

## **CFA Cattery Standard Minimum Requirements**

For the purposes of this standard the following definitions shall apply:

- Person: An individual, firm, partnership, corporation, trust or any association of persons.
- CFA Cattery: Any person(s) who register a litter of kittens with the Cat Fanciers' Association or who has registered three or more cats with the Cat Fanciers' Association or who has registered a cattery name with the Cat Fanciers' Association.
- Cattery Facility: A building, room or area used to house cats.
- Primary Enclosure: A structure used to immediately restrict one or more cats to a limited amount of space, such as a room, pen, run, cage or compartment.
- Animal Cruelty: Any inhumane or abusive or neglectful treatment causing harm or death of a cat as determined by local law enforcement authorities.
- Cat-in-distress: A cat which is in jeopardy of life or limb, as determined by a qualified animal control officer or veterinarian.
- Litter: Material to be used by the cat for defecation or urination.
- Litter Pan: An enclosure or area in which the litter is placed for the cat to use.

### Standards - Cattery Facility

- The Cattery facility, whether it be a private residence, portion of a private residence or a separate structure not physically connected to a private residence, shall be structurally sound and maintained in good repair to protect the cats from injury, to protect the cats against overexposure to the elements, to contain the cats and to restrict the entrance of other animals.
- Supplies of food, bedding and interior building surfaces shall be maintained in a sanitary manner.
- Food shall be transported, handled and stored in a manner that ensures against the introduction of parasites, disease vectors (such as insects) or chemical contaminants. Supplies of dry food shall be stored in an area that is cool, dry, clean and free of vermin and other potential contaminants. Refrigeration shall be provided for supplies of perishable food. Conditions affecting the shelf life of food such as date of manufacture, exposure to extremes in temperature and humidity, exposure to moisture, unsanitary conditions, exposure to light, exposure to oxygen, and exposure to insects shall be monitored to prevent deterioration of the nutrient value of food.
- The facility shall be adequately heated and cooled to protect the cats from excessive cold and heat. The ambient temperature shall be maintained in a range that ensures that the cats will not suffer from heat stress (heat stroke or hyperthermia) nor from cold stress (frostbite or hypothermia).
- The facility shall be adequately ventilated to provide for the health and comfort of the cats at all times. The facility shall be provided with a source of fresh air by means of windows, doors, or vents and shall be ventilated in a manner that minimizes drafts, odors and moisture conditions.
- The facility shall have ample light of good quality by natural or artificial means or both. The lighting shall provide uniformly distributed illumination of sufficient

intensity to permit routine inspection, cleaning and provide for the well-being of the cats. The cats shall be protected from excessive illumination.

- When sunlight is likely to cause overheating or discomfort, sufficient shade shall be provided to allow cats to protect themselves from direct rays of the sun.
- An access to shelter shall be provided for cats to allow them to remain dry at all times.

#### Standards - Primary Enclosures

Primary enclosures shall provide a micro-environment that satisfies the standards for the Cattery Facility as well as the following additional standards:

- A primary enclosure shall be structurally sound and maintained in good repair to protect the cats from injury, to contain them, to keep other animals out, and to enable the cats to remain dry and clean.
- A primary enclosure shall provide sufficient space to allow each enclosed cat to turn freely and to easily stand, sit and lie in a comfortable position. The minimum primary enclosure space for a single 4 lbs. Or greater cat is to be 30 cubic feet. Where the primary enclosure is used for more than one cat, resting perches shall be provided.
- A primary enclosure shall be constructed and maintained so that cats therein have convenient access to clean food, water and litter.
- The number of cats in a primary enclosure shall not exceed the number which would prevent proper ventilation and sanitation.
- A primary enclosure shall not be constructed or maintained with an exposed wire mesh bottom or any other material that will injure the feet or legs of a cat.
- If the primary enclosure is not of sufficient size to allow the cat(s) to express their specialized locomotor patterns, then an area shall be made available for the cat(s) to exercise and scratch at least once a day.

#### Feeding and Water

- Cats shall be fed at least once each day except as otherwise required by a veterinarian. The foods shall be free from contamination and shall be wholesome, palatable and of sufficient quantity and nutritive value to meet the normal daily requirements for the condition and size of the cat. Food shall be provided in sufficient amounts to ensure normal growth in kittens and maintenance of normal body weight in adults.
- Food receptacles shall be accessible to all cats and shall be located to prevent contamination by excreta. Feeding dishes shall be kept clean. Self-feeders may be used for the feeding of dry food and shall be sanitized regularly to prevent molding, deterioration or caking of food.

#### Cleaning and Sanitation

- Primary enclosures, the cattery facility and storage spaces shall be cleaned with appropriate detergents and disinfectants as often as is necessary to keep them free of dirt, debris and harmful contamination.
- Easily accessible litter pans shall be provided for all cats at all times.
- Feces and soiled litter material shall be removed from all litter pans at least once a day.

- Absorbent litter and/or any other material used to absorb urine shall be changed when it becomes 30 percent saturated with urine.
- The cattery facility shall be kept clean and remain free of an accumulation of debris and excreta.
- All primary enclosures and accessory equipment, such as feeding bowls and watering devices, shall be washed and sanitized frequently to keep them clean and free from contamination.
- An effective program for the control of insects, ectoparasites and mammalian pests, if present, shall be established and maintained using animal safe products.

#### Health Care

- The cattery shall promptly provide medical care to any cat-in-distress and/or any cat exhibiting signs of severe illness.
- Cats shall be observed daily and diseased cats shall promptly be provided with medical care.
- A vaccination program, under advice of a veterinarian, is recommended.
- Cats shall be kept clean, free of severe coat mats and generally groomed sufficiently to maintain a healthy condition.

#### Cruelty

- Cats residing in the cattery facility shall be treated humanely and without neglect.
- Catteries shall not allow a cat to be deprived of necessary sustenance, deprived of potable water, deprived of clean quarters, deprived of protection from weather, beaten, mutilated, cruelly treated or allow, through neglect, any situation to exist or persist that would cause a cat-in-distress condition to occur or persist.

### **CFA Cattery of Distinction Guidelines**

The purpose of these awards is to acknowledge Catteries that have reached certain thresholds of Grands produced.

The number of Grands will be based on the registered cattery name, not individual breeders. Breeders who have bred under multiple cattery names may petition the Board to have the Grands from both cattery names combined for purposes of this award using this form. Grand Champions and Grand Premiers are counted equally, but if an individual cat achieves both titles it will only be counted once. Grands may be of one or multiple breeds.

Catteries who achieve these awards can display the following on their websites: "CFA Cattery of Distinction - Tier I" or the appropriate level. Banners for Cattery of Distinction websites may be found on our Link Buttons page.

For all Tiers, the cattery will receive a certificate suitable for framing from CFA, as well as recognition at the owner's Regional Awards Banquet. For Tier V and above, the owner will also receive acknowledgement at the National Awards Banquet with a suitable award.

- Tier I – 10 Grand Champions/Grand Premiers

- Tier II – 25 Grand Champions/Grand Premiers
- Tier III – 50 Grand Champions/Grand Premiers
- Tier IV – 75 Grand Champions/Grand Premiers
- Tier V – 100 Grand Champions/Grand Premiers
- Tier VI – 150 Grand Champions/Grand Premiers
- Tier VII – 200 Grand Champions/Grand Premiers
- Tier VIII – 250 Grand Champions/Grand Premiers
- Tier IX – 300 Grand Champions/Grand Premiers
- Tier X – 350 Grand Champions/Grand Premiers
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**Superior Embellishment:** At each tier, an additional ranking of “Superior” can be added if a certain number of DM’s accompanies the Grands. For example, if a cattery at Tier II (25 Grands) also has 3 DM’s, then they would be eligible for the award “CFA Cattery of Distinction – Tier II Superior.” The following number of DM’s would be required at each Tier:

Tier I – 1 DM (10 Grands)	Tier VI – 12 DM’s (150 Grands)
Tier II – 3 DM’s (25 Grands)	Tier VII – 16 DM’s (200 Grands)
Tier III – 4 DM’s (50 Grands)	Tier VIII – 20 DM’s (250 Grands)
Tier IV – 6 DM’s (75 Grands)	Tier IX – 25 DM’s (300 Grands)
Tier V – 8 DM’s (100 Grands)	Tier X – 30 DM’s (350 Grands)

This allows for both categories to be celebrated, putting a higher emphasis on quality over quantity. However, even if a cattery doesn’t achieve the superior rating, it doesn’t marginalize their achievements.

The Superior rating can be added after a Tier level increases. For example, a cattery that is at Tier II and only has 2 DM’s when they achieve 25 Grands can still merit the Superior rating if they achieve a 3rd DM before they reach Tier III. If they reach 50 grands without a 4th DM, they will lose the Superior rating until they achieve that 4th DM.

## **CFA Approved Cattery Environment Program**

A cattery environment inspection program exists for catteries registered with The Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc. (CFA). A cattery is a multiple-cat household maintained for the purpose of perpetuating and protecting the heritage and desirable traits of the various breeds of pedigreed cats. The program, which went into effect on July 1, 1992 offers CFA registered catteries an opportunity to voluntarily participate in the CFA Approved Cattery Environment Program (ACEP). The cattery inspections are conducted by licensed veterinarians, using criteria established by CFA. The ACEP program has two tiers: "CFA Approved Cattery" and "CFA Cattery of Excellence". The inspection and approval process encompasses the environmental conditions of the cattery. The cattery inspection form is a multi-part NCR form that will be mailed on request. Please send your request to [KWollam@cfa.org](mailto:KWollam@cfa.org), and be sure to include your mailing address.

### CFA Approved Cattery - Environment Inspection - INSTRUCTIONS

#### **I. CATTERY OWNER**

A completed Cattery Inspection form **MUST BE RECEIVED** in The Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc. (CFA) office **DIRECTLY** from the inspecting veterinarian. To facilitate this process, please provide the inspector with the enclosed pre-addressed and postage paid envelope and your check or money order in the amount of \$20.00 payable to The Cat Fanciers' Association.

#### **II. INSPECTING VETERINARIANS**

The Cat Fanciers' Association is relying heavily on your professionalism to ensure only those deserving, high quality catteries receive cattery approval ratings. If, for any reason, you feel a cattery does not meet the minimum standards specified on the inspection form, then please annotate the appropriate area(s) as "unacceptable". We request you do not pass any cattery with cats and/or kittens exhibiting signs of poor condition or contagious disease.

Inspectors must be licensed veterinarians in the state in which the inspection is conducted. Inspecting veterinarians can be active breeders/participants of CFA. However, any evidence of veterinarian client collusion on inspections will be investigated by the CFA Animal Welfare Committee.

Please ensure the owner(s) of the inspected cattery provide you with the complete inspection form, a check or money order for \$20.00 made payable to CFA, and a self-addressed, stamped envelope for you to mail the completed inspection form to CFA.

**INSPECTIONS NOT MAILED BY THE INSPECTING VETERINARIAN WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

6. Are there any required inspections for a cattery?

Catteries registered with The Cat Fanciers' Association (CFA) producing 75 or more kittens per year are required by CFA to undergo an annual veterinary inspection in order to ensure continued compliance with CFA's minimum cattery standards. We run the numbers every six months and for this period you have reached or surpassed this number of kittens. This figure is based on the number of kittens declared in the litters registered by your cattery in any given year. You may designate any licensed veterinarian to complete your inspection. The veterinarian's fee for this inspection is your responsibility. Please have the veterinarian mail the completed inspection form to the CFA Central Office along with our check or money order for \$20.00 made out to CFA for the cattery inspection program. Your cattery inspection certificate will be issued and mailed to you once the inspection has been accepted and logged.

In those cases involving multiple owners at different locations, or lease agreements requiring litters to be registered under one cattery name, the cattery and the location specified in the address of this letter is to be inspected. It is the policy of the CFA Board of Directors that catteries not complying with the mandatory inspection policy will have CFA services suspended until the cattery inspection has been completed. If the inspection is not completed within the 30 days you will be temporarily suspended and the non compliance policy will apply.

#### **Non-Compliance Policy**

1. If the inspection is not completed within the original 30 days but it is completed within 90 days (up to 60 days late) and the results are deemed satisfactory by the Animal Welfare Chairperson, their services may be restored upon payment to CFA of a \$100.00 processing fee.
2. If the inspection is not completed within 90 days, but it is completed within 150 days (120 days late) and the results are deemed satisfactory, their services may be restored upon payment to CFA of a \$200.00 processing fee.
3. If the inspection is not completed within 150 days of the demand (120 days late) the matter will be presented to the CFA Board at their next meeting and, if confirmed by the Board, published in the Almanac and on the CFA web site. (Board approved policy 10/7/06)

#### ***Suspension of Services Explanation***

Until services are reinstated to you, you will be disallowed from participating in any C.F.A. activity which is defined as utilizing CFA's registry services, acting in any capacity at a show or entering or presenting cats in a show ring or participating in a clerking school, participating in Breed Council, or as a delegate at the Annual Meeting. We will allow purchases of the Yearbook and Almanac, and other publication type items C.F.A. offers for sale (video, books, etc.). However, you will not be allowed to advertise in any CFA publication. You may remain a member of a member club.

### ***CFA Breeder Code of Ethics***

*As a breeder who uses the services of the world's largest registry of pedigreed cats,*

*I understand I have certain responsibilities to pedigreed cats and to the Cat Fanciers' Association (CFA).*

*I am aware that I am representative of CFA breeders in my community.*

*I will breed my cats with the intent of improving the breed and to produce healthy, happy kittens.*

*I will deal honestly with the purchasers of my kittens and cats.*

*To the best of my knowledge and ability I will not, without prior disclosure, sell any kitten/cat that is sick or has been exposed to an infectious disease.*

*I will not sell or place kittens prior to their attaining a proper level of immunity against common infectious diseases.*

*I will place cats directly to the new pet owner or in a manner that will enable contact with the ultimate owner to provide on-going education and advice.*

*I will strive to house my cats in a manner exceeding the CFA Minimum Cattery Standard.*

*I will ensure my cats are kept in a healthy environment and I will ensure they receive the proper veterinary care as needed.*

*I will maintain appropriate cattery records and will correctly register litters and cats.*

*I will work honestly with my fellow breeders and provide timely and correct litter registration information to those who use my cats for breeding.*

*I will mentor new breeders to ensure they have a solid information foundation.*