

# CHARTREUX CAT CLUB UK

## CONSTITUTION AND CLUB RULES

December 2016

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## 1. NAME AND OBJECTIVES

The Club will be called Chartreux Cat Club UK and is hereafter referred to in these Rules as CCCUK. CCCUK is a non-profit making organisation. Its objectives are to encourage interest in the Chartreux breed, to safeguard their well-being and long-term health and to give Club Members advice regarding the breeding and welfare of cats. These objectives will be achieved amongst other means by:

- a) Maintaining the integrity of the Chartreux breed through selective breeding, including outcrossing to the breed(s) detailed in the Registration Policy but not to any other breed of cat, nor altering the shape, colour or demeanour of the breed from the approved Standard.
- b) After CCCUK is granted membership of the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, participating in the GCCF Breed Advisory Scheme to:
  - i. Select prospective judges of the Chartreux and recommend them to GCCF for appointment.
  - ii. Publish, review and maintain the breed Standard of Points, Registration Policy and Breeding Policy.
  - iii. Make recommendations to GCCF on all matters relating to the breed.
- c) Providing opportunities for meetings and the exchange of information and views.
- d) Developing a breeders mentoring scheme.
- e) After CCCUK is granted membership of GCCF, actively participating in the running of the cat fancy through the appointment of a Delegate to the GCCF Council.
- f) Organising an annual CCCUK Show (not obligatory).
- g) Aiming to have the breed present at shows and exhibitions.

## 2. MEMBERSHIP

CCCUK will consist of:

- i. Ordinary Members.
  - ii. Honorary Members.
- a) Applications for membership are to be in writing. Election is by a majority vote of the Committee. Should membership be refused, no reasons need to be given to the applicant.
  - b) The Committee may propose as Honorary Members individuals who have rendered outstanding service to the Chartreux breed. The appointment(s) will be confirmed at the next AGM. Honorary Members do not have voting rights.
  - c) If, in the opinion of the Committee, the conduct of any Member may have been prejudicial to the welfare, breeding or exhibiting of cats or is likely to prove injurious to the character, reputation or interest of CCCUK, the Committee must give the Member details of the allegation in writing and give the Member at least 28 days to respond either in writing or in person as the Member chooses. After giving the Member the opportunity of being heard, the Committee may determine to:
    - i. Take no further action in which case the Member must be informed of this.
    - ii. Issue a warning to the Member.
    - iii. Suspend the Member for such period as it thinks fit.
    - iv. Expel the Member from CCCUK.

- d) If the Committee determine that the Member should be suspended or expelled from CCCUK, the Secretary will send to the Member full details in writing, including any evidence they hold, of the reason(s) for the suspension or expulsion. Within 28 days of the issue of this notice the Member may:
- i. Accept the decision of the Committee. If no written response is received by the Secretary within 28 days, the Member will be deemed to have accepted the decision.
  - ii. Appeal the decision and request the appeal to be heard at a General Meeting of CCCUK. The Member may respond at the Meeting, either orally or in writing. If the proposal to suspend or expel the Member is passed by a simple majority of the Members present and voting, the Member, whose suspension or expulsion is sought, will cease to be a Member immediately.
  - iii. Appeal the decision via the GCCF Appeals Committee in accordance with and accepting the rules of operation of that committee.
- N.B. only one of these options may be selected.
- e) If a Member has been suspended by GCCF, his or her membership of CCCUK will automatically be suspended for the same period. Any such Member wishing to re-join CCCUK after their suspension ends must apply to the Committee for readmission.
- f) If a Member resigns from CCCUK or has the membership withdrawn, any rights to or claim upon CCCUK's property or funds shall be forfeit. In the event of resignation or expulsion under these Rules of a Long Term Member, no part of the subscription shall be refundable.

### **3. DUTIES OF MEMBERS**

- a) Membership of CCCUK implies acceptance of its rules and objectives.
- b) Every Member is expected to promote the objectives of CCCUK. Any suggestions for furthering these objectives should be sent in writing to the Secretary, who will include the item(s) on the agenda of the next Committee Meeting.
- c) All Officers and Members of CCCUK who have custody of any books, documents, accounts, property or monies belonging to CCCUK shall, on request, surrender them to the Committee.
- d) Members will agree to abide by the GCCF Code of Ethics for Breeders and Owners.

### **4. SUBSCRIPTIONS**

- a) The subscriptions for 2016 and 2017 will cover the period to 31 December 2019. The same applies to the subscriptions for 2018. From 1 January 2020 the subscriptions will be annual and payable on 1 January by existing Members.
- b) The subscriptions will be reviewed annually at the AGM.
- c) The membership of Members failing to pay their subscriptions by 30 June will be considered lapsed.
- d) No Member whose subscription is unpaid is entitled to vote at an AGM or Special General Meeting.
- e) Lapsed Members will be treated as non-members when applying for readmission to CCCUK

## 5. MANAGEMENT

- a) The business of CCCUK will be managed by a Committee comprising eight elected Members of CCCUK, three of whom will be the Officers.
- b) Individuals must have been fully paid up Members of CCCUK for at least 2 years before standing for the Committee. This does not apply to the Members who form the Committee.
- c) The Officers shall to be the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, who will be elected from the Committee by the Committee at the AGM for a period of 3 years and will be eligible for re-election.
- d) After CCCUK is established as a member of GCCF, two Members of the Committee will retire annually in rotation, but will be eligible for re-election. The format for starting the rotation will be decided by the Committee before the papers are sent out for the next AGM. Following establishment of the rotation, Committee Members will serve for 4 years before re-election.
- e) In the event of an unforeseen vacancy arising on the Committee, the Committee may co-opt a Member, who will have full voting rights. This Member will take the place of the previous Committee Member in the rotation for election and this co-option must be ratified at the next AGM.
- f) The Committee may co-opt a Member to the Committee even if no vacancy exists. In this case, that Member will not have voting rights on the Committee, but may then stand for election at the next AGM, from which time, if they are elected, their term of office will start.
- g) The Committee may appoint such sub-committees, working parties or additional positions as are necessary. The Members of these need not be Committee Members.
- h) The Committee will have the power to make bye-laws consistent with these Rules to cover any matter arising in the management of CCCUK and to deal with any question not provided for in these Rules.
- i) The Committee may nominate a President for election by the Members at an AGM, who will remain in office for life. No duties are imposed upon a President apart from sympathy with the objectives of CCCUK.
- j) The Committee may nominate a Vice-President for election by the Members at an AGM, who will remain in office for life. No duties are imposed upon a Vice-President apart from sympathy with the objectives of CCCUK.
- k) The Committee may nominate Honorary Members for election by the Members at an AGM, who will remain in office for life. No duties are imposed upon Honorary Members apart from sympathy with the objectives of CCCUK.
- l) The President, Vice-President and Honorary Members may attend meetings and speak out, but will have no vote unless they are also a fully paid up Members of CCCUK.
- m) Committee Members or Officers of CCCUK may not serve on the committee of another UK Chartreux breed club.

## 6. ELECTIONS

- a) Nominations proposing and seconding eligible persons for membership of the Committee together with the written consent of the person so nominated, except existing Committee Members who are agreeable to stand for re-election, must reach the Secretary no later than 6 weeks prior to the advertised date of the AGM. All nominees are to provide a statement of no more than 70 words explaining their background and what they wish to contribute to CCCUK if they are elected.

- b) In the event of more than one nomination being received for any one vacancy, voting is to be by a paper ballot at the AGM. Nominees receiving the highest number of votes will be elected until all vacancies are filled.
- c) A formal notice calling for the resignation of any Committee Member or Officer may be brought at the AGM.
  - i. The Member(s) making the proposal must write to the Chairman or Secretary at least 8 weeks before the AGM, giving full details why the resignation is being sought and naming the proposer and seconder for the proposal.
  - ii. At least 6 weeks before the AGM, the Chairman or Secretary will write to the Committee Member or Officer to inform them why their resignation is being sought. The Committee Member or Officer may respond to those matters either in writing or orally at the AGM.
  - iii. The proposal must be placed on the Agenda and all the evidence available circulated to the Members.
  - iv. If the motion to resign is passed by a simple majority of Members present and voting, the Secretary is to hold a postal ballot of all Members, and if two thirds or more of all Members voting support the motion, the person whose resignation is sought is to resign their office immediately. If this resignation is not received within seven days, the person concerned is to be suspended from Committee/Office membership with immediate effect. Individuals who have resigned or been suspended under this sub-paragraph will not be eligible for re-election for a period of 5 years.

## 7. MEETINGS

- a) Committee Meetings.
  - i. The Committee is to meet not less than three times in any Club year and at such meetings three voting Members and one Officer will form a quorum. Meetings may be held via virtual means if desired, but there must be at least one actual meeting of the Committee in each Club year. The Chairman, or in his or her absence, the Vice Chairman, will be the Presiding Officer.
  - ii. The date of the next Committee Meeting together with the Agenda to be published on the CCCUK Website by the Secretary not less than 4 weeks before the meeting. Members without access to the internet are to be sent the information by post.
  - iii. Every Committee Member present at the meeting will have one vote excluding the Presiding Officer.
  - iv. In the event of equal voting, the Presiding Officer will have the casting vote.
  - v. Any Member of the Committee who fails, without reasons considered sufficient by the Committee, to participate in at least half of the meetings called during the Club year, will cease to be a Member of the Committee and will not be eligible for immediate re-election. The Secretary will inform him or her of the Committee's decision.
- b) Annual General Meetings
  - i. An Annual General Meeting of CCCUK is to be held not later than 31 October each year, starting in 2017.
  - ii. An announcement advertising this meeting is to be placed with GCCF and published on the CCCUK Website at least three months in advance. Members without access to the internet are to be sent the information by post.

- iii. The Presiding Officer is to be the Chairman, or in his or her absence the Vice-Chairman.
- iv. The Agenda for the meeting together with the Minutes of the last AGM and a duly examined Statement of the Accounts for the preceding year ending 31 December, is to be published on the CCCUK Website not later than 28 days before the date of the Meeting. Members without access to the internet are to be sent the information by post.
- v. The quorum for an AGM is to be 7 fully paid up adult Members including the Committee and Officers.
- vi. Any Member wishing to have an item placed on the Agenda must inform the Secretary not later than 6 weeks prior to the advertised date of the AGM.
- vii. Every Member present at a Meeting will have one vote, excluding the Presiding Officer. In the event of equal voting the Presiding Officer will have the casting vote.
- viii. All matters will be decided by a simple majority of the votes cast except for amendments to these rules when two-thirds majority is required.

#### c) Special General Meetings

- i. A Special General Meeting (SGM) may be called by the Committee on receipt of a written request signed by at least 15 paid up Members, stating precisely the business to be discussed.
- ii. The SGM must be held not more than 3 months after the receipt of the request by the Members.
- iii. An announcement advertising the SGM is to be published on the CCCUK Website not less than 28 days before the meeting by the Secretary, together with the Agenda specifying the business to be discussed. Members without access to the internet are to be sent the information by post. No other business will be allowed. The quorum for a SGM will be 15 fully paid up adult Members including Committee and Officers.
- iv. The costs of an SGM will be met as follows:
  - a) If the SGM is called on the written request of members and their proposal(s) are:
    - i. Unproven or defeated, the Members calling the SGM will be liable for the costs of the meeting, including paper, postage and the hire of the meeting room.
    - ii. Proven, the costs of the SGM will be met by CCCUK.
  - b) The costs of an SGM called for other reasons will be met by CCCUK.

## 8. *TROPHIES*

Ownership of all donated trophies passes to CCCUK.

## 9. *AMENDMENT OF ROLES*

- a) No new Rules are to be made, nor any Rules be amended or rescinded, unless notice of the proposed changes has been given on the Agenda of an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, and unless the proposed changes have received the assent of at least two-thirds of the Members present at the Meeting.
- b) The Board of the GCCF must be notified of any changes to these Rules and they must be approved. The New Rules must be submitted in an electronic format and the changes highlighted.

## **10. FINANCES**

- a) All Club funds are to be deposited in an account in the name of Chartreux Cat Club UK.
- b) The financial year of CCCUK is to end on 31 December each year, to which date the Annual Accounts of CCCUK are to be balanced.
- c) The property of CCCUK is vested in the Committee.
- d) Payments, with the exception of sums under £50.00, are to be authorised by any two signatures of the nominated Committee Members or Officers, who may not come from the same household.
- e) The CCCUK Accounts are to be examined annually by a suitable independent person appointed at the AGM and eligible for re-appointment. In the case of the appointed person being unable to fulfil their duty, then another person shall be proposed and seconded at the next Committee Meeting.

## **11. MEMBERSHIP OF GCCF**

- a) CCCUK aims to become a Member of GCCF.
- b) Once CCCUK is affiliated to GCCF, it will nominate and elect its Delegate(s) by ballot at the AGM in the same manner as Committee Members are elected. They will hold office during the immediately succeeding official year of the Governing Council. If CCCUK is entitled to only one delegate, a substitute delegate is to be elected at the AGM.
- c) In the event of GCCF membership being granted, CCCUK and its Members will be bound by the Rules and disciplinary powers of GCCF.
- d) Following membership of GCCF, Members of the Committee and Officers will participate in the Chartreux Breed Advisory Committee. The number of BAC Representatives from CCCUK will be as laid down by GCCF according to the number of clubs participating in the BAC.

## **12. DISSOLUTION OR AMALGAMATION OF THE CLUB**

- a) Any proposal to dissolve or amalgamate CCCUK is to be decided by a ballot of all Members. A majority of at least two-thirds of the total Membership will be required to dissolve, or
- b) Amalgamate CCCUK with another Chartreux Club or Society.
- c) Should CCCUK's liabilities be greater than its assets when it is wound up, the committee members will be responsible for paying all the outstanding debts.

In the event that CCCUK is dissolved, its liabilities are to be discharged and any balance of funds donated to a charity promoting cat welfare chosen by the Committee. Trophies that are the property of CCCUK will be distributed to other clubs or sold at the discretion of the Committee if they cannot be returned to the original donor(s).