



HIGHLANDER

HIGHLANDER LONGHAIR, CURLCOAT LONGHAIR, SHORTHAIR AS WELL AS CURLCOAT SHORTHAIR ARE JUDGED AS FOUR SEPARATE BREEDS.

HIGHLANDER WITH STRAIGHT EARS ARE CONSTITUENT CROSSING.

HIGHLANDER WITH TAIL LONGER THAN HOCK ARE CONSTITUENT CROSSING.

The Highlander are medium to large muscular and athletic cats. Distinguishing features include a slightly rounded (convex) forehead, wide nose and muzzle with a well-defined break. The curled ear is seen in profile as a "loose and relaxed" curl. The ears are wide-based and open, and the tail is short.

I - BODY / CONFORMATION (40)

(15) BODY & NECK – The body is strong and long, medium to large, rectangular with a length of one and a half times the height at the shoulders with a large neck and large chest, giving noticeable depth. Overall muscled, straight back with hips higher than shoulders giving an athletic appearance.

(10) LEGS & FEET – Legs are medium to long and hind legs are longer than front legs. Feet are wide, rounded with large knuckles. Longhair (LH) must have toe tufts. Polydactyl allowed. Polydactyl is more than five toes, but no more than seven per foot, either both front feet or all four feet. All toes must point forward (not sideways). No split or splayed feet. Ideally, all toes touch the table (no dew claws on polydactyl feet). The shape can be "mitten foot", which gives the impression that the cat has thumbs, or "patty foot", which gives a rounder foot. The "mitten foot" shape is preferred and a symmetrical expression between the two feet is preferred. NOTE: Polydactyly should not affect normal walking.

(10) TAIL – The tail is short and thick and can be flexible or rigid. Tail length must be a minimum of 1 inch (2.5 cm) in adults with proportional length in kittens. Tail should not extend further than the hock when hind leg is fully extended (half-tail). When relaxed, tail may be carried low. Hooks and kinks are allowed. In this case, tail-hair can grow outward in all directions. NOTE: Judges need to gently feel the tail to ascertain hooks and kinks, but do not try to straighten the tail.

(5) BONING– Heavy, no suggestion of delicacy.

II - HEAD (40)

(5) SHAPE & SIZE – FRONT VUE the head is wide, oval-shaped, one and a half times wider than higher. The top of the head between the two ears is in the curve of the oval. The forehead is slightly rounded (convex) in the curve of the oval. The back of the skull is rounded.

(5) PROFILE – Forehead is slightly rounded (convex), with a change in the angle at the eyebrow arcade. There may be a slight concave curve at the beginning of the bridge of the nose. Chin is strong. Nose, muzzle and chin form a straight profile line.

(5) EYES – Eyes are medium to large, one and a half eye apart and expressive. Eyes are positioned on a slight bias with a slightly flattened oval or hooded shape.

(10) NOSE & MUZZLE – The muzzle is wide and strong with a well-de-

fined break at approximately 120°. The prominent whisker pads should make the muzzle appear squared with pronounced pinch. The muzzle has good depth, slightly wider than longer. Nose and nose leather are wide.

(15) EARS – Ears are medium to small, wide-based, curling back in an arc when viewed from front and rear. Set as much on the top of the head as on the side, well apart, as erect as possible. Ears must be solid and hard at the base, but with rounded and flexible tips. Ears form a "loose and relaxed" curl of at least 90°, but not exceeding 180° with a preference for 90°. No preference is given to the direction of the ear tips. Ear furnishings and ear tufts are desired, but not required. Kittens may have a greater degree of curl, but not more than 180° by adulthood. NOTE: The particular shape of the ears should not prevent their natural movements when the cat is attentive or alert.

III - COAT/LENGTH (10)

(5) LENGTH – LH–Longhair up to 2.5 inches (6 cm) on the back falling smoothly to the sides (medium-long to long) with shaggy belly hair that is longer than the rest of the coat. SH– Short in length, dense and resilient to the touch.

(5) TEXTURE – There will be texture variations depending upon the colour and length of the coat. In addition, some individuals have curled coat. In these, open curls all over the body are desirable. However, the curls are more prominent around the neck, tail and stomach with a thick under-hair. Curl coat is not preferable to straight coat.

IV - COLOURS & PATTERNS (5)

All colours are allowed, except colours derived from the white spotting (Ws) gene. The colour is appropriate with the leather of the pads and the nose. Eye colour is independent of the colour, except in the "pointed" patterns. Whitelocks, buttons or toes are accepted only with the blue-eyed gene with minimal white markings. Thus, #3 of the General Preface does not apply to cats with the blue-eyed gene with minimal white markings. Pointed– Expression of the under lying agouti pattern is highly desirable. Solid - Ghost markings of an agouti pattern are not desirable, except in smoke cats. Silver - Tarnishing is allowed.

V - CONDITION & BALANCE (5)

Should reflect excellent health and good muscle tone. All parts of the body must be in proportion. Must be unchallenging.



HIGHLANDER

OBJECTIONS

Additional toes, except dewclaws, do not touch the table	1-3
Excessive dip in the nose	1-3
Abrupt change of direction of ears without smooth curve	1-3
Legs too short	1-3
Body disproportionate (too short or too long)	3-5
Ears that are not open or wide based	3-5
Low set ears on the side of the head	3-5
Horizontal or vertical crimp of the ears	3-5
Interior surface of the ear which appears corrugated	3-5
Cowhocked	5-10

WITHHOLDS

- Ears not erect
- Extreme curl in adults where the tip of the ears touches the back of the ear or rear of the head
- Straight or severely mismatched ears
- Thick or calcified ears
- Lack of firm cartilage in base of ears
- Ear pinch
- Tail bone shorter than 1 inch (2.5 cm)
- Lack of boning/musculature
- More than 7 toes on any foot
- Polydactyl foot affects normal walking
- Split or splayed toes
- Aggressivity
- All ground for withholding awards listed in the General Preface (except #1, 3 and 8)

RECOGNIZED COLOURS

All, except the white spotting gene (Ws).

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BREED ORIGIN: pending

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS: F1, mandatory genetic test for the Ws gene for all cats with white markings.

SHOWING REQUIREMENTS: F4. F1 allowed for showing until 2026 (inclusive)

ALLOWED ANCESTRY: Highlander, Household Pet

ALLOWED MATING: Highlander, Household Pet

ACCEPTED MORPHOLOGY GENETIC: Tail–M, Ears–K, Curl coat – Rs, Polydactylly – Pd