

# HIGHLANDER BREED GROUP (HG/HD)

The Highlander (HG) is a medium to large shorthair domestic cat. Distinguishing features are its sloping forehead, wide nose blunt profile, and the loose relaxed curl to its wide based ears. The Highlander Longhair (HD) is the longhair version.

## HEAD ..... 40 points

- Shape ..... 6
- Ears ..... 10
- Eyes ..... 5
- Chin ..... 6
- Muzzle ..... 6
- Nose ..... 4
- Profile ..... 3

## BODY ..... 40 points

- Torso ..... 10
- Tail ..... 10
- Boning ..... 8
- Musculature ..... 7
- Legs/Feet ..... 5

## COAT/COLOR/PATTERN 20 points

- Length ..... 4
- Texture ..... 4
- Pattern ..... 6
- Color ..... 6

**CATEGORY:** All.

**DIVISION:** Solid, Tortie, Tabby, Silver/Smoke

**COLORS:** All.

### PERMISSIBLE OUTCROSSES:

Domestic longhair/shorthair, not a member of a recognized breed.

### HEAD:

Shape: Wide, inverted pear-shaped head with substantial width to muzzle.

Eyes: Medium to large set far apart. Set on a slight bias. Slightly flattened oval in shape. Eye color independent of coat color except in Pointed Category.

Ears: Medium to large, wide at the base, set as much on the top of the head as on the side, as erect as possible. Ears must be firm at the base, flexible at the tips. Loose relaxed curl with little backward direction, allowing the tips of the ears to be clearly visible in a frontal view. Ear furnishings and ear tufts are desired but not required. Kittens may have a greater degree of curl but not more than 90°.

Muzzle: Full, wide, strong with a definite break. Prominent whisker pads should make muzzle appear squared. Muzzle length makes head appear longer than wide.

Chin: Strong and deep. Must align with top of jaw.

Profile: Rounded back skull, sloping forehead, change of direction at the nose bridge, slight curve to nose. Nose, muzzle and chin form a blunt look in profile.

Nose: Wide with substantial nose leather.

### BODY:

Torso: Medium to large in size with noticeable depth. Rectangular in shape. Straight back with hips higher than shoulders. Overall muscled, athletic appearance. Males are proportionally larger than females.

Legs: Medium in length, back legs longer than front.

Feet: Medium to large, rounded with large knuckles. Longhair (HL) must have toe tufts.

Tail: Short and thick. Bone length must be a minimum of 2 inches in adults with proportional

length in kittens. Must not extend past the hock. Slight kinks and curls are allowed.

Boning: Moderately heavy and substantial.

Musculature: Well-muscled.

### **COAT/COLOR/PATTERN:**

Length: (HG) Short, dense and resilient.

Length: (HL) Longhair up to 2½ inches with shaggy belly hair, longer than the rest of the coat.

Texture: There will be texture variations depending upon the color of the cat.

(HG) Resilient, snapping back into place.

(HL) Soft.

#### Pattern:

Spotted: Random pattern preferred. Spots should be well-defined; may be oval, round, squared or triangular in shape.

Classic: Will have spots and swirls distinguishing it from the normal classic pattern.

Pointed: Expression of the underlying tabby pattern is desirable.

### **OTHER:**

Balance: All parts of the body in proportion.

Condition: Should reflect excellent health, good muscle tone.

Temperament: Must be unchallenging.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:** The Highlander is a muscular, athletic domestic cat. Selective breeding has contributed to protecting the unique features and enhancing the bloodlines. Highlander cats come in both shorthair and longhair. Physical characteristics include a sloping forehead and wide nose, with the nose and muzzle forming a blunt look in profile. The curled ear is seen in

profile as a loose, relaxed curl with minimal backward direction. The ears are wide-based, open and stand tall.

**LOCKETS:** Withhold all awards

**ALLOWANCES:** Tarnishing in silvers

**PENALIZE:** Ears that are not open or wide based, ears too small or low set. Tips of ears not visible from frontal view in adults. Kittens with more than 90° curl.

**DISQUALIFY:** Ears not erect. Tail too short, too long or docked.



*Temperament must be unchallenging; any sign of definite challenge shall disqualify. The cat may exhibit fear, seek to flee, or generally complain aloud but may not threaten to harm. In accordance with Show Rules, ARTICLE SIXTEEN, the following shall be considered mandatory disqualifications: a cat that bites (216.9), a cat showing evidence of intent to deceive (216.10), adult whole male cats not having two descended testicles (216.11), cats with all or part of the tail missing, except as authorized by a board approved standard (216.12.1), cats with more than five toes on each front foot and four toes on each back foot, unless proved the result of an injury or as authorized by a board approved standard (216.12.2), visible or invisible tail faults if Board approved standard requires disqualification (216.12.4), crossed eyes if Board approved standard requires disqualification (216.12.5), total blindness (216.12.6), markedly smaller size, not in keeping with the breed (216.12.9), and depression of the sternum or unusually small diameter of the rib cage itself (216.12.11.1). See Show Rules, ARTICLE SIXTEEN for more comprehensive rules governing penalties and disqualifications.*