



# Responsible cat breeding in Club Le PETit WCF

Regulations for cat breeders

Rev. 15.6.2020.

Club Le PETit WCF is a representative of WCF - World Cat Federation in Serbia and region. Club provides cattery registration, internationally valid WCF pedigrees and transfer documents. Club organizes cat shows and helps finding, showing and selling breed cats. Responsible breeders are welcome in Club Le PETit WCF, and after registering may use Club services.

## Definition of terms

Registered breeders vs. unregistered, responsible vs. backyard breeders - those subjects can be very emotive for cat breeders. What are the differences between them? Let's start by looking at definitions of these terms...

### 1. Registered cat breeders

The term "registered cat breeder" denotes that a person is a member of a cat breeders club and has registered a cattery at WCF or other registering organization that is a member of WCC - World Cat Congress.

Cat breeders clubs are located all over the world and have similar aim and objectives, cat welfare being the most important. Being a member of a club does not automatically make you a registered breeder. Registered breeders also have an internationally protected cattery name to identify themselves and they register their cats using these names.

**Club Le PETit WCF services are available only for cat breeders with a cattery registered at WCF. Club registers catteries at WCF.**

### 2. Unregistered cat breeders

The term "unregistered cat breeder" denotes a person that breeds cats but is not a member of a cat breeders club and does not have an internationally registered cattery.

**Unregistered cat breeders may not use services of any WCF club!**

### 3. Characteristics of responsible cat breeders

They have internationally registered catteries. They adhere to the rules and regulations of their clubs concerning the cat welfare, caring for and selling cats. Responsible breeders only breed purebred cats according to the recognized standards set out by felinology organization they are registered at. All their breeding cats have valid pedigrees, and litters are registered in time. Also, responsible breeders:

1. breed to improve their breed,
2. know about the genetic problems of their breed and work to eliminate them,
3. are knowledgeable about possible health problems and seek veterinary advice as soon as required,
4. register litters at their clubs in time, vaccinate them and have health record books,
5. socialize cats by introducing them to people and other pets, and expose them to home noises and scents,
6. screen potential new owners and try to match the cat and future owner by character and temperament,
7. give out pedigree with the cat, or keep it until cat is desexed according to Contract provisions,
8. give out feeding, health, vaccination and desexing information on the cat. Responsible breeders are always available for information and advice on cat care and training.
9. take back or assist in rehoming a cat that has been previously sold if the need arises.

**Club Le PETit WCF services are available only for responsible cat breeders!**

### 4. Characteristics of irresponsible cat breeders

They do not have internationally registered catteries. They often have cats of unknown origin. If they have purebred cats, their cats may have originally come from a registered breeder who sold the kittens as pets without pedigrees, expecting the new owners to have the kittens desexed. They might have been given a kitten by a friend and decided they want to have kittens of their own.

In any case, irresponsible breeders see cat breeding as a way to make money, To these people cats are a commodity, not living beings. Also, irresponsible cat breeders:

1. breed any popular type of cat and obsessively change breeds,
2. breed for money or alleged "love" of cats,
3. have little or no knowledge of any genetic problems and mate any two similar cats,
4. have little or no knowledge of health problems and do not take a sick cat to a vet either out of ignorance or to save money,
5. keep cats in separate rooms, boxes or cages so cats are not socialized, are timid and often aggressive,
6. sell cats to anyone who pays the asking price,
7. separate kittens from mother at very early age and do not vaccinate them,

8. do not give out pedigrees with cats or charge extra for a pedigree,
9. sell cats with no information or assistance to the new owners,
10. do not want to know about the cat after it has gone to its' new home.

**Irresponsible cat breeders may not use services of any WCF club!**

## 5. Desexing

Early desexing (spaying or neutering the kitten from 7th week of age) is a topic of great debate between breeders, animal welfare activists and vets. Advocates of early desexing believe it contributes to reducing the number of cats in shelters. Advocates against it believe that it subjects the kittens to various risks due to their physical immaturity.

Irresponsible breeders sell their kittens undesexed. Responsible breeders sell cats with a sales contract that is signed by both parties when the kitten is sold. The Contract provides for one of four possibilities:

1. The cat is sold as a pet. The buyer will take the cat for desexing as soon as it reaches the appropriate age. The buyer will get WCF pedigree only after the intervention.
2. The cat is sold as a pet. The buyer will take the cat for desexing as soon as it reaches the appropriate age. The buyer will get WCF pedigree with Permission to breed: No.
3. The cat is sold for breeding. The buyer will get WCF pedigree with Permission to breed: Yes.
4. The cat is already spayed / neutered.

**Sales Contract form is available at the Club.**

## 6. Rules for breeders in WCF

**General conditions for husbandry and breeding cats are as follows:**

1. **The cattery must be registered in WCF.**  
If a cattery is already registered at FIFe, TICA or other international WCC organisation, the cattery will be registered in WCF with the same name.
2. **All breeding cats in a cattery must be registered in Club.**  
A cat with WCC, LOOF or MME pedigree will receive a WCF pedigree with four generations of ancestors and numbered safety hologram. A cat with pedigree from other organisation may be registered according to WCF rules and after checkup of pedigree credibility.  
  
Kittens from parents without a WCF pedigree may not be advertised or sold as breed cats.
3. **Litter registration and pedigrees are mandatory for each kitten.**  
Litter must be registered by 8th week and pedigrees must be ordered by 8th month of birth.
4. **Cats sold as pets must be spayed / neutered by breeder or buyer.**  
The obligation must be defined in sales contract. A sale of cat for breeding must be reported to Club and may be given only to a responsible registered breeder.
5. When a cat is sold or rehomed, new owner will get a sales contract, WCF pedigree, transfer document and a health record with proofs of vaccination.

6. Young kittens are not allowed to be separated from their mother and litter mates before the 12th week. Kittens must be weaned, de-wormed, vaccinated and micro-chipped.
7. The breeder has to inform the new owner of the cat about its needs. The breeder shall assist the new owner with help, advice and guidance as necessary.

**Those conditions are binding for all clubs and breeders in WCF.**

## 7. Rules of conduct

WCF and authorized clubs provide good services for responsible cat breeders. All rules and instructions for breeders are available on WCF and Club website.

1. Responsible breeders improve their breed for the good of cats, constantly learn and participate in WCF activities, cooperate with fellow club members and are welcome to Club Le PETit.
2. Irresponsible breeders earn money at the detriment of the cat, so they may not use services of any WCF club.
3. Breeders that do not respect rules, do not participate in Club activities or do not cooperate with fellow club members may not use Club services.
4. Persons that engage in or facilitate any discriminatory or harassing behavior toward WCF, board members, commission members, judges, clubs, club members, exhibitors, breeders, or others in the context of activities relating to WCF may not use Club services or participate in Club activities.
5. Questions, suggestions and complaints should be submitted in writing to Club, and only later to one of WCF commissions (Disciplinary, Standard and Judges, Show).

*Based on WCF - World Cat Federation rules and articles by Julia Wilson, used with permission*

### **More information:**

[Recommended breeding and registration rules for all member clubs](#) (WCF regulations)

[Constitution Of The World Cat Congress](#) (WCC regulations)

### **WCF commissions:**

Disciplinary Commission, [wcf.disciplinary.commission@gmail.com](mailto:wcf.disciplinary.commission@gmail.com)

Standard and Judges Commission, [judgescomwcf@gmail.com](mailto:judgescomwcf@gmail.com)

Show Commission, [wcf@wcf-online.de](mailto:wcf@wcf-online.de)