



1 Purpose of the Code of Conduct

- 1.1 To provide members of the Feline Control Council WA (Inc) with a framework for appropriate conduct. This includes behaviour towards other FCCWA members, judges, general community members and cats.
- 1.2 The core principles that underpin the organisation must be the welfare of all cats that fall within the scope of FCCWA and the protection of the integrity of FCCWA pedigrees
- 1.3 Incorporated in this Code of Conduct is a Code of Ethics for all members who wish to be recognised as Registered Breeders. All FCCWA Registered breeders must agree to uphold and respect this Code of Ethics in their actions and dealings within the Cat Fancy.

2 General Principles of Conduct

General principles to guide the behaviour of FCCWA members include that all members must:

- a) Act with reasonable care and diligence
- b) Act with honesty and integrity
- c) Act lawfully
- d) Avoid damage to the reputation of the FCCWA (Inc)
- e) Treat others with respect and fairness.
- f) Abide by any rules, regulations or guidelines as determined by FCCWA (Inc) including Breeding, Showing, membership of Governing Council or any other activity. Such regulations will be available on the FCCWA website.
- g) Comply with the WA Cat Act (2011) and any other relevant legislation.

2 Rules of Conduct

All members of the Feline Control Council of Western Australia (Inc) will abide by the following:



3.1 They WILL:

- a) Act appropriately and treat people with respect, never being derogatory in their speech or manner
- b) Act in the best interests of the Association (FCCWA) and not seek to gain any advantage for themselves, their family or friends
- c) Act in a way that is fair and unbiased
- d) Seek to resolve any conflict or dispute amicably in the best interests of the FCCWA.
- e) Declare or avoid (where practical) any conflict of interest whereby an individual may gain an unfair advantage at the expense of other FCCWA members, show participants or the organisation.
- f) Desex all non-pedigree cats and any pedigree cat that they intend to keep that is not part of a breeding program
- g) Care properly for all cats that they own or are responsible for, providing proper housing, food and veterinary care, and not permit them to roam at large
- h) Microchip all cats and kittens as soon as practical.
- i) Provide information and access as required by Governing Council to resolve issues and/or complaints.

3.2 They WILL NOT:

- a) Act , write or speak in a way that may be perceived as bullying, intimidation, abusive, discriminatory or derogatory
- b) Use any confidential information for their personal advantage or the advantage or disadvantage of any FCCWA member
- c) Use confidential information to disadvantage or discredit the FCCWA
- d) Bring the FCCWA into disrepute by their actions, decisions or behaviour
- e) Speak or claim to speak or give the impression that they speak on behalf of the FCCWA or claim to be representing the FCCWA unless duly authorised by the Governing Council
- f) sell or dispose of cats or kittens to or through pet shops or agents, markets or animal shelters, or allow any cat or kitten to be given as a prize or donation of any kind, nor act as an agent; for a third party in the sale or disposal of cats or kittens EXCEPT when participating in the rescue of cats or kittens.



4 Breeders Code of Ethics

All members who wish to be recognised as Registered Breeders must agree to uphold and respect this Code of Ethics in their actions and dealings within the Cat Fancy

- 4.1 F.C.C.W.A. (Inc) Breeders shall maintain comprehensive records of all cats owned by them, all litters bred and the names and addresses of new owners of kittens sold by them.
- 4.2 The Breeder shall breed for the health, quality, temperament and the betterment of the breed. It is the responsibility of the Breeder to ensure that a prospective new owner who wishes to either breed or show the cat/kitten is provided with the best potential show or breeding cat/kitten available. Cats/kittens with breed faults or sub-standard animals SHOULD NOT be sold for breeding and showing.
- 4.3 Breeders shall maintain the best standard of health and care for their cats and keep only the number of cats which can properly be cared for and protected from illness and stress related problems.
- 4.4 Breeding cats shall be immunised regularly and tested against diseases
- 4.5 It is the responsibility of the Breeder to ensure that the animal will be given a permanent home and not passed on without due consideration for its welfare.
- 4.6 It is the responsibility of the Breeder to ensure, as far as possible, that the prospective new owner/s know how to care for the cat/kitten.
- 4.7 Breeders should make themselves available to novice Breeders or Owners for advice and guidance, especially those who have purchased cats/kittens from them.
- 4.8 No cat or kitten shall be sold to, or through, an Agent who in turn will sell them on to new Owners. (e.g. Pet Shops) Cats and kittens may be offered for sale at a Show but must not be sold and removed from the Show by new owners. All sales of cats and kittens should be conducted at the Registered Breeders premises. Any Members breeding and/or selling to the export market will have their membership revoked.
- 4.9 The Pedigree, Veterinary Immunisation Certificate and Certificate of Registration are the birthright of the cat or kitten and are not to be withheld for extra payment. The price must include these whether the animal is sold for breeding, showing, or as a pet.
- 4.10 Transfer of ownership of the cat/kitten must be effected within 30 days of the gift or sale to a new Owner.



- 4.11 Transfer may be made for "Breeding" or "Non-Breeding". "Non-Breeding" means that should the cat produce kittens, none of the progeny can be registered. The kitten is to be desexed. It is the responsibility of the Breeder to explain to the new owner the meaning of the "Non-Breeding" status. It is also important to point out to the new owner that, by signing the transfer application form, they are signing a contract to have the cat/kitten desexed.
- 4.12 Matings: Agreements between the parties should be made regarding the costs and re-mating if applicable. The owner of the queen should make these arrangements well in advance and forewarn the owner of the stud of the impending visit of the queen. It is the responsibility of the stud's owner to witness at least three matings during the time that the queen is at stud. The stud service fee is payable and the completed certificate of service is to be provided at the time of service unless other terms have been agreed between the two parties.
- 4.13 The owner of a stud male will not accept unregistered females for service and will ensure that the female is owned and registered in the name of a financial member of a recognised registering Body.
- 4.14 Owners of queens will not use unregistered males for service and will ensure that the male is owned and registered in the name of a financial member of a recognised cat registering Body. Progeny of matings between unregistered animals or animals belonging to unregistered Breeders WILL NOT BE REGISTERED.
- 4.15 All kittens of a litter must be registered with the Feline Control Council of W.A. (Inc)
- 4.16 The cat/kitten should be in the best possible health and condition before it goes to a new home.
- 4.17 As far as possible it should be free from internal and external parasites, e.g. ear mites, fleas and intestinal worms.
- 4.18 No kitten should be sold until at least 10/12 weeks of age and the Breeder must ensure that the kitten is of sufficient maturity to cope with the move to a new home.
- 4.19 All cats/kittens should be immunised against Feline Infectious Enteritis, Feline Rhinotracheitis and Feline Calicivirus (Fe3 Vaccination)
- 4.20 Kittens or Cats sold or placed in a breeding program will be tested for known heritable genetic defects/diseases by DNA tests available at the time. The purchaser must be made aware of the test results and if a cat/kitten is identified as a carrier or affected the breeder/purchaser must provide FCCWA with a signed statement that they are aware of the results if they wish to proceed with the purchase/placement.



- a. Collection of Bucal Swab for DNA testing
 - i. Cat/kitten being tested must be microchipped PRIOR to sample being taken
 - ii. Cat/kitten name, registration number and microchip number must be noted on test results from the DNA Laboratory
 - iii. Person taking the swabs must sign a declaration stating the date, name , registration number and microchip number of the cat/kitten
 - iv. Test results and the declaration may be forwarded to the FCCWA so that the results are recorded on the health file of the registered cat/kitten
 - v. Breeders found to have falsified DNA results will be immediately suspended

5 Breaches of the Code of Conduct

5.1 Disciplinary action in accordance with the Disciplinary Policy may be taken against any person who breaches this Code of Conduct.

6 Revision and Approval History

Date	Revision No.	Author and Approval
13.11.2011	1	L Horton, approved by Governing Council 21.11.11
15.09.2013	2	Insertion of clause 4.20 as approved by Governing Council 19.08.2013
20.10.2014	3	Insertion of clause 3.1 i as approved by Governing Council 18.08.2014