



I took over from Ginny White midterm as chairman of BH&W when she resigned due to personal reasons. Thank you, Ginny, for all your hard work for the last few years in BH&W.

The main themes are members not being aware that FIFe rules had changed from 01.01.2023 regarding age of kittens at rehoming changing from 12 weeks to 14 weeks. (FIFe B&R 2.3.3).

Where we were made aware kittens were advertised, they could leave at 12 weeks old, this was dealt with by their club pedigree secretary to avoid this rule being breached. The kittens who went to their new home prior to 14 weeks old were referred to the DCO as a potential breach of FIFe B&R 2.3.3 but our recommendation this should be dealt with as an advisory notice.

We would encourage all individual members to ensure they keep up with changes in FIFe rules and the member clubs to cascade this information out and keep their websites up to date with the most current information. We asked the General Secretary to notify the clubs where we identified the information was out of date and ask them to update their websites.

We have jointly advertised the changes to FIFe rules with Show Commission that affect individual members on the Felis Britannica Facebook page as this gets good engagement. As well as being posted on the front page of the Felis Britannica webpage.

We had 2 cases since June of of individual member breeding a queen more than 3 times in a 24-month period. FIFe B&R rule 3.3 which were referred to the DCO for potential breach of FIFe rules.

We have had two cases of kittens not being registered with Felis Britannica later than 8 months (Felis Britannica Breeding Rules 4.2.2) which was also referred to the DCO for potential breach of Felis Britannica rules.

We had a cat vet out at a show and did not receive the clearance paperwork within the required time frame therefore this case was referred to the DCO.

We were made aware that the first case of a new strain of Feline Coronavirus provisionally been called FCoV-23 had been identified in the U.K. FCoV-23 was first identified in Cyprus, this new strain is a combination of FCoV and the highly pathogenic Canine Coronavirus (pCCoV). FCoV-23 appears to be more virulent than existing FCoV due to the fast spread across Cyprus with a higher conversion rate from FCoV-23 to FIP. In light of this we have reviewed the veterinary rules and have submitted a proposal to a change to the rules allow fast response to any emerging serious infectious disease.

There has been confusion regarding vaccination requirements for shows, to make it easier for exhibitors and show managers. These are based on the guidelines published by This guidance is based on the Guidelines for the Vaccination of Dogs and Cats. Compiled by the Vaccination Guidelines Group (VGG) of the World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WAVA). These are evidence-based guidelines to reduce the use of unnecessary vaccinations particularly when Feline Injection Site Sarcoma (FISS) is a concern for cats whilst still maintain adequate protection for show cats.

I would like to say a big thank you to Andrea Dean, BH&W Deputy and our clearance office, and Margaret Scott our Registrar for all of their hard work.

Nadine Duffin  
BH&W Chair