

## **SNOWSHOE NEWS**

**What makes a Snowshoe Cat a Snowshoe?**

I have not received any stories or input from the group's members and my time has been tied up with the normal stuff all of us do, taking care of the yard, fixing things in the house, caring for my cats and all that stuff we all do.

So: this issue is going to be copied from the report on the Snowshoe Seminar that I send to The International Cat Association every year on what has been happening with the Snowshoe Cat. Not everything will be copied, but there are some photos that I hope you will find interesting with enough explanation to tell you what they represent.

And just maybe it will spark some interest and questions or input from other members of the group.

**What makes up the ear set of the Snowshoe cat?**

Ear set is a continuation of the Snowshoe Cats modified wedge that is medium at the base with slightly rounded tips and the ears are in proportion to the body. Examples are:



The following are examples of the continuation of the wedge.



The following are examples that are not a continuation of the wedge.



The head is a broad modified wedge with cheekbones set in high, gentle contours.

Overall shape is nearly as wide as long and resembles an

equilateral triangle. The chin is firm; the nose is a medium width, not too wide, not too narrow with either a slight bump or flat profile and is in proportion to the head.



The muzzle is in proportion to the head with a gentle break, not extremely broad or extremely square or extremely pointed.

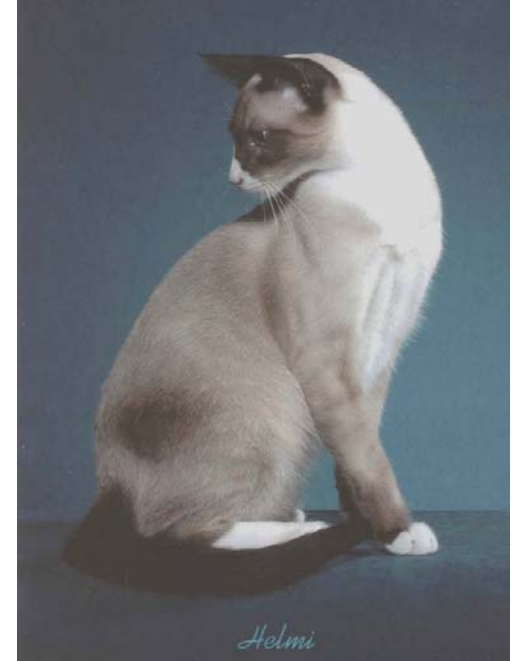


The body is semi-foreign, moderately long but not extreme or oriental. The cat is proportionally balanced.

The following is a perfect example of the Snowshoe body.



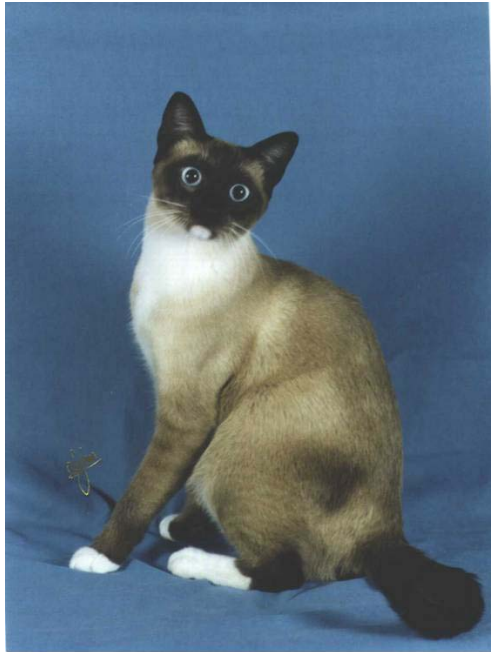
Legs are of good length, the legs of a runner or jumper, in proportion with the torso.



Feet are in proportion to the body, tips of the toes are oval.

The tail is medium at the base, slightly and gradually tapering to the end with length proportional to the body.

Boning is medium with consideration for finer boning in smaller females.



The body is firm and muscular, well-knit, powerful, not bulky, not delicate with surprising heft in proportion to size when lifted with allowance for less heft in females.

Patterns – the above cat is a mitted Snowshoe. White is limited to paws, back legs, chest, tummy and chin. The cat is typically about one quarter white.

The following are facial examples of the bicolor Snowshoe. Note: Some standards require a specific pattern for the Snowshoe bicolor face but The International Cat Association (TICA) standard was voted by the breeders and exhibitors who participated in getting the standard accepted for Championship status with no specific patterns.

A white facial pattern is required for a bicolor Snowshoe. Various patterns of white and pigment may occur. The cat is typically between a quarter to one half white. Less white is preferred to high white. Overall appearance predominates shape and detail of point and white areas.

All markings are acceptable and should be judged equally.

NOTE: Some of the following photos are slightly distorted due to the limits of the page format and do not necessarily represent the head shape, etc.







In TICA, the Snowshoe cat can compete according to the TICA Uniform Color Descriptions for pointed cats in the following Divisions:

Solid Point/White  
Tortie Point/White  
Tabby Point/White  
Silver and/or Smoke Point/White

To date, the only cats being shown in TICA are Solid Point/White.

Exhibition penalties in TICA include: No white on all four paws. Plush, wooly or double undercoat. Eye color other than blue. Bulky or cobby torso, frail or dainty torso, extreme torso length. Thin, whip-like tail.

There are no specific withhold wins, but because the Snowshoe is limited to short to medium short hair cats, a Snowshoe with long hair would be disqualified by the TICA rules defining short hair and long hair cats.

There are additional requirements for color on pointed area (ears, face, legs, tail, and body area) but if the following poll results in enough interest in this subject, I will cover more in the next issue.

### ***SNOWSHOE NEWS POLL***

#### ***QUESTIONS:***

- (1) DID YOU FIND THIS INFORMATION INTERESTING?***
- (2) WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SNOWSHOE AS A BREED?***
- (3) WOULD YOU PREFER THE NEWS TO COVER ONLY HOUSEHOLD PET SNOWSHOES?***
- (4) IF YOU DID NOT LIKE THIS PART OF THE NEWS, WHAT WOULD YOU RATHER SEE IN THE NEWS?***

### **Rescue and Disaster Efforts**

The following covers the efforts of members of TICA working to raise money for a local rescue organization in Cleburne, Texas and for victims of the Oklahoma Tornadoes.

For those of you who think cat shows are only about cat titles and awards the following report is from the Cleburne Texas show.

At this show (and most TICA

shows the cat club and members of the club worked to collect funds for donations to people in Oklahoma in addition to their normal collection of funds for rescue efforts. This is an example of what goes on at a cat show towards helping people affected by a disaster ; and to help find homes and feed and care for cats that have been rescued and need a new home.

The club collected \$1420. Some of that money (\$325) went to the South Central Region disaster funds for people in Oklahoma who needed either food or the standard 'essentials' that are never available after a disaster (like tooth paste, tooth brushes, soap, shampoo, and lots and lots more essentials).

In addition, money was collected for and distributed to the following organizations that attended the show ,plus additional money that was collected by the organizations at the show.

**Salvation Army**

**Meals on-wheels (plus cat food) (it took four trips to the van on a huge cart) to load all the food that was donated by cat club members and those exhibitors who brought food. Most who did not have room to bring food donated money).**

Some of the money (\$325) went to the Humane Society of North Texas (HSNT). HSNT is the organization that the club always supports at their shows. An additional amount (\$1010) went to HSNT from a raffle by the club from donations by exhibitors and funds raised from HSNT providing micro chipping at cost. (This is something they regularly do as a part of their organization). HSNT also had rescue cats and kittens available for adoption at the show as usual and some found new homes at the show.

The club also opened the show to local people for free because Cleburne had recently had a tornado disaster of their own.

**These are just a few of the**

**things that the members of The International Cat Association do to help both members and non-members of the association after a disaster.**

**I myself was a recipient of this and other clubs and member donations to the disaster funds after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Despite the fact that you could barely get gas in Baton Rouge members from Texas (who had also recently been affected by Hurricane Rita) drove to Baton Rouge and distributed essentials and cash - also something you could not get in the disaster area because there were no banks open, or gas stations, or grocery stores, or anything else open at the time.**

**So a special THANKS to all of our group members (and especially our Rescue group members for all they do!**

The International Snowshoe Cat Association (TISCA) - <http://www.tisca.us/>

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