



The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy's Young Exhibitors' Scheme



ROLE OF A MENTOR

April 2018

This policy applies to YES! Administrators, Mentors, Judges, Stewards, Show Managers, table workers, any anybody working on behalf of the GCCF within YES!.

GCCF believes that a candidate or young person, who is participating on the YES!, should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all candidates and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

Mentors' roles fall into 3 categories:

- Providing help and tutoring
- Providing emotional support
- Providing social experiences

It is common to hear the mentor described as:

- Coach
- Guide
- Role Model
- Advocate
- Friend

Any and all of the following are important activities that mentors provide.

Role Modelling

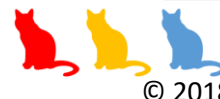
Pointing out, bringing to attention, demonstrating, and explaining your own actions and values that offer the candidate or young person the best chances for success and happiness; helping the candidate and young person to see and strive for broader horizons and possibilities than they may see in their present environment.

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WHAT MENTORS ARE NOT

There is no expectation that the volunteer who participates in mentoring programmes will take on the roles of parent, professional counsellor or social worker. Indeed, some of their traits will be a part of the mentor's role:

- Listening
- Nurturing
- Supporting
- Advising

Through the mentors' sustained caring, interest, and acceptance may begin to think of themselves as worthy of this attention. They may apply this new, stronger sense of self-confidence to other relationships and experiences.

Mentoring is not a panacea for all the problems and deficiencies facing candidates on YES! and their parents and/or guardians.

The essence of mentoring is the sustained human relationship. Mentor programmes can enhance the efficacy of this relationship by activities and opportunities for development of their skills within YES!.

So exactly what does a mentor do?

Mentors commit to spending time and knowledge they have of felines, the operational systems and practices of judging, stewarding, running a show, designing a hall lay out for GCCF cat shows, along with GCCF best practice breeding ethics and considerations for all the breeds of cats currently recognised by the GCCF.

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We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice **annually**.

This policy was last reviewed on: [date]

Signed:

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