

CFA Novice & TRN Cat Class

Overview

There are two ways that Novices can participate in CFA-licensed shows. The first Novice class is a true “try-before-you-buy” class and allows for exhibitors to explore CFA on a trial basis. The second way for Novices to participate is in the TRN Cat class which allows for exhibitors to compete with their cats on a broader scale.

Novice Class

The Novice cats are essentially guest cats that can explore the benefits of CFA and try out CFA-licensed shows on a casual basis. The Novice cats can compete in the Novice category for as long as is desired. The Novice cat does not give points for any category and the cat does not accrue points; but earns qualifying rings towards its Champion or Premier title. Qualifying rings are banked for redemption once the cat is fully registered and its title is claimed.

The requirements for Novices are:

- The cat must be eight (8) months or older.
- The cat must be CFA-registerable breed and color to enter shows.
- The names of the cat’s parents must be printed in the catalog.

TRN Cat Class

TRN is an upgraded class from the Novice Class and allows for increased participation in CFA-licensed shows and to compete on a broader scale for a Grand, Regional or National title. The Temporary Registration Number (TRN) is a part of CFA’s registration-via-pedigree process and provides the owner with a way to register a cat and fully participate with CFA. A cat with a TRN can earn qualifying rings towards Champion or Premier title, is counted in the grand and show counts and can earn such points. These points are banked for redemption once the cat is fully registered.

The Requirements for TRN Cat Class in Addition to Novice Class:

- The owner presents a copy of four (4) generation certified pedigree from another Association (or if a particular breed has a less-than-4—or a no pedigree requirement, the owner can present the appropriate paperwork required for a particular breed).
- The owner completes a CFA TRN Application Form for registration.
- The owner submits a non-refundable fifteen dollar (\$15) fee with the CFA TRN Application Form, which will be applied towards the current via pedigree fee.

Competition: Color Class, Class, Breed/Division, Finals

The Novice cats are noted as Novice in the show catalog and in the Judge's Book as Novice.

TRN cats are noted based on their status as Open, Champion/Premier, Grand Champion/Grand Premier in the show catalog and in the Judge's book as Champion/Premier or Grand Champion/Grand Premier.

Novices compete within the Novice class in their color class and in their sex/gender group (blue/red/yellow ribbons) for that breed. These qualifying rings are counted for Novices towards Champion/Premier title and they are banked for a period of three (3) years.

TRN cats compete within the class based on their status as any other CFA registered cat in their color class and in their sex/gender group (blue/red/yellow ribbons) for that breed. These qualifying rings are counted for TRN Opens towards Champion/Premier title and they are banked for a period of three (3) years.

Novices/TRN cats compete (black/white ribbons) in the color class regardless of sex/ gender.

Novices/TRN cats compete for Best and Second Best of Breed (brown/orange ribbons).

TRN Opens will compete for the Best Champion/Best Premier of the breed or division (purple ribbon) and for CH/PR placements at Champion/Premier finals. Awarded grand points are banked for TRN cats for a period of three (3) years.

Novices/TRN cats compete for top 10 or if applicable, top 15 placements in finals. Awarded show points are banked for a TRN cat for a period of thirty (30) days.

Purchasing the TRN

There are three ways to purchase the TRN for a Novice who is registered in another association.

1. When an owner of the Novice enters a cat as Novice in the show, the owner notifies the entry clerk and indicates on a CFA-licensed show entry form that they would like to participate in the TRN Cat Class. The Entry clerk will assign a TRN for the Novice and transfers the Novice from the Novice class to the Open class in the entry program once a copy of the pedigree and the CFA TRN Application Form is received by the entry clerk. A non-refundable TRN application fee will be assessed at the same time as

- the regular entry fee. It is the Entry Clerk's responsibility to forward the pedigree, TRN application fee and TRN form to the Master Clerk before the start of the show.
2. The owner of the entered Novice can request a TRN at the show hall prior to the start of the show. The owner must give a copy of the pedigree, the CFA TRN Application Form and submit the non-refundable \$15 fee to the Master Clerk. The Master Clerk will assign a TRN for the Novice and transfers the Novice from the Novice class to the Open class as any other catalog transfer.
 3. The third way to receive a TRN is to start the official via pedigree registration with CFA by submitting all registration papers and via pedigree fee to Central Office prior to the show. Central Office will email the TRN to the owner upon request.

There are no mid-show transfers allowed from Novice class to Open Class.

The TRN is valid for thirty (30) days and the owner can enter the TRN cat in shows during that time frame. The owner cannot obtain a second TRN after the TRN has expired as there is only a one temporary number allowed per cat. The TRN can be extended only by Central Office if the registration via pedigree process has begun with CFA and the full details for permanent registration have been submitted to Central Office.

The TRN includes the date as part of the number to indicate when the thirty (30) day limit begins. Central Office will update a web page about TRN Cats. Listed on that page is the cats' name, breed and color, TRN and effective dates.

Entering the Show with an Existing TRN

The owner of the cat with a TRN must enter the cat into correct class based on the cat's status: Open, Champion/Premier or Grand Champion/Grand Premier. Champion/Premier title must be claimed according the CFA show rules before a cat can be entered as Champion/Premier or Grand Champion/Grand Premier.

If a cat with a TRN is entered into the show, the Entry clerk needs to check the validity of TRN number from the CFA TRN Cat web page, which is updated by Central Office. Entry Clerks should not accept entries that are beyond the thirty (30) day limit.

Clubs will pay the CFA entry surcharge fee for all entries including Novices.

Common practice with TRN at Show Hall and Central Office

The Master Clerk will include **TRN Opens** in the Grand point count and show count for cats whose owners have provided a copy of the pedigree, the CFA TRN

Application Form and the \$15 processing fee to the Master Clerk prior to the start of the show.

TRN's purchased at previous shows or a TRN issued by Central Office are counted without required paperwork because an Entry Clerk or Central Office has previously checked the validity of the TRN and that the cat is entered in the correct class. Central Office will void points from any cat shown with a TRN that is beyond the thirty (30) day limit and remove the cat from the count, unless Central Office has extended the validity of a TRN.

A copy of the pedigree, the CFA TRN Application Form with the new TRN's purchased at the show, and the \$15 processing fee, must be stapled together and placed in the CFA show package. Central Office will conduct an initial review of the pedigree to determine eligibility so that the cat can continue to compete at CFA-licensed shows.

If the initial review of the pedigree is approved based on CFA's Rules of Registration, Central Office will send the owner a **"Welcome to CFA"** packet which includes directions on how to complete the cat's via pedigree registration and claim its titles.

If the 4 generation pedigree is unacceptable based on registration rules, Central Office will rescind the TRN and notify the owner that the cat cannot compete in CFA. No points are banked for a cat.

Via Pedigree Registration

A four (4) generation pedigree is approved by CFA for TRN. The TRN is part of the via pedigree registration process. A non-refundable \$15 processing fee is applied towards the standard registration via pedigree fee.

Since a TRN is valid for thirty (30) days, the owner must begin the registration via pedigree process during that time frame in order to continue showing with CFA. Central Office can extend the TRN validity only if the full requirements for permanent registration have been submitted to Central Office. In this case, the information will be reported on web page, so that Entry Clerks can verify the validity of the TRN and the cat's current status.

Registration via pedigree is done based on the registration rules for each breed and requirements vary based on the breed from a no pedigree requirement to an 8 generation pedigree requirement. However, if additional generations are not fulfilling the breed requirements, the registration via pedigree is not possible.

If the registration is approved at that time of via pedigree registration, Central Office will assign a permanent CFA registration number to the cat, and transfer all banked points received with the TRN to the cat's permanent record.

The transfer of points will include qualifying rings towards Champion and Premier title and earned grand points towards Grand Champion/Grand Premier title if the application is processed within the three (3) year time period that the TRN was purchased. The owner needs to submit a Championship/Premiership claim form with the fee to have the CH/PR title awarded. Points towards National/Regional/Division winner titles are valid only within a 30 day time period from when the TRN was purchased.

*For questions as to whether a cat can be registered in CFA, please consult the current copy of the **CFA Show Rules** and the **CFA Rules of Registration**.*