



Australian Independent Cat Council Inc.

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CODE OF ETHICS FOR, THE AUSTRALIAN INDEPENDENT CAT COUNCIL INC.

REGISTERED BREEDERS

The following section comprises a declaration of intent by our Registered Breeders to follow the code of Ethics of The Australian Independent Cat Council Inc.

By applying for membership or membership renewal, all breeder members are deemed to have read and agreed to our Code of Ethics.

RECORD KEEPING & OBLIGATIONS

Breeder members should

Comply with the following legislation rules of the state that they reside in, For NSW the Companion Animals Act 1998, Companion Animals Regulation 2008, Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979, Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (general) Regulation 2006, Animal Welfare Code of Practice – Breeding cats and dogs and the Local Government Act 1993. For all other states please familiarize yourself with your local rules.

Maintain meticulous records of all breeding cats that will enable members to provide true and accurate records of the pedigrees of any kittens sold.

In the instance of cat's, provided for outside stud services (use of another breeders cat) a stud certificate must be filled out and signed by the owner of the stud and shall be true and correct. Where possible the mating should be witnessed. Where it proves difficult to witness the mating, breeder members shall ensure that there is no question of paternity of all kittens in a litter.

Certificate of Registration of litters can be entered in the new owners name at no extra cost to the breeder if they are sold at time of registration. There are forms to transfer to a new owner at a later date and you can also sign the back of the registration form over to a new owner.

Each member shall accept reasonable financial responsibility for the health status of kittens for 7 days after the date, the new owner takes possession of the kitten. It is recommended that kittens are checked by the new owners vet within 48 hours of arriving at their new home.

No Kitten shall be offered as a prize or to be raffled.

No Kitten shall be sold to a commercial pet wholesaler or pet shop.

Breed members shall breed to improve the standard of their particular Breed and not solely for the pet market.

It is recommended and advised by The Australian Independent Cat Council Inc. that no kitten be sold under TWELVE WEEKS.

It is recommended by The Australian Independent Cat Council Inc. that all kittens be de-sexed by the time they leave the cattery. (This decision is left up to the integrity of the said breeder and their Veterinary Surgeon in the case of choosing not to de-sex. It is strongly advised that said kittens go with a desexing contract).

RULES REGARDING TRUTH IN REGISTRATIONS

The Australian Independent Cat Council Inc. have a policy that encourages truth in registration of cats and kittens. For instance if a kitten is born in a litter that has a nonstandard or unrecognized coat colour or pattern we determine it is no less pedigree than its litter siblings because of this fact. It will be issued a registration listing it, as it is, but with possible conditions pertaining to its status: ie: desexed pet only, Companion Show etc.

However this will not apply to breeders that are taking part in an approved experimental breed program. (Rules for such are set out separately). These cats will be registered on a sub-register as entire as part of such a program.

A registration is to all intents and purposes a legal document, a declaration of an individual animal's ancestry. Any Breeder Member found to have falsified the registration of a cat or kitten or litter will be found to have committed an act of fraud against The Australia Independent Cat Council Inc. and its members. The executive committee reserves the right to sanction/discipline a breeder or breeders according to the extent of the breach.

This may include

1: Be suspended from attending AICC Shows for a period to be determined by the executive committee.

2: Be suspended from being able to register litters or transfer cats for a period to be determined by the executive committee.

3: Be expected to provide proof of legitimacy of any kittens being submitted for registration to the registrar.
ie. Full pedigrees including either visual sighting of parents by a member of the committee or photographic record accompanied by a statutory declaration of a nominated AICC member who resides close to the breeder concerned.
For a period of time to be determined by the executive committee.

This truth in registration however does not extend to accidental miss mating's. For instance, between two (2) breeds that are not normally allowed to be mated (and not part of an approved experimental breed program) nor does it extend to miss mating's that occur due to poor cattery security/maintenance. For instance a "break in" which results in a pregnancy of a pedigree animal and a sire of unknown origin.

CARE OF CATS

Breeder members shall maintain a high standard of health and care, including providing for each cat:

Adequate room for exercise

Regular handling and grooming

Clean and comfortable quarters

Adequate ventilation and natural light

Protection from the weather

A balanced diet and clean water

Regular veterinary care including worming and parasite care

Love and affection

Not allow an entire cat to run loose outdoors (safe outdoor enclosure/runs that protect them from other animals and the weather)

To observe show rules by protecting their cat/s and others by not exposing at shows, cats which are ill.

CARE OF STUDS

Only offer external stud services to breeders that are registered members of a cat association.

Check that the female is healthy, registered and in good health.

Allow studs adequate time between successive mating's.

Most studs live a solitary life style make sure they have plenty of stimulation and things to keep them active ie scratching post's toys a de-sexed playmate.

CARE OF BREEDING FEMALES AND KITTENS

Breeder members shall:

Be mindful that females preferably be over the age of ten months at the time of their maiden mating. Exceptions to this are made, when recommended by a vet where prolonged calling by a young female may jeopardize her health and or fertility.

Ensure that females are not over breed – no more than twice in any twelve month period.

Not to repeatedly breed a dam who has severe and persistent birthing difficulties and or deformities.

Provide proper care for the safe delivery of healthy kittens and shall whenever possible, be available to assist the queen if necessary. If unable to be present when birthing is expected arrange for another responsible and experienced person to be available to attend to the birth. A veterinarian shall be consulted at the first sign of a life threatening or difficult birth.

Agree to have euthanized any kitten born with a deformity which a veterinarian deems incapable of living a healthy or comfortable life.

In the case of genetic deformities breeder members should consult a geneticist to investigate.

As soon as possible you should report all findings to purchases of kittens from the same breeding stock and the breeder/owner of the Sire and or Dam.

To not allow kittens under the age of 12 weeks of age to leave home.

Ensure kittens have a least one vaccination two weeks before leaving and are wormed and parasite free.

Wean and litter train all kittens prior to leaving home

Ensure Kittens have all paperwork along with their microchip paper work and transfer forms for council.

Provide to the new owners all vaccination records, microchip records, dietary requirements, information of the breed and their pedigree (unless going with a des-sexing contract which will be supplied upon sighting of de-sexing certificate).

These belong to the Kitten and their new owner.

Please remember if you need any help or have any questions re the above or any matter that concerns you, ring your mentor or the office we are here to help not judge.