

GCCF REGISTRATION POLICY FOR MAINE COON CATS

A: Outcrosses are not permitted between Maine Coons and any other variety of pedigree or non-pedigree cat. Breeders are advised to research pedigrees very carefully before importing cats since some registering bodies may accept colours and patterns which are unacceptable in GCCF pedigrees.

B: The acceptable colours and patterns of Maine Coon for registration on the Full or Supplementary Register are: Solid (Self), Smoke, Classic/Mackerel Tabby, Shaded, Bicolour and Particolour in Black, Blue, Red, Cream, Tortie and Blue Tortie, including "& White".

C: The following patterns are not recognised for showing but are acceptable in the pedigrees of Maine Coon cats:

Spotted Tabbies, Ticked Tabbies and Van patterned bi- and tricolours in Black, Blue, Red, Cream, Tortie and Blue Tortie. This does not indicate any future intention to recognise these patterns for showing.

1 FULL REGISTER

Maine Coons with full recognition which have in their pedigrees within the preceding five generations only Maine Coons as listed in B above shall be registered on the Full Register.

2 SUPPLEMENTARY REGISTER

Maine Coons with full recognition which have in their pedigrees within the preceding four generations only Maine Coons as listed in Band C above shall be registered on the Supplementary Register.

3 REFERENCE REGISTER

- a. Maine Coons listed in C above which have in their pedigrees within the preceding four generations only Maine Coons as listed in Band C above shall be registered on the Reference Register as Maine Coons.
- b. All cats of Maine Coon appearance, which have in their pedigrees within the preceding four generations any breed other than Maine Coons as listed in B or C above shall be registered on the Reference Register as the appropriate colour of Semi-Longhair with no reference to Maine Coon type. The offspring of matings between Maine Coons and any other pedigree or non-pedigree cat shall be registered on the Reference Register as the appropriate colour of Semi-Longhair or Shorthair, with no reference to Maine Coon type and with no progression as Maine Coons
- c. Any Chocolate, Lilac, and Colour-pointed offspring produced by Maine Coons cats should be registered on the Reference Register as Unclassified Longhair of Maine Coon Type (XLH <MCO>). Neither these nor their progeny will be recognised or registered as Maine Coon cats, and they are not acceptable in the pedigrees of Maine Coon cats.
- d. Maine Coons which have in their background unregistered cats within four generations. These cats will only be recognised as Maine Coons if they are imported into the United Kingdom with a certified pedigree from their country and area of origin Northeastern USA States.
- e. No other cats may be registered as Maine Coons. No outcrosses are allowed and there are no variants.

However, the BAC do not consider this to be an issue for the breed in the UK as a considerable number of entire Maine Coons from many different breeding lines have been

imported from continental Europe since the mid 1980's and new lines continue to be imported today. This means that we have a constant trickle of new bloodlines broadening and strengthening the breed and the gene pool in the UK

Note: In addition to the registers above which can affect breeding and showing, the suitability for breeding will also be controlled by the Breeder by a decision on each kitten's breeding status.

NOTE 1: WHITE CATS

Breeders of Solid White Maine Coon cats must comply with GCCF Rules, Section 1, Rule 1g which states as follows:

“Before any progeny may be registered from any breed of white cat, male or female, this cat must have had a BAER or OAE certificate of freedom from unilateral or bilateral deafness submitted to the GCCF Office. White cats without such certification will be registered on the non-active register until such time as the required certificate is sent and an application for transfer to the active register is made. Cats should be microchipped when tested with the number recorded on the test result and the cat's own veterinary records. (Added 24.02.2016, Effective 01.06.2016)”

NOTE 2: POLYDACTYL CATS

Polydactyly in Maine Coon cats is inherited as an autosomal dominant trait with incomplete penetrance and variable expressivity. Polydactyl cats are registered by some registration organisations and can be shown with the EMS Code MCP (TICA), Polydactyl cats are not allowed to be registered in GCCF, but to allow for polydactyly in the pedigree, all imported cats will require DNA testing as the variable level of expression could lead to polydactyl cats being inadvertently registered. All negative imported cats will therefore have the GEMS code MCO in the pedigree instead of MCP

NOTE 3: RED SERIES

All Red, Cream (Breed) with one or more Tabby or Shaded parent(s) must be registered as Red, Cream Tabbies or Shaded until proven otherwise by genetic testing (proof to be supplied with registration documentation).

- a. No cat may be registered as a Tabby or Shaded unless it has an agouti parent.

DNA Testing

HCM (MYBPC3), Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) & Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency (PK-Def)

All Maine Coon cats registered on the active register from 1st January 2024 MUST be tested for the one known Maine Coon HCM gene (i.e., HCMmc: the A31P mutation in the MYBPC3 gene), SMA, and PK-def. The only method of testing that will be accepted is as follows; the cat is microchipped; a swab is taken by a vet or RVN registered vet nurse and the veterinary health certificate must state that the microchip number was verified by the vet or RVN registered vet nurse, and it must match the cat's veterinary records and vaccination card. The certificate must also include the veterinary practice's official stamp. The veterinary health certificate (DNA Test Results certificate) must also clearly show the test requested was for the requested gene.

Please note cats that on the Genetic Register can still be shown and bred from. There will be no exceptions to this testing method for any breeding Maine Coon being registered from the

effective date.

1. Active Register a. all cats testing normal (clear) of the known Maine Coon HCM (MYBPC3) gene, SMA and PK-def
2. Genetic Register a. all cats testing positive heterozygous or positive homozygous for the known Maine Coon HCM (MYBPC3) gene, SMA and PK-def

Note:

From 1 January 2024 Homozygous cats born after this date will not be eligible for Active registration.

From 1 June 2024 Heterozygous cats born after this date will not be eligible for Active registration

IMPORTS (Overseas and from other recognised registering bodies in the UK)

A 5-generation certified pedigree must be provided with the application for registration of any imported Maine Coon. The pedigree of an imported Maine Coon must conform to the GCCF registration policy, and no exceptions are made in the breeds or varieties permitted to be present in the pedigree.

Any application for the registration of an imported unneutered Maine Coon must be accompanied by DNA test results (carried out as above) demonstrating that the imported cat is free from the following:

HCMmc

Spinal Muscular Atrophy

Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency

Polydactyly

Chocolate, cinnamon and Siamese (cs) and Burmese (cb)

DNA testing is not required for neutered cats providing all the following criteria have been met:

1. A Certificate of Neutering is supplied to including the cat's details (registered name, date of birth, registration number, sex and microchip number (microchip number has been scanned and verified by the vet or RVN registered vet nurse). The certificate must also include the veterinary practice's official stamp
2. The cat does not exhibit any of the following traits: polydactyly (extra toes), Chocolate, Cinnamon and Siamese (cs) and Burmese (cb) colours/patterns.

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