 may then apply if the judge's qualifications and experience are acceptable.

3.10. Judges transferring between ACF Member Bodies

- 3.10.1. Judges transferring from an ACF Member Body to another ACF Member Body will be accepted at a level appropriate to their training and experience by the Member Body as evidenced by the licence issued by the former Member Body/ACF (Inc.) and provided they are an active judge [as defined in Section 1: Clause 1.1(h)].
 - a) After acceptance of a transferring judge onto its own Judges' Panel, and the subsequent recognition of that judge as a Senior Judge (if not Senior when accepted), a Member Body may recommend this judge for listing as its Member Body Judge on the ACF (Inc.) National Panel of Judges [refer to FORM X15].
- 3.10.2. If the transferring Judges is deemed as an inactive judge they shall comply with the provisions of Section 3: clause 3.11.

3.11. An ACF Judge Re-Activating Licence

- 3.11.1. An Open/Senior Judge previously on a Member Body or the ACF National Panel of Judges, who has been declared inactive [as defined in Section 1: Clause 1.1(h)], will have requirements necessary to "reactivate" their licence assessed [refer to Module 6].
- 3.11.2. The Tutor Panel will determine, with the agreement of the returning judge:
 - a) to undertake a refresher course of training before assessment under sub-clause 3.11.2 (b); OR
 - b) to immediately undertake a competency assessment comprising:
 - (i) a written assessment of their knowledge of the ACF Breed Standards in the relevant Group/s with emphasis on any new breeds/colours/patterns added since their absence from judging; and
 - (ii) a practical assessment of their judging competency as per the ACF Judges Training Curriculum.
- 3.11.3. The results of the competency assessment may require the judge to undertake a further course of training and/or judging assignments.
- 3.11.4. Following the subsequent recognition of that judge as an active Senior Judge, the Member Body may recommend the judge for listing on the Australian National Panel of Judges [refer to FORM X12].
- 3.11.5. Listing on the ACF Inc. National Panel of Judges is subject to compliance with Section 3: Clause 3.6.3.

3.12. Judges Ongoing Professional Development

- 3.12.1. Each Member Body Judges Group [however named] should ensure that all their Judges are required to inform themselves on any new breeds/colours/patterns or changes to breeds/colours/patterns recognised by the ACF General Meeting in that year.
- 3.12.2. This may be through:
 - a) attendance at organised group seminars/workshops; or
 - b) independent research and presentation at seminar/workshop.
- 3.12.3. Separate from judging assignments, to maintain their knowledge, Member Body Judges should participate in a minimum of any 2 of the following annually:
 - a) Research and provide a paper on a selected topic [not to be restricted to only breeds, but topics requiring higher-level, process and analytical skills]; or
 - b) Participate in a seminar/workshop conducted by the Member Body Judges Group or another Member Body Judges Group; or
 - c) Undertake refresher examinations requiring higher-level, process and analytical skills rather than merely rote recall.
 - d) Attend a seminar/workshop conducted by the ACF Judges Guild or another Cat Control Body.

3.13. Miscellaneous

- 3.13.1. Any judge regardless of affiliation, who is found guilty by a court of law on a charge or charges pertaining to any matter injurious or prejudicial to the aims and objectives or reputation of the Cat Fancy shall not be recognized as a judge by the ACF Inc. or its Member Bodies.