

THE SIAMESE & ORIENTAL CAT SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND

CONSTITUTION AND RULES Amended 2020, 2024, 2025

GENERAL

1. The name of the Society shall be "The Siamese and Oriental Cat Society of Scotland" herein referred to as **The Society**.
2. The Society's objectives will be to encourage those persons interested in keeping, breeding and/or exhibiting Siamese and/or Oriental cats, as well as promoting the welfare and improvement of the breed.
3. The Society will promote an annual Section 6 Cat Show in Scotland and afford support to other cat shows.
4. The Society shall be bounded by the Rules laid down by The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy (the "GCCF"), and membership of The Society shall constitute acceptance by the member of these rules and those of the Society.
5. All members are responsible, jointly and severally, for debts incurred by The Society but the liability of each member shall be limited to the amount of the current annual subscription.

MEMBERSHIP

6. Membership is open to all who support the Society's aims and objectives.
7. The following categories of membership are available:
 - a. Ordinary Single Member
 - b. Joint Member
 - c. Senior Member
 - d. Junior Member
 - e. Life Member
 - f. Honorary Life Member

Members in a) to e) shall pay such subscription as may be determined by an Annual General Meeting (AGM).
8. The following conditions apply to the above categories of membership as are applicable:
 - a. A Joint Member is defined as:
 - i. two or more people living in the same household, and/or

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- ii. two or more people sharing a joint prefix
- b. Junior Members of 16 years and under shall not be entitled to vote at meetings or be counted for the purposes of GCCF affiliation. Any member nominating a person for Junior Member status is responsible for the conduct of that Junior Member until such time as he/she exceeds the 16 years age limit.
- c. All applications for membership should be made on the appropriate form available from the Secretary of the Society. The applicant should confirm their acceptance of the conditions of membership as stated at paragraph 4 above, on the application form. The Committee reserve the right to refuse membership, and also to rescind membership from any member.
- d. Life Membership is available to all those persons who have been fully paid up members for ten consecutive years.
- e. The Society, at any Annual or General Meeting, may elect any existing member as an Honorary Life Member. Such Member shall not be liable for any subscription but will retain all rights pertaining to an Ordinary Single Member.
- f. A member may resign at any time by giving notice to the Secretary, normally in writing.
- g. The Committee has the right to terminate the membership of any member where their conduct is considered to be inconsistent with the objects of the Society. Prior to termination, the member should be given notice in writing of the Committee's intention and reason and the opportunity to show just cause why such action should not be taken, within 21 days from the date of the letter.

If the member fails to reply the termination of membership is deemed to be accepted. If after hearing from the member reasons why termination should not be affected, the Committee agrees that it should maintain its decision, the member has the right to have

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the matter considered by a General Meeting which should be called by the Secretary if so requested.

MANAGEMENT AND OFFICERS

9. The affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Committee consisting of three Officers - Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and between four and nine other members of the Society.
10. The Officers of the Society and the Committee Members shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting and shall hold office for three years retiring in rotation, the retiring Officer and Committee Members being eligible for re-election.
11. All nominations for Officers and Committee members of the Society shall be made in writing and delivered to the Secretary no later than **seven** days prior to the Annual General Meeting, the proposer and seconder of any nominee must be a member of The Society. The nominee should indicate on the form his/her agreement to stand for election. Should there be no nomination for an Officer or Committee member position at the time of the AGM, the Chair, at his/her discretion, can accept a nomination from the floor.
12. Any person proposed for election to the post of Treasurer must not hold a similar position in any other Cat Club or Cat Society.
13. The Society shall be represented at the GCCF by a delegate who must be a member of the Committee and the appointment should be made at the AGM. The delegate to the SCJAC is appointed by the Committee. It is in order for one person to represent the Society at both organisations.
14. The quorum for the transaction of business at a Committee meeting is five.
15. An Officer or Member who fails to attend three consecutive Committee meetings without good cause shall be deemed to have retired from office.

POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE

16. The Committee shall consider the policy, finances and

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programmes of the Society and shall make recommendations to the members at the AGM as necessary. Decisions of the Committee shall be by simple majority. In the event of a tied vote the chair shall have a casting vote.

17. The Committee may arrange Cat Shows in accordance with the rules of the GCCF and may appoint (from amongst the Society's members) Show Managers and Officials as may be required. Show Managers, if not members of the Committee, shall be co-opted for their term of office. The Committee may nominate a President and up to three Vice Presidents for members approval at an AGM.
18. The Committee shall be empowered to arbitrate in matters of dispute; to suspend or expel any member or Officer whose conduct is considered to have been, in any way, injurious to the welfare of cats or the Society, subject to an appeal to the members at the AGM or a Special General Meeting called for that purpose.
19. The Committee shall have the power to act in all questions for which there is, or appears to be, no rule.

CAT SHOWS

20. The Show Manager and the Committee shall be responsible for the organisation of the Society's Shows, and will jointly have discretion in all matters concerned with the Show Rules.

FINANCE

21. The financial year of the Society shall be from the 1st January to the 31st December.
22. Responsibility for the custody of all monies received by the Society shall be vested in the Treasurer. All expenses incurred by the Society shall be defrayed out of Society funds after approval by the Committee. The Treasurer shall ensure that all cash not immediately required to meet petty expenses shall be deposited in a Society Bank or Building Society account as appropriate.
23. Whenever so ordered by the Committee, the Treasurer shall

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produce all accounting records and cash for examination by an independent examiner.

24. Financial Statements shall be prepared by the Treasurer annually and submitted for scrutiny by an independent examiner prior to copies being sent to members with the notice advising the date of the AGM. The financial statement should be approved at the AGM.
25. The Committee shall be responsible for reviewing all Society property annually, and for arranging adequate insurance cover as necessary.

MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

26. The AGM shall be held no later than the **30th June** each year. The Secretary shall give each member at least twenty-one days' notice of the date, time and place of the AGM. Members must now request the relevant paperwork either in electronic or paper form. Automatic send out of AGM papers was discontinued in April 2020. Notices of motion and nominations for Officers and/or Committee must reach the Secretary **ten** days before the AGM and shall be signed by the proposer and seconder, and in case of a nomination, also by the nominee. Emergency resolutions can be accepted at the AGM at the discretion of the Chair. The quorum for Annual and Special General Meetings shall be seven fully paid up members.

If a quorum of members is not present at an AGM, a postal and/or electronic ballot of all the voting members who were not present at the AGM should be carried out to ratify any decisions made at the AGM. Provided the total responses, when combined with those members present at the AGM, constitute a quorum, the decisions made at the AGM may be considered approved/not approved. The majority required to approve any decision will be that specified in the constitution.

27. A Special General Meeting shall be held whenever the Committee deems it necessary, or when fifteen members so

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request, by individual written and signed demands submitted to the Secretary of The Society. The costs of a Special General Meeting shall be borne by those calling the meeting whether they attend or not, unless the Meeting later determines otherwise.

DISSOLUTION

28. The Society may be wound up if a resolution to that effect is agreed by two thirds of the members present and voting at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose. If the proposal to wind up the Society shall have been carried, the disposal of the Society's assets shall be donated to the Society's designated Registered Cat Welfare Charity/Charities.

AMENDMENTS TO RULES

29. These rules may be altered or added to at a General Meeting. A proposal to amend the rules must be included on the agenda and cannot be discussed under Any Other Business. A two thirds majority is required to amend the Society's rules.

DATA PROTECTION ACT

30. The names, addresses and telephone numbers are stored on computer files. Members have the right to have these details removed. These files contain information supplied by Society members themselves and will only be used within the Society's administrative system for mailing Show Schedules, and other paperwork relevant to Society affairs. The information will not be passed to any other Society/Club, company, business or individual.