



FIFe General Rules

Date of issue: 01.01.2026

STATUS OF CHANGES

For previous changes to the rules than those listed below, please refer to the separate document "FIFe Statutes & Rules – History of Changes".

§	Status	Remarks
<i>Edition 01.01.26</i>		
2.5	Addition	Membership change procedure applies whenever individuals are changing their membership between two FIFe Members
4.16	New	Livestreaming of the General Assembly
14	New	World Cat Congress
Annex 1	Change	Minimum net judges allowance

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1 Name – Duration – Seat – Purpose

1.1

The name of FIFe (logo) must appear on catalogues, pedigrees and certificates.

2 Admission – Resignation – Expulsion

2.1

When accepting new FIFe Members, it is required that the valid statutes of such probational Members shall contain the phrase:

"It is not allowed to sell or to hand over cats, which are registered in FIFe to pet shops or similar organisations nor for any experimental research or testing.
It is also not allowed for members of FIFe Members to offer or trade cats or services, such as stud service, by auction or similar actions, be it on electronic or real events."

2.2

FIFe Members, which do not have the phrase

"It is not allowed to sell or to hand over cats, which are registered in FIFe to pet shops or similar organisations nor for any experimental research or testing.
It is also not allowed for members of FIFe Members to offer or trade cats or services, such as stud service, by auction or similar actions, be it on electronic or real events."

in their valid by-laws, shall be called upon to include this phrase in their statutes in accordance with their national laws.

2.3

An application for full membership can be requested after a maximum period of three years after the status of Patronage Member was granted. In addition to the conditions already required, the following requirements must have been complied with during the period of patronage.

The Patronage Member must have:

- a) maintained a correct register of various breeds;
- b) organised at least one international show annually, which was supervised by the FIFe and run according to its rules;
- c) a sound financial basis; the FIFe Board shall check the financial books prior to the application.
- d) the willingness to co-operate with or to include clubs with the same objectives.

2.4

A Member, wishing to officiate as a Mentor, should have been a Member of FIFe in good standing for at least ten (10) years.

The responsibilities and rights of the Mentor towards a Patronage Member shall be as follows:

- a) The Mentor shall ensure that at all shows put on by the Patronage Member, at least one judge who is either a member of the Board or the FIFe Judges & Standards or Show Commission shall officiate and that that judge should have the right to check all relevant paperwork, if necessary, by going to the place earlier than usual. This judge must then submit a detailed report on the show and any recommendations in this respect: the report will be sent to the Show Commission, the Mentor and to the FIFe Board.
- b) The Mentor oversees the activities of the Patronage Member and shall intervene and advise where and when necessary.
- c) If it is necessary for the Mentor to visit the country of the Patronage Member in to give advice, the responsibility for the costs of this visit shall be clarified in advance.
- d) The Mentor shall provide a written report on the Patronage Member to the General Assembly each year. This report shall be submitted 60 days before the event to the General Secretary and shall be sent to all Members together with the Agenda.
- e) The Mentor must be willing to assist a Patronage Member to put on a seminar for all of its members.
- f) The Mentor has the right to withdraw its Mentorship if it is not satisfied with the development of the Patronage Member. The Mentor must announce this at the General Assembly and give the reasons for this withdrawal.

g) The Mentor shall ensure that the register of various breeds (the Pedigree Book) is kept according to the FIFE Breeding & Registration Rules. If necessary, the Mentor can call upon the assistance of the FIFE Breeding & Registration Commission to perform a necessary inspection and to advise the Patronage Member. Responsibility for the costs of this visit shall be clarified in advance.

2.5

A Member of the FIFE may accept as members, individuals from other countries:

- a) where there is no FIFE Member
- b) where there is a FIFE Member, under the following conditions:
 1. The new FIFE Member must always contact the current FIFE Member to get confirmation about non-membership status or membership status.
 2. In both cases the current FIFE Member must confirm, within one month from the request, that the applicant has no administrative or disciplinary issues pending.
 3. The new FIFE Member will inform the current FIFE Member if the application is accepted or not.
 4. Any existing sanctions on the individual member by the current FIFE Member must be respected by the new FIFE Member. In case the new FIFE Member does not agree then he may send this application to the FIFE Executive Board for consideration.

The above procedure applies whenever individuals are changing their membership between two FIFE Members.

2.6

When Member's statutes are submitted, such documents must be originals or certified copies.

2.7

Members of the FIFE must submit statistics showing the number of cats bred and registered, respectively, imported and registered in the Member's Pedigree Book divided by breeds.

These statistics reflecting the previous year, must be sent to the General Secretary by the end of January.

The Breeding and Registration Commission shall forward a report to the General Assembly regarding cats and breeds bred within FIFE and its Members based on the statistics received.

2.8

FIFE Members must submit statistics providing the number of cats appearing in the show catalogues of each of their national and international shows. The information shall be divided by breed.

These statistics reflecting the previous year, must be sent to the General Secretary by the end of January.

The Show Commission shall forward a report to the General Assembly regarding cats shown within FIFE and its Members based on the statistics received.

3 Administration

3.1

The FIFE President and the chairpersons of the FIFE commissions must convene their members at least 14 days prior to each meeting.

3.2

All official documents, i.e. the complete standards and all rules, the EMS list of colour varieties and breeds, the list of addresses of FIFE Members, judges and commission members, the complete repertory of all judge's examinations questions, etc. shall be provided on electronic media by the FIFE, or its authorized commissions, working groups or persons, in all three FIFE languages, to each FIFE Member on request and free of charge.

3.3

- a) All written letters including e-mails and/or Minutes, from the Board of FIFE may be in English.
- b) Communications to the FIFE Board may be in any one of the three official languages.
- c) The rules pertaining to language for examinations and judges' reports remain unchanged.
- d) The General Assembly shall be held in the three official languages. Proposals to the General Assembly shall be submitted in the three official languages.
- e) Breed standards shall be issued in the three official languages.

4 The General Assembly

4.1

At the General Assembly, the FIFe Board members may express their opinions on all proposals.

4.2

The minutes of the General Assembly must be sent to the Members within 4 months of the General Assembly and must also state where each decision has been placed in the statutes or in the rules. The minutes of the annual FIFe General Assembly must contain all proposals that have been submitted with the agreed wording irrespective of whether the proposal was accepted or rejected. There will be no discussion about the proposals minuted unless this is expressly requested by the party that submitted the motion.

The Minutes of the General Assembly will be issued in French, German and English.

4.3

The Supervisors of the Minutes for the General Assembly must complete their check and advise the General Secretary within three weeks of receiving the Minutes.

4.4

The amendments made by commissions to the rules, standards and other official documents, must have been received by the General Secretary's within 4 weeks after the General Assembly.

4.5

The expense for the hire of a meeting room or rooms for the General Assembly shall be borne by the FIFe. The organisation of the General Assembly is the responsibility of the FIFe.

4.6

Each Member may submit a maximum of three (3) proposals per year to the General Assembly.

The Board, as well as each commission, may submit a maximum of ten (10) proposals per year to the General Assembly.

Exceptions may be granted by the Board, provided they are well motivated.

4.7

Proposals that were rejected or voted against may only be presented after 2 years have passed.

4.8

It is not allowed to change the contents of a proposal before, during or at the General Assembly. The proposal can only be reformulated if the sense remains the same, or if the translation in a language (English, French or German) is not correct.

4.9

FIFe Members are convened by e-mail to attend the General Assembly and receipt of confirmation will be sent. They can send their proposals by e-mail, the receipt of which shall be acknowledged. The proposals shall be sent in an editable electronic format to the General Secretary where these will be compiled to an Agenda.

FIFe Members shall receive the Agenda in which the proposals are included by e-mail.

All items to be placed on the Agenda of the General Assembly must be addressed in writing to all Members in the 3 FIFe languages (English, French and German).

The annual reports are to be made available at the beginning of the General Assembly.

The following items shall be sent to the Members in advance:

- Proposals from the Board and the commissions
- Proposals from the Members
- Balance sheets
- Budget
- Candidates for the various positions on the Board and in the commissions
- Membership applications.

4.10

The Board has the right to correct any language mistakes or typing errors which may have occurred in proposals, accepted by the General Assembly before such proposals are included in the statutes or rules for publication. All such corrections shall be submitted to the chairperson of the relevant commission for approval before publication.

4.11

The General Assembly shall take place each year on the last Thursday and Friday in May. The Judges' Seminar shall take place on the Saturday.

4.12

It is strongly recommended that all delegates or their designated representatives should attend the open meetings of the Commissions.

4.13

When 30% of the current articles of an existing set of Rules, i.e. General Rules, Show Rules, Rules for Judges and Student Judges, Breeding and Registration Rules and Breed Council Rules (this listing may not be complete and can at any time be complemented or reduced) are to be changed or corrected by separate proposals of any of the commissions to any given General Assembly, it shall be obligatory, after agreement of the Board, to present a new, completely revamped set of Rules to the General Assembly for approval.

4.14

Scrutineers can be chosen from all members of FIFe Members present at the General Assembly.

4.15

If the representative/-s of a Member (a delegate and/or its assistant to the General Assembly) is also an official of FIFe, the travel costs and the accommodation costs for the days of the General Assembly (3 days) are to be split equally between both parties involved, the FIFe and the Member.

4.16

Livestreaming of the General Assembly may be only offered during the agenda item dealing with the proposals from the Members, Board and Commissions.

5 The Executive Board

5.1

After each meeting the FIFe Board must send the Minutes of this Meeting to the FIFe Members within 60 days of that Meeting.

5.2

It is a privilege of the FIFe Board to appoint Honorary Judges. Any Member may propose a judge they consider to be worthy of this honour. The years of service to the FIFe as a judge and in any other capacity shall be taken into account; in making a decision the Board shall consult the Judges & Standards Commission. A judge who has been made an 'Honorary Judge' may, if he wishes, remain active and the relevant notations shall be made against his name on the official judges list.

6 Commissions

6.1

The commissions shall send all final versions of their proposals as dealt with at the General Assembly by email with confirmation of receipt to the General Secretary within 60 (sixty) days following the General Assembly. All proposals (carried, rejected and withdrawn) must be sent in all three FIFe languages.

6.2

The commissions shall send minutes of their meetings to the General Secretary within one month of such Meeting in at least one FIFe language.

6.3

In order to be elected as members of the Judges and Standards Commission, the candidates must have been active International Judges during at least five (5) years.

7 Controllers

8 Disciplinary powers

8.1

In the case of a disciplinary proceeding against a FIFE Member, or a member of a FIFE Member, the Member or the person charged is to be informed immediately upon the arrival of the complaint; this shall be done in writing by registered post or by email with confirmation of receipt and, above all, in good time and with all relevant documents to allow the Member or person concerned to prepare all documentation necessary to present their own case in answer to the charge.

9 Financial resources of the FIFE

9.1

Invoices from the FIFE Treasurer must be paid within 60 days.

9.2

Research in Feline Health and Welfare shall be sponsored by the FIFE Feline Fund (FIFEFu). Research grants will be decided by the FIFE Board and can be proposed by the FIFE Health & Welfare commission or FIFE Members. The fund shall be administrated by the FIFE Treasurer and is separated from the existing accounts.

10 Accounts and budget

10.1 deleted

11 Modification of the Statutes

11.1

All statutes and rules, amendments and additions, accepted by the FIFE General Assembly, shall come into force on the 1st of January of the following year.

11.2

All changes to the rules and standards shall be written in italics and marked with a line on the side of the page.

11.3

When an article in the FIFE statutes or rules is deleted, the text shall be replaced by the word "deleted" and the following articles retain their original number. New articles shall be allotted new numbers.

12 Dissolution of the federation

13 Miscellaneous

13.1

FIFE will not recognize or accept any new breeds resulting from a mating between a domestic cat (*felis catus*) to a wild cat species or from a mating between a domestic cat (*felis catus*) to a hybrid cat (F1 – F4) out of a crossing with a wild cat species.

These breeds will not be allowed to be shown at any show or event organized by a FIFE Member.

13.2

The FIFE shall make official use in all its correspondence and all address-listings of its Members, Board- and Commission-members, Officers and Judges, of the international ISO 3166-1 alpha -2 code of country names.

A complete current list of these relevant codes can be found in Annex 2 of the General Rules.

13.3

Intellectual works, manuscripts, lectures etc., made by an elected FIFE Board or Commission member, which serve the use and ideal of FIFE, becomes property of FIFE, provided that ownership rights are not violated and nothing else is agreed in writing between the author and the Board.

13.4

Official documents, show invitations, show catalogues, judge reports, diplomas and pedigrees, carrying the FIFe logo should be printed in the Latin (Western) alphabet, in addition - if needed - to the national alphabet.

If a FIFe Member maintains its own website, the FIFe logo must be shown on the opening page and must provide a link to the FIFe website.

The right to use the abbreviation "FIFe" in email or website addresses is exclusively reserved to FIFe and the national Members of FIFe.

13.5

The FIFe Board may grant other organisations the use of the FIFe EMS Master Code and is allowed to modify the EMS Master Code.

14 World Cat Congress

14.1

The World Cat Congress (WCC) was founded to promote a better understanding and cooperation among the world's leading cat associations in matters of mutual interest and concern which affects all cat lovers, from the pedigree breeder to the pet owner.

The purpose of the WCC is to provide harmony within the cat-fancy worldwide and to include as members those organisations with similar philosophies on the health and welfare of cats, standards, judge training, registrations, and titles.

As one of its founding members, FIFe shall always retain its membership and perform an active role in cooperating with the other WCC members with respect to the constitution and by-laws of the WCC.

14.2

FIFe shall be represented at the Annual General Meeting of the WCC by one voting delegate and by a second person in an advisory capacity.

The FIFe representatives are selected for their abilities. They must be fluent in English.

The FIFe representatives must submit a detailed report on the WCC Annual General Meeting to the Board and the FIFe General Assembly.

14.3

The two representatives of FIFe to the WCC Annual General Meeting shall be appointed by the Board, in consultation with the Commissions.

Annex 1 – Membership and other fees in Euro

Annual membership fee.....	500.00
Fee for one International Show ¹	180.00
Fee for one National Show ¹	60.00
Cattery Name fee.....	35.00
Annual Breed Council fee.....	10.00
Judges examination fee.....	150.00
Annual Judges fee.....	100.00
Rosettes DVM, DSM, DM, JW, NW, IW, DSW, SC & SP	17.00
Rosettes GIC & GIP	15.00
Rosettes IC & IP	15.00
Rosettes KCH, JCH, CH & PR	14.00

Minimum net Judges Allowance

Per day the Judge officiates at the show ²	130.00
Except: per two-day show (not separated by categories) ²	200.00

¹ shows at which cats can obtain two certificates on the same day are considered as two separate shows

² in observance of the maximum number of cats to judge per day (→ Show Rules § 6.1.3)

Annex 2 – ISO country codes

ISO 3166-1 alpha-2

Code/Kode	Country	Land	Pays
AR	- Argentina	- Argentinien	- Argentine
AT	- Austria	- Österreich	- Autriche
AU	- Australia	- Australien	- Australie
BE	- Belgium	- Belgien	- Belgique
BG	- Bulgaria	- Bulgarien	- Bulgarie
BR	- Brazil	- Brasilien	- Brésil
BY	- Belarus	- Weiss-Russland	- Biélorussie
CH	- Switzerland	- Schweiz	- Suisse
CN	- China	- China	- Chine
CO	- Colombia	- Kolumbien	- Colombie
CZ	- Czech Republic	- Tschechien	- Rép. Tchèque
DE	- Germany	- Deutschland	- Allemagne
DK	- Denmark	- Dänemark	- Danemark
EE	- Estonia	- Estland	- Estonie
ES	- Spain	- Spanien	- Espagne
EU	- Europe	- Europa	- Europe
FI	- Finland	- Finnland	- Finlande
FR	- France	- Frankreich	- France
GB	- United Kingdom	- Ver. Königreich	- Royaume-Uni
GR	- Greece	- Griechenland	- Grèce
HR	- Croatia	- Kroatien	- Croatie
HU	- Hungary	- Ungarn	- Hongrie
ID	- Indonesia	- Indonesien	- Indonésie
IS	- Iceland	- Island	- Islande
IT	- Italy	- Italien	- Italie
LI	- Liechtenstein	- Liechtenstein	- Liechtenstein
LT	- Lithuania	- Litauen	- Lituanie
LU	- Luxembourg	- Luxemburg	- Luxembourg
LV	- Latvia	- Lettland	- Lettonie
MD	- Moldova	- Moldau	- Moldavie
MX	- Mexico	- Mexiko	- Mexique
MY	- Malaysia	- Malaysia	- Malaisie
NL	- Netherlands	- Niederlanden	- Pays Bas
NO	- Norway	- Norwegen	- Norvège
PL	- Poland	- Polen	- Pologne
PT	- Portugal	- Portugal	- Portugal
RO	- Romania	- Rumänien	- Roumanie
RU	- Russia	- Russland	- Russie
SE	- Sweden	- Schweden	- Suède
SI	- Slovenia	- Slowenien	- Slovénie
SK	- Slovakia	- Slowakei	- Slovaquie
UA	- Ukraine	- Ukraine	- Ukraine
US	- United States	- Vereinigte Staaten	- États-Unis