

NATIONAL CHINCHILLA SOCIETY



Brevicaudata & Lanigera

NCS

CONSTITUTION & SHOW RULES 2019 - 2020

Issued June 2019

N.C.S. Constitution

NAME

1.1. The society shall be called the 'National Chinchilla Society'

2. OBJECTIVE

- 2.1. To assist, advise and generally help members of the society in the breeding of animals known as Chinchilla Lanigera and Chinchilla Brevicaudata together with any mutant form of such animals.
- 2.2. To provide live animal shows as required by the membership.
- 2.3. To provide a journal called 'The Gazette' to give members up-to-date information regarding the breeding of Chinchillas and any other relevant information

3. MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1. The society shall consist of approved members who have paid their subscription on a yearly basis and whose application has been approved.

Membership for minors under the age of 18 is only allowed on a partnership basis with a parent or legal guardian. The membership will carry one (1) vote, the minor being a nonvoting member of the society. The annual subscription shall be the same as for a partnership of two named persons with one (1) vote only.

- 3.2. If, in the opinion of the Committee, the conduct of any member has been prejudicial to the welfare, breeding or exhibiting of Chinchillas or likely to prove injurious to the character, reputation or interest of the N.C.S., the Committee may, after giving the member opportunity to be heard, determine either;
 - (a) To suspend the member for a period as it may seem fit,
 - (b) To give a warning if mitigating circumstances should so warrant,

(c) To expel the member from the N.C.S.

No such determination shall be made unless the Secretary has given to each member of the Committee and to the member concerned notice of a Special Committee Meeting and of the business to be discussed. Such notice shall be in writing and be given no less than fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting. Any member suspended or expelled shall have the right of appeal to a Special General Meeting of the N.C.S. and to attend and state their case, and be re-instated if the appeal receives a simple majority.

4. MANAGEMENT

4.1 The general affairs of the society shall be managed by a Committee of not more than seven (7) members elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.

4.2 The Committee shall be comprised of the following Officers;_ President, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary/Treasurer, Editor/Website Manager, and Show Member.

5. THE COMMITTEE

5.1 The Committee shall hold a meeting at least once (1) per year, more if the Committee or any three (3) of it's members consider fit. In the latter case a written request shall be sent to the Hon. Secretary/Treasurer who shall send out notice of the meeting, giving at least seven (7) clear days notice to all members of the Committee. Two thirds of the Committee members shall constitute a quorum.

5.2 Nominees for National Committee positions must have served one year on a regional committee.

6. DUTIES OF THE ELECTED COMMITTEE

6.1 To determine all annual applications for membership of the society.

- 6.2 To control the funds and manage the day-to-day affairs of the society.
- 6.3 To provide standardised Show Rules, through the Show Member.
- 6.4 To publish 'The Gazette' through the Editor.
- 6.5 The Secretary is to supply an up-to-date list of members to the National Committee and Regional Secretaries.

7. **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

- 7.1 The annual subscription shall be £18.00 per member or partnership of two named persons. The subscription will carry one (1) vote only. The subscription shall be due on the 1st July each year.
- 7.2 The annual subscription shall be £25 for subscriptions for two (2) people in partnership and residing at the same address, receiving one Gazette and both eligible to vote at the A.G.M.
- 7.3 Overseas membership which carries one vote only to be £18.00 per year from July to June.
- 7.4 If members chose to receive a printed copy of the gazette rather than an electronic copy, there will be a £5 supplementary subscription for UK members and a £12 supplement for those living overseas. This applies over and above the subscription rates described above

8. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- 8.1 Not less than twenty-eight (28) days notice shall be given of the date and venue of the Annual General Meeting of the society and shall be held within three (3) months prior to the year ending 30th June to;
- 8.2 Receive the Hon. Secretary/Treasurers reports and balance sheet and reports from other officers.
- 8.3 To consider matters connected with the society and any new proposed alterations to the Constitution or Show Rules, prior notice of which must be sent to the Hon. Secretary/Treasurer to arrive not less than twenty-one (21) days before the date of the

- A.G.M. Both the proposer and the seconder must be present to support the proposition and it shall require the majority of two thirds of the voting members present to be approved.
- 8.4 To elect the Committee for the ensuing year.
- 8.5 Nominations for the National Committee positions must be received by the Hon. Secretary/Treasurer twenty-one (21) days before the date of the A.G.M. Nominations may also be taken from the floor at the A.G.M. In each of the above cases both the proposer and the seconder must be present with the nominee, or the written acceptance of the nomination signed by the nominee. The nominee will be appointed on a simple majority vote of the voting members present.
- 8.6 In the event of a tie occurring in a vote between two nominees then the Chairman shall have the casting vote having voted previously or not.

9. **EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING**

- 9.1 An E.G.M (maximum of two (2) in any one year) may be called by the Committee or by the written request of 10% of the membership. Details of the meeting must be sent to all members at least twenty-eight (28) days prior to the meeting. Only those items detailed will be discussed.

10. **SHOWS**

- 10.1 All shows are open to N.C.S. members only and are subject to N.C.S. Show Rules.
- 10.2 The National Show shall be organised and managed by the elected Show Member of the Committee or by a Sub-committee under his or her chairmanship.
- 10.3 Other than the National Show, shows may be organised with the Show Member's authority on a local basis. The venue and other such details shall be published in 'The Gazette'. All shows shall be self-supporting.

11. **THE GAZETTE**

- 11.1 Any expenses associated with the production of ‘The Gazette’, other than consumable items associated with printing and distribution, requires pre-approval from the National Treasurer or the National Committee
- 11.2 ‘The Gazette’ shall publish all matters of general information to the members. The Constitution and Show Rules shall be published annually with ‘The Gazette’ and/or be available on the NCS website. Members can request a copy to be posted or emailed to them by contacting the National Secretary.
- 11.3 Shows or exhibitions other than those sponsored by the N.C.S. may be advertised in ‘The Gazette’, providing the following criteria are met;
- (a) At least one member of the N.C.S. must be available during the show, dedicated to promoting the N.C.S.
 - (b) The N.C.S. must be clearly advertised on the stand.
 - (c) Permission of the Committee must be obtained prior to the show / exhibition.

12. **MERCHANDISE**

- 12.1 Any merchandise appertaining to the N.C.S. including those embodying the use of parts, or all of the N.C.S. logo, must be put before the N.C.S. National Committee for approval and funding.
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NCS Constitution Change History

This change history incorporates changes to the N.C.S. Constitution as enacted at N.C.S. Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings.

This change history is present for information only and does not constitute part of the N.C.S. Constitution.

This change history records changes from June 2005 onwards only.

Date	Rule Changed	Description
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June 2005	8.6	Added
June 2005	5.2	Added
June 2006	4.2	Role of Publicity officer scrapped. Role of Editor to include Website Manager
June 2006	10.4 Deleted	Deleted – 10.4 The National Show shall be the last show of the season.
June 2010	7.3 amended	From:- Overseas membership to be £20.00 per year from July to June . To:- Overseas membership to be £20.00 per year from July to June, or £10 should overseas members opt not to receive a Gazette and to give up voting rights
June 2013	Added to end of 3.1	Membership for minors under the age of 18 is only allowed on a partnership basis with a parent or legal guardian. The membership will carry one (1) vote, the minor being a nonvoting member of the society. The annual subscription shall be the same as for a partnership of two named persons with one (1) vote only.
June 2013	7.1 Amended 7.2 Amended 7.3 Amended	Annual subscription increased to £18 Annual subscription increased to £25 Annual subscription increased to £30
June 2016	8.1 Amended	From:- Not less than twenty-one(21) days..... To:-Not less than twenty-eight (28) days.....
June 2016	8.3 Amended	From:- not less than twenty-eight(28) days..... To:-not less than twenty-one(21) days

		Add alterations to the constitution ‘ or Show Rules’, prior notice.....
June 2016	8.5 Amended	From:-twenty-eight (28) days before date of the A.G.M. To:-twenty-one (21) days before the date of the A.G.M.
June 2016	11.1 Amended	From:- At each Annual General Meeting, a fixed sum shall be allocated to the Editor to cover the costs of publishing ‘The Gazette’ for the ensuing year. To:- Any expenses associated with the production of ‘The Gazette’, other than consumable items associated with printing and distribution, requires pre-approval from the National Treasurer or the National Committee.
June 2016	11.2 Amended	From:- Rules governing all shows shall be published annually with ‘The Gazette’. To:- The Constitution and Show Rules shall be published annually within ‘The Gazette’ and/or be available on the NCS website. Members can request a copy to be posted or emailed to them by contacting the National Secretary.
June 2016	12.1 Amended	Text deleted.Any merchandise, once approved, must be made available to each region via the regional secretaries. Advertising for any said items to be through the ‘Chin-fo’ supplement at no cost.
June 2018	7.3 Amended	Change subscription fee from £30 to £18. Omit “ or £10 should overseas members opt not to receive gazette and to give up

voting rights.”

N.C.S. Show Rules

Shows - The scope of the shows organised by the N.C.S. show rules shall be;

- **National Show** – The venue and date of the National Show shall be determined by the Show Member in consultation with the N.C.S. Committee.
- **Regional Shows** – Shows may be organised under the Show Member’s authority on a local basis. The venue and other details of such shows shall be published in ‘The Gazette’. All shows shall be self-supporting.
- **Judges** – All N.C.S. approved show judges which may include invited judges must be appointed by the Show Member.
- **Advertisement** – All N.C.S. Shows must be advertised in ‘The Gazette’ and are only open to fully paid up members of the N.C.S..

1. The closing dates and times of entry are to be decided by the Show Committee. Unless otherwise stated, the Show Committee will consist of members of the Regional Committee associated with the show or for the National Show, members of the National Committee.

2. The making of an entry and the payment of the entry fee shall be taken as an acceptance by an exhibitor of the general show rules and local show rules as published.

3. The Show Committee, through its show registrar, shall have the right to refuse any entry from a member.

4. If an exhibit be declared disqualified or withdrawn for any reason after entry fee has been accepted by the show registrar, the

owner shall not be entitled to the return of the entry fee. The Show Committee can, however, review individual cases and grant a refund.

5. The Show Committee must appoint and publish the names of an APPEALS COMMITTEE. The Appeals Committee shall consist of N.C.S. members who are able to make correct decisions regarding the animals or situations presented to them, i.e. colours, show rules, health, etc. Should any dispute arise at a show the matter must be referred to this Committee. Their decision is final.
6. There must be at least three (3) animals of the same colour phase to constitute a class. Where there are less than three (3) exhibits these colour phases will be judged together in one class designated 'Any Other Colour' (AOC). More than one first ribbon may be awarded in the AOC class (This only applies to different colour phases). This rule does not apply to any other class.
7. Only first ribbon winners or second to the first ribbon winners will be eligible for Group or Champion Awards.
8. Judges may withhold the awarding of ribbons if they are not warranted.
9. The names of 1st and 2nd award winners must not be made available or disclosed in any way to the judge until all judging has been completed.
10. The show registrar or an official should make a return of all the award winners for publication in 'The Gazette'.
11. All animal entries must be exhibited in official show cages. Cage sizes are to be 254mm (10 inches) long by 203mm (8in) wide by 254mm (10in) high, made from 25mm (1in) square 16-gauge wire, with 13mm (1/2in) square wire floor raised 25mm (1in) from the base

of the cage. Show cages should be clean and bright with a neutral, galvanised, aluminium or chrome finish.

12. Show cages must not be marked or carry any form of identification other than the official pen card, supplied by the Show Registrar.
13. Animals must not be removed from their cages after they have been accepted into the show, without the permission of the Show Committee. Once judging has commenced, no animal should be removed from the benching area unless permission has been obtained from the Show Manager. This includes break times.
14. Animals may have their date of birth marked on the back of their cage card, ONLY BY THE REGISTRAR at the request of the exhibitor. e.g. 15-10-05. Colour phase of the animals will be marked by the show manager, mutation colour will be marked by the Registrar on entry.
15. If any exhibitor or spectator endeavours to interfere with or influence judging in any way, the exhibit in question will be disqualified and the person may be asked to leave the hall.
16. No judge or judge under instruction may judge his or her own animals. This includes any animals previously owned or bred by them, the responsibility for this lies with the member entering the exhibit. Nor may they judge animals belonging to persons directly involved with themselves, i.e. relatives or business partners. Judges must not engage in any judging activity which could be construed as commercially beneficial to themselves at any time between the opening and final closing of the show.
- 16a. Upon making an entry in the mutation classes the exhibitor must state the colour classification of the animal. For Ebony based

mutations separate classes will be provided for medium or dark colour phases. The Judge may change this and his/her decision will be final.

17. Upon making an entry at a show the member gives an undertaking that their exhibits and other stock have not been in contact with any infectious or contagious disease for a period of twenty-eight (28) days prior to the date of entry and shall undertake that if any contact is made between the date of entry and the date of the show the registrar shall be notified immediately.
18. In the event of any question of health arising on the judging table or elsewhere, the judge or other official must refer to the Appeals Committee for a ruling.
19. The fur characteristics of an exhibit must be presented in its natural state. Dyeing or the use of any materials, which, in the opinion of the judge, alters the fur appearance in any way, will result in disqualification.
20. Whilst every care will be taken to ensure the safety of the exhibits, in no circumstances can the N.C.S. as a sponsoring authority, nor the organising Show Committee, be held liable for any loss or damage to the exhibits.
21. A list of all show trophies should be provided at each show, with space for the signature of each winner opposite each trophy and to be signed by each recipient. It is the responsibility of the Exhibitor to return the trophy in a clean condition and a timely fashion.
22. The organising Show Committee may offer ribbons, rosettes or printed cards at their discretion, providing awards are listed in the show schedule.

23. A copy of the show rules must be available at every N.C.S. approved show.
24. All animals brought onto NCS Show Premises, including car parks, must be entered into the show. Facility will be available for animals which have previously been agreed for exchange to be registered in the X class. These entries are not to be displayed publicly. All other NCS show rules apply
25. Members residing at the same address will have the same membership status, whichever is the highest qualified adopted.
26. Animals entered in a show must not carry identification marks such as ear tags or tattoos. Any animal exhibiting such markings will be disqualified.
27. Regions may advertise an assessment class, not for competition, in their show schedules organized by the Show Manager.
28. Show rules can be enacted as a result of a members vote in the National Annual General Meeting or by the Show Member in consultation with and the agreement of the majority of the National Committee and NCS appointed Judges
29. A separate (P class) will be offered for non-owner bred animals. This class will include both novice and main bench entries. Animals in this class will be split into separate classes as numbers allow, award winners in this class will not go forward for further awards. There will be no P class at the National Show.

N.C.S. Show Rules - Novice Section

- N1. Separate classes for Novices will be held, and each first ribbon-winning animal, or second to that first ribbon winner, will go on to compete for the group awards with the Champion Animals.
- N2. There will be six (6) classes, comprising;
- NA – Young Standard Females aged under 7 months
 - NB – Young Standard Males aged under 7 months
 - NC – Adult Standard Females aged 7 months and older
 - ND – Adult Standard Males aged 7 months and older
 - NE – Young Mutations aged under 7 months
 - NF – Adult Mutations aged 7 months and older
- N3. A member will be entitled to a maximum of five (5) years showing as a Novice but may elect to give up their Novice status at any time during this period. The 5 years 'Novice Status' for new members (from June 2006) does not start until the date the member exhibits for the first time.
- N4. Should a Novice win a maximum of three (3) Group Champion or Reserve Group Champion awards, with owner bred animals, their Novice status will be terminated.
- N5. Novice entries are not eligible for Breeder and Exhibitors Awards
- N6. All other N.C.S. show rules apply.
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N.C.S. Definitions

- **Member** – Wherever 'Member' is referred to, it shall mean a person or partnership who have been accepted into membership of the N.C.S. and whose subscriptions to the N.C.S. are fully paid up on or before the date of the show.

- **Young Stock** – Animals aged over four (4) months and under seven (7) months on the day of the show.
- **Adult Stock** – Animals aged seven (7) months and over on the day of the show.

N.C.S. Exhibitors Award

N.C.S. shows to have an “Exhibitors Award” to be presented to the Exhibitor with the highest number of points accumulated from owner bred animals entered in standard and mutation classes to a maximum of 5 qualifying animals. If more than 5 animals are entered by an Exhibitor then the 5 entries must be nominated at registration.

Clarifications:- Prior to the start of the show, each exhibitor wishing to take part must nominate five owner bred exhibits across both Standard and Mutation classes, with the points achieved (as per Breeders Award) accumulated to give a score. The highest score at each NCS show is the winner of the “Exhibitors Award”, and this result to be published in the Show Results.

N.C.S. Breeders Award

The number of entries eligible for either the Standard or Mutation Breeders Awards shall be unlimited.

The points scored by the best ten (10) entries ONLY to count or the award winning entries if less than ten (10).

The maximum points any individual animal may obtain is eight (8).

AWARD	POINTS
Grand Show Champion	8
Reserve Show Champion	7 ½
Best Standard	7
Best Mutation	7
Reserve Best Standard	6 ½
Reserve Best Mutation	6 ½
Best Adult Standard	6
Best Adult Mutation	6
Best Young Standard	6
Best Young Mutation	6
Reserve Best Adult Standard	5 ½
Reserve Best Adult Mutation	5 ½
Reserve Best Young Standard	5 ½
Reserve Best Young Mutation	5 ½
Best Adult Standard Male	5
Best Adult Standard Female	5
Best Young Standard Male	5
Best Young Standard Female	5
Reserve Best Adult Standard Male	4 ½
Reserve Best Adult Standard Female	4 ½
Reserve Best Young Standard Male	4 ½
Reserve Best Young Standard Female	4 ½
1 st In Class	4
2 nd In Class	3
3 rd In Class	2

Highly Commended	1
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NCS Show Rules Change History

This Change history incorporates changes to the N.C.S. Show Rules .
 This change history is present for information only and does not constitute part of the N.C.S. Show Rules.
 This change history records changes from June 2005 onwards only.

Date	Rule Changed	Description
June 2005	Show Rule 11	Show cages should be clean and bright with a neutral, galvanised, aluminium or chrome finish.
August 2005	Show Rule 26 Added	Rule added by Show Member in consultation with NCS Judges & National Committee.
End August 2005	Novice Section	Rule changed to allow Novice Status for 5 years, instead of for three years.
Nov 2005	Show Rule 14 Edited	From: Cage cards must not be marked in any way. Colour phase of the animal will be marked by the show manager. To: Under 7 months old animals may have their date of birth marked on the back of their cage card, ONLY BY THE REGISTRAR at the request of the exhibitor. e.g. 15-10-05. Colour phase of the animals will be marked by the show manager.
June 2006 AGM	Show Rule 24 Edited	From: Animals offered for sale at N.C.S. shows must be entered into the show. To: All animals brought onto NCS Show Premises, including car parks, must be entered into the show.
June 2006 AGM	Show Rule 27 Added	To be eligible to enter the NCS National Show you must have been a member for the current show season, and have attended at least one other show during the current show season.
June 2006 Judges	Novice Section	Words Added: 'or second to that first ribbon winner'

	Rule N1 Edited	
June 2006 AGM	Novice Section Rule N3 Edited	Words Added: The 5 years 'Novice Status' for new members does not start until the date the member exhibits for the first time.
June 2006 Judges	Novice Section Rule N4 Added	Should a Novice win a group champion or reserve award with an owner bred chinchilla at any show, then their Novice status will be terminated.
Nov 2006 Show Member	Novice Section Rule N4 Edited	From: Should a Novice win a group champion or reserve award with an owner bred chinchilla at any show, then their Novice status will be terminated. To: Should a Novice win a maximum of three (3) Group Champion or Reserve Group Champion awards, with owner bred animals, their Novice status will be terminated.
June 2007 AGM	Existing Rule 27 Deleted	"To be eligible to enter the NCS National Show you must have been a member for the current show season, and have attended at least one other show during the current show season."
June 2007 AGM	Rule 27 Added	Regions may advertise an assessment class, not for competition, in their show schedules organized by the Show Manager, open to Novice members only.
June 2007 AGM / Show Member	Rule 28 Added	Facility will be available for animals which have previously been agreed for exchange. The Show Manager must be informed at least 24 hours prior to the start of the show of this transaction and have the names of the persons and the details of the animals involved. All other NCS show rules apply.
June 2010 AGM	Rule 29 Added	N.C.S. shows to have an "Exhibitors Award" to be presented to the Exhibitor with the highest number of points accumulated (aligned with Breeders Award points) from owner bred animals entered in standard

		and mutation classes to a maximum of 5 qualifying animals. If more than 5 animals are entered by an Exhibitor then the 5 entries must be nominated at registration.
June 2010 Judges Meeting / Show Member	Breeders Award amended	Following line deleted from the breeders award rules:- “The minimum number of points needed to qualify for an award is ten (10).”
June 2011 Judges Meeting / Show Member	Show Rule 28 Amended	From: “Facility will be available for animals which have previously been agreed for exchange. The Show Manager must be informed at least 24 hours prior to the start of the show of this transaction and have the names of the persons and the details of the animals involved. All other NCS show rules apply.” To: “Facility will be available for animals which have previously been agreed for exchange to be registered in the X Class. These entries are not to be displayed publicly. All other NCS show rules apply.”
June 2015 Judges Meeting	Show rule 16a added	Upon making an entry in the mutation classes the exhibitor must state the colour classification of the animal. The Show Manager and Judge may change this and their decision will be final.
June 2016 Judges Meeting	Show Rule 1 Amended	Qualification of Show Committee. Add “ Unless otherwise stated, the Show Committee will consist of members of the Regional Committee associated with the show or for the National Show, members of the National Committee.”
June 2016 Judges Meeting	Show Rule 3 Amended	Delete words aftermember “without giving reason.”

June 2016 Judges Meeting	Show Rule 9 Amended	Delete word “ public” and Add.....not be made ”available or disclosed in any way to the judge,” until.....
June 2016 Judges Meeting	Show Rule 14 Amended	Delete” Under 7 months old” at start of rule and Add.....show manager “,mutation colour will be marked by the Registrar on entry.”
June 2016 Judges Meeting	Show Rule 16 Amended	Add.....engage in any” judging” activity which would
June 2016 Judges Meeting	Show Rule 19 Amended	Change of wording from.....alters the fur” type” in any way.... Toalters the fur “appearance” in any way
June 2016 Judges Meeting	Show Rule 20 Amended	Correcting typo from “not” to “nor”
June 2016 Judges Meeting	Show Rule 21 Amended	Add.....by each recipient. “ It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to return the trophy in a clean condition and a timely fashion.”
June 2016 Judges Meeting	Show Rule 23 Amended	Change of wording from ...show rules must be “on display”... To show rules must be” available “...

June 2016 Judges Meeting	Show Rule 24 Amended	Add text of rule 28 to be inclusive with existing rule 24."Facility will be available....."
June 2016 Judges Meeting	Show Rule 27 Amended	Delete word open to " Novice" members only. Change toopen to members only.
June 2016 Judges Meeting	Show Rule 28 Deleted	Text now added to rule 24
June 2016 Judges Meeting	Show Rule 28 Added	Show rules can be enacted as a result of a members vote in the National Annual General Meeting or by the Show Member in consultation with and the agreement of the majority of the National Committee and NCS Judges
June 2016 Judges Meeting	Novice Show Rule N5 Added	Novice entries are not eligible for Breeder and Exhibitors Awards
June 2016 AGM	Novice Show Rule N2 Amended	Change from 6 classes to 7 introducing an NP class to read:- There will be seven(7) classes comprising Add NP—Animals that are not owner bred.(Animals in this class will be split into separate classes as numbers allow, award winners in this class will not go forward for further awards.)

June 2017 AGM	Show Rule 29 Added	A separate (P class) will be offered for non-owner bred animals. This class will include both novice and main bench entries. Animals in this class will be split into separate classes as numbers allow, award winners in this class will not go forward for further awards. There will be no P class at the National Show.
June 2017 AGM	Novice Show Rule N2 Amended	Change from 7 classes back to 6 by omitting the ' NP class' Note:- animals previously entered in this class will now be entered in the new ' P class'.
June 2017 AGM	Show Rule 27 Amended	Change wording to omit '...open to Novice members only.' Note -: All members can enter animals for an assessment.
June 2018 AGM	Show Rule 16 Amended	Add 2 nd sentence. " This includes any animals previously owned or bred by them, the responsibility for this lies with the member entering the exhibit."
June 2019 AGM	Show Rule 16a Amended	<i>Add 2nd sentence. " For Ebony based mutations separate classes will be provided for medium and dark colour phases. Omit from next sentence " The Show Manager and" and commence with " The Judge</i>

NOTICE

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