

The Burmese Cat Club

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Membership Application Pack



Membership Secretary

Mrs Sue Barker s.barker51@icloud.com

Thank you for enquiring about membership of the Burmese Cat Club.
This pack is divided into three parts.

PART A	PART B	PART C
Information about the Club	Information for all applicants	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. You will receive confirm the Committee's decision about one week later.

An email address **is required** for all applications. We look forward to receiving your application.

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 breeds. The Club has a great website full of useful information www.burmesecatclub.com.

Services for Members

The Club holds an annual Championship Show under GCCF rules. Entry fees for members are less than for non-members. The Club's magazine, the BCC News, is printed copy, full colour and 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 lots more.

Welfare Activities

Welfare of the Burmese cat is the Club's prime concern. We have a 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 are often houses belonging to club members who can offer an appropriate environment for the cats in our care.

Rehoming Service

Stray Burmese cats who 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 a Burmese. Most of the cats we rehome are adults and many are in the later years of life. Details of cats awaiting rehoming are held by our Welfare Officer and may be advertised 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. Microchipping is now compulsory by law and this will hopefully ensure the likelihood of a stray cat being returned safely to its owner.

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.

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 you are encouraged to pay by bank transfer. The details are given on the application form. Renewal reminders are sent out to all members by email in early January.

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 **must 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).
- 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 must 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 website [Prefix application - The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy](#)

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 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. Contact details can be found on the Website [Burmese Kittens for Sale - The Burmese Cat Club](#), 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. The form can be found at [Burmese Kittens for Sale - The Burmese Cat Club](#)

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 must agree to the following declaration before their studs can be included in the BCC stud list

Stud Owner 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 GCCF registered queens accepted must be on the GCCF Active Register
3. Queens which are not registered with GCCF, but with another bona fide organisation may be accepted for mating providing that their registration is not endorsed "not for breeding"
4. That my stud has tested negative for FeLV/FIV.
5. That my stud has been tested **NEGATIVE** for Burmese Hypokalaemia
6. That my stud will not be "free range"
7. To advise owners of queens on the care of queen and kittens and to assist with the identification of kitten colours if necessary
8. To stress the importance of and give advice on registration of progeny
9. 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.

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.

Queens which are not registered with GCCF, but with another bona fide organisation may be accepted for mating. A queen whose registration with another bona fide organisation is endorsed "not for breeding" must not be accepted. Any queen that is not registered with GCCF or another bona fide organisation (unregistered) must not be accepted for breeding

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.