Workshop Outline

- Standard
- Disqualifications
- Handling
- Q & A
- Photos
- History

11 weeks

13 months
Maine Coon vs Norwegian Forest
NFC General Information

- “Sturdy cat”
- “Distinguishing double coat”
- “Easily recognizable body shape”
- “It is a slow maturing breed, attaining full growth at approximately five years of age.”
Where are the Points?

Head  50
Body  30
Coat: length/texture  10
Color/Pattern  5
Balance  5
HEAD - General (50 points)

Equilateral triangle where all sides are of equal length as measured from the outside of the base of the ear to the point of the chin. The neck is short and heavily muscled.
50 Points are on the HEAD
HEAD - POINT DISTRIBUTION

- EARS - 10 pts.
- PROFILE - 10 pts.
- MUZZLE - 10 pts.
- CHIN - 5 pts.
- EYE SHAPE - 5 pts.
- EYE SET - 5 pts.
- NECK - 5 pts.
Nose Profile - 10 points

Straight from the brow ridge to the tip of the nose without a break in the line. The flat forehead continues into a gentle curved skull and neck.
Profile with Dip and weak chin

Straight - correct profile and chin.

Dip – undesirable profile

soft undershot chin – undesirable

Note: Severe Nose Break - Disqualify
Profile Optical Illusion

Cats with proper and straight profiles may have excess hair between the eyes that give the illusion that the profile is curved.
Use your finger to flatten the hair between the eyes and feel the straight profile below the fur.
CHIN - 5pts.

The chin is firm and should be in line with the front of the nose. It is gently rounded in profile.
MUZZLE -10 points

Part of the straight line extending toward the base of ear without pronounced whisker pads and without a pinch.
Muzzle
EARS - 10 points

- Medium to large
- Rounded at the tip
- Broad at the base
- Alert
- As much on the side of the head as on top
- Cup of ear pointing a bit sideways accentuating the triangle
- Lynx tips are desirable
EARS - 10 pts.

• Outside of the ear should follow the lines from the side of the head down to the chin.
EARS

- Heavily furnished
- Lynx tips are desirable . . . BUT NOT REQUIRED
EYES - 10 pts.
Shape - 5 pts.
Set - 5 pts

All Color eyes allowed

- Large, almond shaped
- Well-opened and expressive
- Set at a slight angle with the outer corner higher than the inner corner.
Green eyed, blue eyed and odd eyed
odd eyed kitten
BODY - 30 points

- solidly muscled and well-balanced - moderate in length
- substantial bone structure - powerful appearance
- broad chest and considerable girth - great depth of flank
- males - large & imposing
- Females - may be smaller & refined
The body is rectangular in shape.
The body IS NOT SQUARE.
BODY – Point Distribution

- Legs/Feet: 10 pts.
- Boning: 5 pts.
- Tail: 5 pts.
- Torso: 10 pts.
A little extra padding on the body was essential to their survival
LEGS -10 pts.

- Medium with hind legs longer than front legs, making the rump higher than the shoulders.

*Kitten showing nice rise in the rump.*
LEGS - 10 points (cont.)

- Thighs - heavily muscled
- Lower legs - substantial
- Back legs straight
- Front paws appear to be “toe out”
- Large round, firm paws with heavy tufting between toes
Legs 10 pts.

“Toe Out” is allowed in the NFC
TAIL – 5 pts.

- Long and bushy
- Broader at base
- Length of tail = body from base of tail to base of neck
- Guard hairs, desirable
Tail should reach the shoulders when measured as shown.
COAT: Length & Texture - 10 pts

- Dense undercoat
- Long, glossy and smooth water-resistant guard hairs
- Short collar at neck
- Side mutton chops
- Frontal ruff
- Britches on hind legs
COAT - Additional Information

- Fuller in the Winter than the Summer
- Softer coats permitted in shaded, solid, and bicolor cats
- Type and quality of coat is the primary concern (wooly coats are discouraged)
- Preference is for a non-matting coat that is water repellent.
- **Color and pattern are secondary**
COAT
Color & Pattern - 5 pts.

• Every color and pattern is allowable except for those showing hybridization (chocolate, lavender/lilac, pointed patterns, or these combinations with white)

• Color and pattern should be clear and distinct
As a natural breed only 5 Points are on Color and Pattern
Black
White
Tabby and white Van
Brown Tabby
Black & White
Black and white
Tortoiseshell
CALICO
Tortoiseshell and white? Calico? Patched tabby and white? Remember, only 2 ½ points on color and 2 ½ points on pattern.
Either way, a very popular NFO color.
Silver Patched Tabby & White
Brown Patched Tabby & White
Brown patched tabby and white
Red Tabby & White
Red Tabby and white YOUNG ADULTS
MATURE ADULT
SILVER TABBY
Silver tabby and white
Silver tabby and white
Cream Cameo Tabby & White
Cameo and white
Cream Tabby

Cream tabby and white
Blue Tabby

United States

Europe
Blue tabby and white
Blue tabby and white
Golden tabby and white

DNA test results  E/E = non amber
Amber tabby and white

DNA test results  e/e = amber
Brown Tabby & White
Disqualifications

- Severe nose break
- Square muzzle
- Whisker pinch
- Long rectangular body
- Cobby body
- Incorrect number of toes
- Crossed eyes
- Kinked or abnormal tail
- Delicate bone structure
- Malocclusion resulting in undershot or overshot chin
- Cats showing evidence of hybridization
A few words about handling....

Support their rear half any time they are not standing on the table.
When starting to judge, place the cat on the table and let all four paws rest before you begin handling.

A cat that is relaxed and secure will be easier to handle.
A few words about handling….

• Keep all four feet on something solid as much as possible

• When lifting for a better look, try to keep the rear feet on the table
When handling the head, run a finger upward along the profile to check for straightness.
• View the triangular head shape by facing the cat away from you and using your fingers to form a triangle on the head while viewing straight down from the top of the head.
Questions & Answers
Contact the BC Secretary for more information

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Moderate in length with hind legs higher than front
Norwegian Forest Cats
Norwegian Forest Cat History

*Pan’s Truls*: The Prototype of the Norwegian Forest Cat
Else Nylund – Pan’s Cats - Norway
Else Nylund with Pan’s Polaris

The Norwegian Forest Cat who appears in thousands of NFO pedigrees
Else and her male Pan's Tone, 17 years old.

Else Nylund with "the blue eyed young lady" Pan's Erin, 11 years.
3 Important Imports from Norway

Helping to set the standard for the United States

Pan's Targa

Pan's Jacob

Pan's Alexi
Forest Cat History - Europe

• Ancestors most likely Southern European shorthairs that moved north during prehistoric times and adapted to climate
• Emerged thousands of years ago
• Traveled with Vikings to control rodents on ships
• Became the farm cat of northern Europe

Pan’s Truls – First Recognized Norwegian Forest Cat
Breed Recognition - Europe

1930s – Movement to preserve NFC as National Breed of Norway

• Interrupted by war and didn’t resume until 1970s

• 1975 – Norsk Skogkattring, first NFC breed club, formed and began breeding program

• 1976 – European Registry recognized the breed with provisional status

• 1977 – Championship status
Europeans report that NFCs can come head-first down trees.

Open registry until 1990

• Panel of judges would certify cats as NFCs for registration if they met the standard

• Goal of early breeders – to register and develop a large gene pool to maintain future health
Breed Recognition – CFA

First breeding pair imported 1979

• 1987 – CFA starts registering the breed

• 1992 – NFC advances to Provisional

• 1993/94 Show Year – NFC is has championship status and one cat earns a RW