

# Preliminary Standard of Points

## TOYGER

(EMS CODE: TOY)

### General Type Standard

The Toyger is a medium sized domestic shorthaired cat that is reminiscent of a big cat in pattern, type, confidence, stately movement and athletic ability. At maturity males should not exceed 6.8kg in weight and females 5kg. The impression is of a sleek, muscular long bodied, large boned cat with a long thick tail. Females may be smaller and less muscular than males.

The Toyger should be alert, friendly and affectionate and in excellent physical condition with a dependable temperament. In addition the Toyger should exhibit other companionability traits such as a laid back personality, high intelligence and be easy to handle and train.

The Toyger's wild appearance is enhanced by its distinctive striped tabby coat which should be thick and luxurious.

At present brown (black) mackerel tabby is the only recognised variety of Toyger.

### Head and Neck

The head should be long, broad and deep i.e. a broad medium sized wedge. In profile there should be sharp well defined angle change points at chin, nose, forehead and back skull. All contours should be well defined, muscular and rounded. The head should be medium sized in proportion to the body.

The profile should be biplanar with an angle change at the forehead above the eyes. The line from the forehead to the bridge of the nose should be virtually straight with a very slight concave curve.

The muzzle should be broad with proportional length and well defined with rounded contours. It should widen towards the end so that the overall impression in full face view is of a long inverted heart shape extending from the forehead to the rounded pronounced whisker pads created by widely set canine teeth. The nose leather should be as wide as the space between the eyes. The chin should be wide and deep and particularly strong and well pronounced.

The neck should be long and muscular and in proportion to the body. Allowance should be made for jowls in adult males and well-muscled males may lack shoulder to neck definition.

### Ears

The ears should be rounded and a small size is preferred, set as much on the side as on the top of the head. Thick furring of the temples and ears is preferred but ear tufts (lynx tipping) are undesirable.

### Eyes

Small to medium in size, with gentle hooding of the inside and slanted towards the base of the ear. They should neither be bold nor deep set. The margins of the eyelids must be clearly visible.

**(NB: Withhold all awards for entropion where the margins of the lower eyelids are not visible)**

## **Eye Colour**

Green is the preferred colour; gold or hazel are also acceptable. Deep shades are preferred.

## **Body**

Medium size, long, sleek, muscular with good depth of flank and rolling contours. Strong, large boned and robust but not cobby. The strength is in the forequarters and the shoulders may interrupt the topline. The chest is broad and deep but not interrupting the neckline from head to forelimb.

The overall impression should be muscular and athletic, especially young males.

## **Legs and Paws**

Legs strong, straight, muscular and of medium length such that the space between the body and the ground is equal to the depth of the body. The front and hind legs should be equal in length. The paws should be proportionally large and well-rounded with prominent knuckles and long toes.

**Tail:** Very long, thick and muscular (rope like) with a rounded tip. A tail that is set and carried low is desirable but cats should not be penalised for carrying the tail higher when happy or excited.

## **Coat**

Short in length, very dense, luxurious and unusually soft to the touch and very plush. Glitter is highly desirable, especially on the limbs provided it does not obscure contrast or white ground colour.

Allowances should be made for a slightly longer coat in kittens.

## **Mackerel Tabby Pattern**

The coat pattern is a modified mackerel tabby. The contrast of markings to ground colour must be pronounced and distinct giving a clear sharply edged pattern.

The dorsal (upper and outer) ground colour may be any shade of brown with warm tones preferred. The ventral (inner and under) ground colour should be paler than the dorsal ground with whited/pale cream tones preferred.

The body stripes shall generally be vertically aligned with encircling markings on neck, legs and tail. Bold, braided, non-uniform stripes including stretched rosettes are preferred. The belly and the inside of the legs must be marked. The lighter ventral ground colour areas shall include the underside of the chest, belly and tail, and the inside of the limbs. Extension of the lighter colour onto the lower sides of the chest and abdomen and the back of the legs is desirable. Paw pads and tail tip must be black.

Circular alignment of facial markings is preferable to traditional tabby markings directed radially from the face. The whited/cream ground areas shall include the throat, chin, outer parts of jowls and cheeks as well as areas around and above the eyes (spectacles), extending upwards onto temples and forehead.

The back of the ears should be dark with a paler to virtually white thumb print desirable. Black "mascara", "lipstick" and whisker spot markings and white spectacles are desirable.

## **SCALE OF POINTS**

Head and Neck .....20

Ears.....	5
Eye Shape and Colour.....	10
Body.....	20
Legs and Paws.....	5
Tail.....	5
Coat Texture.....	10
Coat Colour.....	10
Pattern and Contrast.....	15
	Total 100

Withhold All Awards for:

1. Aggressive behaviour

Withhold Certificates or First Prizes in Kitten Open Classes for:

1. Long, rough or coarse coat
2. Distinctly ticked coat
3. Tail tip not the required colour
4. Whip tail
5. Stomach not spotted / striped
6. Incorrect paw pad colour
7. Oriental head type: e.g. straight profile, large flared ears
8. Burmese head type: e.g. distinct nose break or 'stop'
9. Cobby or Abyssinian, Burmese or Oriental body type
10. White patches or spots other than those referred to in the Colour descriptions
11. Entropion
12. Any defect as listed in the preface to this SOP booklet