



# Garden of England Cat Club Rules

## Article 1. Name and Aims

1.01 The club shall be known as the **Garden of England Cat Club (GoE)**.

1.02 The aims of the Garden of England Cat Club shall be:

- (a) To sponsor and promote the welfare of all breeds of cat.
- (b) To cultivate and promote friendship among the owners, fanciers and breeders.
- (c) To promote breeding towards FIFe breed standards and encourage the registration of cats with the British FIFe member.
- (d) To plan and pursue a programme of healthy selective breeding.
- (e) To create an interest in breeding, exhibiting and owning all breeds of cat as a pet, in the UK and abroad.
- (f) To facilitate breeder access to information on such subjects as genetics, veterinary research, cattery management and feline behavioural problems.
- (g) To encourage the free and meaningful exchange of knowledge among breeders, exhibitors, fanciers and pet owners.
- (h) To encourage spaying and neutering of all cats not specifically being used as part of a viable breeding programme to reduce the excessive trend to the over population of and tragedy among unwanted cats.
- (i) To promote and encourage kindness to all animals and assist in prevention of cruelty and bad treatment of all animals.

## Article 2. Membership

2.01 Application for membership shall be to the Garden of England Membership Clerk via the online membership application form.

2.02 Membership applications shall be approved by the committee at the earliest opportunity following receipt of the application.

2.03 A simple majority of votes are sufficient to elect or reject applications. The President shall have the casting vote.

2.04 The Garden of England Cat Club shall have the right to refuse membership without disclosing the reasons.

2.05 Notice of acceptance or rejection will be sent to the applicant by the Membership Clerk.

2.06 The amount of the annual subscription for the Garden of England Cat Club shall be decided by the committee and reviewed accordingly.

2.07 The annual subscription shall run from the 1<sup>st</sup> January with payments due 1<sup>st</sup> January, these are payable via online submission or renewal form.

2.08 Failure to pay subscriptions before the 31<sup>st</sup> January will incur a late payment charge to be decided by the committee and reviewed accordingly.

2.09 All members must be in good standing with the FIFe and must adhere to the club's Code of Ethics.

2.10 It shall be the duty of each member to uphold the aims of the Garden of England Cat Club and to fulfil carefully the terms of all transactions concerned with cats, such as sale, stud fees and pedigrees, whether such business is carried on with other club members or breeders or the public at large.



### **Article 3. Affiliation**

3.01 The Garden of England Cat Club shall be a full member club of Felis Britannica.

### **Article 4. Meetings**

4.01 Meetings shall be held on such dates and at such times and places as the committee shall designate, such decision being dependent on the wishes of the majority of the membership.

4.02 An Annual General Meeting (AGM) is to be held once a year, at a place and time to be advised no later than the 1st March each year.

4.03 The date and venue of the AGM shall be notified to members no later than 30 (thirty) days in advance. Members will be invited to submit resolutions and nominations for the Garden of England Cat Club committee to the Club Secretary no later than 14 (fourteen) days prior to the AGM.

4.04 The AGM Agenda will be circulated to all members no later than 7 (seven) days prior to the AGM.

4.05 Special meetings may be called from time to time if necessary for the transaction of important business and may be called by the President, committee or upon written request of five (5) members. The business at this meeting shall be limited to that mentioned in the request.

4.06 Members shall be notified of the time and place of all meetings by mail, telephone, email or in person by the Club Secretary.

4.07 4 (four) regular members, excluding officers, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a General Meeting. 3 (three) members of the committee, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction at a Committee Meeting.

4.08 All voting will be by simple majority, unless otherwise explicitly stated.

4.09 Voting at all General Meetings shall be in person only.

### **Article 5. Officers and Committee**

5.01 The officers of the Garden of England Cat Club shall be a President, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

5.02 The management of the business affairs of the Garden of England Cat Club shall be under the direction of a committee consisting of not less than four (4) and not more than ten (10) members.

5.03 Committee members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall take office to serve for the 3 years. All members in paid up membership are eligible to stand for election.

5.04 The committee may co-opt up to four more members provided that the co-opted members meet the membership requirements at that time, and that the total number of elected members shall serve until the next following Annual General Meeting and thereafter shall be eligible for election.

5.05 The officers of the Garden of England Cat Club shall be elected from committee members and are eligible for re-election annually by the committee. Club officers shall be elected at a committee meeting to be held immediately following the Annual General Meeting. A third of the committee shall be deemed to have resigned each year and shall be eligible for re-election should they so wish.

5.06 The Garden of England Cat Club committee may elect annually other officers or sub-committees as deemed advisable.

5.07 Any Committee member who fails to attend 3 (three) consecutive meetings of the committee, except by leave of the President, will be deemed to have resigned.



#### **Article 6. Duties of Officers**

6.01 The President or a member of the committee nominated by the President shall preside at all meetings of the members and of the committee and shall perform such other duties as are incidental to the Presidents office. He/she shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

6.02 The Club Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the members and the committee of the Garden of England Cat Club and shall present them at ensuing meetings. Will collate, distribute and oversee all club correspondence. Liaise with the membership and the FB General Secretary.

6.03 The Club Secretary shall keep an attendance record. He/she shall notify the members of regular meetings at least one (1) week prior to the date of the meeting, and notify members of the Annual General Meeting at least 30 (thirty) days prior to the date of the meeting. The Club Secretary shall perform such other duties as are incidental to the General Secretary's office.

6.04 The Membership Officer shall maintain a list of all paid up members with the names, addresses and telephone numbers of each. He/she shall advise applicants for club membership of the action taken on their application.

6.06 The Treasurer shall receive and have custody of all monies and shall deposit the same in a bank account in the name of the Garden of England Cat Club. He/she shall keep account of all receipts and expenditures and shall render a financial report at each regular meeting, and audited accounts at each Annual General Meeting. He/she shall report to each committee meeting as to the state of the balance in the bank account. He/she shall furnish names and addresses to the Membership Secretary of all membership subscriptions paid. The Treasurer shall perform such other duties as are incidental to the Treasurer's office.

6.07 Membership records, minute book, attendance records and books of accounts of the Garden of England Cat Club shall be the property of the club and not of the officers administering them.

#### **Article 7. Amendments**

7.01 The Garden of England Cat Club rules shall be amended by a resolution passed by a two-thirds majority of ordinary members present at any General Meeting at which notice of the proposed amendment shall have been given.

#### **Article 8. Amalgamation or Winding-Up**

9.01 A motion for the winding-up of the Club or for amalgamation with another Club must be included on the Agenda of a General Meeting. The motion shall be carried if those present and voting (abstentions are not counted) agree to wind up or amalgamate the Club by a two-thirds majority.

9.02 Final disposal of the Club's assets, other than assets received for cat welfare, shall be determined at this General Meeting, and be approved by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

9.03 Assets including monies received by the Club for cat welfare shall be donated to a dedicated fund or funds for domestic cat welfare, as agreed at this General Meeting and approved by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.