



APPEARANCE BASED REGISTRATION BOOK (RIA*)

** RIA for « Registre d'Inscription au titre de l'Apparence », in French*

The RIA is intended for :

1/ cats having the appearance of a given breed who are not registered with LOOF or in a Book of Origins recognized by LOOF if the cat has been imported.

2/ cats having a cat of unknown origin in their ancestry (an ancestor not registered in a Book of Origins recognized by LOOF).

The RIA is an annex of the main Book of Origins, allowing to register four controlled generations before the descendants are allowed to join the main Book or RIEX of the breed.

RIA registered cats must be bred to subjects of determined breed registered in the main Book (neither RIA, RIEX nor RF except in case of an exceptional authorisation of the Standards Commission).

When all the registration rules below are completed over 4 full generations, the offspring may be registered in the main Book or RIEX depending on the breed.

RIA registered cats, except for those of a new breed, variety or colour, are accepted for Championship in a LOOF cat show and are eligible to obtain their title certificates if they are of sufficient quality.

Registration rules

Initial registration (RIA1)

Only cats over 10 months whose appearance is one of a breed recognized by LOOF may be registered in the RIA.

The person who files a request should address a RIA registration application to LOOF using the form entitled « DEMANDE INITIALE D'ENREGISTREMENT AU RIA ».

When the complete file is received, the person in charge within LOOF contacts the cat's owner to define the practical examination conditions.

The breed determination will be carried out by two entitled LOOF judges, either in LOOF's premises, in a cat show or other event organised under the aegis of LOOF (judges seminar, conformity session ...)

The cat should be very close to the breed standard, be in perfect physical condition, clean and amenable to handling (clipped cat claws).



If a detectable hereditary pathology is known in the breed, the cat should prove free of that affection by a test performed by a LOOF-accredited laboratory. The list of affections for each breed is published on LOOF's website and updated according to scientific research. The Standards Commission may, under the Scientific Council recommendations, request additional clinical tests should the breed, variety or colour mandate them.

When parentage with a cat registered with LOOF or by a federation recognized by LOOF can be proven (parentage compatibility must be computed with both parents by a LOOF-accredited laboratory), the relevant part of the ancestry may be taken into account.

If the RIA registration is granted, the genealogical document delivered, which is different from the pedigree of the cats registered in the main Book, includes the following information:

- cat name
- RIA number
- breed appearance
- sex
- date of birth (if known)
- identification number
- coat colour
- hair type (if need be)
- ancestry of one parent (if applicable, based on genetic parentage testing)
- characteristics (if any)
- owner's name and address
- publication date of the RIA registration certificate
- genetic test results

Thanks to this document, the offspring of the cat may be registered as a 2nd generation of RIA (RIA2).

Registration of subsequent generations

In order for its offspring to get a pedigree, a cat registered in the 2nd, 3rd or 4th generation of the RIA must have obtained two "EXCELLENT" at the age of 10 months or older and be proven free of any detectable hereditary pathology specific to the breed.

When an imported cat is to be registered in the 2nd, 3rd or 4th generation of the RIA, pictures of the cat must be provided together with the pedigree of the cat emitted by a federation or club recognized by LOOF. Prior to breeding the cat, the two « excellent » certificates obtained in LOOF cat shows and the results of genetic tests specific to the breed must also be provided.

RIA registration may also concern a cat whose ancestry is proven false due to a wrong parentage declaration, if real parentage cannot be asserted ; this may for instance be detected in case of coat colour inconsistency with the declared parents' coat colour. In this case, LOOF may remove part of the declared ancestry on the cat's pedigree and register the cat and its offspring in the RIA.



Examples of exclusion

Following the Environment Ministry's request not to deliver pedigrees to animals who are not legally considered as domestic (NB: in breeds resulting from hybridisation, only hybrids of the 5th generation (F5) or more may be considered domestic, under the condition that hybrid ancestors on their pedigree were mated exclusively with domestic cats), no RIA registration can be done for Bengal, Chausie and Savannah breeds, including imported cats. Savannah and Chausie may be presented for breed determination in order to be registered in the Lineage Registry (see case 4 in the RF rules).

Logically, since a polydactyl cat cannot obtain an « excellent » in a cat show, no RIA registration will be done for a cat bearing this structural deformity.