



THE CAT FANCIERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.®

World's Largest Registry of Pedigreed Cats

The Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc. 2015 BREED COUNCIL POLL

AMERICAN CURL

Breed Council Secretary: Michael Bull, Murrietta, California

Total Members: 10

Ballots Received: 8

- 1. PROPOSED:** Under General Description remove “proper proportion and balance are more important than size” and “allowance is to be made for normal male characteristics.”

Current:

GENERAL: The distinctive feature of the American Curl is their attractive, uniquely curled-back ears. The original American Curl, a long haired female named Shulamith was first noted in Southern California in 1981. Selective breeding began in 1983. Curls are elegant, well balanced, moderately muscled, slender rather than massive in build. Females weigh 5 to 8 pounds, males weigh 7 to 10 pounds. Proper proportion and balance are more important than size. Allowance is to be made for normal male characteristics. They are alert, active, with gentle, even dispositions.

Proposed:

GENERAL: The distinctive feature of the American Curl is their attractive, uniquely curled-back ears. The original American Curl, a long haired female named Shulamith was first noted in Southern California in 1981. Selective breeding began in 1983. Curls are elegant, well balanced, moderately muscled, slender rather than massive in build. Females weigh 5 to 8 pounds, males weigh 7 to 10 pounds. ~~Proper proportion and balance are more important than size. Allowance is to be made for normal male characteristics.~~ They are alert, active, with gentle, even dispositions.

RATIONALE for removing sentence that “proper proportion and balance is more important than size”: This sentence was inserted into the Standard in the American Curl’s early days in the show halls as a temporary exception. In the early days, there were few American Curls available to be shown that were excellent representatives in size, and details of structure, with excellent ears. This language was added to be more inclusive to allow larger cats otherwise discouraged from being in the show halls to be shown with the understanding these cats displayed ideal traits but their size was not desirable. Once the American Curl achieved

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Championship status, this sentence should have been removed. It has generated confusion because it contradicts the specific weight guidelines that provide the boundaries for the ideal American Curl size which is a major part of the identity of the American Curl. It is time to remove this sentence and refocus on the specific ideals of the American Curl.

RATIONALE for removing “allowance for normal male characteristics”: Removing this sentence reduces contradictions and avoids confusion.

YES: 8

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

STANDARD CHANGE (passes)

Votes: 8

60% of Voting: 5

2. **PROPOSED:** Include weight limits for both males and females currently included in General Description to size of body in Body/Size description criteria and remove “allowances for larger males”.

Current:

BODY: **Size:** intermediate, with allowances for larger males.

Proposed:

BODY: **Size:** intermediate, ~~with allowances for larger males.~~ females weigh 5 to 8 pounds, males weigh 7 to 10 pounds.

RATIONALE for including weight limits to description of body/size: Specific size measurements were added to the General Description of the American Curl Standard so that in the future, as the breed developed, breeders would be held to a measurable criteria for size of both males and females. This same measurable criteria should be used for judging this breed. Because the weight limits are not included in the scoring section of the Standard, some judges have stated that weight is not a criteria for evaluating a cat for showing. To eliminate any discrepancy in the importance of the size limitations for the breed, the weight limits for both males and females should be included in both General Description and Body/Size section of the Standard.

RATIONALE for removing “allowance for larger males”: The current allowance for larger males contradicts the General Description that males must be a maximum 10 lbs. The allowance “for larger males” was never intended to include a contradiction in the standard. It has been misapplied to allow males to exceed the 10 pound maximum size described in the General Description.

YES: 8

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

STANDARD CHANGE (passes)

Votes: 8

60% of Voting: 5

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