



# THE FELINE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC

[www.felineassociationsa.com](http://www.felineassociationsa.com)

## SHOWING YOUR CAT with the Feline Association

*Desexed cats can be shown, so can kittens (over 3 months of age & vaccinated) & unpedigreed cats.*

Show cats need lots of grooming and good nutrition to maintain purrfect show condition. Cats' claws need to be clipped before the show. A carry box is essential. Your cat needs to be up to date with vaccinations & worming, and if it is still a kitten (under 9 months) you will need to bring your vaccination certificate with you (signed by a vet). Cats are shown in different groups, each group usually being judged by the one judge and usually you can watch your cat being judged. Cat shows are held on Sundays, once or twice a month February through until November.

### How do you know when shows are on?

It is recommended that you join the Feline Association (or one of its clubs), then you will automatically be sent a copy of the magazine, containing the show calendar, and copies of show schedules as they become available, or check the FASA website [www.felineassociationsa.com](http://www.felineassociationsa.com).

Your entry will need to be completed and sent along with appropriate fees several weeks before the show. If you need help filling it out, phone either the show manager, or preferably the person who bred and sold you your cat.

FASA has 'show hosts' who can help you through the process if you are new to it all, just let us know if you would like some help.

### What happens at shows?

Pedigree cats are shown in different groups of breeds, each group usually being judged by the one judge. Domestic (unpedigreed) cats can also be shown, and have their own group. Shows are conducted as either a "Closed" or "Open" Show; the majority of shows in SA are "Open Style".

**Closed Show:** Once judging commences at a Closed Show the exhibitors/owners/breeders of the cats leave the hall and judges move from row to row, judging the cats assigned to them. Upon completion of the judging and once all awards have been placed on the cats' cages then exhibitors and members of the public are allowed back into the hall. The element of surprise is there as it is not until the owners return to their cats that they find out the results.

**Open Style Show:** The exhibits are set out in bays, with seating provided for exhibitors and the public. The judges' move from bay to bay to complete their judging assignment and provide a commentary on each exhibit as it is judged. Unlike Closed Shows you get to watch your cat being judged and the results are known as they happen.

Both styles of shows can consist of anywhere between 1 - 6 rings. The rings are run concurrently throughout the show hall, with each ring being presided over by a different judge. Each of the judges present their own awards, independent of the decisions of the other judges. So an exhibit which is chosen "Best of Breed", Best of Group" or "Best in Show" may not be given the same award by the judges in the other rings.

All exhibits are evaluated by each judge and judged according to a written "Standard" for its breed. A breed standard is precise enough to allow judges to evaluate cats accurately, yet flexible enough to leave room for differences in interpretation.

### What to Do

The show day begins with Vetting-In, usually between 7am and 8.30am. Pick up your vetting slip as you go through the door. All exhibits must pass an inspection by the attending Vet. If an exhibit is found to be suffering from any disease or flea infested it will not be permitted to enter the show hall and must be removed from the precincts of the show.

**DO NOT take your cat to a show if you suspect any health problem (sneezing, runny eyes, diarrhoea, etc).**

After Vetting-In has taken place, take your cat to the cage number on the card, set up your cat in the cage, with curtains and cushions. Colour & design of curtains & cushions is left to the owner.

Cage Sizes are: Single (18" x 18"), or 21" x 21" for Group 1 and large Group 3 cats, and Double (18" x 36") (for entire males, litters and/or exhibition only).

Judging normally commences at 9am and depending on the number of exhibits can continue until 4pm. After judging, you will find yourself discussing the finer points with other owners and breeders and maybe picking up a few tips.

The Show Co-ordinators are always looking for volunteers, so if you would like to fill your day, learn more about cats and make new friends, volunteer to help out in some way (writing up cards, helping in the kitchen, etc). Let the Show Manager know you are new to the game, and they will appoint someone to help you if they can - or else look out for the FASA rep or host on the day (they should be wearing a badge or ask at the FASA table).



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All exhibits must remain on exhibition until the Show Manager announces it is time to pack up & go home. If you need to leave early for some reason, make sure you speak with the Show Manager first. Dismantle your cage before you go. Remember the show is run by volunteers and everyone would like to get home at a reasonable time, so it is greatly appreciated if you contribute in some way to the taking down of the show.

Whether your cat wins or not, make sure you lavish attention on him.

## Check List: things you will need to take to the show -

Cat, cat box, cushion, curtains, maybe a towel to cover the cage to let puss settle, maybe a warm wheat bag, litter tray, litter, food, food bowl, water bowl, vaccination certificate (for kitten).

## Showing Groups for Pedigree cats

Group 1: Persian, Exotic Shorthair, Birman, Maine Coone, Norwegian Forest Cat, Ragdoll, Turkish Van

Group 2: Siamese, Oriental, Foreign White, Balinese

Group 3: Abyssinian, Australian Mist, Bengal, Bombay, British Shorthair, Burmese, Burmilla, Cornish Rex, Cymeric, Devon Rex, Japanese Bobtail, Korat, Manx, Ocicat, Russian, Scottish Fold, Scottish (Shorthair & Longhair), Selkirk Rex ( Longhair & Shorthair), Singapura, Somali, Sphynx

Group 4: Domestic (unpedigreed and part pedigreed) "Companion Cats".

## FASA Show Help:

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## FASA Club Contacts:

### FESTIVAL CITY CAT CLUB

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### PERSIAN BREEDERS CAT CLUB

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