

The Burmese Cat Club

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



Burmese Cat Club Benevolent Fund Registered Charity No 1094488

The Burmese Cat Club

Chairman: Mr Thomas Goss, Woodlands House, 63 Thorpe Road, Kirby Cross, CO13 0LZ kaguracats@hotmail.com
Hon Secretary: Mrs Carolyn Kempe, 47 Brook Street, Polegate, E Sussex, BN26 6B Kempe.oakenshield@gmail.com
Hon Treasurer: Mrs Olga Walker • 11 Bayham Road • Morden • London SM4 5JH • Telephone:0203 592 1397
olga.d.walker@googlemail.com

Website: www.burmesecatclub.com

Membership Secretary

Mrs Olga Walker • 11 Bayham Road • Morden • London SM4 5JH •
Telephone:0203 592 1397
olga.d.walker@googlemail.com

Thank you for enquiring about membership of the Burmese Cat Club.

This pack is divided into three parts:-

PART A

Information about the Club

PART B

Information for all applicants

PART C

Information for intending breeders of Burmese

On receipt of a completed membership application form, downloadable from the website, your details will be submitted to the Burmese Cat Club Committee for approval. I will confirm the Committee's decision about one week later.

If you provide an email address, I will confirm receipt of your application and payment.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any further information on the membership application process.

I look forward to receiving your application.

Olga Walker
BCC Membership Secretary

PART A

Information about the Club

The Burmese Cat Club is one of the largest cat clubs in the United Kingdom. We exist to safeguard the wellbeing of Burmese cats and the purity of the breed and to work for a wider appreciation of the breed.

To ensure effective countrywide communication eleven regions have been formed with each having two Regional Advisers.

The Club has an extensive website at www.burmesecatclub.com.

- Services for Members

The Club holds an annual Championship Show under GCCF rules, sponsors classes at shows held by other GCCF-affiliated clubs, and offers cups and rosettes for winning cats and kittens.

The Club's magazine, the *BCC News*, is published three times a year. It includes up-to-date information on health and welfare, articles by members on the pleasures of owning Burmese, photographs, poems, illustrations and lists of Trophy and Club Class winners.

A comprehensive selection of publications, including the definitive book "The Burmese Cat", a Stud List and our own pedigree forms, are available for purchase from Club Tables at Shows or by mail order from our Publications Secretary.

- Welfare Activities:

Welfare of the Burmese cat is the Club's prime concern. We have a regionally structured rehoming service which helps many needy cats each year. The Burmese Cat Club Benevolent Fund, which depends entirely upon individual donations, is a Registered Charity and provides the financial support to care for distressed cats in emergency situations, and to pay for boarding and veterinary costs for cats awaiting new homes. Suitable accommodation is available by means of a series of "safe houses" established across the country. These may be held by Regional Advisers, or by any other members of the Club who can offer an appropriate environment for the cats in our care.

- Rehoming Service:

Cats which are not claimed, or which are released into the Club's care by their former owners are rehomed (with their non-Burmese companions where appropriate) to people wishing to give a home to an adult Burmese. Details of cats awaiting rehoming are given on the Club's website.

- Lost and Found Register:

We have a centrally co-ordinated Register for lost, found and abandoned Burmese cats. This national Register increases the chances of 'matching' lost

and found cats. The Club fully supports the micro-chipping of cats to increase the likelihood of being returned safely.

- Liaison with other Organisations:

Communication with other rescue organisations - pedigree and non-pedigree - is encouraged. Some groups know of the Club's work and will contact local BCC members if they take a Burmese cat into care; and every opportunity is taken to initiate and improve communications with other groups.

The Burmese Cat Club is affiliated to the Feline Advisory Bureau and supports its activities.

PART B

Information for all applicants

- Completing the Application Form:

Please use BLOCK CAPITALS.

The names and signatures of **both** applicants are required if you are applying for joint membership.

Please give details of your Burmese cat/kitten eg breeder, colour and sex including rehome details if applicable as this information is included in the submission of your application to the Committee.

If you wish to donate to the Burmese Cat Club Benevolent Fund (Registered Charity No 1094488), please remember to tick the Gift Aid box if you are a UK taxpayer.

- Annual Subscription

Subscription renewal is due on 1st January each year and may be made by Direct Debit if instructions are received by the Treasurer before 1st November. A Direct Debit form will be sent to new members in their Welcome Pack.

Renewal forms for those paying by cheque are enclosed in the Winter edition of the Club's magazine '*Burmese Cat Club News*'.

Those who have not renewed by the end of February will be suspended and will cease to receive the benefits of membership until they have paid.

PART C

Information for intending breeders of Burmese

- Code of Ethics

Breeders agree to the following Code of Ethics:

Breed only from queens and studs which are healthy and have no obvious hereditary defects.

Allow a queen to have no more than three litters in any two-year period. (This is in line with the GCCF recommendation that queens should have a minimum period of nineteen weeks between litters.)

Where there is more than one queen in the household, consider carefully the total number of litters to be reared in a year.

Be available at the time the litter is expected, and rear the kittens in a warm, safe, stimulating and loving environment to facilitate socialisation and normal, healthy growth.

Check the suitability of prospective homes and new owners and sell kittens only to homes where there is a reasonable expectation of a happy and healthy life.

Sell only fit, healthy and house-trained kittens, registered individually with the Governing Council of the Cat Fancy. They should not be allowed to go to their new homes before thirteen weeks of age and at least seven days after completion of a full course of vaccination for FIE (Feline Infectious Enteritis), FVR and FCV ("cat 'flu") including a health check, given by a Veterinary Surgeon or by a listed Veterinary Nurse under the direction of a Veterinary Surgeon.

Provide new owners with written details of all dietary requirements.

Follow up the progress of the kittens, especially when those not sold for breeding have reached the age for neutering and, in the event of health problems occurring after sale, be prepared to advise and support the owners as necessary.

Assume moral responsibility for each kitten during its lifetime and be willing to assist with the rehoming of a cat if the initial circumstances change.

Never sell cats or kittens to commercial wholesalers, retailers or dealers, and never allow cats to be offered as a prize or a donation in a contest of any kind.

Represent the characteristics of the breed, and the quality of a cat or kitten, honestly and accurately.

Ensure that, when selling or transferring a cat to another person, all relevant documents are provided to the new owner.

- Application for GCCF Prefix:

Prefix application forms are obtainable from the GCCF, 5 King's Castle Business Park, The Drove, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA6 4AG. When completed, the form should be sent for counter-signature, with a stamped, addressed return envelope, to the Hon Secretary (details above)

- Breeder's Register

Breeders who wish to place their kittens on the Burmese Cat Club Kitten List must complete and sign a Breeder's Register form. The form is downloadable from the Club's website.

- Website Kitten List

The Club maintains a Website kitten list and all members who are on the Breeders Register are eligible to place their litter details on the Website. This can be done by contacting the Kitten List Compiler for your region. Contact details can be found on the Website and in the BCC News

- Breeders Directory

For an annual fee of £10 breeders can place their contact details on the BCC Website Breeders Directory.

- Stud list

Breeders who have completed the Breeders Register form can place details of their studs on the BCC Stud list. Information can be found on the Website.

Stud owners **agree** to the following declaration before their studs can be included in the BCC stud list –

DECLARATION

I declare that I am the Registered Owner and agree:

1. That my stud must be on the GCCF Active Register
2. That all queens accepted must be on the GCCF Active Register
3. That my stud has tested negative for FeLV/FIV.
4. That my stud has been tested or I can verify his status for Burmese Hypokalaemia
5. That my stud will not be "free range"
6. To advise owners of queens on the care of queen and kittens and to assist with the identification of kitten colours if necessary
7. To stress the importance of and give advice on registration of progeny

8. To my stud and quarters being inspected at any reasonable time by a member of the Burmese Cat Club Committee or someone authorised by them.

Stud owners should:

Only consider keeping a stud when they have been breeding for at least three years, and have acquired adequate knowledge of the characteristics of the breed, pedigrees, the housing and handling of other people's cats, and the mating procedure.

Keep the stud in large, safely constructed, adequately heated and well ventilated accommodation. This should include a separate compartment within the stud house to provide seclusion for visiting queens, but designed to allow sight and scent of the stud. The cost of erecting and maintaining this accommodation is considerable, but it is essential since the stud cat will spend all his working life in this area.

Spend sufficient time with him every day.

Supervise courting and mating activities, particularly whilst he is a novice, and also with maiden queens, since they often require encouragement and reassurance.

Only accept GCCF registered queens on the Active Register, with correct transfer certificates and up-to-date vaccination certificates.

Advise the queen's owner on all aspects of breeding, kitten rearing and aftercare.

Share with the breeder responsibility for the kittens sired by the stud.

20th July 2017