



# Tasmanian Feline Association Inc.

*Also known as Tas Feline*

## **Code of Ethics for Tas Feline Breeders & Members**

*Each member upon signing an application for membership or renewal of membership of the Tas Feline shall in addition to agreeing to be bound by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Tas Feline, be also bound by the Tas Feline Code of Ethics relating to responsible cat ownership, including the welfare, breeding and disposing of cats by members as set out below.*

1. Breeders must breed with the intention of improving the standard of their chosen breed(s) and not for commercial purposes.
2. Kitten Age - A kitten will be no less than 10 weeks of age when it leaves the breeders care to go to a new home.
3. Cats & kittens should be handled sufficiently to ensure they are well socialized.
4. Health - A cat or kitten should be in the best possible health before it goes to a new home and as far as possible free of external and internal parasites such as fleas, ear mites and round worms and recently treated for these parasites with the new owner given documentation to that effect including when the animal is due to be treated again.
5. Kitten Care - It is the responsibility of the breeder to ensure as far as possible that the new owner knows how to care for and feed the cat or kitten. Written information covering the main points and a diet sheet should be provided.
6. Vaccination - A first vaccination injection should have been given between six and eight weeks of age if the kitten is to go to its new home at 10 weeks. It must be explained to the owner that the kitten is not fully vaccinated and must have further injections to protect it against Feline Infectious Enteritis (panleukopenia), Feline Rhinotracheitis and Feline Calicivirus (cat flu).
7. Desexing – All kittens sold as companion pets MUST be desexed prior to leaving the care of the breeder. All kittens that remain entire must stay in the possession of the breeder or be given or sold to a registered breeder only.
8. Microchipping – All kittens bred by a breeder MUST be microchipped and the registrar notified on the appropriate form of the microchip numbers which will be recorded against the entry of each kitten on the register.
9. Registration - All kittens must be registered even if they are intended as companion pets only. A cat must be transferred to the new owner to be shown.
10. Breeders shall ensure that when selling or transferring a cat to another person, whenever appropriate, documents as required by Tas Feline will be provided to the purchaser and/or transferee.
11. It is the responsibility of all breeders to ensure, as far as it is practicable, that all cats and kittens not required by the breeder are placed in permanent, safe and caring homes. Tas Feline does not condone or consider it ethical the sale of kittens to pet shops or agents for export.
12. To ensure that all animals in the care of the breeder and/or member are kept in clean, well ventilated, safe housing conditions and have access to clean drinking water and have good nutrition. They must be in good health and/or be under the care of a veterinary practitioner should they be unwell, be vaccinated and parasite free.
13. All members must comply with all State and Local Government laws concerning the keeping, management and welfare of cats.
14. Any member failing to observe the Tas Feline Code of Ethics in any form may be dealt with under the Rules and Regulations of the Tas Feline.

## Code of Conduct & Social Media Policy for Tas Feline Members

- Respect fellow members and treat them with fairness, courtesy and without discrimination
- Commit to a welcoming, harmonious happy and safe ambiance whilst working together to build a community
- Respect and uphold the good name, rules, regulations and the constitution of the Tasmanian Feline Association Inc.
- Act with honesty and integrity and lawfully
- Not act, write or speak in a way that may be perceived as bullying, intimidation, abusive, discriminatory or derogatory
- Use confidential information to disadvantage or discredit the Tas Feline or its members in any way
- Bring Tas Feline into disrepute by their actions, decisions or behavior
- Members must not criticize, disparage or make derogatory or negative comments about the Tas Feline, its members or affiliates, or any domestic or international judges either expressly or implicitly.