R**ULES OF THE CLUB**

1. **Title:**

The name of the club shall be The Southern British Shorthair Cat Club.

1. The Club will be a member of the GCCF and shall be represented at the GCCF Meetings by Delegates.
2. Delegates to the GCCF shall be members of the Committee or co-opted onto the Committee to fill this role.
3. Except without permission of the GCCF no Delegate should be an Officer or serving committee member of another Club of another registering body or act as an Official of another Registering body.
4. The SBSHCC shall be bound by the rules of the Council of the GCCF and the Council of the GCCF shall have disciplinary powers, according to its Constitution over the Club and members of the Club thereof.
5. Membership of the SBSHCC shall be deemed to constitute acceptance of the Constitution & Rules of the GCCF.
6. **Objectives:**
7. To promote the welfare and appreciation of the Club’s breeds catered for and to support its members.
8. To support shows for the exhibition of the Club's breeds and to hold our own Championship shows held under GCCF Licence.
9. To encourage an active interest in the protection and welfare of all cats.
10. To promote and recommend guidelines for the breeding of British Section cats including Selkirk Rex and Manx.
11. To support and work in partnership with all relevant BAC's in particular the British Shorthair Group BAC in the selection and promotion of Stewards and Judges, encourage new entrants as Stewards, review and make recommendations on matters relating to the Breeding Policy, Standard of Points, new colours of the breeds catered for by the club, and any other aspects relating to the British Section.
12. **Membership:**

The Club shall consist of honorary members, ordinary members, joint members, and junior members. All members shall be accepted by majority vote of the current committee.

1. Honorary Members shall be such a person as may be deemed and invited by the Committee to become an Honorary Member because they have given special service to the Club or the cat fancy as a whole. They shall not be eligible for election to the Committee or to vote at any meeting although they shall have a right to speak.
2. Ordinary Membership: Ordinary membership shall be all persons who, having been accepted by the Committee shall have paid their subscriptions for the year in which they become a member and for subsequent years thereafter.
3. Joint Membership: Joint membership shall be granted to two members from the same household at the time of joining the club.
4. Junior Membership: Junior membership shall be granted at a reduced rate to all those under 16 years old. Junior membership will cease the year following the members 16th Birthday.
5. All Ordinary members including Join Members shall be entitled to attend the AGM and have full voting rights and are eligible to stand for election as Officers or Committee Members' positions as available. Honorary members and junior members shall not have voting rights.
6. A member will be deemed to have lapsed if subscription fees have not been received by the by the date of the AGM.
7. All members suspended under the GCCF Constitution (Article 12) and wishing to rejoin the Club need to apply to the Honorary Secretary in the first instance.
8. A person shall have been a member for at least one year and have renewed their membership before asking the Club to support an application for a prefix.
9. **Fees:**

All membership fees will be reviewed annually at the AGM, fees will comprise

Single Ordinary Membership

Joint Ordinary Membership

Junior Membership

1. **Officers & Committee:**

The management of the Club shall be the responsibility of the elected representatives of the membership in the form of a committee which shall consist of:

1. Chair
2. Vice Chair
3. Honorary Secretary
4. Honorary Treasurer
5. Up to 9 Ordinary Committee Members
6. All officers are elected for 3 years, One Officer and 3 Committee members shall retire annually in rotation but will be eligible for re-election if they so desire.
7. Any vacancy caused shall be filled by co-option by majority vote of the remaining members of the Committee. Any person so co-opted shall serve until the end of the year during which he/she was co-opted. They may stand for election at the next AGM.
8. Other persons may be appointed for specific duties or roles where appropriate as the Committee sees fit but shall not have a vote.
9. The Committee shall appoint the Show Manager & Assistant Show Manager. The Committee shall appoint a Show Committee if required.
10. **Duties of Officers & Committee Members**:

a. The Chair or Vice Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Club.

b. The Honorary Secretary shall record the minutes of all Club meetings and conduct all correspondence for the Club.

c. The Honorary Treasurer shall keep records of all financial dealing of the Club and produce a set of accounts for the AGM or as and when required by the Committee. Accounts for the AGM will be independently examined and a signed copy available for those present at the AGM.

All Officers, Committee members, members of the Club who have custody of books, documents (hard copy or virtual), monies or any other property belonging to the Club shall surrender these as requested by the Committee.

The Committee will have the power to make a decision on matters where no rule is provided.

1. **Honorary President, Vice Presidents:**

These positions will be recommended by the Committee for approval at the AGM. They shall hold office for three years. At the end of this period they shall retire but will be eligible for re-appointment. They may attend Committee meetings but are not eligible to vote at Committee meeting but may vote at the AGM if they are also fully paid up members of the Club.

1. **Meetings:**

Committee Meetings: The Committee shall meet as required for the business of the Club. Meetings of the Club can be “virtual – conference calls” or “face to face”. Group decisions on Club business will be acceptable by the use of email. It is the responsibility of the Honorary Secretary to call meetings as seen fit for the smooth running of Club business. Notice of meetings shall be sent to each Committee member 7 days prior to that meeting.

1. All meetings, including the AGM, will require a quorum of one Officer and five Members.
2. The AGM will be held in the second quarter of the year. Members will be circulated details by email or post if no email is available. The date of the AGM will be published on the Club Website. The Agenda for the AGM will be published on the Club website and sent with relevant paperwork to members 7 days before the meeting. Items for the Agenda should be with the Honorary Secretary 30 days prior to the published date of the AGM. All items for the agenda should have a proposer and a seconder. A quorum for the AGM is one Officer and five members.
3. A “SPECIAL” meeting shall be convened as and when the Committee feel it is needed. This may be a “virtual – conference call” or “face to face” meeting. Members may also call a “SPECIAL “meeting if needed. In such circumstances the members calling this meeting will be responsible for all costs incurred. 21 days notice of any such “SPECIAL” meeting will need to be given to all members of the Club.
4. Voting : At all committee meetings and the AGM matters shall be decided by a simple majority vote in the event of a tied vote the Chair will have the casting vote. On points of order the Chair’s decision is final. At the AGM this vote will be by a show of hands.
5. A postal vote will be held for the election of Committee members should the nominations exceed the places available. Only fully paid-up members are eligible to take part. An independent scrutineer will be nominated by the Officers and the Committee.
6. **Amendments to the Rules:**

Any proposed alterations to the rules must be passed by a majority of at least two thirds at the AGM or "SPECIAL" MEETING and take immediate effect.

1. **Finance:**

The financial year of the Club will be January 1st. to 31st. December, to which date the accounts of the club should be balanced. All expenses incurred by Officers, GCCF Delegates , BAC Representatives and Committee members should be submitted, supported by receipts prior to the 31st December. All payments on behalf of the Club via cheques need to be signed by any one of the following Officers –Chair, Honorary Treasurer, or the Honorary Secretary.

1. **Discipline:**

The Club shall have the power to withdraw membership from any member who, in its opinion, has behaved in a manor, contrary to the aims and objectives of the Club. Members will have the right to appeal and be heard before the Committee if this rule is evoked. A secondary appeal would be before a “Special” meeting of the Club with associated costs incurred.

1. **Breed Advisory Committee (BAC):**

The Club will be represented at the relevant BAC meetings. BAC Representatives will be elected at the AGM. The Committee will have the power to send a substitute delegate where needed.

1. **Dissolution of the Club**:

a. 14 days notice of any proposal to wind up the Club shall be given in writing to the members and a “SPECIAL” meeting shall be called to consider this proposal. The motion to dissolve the club needs to be passed by two thirds majority vote or by ballot or proxy vote.

b. In the event the club is dissolved the liabilities are to be discharged and any balance of funds donated to a charity promoting cat welfare chosen by the Committee. At this “SPECIAL” meeting (but at no other meeting) members will be allowed to vote by proxy.

Any enquiries regarding these Rules should be addressed the Honorary Secretary – current address available via the SBSHCC website.