RagaMuffin
RagaMuffin Overview

- Overall impression is one of sweetness and robust health.
- Large expressive eyes, which contribute greatly to the overall sweet look.
- Large cat with substantial bone and full bodies, muscular and heavy, with a tendency towards a fatty pad in the lower abdomen.
- Matures slowly. Up to 4 years to full maturity.
- Females are considerably smaller than males.
- The cat should have overall balance. Quality and conformation should be given preference over size.
- Ragamuffins should be friendly and affectionate.
RagaMuffin History

- Foundation cats developed in 1960’s by Ann Baker in Riverside, California, using non-pedigree cats. The distinguishing characteristics of these cats were their exceptionally docile nature, sweet temperaments, large size, “mushiness” and easy care coats.

- Ms. Baker was entrepreneurial and franchised her breeders. She required all breeders to register their cats in her association and abide by strict rules. Over the years, she became increasingly difficult to work with and her cattery was an embarrassment to those working with her. Ultimately, there appeared no other choice than to leave her breeding program and seek mainstream registry.

- In 1993, a group of breeders left Ann Baker’s registry with their cats, honoring their contracts that they would not use any names she used for her breeding cats, and sought registry in ACFA. The name RagaMuffin was selected, as the cats original gene pool developed from the street cats of Riverside, thus they were truly RagaMuffins, endearing little urchins. Even though some breeders did not care for the name- it became official when ACFA extended registration at their semi-annual meeting in St. Louis.

- The RagaMuffin was accepted for championship in UFO in 1995, ACFA in 1999, AACE in 1999 and CFF in 2002. Overseas the RagaMuffin was accepted into WCF in 2009 and also in GCCF the same year.

- CFA granted registration (Miscellaneous class) in 2003, in Houston, TX. Championship status was granted in 2011, in St. Louis, MO.
Ideal RagaMuffin

- Head ........ 45 Points
  - Shape (10)
  - Profile (5)
  - Muzzle (10)
  - Sweet Expression (5)
  - Ears (5)
  - Eyes (10)

- Body and Tail ... 30 Points
  - Body (20)
  - Legs/Feet (5)
  - Tail (5)

- Coat ............ 20 Points

- Color ............ 5 Points

CFA’s First Breed Winner
Natural Tortoiseshell Mink & White
Head – 45 Points

Overall Shape – 10 Points

- Broad, modified wedge with a rounded appearance, no obvious flat planes.
- Forehead and tophad is moderately rounded.
- Muzzle is short, rounded, and tends to broadness.
- Chin is firmly rounded, reflecting a proper bite.
- Puffy whisker pads, which help give the characteristic “sweet look”.
- Profile is an obvious nose dip, similar to a scoop rather than a break.
- Neck is short, heavy and strong, particularly in older males. Allowance is made for jowliness in mature adult males.
- Overall impressions should be of roundness – without flat planes.
Profile – 5 points

- Obvious nose dip, giving the impression of a scoop rather than a break.
- Strong curves/scoops are acceptable/desirable. Only penalize at the point in which the scoop in no longer continuously smooth and flowing, causing a sharp change in direction. There should not be an obvious stop or a break.
- You should feel the profile of the cat. Some cats profiles are deceiving, in that they may appear to have a scoop in the profile, but as the profile is felt, you will find the cat actually has a straight profile. (and flat forehead/tophead)
What is wrong with this profile?
It is scooped, but it leads to a ridge and flat head.
(Note: If hair is brushed up on the head, this may be hidden, but if you feel the profile/head, you will find it.)
How about these profiles?

This profile may have a stop, and also has the flat head.

Profiles should be a smooth scoop, flowing upward and then continuing smoothly over the top head in a gently rounded shape. Your finger should flow smoothly, without stops or breaks.

This profile comes to a point above the eyes and then a change of direction into a flat skull.
Excellent profile. Clean, smooth scoop which flows into a rounded top head. No stops or breaks.
Another clean, smooth, rounded profile and top head.
Muzzle – 10 Points

- Muzzle is rounded.
- Muzzle is short. (Although not extreme)
- Muzzle tends to be broad.
- The chin is firmly rounded. (Not a perpendicular line, but not overly weak)
- There is a puffiness to the whisker pads, which results in the overall “sweet look” of the RagaMuffin.
Sweet Expression – 5 Points

The overall impression should be one of sweetness.
Ears – 5 points

- Medium in Size.
- Set as much on the side of the head as on the top of the head, with a slight flaring.
- Tilted slightly forward.
- Ears are rounded with moderate furnishings.
- In pleasing proportion to the head.
Eyes – 10 Points

- Large, walnut shaped
- Expressive
- Moderately wide set
- A slight oriental slant is acceptable.
- All eye colors are allowed, including odd-eyed. Exception: mink pattern/colors must be aqua and sepia patterns/colors must be yellow/gold to green.
- The eyes contribute greatly to the characteristic sweet look!
When assessing eyes from a judging cage, and using a teaser, eyes are best viewed from eye level and not from above. Viewing from above causes the eye to appear rounder.
Head(wedge) long, lacks roundness
Left, long wedge, no roundness,  
No distinctness to the muzzle,  
Or puffiness to whisker pads.

Right, shorter head, better  
Defined muzzle.
Left: Modified wedge shape, rounded appearance. Puffy, distinct muzzle, rounded. Walnut, expressive eyes. Medium ears, balanced, on top as much as on side.

Right: Shape of head incorrect. Ears are up and not balanced to the cat.
Above: Head is incorrect shape, it is simply round, not a modified wedge with a rounded appearance. There are indentations/pinches at the back of the cheeks just below the ears. There is no defined muzzle.

Below: The head is a modified wedge with a rounded appearance. Clearly defined muzzle. Head appears smooth down the sides of the wedge, without break or pinch.
Body & Tail – 30 Points

Body – 20 Points

- Rectangular
- Broad chest and broad shoulders
- Moderately heavy muscling in the hindquarters
- Hindquarters equally as broad as the shoulders
- There should be a fatty pad in the lower abdomen.
- These cats are fully fleshed, especially when mature and altered.
- The cat should have overall balance in body size, shape and distribution of weight.
- Quality and conformation is given preference over size.
Legs & Feet – 5 Points

- Heavily boned
- Medium in length (but not square or cobby)
- Back legs slightly longer than the front legs, yet in proportion to the body.
- Paws large and round, able to support the weight of the cat without splaying.
- Tufts beneath and between the paws.
- Allowance is made for finer boning in females.

Tip: Mature, heavy cats are most comfortable being supported when moved from the cage to the judges table. It is best not to ‘stretch’ these cats. Full weighted, mature cats prefer to not be held up in the air.
Tail – 5 Points

- Long, in proportion to the body.
- Fully furred, similar in look to a plume or bottlebrush.
- Medium at the base with a slight taper.
- DQ: Tail fault, includes kinks. Check tails!
Coat – 20 Points

- Fur is medium to medium-long.
- Texture is soft, dense and silky.
- Texture will vary slightly with color.
- Fur length is to be slightly longer around the neck and outer edges of face, resulting in the appearance of a ruff, and increasing in length from top of head down through shoulder blades and back, with the coat on the sides and stomach being medium to medium-long.
- Fur on the hind legs is medium to medium-long and thick with the appearance of a wispy frill on the hindquarters.
Two distinct coat types in the breed. Left the coat stands away from the body. Right the coat lays flatter. Both types of coat are ok, if they are soft, dense and silky.
Grand Champion, Grand Premier, Breed Winner and Regional Winner
Color – 5 Points

- Every color and pattern is allowable with or without white, except pointed colors. Pointed colors are disqualified.
- Any amount of white is allowed, e.g. white spots on paws, back, chest or belly; a blaze, a locket, etc.
- The degree of symmetry whether in the pattern of the white spotting is of no importance.
- Nose leather and paw paws are accepted in all colors and in any color combination, not necessarily related to coat color.

The RagaMuffin is shown in two color classes:

Tabby/Tabby & White and Patched Tabby/Patched Tabby and White.................................................................9882  9883

All Other RagaMuffin Colors.................................................................9800  9801
(Longhair Specialty Ring)

There is NO AOV class.
Solid Colors

Grand Premier and Regional Winner
Bi-colors

Grand Premier
Shaded Colors

First Grand Champion Male
Tabby Colors/Patterns

Above: Grand Champion, Breed Winner and Regional Winner
Below: Grand Champion

Above: Grand Champion, Breed Winner and Regional Winner
Left: Grand Champion

Above: Grand Champion, Breed Winner and Regional Winner
Left: Grand Champion
Smoke Colors

Grand Premier
and Regional
Winner
Parti Colors/Calico

First CFA “Grand”
Grand Premier of Distinction and Regional Winner
Mink Colors/Patterns

First Female Grand Champion, Grand Premier and First Breed Winner
Sepia Colors/Patterns

Grand Premier
Pointed Colors (Colorpoint) are not shown (Ragdoll/Birman colors). (Mink & Sepia patterns are shown.)
Allowances

- Shorter fur on the legs for cats with medium coat.
- Seasonal change in coat length and texture.
- Smaller size in females and cats under four years of age.
- Short ruff on whole cats.

Preferences

- Affectionate nature.
- Deep, bright eye color.

Penalize

- Extreme cranial doming.
- Nose break.
- Roman nose.
- Small or pointed ears.
- Cobby body.
- Short tail.
- Cottony undercoat.

Disqualify

- Poor health or condition.
- Crossed eyes.
- Tail fault.
- Polydactyl.
- Pointed colors.
- Short hair on the body and/or tail, giving the impression of a short-haired cat.
First CFA “Grand” RagaMuffin
Best RagaMuffin in Premiership
17th Best Cat in Premiership, Southern Region
First Female Grand of Distinction in CFA, all breeds! Second Overall!
Grand Champion, Grand Premier of Distinction, Breed Winner, Regional Winner
First Breed Winner
First Female Grand Champion

Grand Champion, Grand Premier, Breed Winner
2022 Breed Winner
Grand Champion,
Breed Winner,
Regional Winner
Thank You!