

## **Proposition 6 – An Explanation For Exhibitors** by Mary Kolencik, mdsiamese@yahoo.com

I don't know who first coined the term "Proposition 6," but I like it because it reminds me of a California ballot referendum. I like California, it is an interesting state, so I'm using that term to refer to resolution 6 from the 2010 annual.

Proposition 6 looks really complicated because it is long and we changed 30 or so show rules. In reality, most of the show rule changes were house-keeping. None of the software at Central Office has to be changed, and that should tell you that this is not as complicated as everyone fears. After you go through this with your first open, you will wonder what all the fuss was about!

Most of the changes to implement Proposition 6 will be transparent to the exhibitor. You will still enter your cat as an open, it will appear in your catalog as an open. You will still have to claim the champion title (when I say champion in this paper I mean premier as well). However, the judge will handle and evaluate your open as a champion competing with other champions for the purple ribbon and for the champion final spots. If your open wins the purple ribbon or makes a final, your open will earn champion points. These points will be "banked," or in the language of the show rules "held in abeyance," until you claim your cat's championship title as before. Winners' ribbons are gone (except for Novices, see below), your cat will now earn Qualifying Rings, and multiple opens in the same color class can use the same ring as a Qualifying Ring. After six QRs, you claim the champion title as before. That's it, that's the gist of the change from the exhibitor's perspective.

### **Details for Opens**

1. Enter your open as an open

Your cat still has to be "something" before it becomes a champion, so the open class still exists. Central Office needs to see your cat in the show catalog listed as an open to be able to correctly award Qualifying Rings (more on those in a minute). Continue to enter opens as opens.

2. Check the catalog to make sure your open is listed as an open

When you get to the show, check the catalog to make sure your open is marked OP in the catalog. Central Office must see OP to properly credit your cat for QRs. If your cat is not listed as OP, do NOT correct this on the Absentee & Transfer sheet at check-in. You will have to do a catalog correction with the master clerk. None of the judges need to know of the correction, just the master clerk.

3. Your open will earn a Qualifying Ring for each judge that does not DQ, WC (wrong color) or otherwise withhold awards.

Winners' Ribbons are gone for opens. Any cat in the champion color class that receives a 1, 2, 3 or – (dash) can use the ring as a Qualifying Ring. As long as the judge does not DQ or withhold on your cat, you get to use that ring as a QR.

Multiple cats in the same color class can use the same ring, there is no competition for QRs. The same number of QRs is required as WRs (mainland US, 6 QRs under at least 4 different judges).

One of the most common questions is “If there are four or more in the color class, how will I know if my cat earned a QR or was DQ’d?” The same way we know now – ask!

- a) Discreetly check with the ring clerk after the ring clerk has checked the judge’s class sheet. You might have to come back a little later to do this, or wait for a quiet time.
- b) Ask the master clerk. The judges’ class sheets are available for exhibitors to examine as required by the show rules. You can check them, or ask the master clerk to check the marked catalog. Master clerks, and ring clerks, are expecting many questions and are more than willing to help you, do not be afraid to ask for help. Just don’t wait until the end of the day when the MC is checking out judges.
- c) Wait for Herman. If your cat is not close to 200 points, you can wait for Herman to post updated ring information. It is only those people close to 200 who need to know so they can enter the cat in a later show or possibly transfer to grand. Most everybody else can wait for Herman.

If this turns out to be a serious issue, then we can adjust the rules to add a “green” ribbon (or whatever color) for those cats that were handled but not DQ’d.

#### 4. Sunday Transfers – the open to champion case is gone

The purpose of the Sunday transfer at a 2-day show was to have a mechanism for correcting the judges’ pages to reflect that an open transferred to a champion. Since all opens start out competing as champions and are already listed in the judges’ books as champions, there is no longer a need to make this transfer.

#### 5. Sunday Transfers – the champion to grand case is still possible, now including opens to grand.

If your open earns the 6<sup>th</sup> QR on the first day of a 2 day show (not a 6x6, but a single show held over 2 days) and has 200 banked champion points, you can transfer the open to grand for the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the show, but you must claim the champion title at the show or have pre-claimed it online.

There are a couple of ways this can happen. Your cat might have a couple of QRs coming in to the show and picks up the rest on the first day, with 200 points in the bank. Or you might be at a 10 ring show with 6 rings scheduled on Saturday (now allowed), where your cat earned all 6 QRs and made enough finals to bank 200 points on the first day.

But this is really really important – no cat can transfer to grand without first completing ALL of the requirements for champion. The requirements to champion are to earn 6 QRs under 4 different judges (in North America) in the same color class, claim the championship either prior to the show online or at the show paying the \$15 fee.

Let's say you are at an 8 ring show with 4 rings on Saturday and 4 on Sunday, you enter an open, the champion count is high, your open makes all 4 finals on Saturday and has 200+ points, can you transfer your open to grand on Sunday? NO. Your open must first complete all of the requirements for the champion title, which means your open needs 2 more QRs.

6. Claiming the Champion title – same as usual.

You can claim the champion title online before the show, as soon as Central Office scores the show, they will update your cat's record automatically. You can still claim it at the show with the master clerk or afterwards by sending the form to CFA, with the appropriate fee.

## **Novices**

Novices in the International Division will still compete for Winners' Ribbons. This was left out of the proposal for simplicity. Many people disagree with the ability for CFA registered cats to earn national points from unregistered cats or novices, they would probably also not like earning grand points from unregistered cats. Rather than argue over earning grand points from novices, I left this out of the proposal. If anyone wants to change this, I'm sure the delegates or board would be amenable to at least allowing multiple novices in the same class to earn WRs. But the ability of opens to bank champion points right away is an incentive for people to register their cats with CFA before the show, and so I would argue against allowing novices to count or compete as champions.

## **Counting Opens**

Opens will count as champions both in breed and in the category. If there are three opens and six champions in a breed/division, then the champion count for that breed/division will be nine. If there are 26 all-breed opens and 42 all-breed champions in the show, then the all-breed champion count will be 68. This means the counts will be higher for champions than they are now, and champions could have many more points per final. However, as long as the opens are treated the same as the champions, the opens have an equal shot at the finals. The points will increase but so will the competition level.