

# World Cat Federation



**Statutes of the WCF World Cat Federation**  
Edition: 01.04.2017

## Table of changes

Date of changes	Concerned article	Short description of changes
01.04.2017	Article 10	<i>Addition of Honorary Presidents</i>
	Article 17	<i>Amended wording for submission of proposals</i>
	Article 20	<i>Rights and Duties of Honorary Presidents</i>
01.01.2009	Article 9	Reminders and expulsions may be sent by e- mail
	Article 17	Invitation to GA and publishing of proposals may be via e-mail
	Article 26	No board member in the DC

*Changes, valid with 01.04.2017 are written in Italic letters.*

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## **1. Name, Duration, Location, Purpose**

### **Article 1**

All clubs and organizations, as well as these organizations, which abide to the presented statutes, form an international federation for an undefined period of time.

### **Article 2**

This international federation carries the name WORLD CAT FEDERATION WCF with the addendum "e.V." after the registration is done.

It forms a club without economic purpose. Its residence is located in Germany, North-Rhine-Westfalia, Essen.

### **Article 3**

The federation abstains from any decision, which could interfere with the national autonomy and individuality of the federation's members.

### **Article 4**

The purpose of the WCF is to unite all clubs and federations regardless of their nationality, which are interested in wild, domestic and purebred cats, their husbandry and breeding. It promotes the breeding of cats, their welfare and improvement of the breeds.

It has set up the following purpose:

- Standardization of rules concerning exhibitions, titles and judges,
- Definition of breeds and standardization of breed standards,
- Recognition and adjustment of breeding books of the federations concerned,
- Introduction and regulation of an international register of cattery names,
- Edition of an official list of judges, which are educated or recognized by the WCF.

This enumeration is not final. The WCF may undertake any activities regarding domestic and wild cats.

## **2. Admission - Resignation – Expulsion**

### **Article 5**

The minimum number of members is three (3).

### **Article 6**

To become a member of the WCF, the applicant clubs and federations have to forward their application to the secretary general.

Only clubs and federations may become a member of the WCF, in no case single persons or companies.

### **Article 7**

Each application has to be forwarded to the next General Assembly, which will make a decision considering the statement of the board and the results of an inquiry made by the board.

All decisions regarding the admission need a simple majority of the present members with voting rights.

For the acceptance the amount of 100 members is requested, which the applying club has to proof by a notarized act or by declaration on oath.

In exceptional cases the board is entitled to accept members to the WCF on probation (patronage). Condition is that an existing club takes the patronage, if possible, and takes care of the compliance with the rules of the WCF. This provisional acceptance is valid only until the next general assembly, which will make the decision.

Organizations, which are under patronage, and full members pay the same fees.

CACM/CAPM of organizations, which are not affiliated to the WCF and in whose country other organizations are full members of the WCF, will not be recognized.

A patronage, granted by the board, may be confirmed by agreement of the general assembly in that way that the applicant club may become immediately a full member without a special agreement, if the requested documents are presented and the minimum number of members has been reached. An information about that is forwarded to all full members when such a situation has occurred.

### **Article 8**

The members of the WCF are obliged to recommend the participation in WCF exhibitions to their members.

Each member of the WCF may manage its own club in its home country, it is not permitted, however in no case, to found or promote a division of the organization or a similar organization in foreign countries (for example by awarding or recognition of the CACM / CAPM).

Each member of the WCF abides in its management to the regulations, which are currently valid in the WCF. These are for example the statutes, the show rules, the rules for judges and judge's pupils and the judges and classes of an exhibition.

Publications in WCF-actual, which have the character of rules, are valid provisionally until the next general assembly.

## **Article 9**

Membership in the WCF will be ended

- By resignation, which has to be announced to the secretary general by registered letter within the term of notice of 6 months before the end of a calendar (business) year.
- By expulsion because of severe violations, in particular because of non-compliance to the statutes, refusal to pay the fees, etc.

The expulsion is evaluated by the board and proposed to the next general assembly, which will decide with a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority of the present members with voting rights.

The decision is immediately in effect, it is irrevocable. Essential changes within the expelled club may, however, enable the club to apply again.

- If the requested fees (membership fee, fee for catteries, etc.) are not paid in time and after two reminders to pay, the membership is cancelled at the end of the year.

*Reminders and expulsions may be sent by registered letter including a reply coupon or by fax, as well as by E-Mail, if the Board receives a confirmation receipt by the recipient.*

## **3. Authorities**

### **Article 10**

The authorities of the WCF are

- the General Assembly of the members,
- the Board,
- the Commissions,
- the Auditors
- the Honorary Presidents

## **4. General Assembly**

### **Article 11**

The General Assembly is the highest authority of the federation. It is formed by the delegates of the members. Each member is entitled to one delegate with voting rights.

A delegate is permitted to represent only one member.

In addition to its delegate each member is entitled to participate with one advisor, who has only an advisory vote.

If a club does not have the possibility to attend the General Assembly, it may delegate its vote once. A second delegation is only possible again, if the member represented itself in the meantime in the General Assembly.

In case of a tie the president will decide.

## **Article 12**

The tasks of the General Assembly are,

- to appoint the members of the Board, of the Commissions and the Auditors,
- to approve or reject the budget and the annual accounts; the approval of the annual accounts constitute the discharge of the treasurer,
- to decide upon applications of new members,
- to decide upon the expulsion of a member according to the conditions set up in article 9,
- to evaluate the management of the board.

Moreover, the Assembly has all other rights, which may be derived from the statutes and which have not been expressly transferred to another authority.

## **Article 13**

The Assembly meets at least every second (2nd) year.

It is convened by the president as an ordinary meeting, as an extraordinary General Assembly also by the president upon request of a fifth part of the members of the WCF.

## **Article 14**

As a condition for their validity, at least half of the members must be represented at the general meetings. The members are obliged to announce their participation in writing to the secretary general at least 30 days prior to the begin of the General Assembly.

The General Assembly can take place with the actual number of members present.

## **Article 15**

A simple majority of members present is needed to set the decisions of the General Assembly into legal force, except in case of an expulsion and changes of the statutes, where a three quarter majority is needed.

The members of the General Assembly vote by a show of hands, unless a member requests voting by secret ballot.

## **Article 16**

The president of the WCF presides over the General Assembly. He may entitle a chairman of the day.

The minutes of the meeting are made by the secretary general or by a substitute. He submits the minutes to at least two persons for their statement, who attended the meeting, and will have signed it by the president.

## **Article 17**

The members of the WCF are convened at least 90 days before the date set for the General Assembly in WCF-actual or by letter, *preferably by e-mail or as download from a password protected member- area.*

They must submit their proposals to the secretary general 60 days before the General Assembly.

30 days before the set up date they will receive the agenda together with the proposals of the various members, preferably by e-Mail or as download from a password protected member-area.



**Article 18**

No decision can be made upon items not listed in the agenda unless the General Assembly decides otherwise by vote upon a written proposal which is presented by the president.

Proposals and questions must be written in German and English, if necessary in French or Spanish, if a member-organization has this language as its mother tongue.

**Article 19**

The meetings of the General Assembly are open to the members of the organizations of the WCF. The General Assembly may, however, exclude the public from certain items to be treated.

The WCF has the domestic authority in these General Assemblies and may thus exclude persons/clubs from the General Assembly.

## 5. The Board

### Article 20

#### Board

5. the board

5.1. the extended board

The board and the extended board are elected by the General Assembly. Only members of WCF- organizations may be elected.

#### 5. The board consists of:

- one president,
- one secretary general,
- one treasurer.

Regarding the statutes the board consists of the president, the secretary general and the treasurer. Each is a representative (§ 26 BGB).

Concerning inner affairs the secretary general and the treasurer are obliged towards the federation to be in presidential function in case the 1<sup>st</sup> president is unavailable as long as the 1st vice-president, in case of his unavailability, the 2nd vice-president is able to take over the presidential function and thus being able to represent the federation according § 26 BGB.

- a) The president presides over the activities of the WCF in all events. He supervises the adherence to the statutes and regulations, he presides at the meetings of the board and the General Assembly, unless he decides to delegate his power according to article 16. The president is member of the executive board.
- b) The secretary general centralises the activities of the board under the presidency of the president. He compiles the minutes of the meetings, distributes the suggestions and proposals, and dispatches the invitations. The secretary general is a member of the executive board.
- c) The treasurer prepares the accounts, collects the fees and dues, keeps the books and compiles an annual financial report. The treasurer is a member of the executive board.

#### 5.1. The extended board consists of:

- the 1st vice-president,
- the 2nd vice-president.

- d) The first and second vice-president represent the president, for example in representation tasks, and will give him all the support necessary. In addition they fulfill all the tasks delegated by the president to the vice-presidents.

In case the president becomes unavailable before the term of office, the 1st vice-president will succeed until new elections, and he will take over the function of the president with all rights and duties.

## **5.2 Honorary Presidents**

e) The Honorary President is a founding member and is elected by the General Assembly by simple majority.

Honorary Presidents handle assigned tasks. They are invited to board meetings and, like the managing board, are entitled to vote in all matters. A Honorary President is elected for life. The Honorary President upholds the reputation of the WCF, contributes to the wider dissemination of the WCF in other associations, performs tasks that are assigned to him and can represent the Board at Worldshows and Cat-Olimpia.

### **Article 21**

A joint signature of two, of the president and the secretary general or of the president and the treasurer is required in all bank transactions.

### **Article 22**

The members of the board and the extended board are elected every four (4) years, the members of the commissions every two years.

### **Article 23**

The board notifies the members of eventual vacant functions and elections.

Applications must be received by the board at least 60 days before the General Assembly. The agenda will list the names of the candidates.

Another candidate cannot be elected if it shall be a member of the board.

### **Article 24**

In general all functions are performed without any payment.

The members of the management are reimbursed for their travel and accommodation expenses, as well as for representation costs due to special reasons.

Expenses, caused by officials due to their function, have to be approved by the executive board, and then will be reimbursed.

## **6. Commission**

### **Article 25**

The commissions consist of 3 to 6 persons who will be selected and elected by the General Assembly according to their abilities for a term of two years.

These persons must be member of a club/federation of the WCF.

The members of the various commissions elect a chair-person per commission.

The commissions must meet before each General Assembly and have to submit a written report about the result of their work to it.

### **Article 26**

1. The Judges and Pedigree Registration Commission is instructed:

- to check the acknowledgement of new breeds and to define their standard,
- to change the standard of recognized breeds,
- to try to harmonize the LO-instructions in accordance with the actual standards,
- to make proposals for the licensing of judges to the board.

The Judges Commission consists of six members, where at least one must be a member of the board or the extended board.

2. The Show Commission is instructed:

- to elaborate and propose the organization or necessary changes of rules for a smooth running exhibition,
- to supervise the application of the rules during the exhibitions.

The Show Commission consists of three members, who organize shows; they should be of different countries, if possible, and one of the members must be a member of the board or of the extended board.

3. The Disciplinary Commission consists of three members.

No member of the board or extended board may be at the same time a member of the Disciplinary Commission. They prepare a statement for every presented case to the board.

### **Article 27**

These commissions (judges and standard, expositions, disciplinary) are free in building their opinion. They submit their statement to the board, who works on it, makes decisions or forwards it to the next General Assembly.

Proposals forwarded to the commission for a statement have to be sent via the members in writing in German and English, if necessary in French and Spanish, to the secretary general, who will inform the commissions responsible for them.

Directly addressed proposals forwarded by single members are inadmissible.

Proposals can only be forwarded by clubs, who are full members of the WCF; except new applications for membership. Single persons may not submit proposals.

## **7. Auditors**

### **Article 28**

Two auditors and one substitute, nominated by the General Assembly for two years, check the invoices and the balance about income/expenses/profit of the WCF and make a report to the General Assembly.

They are not allowed to be part of any other authority of the federation. The auditors are entitled at any time to look into the books and the records kept by the treasurer.

## **8. Disciplinary Commission**

### **Article 29**

The board may impose the following disciplinary punishments, after the statement of the Disciplinary Commission:

- call to order,
- reprimand,
- fine,
- temporarily limited expulsion from all or single events,
- expulsion of members from the commissions,
- temporary suspension of membership.

The competence for expulsion of a member (see article 9 b) is reserved to the General Assembly, an exception is made according article 9 c.

### **Article 30**

The board is responsible for imposing a punishment upon each member of the WCF, against everyone entrusted for a function by the WCF, as well as against each judge.

The person accused is entitled to be heard.

The appeal to the General Assembly is reserved for each person, upon which a disciplinary sanction was imposed; it has to be forwarded to the board within 30 days after the receipt of the decision, which has to include the time frame and the way of appeal.

The appeal has not any suspensive effect.

### **Article 31**

The decisions including the reasoning have to be forwarded to the concerned member by registered letter or by fax. An e-mail is valid, if the board receives a confirmation of receipt by the recipient.

## **9. Funds of the WCF**

### **Article 32**

The funds of the WCF consist of:

- the annual membership fees paid by the clubs and organizations,
- the fee for registration or renewal of cattery names,
- the allowances, donations and other incoming funds.

The General Assembly decides the height of fees and charges in Deutsche Mark and ECU.

### **Article 33**

Each member is requested to provide the necessary information to the treasurer for setting up the fees and charges.

The annual fee has to be paid without any request until March 31st of the current year. Non-observance of this regulation will result in an immediate loss of the voting right for this member being in delay.

Upon request the board may permit deviations for members having difficulties to fulfill their financial duties. All chargeable services of the WCF have to be paid immediately.

## **10. Annual Account and Budget**

### **Article 34**

The calendar year of the federation starts with January 1st and ends with December 31st.

### **Article 35**

The balance about income/expenses/profit has to be reported to the General Assembly. The treasurer is obliged to provide the members with an overview about the financial situation of the past business year at least 30 days prior to the General Assembly.

## **11. Changes of Statutes**

### **Article 36**

Each proposal for changing the statutes has to be forwarded to the board according to the regulation of article 38 to be taken into account in the next General Assembly.

The board presents the proposed changes to the General Assembly including its statement. For changes of statutes a three quarter majority of votes is required.

## **12. Liquidation of the Federation**

### **Article 37**

The General Assembly can decide upon the liquidation of the WCF.

If the quorum is not reached in the General Assembly, the president calls for a second General Assembly. Then, the liquidation of the WCF will be decided by simple majority without taking into account the quorum of members needed to be present.

## **13. Various**

### **Article 38**

The General Assembly may decide executive rules, which may not be in any case in contradiction to the currently valid statutes.

Every proposal for changes of the statutes, as already outlined in article 27, has to be submitted to the secretary general only by clubs and federations until December 31st of the year preceding the General Assembly, and in GERMAN, ENGLISH, if necessary in FRENCH or SPANISH.

### **Article 39**

All decisions of the WCF are binding for its members and their single members.

### **Article 40**

The statutes and the regulations of the members of the WCF must include a regulation which declares the decisions of the WCF binding for their members.

### **Article 41**

Resigned or expelled members of the WCF do not have any demand on the funds of the federation.

### **Article 42**

The official language is German. Further languages used for working are English, French, and if necessary Spanish.

### **Article 43**

A set of the statutes in German, English and French is kept at the seat of the WCF.