

THE BRITISH CAVY COUNCIL

BREED STANDARDS FOR FULL AND GUIDE STANDARD CAVIES

BRITISH CAVY COUNCIL: CONSTITUTION AND RULES

RECOMMENDED DRAFT RULES FOR SPECIALIST CLUB USAGE

BREED STANDARDS FOR FULL AND GUIDE STANDARD CAVIES

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INTRODUCTION TO STANDARDS

Standards provide the fundamental basis of all forms of livestock competition in which the appearance of the animal, as opposed to its ability to perform tests, jump obstacles or run more quickly than its peers, determines success or failure. Standards state what breeders and exhibitors should look for in the perfect specimen; and when, as is inevitable, exhibits prove to be less than perfect in some respects, standards should indicate which features are the most important and which are the least when making a decision on which are the winners and which the losers. Without clear standards, all breeding and judging of exhibition livestock would come down to a simple matter of opinion.

For example, if a given judge were to dislike Sells that have broad heads because he likes them to look like thoroughbred horses, or believes that it is unnatural to keep longhairs in wrappers, then, without standards to tell him otherwise, he would be perfectly entitled to place long-headed Sells above typey ones and clipped longhairs above long-coated ones. So for anyone who shows any cavies other than pets, and who cares even in the slightest whether they win or lose when they show, standards are important.

Standards have been in existence for exhibition cavies for probably as long as there has been a cavy fancy, well over 100 years. For many years these standards were devised by the relevant Specialist Club for each breed, with new standards or changes to standards having to be agreed by the National Cavy Club Annual General Meeting. As the number of new breeds of cavy began to increase, and as several breed clubs came to identify weaknesses in their existing standards, the discussion of standards at an AGM inevitably proved more and more difficult; and in the late 1970s it was agreed to set up a new body, the British Cavy Council, consisting of representatives of all Specialist Breed Clubs, to undertake the task of vetting standards.

The role of the British Cavy Council in looking at standards is then, as its rules state:

“To determine the Standards to be applied when judging the various breeds of cavy in the United Kingdom, these standards normally but not in all cases being effected by the discussion of proposals made by the relevant Specialist Club.”

In doing this job, the Council attempts, again as its rules spell out:

“To ensure that such standards are phrased to be as clear as possible to judges, breeders and exhibitors; offer a difficult but achievable challenge to the breeder and exhibitor; and provide a logical basis for comparisons to be made regarding the relative merits of exhibits of different breeds.”

There are two types of Standards, known as ‘Full Standards’ and ‘Guide Standards’. As the Council Rules state:

“**Full Standards** are defined for all breeds of cavy that in the Council’s opinion represent varieties that are distinct from all other existing breeds, provide a desirable addition to the Cavy Fancy, and for which a standard of excellence has been established and agreed after a sustained process of breeding and exhibition. Such standards will describe the most important characteristics of the ideal exhibit of each breed and indicate, via an allocation of **points** adding up to 100, the relative weighting to be given to each of these characteristics in assessing different exhibits. However, the importance of ‘**balance**’ in an exhibit must always be considered: an exhibit that is a ‘near miss’ on all characteristics may be regarded as more desirable than one that is perfect in several but very poor in a particular one, and the points allocated are therefore not intended to be used as the basis of a scoring system.”

“**Guide Standards** are defined for breeds of cavy that are in a process of development but that, in the Council’s opinion, represent varieties that are distinct from all other existing breeds, are likely to provide a desirable addition to the Cavy Fancy, and for which a provisional standard of excellence can be stated after an initial period of breeding and exhibition under the auspices of a Specialist Breed Club.

Such standards will describe the most important characteristics of the ideal exhibit of the breed, but are likely to be stated in more general terms than for a Full Standard; and no points allocations will be given to indicate the relative importance of different characteristics.”

Other important Council Rules state that:

“In Open cavy shows the only cavies that may be exhibited are those having a Full Standard agreed by the Council, with the following exceptions:

- (a) Cavies of breeds for which a Guide Standard has been agreed by the Council, as specifically detailed in these notes. Cavies in this category may only be shown in a class or classes specifically defined for Guide Standard cavies and are not eligible for awards in competition with fully standardised cavies.
- (b) Cavies of 'new or emerging breeds', for which only general Guidance Notes have been agreed by the Council. Again cavies in this category may only be shown in a class or classes specifically defined for New / Emerging Breeds and are not eligible for awards in competition with Full-Standard or Guide-Standard cavies.
- (c) Pet cavies, for which judging criteria are subject to individual opinion but include cleanliness and health. These cavies cannot be shown in competition with cavies in other categories.

Other Council Rules in relation to Standards state that:

"At any Open show (i.e. not a show held under the auspices of a Specialist Breed Club) there should be at least one breed class available for entry by any breed of cavy that has a Full Standard. There should also be at least one class available for any breed of cavy that has a Guide Standard, as defined above.

"Judges who are on the panels of Specialist Clubs represented on the Council should at all times when judging in the United Kingdom apply the Breed Standards currently defined by the Council.

"Breed Names and Standards approved by the Council shall remain the absolute copyright property of the Council. Such Standards and Names may be used, without seeking the Council's express prior permission, by all Clubs in the United Kingdom organising shows for exhibition cavies, on the strict understanding that Council rules and policies will be followed in defining the schedule of classes to be used in such shows."

THE APPROACH TO DEFINING STANDARDS

In order for Standards to be as useful as possible to breeders, exhibitors and judges, certain important **principles** must be followed when they are defined:

- Standards must be phrased clearly and unambiguously.
- Standards must be phrased in a consistent way, so that the same features for different, but comparable, breeds of cavy are described in the same terms.
- The points allocated to the various different features of a breed must accurately reflect the relative importance of these features within that breed.
- The points allocations for similar features in similar breeds should be the same.
- Standards should be easy to understand and remember. (This will be greatly aided if the sequence in which features are described is the same for all breeds.)

In attempting to follow these principles, it is important that cavy breeds are grouped in a logical manner, so that breeds with similar characteristics can readily be compared with each other. The following **classification** is used to compare the breeds currently recognised in the United Kingdom:

- **Self**, covering short-haired, normal-coated, solid-coloured cavies;
- **Ticked**, covering short-haired, normal-coated, ticked cavies (Agouti, Argente, Solid Agouti);
- **Marked**, covering short-haired, normal-coated cavies in which the placement and quality of markings are of great importance (including Dutch, Tort & White, Tricolour, Bicolour, Tortoiseshell, Brindle, Dalmation, Roan, Harlequin, Magpie, Belted);
- **Marked Pattern**, covering short-haired, normal-coated cavies that have markings occurring in a defined pattern, the clarity and definition of which are most important (including Himalayan, Tan, Fox);
- **Crested**, being variants of any of the above that have a crest;
- **Satin**, being variants of any of the above that have a satinised coat;
- **Rough-coated Shorthair**, which may be rosetted (Abyssinian) or rexoid (Rex and Teddy);
- **Longhair**, which may be smooth-haired (Sheltie), crested smooth-haired (Coronet) or rosetted (Peruvian), or rexoid variants of the above (Texel, Merino, Alpaca respectively).

In defining Standards it is also helpful to group the features described under 'broad headings' of related features, so that these can be compared across different breeds. The following 'broad headings' cover all breeds currently found in the U.K., though obviously not all apply to each breed:

- Head, Eyes & Ears
- Coat Appearance around Head (crest; frontal in Peruvians & Alpacas; head/mane in Abys)
- Body Shape
- Satinisation
- Markings
- Ticking
- Colour
- Coat 'Look'
- Coat 'Feel'
- Presentation

Then, within each Standard, these broad headings of features are placed in a logical order, the same order being used for all Standards regardless of how important the particular feature is within the particular breed. The order chosen is one that firstly takes the features that are obvious to the observer at first glance (starting 'head first' and then going to body and coat colour), and then taking those that involve closer examination.

In the case of **Smooth short-hairs** (Selves, Ticked, Marked, Marked Pattern, Crested, Satin), this means that a logical sequence is:

- Head/Eyes/Ears, Crest (if any),
- Body Shape,
- Satinisation (if any),
- Marking or Ticking (if any),
- Colour

- Coat (feel).

In the case of **Rough short-hairs** (Abyssinian, Rex, Teddy) a logical sequence is:

- Head/Eyes/Ears and Coat on Head
- Body Shape
- Coat Look
- Coat Feel.

In the case of **Longhairs** (Sheltie, Coronet, Peruvian, Texel, Merino, Alpaca) a logical sequence is:

- Head/Eyes/Ears and Coat on Head
- Body Shape
- Coat Look
- Coat Feel
- Presentation.

Within these headings there are likely to be sub-headings defining particular features, for example the Head, Eyes and Ears individually, specific Markings that are sought or particular aspects of Coat Look and Coat Feel. In doing this it is important to ensure that all key features are actually mentioned by the standard but are placed within the appropriate heading, e.g. Head with 'Head, Eyes & Ears' not as part of 'Body Shape'; 'Coat' separate from 'Colour'; points for colour of ears separated from those for shape of ears etc.

In defining Points Allocations the general principles are:

Within **Smooth short-hairs**:

- The points for HEE vs Body Shape vs Ticking or Marking vs Colour vs Coat should accurately reflect the relative importance of these features in each breed.
- Since Sells have no requirements in terms of Ticking or Marking they will carry the highest points for all other features, and will have the highest expectations in these features.
- Points allocations for Agoutis and Argentes will be the same, and in requiring a significant number of points to be given to Ticking will allocate rather fewer points to the other features than are appropriate to the Self.
- Points allocations for Marked Varieties will be similar to each other, but will reflect slightly different requirements between particular breeds. In particular, Dutch, T/W, Tricolour, Bicolour, Tortoiseshell and Brindle will use similar points allocations, in which a majority of points are allocated to the vital features of Markings; but Himalayans will carry slightly reduced points for Markings and correspondingly increased points for Colour, to emphasise Contrast; whilst Dalmations and Roans will carry slightly increased points allocations for Head, Eyes and Ears and slightly reduced points for Colour, as appropriate to the specific requirements of these breeds.
- Crested and Satin variants of the above will carry a defined number of points for the crest or satinisation, with the remainder allocated pro rata to the points in the standard of the breed of which they are variants.

Within **Rough shorthairs**:

- The points for HEE & Coat on Head vs Body Shape vs Coat Look vs Coat Feel should accurately reflect the relative importance of these features in each breed.
- Points allocations for HEE & Coat on Head and for Body Shape will be the same, but points for Coat Look and Coat Feel will differ between Abyssinians and Rex. (In fact the points allocated to Coat Look and Coat Feel are reversed between the two breeds.

Within **Longhairs**:

- The points for HEE & Coat on Head vs Body Shape vs Coat Look vs Coat Feel vs Presentation should accurately reflect the relative importance of these features in each breed.
- Points allocations for HEE & Coat on Head, Body Shape, Coat Look, Coat Feel and Presentation will be the same within each breed.

Having followed these principles, points may then be shown for individual detailed features. However, these will be shown as subsets of the points for the major features themselves, being indicated as such by brackets.

For example the points for Markings in a Dalmation might be shown as:

Markings		<u>60</u>
of which		
Head Markings	To have a white blaze with solid colour on either side, giving a well balanced appearance.	(20)
Spotting	To have coloured spotting on a white body; spots to be clear, distinct and well-distributed all over the body including belly.	(30)
Feet Markings	To have solid colour covering the feet.	(10)

Grouping features in this way is aimed to make it easier for judges in particular to see what are the most important characteristics for each breed and how the relative importance of these characteristics varies from breed to breed, before the detailed features for each breed are emphasised. The simple premise is that, **if standards are made easier to compare and remember, more notice is likely to be taken of what they say.**

So, the result of following these principles should be:

- Standards that are laid out in a logical sequence, consistent from breed to breed;
- Related features grouped together where necessary under the major headings of Head/Eyes/Ears/Coat on Head, Body Shape, Satinisation, Markings or Ticking, Colour, Coat Look, Coat Feel (although, of course, not all of these apply to each breed), with detailed breakdowns of these major features being given where appropriate;
- Points ratios that are generally agreed to reflect the relative importance of the different features within each breed,
- Points ratios that are consistent between similar breeds rather than having unnecessary divergences.
- Standards that are easier to understand, remember and use, and which are likely to have a positive impact on the knowledge and expertise of anyone – be they judges, breeders, exhibitors or merely observers - who tries to use them.

The guiding principle is that:

“Standards should be logically laid out, easy to understand, clear and consistent, both within individual breeds and between different breeds; for without standards there can be no real fancy.”

However good the Breed Standards are, we are unlikely ever to reach a situation in which every judge is able to judge every cavy of every breed 100% accurately and correctly. Good standards should, however, produce a situation in which judges are given the best possible information to help them try to do so.

SUMMARY OF STANDARD POINTS ALLOCATIONS FOR EACH BREED

BREED	STANDARD				
English Self	H, E, E 30	Body Shape 25		Colour 30	Coat 15
Agouti	H, E, E 20	Body Shape 20	Ticking 30	Colour 20	Coat 10
Argente	H, E, E 20	Body Shape 20	Ticking 30	Colour 20	Coat 10
Dutch	H, E, E 10	Body Shape 10	Markings 60 (split)	Colour 15	Coat 5
T/W	H, E, E 10	Body Shape 10	Markings 60 (split)	Colour 15	Coat 5
Dalmation	H, E, E 15	Body Shape 10	Markings 60 (split)	Colour 10	Coat 5
Roan	H, E, E 15	Body Shape 10	Markings 60 (split)	Colour 10	Coat 5
Himalayan	H, E, E 10	Body Shape 10	Markings 50 (split)	Colour 25	Coat 5
Tan / Fox / Otter	H, E, E 10	Body Shape 10	Markings 50 (split)	Colour 25	Coat 5
English Crested	H, E, E 24 + Crest 20	Body Shape 20 (80%)		Colour 24 (80%)	Coat 12 (80%)
American Crested	H, E, E 18 + Crest 20	Body Shape 15 (60%)	Crest Markings 20	Colour 18 (60%)	Coat 9 (60%)
Crested Ticked	Crest 20+ 80% of other points.				
Crested Marked	Crest 20+ 80% of other points.				
Solid Satin	H, E, E 25	Body Shape 25	Satinisation 20	Colour 15	Coat 15
Satin Ticked	Satinisation 20 + 80% of other points				
Satin Marked	Satinisation 20 + 80% of other points				
Satin Crested	Satinisation 20, Crest 20 + 60% of other points				
Rex	H, E, E 20	Body 15	Coat - Look 20	Coat - Feel 45 (split)	
Abyssinian	H, E, E 5 + Mane/Hd 15	Body 15	Coat - Look 45 (split)	Coat - Feel 20	
Sheltie	H, E, E 20	Body 10	Coat - Look 30 (split)	Coat - Feel 30 (split)	Presentation 10
Coronet	H, E, E 10 + Crest 10	Body 10	Coat - Look 30 (split)	Coat - Feel 30 (split)	Presentation 10
Texel	H, E, E 20	Body 10	Coat - Look 30 (split)	Coat - Feel 30 (split)	Presentation 10
Merino	H, E, E 10 + Crest 10	Body 10	Coat - Look 30 (split)	Coat - Feel 30 (split)	Presentation 10
Peruvian	Front/Chops 15 + H,E,E 5	Body 10	Coat - Look 30 (split)	Coat - Feel 30 (split)	Presentation 10
Alpaca	Front/Chops 15 + H,E,E 5	Body 10	Coat - Look 30 (split)	Coat - Feel 30 (split)	Presentation 10

THE LAYOUT OF BRITISH CAVY COUNCIL BREED STANDARDS

First, **General Principles** are described for the use of Breed Standards by judges in particular, but these should also be understood by breeders and exhibitors.

After this, **Faults that apply to all breeds or specified groupings of breeds** are specified.

These are divided into Faults that are so serious that Disqualification is appropriate, and Faults that are significant but not so serious as to warrant Disqualification of the exhibit.

Finally, **Individual Breed Standards** for each Full Standard and Guide Standard variety of cavy are described. These are laid out in a consistent format as:

1. **The Standard** itself: A statement of the key features of the Breed, under the major headings described above, with (for Fully Standardised Varieties) points showing the relative importance of major features and how these might be broken down into more detailed features. These describe the ideal of the breed.
2. **Specific Requirements Applying to the Breed** (for example the way in which Longhairs must be shown).
3. **Definitions of Colours within the Breed.**
4. **Guidance Notes**, aimed to give the breeder, exhibitor or judge additional information to help them better understand the breed. These will contain a general description of the breed's characteristics; may also give further information on particular features of the breed; and are likely to indicate any allowances that should be made when assessing exhibits.
5. **Specific Disqualifications**, these being faults applying to the given breed specifically, which are of such seriousness that they warrant the disqualification of the exhibit.
6. **Specific Faults**, these being faults applying to the given breed specifically, which are not of such seriousness that they warrant the disqualification of the exhibit.

GUIDANCE TO JUDGES ON USE OF STANDARDS

Breed Standards are intended to describe the most important characteristics of the ideal exhibit of each breed of cavy, and indicate, via an allocation of points adding up to 100, the relative weighting to be given to each of these characteristics in assessing different exhibits.

However, the importance of '**Balance**' in an exhibit must always be considered. An exhibit that is a 'near miss' on all characteristics may be regarded as more desirable than one that is perfect in several but very poor in a particular one.

The points allocations are therefore not intended to be the basis of any form of scoring system.

Although **Condition** is not specifically mentioned within Breed Standards, it is an essential attribute of all exhibition cavies that they be shown in good health and sound physical condition; and judges should not hesitate to penalise exhibits that are not in such condition and to disqualify any that are in poor physical condition.

In addition, **Good Temperament** is a highly desirable quality in the show exhibit; and animals that prove difficult to handle or control, or that show clear signs of aggression, should be penalised, with Disqualification being appropriate in extreme cases.

Breed classes at shows are only intended for cavies of the species '*Cavia porcellus*', and not for other species such as '*Cavia aperea*' (the so-called Giant **or Cuy** cavy).

1. **DISQUALIFICATIONS APPLYING ACROSS BREEDS**

Disqualifications Applying to All Breeds

- 1.1. Sows obviously in pig.
- 1.2. Running lice.
- 1.3. Breaks in skin.
- 1.4. Fatty eye (fault to be visible without disturbance of the eyelid).
- 1.5. Serious physical abnormalities, for example: missing or badly damaged eyes; cataracts; bent leg; wry neck; or any other gross physical deviations from the norm.
N.B. Neutered boars may be shown.
Single extra toes on each foot are of minor significance.
- 1.6. Evident ill-health, such as obvious, visible breathing difficulties, significant evidence of mucus or other abnormal discharges from the eyes, nose, mouth, ears or reproductive or intestinal openings.

Disqualifications Applying only to Short, Smooth--Haired Varieties

(Also applying to Crested versions of smooth-haired varieties, with the obvious exception that the crest does not constitute a fault).

- 1.7. Side-whiskers.
- 1.8. Rosettes in coat.

N.B. Both Hairless and so-called 'Skinny' cavies may not be shown at any cavy show held in the United Kingdom.

Judges should immediately disqualify any such cavies that are presented for exhibition.

2. **FAULTS APPLYING ACROSS BREEDS**

Faults Applying to All Breeds

- 2.1. External Cysts Fault to be penalised according to size of cyst.
- 2.2. Hem in Ears Fault to be penalised in accordance with importance of ears in the standard.
- 2.3. Damaged Ears Fault to be penalised in accordance with importance of ears in the standard and the extent of the damage.
- 2.4. Static Mite Fault to be penalised according to amount of mite present.
- 2.5. Red Flesh around eye Fault to be penalised in accordance with importance of eyes in the standard.
- 2.6. Breaks in Coat Fault to be penalised according to extent of break.
- 2.7. Extra Toes Single extra toes on each foot are of minor significance.

Faults Applying only to Short, Smooth--Haired Varieties

(Also applying to Crested versions of smooth-haired varieties)

- 2.8. Quiffs or Swirls Pronounced quiffs or swirls in coat, including around the eyes, on sides, flanks or belly.
Fault to be penalised according to extent.

Other faults and disqualifications specific to any particular breed are listed under individual breed standards.

ENGLISH SELF

		Points
Head, Eyes & Ears		<u>30</u>
of which		
Head	To have a pronounced Roman nose. To have good width of muzzle, squared off at the end but rounded at the corners.	
Eyes	To be large, bright, bold and appealing, set wide apart.	
Ears	To be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	
Body Shape	To have short, broad, cobby body with very deep, broad shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>25</u>
Colour	Top colour to be lustrous and of glossy sheen, of even shade all over the head & body. Hair on feet to match body colour. Undercolour to match top colour down to the skin, giving an appearance free from flakiness. Colours of coat, eyes, ears and pads to match Descriptions below.	<u>30</u>
Coat	To be soft & silky, clean and short, groomed free of guard hairs.	<u>15</u>

100

DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS

White	To be pure snow white. Eyes pink (P.E.W) or dark with a hint of ruby (D.E.W.). Ears flesh pink. Pads flesh pink.
Cream	To be a pale cream colour, free from yellow or lemon tinge. Eyes dark with a hint of ruby (D.E.C.) or pink (P.E.C.). Ears pink. Pads pink.
Buff	To be a deep, rich buff shade with no hint of lemon, apricot or cream. Eyes dark with a hint of ruby. Ears pink. Pads pink.
Saffron	To be a medium sand colour. Eyes pink. Ears pink. Pads pink
Golden	To be a medium gold colour with no suggestion of brassiness, yellow or red. Eyes pink (P.E.G.) or dark with a hint of ruby (D.E.G.) Ears pink/golden. Pads pink/golden
Lilac	To be a medium dove-grey colour, with no suggestion of beige. Eyes pink. Ears pink/lilac. Pads pink/lilac.
Beige	To be a medium beige colour. Eyes pink. Ears pink/ beige. Pads pink/beige.
Red	To be a rich, dark colour. Eyes dark. Ears dark. Pads dark.
Chocolate	To be a rich, dark colour. Eyes dark with a hint of ruby. Ears chocolate. Pads chocolate.
Black	To be deep and lustrous. Eyes dark. Ears black. Pads black.
Slate	To be a mid-slate grey with no tendency to a brownish hue. Eyes ruby. Ears and pads to be a well-pigmented slate-grey.
Blue	To be an even, dark blue-grey colour with no hint of brown. Eyes dark. Pigmentation of skin as well as ears and pads to match the blue-grey coat colour.

N.B. In the above descriptions of Eye Colour the term 'ruby' means a dark red colour.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **English Self** is a solid (single) -coloured cavy bred for Head qualities (head, eyes & ears), Body Shape (particularly shoulders and breadth & compactness of body, Colour and Coat.

The **Outline** of the English Self cavy should consist of a series of gentle curves, rising from the nostrils to the peak of the shoulders, then dipping to the back and levelling briefly before again dipping over the rear.

Viewed from above the overall impression should be of a brick, rounded at the corners.

Size is very desirable, but not at the expense of cobbiness or quality.

Condition is very important. The cavy should carry plenty of firm flesh but not be gross or flabby.

The **sex** of the exhibit will usually be apparent from its facial qualities.

Boars, if complying with the standard, should not be penalised when in competition with sows on account of slightly different head shape.

Normally the upper **weight limit** for an U/5 months Self cavy will be 30 oz or thereabouts. For a cavy of 8 months it will be 37 oz or thereabouts.

Although the judge's discretion is absolute as regards whether a cavy is eligible for the class in which it is entered, judges should give careful consideration in cases where these weight limits are exceeded.

In order to differentiate Dark-Eyed varieties from their Pink-Eyed equivalents, when judging such varieties preference is to be given to a darker eye colour over one that is clearly ruby.

The ears of **PE Goldens and DE Goldens** should match the body colour. Ears whose colour deviates from the body colour should be penalised according to the extent of the deviation

The colours of **young Lilac and Beige** cavies are appreciably darker than those expected in adult exhibits of these breeds. This should be taken into account when judging young classes of Beige and Lilacs.

The belly colour of a Beige indicates the colour that it is likely to attain when it reaches adulthood.

It may be helpful to consider the colour of graphite as offering an indication of the Colour of the **Self Blue**.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None

SPECIFIC FAULTS

Hairs of a different colour to be penalised according to quantity.

Areas of darker pigmentation on rims of ears to be penalised.

Areas of dark pigmentation on the skin around the eyes or on the vent of **PE and DE Goldens** should be penalised

White toenails, except on Whites, to be penalised.

AGOUTI

		Points
Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and gently rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	<u>20</u>
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with deep, broad shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>20</u>
Ticking	To have sharp, level ticking extending evenly over the head, body, chest and feet. Ticking on chest to be carried well down between the front legs. Feet to match body and chest.	<u>30</u>
Colour	Top colour to be bright and lustrous and conform with Descriptions below. Undercolour to be carried well down to the skin. Belly colour to be the same colour as the ticking colour but not ticked (to be tipped), even and with well-defined demarcation line; and to be as narrow as possible, although not at the expense of condition.	<u>20</u>
Coat	To be soft & silky, clean and short, groomed free of guard hairs.	<u>10</u>

100

DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS

Golden	Deep black undercolour with dark golden ticking. Belly to be a rich mahogany and free from brassiness. Eyes dark. Ears and Pads black. Nails to match pad colour.
Silver	Deep black undercolour with silver ticking. Belly to be a rich silver and free from whiteness. Eyes dark with a hint of ruby. Ears and Pads black. Nails to match pad colour.
Lemon	Deep black undercolour with lemon ticking. Belly to be lemon. Eyes dark with a hint of ruby. Ears and Pads black. Nails to match pad colour.
Chocolate	Deep rich chocolate undercolour with orange ticking. Belly to be a rich orange. Eyes dark with a hint of ruby. Ears and Pads chocolate. Nails to match pad colour.
Cream	Deep rich chocolate undercolour with cream ticking. Belly to be cream. Eyes dark with a hint of ruby. Ears and Pads chocolate. Nails to match pad colour.
Cinnamon	Deep rich cinnamon (milk chocolate with pinky tinge) undercolour with silver ticking. Belly to be a rich silver and free from whiteness. Eyes dark with a hint of ruby. Ears and Pads cinnamon. Nails to match pad colour.

N.B. In Lemon and Cream Agoutis, which are based on combinations of black or chocolate base colour with lemon / cream ticking, the specific shade of lemon / cream is immaterial so long as it is lighter than buff.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Agouti** is a dark-eyed ticked cavy in which the ticking covers the whole of the body other than the belly.

In **judging Agoutis**, the emphasis must be on quality of ticking, colour, type and condition. Exhibits should not be unduly penalised for minor faults if they possess these qualities.

Size is very desirable, but not at the expense of cobbiness or quality.

Grooming is essential to producing an even effect on the body and sides of the cavy.

Chest faults are often accompanied by poor colour and, if this is the case, should be severely penalised.

Exhibits should not be penalised for **wide belly** unless the belly colour is visible when viewed from the side.

Dark or unticked feet, although these are faults, are preferable to **light or uneven feet**.

In **U/5 exhibits** a small degree of eye circles or some unevenness on feet should not be unduly penalised, as these faults may clear as the cavy matures.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Nails and foot pads different from those specified in the Standard.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

Long in ticking, producing too light an appearance in body colour.

Circles of lighter ticking colour around the eye ('Eye circles').

Light streaks or patches on chest, body or sides.

Lightness on jowls.

Feet that are lighter or darker than the body colour, or that are odd.

White or other odd coloured hairs, to be penalised according to quantity.

SOLID AGOUTI

		Points
Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and gently rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	<u>20</u>
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with deep, broad shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>20</u>
Ticking	To have sharp, level ticking extending evenly over the head, body, chest, belly and feet. Feet to match rest of cavy.	<u>30</u>
Colour	Top colour to be bright and lustrous and conform with Descriptions below. Undercolour to be carried well down to the skin. Belly colour to be ticked evenly all over, as per the body.	<u>20</u>
Coat	To be soft & silky, clean and short, groomed free of guard hairs.	<u>10</u>
		<hr/> <u>100</u>

DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS

Golden	Deep black undercolour with dark golden ticking. Eyes dark. Ears and Pads black. Nails to match pad colour.
Silver	Deep black undercolour with silver ticking. Eyes dark. Ears and Pads black. Nails to match pad colour.
Lemon	Deep black undercolour with lemon ticking. Eyes dark. Ears and Pads black. Nails to match pad colour.
Chocolate	Deep rich chocolate undercolour with orange ticking. Eyes ruby. Ears and Pads chocolate. Nails to match pad colour.
Cream	Deep rich chocolate undercolour with cream ticking. Eyes ruby. Ears and Pads chocolate. Nails to match pad colour.
Cinnamon	Deep rich cinnamon (milk chocolate with pinky tinge) undercolour with silver ticking. Eyes ruby. Ears and Pads cinnamon. Nails to match pad colour.

NOTE 1	The colour of the Solid Agouti is likely to appear darker than that of the corresponding 'Normal' Agouti. So long as the ticking is sharp, distinct and even, this should not be penalised.
NOTE 2	N.B. In Lemon and Cream Solid Agoutis, which are based on combinations of black or chocolate base colour with lemon / cream ticking, the specific shade of lemon / cream is immaterial so long as it is lighter than buff.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Solid Agouti** is a dark-eyed ticked cavy in which the ticking covers the whole of the Body, including the belly.

In **judging Solid Agoutis**, the emphasis must be on quality and evenness of ticking over the entire cavy, along with colour, type and condition.

Exhibits should not be unduly penalised for minor faults if they possess these qualities.

Size is very desirable, but not at the expense of cobbiness or quality.

Grooming is essential to producing an even effect on the body, sides and head of the cavy.

The **ticking on the feet** is likely to be less pronounced than on the rest of the body. This is a relatively minor fault.

Cinnamon Solid Agoutis often become darker with age, tending towards chocolate undercolour rather than cinnamon as in the 'Normal' Agouti. This is not a fault.

It should be noted that some Solid Agoutis are born solid in colour, and develop ticking later. Accordingly, incomplete ticking on **U/5 exhibits** should not be unduly penalised.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Nails and foot pads different from those specified in the Standard.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

Long in ticking, producing too light an appearance in body colour.

Circles of solid colour around the eye ('Eye circles').

Light streaks or patches on chest, body, belly or sides.

Lightness on jowls.

Feet that are darker than the body colour, or that are odd.

White or other odd coloured hairs, to be penalised according to quantity.

A 'shadow belly', or the impression of a belly band caused by longer ticking on the belly, is a serious fault.

DUTCH

		Points
Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<u>10</u>
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>10</u>
Markings of which		<u>60</u>
Blaze, Cheeks, Neck & Ears	Blaze to be an inverted 'V' of white coat, widest at the smellers (nostril and whisker bed) and narrowing to a point or narrow, <u>thin</u> line between the ears. Cheeks to be rounded in shape, following the jaw line but clear of the mouth, and ideally should go as near as possible to the smellers without touching them. Neck to be clean, i.e. white and free from any extension of cheek markings. Ears to be sound, i.e. the outside to be coloured, with no flesh markings due to lack of pigmentation.	(25)
Saddle & Undercut	Saddle and undercut to be positioned midway between the neck and hips; to be cut as a straight line with the sides at right angles to the body. A higher cut (i.e. cut line nearer to the head) is preferable to a low, 'slipping' one (i.e. further back towards the hips).	(20)
Foot Stops	There must be two foot stops and these should be of the same length ('balanced'), ideally being cut midway between the hock and the toe ends. Each stop must have three white toenails, and the white pigmentation on the pad must not run to the hock. The hairs covering the toes must be white.	(15)
Colour	Colours ideally to conform as nearly as possible to ESCC or NACC Standards, although slight variations from these should not be penalised so long as colour is rich, even, of glossy sheen, free from hairs of a different colour (brindling, roaning, or any patches), with the colour carried well down to the skin to avoid any appearance of flakiness.	<u>15</u>
Coat	Ear pigmentation to be appropriate to breed colour. To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.	<u>5</u>
		<hr/> <u>100</u>

DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS

Dutch cavies are recognised in all standardised Self colours excluding the Self White (for obvious reasons) and the DE Golden (to avoid confusion with the Red Dutch) and all standardised Normal and Solid Agouti colours. Colours should conform as closely as possible to English Self Cavy Club (ESCC) or National Agouti Cavy (NACC) requirements, although Red Dutch are expected to be lighter and Cream Dutch darker. In Agouti Dutch the belly colour should be as narrow as possible but dark enough to ensure that the demarcation line on the undercut can be clearly seen.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Dutch** is a Self or Agouti-coloured and White cavy, in which the areas of colour occur in a defined pattern on the cheeks and ears of the cavy, and on its entire rear half below a centre line across the back, with the exception of an area of white between the toe ends and the hocks (the 'foot stops').

The white colour defines a blaze on the head, as well as a 'clean neck' and the 'stops' mentioned above.

The blaze should be an inverted "V" separating the cheeks, meeting at a point or narrow, thin line mid-way between the ears

The quality of these markings is by far the most important aspect of the Dutch.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Only one stop, no stops or stop(s) above the hock.

Any coloured toenails.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

Flesh Marks	Flesh marks on the ears, hocks or body are particularly undesirable and are to be penalised accordingly.
Long Stops	A long stop that runs <u>to but not over</u> the hock should be penalised as a serious failing but is not a disqualification.
Very Short Stops	Stops consisting only of a few hairs above the nails are to be penalised.
Eye Circles	Eye circles in Agouti Dutch should be penalised. However, slight evidence of eye circles should <u>not</u> be unduly penalised in an U/5 exhibit as this fault may clear as the cavy matures.
Brindling	Intermixing of a particular colour in areas of another colour, e.g. red hairs in black.
Roaning	Intermixing of white in areas of another colour.

TORTOISE & WHITE		
Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<u>10</u>
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>10</u>
Markings	To consist of square cut patches of black, red and white colour, of uniform shape and evenly distributed on each side of the body on either side of a central 'line' formed by the meeting of patches of different colours.	<u>60</u>
of which		
Head Markings	Head ideally to have two colours divided down the centre. A different colour on each side of the head divided by a blaze of the third colour is almost as desirable.	(5)
Line & Distribution of Patches	Patches to be placed on each side of the body so as to give no overlaps over the central line top or under. Each side of the <u>body</u> of the cavy to have three or more patches. Each side of the <u>cavy</u> to have patches of all three colours.	(30)
Shape & Clarity of Patches	Patches to be square-cut with straight edges and of equal size Patches to be clean-cut and distinct from each other, with no intermingling of colours.	(25)
Colour	Colours to be rich, even, of glossy sheen and carried well down to the skin to avoid any appearance of flakiness, with patches free from hairs of a different colour (brindling or roaning). Black to be jet black. Red to be rich; may be lighter than ESCC Red but must not be pale or 'washed out'. White to be pure and clean. Eye colour to be dark, but a blue tinge (when the head has a white patch) is not a fault.	<u>15</u>
Coat	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.	<u>5</u>

100

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Tortoise & White** is a smooth coated cavy, carrying a chequerboard pattern of square- cut patches of black, red & white, of equal size, with a dividing 'line' formed by the meeting of patches on opposite sides of the body running the length of the cavy both top and underside. No patches should overlap the central line, either on top or under side.

There is no set sequence for the patches; but in considering the quality of a Tort & White the overall balance of patches and colour on each side and top & under is important.

On well marked exhibits 4 or 5 patches on each side would be preferable to three, but not at the expense of a loss of uniformity in the size and shape of the patches.

Each patch should consist of a solid colour, clearly defined from surrounding patches, and with no intermingling of hairs of a different colour.

Because a fault that is seen readily on the top side of the cavy has a greater adverse impact on the overall appearance than one which is 'hidden' underneath, preference should be given to a cavy with a good top and less good under than one with the opposite characteristics.

However, patching on the belly must be taken into account when considering overall quality.

When assessing the Tort & White, the quality of the markings is by far the most important aspect of the cavy; and minor faults in type, such as a straight head or ears not drooping, are of very little significance. However, soundness of all of the three colours is important to creating the overall impact of the patchwork.

Because it is extremely difficult to fix the desired markings on the Tortoise & White, judges should not be too harsh in assessing 'good attempts' with clear patches and solid colour.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

Line Faults

(In descending order of significance, i.e. worst faults first, but dependent on extent of failing)

Band

A patch of colour going all the way around the body.

Belt

A patch of colour going more than half way round the body.

Overlap

A patch of colour overlapping the centre line, top or under.

Solid Head

Head of a single colour.

Dutch-pattern Head

Head with the same colour on each side of the head with a blaze of a different colour.

This is a minor fault.

Distribution Faults

(In descending order of significance, i.e. worst faults first)

Missing Colour

An absence of any of the three colours on either side of the cavy.

Shortage of Patches

Less than three patches on any side of the body, two patches being better than one.

(N.B. In the case of a cavy with only one or two patches on the side, both would apply).

Clarity Faults

Brindling / Roaning:

Intermixing of any colours (white for roaning) where patches meet.

Colour Faults

Brindling / Roaning:

(To be penalised according to extent of failing)

Intermixing of hairs of a different colour (white for roaning) within patches.

A small amount of brindling or roaning should not be too harshly penalised on an otherwise well-marked exhibit.

Some young cavies may show evidence of roaning that will disappear with the adult coat.

This should not be viewed as a serious fault.

General:

Cavies showing excessively light, 'washed-out' colour should be severely penalised.

A flesh ear is not a fault.

DALMATION

		Points
Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<u>15</u>
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>10</u>
Markings of which		<u>60</u>
Head Markings	To have a white blaze with solid colour on either side, giving a well balanced appearance.	(20)
Spotting	To have coloured spotting on a white body; spots to be clear, distinct and well-distributed all over the body including belly.	(30)
Feet Markings	To have solid colour covering the feet.	(10)
Colour	Colour to conform with Self, Agouti or Argente Standards, as appropriate. Eye colour also to conform to these standards, except for the Black whose eyes may have a ruby tint.	<u>10</u>
Coat	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.	<u>5</u>
		<hr/> <u>100</u>
COLOURS	Dalmations may be exhibited in any of the colours that are standardised for: Selfs (with the obvious exception of White) and Agoutis.	

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Dalmation** is, in appearance, a white cavy with coloured markings. The colour should be confined to the feet, head (with a central white blaze) and spotting, the latter to be evenly distributed throughout the body.

The **distribution and clarity of spotting** are of more importance than size, shape and quantity of spots. Spotting should be clear and distinct, with good demarcation between spots.

Large solid patches/areas of colour are undesirable other than on the head and feet.

Roaned areas (patches of intermingled white and coloured hairs) anywhere on the body are undesirable.

Intermittent white hairs on the head and/or feet do not constitute roaning but are still undesirable.

The **head demarcation line** (dividing the white body from the coloured head) should follow the line of the head behind the ears and be clean-cut.

The blaze should begin at the nostrils and end at a point between the ears with no break in between. A blaze that runs through the mouth or through the demarcation line at the top of the head should be penalised.

The width of the blaze is immaterial as long as it is centrally placed between the eyes ears and has a balanced shape.

White whiskers are not a fault.

Whilst the **eye colour** should generally conform to the relevant breed standard of the base colour, dark eyes with a ruby tint should not be penalised.

Some Dalmations with large eyes may have a blue/grey ring completely round the outer edge of the eye: this is not a fault.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Solid head.

Incomplete blaze (blaze to appear complete without disturbance of coat).

Nails and/or foot pads deviating from appropriate Self, Agouti or Argente standards.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

The following faults are to be penalised according to extent:

Uneven Spotting

Roaning

Spinal Bar (a definite white line, lacking any form of spotting, and running the length of the spine from head to rump - usually found in more heavily marked exhibits).

Head Drag (solid colour running on from the head through the demarcation line into the body).

Uneven or Offset Blaze.

White hairs in otherwise solid coloured areas on head and feet.

ROAN

		Points
Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<u>15</u>
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>10</u>
Markings of which	To have solid head and feet but white hairs evenly intermixed throughout the body.	<u>60</u>
Head Markings	To have solid colour with a clean demarcation line separating it from the body markings	(20)
Roaning	To have an even intermixing of white and coloured hairs all over the body, including belly, to create a level appearance with no areas of shading.	(30)
Feet Markings	To have solid colour covering the feet.	(10)
Colour	Colour to conform with ESCC or NACC Standards, as appropriate. Eye colour also to conform to these standards, except for the Black whose eyes may have a ruby tint.	<u>10</u>
Coat	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.	<u>5</u>
		<hr/> <u>100</u>

COLOURS

Roans may be exhibited in any of the colours that are standardised for Sells (with the obvious exception of White) and Agoutis.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Roan** is basically a coloured cavy with white hairs mixed evenly throughout the body, other than the head and feet, which should be of solid colour, these contrasting sharply with the evenly roaned body.

The solid colour of the **head** should have a clean-cut demarcation following the line of the head behind the ears.

Within the **roaned area** an even mix of white and coloured hairs is desirable.

However, the evenness of roaning is of more importance than the exact ratio of white and coloured hairs.

Intermittent white hairs on the face or head do not constitute roaning or the vestige of a blaze but are still undesirable.

White whiskers are not a fault.

Whilst the **eye colour** should generally conform to the relevant breed standard of the base colour, dark eyes with a ruby tint should not be penalised.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Vestige of a blaze (solid groups of white hairs above the mouth).

Nails and/or foot pads deviating from the appropriate Self, Agouti or Argente standards.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

The following faults are to be penalised according to extent:

Uneven roaning.

Spinal Bar (a definite white line, lacking any form of roaning, and running the length of the spine from head to rump - usually found in more heavily marked exhibits).

Dappled belly, having the appearance of spots intermingled with the roaning.

Head Drag (solid colour running on from the head through the demarcation line into the body).

Solid patches anywhere on the body other than head and feet.

White hairs in otherwise solid coloured areas on head and feet.

HIMALAYAN

		Points
Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<u>10</u>
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>10</u>
Markings (Points)	To consist of even, sharply defined dark points on face, ears and feet with clear demarcation from the background white body colour.	<u>50</u>
of which		
Smut	To be prominent, wider at the nostril end, ideally pear-shaped and carried well up between the eyes; sharply defined and intensely coloured black or rich milk chocolate.	(25)
Ears	To be intensely coloured black or rich milk chocolate, dense to the base.	(5)
Feet	To be even and intensely coloured black or rich milk chocolate; sharply defined, with colour carried well up the legs and including nails and pads.	(20)
Colour (of body)	To be pure white and as free from body pigment (stain) as possible.	<u>25</u>
Coat	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.	<u>5</u>
		<hr/> <u>100</u>

DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS

Himalayans may be exhibited in two colours:

Black Himalayan to have black pads.

Chocolate Himalayan to have dark pink to chocolate pads.

Jet black and rich milk chocolate are the desired shades.

Both colours of Himalayan should have bright red eyes.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Himalayan** is an albino cavy that develops pigment on its nose, ears and feet (the Points) during the first few months of life. The **contrast** between the sharpness of these Points and a pure white body colour is the essence of the Himalayan's appeal and so is highly desirable.

U/5s should not be excessively penalised for white hairs in Points.

In **5/8s** white hairs may still be expected on the inside of the ears, and exhibits should not be penalised for this.

The Black Himalayan has a 'crisper' white body colour than the Chocolate.

The Chocolate Himalayan should not be penalised for having this different tone of white body colour.

In badly faded Blacks the smut & feet may appear brown, but the black ears should prevent confusion with Chocolates.

N.B. There is a tendency to form body pigment in very cold weather. The tendency is reversed in very hot weather, when Points, particularly smut & feet, may fade in intensity.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

White patches in markings.

Unpigmented areas in foot pads.

Unpigmented toenails.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

Uneven markings, speckled with white hairs giving a 'peppered' effect.

Poor demarcation between Points and body colour.

Excessive pigmentation in the body colour, giving a 'muddy' effect.

FOX

Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<u>10</u>
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>10</u>
Markings	To have solid base colour all over the body except for white areas that must be solid, clearly defined and distinct, both from the base colour and from each other:	<u>50</u>
of which		
Nostril, Jowls, Chest & Throat	Nostril area, jowls and chest to be white. There should be a clearly-defined band of base colour across the throat, evenly laced with white ticking.	(15)
Eye Circles, Pea-Spots	White eye circles to be even and clearly distinguishable. On the forehead beside each ear should be clear white markings, known as 'pea-spots'. These should not run into the ears.	(15)
Belly, Legs & Feet	Belly to be a clear white colour, with minimal darker undercolour showing and with belly colour only just visible when viewed from the side, other than an area around the forelimb extending from the belly. The inside of each leg should be white, with base colour on the outside reaching right down to and including the feet. An excess of the base colour is preferable to an excess of the belly colour	(10)
Sides	Sides, including sides of hips, to be thickly laced with long white-tipped ticking.	(10)
Colour	Top colour and belly colour are of equal importance. Base colour to conform to ESCC requirements, be even, with glossy sheen and carried down to the skin. White to be pure and clean. Eye colour to match requirements of relevant ESCC base colour. Toenail pigmentation to match ESCC requirements appropriate to toe colour.	<u>25</u>
Coat	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs, other than on flanks where grooming may remove the desirable white markings.	<u>5</u>

100

COLOURS

Fox covies are only recognised in the following standardised base colours:

Black

Chocolate

Slate

Lilac

Beige

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Fox** is a smooth-coated solid coloured cavy with sharply defined white markings around the face, chest and belly, with white-tipped ticking on the sides.

It is important that white areas must not run into each other.

Hairs inside the ears may be either of base colour or white.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Solid areas of white on top or flanks that exceed the size of a £1 coin.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

Hairs of a different colour in the top colour to be penalised according to quantity.

N.B. This does not apply to the white-tipped ticking on the sides and flanks.

Short ticking on the belly, giving the appearance of an 'Agouti belly', should be penalised according to the extent of the fault.

White markings should not spread up from the nostril area to meet the eye circles.

TAN

Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<u>10</u>
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>10</u>
Markings	To have solid base colour all over the body except for tan areas that must be solid, clearly defined and distinct, both from the base colour and from each other:	<u>50</u>
of which		
Nostril, Jowls, Chest & Throat	Nostril area, jowls and chest to be tan. There should be a clearly-defined band of base colour across the throat, evenly laced with tan ticking.	(15)
Eye Circles, Pea-Spots	Tan eye circles to be even and clearly distinguishable. On the forehead beside each ear should be clear tan markings, known as 'pea-spots'. These should not run into the ears.	(15)
Belly, Legs & Feet	Belly to be a clear tan colour, with minimal darker undercolour showing and with belly colour only just visible when viewed from the side, other than an area around the . forelimb extending from the belly. The inside of each leg should be white, with base colour on the outside reaching right down to and including the feet. An excess of the base colour is preferable to an excess of the belly colour	(10)
Sides	Sides, including sides of hips, to be thickly laced with long tan-tipped ticking.	(10)
Colour	Top colour and belly colour are of equal importance. Base colour to conform to ESCC requirements, be even, with glossy sheen and carried down to the skin. Tan to be a rich, golden tan inclining to mahogany or red. Richness of tan to be of greater importance than the actual shade. Eye colour to match requirements of relevant ESCC base colour. Toenail pigmentation to match ESCC requirements appropriate to toe colour.	<u>25</u>
Coat	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs, other than on flanks where grooming may remove the desirable tan markings.	<u>5</u>

100

COLOURS

Tan cavies are only recognised in the following standardised base colours:

Black

Chocolate

Slate

Lilac

Beige

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Tan** is a smooth-coated solid coloured cavy with sharply defined tan markings around the face, chest and belly, with tan-tipped ticking on the sides.

It is important that tan areas must not run into each other.

Hairs inside the ears may be either of base colour or tan.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Solid areas of tan on top or flanks that exceed the size of a £1 coin.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

Paleness of tan colouration should be penalised.

Hairs of a different colour in the top colour to be penalised according to quantity.

N.B. This does not apply to the tan-tipped ticking on the sides and flanks.

Short ticking on the belly, giving the appearance of an 'Agouti belly', should be penalised according to the extent of the fault.

Tan markings should not spread up from the nostril area to meet the eye circles.

OTTER

Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<u>10</u>
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>10</u>
Markings	To have solid base colour all over the body except for cream areas that must be solid, clearly defined and distinct, both from the base colour and from each other:	<u>50</u>
of which		
Nostril, Jowls, Chest & Throat	Nostril area, jowls and chest to be cream. There should be a clearly-defined band of base colour across the throat, evenly laced with cream ticking.	(15)
Eye Circles, Pea-Spots	Cream eye circles to be even and clearly distinguishable. On the forehead beside each ear should be clear cream markings, known as 'pea-spots'. These should not run into the ears.	(15)
Belly, Legs & Feet	Belly to be a clear cream colour, with minimal darker undercolour showing and with belly colour only just visible when viewed from the side, other than an area around the forelimb extending from the belly. The inside of each leg should be cream, with base colour on the outside reaching right down to and including the feet. An excess of the base colour is preferable to an excess of the belly colour	(10)
Sides	Sides, including sides of hips, to be thickly laced with long cream-tipped ticking.	(10)
Colour	Top colour and belly colour are of equal importance. Base colour to conform to ESCC requirements, be even, with glossy sheen and carried down to the skin. Cream to be pale and free from yellow or lemon tinge Eye colour to match requirements of relevant ESCC base colour. Toenail pigmentation to match ESCC requirements appropriate to toe colour.	<u>25</u>
Coat	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs, other than on flanks where grooming may remove the desirable cream markings.	<u>5</u>
		<hr/> <u>100</u>

COLOURS

Otter cavies are only recognised in the following standardised base colours:

Black

Chocolate

Slate

Lilac

Beige

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Otter** is a smooth-coated solid coloured cavy with sharply defined cream markings around the face, chest and belly, with cream-tipped ticking on the sides.

It is important that cream areas must not run into each other.

Hairs inside the ears may be either of base colour or cream.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Solid areas of cream on top or flanks that exceed the size of a £1 coin.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

Colour tending towards buff should be penalised.

Hairs of a different colour in the top colour to be penalised according to quantity.

N.B. This does not apply to the cream-tipped ticking on the sides and flanks.

Short ticking on the belly, giving the appearance of an 'Agouti belly', should be penalised according to the extent of the fault.

Cream markings should not spread up from the nostril area to meet the eye circles.

ENGLISH CRESTED

		Points
Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	<u>24</u>
Crest	To radiate from a centre point between the eyes and ears. To be a deep, regular rosette, with the lower edge well down the nose. To have a pinpoint centre.	<u>20</u>
Body Shape	To conform to ESCC standard.	<u>20</u>
Colour	To conform to ESCC standard for matching English Self.	<u>24</u>
Coat	To conform to ESCC standard.	<u>12</u>
		<hr/> <u>100</u>

N.B. The points in this Standard are comprised of 20 for the crest and 80% from the ESCC Standard.

COLOURS

As for English Self.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **English Crested** is a Self-coloured cavy with a crest on the forehead.
The crest consists of a rosette radiating from a centre point between the eyes and ears. It should be deep and regular, with no areas of flatness, have a pinpoint centre and the lower edge should be well down the nose.
All other features are as for the English Self, although obviously shape of head will not be so apparent because of the crest.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None

SPECIFIC FAULTS

As for English Self.
Crest not to have an open centre.
Any differently coloured hairs in the crest to be severely penalised.

AMERICAN CRESTED

		Points
Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	<u>18</u>
Crest		<u>40</u>
of which		
Formation	To radiate from a centre point between the eyes and ears. To be a deep, regular rosette, with the lower edge well down the nose. To have a pinpoint centre.	(20)
Colour	To consist of a complete circle of contrasting colour (usually white) to the body colour.	(20)
Body Shape	To conform to ESCC standard.	<u>15</u>
Colour	To conform to ESCC standard for matching English Self.	<u>18</u>
Coat	To conform to ESCC standard.	<u>2</u>
		<hr/> <u>100</u>
	N.B. The points in this Standard are comprised of 40 for the crest and 60% from the ESCC Standard.	

COLOURS

As for English Self.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **American Crested** is a Self-coloured cavy with a crest of contrasting colour (normally white) on the forehead.
The crest is to consist of as near a circle of contrasting colour as is possible.
The colour of any skin that may be visible at the centre of the crest is irrelevant.
All other features are as for the English Crested.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Patches of the crest colour appearing anywhere else in the body.
A blaze of the crest colour.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

As for English Self.
Crest not to have an open centre.
Any differently coloured hairs in the crest to be severely penalised.
Hairs of the body colour appearing in the crest to be penalised.

CRESTED TICKED (Agouti)

		Points
Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	<u>16</u>
Crest	To radiate from a centre point between the eyes and ears. To be a deep, regular rosette, with the lower edge well down the nose. To have a pinpoint centre.	<u>20</u>
Body Shape	To conform to standard for corresponding Agouti.	<u>16</u>
Coat Appearance	To conform to standard for corresponding Agouti.	<u>24</u>
Colour	To conform to standard for corresponding Agouti.	<u>16</u>
Coat	To conform to standard for corresponding Agouti.	<u>8</u>
		<hr/> <u>100</u>

N.B. The points in this Standard are comprised of 20 for the crest and 80% from the corresponding Agouti (NACC) Standard.

VARIETIES

This standard applies to:
Crested Agouti

COLOURS

As for Agoutis (NACC).

GUIDANCE NOTES

These are Ticked (Agouti) cavies with a crest on the forehead.
Crest requirements are as for the English Crested, other features required being as for the corresponding Agouti.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None

SPECIFIC FAULTS

As for Agoutis.
Crest not to have an open centre.
Any differently coloured hairs in the crest to be severely penalised.

CRESTED MARKED PATTERN (Himalayan, Tan, Fox, Otter)

		Points
Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<u>8</u>
Crest	To radiate from a centre point between the eyes and ears. To be a deep, regular rosette, with the lower edge well down the nose. To have a pinpoint centre.	<u>20</u>
Body Shape	To conform to standard for corresponding Patterned variety.	<u>8</u>
Markings	To conform to standard for corresponding Patterned variety.	<u>40</u>
Colour	To conform to standard for corresponding Patterned variety.	<u>20</u>
Coat	To conform to standard for corresponding Patterned variety.	<u>4</u>
		<hr/> <u>100</u>

N.B. The points in this Standard are comprised of 20 for the crest and 80% from the Corresponding Marked Pattern Variety standard.

VARIETIES This standard applies to:
Crested Himalayan,
Crested Tan,
Crested Fox
Crested Otter

GUIDANCE NOTES

These are Marked Pattern cavies with a crest on the forehead.
Crest requirements are as for the English Crested, other features required being as for the corresponding Marked Pattern variety.
In Foxes, Tans and Otters the pea-spots should be visible beneath the crest.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None

SPECIFIC FAULTS

As for corresponding Marked Pattern variety.
Crest not to have an open centre.
Any differently coloured hairs in the crest to be severely penalised.

SOLID SATIN

		Points
Head, Eyes & Ears	Roman nose with good width of muzzle, squared off at the end but rounded at the corners. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	<u>25</u>
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with very deep, broad shoulders. Broad in body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>25</u>
Satinisation	To show a distinct satin sheen that is pronounced and even on all body areas, able to 'catch' and reflect any light that is directed towards the coat.	<u>20</u>
Colour	To be of any solid colour, but to be even all over the body, although allowance must be made for the fact that shorter hair on the face and feet will reflect light differently and make colour appear darker than on the body. Undercolour to be carried well down to the skin. Pigmentation on ears, feet and nostrils to match body colour.	<u>15</u>
Coat	To be soft & silky, clean and short, groomed free of guard hairs. To be straight and free of waves, swirls, skirts, flicks or woolly feel.	<u>15</u>
		<hr/> 100
COLOURS	Any solid colour is allowed, with any eye colour.	

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Solid Satin** is a solid-coloured cavy with a satinised coat, satinisation being due to hollow hair shafts in the coat. The satin sheen of the coat is of great importance. To assess the degree and quality of the sheen, judges should handle the cavy in such a way that the coat 'catches the light' to its fullest advantage. Satinisation imparts an extra intensity to any colour, so that exact compliance with shades in other varieties should not be expected.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None

SPECIFIC FAULTS

Hairs of a different colour to be penalised according to quantity.
Areas of darker pigmentation on rims of ears to be penalised.
White toenails, except on Whites, to be penalised.

SATIN NON-SELFS

Satins may be exhibited in any of the following Non-Self varieties:

Satin Agouti and Solid Agouti

Satin Himalayan

Satin Tan

Satin Fox

Satin Otter

Satin Crested (applies to Standardised English Crested varieties)

In all cases, other than for Satin Cresteds, the Standard will consist of 20 points for Satinisation, defined as for the Solid Satin, and 80% of the points for the corresponding Non-Self variety.

For Satin Cresteds (or Crested Satins) the Standard will consist of 20 points for Satinisation, defined as for the Solid Satin, 20 points for crest (formation) and 60% of the points for the corresponding Satin variety.

However, where the corresponding Breed Standard refers to ESCC colours, in the case of the Satin this will be taken to mean 'Any Solid Colour'.

This means that Cresteds in Guide Standard solid colours are fully standardised in their Satin versions.

The same Guidance Notes as for Solid Satins apply, as do any Guidance Notes, Specific Faults and Specific Disqualifications for the corresponding variety.

REX

		Points
Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	<u>20</u>
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh covering shoulders. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>15</u>
Coat Appearance	To have a crimped, erect coat appearing dense and even all over the body, with no areas of flatness or with coat tending to lie down. Guard hairs to be removed. Belly to be well covered. Coat length to be no more than 1.2 cm (0.5 inches) in length, preferably shorter.	<u>20</u>
Coat Feel		<u>45</u>
of which		
Density	To have thick, dense coat all over the body.	(15)
Springiness	To be springy and resilient when brushed with the palm of the hand, readily returning to the original erect appearance.	(15)
Texture	To be coarse to the touch, particularly on the top of the back, with allowance for a slightly less coarse feel to sides. To be clean and free from grease.	(15)

100

DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS

The following notes define the main colour groups and give guidance on the correct classes to enter when exhibiting:

Solid	The cavy must be <u>totally</u> of one colour. Any coloured hairs visible on the surface of the coat mean that it should be shown as Any Other Colour (AOC). White Rex that show colouring of hair on nose and feet similar to the Points on a Himalayan should be shown as AOC.
Agouti	The cavy must be <u>totally</u> Agouti, although normal Agouti belly colour is allowed. Cavies showing faults that occur in smooth Agoutis, such as eye circles, lightness on chest, solid feet or belly colour extending onto legs or body are <u>still</u> Agoutis. Any patches of colour, no matter how small, mean that a cavy cannot be shown in this class.
Bi-Colour or Agouti Bicolour	A cavy that has solid patches of two colours or agouti and another colour. Both colours should be clearly visible without disturbance of the coat.
Tricolour or Agouti Tricolour	A cavy that has a combination of white and any two other solid colours or of white, agouti and another solid colour. All colours should be clearly visible without disturbance of the coat.
Roan	A cavy having roan colouration on any part of its body.
AOC	Any other Rex cavy that does not fall in the above categories. This includes Rex versions of other marked varieties such as Himalayan, Tan, Fox or Dalmation.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Rex** is a short-coated cavy with a rexoid coat that should appear crimped and erect from the body. The feel of the coat is particularly important, being dense and even all over the body but springy and resilient to the touch.

Colour and Coat markings are used only to divide Rex classes at shows. No points are awarded for Colour or Coat markings.

Whilst the preference is for a curly or wavy **belly**, a straight one should not be unduly penalised.

Allowance should be made for the fact that **younger exhibits** will generally have a softer coat.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Rosettes, partial rosettes.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

Extreme tendency for parting in centre of back.

Coat length over 1.2cm (half an inch).

Soft coat on top of body.

Flatness anywhere on body.

Presence of guard hairs.

TEDDY

Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	<u>20</u>
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh covering shoulders. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>15</u>
Coat Appearance	To have a short, raised coat of even length, with a definite lie from the rump towards the head. There should be a visible fringe ('cap') due to the forward orientation of the coat. To appear dense and even all over the body, with no areas of flatness. Guard hairs to be removed. Coat on the belly to be well-covered. Coat length to be no more than 1.2 cm (0.5 inches) in length, with a shorter length preferable.	<u>30</u>
Coat Feel of which		<u>35</u>
Density	To have thick, dense coat all over the body.	(15)
Bouncyness	To have a bouncy feel when brushed with the hand.	(10)
Texture	To be plush but slightly harsh to the touch. To be clean and free from grease.	(10)

100

DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS

The following notes define the main colour groups and give guidance on the correct classes to enter when exhibiting:

Solid	The cavy must be <u>totally</u> of one colour. Any coloured hairs visible on the surface of the coat mean that it should be shown as Any Other Colour (AOC). White Teddies that show colouring of hair on nose and feet similar to the Points on a Himalayan should be shown as AOC.
Agouti	The cavy must be <u>totally</u> Agouti, although normal Agouti belly colour is allowed. Cavies showing faults that occur in smooth Agoutis, such as eye circles, lightness on chest, solid feet or belly colour extending onto legs or body are <u>still</u> Agoutis. Any patches of colour, no matter how small, mean that a cavy cannot be shown in this class.
Bicolour or Agouti Bicolour	A cavy that has solid patches of two colours or agouti and another colour. Both colours should be clearly visible without disturbance of the coat.
Tricolour or Agouti Tricolour	A cavy that has a combination of white and any two other solid colours or of white, agouti and another solid colour. All colours should be clearly visible without disturbance of the coat.
Roan	A cavy having roan colouration on any part of its body.
AOC	Any other Teddy cavy that does not fall in the above categories. This includes Teddy versions of other marked varieties such as Himalayan, Tan, Fox or Dalmation.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Teddy** is a short-coated cavy with a rexoid-type coat that should appear raised from the body, lying with orientation from the rump towards the head. This should be particularly evident when the coat is gently brushed forward.

The Teddy may be shown in any colour or combination of colours.

No points are awarded for colour or coat markings, although these may be used to divide Teddy classes at shows.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Rosettes, partial rosettes.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

Extreme tendency for parting in centre of back.

Coat length over 1.2cm (half an inch).

Flatness anywhere on body.

Presence of guard hairs.

ABYSSINIAN

		Points
Head Furnishings, Mane, Eyes, Ears	Head to be well furnished with hair and a prominent moustache . Mane to be harsh and erect. Eyes to be large, bright and bold. Ears to be medium-sized and slightly drooping, and set with good width between.	20 (15) (5)
Body Shape	To have a short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	15
Coat Appearance of which		45
Ridges	To be straight, erect, stand well up and be placed as in Definitions below. To be placed so as to give a neat, close coupled effect. Colour of coat to be rich, clear and bright with plenty of lustre and to extend down the hair shaft. Length of coat not to exceed 1.5 inches (4 cm).	(25)
Rosettes	To be well formed, of good depth, and radiate from pinpoint centres. To be distributed evenly over the body, with each rosette clear & distinct from any other. To be placed as in Definitions below.	(20)
Coat Feel	To have a wealth and depth of thick, harsh coat. To be clean and free from grease.	20
		<hr/> 100

DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS

The following notes define the main colour groups and give guidance on the correct classes to enter when exhibiting:

Brindle/Tortoiseshell	Brindles have interspersed red and black hairs, as well mixed as possible. Brindles in which red hairs predominate are termed 'light Brindles'; those in which black hairs predominate are termed 'dark brindles'. Tortoiseshells have patches of red and black hairs, these to be as clear as possible but in no set pattern. True Brindles and Tortoiseshells are rarely seen, the majority being a mixture of both patchwork and brindling. Occasionally exhibits can carry small clumps of white hairs. Providing that these do not in total exceed the size of a £1 coin, these cavies can be exhibited as Brindles/Tortoiseshells.
Tortoise and White	To consist of patches of red, black and white hairs placed separately but in no definite order. Although brindling is often seen, clarity of colour and patches is sought, and this adds to the attractiveness of the exhibit.
Roan	To consist of interspersed white and coloured hairs. Mixtures of white and black hairs are termed 'Blue Roans'; mixtures of white and red are 'Strawberry Roans'. However, the majority of Roans have mixtures of red, black and white hairs. Any cavy exhibiting any area of roaning must be termed a Roan, but the best examples will carry roaning over most of the body.
Self	Any exhibits of one solid colour, the most common today being Red and Black.
Any Other Colour (AOC)	Any exhibit not falling into one of the above groups is termed 'AOC'. The most commonly seen today are Red & White, Black & White and the Chocolate, Red & White Tricolour. All other colours are permissible.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Abyssinian** is a rough-coated, short-haired cavy in which a specific arrangement of rosettes creates a pattern of ridges both parallel and at right angles to the body.

The **overall effect** is most important in the Abyssinian. It should be cobby, thick-set & with a dense, harsh coat giving the ridges their erectness.

When the **ridges** are straight, a checkerboard pattern is formed.

The Abyssinian should appear '**short-coupled**': this is achieved when the collar ridge is set well back behind the shoulders & the back ridge is well up in front of the hip bones.

This gives a compact-looking animal with deep-centred cup-shaped rosettes.

The **head** is greatly enhanced by a **wealth of mane and moustache** (which is formed by the hair growing forward from the jaw-line meeting the hair growing on the nose).

Shoulder rosettes are optional but improve appearance when displayed.

Rump rosette centres are normally two-thirds of the way down the rump, and should not be too low.

A **double, 'lifter' or split rosette** on an otherwise good exhibit should not be unduly penalised.

Open centres and '**guttering**' are often wrongly identified and penalised on dark-coloured Abyssinians or light-coloured ones with dark skins.

On account of their harsher coats, **boars** are more commonly shown in Adult classes, but **sows** should not be unduly penalised because of their coat texture.

It is difficult to assess coat qualities in **young Abyssinians**, as their coats are not usually 'through' until they are at least 12 weeks of age.

SPECIFIC DEFINITIONS

Ridges	<p>To consist of:</p> <p>A centre ridge, to follow a line along the backbone from collar to rear.</p> <p>Two side ridges, to follow a line parallel to the centre ridge on either side.</p> <p>A collar ridge, to follow a line over the shoulders at right angles to the centre ridge.</p> <p>A back ridge, to follow a line over the hips and back parallel to the collar.</p>
Rosettes	<p>To consist of:</p> <p>Four rosettes in direct line across the body, these being the saddle and side rosettes.</p> <p>A rosette on each hip in line with each other.</p> <p>Two thumb-shaped rump rosettes with equal centres.</p>

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None

SPECIFIC FAULTS (in descending order of importance, i.e. worst first)

Flatness anywhere, especially on back, as 'runs' to collar or as flat sides.

Weak, thin or twisted ridges.

Double or split rosettes, open centres, lifters or guttered rump rosettes.

SHELTIE

		Points
Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be large, bold and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<u>20</u>
Coat Appearance (Mane, Chops, Shoulders, Sides, Sweep)	Mane to be unparted and full. To be swept back to join in with sweep. Chops to be strong, even, dense and well-furnished, with no gaps. Shoulders to have hair of appropriate length continuing evenly around the sides. Sweep to cover the hindquarters of the cavy and be full and of even length. Generally the sweep will be a little longer than the sides. No breaks in coat, thin areas <u>near the body</u> or uneven length should be evident..	<u>30</u>
Coat Feel (Texture & Density)		<u>30</u>
of which	Coat Texture to be soft and silky, and free flowing over all areas of the body. Coat Density to be full and dense in all areas when assessed nearer the body where the undercoat supports the top coat.	(15) (15)
Presentation	To be clean, free of grease and unmatted, with no resistance to a comb. Whilst the aim is for a straight coat, slight waviness should not be punished.	<u>10</u>
Body	To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>10</u>

100

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The cavy must be shown without a central parting, on a board of appropriate size, and covered in natural-coloured hessian.
 The hair on the face should lie pointing towards the rear of the cavy

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Sheltie** is a smooth-haired, long-coated cavy. As in all Longhairs coat qualities are paramount.
 The cavy should be typey, with no hint of flatness on head when viewed in profile.
 Coat length should be appropriate to the age of the cavy, a guideline being circa 2.5 cm (1 inch) per month of age.
 Allowance should be made that the coat will appear thinner in older, longer coated exhibits because the undercoat does not attain the same length as the top coat, which is spread over a larger area.
 Shelties may be shown in any colour or mixture of colours.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Rosettes

SPECIFIC FAULTS

None

CORONET		Points
Head, Eyes, Ears & Coronet		<u>20</u>
of which	Head to be short & broad, Muzzle of good width & rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	(10)
and	Coronet to be a rosette on front of head, radiating from a pinpoint centre, & to be well -formed and symmetrical with lower edge well down the nose.	(10)
Coat Appearance	Chops to be strong, even, dense and well-furnished, with no gaps. Shoulders to have hair of appropriate length continuing evenly around Sides. Sweep to cover the hindquarters of the cavy and be full and of even length. Generally the sweep will be a little longer than the sides. No breaks in coat, thin areas <u>near the body</u> or uneven length should be evident.	<u>30</u>
Coat Feel (Texture & Density)		<u>30</u>
of which	Coat Texture to be soft and silky, and free flowing over all areas of the body.	(15)
	Coat Density to be full and dense in all areas when assessed nearer the body where the undercoat supports the top coat.	(15)
Presentation	To be clean, free of grease and unmatted, with no resistance to a comb. Whilst the aim is for a straight coat, slight waviness should not be punished.	<u>10</u>
Body	To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>10</u>
		<hr/> <u>100</u>

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The cavy must be shown with a central parting, on a board of appropriate size, and covered in natural-coloured hessian.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Coronet** is a smooth-haired (other than the crest), long-coated cavy with a crest (coronet) on its forehead. As in all Longhairs coat qualities are paramount.
Coat length should be appropriate to the age of the cavy, a guideline being circa 2.5 cm (1 inch) per month of age.
Allowance should be made that the coat will appear thinner in older, longer coated exhibits because the undercoat does not attain the same length as the top coat, which is spread over a larger area.
Coronets may be shown in any colour or mixture of colours.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Rosettes other than the coronet.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

None

TEXEL

		Points
Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be large, bold and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<u>20</u>
Coat Appearance (Chops, Shoulders, Sides, Sweep)	Chops to be strong, even, dense and well-furnished, with no gaps. Shoulders to have hair of appropriate length continuing evenly around Sides. Sweep to cover the hindquarters of the cavy and be full and of even length. Generally the sweep will be a little longer than the sides. Coat to be springy in appearance & show rexoid characteristics. No breaks in coat, thin areas <u>near the body</u> or uneven length should be evident.	<u>30</u>
Coat Feel (Texture & Density) of which	Coat Texture to be soft and springy; and free flowing over all areas of the body. Coat Density to be full and dense in all areas when assessed nearer the body where the undercoat supports the top coat. Belly to be curly, woolly and dense.	<u>30</u> (15) (15)
Presentation	To be clean, free of grease and unmatted, with no resistance to a comb.	<u>10</u>
Body	To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>10</u>
		<hr/> <u>100</u>

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The cavy must be shown with a central parting, on a board of appropriate size, and covered in natural-coloured hessian.

The hair on the face should lie pointing towards the rear of the cavy.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Texel** is a rexoid, long-coated cavy, being the rexoid equivalent of the Sheltie.

As with all Longhairs coat qualities are paramount.

Coat length should be appropriate to the age of the cavy, a guideline being circa 2.5 cm (1 inch) per month of age.

Allowance should be made that the coat will appear thinner in older, longer coated exhibits because the undercoat does not attain the same length as the top coat, which is spread over a larger area.

Texels may be shown in any colour or mixture of colours.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Rosettes

SPECIFIC FAULTS

None

MERINO

		Points
Head, Eyes, Ears & Coronet		<u>20</u>
of which	Head to be short & broad, Muzzle of good width & rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	(10)
and	Coronet to be a rosette on front of head, radiating from a pinpoint centre, & to be well -formed and symmetrical with lower edge well down the nose.	(10)
Coat Appearance (Chops, Shoulders, Sides, Sweep)	Chops to be strong, even, dense and well-furnished, with no gaps. Shoulders to have hair of appropriate length continuing evenly around Sides. Sweep to cover the hindquarters of the cavy and be full and of even length. Generally the sweep will be a little longer than the sides. Coat to be springy in appearance & show rexoid characteristics. No breaks in coat, thin areas <u>near the body</u> or uneven length should be evident.	<u>30</u>
Coat Feel (Texture & Density)		<u>30</u>
of which	Coat Texture to be soft and springy; and free flowing over all areas of the body. Coat Density to be full and dense in all areas when assessed nearer the body where the undercoat supports the top coat. Belly to be curly, woolly and dense.	(15) (15)
Presentation	To be clean, free of grease and unmatted, with no resistance to a comb.	<u>10</u>
Body	To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>10</u>

100

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The cavy must be shown with a central parting, on a board of appropriate size, and covered in natural-coloured hessian.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Merino** is a rexoid, long-coated cavy with a crest, being the rexoid equivalent of the Coronet. As with all Longhairs coat qualities are paramount.
Coat length should be appropriate to the age of the cavy, a guideline being circa 2.5 cm (1 inch) per month of age.
Allowance should be made that the coat will appear thinner in older, longer coated exhibits because the undercoat does not attain the same length as the top coat, which is spread over a larger area.
Merinos may be shown in any colour or mixture of colours.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Rosettes other than the coronet.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

None

PERUVIAN

		Points
Frontal, Chops, Head, Eyes, Ears		<u>20</u>
of which	Frontal and Chops: The hair constituting the frontal should originate from the shoulders and be brushed so as to evenly cover the face with no gaps at the side of the head., meeting hair from the 'chops' so as to fall in a manner that produces a 'curtain' effect at the front of the cavy. Chops to be strong, with hair of one length and no gaps. Frontal to be of good length, in keeping with the cavy's age.	(15)
and	Head to be short & broad, Muzzle of good width & rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	(5)
Coat Appearance (Shoulders, Sides, Sweep)		<u>30</u>
	Shoulders and Sides should continue evenly from the frontal and chops of the cavy, with good length in keeping with the cavy's age. Sweep should cover the hindquarters, with good length in keeping with age. There should be no evidence of a parting in sweep hair. No breaks in coat, thin areas <u>near the body</u> or uneven length should be evident, so as to continue the curtain effect that is desired.	
Coat Feel (Texture and Density)		<u>30</u>
of which	Coat Texture to be soft and silky; flowing freely over all areas of the body;	(15)
and	Coat Density to be full and dense in all areas when assessed nearer the body where the undercoat supports the top coat.	(15)
Presentation	To be clean, free of grease and unmatted, with no resistance to a comb. Whilst the aim is for a straight coat, slight waviness should not be punished.	<u>10</u>
Body	To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>10</u>
		<u>-</u>
		<u>100</u>

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The cavy must be shown with a central parting, on a board of appropriate size.
These should be large enough to give an outline of coat shape, maximum 20 x 20", and covered in natural-coloured hessian.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Peruvian** is a long-coated cavy with two rosettes on the rump.

The **placement of these rosettes** is important in producing density in the sweep.

If the rosettes are high, more hair is pushed into the sweep and it has sufficient density to support its extra length.

With low rosettes the sweep can lack density, and as it grows can hang to show a 'split' in the middle.

Given good placement of rosettes, there should be no problem with the sweep.

The **overall appearance**, looking down onto the top of the cavy, should be of an oval shape but as near round as possible.

With coat of even length coming from a central parting along the spine, the hair should fall forwards to cover the head and backwards over the rear to form the sweep.

Along with the shoulders and sides, this should create a continuous 'curtain' of hair around the body.

The **undercoat** of the Peruvian stops at 6 to 7 ", so when the top coat reaches 3 to 4" longer than this there starts to be an impression of thinness, as increasing amounts of show board are seen beneath the coat of the cavy. This does not constitute lack of density, which should be felt near to the cavy's body.

When the coat length increases towards 18" it is spread so far out that individual hairs are apparent and an impression of wispieness is given. This is unavoidable even with a very densely coated cavy.

Density should also be apparent from the appearance of the coat, with no breaks or thin areas of coat evident.

Coat length should be appropriate to the age of the cavy, a guideline being circa 1 inch per month of age. The coat grows in 'layers', this being more evident in U/5s.

In **young cavies** the sweep may appear to be slightly longer than the sides, but an even length all round is sought in intermediate and adult stock.

Peruvians may be shown in any **colour** or mixture of colours.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Crests.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

Additional rosettes, causing a visible impact on the coat, to be penalised according to severity of this impact.

ALPACA

		Points
Frontal, Chops, Head, Eyes & Ears		<u>20</u>
of which	Frontal and Chops: The hair constituting the frontal should originate from the shoulders and be brushed so as to evenly cover the face with no gaps at the side of the head., meeting hair from the 'chops' so as to fall in a manner that produces a 'curtain' effect at the front of the cavy. Chops to be strong, with hair of one length and no gaps. Frontal to be of good length, in keeping with the cavy's age.	(15)
and	Head to be short & broad, Muzzle of good width & rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	(5)
Coat Appearance (Shoulders, Sides, Sweep)		<u>30</u>
	Coat should be springy in appearance & show rexoid characteristics. Shoulders and Sides should continue evenly from the frontal and chops of the cavy, with good length in keeping with the cavy's age. Sweep should cover the hindquarters, with good length in keeping with age. There should be no evidence of a parting in sweep hair. No breaks in coat, thin areas <u>near the body</u> or uneven length should be evident, so as to continue the curtain effect that is desired.	
Coat Feel (Texture & Density)		<u>30</u>
of which	Coat Texture to be soft and springy to handle & free flowing over the whole body;	(15)
and	Coat Density to be full and dense in all areas when assessed nearer the body where the undercoat supports the top coat. Belly to be curly, woolly and dense.	(15)
Presentation	To be clean, free of grease and unmatted, with no resistance to a comb.	<u>10</u>
Body	To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<u>10</u>

100

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The cavy must be shown with a central parting, on a board of appropriate size.
These should be large enough to give an outline of coat shape, maximum 20 x 20",
and covered in natural-coloured hessian.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Alpaca** is a long-coated rexoid cavy with two rosettes on the rump, being the rexoid equivalent of the Peruvian.

The placement of rosettes is important in producing density in the sweep.

The **overall appearance**, looking down onto the top of the cavy, should be of an oval shape but as near round as possible.

With coat of even length coming from a central parting along the spine, the hair should fall forwards to cover the head and backwards over the rear to form the sweep.

Along with the shoulders and sides, this should create a continuous 'curtain' of hair around the body. However, the coat grows in 'layers', this being more evident in U/5s.

The **undercoat** of the Alpaca stops at 6 to 7 ", so when the top coat reaches 3 to 4" longer than this there starts to be an impression of thinness, as increasing amounts of show board are seen beneath the coat of the cavy. This does not constitute lack of density, which should be felt near to the cavy's body.

When the coat length increases towards 18" it is spread so far out that individual hairs are apparent and an impression of wispieness is given. This is unavoidable even with a very densely coated cavy.

Density should also be apparent from the appearance of the coat, with no breaks or thin areas of coat evident.

Coat length should be appropriate to the age of the cavy, a guideline being circa 1 inch per month of age.

In **young cavies** the sweep may appear to be slightly longer than the sides, but an even length all round is sought in intermediate and adult stock.

Alpacas may be shown in any **colour** or mixture of colours.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Crests.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

Additional rosettes, causing a visible impact on the coat, to be penalised according to severity of this impact.

ARGENTE (Guide Standard)

Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with deep, broad shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.
Coat Appearance	Throughout the head, body, chest and feet the Argente should have individual hairs ticked or tipped with gold, cream or white over a base colour of beige or lilac. This should produce an Agouti-like effect that is level and even all over the body, including around the eyes and on the chest and feet.
Colour	Top colour to be bright and lustrous and conform with Descriptions below. Undercolour to be carried well down to the skin. Belly colour to be the same colour as the ticking colour but not ticked (to be tipped), even and with well-defined demarcation line; and to be as narrow as possible, although not at the expense of condition.
Coat	To be soft & silky, clean and short, groomed free of guard hairs. N.B. It is the Council's intention that, once it is demonstrated that this is achievable, any Full Standard for the Argente will require the same sharp, level ticking as specified for the Agouti.

DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS (Descriptions state the ticking colour first)

Golden /Lilac	Deep lilac undercolour with golden ticking. Belly to be golden. Eyes pink. Ears pink/lilac. Pads pink.
Golden/Beige	Deep beige undercolour with golden ticking. Belly to be golden. Eyes pink. Ears pink/beige. Pads pink.
Golden/Slate	Deep slate undercolour with golden ticking. Belly to be golden. Eyes ruby. Ears slate grey. Pads slate grey.
Cream/Lilac	Deep lilac undercolour with cream ticking. Belly to be lemon. Eyes pink. Ears pink/lilac. Pads pink.
Cream/Beige	Deep beige undercolour with cream ticking. Belly to be lemon. Eyes pink. Ears pink/beige. Pads pink.
Cream/Slate	Deep slate undercolour with cream ticking. Belly to be lemon. Eyes ruby. Ears slate grey. Pads slate grey.
White/Lilac	Deep lilac undercolour with white ticking. Belly to be white. Eyes pink. Ears pink/lilac. Pads pink.
White/Beige	Deep beige undercolour with white ticking. Belly to be white. Eyes pink. Ears pink/beige. Pads pink.
White/Slate	Deep slate undercolour with white ticking. Belly to be white. Eyes ruby. Ears slate grey. Pads slate grey. N.B. Bellies in Solid Agoutis to be as for body colour.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Argente** is a pink-eyed ticked cavy in which the ticking covers the whole of the body other than the belly.

In **judging Argentes**, the emphasis is on quality of ticking, colour, type and condition. Exhibits should not be unduly penalised for minor faults if they possess these qualities.

Size is very desirable, but not at the expense of cobbiness or quality.

Grooming is essential to producing an even effect on the body and sides of the cavy.

Chest faults are often accompanied by poor colour and, if this is the case, should be severely penalised.

Exhibits should not be penalised for **wide belly** unless the belly colour is visible when viewed from the side.

Dark or unticked feet, although these are faults, are preferable to **light or uneven feet**.

In **U/5 exhibits** a small degree of eye circles or some unevenness on feet should not be unduly penalised, as these faults may clear as the cavy matures.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None

SPECIFIC FAULTS

Circles of lighter ticking colour around the eye ('Eye circles').

Light streaks or patches on chest, body or sides.

Lightness on jowls.

Feet that are lighter or darker than the body colour, or that are odd.

Evidence of dark pigmentation on the ears.

White or other odd coloured hairs, to be penalised according to quantity.

Large patches of unticked hairs to be severely penalised.

Indistinct colours in either ticking or undercolour to be severely penalised.

TRICOLOUR (Guide Standard)

Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.
Markings	<p>The coat pattern should consist of clear and distinct patches with no intermixing of colours.</p> <p>The cavy should have patches of generally rectangular shape arranged on opposite sides of the body, ideally around a line running roughly down the centre.</p> <p>There should be similar amounts of the three colours on the body, distributed in patches of similar size.</p> <p>All three colours should be visible from each side of the cavy.</p> <p>At least two colours should be visible on the head.</p> <p>All three colours should be visible on the belly.</p>
Colour	Colours to conform as nearly as possible to ESCC (Self colours) or NACC (Agouti colours) Standards, although slight variations from these should not be penalised so long as colour is rich, even, of glossy sheen and carried well down to the skin to avoid any appearance of flakyness Eye colour to be dark or pink, as appropriate to the constituent colours.
Coat	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.
COLOURS	Tricolours may be shown in white and two fully standardised colours or ticking variants as recognised by the ESCC or NACC, with the exception of red, black and white, this being the Tort & White, and D.E. golden, black and white, which is insufficiently differentiated in colour from the Tort & White.

BICOLOUR (GUIDE STANDARD)

Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.
Markings	<p>The coat pattern should consist of clear and distinct patches with no intermixing of colours.</p> <p>The cavy should have patches of generally rectangular shape arranged on opposite sides of the body, ideally around a line running roughly down the centre.</p> <p>There should be similar amounts of both colours on the body, distributed in patches of similar size.</p> <p>Both colours should be visible from each side of the cavy.</p> <p>Both colours should be visible on the head.</p> <p>Both colours should be visible on the belly.</p>
Colour	Colours to conform as nearly as possible to ESCC (Self colours) or NACC (Agouti colours) Standards, although slight variations from these should not be penalised so long as colour is rich, even, of glossy sheen and carried well down to the skin to avoid any appearance of flakiness Eye colour to be dark or pink, as appropriate to the constituent colours. To be free from white hairs (other than for White Bicolours – see Faults below).
Coat	Eye colour to be dark or pink, as appropriate to the constituent colours. To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.
COLOURS	<p>Bicolours may be shown in any two fully standardised colours or ticking variants as recognised by the ESCC or NACC..</p> <p>The Black / red Bicolour is known as the Tortoiseshell, a traditional breed of cavy.</p>

HARLEQUIN (Guide Standard)

Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.
Markings	<p>The coat pattern should consist of clear and distinct patches with no intermixing of colours, other than of black and deep cream in the patches that constitute one of the 'colours'.</p> <p>The cavy should have patches of generally rectangular shape arranged on opposite sides of the body, ideally around a line running roughly down the centre.</p> <p>There should be similar amounts of the three colours (one being black / deep cream intermixing) on the body, distributed in patches of similar size.</p> <p>All three colours should be visible from each side of the cavy.</p> <p>At least two colours should be visible on the head.</p> <p>All three colours should be visible on the belly.</p>
Colour	Colours to be rich black and deep cream, even, with glossy sheen and carried well down. The colours comprising the mixed patches should be as evenly mixed as possible. Eye colour to be dark.
Coat	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.
	N.B. Any Full Standard for this breed is likely to be based on that for: The Tortoiseshell & White.
COLOURS	As well as being based on a black / cream combination, as referred to in the Guide Standard above, the Harlequin may also be based on a chocolate/ cream combination.
IMPORTANT NOTE	<u>In using the word 'colours' in this Standard, this refers both to the black (or chocolate) and deep cream colours and to the patches of black (or chocolate)/ deep cream mixing.</u>
SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS	Patches of white hairs anywhere on the cavy.

MAGPIE (Guide Standard)

Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.
Markings	<p>The coat pattern should consist of clear and distinct patches with no intermixing of colours, other than of black and white in the patches that constitute one of the 'colours'.</p> <p>The cavy should have patches of generally rectangular shape arranged on opposite sides of the body, ideally around a line running roughly down the centre.</p> <p>There should be similar amounts of the three colours (one being black / white intermixing) on the body, distributed in patches of similar size.</p> <p>All three colours should be visible from each side of the cavy.</p> <p>At least two colours should be visible on the head.</p> <p>All three colours should be visible on the belly.</p>
Colour	Colours to be rich black and bright white, even, with glossy sheen and carried well down. The colours comprising the mixed patches should be as evenly mixed as possible. Eye colour to be dark.
Coat	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.
	N.B. Any Full Standard for this breed is likely to be based on that for: The Tortoiseshell & White.
COLOURS	As well as being based on a black / white combination, as referred to in the Guide Standard above, the Magpie may also be based on a chocolate/ white combination.
IMPORTANT NOTE	<u>In using the word 'colours' in this Standard, this refers both to the black (or chocolate) and white colours and to the patches of black (or chocolate)/ white mixing.</u>

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Patches of cream hairs anywhere on the cavy.

LUNKARYA (Guide Standard)	
Frontal, Chops, Head, Eyes & Ears	<p>Frontal and chops should be strong, with hair of one length and no gaps.</p> <p>The frontal and chops should be curly.</p> <p>Head to be short and broad, with muzzle of good width & rounded at the nostrils.</p> <p>Eyes to be large, bright and bold, set with good width between.</p> <p>Ears to be large, drooping and set with good width between.</p>
Coat Appearance	<p>Coat on the body should be curly in a ringletted fashion, giving a corkscrew effect that needs to be present from the base of the coat to the tips, which should be intact. The coat should appear full and dense, with even lengths of ringletted curls sticking out from the body in a naturally untidy fashion.</p> <p>Therefore the Lunkarya should not be presented with a central parting.</p> <p>Belly to be curly and dense.</p>
Coat Feel	<p>The texture of the coat should be harsh and coarse. It should feel full and dense with a thick undercoat but free from grease.</p>
Presentation	<p>To be presented clean and unmatted, with the corkscrew effect that the coat naturally develops evident all over the body.</p> <p>Judges must be able to run their fingers through the coat to check for coat quality and presentation, being able to pull their fingers up and out through the coat without encountering tangles, knots or matting.</p>
Body	<p>To have a short, cobby body, thick-set with good width across shoulders.;</p> <p>To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh.</p> <p>To have good size appropriate to age.</p>

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The Lunkarya may be shown in any colour or combination of colours.

It must be shown with no central parting on a board of appropriate size. This should be large enough to give an outline of the coat shape and be covered in natural-coloured hessian. The coat must not be cut.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Crest, Missing rump rosettes.

SPECIFIC FAULTS

Additional rosettes causing a visible impact on the coat, to be penalised according to severity.

N.B. Any Full Standard for this breed is likely to be based on those for:

The Rough Longhair breeds.

GUIDANCE NOTES

The Lunkarya is a longhaired cavy in the Peruvian model (having a frontal, chops and two rump rosettes), but with significant differences due to the harsh and coarse coat texture and the tendency of the coat to form ringlets. The hair on the frontal, chop furnishings and belly is rexoid but not ringletted.

The Lunkarya's coat is its most important feature and on the body should be curly in a ringletted fashion, giving a corkscrew effect that needs to be present from the base of the coat to the tips, which should be intact. The coat should have harsh texture and be full and dense, with even lengths of ringletted curls sticking out from the body in a naturally untidy fashion. Therefore the Lunkarya should not be presented with a central parting.

Frontal and chops should be strong, with hair of one length and no gaps. The frontal and chops should be curly; the belly should show the presence of dense curls.

In an older Lunkarya the weight of the hair will tend to make the outer coat fall towards the body, but the innate tendency for the coat to grow out from the body should still be evident and there should be no tendency to a parting.

The coat of a Lunkarya grows at approximately 1 inch per month, although because of the curlyness of the coat it may appear shorter. It should therefore be measured by holding the hair straight.

SWISS (Guide Standard)

Coat Appearance	To stand erect from the body, being thick and even in length to give a round and plush overall ('puff-ball') appearance, with sufficient density that the skin is not visible without parting the coat. The length of the coat should be <u>at least</u> 5 cm and be even across the shoulders, sides and back. Chops should be strong, even, dense and well-furnished, with no gaps. Ideally to have longer hairs, known as 'horns', over the ears. Belly to be well-covered but with coat shorter in length than on the rest of the body.
Coat Feel	The coat to be dense, plush and springy against the body, coarse enough to support the hair standing erect but soft enough to create the required 'puffball' appearance. It should be free from grease.
Presentation	To be presented clean and unmatted, with the hair standing erect all over the body to create a full and rounded appearance with no tendency either for the coat to lie forward or for a parting. There should be no tangles or matting.
Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short & broad, Muzzle of good width & rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Swiss may be shown in any colour or combination of colours.

They must be shown on a board of appropriate size covered in natural-coloured hessian

GUIDANCE NOTES

The Swiss is a rexoid, semi-longhaired cavy whose coat stands erect from the body to give a rounded shape of even ('puff-ball') appearance.

The Swiss is inclined to moult at regular intervals, from the shoulder backwards. Accordingly, those in 'mid moult' have longer coats around the rump than on the rest of the body. They should not be shown during the moulting stages. Some Swiss possess a rosette on the forehead. This usually fills out and disappears by 5 months of age. However, Swiss should not be shown with any visible rosette.

SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS: None

SPECIFIC FAULTS: The presence of any visible rosette in the coat (usually found on the head) is a severe fault. Having coat of inappropriate length, or of differing lengths and texture (particularly extra length on the rump), is a severe fault.

Coat faults, where the coat direction visibly goes against the general lie of the coat, such as swirls (usually found in the hip area) should be penalised according to the extent of the fault.

CHINCHILLA (Guide Standard)

Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and gently rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with deep, broad shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.
Body Colour	The Body colour is created by individual hairs consisting of: (1) a base colour that is wider and paler nearest to the skin, followed by (2) a band of darker base colour; (3) a white or cream band narrower than the two bands of base colour; (4) a very small tip of dark base colour. The desired hair characteristics should give Body Colour consisting of a muted, pastel shade and an even, long-ticked appearance. Belly should be white or cream with no base colour showing through. Base colour should be paler than on the corresponding Agouti without losing clarity of markings and the desired pigmentation of eyes, ears and pads.
Markings	To have pronounced and clearly defined white or cream markings as eye circles; around the nostril area; on the jowls, chest, belly and an area around the forelimb extending from the belly. Belly should be wide enough that it is just visible when viewed from the side. Feet to be ticked and should match the body colour.
Coat	To be soft & silky, clean and short, groomed free of guard hairs.

DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS

White / Grey (Silver)	Medium grey base with a darker band, then a white band with darker (grey) tipping. White markings. Eyes dark with a hint of ruby. Ears and Pads grey.
Cream / Grey (Lemon)	Medium grey base with a darker band, then a cream band with darker (grey) tipping. Cream markings. Eyes dark with a hint of ruby. Ears and Pads grey.
White / Chocolate (Cinnamon)	Light chocolate base with a darker band, then a white band with darker (chocolate) tipping. White markings. Eyes ruby. Ears and Pads pink / light chocolate.
Cream / Chocolate (Cream)	Light chocolate base with a darker band, then a cream band with darker (chocolate) tipping. Cream markings. Eyes ruby. Ears and Pads pink / light chocolate.

GUIDANCE NOTES: U/5 exhibits may be paler in colour than adults but must still retain the markings described. This should not be unduly penalized since it may clear as the cavy matures. Size is very desirable, but not at the expense of quality or cobbiness. Grooming is essential to produce the effect of even long-ticking on the body and sides of the cavy.

SPECIFIC FAULTS: Too dark a shade of body colour. Patches of solid white or cream hairs, except where specified. Uneven ticking. Inappropriate toenail pigmentation.

CALIFORNIAN (Guide Standard)

Head, Eyes & Ears	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping with lower rim parallel to the ground, and set with good width between.
Body Shape	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.
Markings (Points) of which	To consist of even, sharply defined dark points on face, ears and feet with clear demarcation from the body colour.
Smut	To be prominent, oval-shaped, and carried well up between but not above the eyes. To be intensely coloured black or rich milk chocolate.
Ears	To be intensely coloured black or rich milk chocolate, dense to the base.
Feet	To be an even and intensely coloured black or rich milk chocolate; sharply defined, with colour carried well up the legs to just beyond the hock joint, also covering the nails and pads.
Colour (of body)	To correspond to ESCC Red, DE Golden, Buff, DE Cream or DE White, with similar eye colour. As free from body pigment (stain) as possible. N. B. It is not yet established whether a small clump of black or chocolate hairs above the ears is inevitable with well-marked examples, so these should be disregarded until this is known.
Coat	To be soft & silky, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.

GUIDANCE NOTES:

The Californian is a smooth, short-coated cavy with smut and feet of one colour and body of a different colour, the pattern of markings being similar to those of the Himalayan cavy. However, because of its genetic basis it is likely that well-marked youngsters will become over-marked adults, whilst under-marked youngsters may develop into good adults. In common with Himalayans, colour density of the smut and feet varies with temperature, being more intense in colder seasons.

SPECIFIC FAULTS:

Uneven markings. Speckled smut and feet with white hairs giving a 'peppered' effect. Poor demarcation between points and body colour. Excessive pigmentation in the body colour, giving a 'muddy' body stained effect.

GUIDANCE NOTES RELATING TO SPECIFIC NEW & EMERGING BREEDS

SELF CARAMEL

All characteristics are as for a Self cavy but with colour to be a rich, warm toffee, distinctly darker than the Self Beige. Eyes light ruby.

RIDGEBACK

The Ridgeback is a smooth-coated cavy other than for a pronounced **Ridge**, which should be pronounced, unbroken, erect and straight, running down the spine from between the ears to the hips. The ridge should be up to approximately 2.5 cm (one inch) in height and be most pronounced at the shoulder, tapering towards the rear end. The ridge should be firm and erect when brushed with the palm of the hand.

Other than the ridge the **Coat** should be soft, short, clean and free from grease. It should have no coat faults or rosettes, although a small circular pattern at the back of a foot is not a fault.

The Ridgeback is only recognised in Self **Colours**, Agouti and Argente, which should conform to ESCC, NACC or RVCC standards. The coat should be of glossy sheen, free from visible brindling, roaning or patches of different colour; with the colour carried well down to the skin to avoid any appearance of flakiness. Odd-coloured hairs found in the coat of the cavy, but not visible on the surface, should not be penalised.

The **Head** should be short and broad, with a gently curving profile and muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. **Eyes** should be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. **Ears** should be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground and set with good width between.

The **Body** should be short and cobby, thick-set with good width across the shoulders. It must be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh covering the shoulders; and the pig should have good size appropriate to age

BELTED

The Belted is a smooth coated solid coloured (black) cavy with a belt of white circling the body just behind the shoulders and incorporating the front legs and feet. Younger exhibits may have a narrower belt.

The **Belt** should be of white colour circling the body just behind the shoulders and including the front legs and feet. It should be vertical (at right angles to the spine), even in width all round the body, and straight. The width of the belt should be between 3 and 5 cm. Steps, skewing and variations in width of the belt are to be penalised according to severity.

Body Colour should be black, even & with glossy sheen, carried well down to the skin. Differently coloured hairs found within the Black or White are to be penalised according to quantity.

The **Belt Colour** should be pure and clean, Eye colour should be dark.

The Head should be short and broad, with a gently curving profile and muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. **Eyes** should be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. **Ears** should be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground and set with good width between.

The **Body** should be short and cobby, thick-set with good width across the shoulders. It must be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh covering the shoulders; and the pig should have good size appropriate to age

Coat should be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs

MINIPLI

The MiniPli is genetically a Longhair cavy but it also carries curly genes (derived from Lunkarya) and rex genes (derived from Alpaca) and it has been selected to have a slower-growing, shorter, weaker coat than conventional longhairs.

This combination of factors produces a semi-longhaired, curly-coated cavy with characteristics that differentiate it from other longhairs, one that appeals to people that like longhairs but do not have the time, skills or inclination to keep them in full coat and who are also attracted by the curls. Specifically:

Coat length should be such that it only just reaches the board even without being cut (which it must not be). The coat grows more slowly than on other longhairs, at approximately half the rate, so that the length of U/5 and 5/8 exhibits will be much shorter than in those of other longhair breeds. The frontal (known as the '**fringe**') is also much shorter and weaker than on other longhairs, so that it flops a little from the head in the style of a fringe but it will never cover the whole face. **Chops** are short, never of a length to reach the board, and have a slightly fuzzy, harsh feel. The overall appearance of the cavy should be of a rounded effect (when viewed from above), looking neat and tidy.

The cavy should be covered with a large number of tiny **corkscrew curls** all over the body, these being tighter than those of the Lunkarya. The **coat texture** is sufficiently harsh that these curls stand out from the body, meaning that it is not possible to attempt to show the cavy with a parting; but the coat is much softer than on the Lunkarya, and this contributes to the tighter curls.

Accordingly, the MiniPli can be distinguished from the Lunkarya by a shorter, more slow-growing coat; shorter frontal (fringe) and chops; softer coat and tighter curls. Its shorter coat, corkscrew curls and the difficulty in maintaining any form of parting make it clearly different from the Alpaca.

Head, eyes, ears and body type are as expected for the Lunkarya and Alpaca.

DEFINITION OF BREEDS AS GUIDE STANDARD, NEW / EMERGING OR UNRECOGNISED PENDING ASSESSMENT

1. The only breeds that may be shown in **Guide Standard** classes are those for which a specific Guide Standard has been agreed by the Council as above.
2. In addition to breeds for which detailed **New / Emerging Breed** Guidance Notes have been defined as above, a cavy containing a Self colour or an Agouti or Argente pattern that has a Full or Guide Standard, but belonging to a Non-Self variety whose Full or Guide Standard does **not** recognise that particular colour / pattern, is deemed to be a New / Emerging Breed.

The general requirements will be as stated in the Full or Guide Standard for the Non-Self variety but with colour requirements as in the Full or Guide Standard of the specific Self, Agouti or Argente. Examples might be American Crested Agouti, Slate/Golden Californian, Blue Himalayan.

3. A new colour variation of a Self cavy (e.g. the partial or full pink-eyed versions of the Self Blue, or Self versions of the blue-dilution gene with red or chocolate base colour) will be treated as an **'Unrecognised Breed Pending Assessment'** until such time as Guidance Notes for the colour can be agreed.
4. Likewise, a Non-Self cavy (other than Solid Satin) containing a colour that as a Self would be regarded either as a 'New and Emerging Breed' or as an 'Unrecognised Breed Pending Assessment' will be treated as an **'Unrecognised Breed Pending Assessment'**, since efforts should first be concentrated on defining the colour to at least Guide Standard level.
5. A Non-Self cavy containing a combination of features that are likely to interact in an inappropriate or unpredictable way will be treated as an **'Unrecognised Breed Pending Assessment'**.

Examples of such combinations are:

- Crested versions of rough or harsh coated Non-Self varieties such as Abyssinian, Rex, Teddy, Lunkarya or Swiss;
- Combinations of Marked and / or Marked Pattern varieties, e.g. T/W Dalmation;
- Satin versions of Coated varieties other than Crested, e.g. Satin Abyssinian, Satin Peruvian.

Before being shown in competition any 'Unrecognised Breed Pending Assessment' must be presented to an Assessment Process supervised by the Specialist Club that would cater for the fully-standardised breed, for the purpose of defining Guidance Notes for any variety considered to have the possibility of progressing to Full Standard. Breeds for which such Guidance Notes are agreed will be known as New or Emerging Breeds ('NEB').

Recommended Process for Development of New Varieties to Full Standard: The Council is committed to the identification and development of distinct and valuable new varieties and to determining their suitability for competition with existing breeds. It believes that the following processes represent the best means of achieving this and recommends that these be followed wherever possible

Identify possibility of a new variety via fanciers approaching the relevant Specialist Club for colour variants of existing breeds or the RVCC in all other cases.

The RVCC or Specialist Club (as appropriate to the above) to organise Assessments at suitable shows or events by Panel Judges and Executive Members of the Club.

Each year the RVCC or Specialist Club to advise the Council of the results of such Assessments and recommend any moves to NEB status, along with appropriate Guidance Notes.

Within two to five years the RVCC or Specialist Club to propose a relevant Guide Standard to the Council or, if it considers that the breed is not ready, advise the Council why this is not possible and what action should be taken, e.g. Revise Guidance Notes, Remove NEB status.

Within a further two to five years the RVCC or Specialist Club to propose relevant Full Standard to the Council or, if it considers that the breed is not ready, advise the Council why this is not possible and what action should be taken, e.g. Revise Guide Standard, Return to NEB status, Regard as Potentially Non-Viable.

At least once every two years the RVCC or Specialist Club to advise the Council of the progress or otherwise of each NEB or Guide Standard variety and of any issues.

Before proposing a Full Standard for a new variety the RVCC to hold discussions with any Specialist Club catering for cavies having similar characteristics, to ascertain the views of this Club on:

- a) The distinctiveness and desirability of the variety as compared with its own;
- b) The features, points allocations, clarity and challenge of the proposed Standard as compared with its own;
- c) The desirability or otherwise of transferring the new variety to the Specialist Club in question.

The Council will be informed of any such views in order to inform its decisions, but will not be bound by them. In this respect it may regard the views of the following Specialist Clubs as being particularly relevant to the development of certain Guide Standard and New/Emerging Varieties:

- NACC (Agouti, virtually identical in genotype and phenotype): Argente;
- NFTCC (Fox/Otter, similar pattern of markings but different genotype): Chinchilla;
- NHCC (Himalayan, similar pattern of markings but different genotype): Californian;
- NTWCC: (T/W, similarly patched): Tricolour, Harlequin, Magpie; Bicolour;
- PVCC and SVCC (Longhaired Coated): Lunkarya, Swiss, MiniPli;
- CCC, ACC, RCC and TCC (Shorthaired Coated): Ridgeback;
- DCC (Dutch, two-coloured in a defined pattern): Belted;
- DRCC (Roan, a breed with intermixed hairs): Silvered (?), Brindle (?).

POTENTIALLY UNVIABLE BREEDS

The **Brindle** and the **Sable** are breeds that have in the past been exhibited in reasonable numbers, the former as a Full Standard cavy and the latter as a Guide Standard / NEB. However, examples of these breeds approaching the stated requirements have been sighted rarely, if at all, in recent years, such that there are doubts about the viability of the Full / Guide Standards / Guidance Notes previously agreed. Reasonable examples of the **Sable Fox**, another breed formerly regarded as being NEB, have scarcely been sighted at all.

Accordingly, these Guide Standards and Guidance Notes have been withdrawn and examples of these breeds must be formally assessed via the RVCC Assessment process before they can be shown competitively. Because of prior knowledge of the possibilities of these breeds the RVCC may, after conducting such a process, choose to recommend a 'fast-track' process of moving to Guide Standard status immediately rather than NEB.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS USED IN STANDARDS

Back ridge (Abyssinian): The ridge of erect hair following a line between the hip rosettes and saddle rosettes, at right angles to the spine and parallel to the collar.

Balanced Features (e.g. Cheeks or Stops in Dutch): Features that are similar on each side of the body.

Band (Tort and White & RVCC Patched Varieties): A patch of a single colour going all the way round the body.

Belt (Tort and White & RVCC Patched Varieties): A patch of a single colour going over half way round the body.

Bent Leg: A deformity (usually of the foreleg) in which the lower part of the leg 'turns under', with the cavy sometimes walking on its 'ankle' rather than its foot.

Blaze (Dalmation, Dutch): White colour on the face of the cavy running from the nostrils and between the eyes to the top of the head.

Bonnet Strings (Agouti, Argente): Areas of lighter ticking running down from the mouth, along the neck and often to the chest area.

Breaks in Coat: Missing patches of hair, where bare patches of skin are revealed when the coat is turned back.

Breech (Tort and White & RVCC Patched Varieties): A patch of a single colour going all the way round the rump.

Brindling: Intermingling of differently-coloured hairs (but not involving white hairs – see Roaning).

Cap: The fringe of hair on the head of a Teddy, formed by the forward lie of the coat.

Cataract: A loss of transparency in the eye lens, giving the appearance of a milky film within the eye. This may impair vision.

Centre ridge (Abyssinian): A ridge of erect hair in a line above the spine, running rearwards from the collar to the rump, which continues in the same line forward from the other side of the collar into the mane.

Cheeks (Dutch): Patches of coloured hair on both sides of the head encompassing the eyes and ears.

Chops (Longhairs): Longer hair growing from the side of the head, commencing below the eyes and ears and continuing below the jaw line.

Clean Neck (Dutch): Absence of any colour from the neck (top of head), resulting from the cheek colouration not extending rearwards beyond the ears.

Cobby (refers to Body): Short and compact, not long and rangy

Collar Ridge (Abyssinian): A ridge of erect hair running across the upper body/shoulder area at right angles to the Centre Ridge (and spine).

Condition: Physical well-being, the ideal being a healthy, bright-eyed, alert appearance, carrying plenty of firm flesh but not gross or flabby

Coronet (Coronet, Merino): The specific name used for the crest in these varieties.

Crest: A rosette of hair radiating from a centre-point between the eyes and ears

Crimped (refers to Coat): Appearance of coat as having small waves. Also applies to individual hairs, which are wavy not straight.

Cysts: Rounded, subcutaneous (under the skin) swellings on the body.

Dappled (Roan): Indistinct spotting or splashes of colouration on a roaned body.

Demarcation Line (Dalmation, Roan): the clear line separating the blazed or solid coloured head and spotted or roaned body.

Density (Longhaired Varieties): Thickness and fullness of coat.

Density (Himalayan): Intensity of pigmentation in the Points.

Double Rosette (Abyssinian): A rosette with two clearly separated centres.

Dutch Head (Tort and White & RVCC Patched Varieties): Head markings in which cheeks of the same colour are separated by a blaze of a different colour.

Eye Circle: Circle of lighter colour around the eyes. Is a fault in Selfs and Agoutis but is desirable in Tans, Foxes and Otters.

Fatty Eye: White, fatty flesh protruding from the eye-socket, often at the margin of the lower eyelid..

Flakiness: Lighter under-colour showing through the top coat.

Flatness (Abyssinian) Areas of coat, particularly on back (flat backed) where rosettes or ridges are flat and lack distinction.

Flesh Marks: Pink, flesh-coloured patches on the ears, hocks or footpads.

Foot Stop (Dutch): A "sock" of white hair, ideally stretching from half way between the hock to the toe ends.

Frontal (Peruvian, Alpaca): The fringe of hair growing from the head to cover the face.

Frontal (Short-haired cavies): The appearance of the head when viewed from the front, particularly in terms of

muzzle, width between eyes and ear set.

Guard Hairs: Longer, coarser hairs that protrude beyond the length of the majority of the coat.

Guttering (Abyssinian): Rosettes with elongated centres.

Head Drag (Dalmation, Roan): Solid colour running on from the head through the demarcation line into the body.

Head Furnishings (Abyssinian): Arrangement of hair on the head.

Hem in Ear: A crease or fold along the leading edge of the ear.

Higher Cut (refers to Saddle in Dutch): Saddle and Undercut that are cut more towards the head than is ideal.

Hock (Referred to in Foot Stops in Dutch): The joint part-way up the hind-leg from which the foot extends.

Jowl: The lower cheek.

Lifter (Abyssinian): A rosette in which hairs protrude above the regular surface of the rosette.

Mane (Abyssinian/Sheltie): The hair that grows from the top of the head to the shoulder, this being erect in the Abyssinian.

Moustache (Abyssinian): Hair growing outwards and upwards below the eyes, together with two small rosettes and a spike of hair in the centre of the face.

Muzzle: The lower part of the "face" commencing mid-way between the eyes and the nostrils and comprising the nostrils and mouth.

Open Centre (Abyssinian, Crested): A rosette in which a significant amount of skin is visible in the centre.

Pads: The fleshy undersides of the feet.

Pea Spots (Fox, Tan): The clear white or tan spots that should be visible on the forehead beside each ear.

Points (Himalayan): The dark pigmentation on the face, ears and feet.

Red Flesh Around Eye: Swellings of blood-engorged red flesh that sometimes protrude from the eye-socket.

Ridge (Abyssinian): A line of erect hair separating the rosettes.

Roaning: White hairs intermixed with another colour.

Roman Nose (refers to the profile of the head): A head with a pronounced convex curve from between the ears down to the tip of the muzzle

Running Lice: Lice that are seen to move within the coat.

Runs (Abyssinian): used to describe both collar faults, where the collar ridge is pushed forward on one or both sides of the mane, or as an alternative term for 'guttering.'

Rump: The hindquarters and bottom.

Saddle (Dutch): The top half of the line traversing the center of the back, which separates the white of the front part of the body from the coloured region to the rear of the cavy.

Saddle Rosettes (Abyssinian): Two rosettes in the centre of the back

Satinisation (Satin): A satin sheen on the coat that catches and reflects any light that is directed towards the coat.

Shoulder: The region behind the head and running into the body. Well developed bone and muscle in this region provide a solid feel and a distinct hump that is particularly prized in the Self.

Side Ridge: (Abyssinian): Ridges of erect hair following a line parallel to the centre ridge on either side of the body.

Side Whiskers: Areas of raised hair (quiff) where the side of the head runs into the body.

Slipping Saddle (Dutch): Saddle and Undercut that are cut more towards the rear than is ideal.

Smellers (Dutch): The nostril and whisker bed.

Smut (Himalayan): Pear-shaped region of pigmentation on the head, running upwards from the nostril region to between the eyes.

Solid Head (Dalmation/Roan/Tort and White & RV Patched Varieties): Head all of one colour.

Spinal Bar (Dalmation/Roan): A definite white line, lacking any form of spotting/roaning and running the length of the spine from the head to the rump.

Split Rosette (Abyssinian): A rosette that has two, slightly separated, centres.

Static Mite: Mite living on the coat and appearing as white/grey specks attached to individual hairs.

Stops (Dutch): See Foot Stops.

Sweep (Longhairs): Hair covering the hindquarters.

Texture (Longhairs): The softness of the coat-feel.

Ticking (Agouti, Argente): Hair colour pattern in which each hair shaft contains a base colour (black, chocolate, lilac, beige), a band of a different colour (golden, lemon, silver, white) and a tip of the base colour.

Undercolour: The colour of the coat beneath the top colour.

Undercut (Dutch): The lower part of the line traversing the body that separates the white at the front of the body from the coloured region to the rear.

Wry Neck: A condition in which the head is held permanently to one side.

BRITISH CAVY COUNCIL: CONSTITUTION AND RULES

1. Purpose and Scope of the British Cavy Council (“the Council”)

- 1.1. The objectives of the Council are to:
 - (a) Adjudicate on the formation and remit of the Specialist Clubs serving the needs of the various breeds of cavy in the United Kingdom;
 - (b) Ensure that such Specialist Clubs are properly run in the interests of all of their members and of the Cavy Fancy as a whole;
 - (c) Determine the Standards to be applied when judging the various breeds of cavy in the United Kingdom, these standards normally but not in all cases being effected by the discussion of proposals made by the relevant Specialist Club;
 - (d) Ensure that such Standards are phrased to be as clear as possible to judges, breeders and exhibitors; offer a difficult but achievable challenge to the breeder and exhibitor; and provide a logical basis for comparisons to be made regarding the relative merits of exhibits of different breeds.
- 1.2 Standards and Clubs in existence on 1st January 1978 will continue to be recognised by the Council unless and until superseded by changes that it has authorised.
- 1.3 Standards for any breed of cavy may only be defined, altered or deleted with the approval of the Council.
- 1.4 No individual may form an additional Specialist Club without prior approval of the Council.
- 1.5 No Specialist Club may attempt to cater for any additional breed without the prior approval of the Council, with the exception of The Rare Varieties Cavy Club, which may cater for new varieties of cavy that are not already catered for by any other Specialist Club. This does not include new colour variants of an existing breed, which are deemed to be the responsibility of the Specialist Club that caters for standardised colours of the breed unless this Club has declined such responsibility.
- 1.6 The Council does not intend to define Show Regulations or deal with matters arising therefrom. Shows should be held under the Show Regulations of the National Cavy Club, Specialist Breed Clubs themselves or those of a nominated host society that may have such Regulations. Any complaints arising in regard to an alleged breach of these Regulations, other than those that are covered by explicit Council Rules, must be dealt with by the club or society whose Regulations govern the show.

2. Composition of the Council

- 2.1 The Council will consist of one Representative from each of the breed-specific Specialist Clubs in the United Kingdom.
- 2.2 Clubs with 100 or more voting members (adult, senior or partnership members but not juniors), either as of 31st December of the previous year or at the time of a Council Meeting, shall be entitled to one extra vote at the Meeting. Club representatives intending to take advantage of this facility must inform the Chairman of this fact, and provide any necessary evidence of membership levels, at the start of each Meeting. Clubs entitled to additional votes may, with the prior agreement of the Chairman, send an additional Representative. In this event the agreement of any of the Club’s Representatives shall be deemed to signify the agreement of the Club for the purposes of Rules 3.7 and 3.8.
- 2.3 Each Specialist Club will be responsible for the election of its own Representative. However, as such representatives will frequently need to take decisions with implications both for the Specialist Club and for the cavy fancy as a whole, representatives must be on the Executive of the nominating Club as defined in Rule 5.1, be able to command the respect of this Club, and be of wide knowledge and experience within the

cavy fancy. A deputy of similar characteristics should also be provided for occasions when the elected representative is unable to attend

- 2.4 Representatives will appoint a Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer as additional members of the Council. The Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer may not represent any Specialist Club, and in the event that they were formerly such representatives the relevant Specialist Clubs must appoint other representatives.
- 2.5 The responsibility of the Chairman is to ensure the proper and orderly running of the Council. This will include calling meetings; producing an Agenda for each meeting; agreeing all minutes and communications to the cavy fancy at large; ensuring that meetings are conducted in a clear and orderly fashion and that agreed procedures are followed with regard to any decisions to be made by the Council.
- 2.6 In cases where Council Rules are ambiguous or do not adequately cover a particular issue, the Chairman shall have the right to determine the appropriate action, in the best interests of the Council and the Cavy Fancy; but in doing so he will consult and attempt to reconcile the views of Council representatives.
- 2.7 The responsibility of the Secretary/Treasurer is to communicate with Specialist Club representatives and secretaries regarding the activities of the Council, to produce draft minutes for agreement by the Chairman, and to control the financial arrangements of the Council.
- 2.8 The Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer will serve for a period of two years but are eligible for re-election. However, the Chairman and/or Secretary/Treasurer may be removed by means of a Vote of Confidence carried by a simple majority of all potential votes (i.e. the votes allocated under 2.1 & 2.2) of those attending a meeting of the Council for which the Agenda specifically refers to the matter.
- 2.9 When issues are to be discussed that affect show regulations, or which are likely to have a significant impact on the Cavy Fancy as a whole, the Chairman will invite the National Cavy Club to send senior representatives, ideally its Chairperson. This representative will be able to participate fully in all discussions on such matters, but will not be eligible to vote.

3. Meeting and Voting Procedures

- 3.1 Meetings will be held when deemed necessary by the Chairman, ideally with the agreement of the Council, or at the request of at least half of the representatives on the Council, at a location considered likely to maximise attendance.
- 3.2 Items for the Agenda must be submitted to the Secretary in sufficient time for the Chairman to agree the Agenda and for copies of the Agenda and relevant papers to be sent to representatives at least 14 days prior to the date of the meeting. However, in the case of a proposal made by one Specialist Club that has a particular impact on another, for example to change the Standard of a breed covered by the Club or to redefine its responsibilities, this must be submitted to the Secretary in sufficient time that the Chairman is able to give the Club at least 28 days' notice prior to the date of the meeting so that it has sufficient opportunity to consider its response.
- 3.3 More than half of all representatives on the Council must be present in order to constitute a quorum.
- 3.4 Decisions taken will be binding on all Specialist Clubs represented on the Council, so long as the item under discussion has been published in the Agenda and an appropriate voting majority under 3.5 – 3.8 has been obtained.
- 3.5 All matters shall be decided by a simple majority of votes cast, as determined in 2.1 & 2.2, except in the following cases:

- 3.6 To allow the formation of a new Specialist Club the agreement is required of two thirds of the votes, as determined by 2.1 & 2.2, of those attending a meeting of the Council for which the Agenda specifically refers to the matter, and so long as this total in favour represents at least half of the potential votes of the entire Council (i.e. including the potential votes of non-attendees)
- 3.7 To allow creation, modification (other than in the case of minor modifications designed to improve clarity or remove ambiguity) or removal of a Full Standard, Guide Standard or New / Emerging Breed Guidance Note, without the agreement of the relevant Specialist Club, the agreement is required of two thirds of the votes, as determined by 2.1 & 2.2, of those attending a meeting of the Council for which the Agenda specifically refers to the matter, and so long as the total in favour represents at least half of the potential votes of the entire Council (i.e. including the potential votes of non-attendees)
- 3.8 To enforce a transfer of a breed from one Specialist Club to another, without the agreement of the former, the agreement is required of two thirds of the votes, as determined by 2.1 & 2.2, of those attending a meeting of the Council for which the Agenda specifically refers to the matter, and so long as the total in favour represents at least half of the potential votes of the entire Council (i.e. including the potential votes of non-attendees)
- 3.9 In the case of a Guide Standard or New/ Emerging colour variant of a standardised breed, the Specialist Club deemed to cater for such a variant for the purposes of Rules 3.7 and 3.8 shall be the Club that caters for the standardised breed.
- 3.10 To expel a Club from the Council, which situation may only be expected to arise following a serious transgression by the Club of Council Rules or rulings, the agreement is required of two thirds of the votes, as determined by 2.1 & 2.2, of those attending a meeting of the Council for which the Agenda specifically refers to the matter, and so long as the total in favour represents at least half of the potential votes of the entire Council (i.e. including the potential votes of non-attendees).
- 3.11 To wind up the Council the agreement is required of two thirds of the votes, as determined by 2.1 & 2.2, of those attending a meeting of the Council for which the Agenda specifically refers to the matter, and so long as the total in favour represents at least half of the potential votes of the entire Council (i.e. including the potential votes of non-attendees). In this case the assets of the Council, net of any outstanding expenses, will be allocated as determined by a simple majority of the votes of those attending such a meeting.
- 3.12 The Chairman and Secretary may not vote, save that in the event of a tie the Chairman may exercise a casting vote.
- 3.13 Changes to the Rules of the Council will take effect from the date specified in the Minutes. No Rule can be applied to deal with an issue that **has** arisen prior to the enactment of the Rule, unless that issue is deemed to have an ongoing impact on the effectiveness of the Council.
- 3.14 Decisions made by the Council will take effect from the date specified in the Minutes.
- 3.15 The Expected Behaviours of Councillors and Senior Officials of Clubs represented on the Council are:**
- (1) When putting forward a proposal on behalf of a Specialist Club, or discussing a proposal that has significant implications for such a Club, the Club's representative must be careful to represent the Club's views as determined by the Club's Executive and not express personal opinions if these might undermine the Club's position.**
 - (2) However, Club representatives should remember that they are chosen on the basis of their knowledge and judgment, so, if during Council discussions suggestions are made that might improve a given proposal, they should use their judgment to decide if modifications to the proposal would be in the Club's best interests whilst still reflecting its prime intentions. If a representative feels so strongly about such an Agenda item that he /she is unable to reflect the Club's views as the Executive would wish, he**

- should inform the Club's Chairman in sufficient time that another representative with no such difficulties can be chosen.
- (3) When discussing matters that have no significant implications for his Specialist Club (for example proposed changes to standards for unrelated breeds), the Club's representative should listen carefully to the arguments put to the meeting and offer any relevant knowledge and experience to the debate. In voting on any matter he /she must act in what he /she believes to be the best interests of the cavy fancy as a whole.
 - (4) If the representative of a particular Specialist Club is also a senior official (defined for this purpose as Chairman or Secretary) of a second Specialist Club, he / she must make the Council Chairman aware of this at the start of the meeting. If the Chairman believes that an item on the Agenda has such significant implications for the second Specialist Club that it creates a serious conflict between the representative's duty of objectivity under (2) above and his duty to the second Specialist Club as a senior official, he may determine that the representative cannot vote in regard to the item in question.
 - (5) It is the Chairman's responsibility to ensure that items discussed at Council meetings are clearly presented, so as to enable the Council to take the best decisions it can in the interests of the cavy fancy, considering any additional information on, for example, existing standards, rules and precedents that he / she believes to be relevant. He / she has the overriding responsibility at Council meetings to act in what he / she believes to be in the best interests of the cavy fancy.
 - (6) In situations where representatives and senior officials disagree with decisions taken by the Council, they are at liberty to state their personal disagreement with such decisions but they must not do so in terms that may reasonably be viewed as derogatory to either the Council itself or the representatives at the meeting(s) where the decisions in question were taken.
 - (7) When communicating with the fancy at large, in any situation where there is reasonable room for doubt on the matter Specialist Club representatives, senior Specialist Club officials and the Chairman and Secretary of the Council must make it clear when they are speaking in a personal capacity and when an official one. However, subject to (6) above, all of these parties are fully entitled to give their personal opinions even on matters relating to areas of the Council's responsibilities.

4. Use of Breed Standards

- 4.1 The Council will maintain an up-to-date register of all breed standards; will publish new standards or modifications to existing ones in official cavy publications as defined by the Council; and will from time to time publish a booklet detailing all Full and Guide standards. For an appropriate charge copies of this booklet will be made available to, and may be sold by, all Specialist Clubs that are members of the Council and by the National Cavy Club.

- 4.2 Full Standards are defined for all breeds of cavy that in the Council's opinion represent varieties that are distinct from all other existing breeds, provide a desirable addition to the Cavy Fancy, and for which a standard of excellence has been established and agreed after a sustained process of breeding and exhibition.

Such standards will describe the most important characteristics of the ideal exhibit of each breed and indicate, via an allocation of points adding up to 100, the relative weighting to be given to each of these characteristics in assessing different exhibits. However, the importance of 'balance' in an exhibit must always be considered: an exhibit that is a 'near miss' on all characteristics may be regarded as more desirable than one that is perfect in several but very poor in a particular one, and the points allocated are therefore not intended to be used as the basis of a scoring system.

The following criteria will be applied to determining when a breed will receive a Full Standard and how this Standard will be defined:

- A Breed Standard should be challenging but achievable.
- Features required by a Breed Standard should be capable of clear definition.
- Any new breed for which a Standard is granted should have either Colour, Coat-Type or Markings that are manifestly distinct from any other breed.

- A reasonable number of examples of cavies able to lend credence to the validity of the Breed Standard should be available. This is not a matter of 'breed popularity' but of evidence that the Breed Standard is credible.
- Where possible a new Breed Standard should be based on the Structure, Wording and Points Distribution of existing Standards for similar breeds.
- There should be no presumption to standardise or promote every possible combination of Colour / Markings. In order to be standardised a new breed should, in the opinion of the Council, represent a desirable addition to the cavy fancy.

4.3 Guide Standards are defined for breeds of cavy that are in a process of development but that, in the Council's opinion, represent varieties that are distinct from all other existing breeds, are likely to provide a desirable addition to the Cavy Fancy, and for which a provisional standard of excellence can be stated after an initial period of breeding and exhibition under the auspices of a Specialist Breed Club. Such standards will describe the most important characteristics of the ideal exhibit of the breed but are likely to be stated in more general terms than for a Full Standard; and no points allocations will be given to indicate the relative importance of different characteristics.

4.4 In Open cavy shows the only cavies that may be exhibited are those having a Full Standard agreed by the Council, with the following exceptions:

- (a) Cavies of breeds for which a Guide Standard has been agreed by the Council, as specifically detailed in these notes. Cavies in this category may only be shown in a class or classes specifically defined for Guide Standard cavies and are not eligible for awards in competition with fully standardised cavies.
- (b) Cavies of 'new or emerging breeds', for which only general Guidance Notes have been agreed by the Council. Again cavies in this category may only be shown in a class or classes specifically defined for New / Emerging Breeds and are not eligible for awards in competition with Full-Standard or Guide-Standard cavies.
- (c) Pet cavies, for which judging criteria are subject to individual opinion but include cleanliness and health. These cavies cannot be shown in competition with cavies in other categories.

4.5 Where, for a period of several years, insufficient examples of a 'Full Standard' Breed are seen at shows to warrant continued belief in the viability of the Breed or its Standard, the Council may decide to redesignate the Breed as 'Guide Standard'. In this case, 12 months notice will be given of the Meeting at which this step is to be considered, to allow the relevant Breed Club to consider the situation in consultation with any known breeders.

In the event that a 'Full Standard' Breed is redesignated as 'Guide Standard' the Breed Club concerned will review whether the stipulations of the previous (Full) Standard are still appropriate, and will recommend to the Council within 12 months whether a modified (Guide) Standard should be adopted. The breed would then be treated as any other 'Guide Standard' variety.

Where the evidence is that either insufficient examples of a 'Guide Standard' Breed are seen at shows to warrant continued belief in the viability of the Breed or the Guide Standard, the Council may decide to redesignate the breed as a 'New / Emerging Variety'. In this case the breed would be treated as any other New / Emerging Variety. The Council may, but is not required to, give notice of such intention.

4.6 At any Open show (i.e. not a show held under the auspices of a Specialist Breed Club) there shall be at least one breed class available for entry by any breed of cavy that has a Full Standard. There should also be at least one class available for any breed of cavy that has a Guide Standard, as defined in Rule 4.4(a) and 4.4(b) above.

4.7 Judges who are on the panels of Specialist Clubs represented on the Council shall at all times when judging in the United Kingdom apply the Breed Standards currently defined by the Council.

- 4.8 Breed Names and Standards approved by the Council shall remain the absolute copyright property of the Council. Such Standards and Names may be used, without seeking the Council's express prior permission, by all Clubs in the United Kingdom organising shows for exhibition cavy, on the strict understanding that Council rules and policies will be followed in defining the schedule of classes to be used in such shows.

5. Code of Practice for Clubs Affiliated to the Council

- 5.1 Specialist Clubs affiliated to the Council must be run in a fair, open and competent manner conducive to the best interests of the breeds they serve, the fanciers of these breeds and the Cavy Fancy as a whole. In particular all such Clubs are required to:

- (a) Elect an Executive consisting, at a minimum, of a Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer (which role may be combined with that of Secretary) and at least 5 other members, which should meet as necessary to ensure the proper running and governance of the Club to meet the above objectives and the responsibilities described below.
- (b) Hold an Annual General Meeting on a date not exceeding 15 months from the date of the previous meeting, the dates of such meetings to be published in official Cavy Fancy publications as determined by the Council at least one month before the meeting.
- (c) Ensure that statements of Profit/Loss/Income/Expenditure and of the Balance Sheet are prepared annually, audited by a person of integrity and independence who is not associated with the Club, and presented to the Annual General Meeting.
- (d) Ensure that nominations for positions as Club officials are sought by publication in official Cavy Fancy publications at intervals not exceeding two years; and that a ballot to elect such officials is held promptly following the closure of such nominations, so long as there are more nominees for any position than there are positions available.
- (e) Ensure that those participating as candidates in such ballots are bona fide members of the Club and of sufficient knowledge, expertise and integrity to discharge the duties relevant to the office, such determination being without influences of personal prejudice.
- (f) Ensure that those eligible to vote in such ballots are bona fide members of the Club of a duration considered appropriate by the Club as being reasonable to ensure an informed decision on the ballot.
- (g) Provide a Representative, and when necessary a Deputy Representative, to the Council, the names and contact details of such Representatives to be notified to the Secretary of the Council.
- (h) Ensure that the Club is represented at Council meetings whenever possible, and under no circumstances fails to be represented at more than one meeting in succession.
- (i) Ensure that Club Rules, dealing with the organisation and activities of the Club, are maintained in a clear and comprehensible form; and that such rules are followed wherever possible in ordering the Club's organisation and activities.
- (j) Ensure that these Rules are at all times consistent with those of the Council. Accept that any new rules or decisions that are agreed by the Council will override conflicting rules or decisions that may previously have been in place within the Club; and that no rules may subsequently be agreed by the Club that conflict with existing Council rules.
- (k) Hold each year not less than two Stock shows, catering solely for the breed(s) covered by the Club, and covering a reasonable geographic spread over a three-year period of time.
- (l) Lodge with the Council within 3 months of an AGM's taking place, or such later date as may be agreed by the Chairman of the Council, a report of proceedings to include Date, Time and Venue of meeting; List of Attendees including Chairman and Minutes Secretary; Minutes or Draft Minutes of the Meeting; Copy of Profit/Loss/Income/Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet; Dates and Venues of Stock shows held; Date at which any Nominations for Ballot will be required.
- (m) Supply to any member upon request copies of Club Rules, Profit/Loss/Income/Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet.
- (n) Agree and make it known to members that, should dissatisfaction be felt with the level of service being provided by the Club or with any alleged failure to meet its obligations under this Rule (5.1) of the Council, complaint may be made to the Chairman of the Council, who may seek to deal with the matter under Rule 8 below.

- (o) Accept that, when such a complaint has been made to the Council and the Council has made a determination on the issue after due process as detailed in Rule 8 below, then action will be taken to effect the ruling of the Council.

5.2 Until or unless subsequently determined otherwise by the Council, the term 'Official Cavy Fancy Publications' referred to in 5.1 shall mean at a minimum that relevant information must be published in the 'CAVIES' magazine.

6. Disciplinary Action by Specialist Clubs against Members

6.1 In the event that a Specialist Club takes disciplinary action against one of its members (which reference may also be taken to mean a partnership):

- a) The Club must advise the Member specifically and in writing of his/her rights of appeal, both within the Club and to the Council.
- b) The Member may appeal to the Council against the Specialist Club's findings and decision. Such appeals can be made only after the exhaustion of any Appeals Procedure that may exist within the Club in question; must be made within 28 days of notification to the Member of the Club's decision as regards the Appeal (or of the original decision if there is no Appeals Procedure); and must be made in writing accompanied by a payment of £25, which will be forfeited to the Council should the Council determine, entirely at its discretion, that the Appeal had no reasonable basis.
- c) In cases of such Appeals, a meeting of the full Council will be convened as soon as is reasonably convenient, at which the relevant Specialist Club and Member will be invited to make written and/or verbal submissions of the issues involved. These should, on behalf of the Specialist Club, include details of the alleged offence and the reasons for the disciplinary action determined; and, on behalf of the Member, any rebuttal of the alleged offence or arguments as to why the disciplinary action is considered unreasonable. Appeals will be heard by as many of the full Council as can attend, but Council Representatives involved in the original action will not be allowed to sit on the Appeal. In such cases Clubs may send a Deputy Representative. With the prior permission of the Council, the Appellant may bring a fellow fancier to help in the representation of their case; but legal representation will not normally be permitted.
- d) After hearing the Appeal, the Council will determine whether disciplinary action against the Appellant is justified and what action is appropriate. The original disciplinary action may be upheld, expunged or varied in any manner that the Council believes is fair and appropriate to the offence committed. The disciplinary action determined by the Council may extend to cover all Clubs belonging to the Council as well as the one initiating the original complaint.
- e) In addition to the circumstances described above, Council action may also be initiated by a Specialist Club itself in situations where it believes that an offence committed by a member is so significant that action by other Clubs is warranted. In such cases the same procedures as those described above will be undertaken, with the Specialist Club's presenting its case and the Member's being allowed to present a defence.
- f) Only in the situations above, where the Council has, as a body, considered and upheld disciplinary action against a Member of a Specialist Club, may a Specialist Club take action against one of its Members as a result of an offence committed against another Specialist Club. (All Club Rules relating to such 'reciprocal action' are therefore rendered redundant by this Rule.)
- g) Given that the Council has, via this Rule, established an independent Appeals Procedure for a Member of a Specialist Club who is dissatisfied with any action taken against him/her, and since the Cavy Fancy represents a 'hobby' activity run with a relatively low level of financial resources, should a Member of a Specialist Club attempt to invoke any form of legal action for any issue that is covered by Council rules, then this shall be considered a strong prima facie reason whereby a Specialist Club may refuse to renew the membership of the Member in question when such membership becomes due for renewal.

7. Stud Name and Prefix Register

- 7.1 The Council will ensure that a Register is maintained of Stud Names and Prefixes, such names to be unique to a given fancier or partnership, with names offering minimal risk of confusion and being within the bounds of good taste.
- 7.2 This register will be maintained by a Registrar appointed by the Council, who will resolve cases of potential duplication, determine applications for new names against the above criteria and ensure that the Register is made available to secretaries of Specialist, Area and Local Clubs and for publication in official cavy publications, as deemed necessary by the Council.
- 7.3 Requests by fanciers for approval of Stud Names and Prefixes must be made in writing to the Registrar, accompanied by an appropriate charge. The fancier may only use the requested Name or Prefix when it has been approved by the Registrar. (N.B. In setting up the Register existing Stud Names and Prefixes were included, with duplicates being resolved by the Registrar, free of charge.)
- 7.4 The Registrar shall produce, as requested by the Secretary of the Council, a statement of Income and Expenditure associated with running the Register.
- 7.5 No other individual or cavy body may attempt to control the registration of Stud Names or Prefixes, thereby eliminating the possibility of duplicate names being used by different fanciers and thereby causing confusion.

8. Enforcement of Council Rulings and Disciplinary Procedures

- 8.1 The Council may take action to rectify any problem situation that may occur in its sphere of influence as defined by any of the above rules. In particular it will be concerned in cases of:
 - Significant non-compliance by Member Clubs of the standards of behaviour expected by the Council as defined under Rule 5;
 - Attempts by any individuals to set up a Breed Specialist Club without permission of the Council;
 - Evident disregard by Specialist Club panel judges of the Breed Standards of the Council or its rulings as regards Breed Standards, as detailed in Rule 4;
 - Evident disregard by the officials of clubs holding an Open show of Council rulings as regards Breed Standards, as detailed in Rule 4.
- 8.2 Any significant alleged transgression of Council rules may be brought to the attention of the Council by any Representative or by any individual member of a Specialist Breed Club, save that in the latter case the individual member must first have sought to resolve the alleged situation by a direct approach to the Club or individual concerned, or offer some good reason as to why this was not possible.
- 8.3 In the case of such an allegation's being made to the Council, the individual or representatives of the Club allegedly in offence will be notified of the complaint and may, if in the opinion of the Chairman there is a case to answer, be asked to attend a meeting of the Council at which the complaint will be considered. In this case similar procedures to those detailed in 6.1 (b) will be invoked. The Chairman will report all such allegations to the next meeting of the Council, including those cases that he/she regards as not worthy of further action, so that if it deems it to be appropriate the Council may amend the actions that the Chairman has determined.
- 8.4 A complaint as regards such a transgression of Council Rules and Procedures can only be upheld by the agreement of two thirds of the votes, as determined by 2.1 & 2.2, of those attending a meeting of the Council for which the Agenda specifically refers to the matter, and so long as the total in favour represents at least half of the potential votes of the entire Council (i.e. including the potential votes of non-attendees)
- 8.5 If the Council finds the complaint to be upheld, it may determine any action that it deems appropriate to resolve the matter and to ensure future compliance with Council rules and procedures, always bearing in mind the best interests of the Cavy Fancy. Amongst the actions that may be taken by the Council in cases of proven transgression are:
 - Formal warning not to repeat the offence and the seeking of undertakings to this effect;
 - Instruction to reverse any effects of the transgression of Council rules, where this is possible;
 - For individuals in transgression of Council rules, expulsion from all Specialist Clubs in the Council or the refusal to renew membership when it becomes due for renewal;

- For judges refusing to recognise Council Breed Standards, suspension from the Judging Panels of all Specialist Breed Clubs;
- For Specialist Clubs encroaching on breeds catered for by another Club or that are, in the Council's opinion not being properly run in accordance with the requirements of Rule 5, expulsion from the Council and the withdrawal of the Council's protection of the Club's right to cater for its Specialist breed(s).
- For Clubs holding Open Shows that refuse to operate in accordance with the requirements of Council Rule 4 regarding Breed Standards, the withdrawal of the Council's permission to use its Breed Standards at such shows and of the recognition by Specialist Clubs of the results of such shows for the purposes of Championship claims and other awards.

8.6 The Council may withdraw any penalty once it has been satisfied that the offence causing sanction will not be repeated.

9. Running of Council Activities

9.1 It is intended that the running and clerical expenses of the Council will be met from the proceeds of the Stud Names & Prefix Registration scheme described in Rule 6, although Clubs represented on the Council may be asked to make occasional contributions if this source of revenue proves insufficient.

9.2 The Secretary/Treasurer will maintain accounts of Income and Expenditure, to be presented to the Council annually or when additional income is required. The Secretary will control all expenditure.

RECOMMENDED DRAFT RULES FOR SPECIALIST CLUB USAGE

(Name of Club): Rules

1. Name

The name of the Club is the ('*Name of Club*') and its membership is open to any person interested in the breeding, keeping, exhibition and promotion of (*Specify Varieties*) cavies.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the Club are to encourage the breeding, keeping and exhibition of (*Specify Varieties*) cavies, and to protect and advance the interests of these cavies and their fanciers. In support of these objectives the Club will:

- Ensure, in conjunction with the British Cavy Council, that clear Standards of Excellence are defined for all (*Specify Varieties*) cavies, to act as a goal for breeders of each variety and as the basis by which individual exhibits are assessed. (See Rule 19).
- Ensure as far as possible, by whatever means of education and publicity allow, that the judging of (*Specify Varieties*) cavies is carried out in line with the requirements of this Standard.
- Hold a number of Stock and Area shows throughout the year at venues throughout the United Kingdom, at which extensive classifications are provided for all (*Specify Varieties*) cavies. (See Rule 8).
- Support shows holding classes for (*Specify Varieties*) and ensure that show schedules provide the broadest possible opportunities for (*Specify Varieties*) fanciers to exhibit their stock. (See Rule 7)
- Grant Championships to (*Specify Varieties*) cavies that have achieved levels of success at Open shows as defined in Rule 9.
- Provide regular notes in the Cavy Press so as to update both members of the Club and the fancy at large on the Club's activities.
- Publish at regular intervals a 'Year Book' containing Club Rules, Lists of Officers and Members, Winners of Championships and Stock Shows, Articles on the breeding, keeping and exhibition of (*Specify Varieties*) cavies and Advertisements by members (*optional*).
- Produce regular newsletters to members updating them on the Club's activities (*optional*).
- Maintain a web site containing information about the Club as above, along with updates on the Club's activities (*optional*).

3. Membership

The annual subscription is payable in advance on the first day of January in each year unless a person or partnership joined during the previous year after the end of September. In such a case, the subscription for that year will also cover membership to the end of the following year.

The following classes of membership are available:

- Individual Adult
- Partnership (limited to two)
- Senior Citizen
- Juvenile (7 years old to 16 years of age on 1st January, eligibility for juvenile classes to lapse on 17th birthday)
- Family Membership (Two adults and all Juvenile children)
- Life Member

The subscription for each class of membership (other than free life membership) will be as fixed at the Annual General Meeting in the preceding year.

Membership will be considered to have lapsed if not paid by the end of March, and any member whose subscription is in arrears will not be eligible to compete for any cup or special prize offered by the Club, or in any way enjoy the privileges of membership, or be eligible for any Club office or position.

The Secretary will maintain a list of the names and addresses of members, and any member may inspect this list providing that a satisfactory reason is given for so doing.

Adult members of the Club will receive one vote in Club ballots and elections, and Partnerships and Family Memberships two votes. Juvenile members will not be entitled to vote. In order to vote in Club elections or ballots a person must have been a Member of the Club on the 31st December of the year prior to the election or ballot and must still be a Member at the time of the election or ballot.

4. Officers of the Club

The Officers of the Club consist of: President, (*Specify number*) Vice Presidents, Chairman, (*Specify number*) Committee Members and Secretary/Treasurer (combined office). No person may occupy more than one position. These Officers will be known as 'the Executive'. Other Officers are to consist of an Auditor, a BCC Representative and Deputy (who should be Members of the Executive), Points Competition Organiser (*optional*) and one or more Scrutineers. The Executive will transact all business of the Club, settle all disputes or any question not here provided for.

An Executive meeting may be called at any time by (*specify number*) Officers, who must send a signed requisition to the Secretary, stating the nature of the business to be decided, at least 21 days before such a meeting is convened.

The Officers of the Club will be elected biennially by postal ballot. All existing Officers will automatically be included on the ballot unless the Secretary is notified in writing to the contrary. All nominations for new candidates for election as Officers must be made by at least one other Adult member, the consent of the Nominee to be obtained.

Any member who is nominated as an Officer of the Club must have been a member during each of the three years, including the current one, prior to the nomination.

The names of all new nominees should be sent to the Secretary by the closing date for nominations, which will be announced in the Cavy Press and which will give at least 4 weeks notice of the date for closure of nominations.

The biennial election will be held by the end of (*Specify month*) every other year. The result of the election will be made known through the Cavy Press.

The Scrutineer must not be connected with the Club.

5. Club Judges

(*Specify Number*) Club Judges will be elected biennially by postal ballot, judges to be (*Specify Varieties*) breeders or past breeders and members of the Club. All existing Judges will automatically be included on the ballot unless the Secretary is notified in writing to the contrary. All nominations for new candidates for election as Judges must be made by at least one other Adult member, the consent of the Nominee having been obtained in writing.

Any member who is nominated as Club Judge must have been a member for each of the 5 years, including the current one, prior to the nomination; unless such member has previously been elected as a Club Judge, in which case this period must be at least 3 years including the current one.

The names of all new nominees should be sent to the Secretary by the closing date for nominations, which will be announced in the Cavy Press and which will give at least 4 weeks notice of the date for closure of nominations.

The biennial election will be held by the end of (*Specify month*) every other year. The result of the election will be made known through the Cavy Press.

In addition to the elected Club Judges, the Executive or AGM may from time to time elect former Club Judges, of long standing and acknowledged expertise, as Life Judges. These will be expected to officiate at Club or other shows from time to time.

6. Vacancies in Club Positions

In the event of any Vacancy arising amongst the Officers or Club Judges, the Secretary will duly notify the Executive, and a name (or names) will be agreed of a Member (or Members) who is willing to take office pro tem until the next election. Normally, the next person in the previous ballot will be selected, but this is not mandatory.

7. Club Support at Shows

The support of the Club and its Members will be given to Shows which, in the opinion of the Executive, are well managed and agree to hold a sufficient number of (*Specify varieties*) classes. Support may consist of rosettes, diplomas (*or Points Competition status*), as determined by the Secretary (*or Points Competition Organiser*).

8. Club Shows

(*Specify number*) Stock Shows will be held each year, one for Adult Stock, one for Intermediate Stock and one for Young Stock, also such Area Shows as the finances of the Club may permit. Supporting classes for other age groups may be added to the schedule for the Adult, Intermediate and Young Stock Shows, subject to the discretion of the Executive.

The YSS will be held during the period (*specify dates*); the ISS will be held during the period (*specify dates*); the ASS will be held during the period (*specify dates*).

The three Stock Shows shall not be held on the same date or at the same venue unless agreed under special circumstances by the Annual General Meeting of the Club.

A Stock Show will not be held at the same venue as a National Cavy Club Stock Show. The place and date of each show will be decided by the Members.

Stock Shows will be held under National Cavy Club Show Regulations.

No Judge may officiate at more than one of the Adult, Intermediate or Young Stock Shows in the same year or be eligible to judge another such Show during the following (*Specify period*) years after judging one of these Stock Shows.

9. Championships

Championship Certificates will be awarded, on application to the Secretary by the owner, to (*Specify variety*) cavies which have won (*Specify number*) First Prizes in Adult Breed Classes, (*Specify if AOV classes or Challenges to count as a Breed Class if there was no specific Breed class or if insufficient numbers were entered in the Breed class*), at Open Pen Shows under at least (*Specify number*) different Judges, these judges to be (*Specify club*) or National CC judges. Prize money must either be guaranteed to be at least (*Specify amount*) per class or be at least 75% of entry fees, and there must be a minimum of (*Specify number*) entries in the Breed Class for the win to count towards a Championship. Cost of Championship Certificates is (*Specify amount*) including postage.

Double Championships

As above, but (*Specify number*) First Prizes under (*Specify number*) different Judges.

Treble Championships

As above, but (*Specify number*) First Prizes under (*Specify number*) different Judges.

10. Perpetual Trophies

The various Perpetual Trophies that are awarded at Club Stock and Area Shows are and will remain the property of the Club, being competed for annually or as the Executive so determine. Trophies may only be awarded to members who joined the Club before the commencement of judging at the show in question.

Each winner of a Trophy is required to guarantee its safe custody and to return it either before or at the show at which it is to be awarded for the following year, or within 30 days of being asked to return it to the Secretary. Return of such trophies shall be at the winner's expense. Anyone failing to return a Trophy is liable to pay for its replacement. Anyone returning a Trophy in a damaged condition is liable to pay for repairs such as to return it to the condition in which it was presented to them.

11. Annual General Meeting (AGM)

An Annual General Meeting of Members will be held each year, the venue and date to be decided by the Executive. The Secretary/Treasurer will present to the General Meeting: (a) An Annual Report and (b) an audited Statement of Accounts. Items for the Agenda of the AGM (other than changes to Rules, for which see Rule 13 below) must be in the hands of the Secretary at least 14 days prior to the meeting to ensure that resolutions are formulated clearly and can therefore be discussed properly. Any other matter to be discussed at the AGM will be at the discretion of the Chairman, who may allow such discussion or not, without giving reason for his verdict but always guided by the principle that his decisions should be in the best interests of the Club.

Matters at the AGM will be decided by a simple majority of those attending. In the event of a tie in voting, the Chairman, who may not vote, will have the power of exercising a casting vote.

12. Exceptional General Meeting (EGM)

Any (*specify number*) members of the Executive, or (*specify number*) members may by written request to the Secretary call for an Exceptional General Meeting, for which the Agenda must be specified. The Secretary will consult the Chairman as to the date and venue for this meeting, which must be convened within 30 days of the request. The Secretary will give all members at least 14 days notice of the time and place of the meeting and of the Agenda.

Matters at the EGM will be decided by a simple majority of those attending. In the event of a tie in voting, the Chairman, who may not vote, will have the power of exercising a casting vote.

13. Alterations to Rules

No alteration, deletion or addition may be made to these rules except by a majority of votes cast at an AGM of the Club or by any changes and additions decided by the British Cavy Council. Any existing or new rules of the Club must not conflict in any way with British Cavy Council Rules. Notice of any proposed change to the rules by a member must be advised to the Secretary 28 days before the Meeting, to allow time for the Executive to consider its position and make a recommendation to members. On any matter of urgency that infringes this condition, the Chairman has the discretionary power to include any such proposal on the AGM Agenda for discussion by the members present, if he considers that the Rule change is in the best interests of the Club. A simple majority of those voting is necessary before rules can be changed.

14. Dissolution of Club

The Club can only be dissolved or merged with another Club with the consent of an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting called to discuss this issue, and with the consent of two-thirds of the members voting in a subsequent postal ballot to determine the matter. In the event of Dissolution the property of the Club shall be disposed of to best advantage and any monies resulting after payment of all debts will be allocated to all members of not less than two years standing. In the event of Merger, the same course may be followed; or the Executive may determine to pass on the property or monies of the Club to the Club with which it is merging.

15. Complaints Procedure

- a) Any member who wishes to make a Complaint must lodge this with the Chairman within 30 days of knowledge of the event or action that is the subject of the Complaint, stating the nature of the Complaint and enclosing a deposit of £25.
- b) Complaints made to the Club must relate to either a breach of Club Rules or to discreditable conduct relating to (*Specify Varieties*) cavies, either at a show or in the public arena. This may include 'Showing Misdemeanours', 'Judging Misdemeanours' (if such are susceptible to proof) and 'Unacceptable

Behaviour' (which may include abuse of an official position, abuse of Club property, foul and abusive language, violent conduct etc.)

- c) The Chairman will ensure that an Investigation Panel is set up to hear the Complaint. This will consist of a Chairman and (*Specify number – depends on size of Executive, given need for an Appeals body*) other members of the Executive. The Chairman of the Investigations Committee need not be the Chairman of the Club. Any member of the Executive that has prior personal knowledge of the substance of the Complaint will not be eligible to sit on the Panel hearing the Complaint, or attend any subsequent Appeal.
- d) The Chairman of the Investigation Panel should undertake the following procedure in investigating a Complaint:
 - Ensure that he obtains from the Complainant a written statement of the Complaint, together with the details of any witnesses.
 - Contact any witnesses and obtain statements from them.
 - Notify the person who is the subject of the Complaint asking for a written statement, either admitting the Complaint and pleading mitigating circumstances (if any) or refuting the Complaint, along with the details of any witnesses that they may wish to cite.
 - Contact such witnesses and obtain statements from them.
 - The Chairman will acknowledge the initial complaint within 14 days.
 - The Chairman will notify the person who is the subject of the Complaint within 14 days of receiving the written Complaint; and will give this person 14 days to respond to the allegations made in the Complaint.
- e) The Chairman of the Investigation Panel may then seek to act as mediator to resolve the matter with the agreement of both parties. If this is not possible, he will within 28 days convene a meeting of the Investigation Panel, and will give all interested parties at least 14 days notice of this hearing. These parties will be offered the opportunity to speak on their own behalf, and they may also bring witnesses to the hearing; but all of these costs will be at their own expense.
- f) Once the Panel has heard all the evidence relating to the Complaint, it will deliberate upon the matter and decide whether the Complaint is upheld or not. It will then determine whether the £25 deposit is to be forfeited, in the event of the Complaint being found to be ill-founded, or whether any disciplinary action is required as a result of the Complaint. (If the evidence so indicates, this action may be against the Complainant as well as, or instead of, the person who is the subject of the Complaint).
- g) The Chairman of the Investigation Panel will make known the findings of the Panel to both parties, along with any disciplinary action, within 7 days of the hearing. He will additionally inform them of their rights of Appeal under Rule 16 below.

16. Appeals Procedure

- a) Either of the parties to the Complaint may appeal against the findings of the Investigation Panel by writing to the Chairman of the Club within 30 days of knowledge of the findings of the Panel, stating the grounds for the Appeal and enclosing a deposit of £25.
- b) The Chairman of the Club will ensure that an Appeals Panel is set up to hear the Complaint. This will consist of a Chairman (who must be different to the Chairman of the Investigation Panel) and (*specify number*) members of the Executive who were not members of the original Investigations Panel. Again, any member of the Executive that has prior personal knowledge of the substance of the Complaint will not be eligible to sit on the Panel hearing the Appeal.
- c) The Chairman of the Appeals Panel will review the evidence given to the original hearing and the findings of the Investigation Panel, and determine how the Appeal is to be heard. This may involve either a repeat of the original hearing, with all parties and witnesses in attendance, or a meeting of the Appeals Panel to review the evidence and findings.
- d) Once the Panel has reviewed this evidence and findings, it will deliberate upon the matter and decide whether the Appeal is upheld or not. It will then determine whether the £25 deposit is to be forfeited, in the event of the Appeal being found to be ill-founded, and whether any disciplinary action is required as a result of the result of the Appeal. Any disciplinary action determined by the original Panel could potentially be increased in severity as well as being reduced as a result of the Appeal.

- e) The Chairman of the Appeals Panel will make known the findings of the Panel to both parties, along with any modified disciplinary action, within 7 days of the hearing. He will additionally inform them of their rights to appeal to the British Cavy Council.
- f) As soon as is possible after the Investigation / Appeal process has been completed, the Chairman of the Club will inform the Secretary of the findings and any disciplinary measures imposed. The Secretary will then arrange for brief details of the complaint, the decision and any disciplinary action imposed to appear in the cavy press, so long as this does not threaten infringement of the laws of libel.

17. Disciplinary Action

Disciplinary action that may be taken as a result of the above Procedures may consist of the following:

- A Warning not to repeat the offence.
- A severe Reprimand.
- Imposition of a Fine of such amount (not exceeding £100) as may be determined.
- Disqualification of an exhibit.
- Suspension from Club Membership for such time as may be determined.
- Termination of Club Membership.
- Disqualification from Office or from Judging Panel for a defined period, which may be for life.
- Disqualification for a defined period, which may be for life, from exhibiting or taking part in any (*Specify Club*) show.
- Disqualification for a defined period, which may be for life, from membership of the (*Specify Club*).

18. Disqualification of an Exhibit for Malpractice

Judges must disqualify any exhibits that they consider has been subjected to practices intended to deceive or give a false impression of merit when judged against the Standard for the breed. When a judge has disqualified a (*Specify Varieties*) cavy for this reason, he must take the exhibit to the show secretary and obtain, if possible, independent verification by (*Specify Club*), National Cavy Club or Southern Cavy Club judges of the evidence for these practices. Photographic evidence should be obtained if possible. The show secretary should ensure that the exhibitor is notified on the day, or as soon after as is possible, and inform them of the action that will be taken. The officiating judge should ensure that both the Secretary of the National or Southern Cavy Club (dependent upon which Club's rules are being used at the show in question) and the Secretary of the (*Specify Club*) is informed of the incident and of the details of the exhibitor.

On receiving such information on the disqualification of an exhibit, the (*Specify Club*) Secretary will determine whether the exhibitor is a member of the Club. If so, he will note the alleged malpractice in the Club's records and write to the member in question to invite him/ her to give an explanation of the occurrence. The matter will then be placed before the Chairman to determine if disciplinary action might be required under the Club's Complaints Procedure, Rule 13. In this case the Complaint will be taken as having been made by the judge in question, with no deposit being required.

19. British Cavy Council

The Club is a member of the British Cavy Council, whose stated objectives are to:

- Adjudicate on the formation and remit of the Specialist Clubs serving the needs of the various breeds of cavy in the United Kingdom;
- Ensure that such Specialist Clubs are properly run in the interests of all of their members and of the Cavy Fancy as a whole;
- Determine the Standards to be applied when judging the various breeds of cavy in the United Kingdom, these standards normally but not in all cases being effected by the discussion of proposals made by the relevant Specialist Club;
- Ensure that such Standards are phrased to be as clear as possible to judges, breeders and exhibitors; offer a difficult but achievable challenge to the breeder and exhibitor; and provide a logical basis for comparisons to be made regarding the relative merits of exhibits of different breeds.

The Club fully subscribes to these objectives; and in particular accepts the British Cavy Council Code of Practice for Affiliated Clubs and its regulations on Disciplinary Action Taken by Specialist Clubs against Members. These are as detailed below.

Code of Practice for Clubs Affiliated to the British Cavy Council

Specialist Clubs affiliated to the Council must be run in a fair, open and competent manner conducive to the best interests of the breeds they serve, the fanciers of these breeds and the Cavy Fancy as a whole. In particular all such Clubs are required to:

- (a) Elect an Executive consisting, at a minimum, of a Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer (which role may be combined with that of Secretary) and at least 5 other members, which should meet as necessary to ensure the proper running and governance of the Club to meet the above objectives and the responsibilities described below.
- (b) Hold an Annual General Meeting on a date not exceeding 15 months from the date of the previous meeting, the dates of such meetings to be published in official Cavy Fancy publications as determined by the Council at least one month before the meeting.
- (c) Ensure that statements of Profit/Loss/Income/Expenditure and of the Balance Sheet are prepared annually, audited by a person of integrity and independence who is not associated with the Club, and presented to the Annual General Meeting.
- (d) Ensure that nominations for positions as Club officials are sought by publication in official Cavy Fancy publications at intervals not exceeding two years; and that a ballot to elect such officials is held promptly following the closure of such nominations, so long as there are more nominees for any position than there are positions available.
- (e) Ensure that those participating as candidates in such ballots are bona fide members of the Club and of sufficient knowledge, expertise and integrity to discharge the duties relevant to the office, such determination being without influences of personal prejudice.
- (f) Ensure that those eligible to vote in such ballots are bona fide members of the Club of a duration considered appropriate by the Club as being reasonable to ensure an informed decision on the ballot.
- (g) Provide a Representative, and when necessary a Deputy Representative, to the Council, the names and contact details of such Representatives to be notified to the Secretary of the Council.
- (h) Ensure that the Club is represented at Council meetings whenever possible, and under no circumstances fails to be represented at more than one meeting in succession.
- (i) Ensure that Club Rules, dealing with the organization and activities of the Club, are maintained in a clear and comprehensible form; and that such rules are followed wherever possible in ordering the Club's organization and activities.
- (j) Ensure that these Rules are at all times consistent with those of the Council. Accept that any new rules or decisions that are agreed by the Council will override conflicting rules or decisions that may previously have been in place within the Club; and that no rules may subsequently be agreed by the Club that conflict with existing Council rules.
- (k) Hold each year not less than two Stock shows, catering solely for the breed(s) covered by the Club, and covering a reasonable geographic spread over a three-year period of time.
- (l) Lodge with the Council within 3 months of an AGM's taking place, or such later date as may be agreed by the Chairman of the Council, a report of proceedings to include Date, Time and Venue of meeting; List of Attendees including Chairman and Minutes Secretary; Minutes or Draft Minutes of the Meeting; Copy of Profit/Loss/Income/Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet; Dates and Venues of Stock shows held; Date at which any Nominations for Ballot will be required.
- (m) Supply to any member upon request copies of Club Rules, Profit/Loss/Income/Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet.
- (n) Agree and make it known to members that, should dissatisfaction be felt with the level of service being provided by the Club or with any alleged failure to meet its obligations under this Rule of the Council, complaint may be made to the Chairman of the Council, who may seek to deal with the matter under the Rule below.
- (o) Accept that, when such a complaint has been made to the Council and the Council has made a determination on the issue after due process as detailed in the Rule below, then action will be taken to effect the ruling of the Council.

Until or unless subsequently determined otherwise by the Council, the term 'Official Cavy Fancy Publications' referred to in this Rule shall mean at a minimum that relevant information must be published in the 'CAVIES' magazine.

Disciplinary Action by Specialist Clubs against Members

In the event that a Specialist Club takes disciplinary action against one of its members (which reference may also be taken to mean a partnership):

- a) The Club must advise the Member specifically and in writing of his/her rights of appeal, both within the Club and to the Council.
- b) The Member may appeal to the Council against the Specialist Club's findings and decision. Such appeals can be made only after the exhaustion of any Appeals Procedure that may exist within the Club in question; must be made within 28 days of notification to the Member of the Club's decision as regards the Appeal (or of the original decision if there is no Appeals Procedure); and must be made in writing accompanied by a payment of £25, which will be forfeited to the Council should the Council determine, entirely at its discretion, that the Appeal had no reasonable basis.
- c) In cases of such Appeals, a meeting of the full Council will be convened as soon as is reasonably convenient, at which the relevant Specialist Club and Member will be invited to make written and/or verbal submissions of the issues involved. These should, on behalf of the Specialist Club, include details of the alleged offence and the reasons for the disciplinary action determined; and, on behalf of the Member, any rebuttal of the alleged offence or arguments as to why the disciplinary action is considered unreasonable. Appeals will be heard by as many of the full Council as can attend, but Council Representatives involved in the original action will not be allowed to sit on the Appeal. In such cases Clubs may send a Deputy Representative. With the prior permission of the Council, the Appellant may bring a fellow fancier to help in the representation of their case; but legal representation will not normally be permitted.
- d) After hearing the Appeal, the Council will determine whether disciplinary action against the Appellant is justified and what action is appropriate. The original disciplinary action may be upheld, expunged or varied in any manner that the Council believes is fair and appropriate to the offence committed. The disciplinary action determined by the Council may extend to cover all Clubs belonging to the Council as well as the one initiating the original complaint.
- e) In addition to the circumstances described above, Council action may also be initiated by a Specialist Club itself in situations where it believes that an offence committed by a member is so significant that action by other Clubs is warranted. In such cases the same procedures as those described above will be undertaken, with the Specialist Club's presenting its case and the Member's being allowed to present a defence.
- f) Only in the situations above, where the Council has, as a body, considered and upheld disciplinary action against a Member of a Specialist Club, may a Specialist Club take action against one of its Members as a result of an offence committed against another Specialist Club. (All Club Rules relating to such 'reciprocal action' are therefore rendered redundant by this Rule.)

Given that the Council has, via this Rule, established an independent Appeals Procedure for a Member of a Specialist Club who is dissatisfied with any action taken against him/her, and since the Cavy Fancy represents a 'hobby' activity run with a relatively low level of financial resources, should a Member of a Specialist Club attempt to invoke any form of legal action for any issue that is covered by Council rules, then this shall be considered a strong prima facie reason whereby a Specialist Club may refuse to renew the membership of the Member in question when such membership becomes due for renewal

