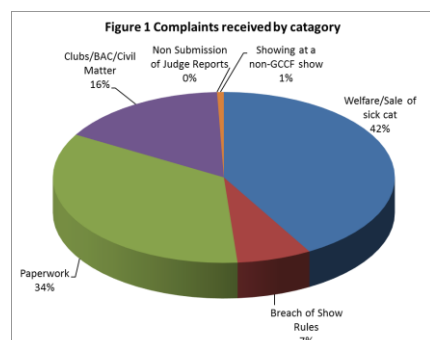


Investigation Committee Report 2014

There were **156** complaints received in the GCCF Office in 2014 which is significantly less than in 2013 and indeed in previous years. These have been broken down into the 6 main categories and are shown below. Nine of these complaints were referred to the GCCF Disciplinary Committee (DC) although two of those were subsequently withdrawn. Of the cases heard by DC, 2 were about the conduct of a judge and steward and 5 were for the sale of sick kittens. Ten complaints were dealt with by way of fixed penalty.



Welfare/Sale of sick cat (42%) – includes any complaint where the welfare of a cat/s or kitten is in question. These cases frequently involve the sale of kittens at less than 13 weeks without vaccinations and cases where kittens have died or have been put to sleep to prevent further suffering.

Paperwork (34%) – indicates cases where the necessary paperwork has not been provided, usually at the time of sale e.g. pedigrees, mating certificates, registration document. This figure has significantly decreased by 36% over last year. Nine of these cases were eventually dealt with by way of fixed penalty. Many involve considerable amounts of correspondence between the Office, Complainant and Defendant over many months before the issue is finally resolved.

Breach of Show Rules (7%) – indicates cases where a show rule has been broken and is similar to last year.

Showing at non-GCCF show (1%) – indicates a case where someone has exhibited or entered a non-licensed show which is dealt with by way of fixed penalty unless the defendant elects to go to the DC.

Clubs/BAC/Civil Matter (16%) – indicates cases related to an affiliated club or BAC but also includes cases which cannot be dealt with by the GCCF disciplinary procedure such as contractual matters. This figure is very similar to last year.

Non-submission of judge reports (0%) – indicates cases when a show report has not been received by the GCCF Web master within the specified time. We have done it! All reports submitted on time. A big thank you to all our judges from exhibitors who really appreciate reading the reports on their cats.

Summary and comparison with previous years

A direct comparison with previous years is now easier as information is being recorded in a more consistent way. The figures reflect the significant amount of work done by the Secretary, Investigations and Disciplinary committees.

Figure 2	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Welfare/Sale of sick cat	28	84	83	77	65
Breach of Show Rules	7	12	16	11	11
Showing at non-GCCF Show	3	0	0	0	1
Paperwork	41	80	68	84	54
Clubs/BAC/Civil Matter	8	24	35	24	25
Non Submission of Judge Reports	64	15	5	2	0
Complaint received - not progressed	94	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total in year	245	215	207	198	156

The overall number of complaints received this year has reduced again compared to previous years and is at an all-time low. However, 42% of the complaints received concern cat welfare or the sale of a sick cat; this remains a very worrying statistic. Kittens are still being sold at less than 13 weeks of age, with no vaccinations and suffering significant health issues shortly after sale.