

**3<sup>rd</sup> January 2018**



**Dear Member Clubs & Members,**

It has come to the attention of the Executive Committee that some of our members may be in breach of FIFe Statute 2.6 as they hold functionary positions within non-FIFe organisations and have not had an exception granted by the FIFe Board. The statute in question is reproduced below and the part of the statute that affects our members is highlighted in **bold** and *italics*; Clearly the part of the statute relating to showing does not apply, unless the member holds a functionary position as well, as our members can show under the FIFe open doors show rule 8.2 - this currently remains in effect until 31st December 2018.

The Executive Committee can only apologise that this omission on our part has now come to light; historically there was a form that was issued and completed by all members when they joined FB and on an annual basis for them to declare any functionary positions and allow exceptions to be requested, if appropriate, from the FIFe Board. It would appear that this practice ceased many years ago, for which the current Executive Committee can only apologise. However this means that it is now vital that we contact all of our current members to establish those that hold positions on any non-FIFe association committees or act as judges in other organisations. We are already aware of some members that hold such positions and have applied for exceptions which we hope will be granted, but we need to act consistently with all of our members.

It is imperative that with immediate effect any new members are asked to declare any involvement in non-FIFe associations and that this now becomes a standard part of the application and renewal process. **A form for this purpose is attached, please can all of our members complete and return the form to their club secretaries as soon as possible.**

The Executive Committee requests that this is added to the membership application forms for the clubs and also their renewal forms.

The current situation has been passed to the FIFe Disciplinary Commission (DC) for review and we await their outcome, with the additional information that has been provided by the members already notified. We apologise for the timing of this current situation; however, this was outside of our control once it came to light and the FIFe DC asked us to obtain additional information, if possible, despite the time of year, so that they could review the situation with all of the relevant information. Until we have had a response from FIFe regarding the current exceptions that we have requested and the outcome of the DC process recommendations, it cannot be guaranteed that the FIFe Board will make lots of special exceptions in these circumstances. Committee members of the FB member clubs may therefore need to consider whether they can continue with any other functionary positions they may hold.

**FIFe Statute 2.6;**

Members of the FIFe undertake not to allow their members to;

- take part, directly or indirectly in shows organised by non-FIFe associations; exceptions with respect to participation at shows are listed in 8.2 of the show rules
- ***to be actively involved in non-FIFe associations as a functionary or as a judge***

Special exceptions may be granted by the Executive Board of FIFe

**\*Show rule 8.2 Open Doors**

1. Permit non-FIFe members to participate as exhibitors on FIFe shows and permit individual FIFe members to exhibit on non-FIFe shows

2. Exhibitors belonging to any non-FIFe organisation may enter cats at FIFe shows under the following conditions:

- all non-FIFe exhibitors must agree to respect all FIFe Rules and Standards
- they may only enter their cats in classes 12, 11 and 9 or 10; if they wish to enter cats in higher classes, they should become individual members of a FIFe Member
- all applications from non-FIFe exhibitors should be sent in and countersigned by the exhibitor's own organisation
- all entry fees from non-FIFe exhibitors should be paid in accordance with the instructions of the organisers.

3. FIFe certificates may only be obtained at FIFe shows and are the only certificates valid to obtain a FIFe title.

4. This rule shall be extended until 31.12.2018.

If you have any questions on this matter, please can you direct them to your Club Secretary who will pass them on to the General Secretary and we will answer any questions as far as possible, taking into account that currently we do not have all of the answers available to us.

As soon as we have any additional information we will circulate it to all of our members.

Kind regards

Debbie

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