



Russian Cat Interest Group of South Africa

Russian Blue. White. Black. & Spotted Tabby

Issue 11

1st February 2017

RCIG NEWS SNIP-Bits

by: Solveig Klahr

Dear RCIG Members,

The crazy thing is, January 2017 is over! Just like that.

After issuing our last Newsletter, in October 2016, we sadly lost many, many, Russians. In fact, approximately 13 Russians were lost due to illness, freak accidents and a horrific burglary at Alma and Jennie's home, where new born kittens were stabbed to death, in total 8 kittens and a Chinchilla lost their lives in that attack. December 2016 could not come to an end quick enough. 2016 was a terrible, terrible, year for our beautiful breed. We hope that 2017 will shine silver rays on our Russians, their Breeders and their Slaves.

RIP to those that crossed over, and to the humans and fur family left behind, we hold you in our thoughts.

Member Competition

If you have paid your 2017 RCIG Membership fee, or are a "Life" 10 Year Member, please kindly send us some pictures of your Russians, all colours, for our Gallery on our Website?

The best picture will win a Magnum Bottle of Ladybird Red Wine from Laibach and 2 giant packets of Greenies for the kitties.



The competition ends at the end of February 2017. So enjoy spending some good quality photo time with your Russians, and e-mail your pictures to solveig.rcig@gmail.com

Showing Your Cat

Our 2017 Cat show season is scheduled to commence in March, until September 2017.

Each region has their own Cat Clubs affiliated with SACC, of which the RCIG is also a Breed Group member.

All regional clubs hold cat shows throughout the season and after each show, the points are added up, which your cat accumulates over the season. Once the points are calculated, your cat could either get to represent his/her breed at the regional show or on a national level. The national show will be held in Cape Town this year.

Please send me an e-mail if you wish to show your Russian in 2017, at solveig.rcig@gmail.com



Leanne with Iggy

Paying it Forward

One of our members elected to upgrade his annual membership to a "Life" Membership at a cost of R400.00. He included a further R600.00 for RCIG to use as we saw fit.

Our Committee decided to double the amount and to pay it forward to two separate Cat Rescue Organisations, one being in Johannesburg – Lynette Nicholson and the other organisation is Natal based Cats Cradle, each got R600.00 paid into their accounts this January.

Our generous member wanted to stay anonymous and we respect his wishes. We do want him to know though, that we are very appreciative for his very special donation. It means a lot to those who are not as lucky as our kitties.

Cat Hotels & Vaccines

With the Easter Weekend being around the corner, please ensure that you have booked you kitties into a cat hotel and that their annual vaccinations are up to date. Cat hotels, **will not** allow, any cat onto their premises, that has not been vaccinated.

"Please always ask you vet, to take a look at your kitties teeth and also to check, if the Microchip is still active".

If you are able to leave you kitties at home, with an arranged pet sitter, to assist and care for your kitties whilst you are away, well done, as this is the less stressful option for your cats.

Cat Health

If your kitty has been ill, or you are concerned about your kitty's appetite and or not interested in food, NUTROSTIM is a high-calorie nutritional supplement in gel form. NUTROSTIM stimulates appetite and provides additional calories, useful for ill or convalescing animals. It can also be used as a general tonic. Pets, including hamsters, love the flavour and it can be used as a healthy treat.



Nutrostim – High calorie supplement

2017 RCIG Memberships

May I take the opportunity, to thank all our members, who have renewed their 2017 RCIG Memberships, thus far. We have received 30 renewals, new members and life members, to date. 8 Members have opted for the 10 Year "Life" Memberships, which means, that the RCIG currently has 35 Life Members!!! This is amazing, we really appreciate your on-going support. Well done to everyone!

-X-

Russians RULE!



The Russian Breed SOP

The RCIG has lobbied for a few Breed Standard changes in 2016, of which two were approved and one was declined. These changes are as follows:-

RUSSIAN PROPOSAL 1

That the description for EARS be amended as follows:

EARS

Large pointed ears in balance to the head, slightly taller than wide, wide at the base, set vertically to the head and not flared. The tips of the ears are just inside a vertical line with the outer edge of the eyes. The skin of the ears is thin, with sparse inside furnishing.

EXISTING DESCRIPTION

Large and pointed, wide at base, set vertically to the head. Skin of ears thin and translucent, with sparse inside furnishing.

Motivation

To bring the standard in line with other standards and to avoid extremes and misinterpretation of the Russian breed standard. The Russian is a balanced cat and ears should NOT be extremely large nor are they translucent.

Yes: **PASSED** No:

RUSSIAN PROPOSAL 2

That the description for TAIL be amended as follows:

TAIL

Fairly long, thicker at the base, tapering and in proportion to the body. Neither blunt-ended nor whippy. Faint ghost markings acceptable.

EXISTING DESCRIPTION

Fairly long and tapering. Neither blunt-ended nor whippy.

Yes: No: **FAILED**

RUSSIAN PROPOSAL 3

That the description for HEAD be amended as follows:

HEAD

Medium wedge with a flat skull and forehead; a straight nose, high cheek bones and prominent whisker pads. In profile the forehead and nose are straight, forming an angle where they meet. The chin should be strong and deep with a level bite. Allowance should be made for mature males with jowls which may disguise the true wedge.

EXISTING DESCRIPTION

Short wedge with flat skull; straight profile. Prominent whisker pads.

Yes: **PASSED** No:

Head and ear changes to our Breed Standard have been accepted.



Scammers

The scammers are still out in full force and I wish to take this opportunity, to remind everyone, their families and friends to be vigilant. Please always visit the SACC website <http://www.tsacc.org.za/> and or the CFSA website <http://www.cfsa.co.za/> to find out who the South African All Breed Breeders are. With regards to the South African Russian Breeders, please visit the Russian Cat Interest Group website <http://rcig.weebly.com/>

There are so many stories about people being scammed and who think that they will be able to find pedigree cats on OLX, Gumtree, JunkMail, Ananzi etc. Unfortunately this is not the case. If you are looking for a breed specific cat, your only chance will be to do research on that specific breed and refer to our Cat Governing Councils who All Breed Breeders register with.

Doing your research is most important and never forget, that there are scammers around every corner, ready to fleece you of your money.

Cat Food

There are so many different brands of cat foods on the market and sometimes it becomes confusing. What food should my cat be on? Must Kittens have different food to Adult cats etc????

In the wild, adults and youngsters eat the same. If a lion takes down a Wildebeest or Antelope, from old to young eat on the same carcass.

Manmade science has however decided that cats should have Kitten Food and Adult Food. The recommended foods for cats are Royal Canin, Hills and Orijen. No doubt there are other good brands, but it is best that cat food contains absolutely NO grain. If the packaging states that Protein is between 70 – 90%, grab it.

It is a good idea, to feed your kitten on Kitten Food, until your kitten is 12 months old. You can then gradually change to adult food, by taking the following steps. Mix ¼ Adult food, ¾ Kitten food in week one. ½ Adult food ½ Kitten food in the second week, ¾ Adult food, ¼ Kitten food in the third week and in the fourth week 100% Adult food. You can follow the same steps each time you need to make changes to your cat's diet.



Our Committee Members

Our RCIG committee members & breeders are as follows:-

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Please visit our RCIG Website too....
<http://rcig.weebly.com/>

Cat Humour



-X-

Russian Blue, - Black, - White, - Blue Spotted Tabby