

CFA Youth Feline Education Program



Handbook
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Welcome!

We are so glad that you are interested in the CFA Youth Feline Education Program! Within this handbook, we hope to give you the information you need and answer questions you may have. Our goal is to help you grow your love for cats by giving you many different ways to get involved. You will have the chance to participate in community service, learn about cats, and have fun with cat showing. You will also have the chance to meet many other people who share your love and interest for cats.

On the next page you will find an organized list of the information you need to become a member. Use this guide to help you through the handbook. At the end of the booklet, there are handouts and application forms for you to fill out with an adult.

We can't wait for you to get started!

YFEP Committee



HANDBOOK GUIDE

Important Information Pg. 3

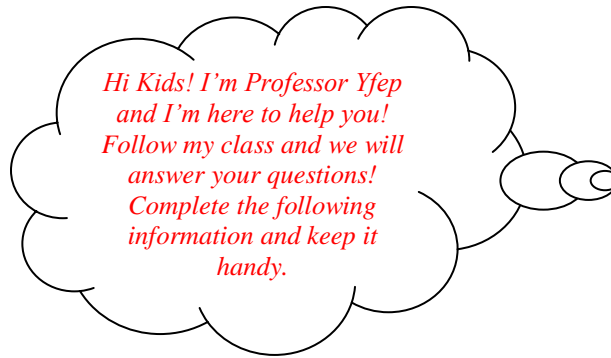
What is the CFA Youth Feline Education Program? Pg. 4

Mission and Goals Pg. 4 - 6

Helping Cats, Learning, and Showing Your Own Cat Pg. 7-13

Your Responsibilities and Parent Responsibilities Pg. 14

Scoring Pg. 15 - 16



Important Information

Which CFA region do you live in? _____

Who is your Regional Director and what is their email address?

Who is your YFEP Regional Representative and what is their email address?

If you do not know all of the above, please contact one of the staff below, they will be happy to help complete this page.

YFEP Program Staff:

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As your professor, I would like to explain the program in general and my students will walk you through each component




What is the Youth Feline Education Program?


This is a program for youth to have fun and learn about CFA and pedigreed cats.


Our Mission

The CFA Youth Feline Education Program's mission is to nurture the compassionate qualities of interested youth for all animals through the teaching of basic information concerning the cat's needs and diversities, thus enhancing appreciation not only for the cat, but all members of the animal kingdom. The program is intended for participants to reach their goals through a point system. Awards and recognition will be based on points accrued. This program will provide a fun, learning environment in which young people will develop skills and self-confidence that will enrich their lives in the years to come, in the animal professions or wherever their ambitions lead them.

Our Goals

 The program is open to all children between the ages of seven and eighteen. The young person will grow as an individual and will increase their knowledge of felines and their care, increase their awareness of the CFA organization and put them on a path of life-long learning.

 Participants will learn about good sportsmanship, cat care, breed standards, proper grooming and presentation as well as cat show protocol and will become valuable assets in the areas of responsible cat ownership, cat breeding and exhibiting cats as a positive, worthwhile activity in the future.

 By introducing young people to the basics of proper feline health and nutrition, the concepts of breeds and standards, and the qualities of sportsmanship and interacting with the public, this program provides the basis for a lifelong love of the cat and the sport of exhibiting purebred and household pet cats.

The Show Season

In the CFA you can show your cats. You show your cats during a show season, which lasts for one year. Every show season starts on May 1st and ends on April 30 the next year.

Age Groups

The Program is in 4 different divisions based on how old you are.

Cub: 7-9 years old

Lion: 10-12 years old

Cat: 13-15 years old

Senior: 16-18 years old

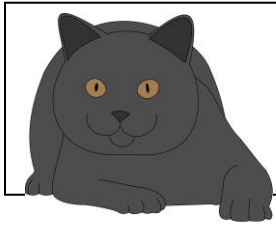
Each of you will remain in your division for the entire show season. Your age for each division is based on your age as of November 1. If you have trouble deciding what division you will be in, please ask your parents or your regional representative they will be happy to help you.

Getting Started

If you are already a member, please refer to our website www.yfep.org for more information.

If you know someone that would be interested in the joining, you can help them fill out the application at www.yfep.org to apply.

The Three Meows



Community Service Helping Cats with Tank

Hey there kids! I'm Tank the British Shorthair. I'm here to tell you about how you can help us cats once you become a member of this program. We cats are fun, loving, and happy animals, but sometimes we need help from kids like you!

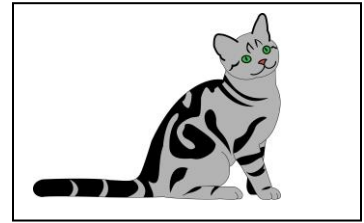
There are so many different ways that you can help us cats. As a member, you get the chance to choose from a list of activities that you can be apart of. When you are apart of different activities, you earn points. You can also come up with ideas on your own.

Here are some of the different ways that you can help cats:

1. Help at an animal adoption fair
2. Help out at an animal rescue or no-kill shelter
3. Help at a CFA Disaster Relief Program
4. Help at a free/low cost medical clinic
5. How else can you help cats?
 - a. Organize a food drive
 - b. Organize a fund raiser
 - c. Work with local businesses to get donations

These are just a few of the ideas that could help us cats. We would be very happy to have you help us. If you have an idea that is not listed, please contact your regional representative for approval of your idea and help if needed. I also hear the internet is a great way to find activities and shelters in your local area. Your parents just might know of a few places as well.

Education
Learning with Max



I'm Max the American Shorthair and I'm the coolest cat around. Why? Because I love learning! When you are a member of this Program, you get to learn so much about me and all the other types of cats in the world.

What do you know about your pet cat at home or the ones you have seen on TV? Did you know that every cat is different and we put them in groups called breeds? Here are some of the ways that you will get to learn all of the fun facts about your favorite purring animal:

1. Go to a Cat Seminar or Cat Show. When you are done you get to write a journal entry about what you learned. You can even draw pictures!
2. Your Special Report. Read about the breed you like and write a special report about that breed.
3. Art projects - How would you like to make things?
 - a. Create a poster about cats in general or your favorite breed.
 - b. Make cat toys for a show or for your cat

c. Make your show curtains for your cats show experience

4. Help at a CFA booth.

5. Attend a clerking school.

6. Read fun books about cats. I understand a list of books can be found at www.yfep.org

7. Testing Your Learning! Once you have become an expert give a short talk or breed presentation at a CFA cat show. You will be able to share your knowledge with others - what fun! You can give your short talk or breed presentation to your regional representative or a CFA cat judge that is your choice. If you want to do this activity I am told you need to give your regional representative at least three weeks' notice so that all the arrangements can be made for you.

Preparation, Presentation, and Participation Showing Your Cat with Lola



Hi, I'm Lola the Persian and I love going to cat shows. I just know that you will love showing your own cat, too! So here is how you do it!

Preparation

1. Bring a friend to a CFA-licensed cat show: The participant brings a friend to a cat show in which s/he participates. To count for point scoring, a friend will be counted once.
2. Clerking/Assistant Clerking: (Ring Clerk or Master Clerk) at a CFA-licensed event. This activity's record should include the name of the Show, Club, Show Manager, Master Clerk; the ring's Judge and ring type, and date of the show.
3. Ring Steward (minimum age 8 years, height at least 50 inches): A ring steward cleans and disinfects each judging cage before cats are placed in the cages. Stewards may also perform other duties as requested by ring clerk or Judge, such as organizing flat ribbons, collecting cage

numbers, organizing cage numbers, or delivering papers to Master Clerk. Participants must contact show management before the show.

Presentation

1. Contact your regional representative to ask about having a Cat Showmanship Class at your local show. Please give your regional representative the curtesy of at least three weeks' notice that you would like to have a Cat Showmanship Class at an upcoming show. This will allow them enough time to set everything up with the show committee.
 - a. Enter your cat at the show by filling out the Cat Showmanship Entry Form with an adult. It costs \$10.00 to enter.
 - b. At the show you can choose to give a breed presentation or give a short talk about your cat with the help of your regional representative.
 1. In the case of Breed Presentation, the participant may utilize a cat not owned by him/her.
 2. In the Short Talk, a CFA Judge will ask the CS participant a few short questions. The purpose of the Short Talk is to help encourage you to speak comfortably in public and later advance to conducting the Breed Presentation.
 - c. At the show, you will have the chance to win ribbons and awards.
 - d. Go to kids.cfa.org to learn more about showing your own cat!

2. Enter your cat in a show and compete in the correct competitive division for your kitty. At the show you have the chance to win ribbons and awards. The entry fees for the competitive divisions will be based on the entry fees for the show you are entering.

The same cat can be entered in both the Cat-Showmanship class and one of the competitive classes (Championship, Premiership, Kitten, HHP or Agility) at the same show. A participant can enter only one cat in the Cat-Showmanship class at a given show.

Entering a Show

Entries in the Cat Showmanship Class use the Cat Showmanship Entry Form available at www.yfep.org or in the forms section. On the entry form, the participant must select either Short Talk or Breed Presentation.

To enter the competitive division you will use a regular entry blank which can be found at www.cfa.org or in the forms section.

All the forms you need to complete the program can be found at www.yfep.org Please visit the website often to download all needed paperwork and to keep up to date on any changes to may occur.



Rules and Responsibilities

Hi kids, Professor Yfep here again. Becoming a member of this program is so much fun! But remember, there are certain rules and responsibilities you have! Let's take a look at what they are:

Responsibilities for Cat Showmanship Class:

- ❖ Complete an evaluation and show report after the show and turn it in to your Regional CS Chairperson for scoring
- ❖ Write down the ring in which you gave your Short Talk with the Judge
- ❖ Check to make sure all of your assignments are done correctly so you can earn points
- ❖ Earn extra credit: Write a summary of the show and your experience

Parents/Guardians are responsible for:

Supporting their child and giving him/her encouragement in order to gain self-confidence.

Seeing that the child is properly dressed if he is stewarding, exhibiting, or giving a presentation. When stewarding, the CS member should wear comfortable shoes.

Responsibilities for Other Activities:

- ❖ Always complete and turn in the correct form for any activities that you participate in

Important Rules to Remember:

- ❖ Always do your best
- ❖ Act appropriately (be kind to others, be on time, be respectful)
- ❖ Ask questions when you need help
- ❖ Dress appropriately for CFA events
- ❖ Complete your member duties (Like-Completing projects or keeping track of your activities)

Cat Showmanship Participants:

All participants in the CS Program are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner while attending a show or engaging in other CS activities. The participant is also responsible for documenting all activities, as follows:

Competitive Class: Participants must send show report to the Regional CS Chairperson for scoring.

Cat Showmanship class: Participants must send the evaluation slips received and show report to the Regional CS Chairperson for scoring. Document the ring in which the Short Talk occurred with the Judge.* The CS member should check his/her evaluation slips to see if they were filled out correctly. Extra credit will be given to the CS member if they write a brief summary of the show and their experience.

SCORING AND AWARDS



Hey, my name is Mickey and I am a Japanese Bobtail. I love competition in the class room and in this program. If you earn enough points you can win awards to the regional and national levels. Some of these awards are ribbons and certificates, but the best awards include money that you can put toward your future education. Let's take a look at the ways you can earn points toward some great awards and recognition.

Earning Points

Scoring will be based on each participant's number of completed activities in **TWO** of the **THREE** areas: Community Service, Education and Cat Show Preparation, Presentation and Participation. In order to be scored the participant must fill out a *Multi Activity Report Form*. In order to be scored for any Regional or National Award, participants must have earned a minimum of **20 points** in at least two program areas.

Types of Points and Values

- All activities except otherwise designated are worth **five points**.
- Exhibiting in the Cat Showmanship class and giving a Short Talk or Breed Presentation is worth **ten points**.
- Exhibiting in a competitive category is worth ten points each day of the show.
- Stewarding is worth ten points per day.
- Extra Credit (if applicable) is worth an additional **five points**.

Awards

Regional:

Awards will be presented to the three highest scoring program participants in each age division in each CFA region. Rosettes and certificates will be given to all program participants who accrued a minimum of 20 points in at least two areas.

National:

National Awards will be presented and to the three highest scoring program participants in each age division nationally.

Fun, Friendship, and Participation



Hi, my name is Footsie and I am an Oriental Shorthair. I love to have fun and make new friends in all I do. Participating in all the fun activities explained by my friends Tank, Max, Lola and Mickey will help you enjoy a hobby we all love and make new friends along the way.



Professor YFEP and her class would like to thank you for your attention while we explained the program. We are very confident that you will be very successful in completing the goals you have set for yourself within the program. We look forward to helping you so return to visit us often in these pages.