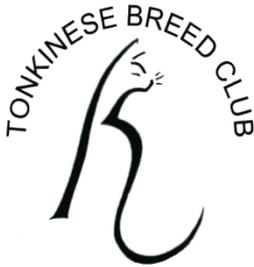


Tonkinese Breed Advisory Committee

**The
TONKINESE
BREEDING POLICY**

June 2022

Supported by the
Tonkinese Breed Club & Tonkinese Cat Club



THE TONKINESE BREEDING POLICY

The following abbreviations for the three Tonkinese coat-patterns will be used in this document:

BCR (Burmese Colour Restriction)

TCR (Tonkinese Colour Restriction)

CPP (Colourpointed Pattern)

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Section I

TONKINESE GENETICS

The Tonkinese draws its genetic resources from the Tonkinese, Burmese and Siamese breeds. The distinctiveness of a breed lies in its type, coat (length, texture, colour and patterns) and eye colour. The most distinctive feature of the Tonkinese is that its three different coat-pattern restrictions are inherited from just two variations of the same gene – a feature unique among cat breeds.

Notes: The code for the different genes and their variations (alleles) is shown in brackets after the gene's name.

1. TONKINESE TYPE

The Tonkinese has no extreme physical features; it is a well-balanced cat of medium Foreign type. The body is firm and strong with well-muscled, slender legs; the tail is gently tapered (neither thick nor whippy) and balancing the body for length. The feet are oval rather than round.

The head is neither elongated nor short and round; it gives the general impression of an equal sided triangle when viewed from the front. The muzzle is gently rounded and defined by a slight whisker pinch. The top of the head is gently rounded and the medium to large ears well spaced apart, oval tipped and pricked forward. In profile, the Tonkinese has a slight nose-break and a firm chin of medium depth.

The eyes are large and expressive, set well apart and more almond shaped than oriental or round. The top line of the eye slants down toward the nose with the lower line of the eye rounded. The eye-colour is associated with its coat-pattern restriction - see later description.

2. TONKINESE COAT

The Tonkinese is a shorthaired cat with straight, close-lying fur. The genes that make up the appearance of the Tonkinese coats fall into three groups: Colour, Pattern and Expression.

2.1 Colour

The colour of the coat is a combination of three genes:

- a. **Colour** - this controls the black (eumelanin) pigment granules
- b. **Colour-Density** – this controls the placement of the pigment granules along the hair
- c. **Orange-Making** – this controls the orange (phaeomelanin) pigment granules

2.1.a Colour gene - There are three variations, only of which two concern the Tonkinese:

1. Black (B) - Expressed as very dark brown in Tonkinese, Tonkinese name – Brown
2. Dark brown (b) - Modified from black to dark brown, Tonkinese name – Chocolate
3. Light brown (bl) - Modified from black to light brown, Tonkinese name - Cinnamon

2.1.b Colour-density gene - there are two variations, dense and dilute. In addition, the Dilute modifier gene modifies the effect of the dilute variation.

1. Dense (D) - Dominant to Dilute, pigmentation is produced uniformly along the coat hair preventing light from passing between the pigment granules.
2. Dilute (dd) - Recessive to Dense, pigmentation is clumped along the hair allowing light between the clumps to produce a diluted colour effect – brown is diluted to blue, chocolate is diluted to lilac, cinnamon is diluted to fawn and red is diluted to cream.
3. Dilute Modifier (Dm) - Recessive to Dense - Pigmentation is less clumped along the hair allowing only a little light between the clumps to produce a less diluted effect – brown is diluted to caramel (referred to as blue-based), chocolate is diluted to caramel (referred to as lilac-based), cinnamon is diluted to caramel (referred to as fawn-based) and red is diluted to apricot (cream-based).

2.1.c Orange-making gene – this replaces the black pigmentation with orange pigmentation in a growing hair. In cats the coat is referred to as red, cream or apricot. The orange pigmentation does not completely mask tabby markings, which may be seen in any areas of orange on the cat's coat.

- The Non-orange/not orange - includes colours originating from black pigmentation i.e. brown, blue, chocolate, cinnamon, lilac, fawn and caramel
- The orange - may be red, cream or apricot

This is a sex-linked gene located on the X- chromosome. Females have two X chromosomes but males have only one, so they are affected differently by the orange-making gene.

Females:

1. Homozygous Non-orange (oo) - Allows full expression of colours - cats inheriting this will not be orange
2. Homozygous Orange (OO) - Converts non-orange to orange – cats inheriting this will be orange
3. Heterozygous Orange (Oo) - Produces incomplete conversion of non-orange colours to orange – cats inheriting this will be part orange (i.e. tortoiseshell)

Males (*note: the y refers to the male y chromosome*):

1. Homozygous Non-orange (oy) - Allows full expression of colours - cats inheriting this will not be orange
2. Heterozygous Orange (Oy) - Converts non-orange to orange – cats inheriting this will be orange

2.2 Pattern

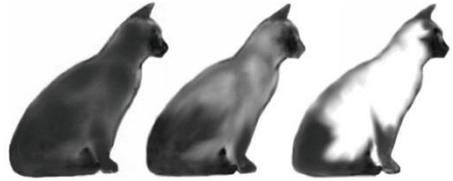
In this group there are three genes that concern us:

- a. **Albinism** (this controls the intensity of pigmentation over the coat)
- b. **Agouti** (this controls the bands of pigmentation in individual hairs, which determines whether the tabby pattern is revealed)
- c. **Tabby** (this controls the type of tabby pattern)

2.2.a Albinism - This gene inhibits pigment production in warmer areas of the body. Typically the torso has less pigmentation than the cooler facial mask, ears, tail, legs and testicles. The following table shows the five versions (alleles) of the albinism gene.

Albinism Allele	Characteristics
1. Full Colour Expression (C-)	Dominant to all others in the group, non-albino
2. Burmese Colour Restriction (c^b)	Non-albino <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recessive to Full-Colour • Co-dominant with Siamese Restriction • Dominant to Partial and Full-Albino
3. Siamese Colour Restriction (c^s)	Non-albino <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recessive to Full-Colour • Co-dominant with Burmese Restriction • Dominant to Partial and Full-Albino
4. Partial-Albino (c^a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recessive to all of the above • Dominant to Full-Albino. Blue-eyed
5. Full-Albino (cc)	Recessive to all of the above. Pink-eyed

There is no single allele for the TCR coat-pattern. It exists because the BCR gene ($c^b c^b$) is co-dominant with the CPP gene ($c^s c^s$) - so the combination of these genes will always produce $c^b c^s$, which is a uniquely perpetual heterozygote variation of the albinism group.



BCR ($c^b c^b$) - TCR ($c^b c^s$) - CPP ($c^s c^s$)

2.2.b Agouti – This gene controls the arrangement of pigmentation produced along the length of the individual hairs as banded/ticked or not. This gene is sometimes mistakenly referred to as the tabby gene because it is the ticking that allows the tabby pattern to be seen. There are two variations:

1. Agouti (A-) - Dominant – the colour along each hair is arranged in alternate bands of black and orange/yellow (ticking), hence all tabby-patterned cats show an element of ticking
2. Non-agouti (aa) - Recessive – suppresses ticking thereby masking the inherited tabby pattern

2.2.c Tabby – All cats inherit a tabby pattern but it is only when the dominant version of the agouti gene is inherited that the pattern is revealed, The tabby gene controls the specific arrangement of the tabby pattern, one or more of the variations may be inherited:

1. Mackerel (Mc/Mc – homozygous or Mc/mc – heterozygous, i.e. mackerel carrying classic) - Dominant to classic. Produces a striped pattern resembling the markings on a mackerel.
2. Classic/blotched (mc/mc) – Recessive to mackerel, a dense blotched pattern showing oysters or bulls-eyes on the flanks and a 'butterfly' over the shoulders.
3. Spotted – (Sp/Sp – homozygous, or Sp/sp – heterozygous, i.e. spotted carrying non-spotted). The spotted gene modifies both mackerel and classic patterns into spots. The spots follow the underlying tabby patterns.
4. Ticked (T^a/T^a – homozygous or T^a/t^a – heterozygous, i.e. ticked carrying non-ticked) – The ticked gene modifies mackerel, classic and spotted into a ticked pattern, as per a wild rabbit, the ticking is additional to the ticking produced by the agouti gene. Each hair is banded with several rings of darker and lighter colour. Heterozygous ticked cats can have some striped markings on the legs and neck.



Non-Agouti (Self)



Agouti (Tabby)



Heterozygous Orange (Tortoiseshell)



Homozygous Orange

2.3 Expression

In Tonkinese the three colour-expression genes are fully recessive:

1. Colour inhibitor (ii) - The coat colour is expressed throughout the length of the hair i.e. the hairs are not tipped, smoked or shaded.
2. White spotting (ss) - The coat colour is expressed throughout the coat i.e. there are no white areas of any size.
3. Dominant white (ww) - The colour and pattern is fully expressed throughout the coat, i.e. the coat-colour is not masked by white.

3. TONKINESE COAT - GENETIC CODES

In all cases the Tonkinese coat-pattern expression gene will be:

Inhibitor = ii, White spotting = ss, Dominant white = ww.

Table 1 – Non-Agouti

COLOUR (GCCF Breed Codes)	Colour			Pattern		
	Colour	Dense	Orange	Albinism	Agouti	Tabby
Brown (TOS n)	B-	D-	oo	c ^b c ^b (BCR)	aa	--
Blue (TOS a)	B-	dd	oo		aa	--
Chocolate (TOS b)	Bb	D-	oo		aa	--
Lilac (TOS c)	bb	dd	oo		aa	--
Caramel (Blue) (TOS m)	B-	ddDm-	oo	or	aa	--
Caramel (Lilac) (TOS m)	bb	ddDm-	oo		aa	--
Caramel (Fawn) (TOS m)	b ^b l ^l	ddDm-	oo	c ^b c ^s (TCR)	aa	--
Cinnamon (TOS o)	b ^b l ^l	D-	oo		aa	--
Fawn (TOS p)	b ^b l ^l	dd	oo		aa	--
Red (TOS d)	--	D-	OO		aa	T-
Cream (TOS e)	--	dd	OO	or	aa	T-
Apricot (TOS em)	--	ddDm-	OO		aa	T-
Brown Tortie (TOS f)	B-	D-	Oo		aa	T-
Blue Tortie (TOS g)	B-	dd	Oo		aa	T-
Chocolate Tortie (TOS h)	bb	D-	Oo	c ^s c ^s (CPP)	aa	T-
Lilac Tortie (TOS j)	bb	dd	Oo		aa	T-
Caramel Tortie(BI)(TOS k)	B-	ddDm-	Oo		aa	T-
Caramel Tortie(Li)(TOS k)	bb	ddDm-	Oo		aa	T-
Caramel Tortie(Fn) (TOS m)	blbl	ddDm-	Oo	or	aa	T-
Cinnamon Tortie (TOS q)	b ^b l ^l	D-	Oo		aa	T-
Fawn Tortie (TOS r)	b ^b l ^l	dd	Oo		aa	T-

Table 2 - Agouti

COLOUR (GCCF Breed Codes)	Colour			Pattern			
	Colour	Dense	Orange	Albinism	Agouti	Tabby	
Brown Tabby (TOS n 21)	B-	D-	oo	c ^b c ^b (BCR)	A-	T-	
Blue Tabby (TOS a 21)	B-	dd	oo		A-	T-	
Chocolate Tabby (TOS b 21)	bb	D-	oo		A-	T-	
Lilac Tabby (TOS c 21)	bb	dd	oo		A-	T-	
Caramel Tabby(BI)(TOS m 21)	B-	ddDm -	oo		A-	T-	
Caramel Tabby(Li)(TOS m 21)	bb	ddDm -	oo		A-	T-	
Caramel Tabby(Fn)(TOS m 21)	blbl	ddDm -	oo	or	A-	T-	
Cinnamon Tabby (TOS o 21)	b ^l b ^l	D-	oo	c ^b c ^s (TCR)	A-	T-	
Fawn Tabby (TOS r 21)	b ^l b ^l	dd	oo		A-	T-	
Red Tabby (TOS d 21)	--	D-	OO		A-	T-	
Cream Tabby (TOS e 21)	--	dd	OO		A-	T-	
Apricot Tabby(TOS em 21)	--	ddDm -	OO		A-	T-	
Brown Tortie-Tabby (TOS f 21)	B-	D-	Oo		or	A-	T-
Blue Tortie-Tabby (TOS g 21)	B-	dd	Oo	A-		T-	
Chocolate Tortie-Tabby (TOS h 21)	bb	D-	Oo	A-		T-	
Lilac Tortie-Tabby (TOS j 21)	bb	dd	Oo	A-		T-	
Caramel Tortie-Tabby (BI) (TOS k 21)	B-	ddDm -	Oo	c ^s c ^s (CPP)		A-	T-
Caramel Tortie-Tabby (Li) (TOS k 21)	bb	ddDm -	Oo			A-	T-
Caramel Tortie-Tabby (Fn) (TOS m 21)	blbl	ddDm -	Oo		A-	T-	
Cinnamon Tortie-Tabby (TOS q 21)	b ^l b ^l	D-	Oo		A-	T-	
Fawn Tortie-Tabby (TOS r 21)	b ^l b ^l	dd	Oo		A-	T-	

Notes:

1. For the BCR coat-patterns add '31' to the end of the breed code, for TCR coat-patterns add '32' and for CPP coat-patterns add '33'.
2. '-' means that any allele of the relevant gene may be present.
3. For simplicity only the ticked tabby pattern (T-) is referred in the above table, it could also be mackerel, classic or spotted.

4. TONKINESE EYE-COLOUR

There are no specific genes for eye-colour. The Tonkinese eye colours remain consistent according to the coat-patterns

1. Cats with the BCR coat-pattern ($c^b c^b$) have any shade from deep yellow to bluish-green.
2. Cats with the TCR coat-pattern ($c^b c^s$) have bluish-green or greenish-blue eye colour (also known as aqua).
3. Cats with the CPP coat-pattern ($c^s c^s$) have clear blue eye-colour, the depth of which varies according to the coat-colour – generally the darker the coat, the deeper the colour blue.

It is noted that due to the inability to breed for the subtle variations of eye-colour (particularly the aqua colour) cats with the darker TCR coat-patterns may have more blue-toned eyes. Cats with the BCR coat-pattern may have bluish-green eye colour; but for show and exhibition purposes yellow tones are preferred.

Burmese
Colour Restriction



Tonkinese
Colour Restriction



Colourpointed
Pattern



Section II

TONKINESE BREEDING POLICY

Breeding may be a self-supporting hobby but if we choose to bring kittens into the world then we must accept the responsibility of providing them with the best possible start in life.

The Tonkinese draws its genetic resources from the Tonkinese, Burmese and Siamese breeds. There are unrelated bloodlines within the Tonkinese breed, but it is recognised that presently the Tonkinese breeding population is still insufficient to rule out the development of new lines from Burmese x Siamese matings, the Tonkinese registration policy is written to reflect this.

1. PROHIBITED BREED MATINGS

1.1. Breeding Tonkinese from a Burmese or Siamese that is not on its Full (CS) register.

***Note:** A Burmese or Siamese may be on its Supplementary register simply because of the recent recognition of a new colour within that breed - this is irrelevant to the Tonkinese, the requirement for the cats to be on their Full register always applies.*

1.2. Breeding Tonkinese with any other breed.

***Note:** The progeny of any breed that permits an outcross with Tonkinese will not be registered as Tonkinese.*

2. PERMITTED BREED MATINGS

2.1. Burmese on the Full (CS) register x Siamese on the Full (CS) register

2.2. Tonkinese x Tonkinese – in any of the three coat-pattern restrictions.

2.1. Burmese x Siamese

Burmese and Siamese, which are to be used in the breeding of first generation (F1) Tonkinese, should be good examples of their breed and both cats must be on their Full register (their pedigrees shall include only cats of the same breed on the Full register for 5 preceding generations).

All progeny from the mating of a Full registered Burmese with a Full registered Siamese will be F1 Tonkinese and will have the TCR coat-pattern, but at this stage they may not necessarily have the desired type, eye colour or clarity of coat-pattern. Select for the best health, temperament and breed characteristics of the two breeds but it is recommended that you select for moderate type rather than extreme examples of each breed, particularly the Siamese. A pair of moderate

type cats will produce a moderate type in the kittens, a pair of different extreme types will result in a litter of varied types.

The breeding of F1 Tonkinese shall be permitted until such time as the Tonkinese gene pool is considered to be large enough and diverse enough to sustain the breed and restrict it to Tonkinese only.

2.2. Tonkinese x Tonkinese – In Any Of The Three Coat-Patterns.

It is strongly recommended that breeders read and understand the Tonkinese Standard of Points before choosing a cat for breeding. Tonkinese selected for showing and breeding should be as near the desired type as possible, with a clearly defined coat-pattern and good associated eye-colour. Mating Tonkinese TCR x Tonkinese TCR consistently produces three variations of Tonkinese coat-pattern restriction, with the relevant associated eye-colour. Breeders are encouraged to use all three coat-patterns providing the cats conform to the definition of a good Tonkinese, i.e. healthy and good examples of temperament, type, coat-pattern, colour and good eye colour for coat-pattern.

3. TONKINESE REGISTRATION

Breeders must read and understand the Tonkinese registration policy before breeding and registering their kittens. The progeny of a Tonkinese x Tonkinese mating are Tonkinese and must be registered as Tonkinese. Where a litter includes BCR &/or CPP coat-patterns they must be registered as such, to falsely register the entire litter as TCR patterned is detrimental to the breed. To sell a kitten, knowing that it is incorrectly registered, is fraudulent. Breeders should inform the Tonkinese BAC of any incorrect registration by the GCCF.



Tonkinese kittens in the three coat-pattern restrictions
(Left: Brown coat-patterns, Right: Blue coat-patterns).

4. BREEDING FOR HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT OF THE BREED

Tonkinese breeders should view the breed as a whole; it is detrimental to the breeding population for individual breed lines to attempt to fix desirable traits because the process also fixes undesirable traits. Avoid poorly selected, unplanned or accidental matings, the probability of producing kittens with inherited defects or health problems is increased with such matings and all breeders have an obligation to prevent them.

4.1 Breeding With The Different Generations

The Tonkinese breeding population includes cats of 1st generation onwards. Cats of one generation should not be restricted to mating with cats of the same generation – this is detrimental to the breed as it reduces the genetic resources available. As long as the guidelines for choosing suitable mates are adhered to, it is irrelevant which generations are mated together. However, if you wish the kittens to be shown be sure to choose a breeding pair whose progeny may be shown.

4.2 Inbreeding/Line-breeding

Inbreeding/line-breeding, the mating together of related animals, is to be discouraged. With a small breeding population there may be some common ancestors in a five-generation pedigree but they should be avoided if possible. Inbreeding for genetic testing is now unnecessary as DNA tests are available for a wide range of possible health risks. To risk kitten health is unacceptable.

The following is a sample of some inbreeding percentages and a guide to the acceptable levels of inbreeding co-efficient in the Tonkinese:

Relationship	Inbreeding %	Breed Impact
Father/daughter, mother/son, brother/sister	25	Harmful <i>(anything over 12.5 is harmful)</i>
Half-brother/half-sister	12.5	High to Harmful
Uncle/niece, aunt/nephew	12.5	High to Harmful
Double first cousins	12.5	High to Harmful
Half-uncle/niece, first cousins	6.25	High to Harmful
First cousins once removed, half-first cousins	3.125	3.125 to 6.25 – Fair 0 to 3.125 - Low

* *Re: Co-efficient of Inbreeding (Sewell Wright, 1922)*

It is strongly recommended that a cat with a high inbreeding co-efficient be registered as non-active, or mated with a completely unrelated cat.

It is recommended that breeders include the inbreeding co-efficient of kittens on their pedigrees particularly the pedigree of any cat intended for breeding. It is strongly recommended that stud owners include their stud's inbreeding co-efficient on mating certificates. If you would like help finding the in-breeding co-efficient for a cat contact the Tonkinese BAC, see point 10.

4.3 Selecting Suitable Cats For Breeding

See also in Section II Points 6 (Breeding for Type) and 7 (Breeding for Colour & Pattern)

It is a misconception that breeding pairs may be selected to correct each other's faults. It is more probable that the kittens will inherit the faults of both parents, particularly faults in type. It is better to avoid the problem of faults from the start. Do not select for breeding any cat that has noticeable faults, is undersized, is in poor health or lacks vigour, has a poor temperament or is closely inbred. Become familiar with the Tonkinese Standard Of Points and select cats that have the best possible breed characteristics:

- **Type** – Read the breed standard carefully and be objective.
- **Colour** – Choose the best possible example of your desired colour, if necessary make use of the available DNA tests.
- **Coat-pattern restriction** – Whether you wish to breed from a BCR, TCR or CPP cat choose a cat with a clear example of the coat-pattern. A good coat-pattern should be obvious by the time the kitten is two to three months old. *Read also point Section II Point 7.*
- **Eye-colour** – By the time a kitten is two to three months old you should be able to tell whether it will have good eye-colour. The BCR cat will have clear indications of yellow in the eyes and the CPP cat will have clear blue eyes. The TCR cat may be more difficult, it may already have a good green/blue or blue/green tone or it will have a 'muddy' tone that appears to be more khaki than green, this will usually clear. Be guided by the quality of the coat-pattern but if there are clear yellow tones in the eye-colour they will not disappear.
- **Temperament** – Choose an even-tempered cat with an outgoing and inquisitive personality. Temperament is an inherited trait and the object is to produce good-tempered kittens that are suitable for a family environment.

4.4 Selecting Suitable Mates

Select a cat with the best possible breed characteristics, as above, in order to complement your cat. In addition to choosing a suitable cat, please ensure that you read the GCCF Code of Ethics for Breeders and any guidelines for breeders produced by your Tonkinese club/s.

4.5 Breeding/Matings Detrimental To The Tonkinese Breed

- a. Perpetual mating of BCR Tonkinese x BCR Tonkinese
- b. Perpetual mating of CPP Tonkinese x CPP Tonkinese
- c. Mating cats that both have a high inbreeding co-efficient
- d. Breeding from a cat whose parents both have a high inbreeding co-efficient
- e. Breeding with any cat that is clearly not a good example of its type, coat-pattern, coat-colour and eye-colour
- f. Breeding with any cat that is known to produce poor quality kittens (in health, size or any of the breed characteristics) or is known to have a poor temperament (temperament is inherited)
- g. Mating to correct defects/flaws in your cat (i.e. in health, type, colour or pattern), it is not guaranteed to do so
- h. Any of the points in section 4.6.

4.6 Breeding/Matings Detrimental To The Health And Welfare Of The Tonkinese Or Individual Cats (Male Or Female)

- a. Breeding with a cat that has any inherited malformation
- b. Breeding with a cat that is unwell or infested
- c. Breeding with a cat with Flat Chested Kitten (FCKS) syndrome, or any of its littermates
- d. Breeding with a cat that tests positive for **any** of the mandatory DNA health tests specified in the Tonkinese Registration Policy.
- e. Breeding with a cat that is suspected of having Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP), Feline Herpes Virus (FHV) or Feline Calicivirus (FCV)
- f. Breeding with any cat that has a protruding xiphoid sternum
- g. Breeding with any cat that has/had a hernia, acquired at birth or later
- h. Breeding with any queen that had difficulties when carrying/birthing two successive litters
- i. Breeding with any queen that has suffered uterine inertia. Pre-disposition to uterine inertia is an inherited condition
- j. Breeding with any cat whose dam suffered uterine inertia
- k. Breeding with any cat that has produced poor quality or undersized kittens in more than one litter
- l. Breeding with any cat that generally has a nervous or aggressive disposition.
- m. Breeding from any cat that has a heart murmur or other heart condition.
- n. Repeating a mating that produces a kitten with any of the following conditions.
 - FCKS
 - FIP (a susceptibility to the causal virus may be inherited)
 - Protruding xiphoid sternum

- Cleft palate
 - Hernia
 - Strabismus (crossed-eyes) or nystagmus (repetitive &/or involuntary eye movement)
 - Heart condition or any inherited defects
 - Pre-disposition to health problems (digestive, breathing, skeletal, muscular etc.)
 - Undersized or otherwise unhealthy/nervous kittens
 - Recessive white (blue-eyed albino)
 - Any of the conditions specified in the *GCCF Guidelines for Healthy Breeding*
- o. Breeding with any cat that produces a kitten, from two different mates, that has any of the conditions mentioned above.
- p. Breeding with an F1 cat that has not been tested for Progressive Retinal Atrophy (PRA rdac), Pyruvate Kinase Deficiency (PKDef), Burmese Hypokalemia and Burmese GM2 Gangliosidosis. *All active males must produce a negative/clear result.*
- q. Breeding with an F2 or later generation cat whose mother has tested positive for the conditions in point p.; or who has a parent that hasn't been tested.
- r. Breeding from a cat imported from another cat register that has not been tested for the conditions in point p. plus the Burmese Head Defect. *All active males must produce a negative/clear result.*

4.7 Inherent Breed Problems

Although a few of the problems mentioned above have occurred in Tonkinese kittens the Tonkinese does not have any known breed-related inherent problems. As long as breeders follow this document's guidelines they will be able to maintain healthy generations of kittens.

If any hereditary disease becomes prevalent in the Tonkinese, or its parent breeds, for which a practical and reliable test is available, the Registration Policy may be amended to require testing for that particular disease before any progeny may be registered as Active.

It should be noted that, although rare, the recessive white (blue eyed albino) gene has been observed in Tonkinese. These cats may be more prone to eye problems such as strabismus and nystagmus and therefore breeding with such cats or cats which carry the gene is strongly discouraged. Any recessive white cats produced should be neutered and DNA testing used to ensure that the gene is not passed on by any related cats.

4.8 DNA Testing

There are a many DNA tests available to test for feline health problems (if you suspect they are present in your cat you should also consult your vet), and. there are tests that can help Tonkinese breeders determine a cat's coat-pattern or colour. Tests for:

- The albinism gene (whether the coat is BCR, TCR or CPP)
Note: you must test for **both** the *Burmese Colour Restriction* **and** the *Colour-Pointed Pattern* (aka *Siamese pattern*) to get correct results.
- The colour gene (whether the cat is brown, chocolate or cinnamon)
- The dilute gene (whether your cat is blue, lilac or fawn)
Note: there is not a test for the *Dilute modifier gene*.
- The recessive white gene (blue-eyed albino)

Our Registration Policy Requires Certain DNA Tests To Be Arranged By A Vet: In order for a Tonkinese to be registered as 'Active' (i.e. a breeding cat) with the GCCF your cat must comply with the DNA test requirements outlined in the Tonkinese Registration Policy. *You must refer to the Registration Policy for details.*

Cats to be tested must be micro-chipped (the number to be recorded on the cat's veterinary records) and DNA tested as per the Registration Policy. The microchip number and DNA samples must be submitted by a vet to the laboratory performing the DNA tests and, once updated with the DNA test results, to the GCCF.

Extra tests, for your own information, may be taken by yourself: Cats to be tested should be micro-chipped before testing and the micro-chip number recorded on the cat's veterinary records. This microchip number should be submitted to the laboratory performing the DNA tests.

Apply to your chosen test lab for a test kit. With the kit, you swab the inside of your cat's cheeks (buccal cell swabs), some cells are collected on the tiny plastic bristles, it doesn't hurt the cat. Once these cells, containing the DNA material, dry out they stick firmly to the brush, which is why you can then post the swabs anywhere using normal mail. DNA in this form is very stable and can be stored for many months at normal room temperature. Once the DNA swabs reach the laboratory they are briefly soaked in sterile water to re-hydrate the cells, allowing them to fall off the plastic bristles for collection in test tubes. Chemicals are added to break open the cell and release the DNA into solution. The DNA is then processed by removing any attached proteins that may interfere with the testing procedure. Now the DNA is ready for testing, or for simple storage at either 4 degrees Celsius, or at minus twenty degrees Celsius for longer storage.

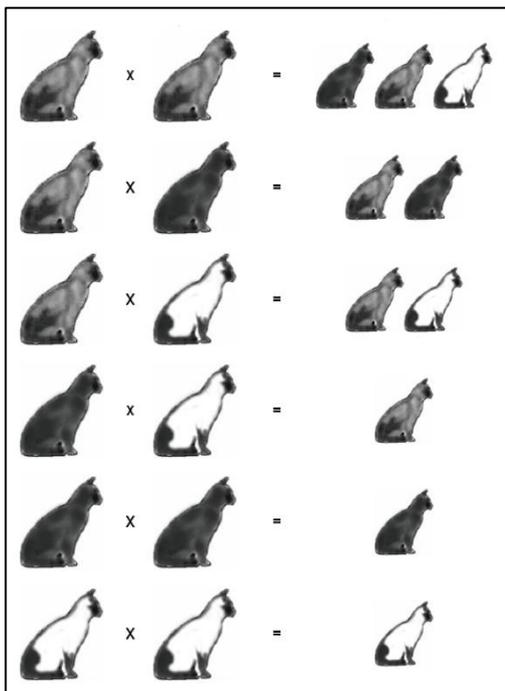
Example Feline DNA Testing Laboratories:

- Langford Vets Diagnostic Laboratories (UK)
<http://www.langfordvets.co.uk/diagnostic-laboratories>
(ask your club secretary for the Langford DNA Test discount code)
- Optimal Selection Feline Genetic Breeding Analysis
https://www.optimal-selection.com/optimal_selection_cats
- UC Davis, California (USA) <https://www.vgl.ucdavis.edu/services/cat/>

5. BREEDING FOR THE TONKINESE COAT-PATTERNS

This table shows the percentage of coat-patterns that may be produced when mating different combinations of coat-patterns together.

	BCR	TCR	CPP
BCR	100% BCR	50% TCR 50% BCR	100% TCR
TCR	50% TCR 50% BCR	25% BCR 50% TCR 25% CPP	50% TCR 50% CPP
CPP	100% TCR	50% TCR 50% CPP	100% CPP



This diagram shows the six different combinations of mating and the coat-patterns they can produce.

If, after two or three litters, your cat has not produced the full range of expected coat-patterns you should look into the registration of your kittens' ancestors, one or more may be incorrectly registered. If you find this to be in the pedigree of your cat's mate/s you are advised to inform its owner. Only by sharing information can these anomalies be noted and corrected for the future of the breed.

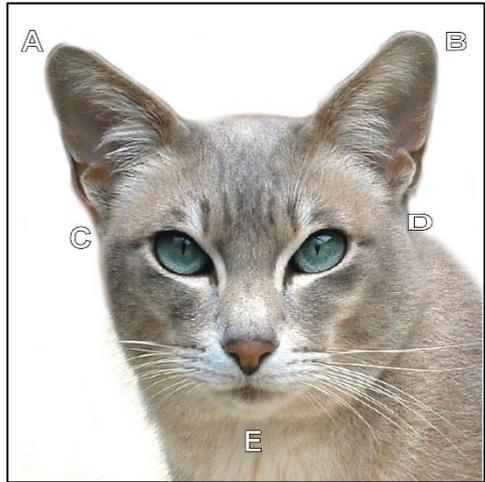
6. BREEDING FOR TONKINESE TYPE

Select a mating pair of moderate type rather than extreme examples of each parent. A pair of moderate type cats will produce a moderate type in the kittens; a mated pair of different types will result in an unpredictable litter of different types.

Remember - it is a misconception that breeding pairs may be selected to correct each other's faults. It is more probable that the kittens will inherit the faults of both parents. It is better to avoid faults from the start. Become familiar with the Tonkinese Standard of Points and select cats that have the best possible breed characteristics.

HEAD: The top should be gently rounded with good width between the ears, a moderately proportioned wedge with a muzzle that is neither pointed nor square and a definite, but not exaggerated, whisker pinch. In profile there should be a slight nose break leading down to a level bite and chin of medium depth.

In a good Tonkinese head the width between the top of the ears matches a line from the top of the ear to the base of the chin. So, when viewed from the front the head gives the impression of an equilateral triangle – whether it is viewed as $A > B > E$ or as $C > D > E$.



EARS: Medium size, slightly taller than wide, pricked forward, with broad base and oval tips. Base equally balanced between side and top of head, with outer line continuing line of wedge.

EYES: Large and expressive, more almond shaped than round and set well apart. The top line of the eye is slanted down towards the nose; the lower line of the eye is rounded.

Head Full On



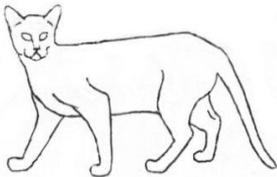
L: Ears too high & eyes too round, **C:** Head well balanced, **R:** Ears too low

Profile

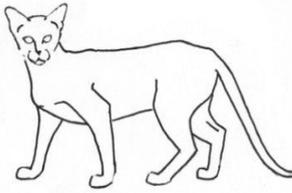


Left – Muzzle too short with strong nose break,
Centre - Good profile, gently rounded forehead, gentle nose break,
medium length muzzle,
Right – Very shallow nose break.

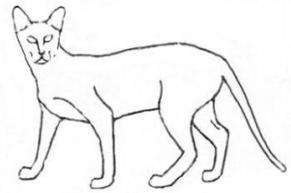
BODY: Medium to long, well balanced, firm, and muscular. Chest slightly rounded, flanks level, back rising gently from shoulders to rump.



L: Too cobby,



C: Good type,



R: Too long & slender

LEGS AND FEET: Legs slender and well-muscled, the hind legs slightly longer than the front. Feet neat and oval.

TAIL: Tapering tail of medium length, neither thick nor whippy.

Examples of Good Type and Coat-Pattern Restriction:



Brown TCR



Brown BCR



Chocolate TCR



Lilac TCR



Brown Tortie CPP



Brown Tortie TCR



Blue Tabby TCR

Caramel Tabby (Blue-based) TCR

This picture shows how close the colours can be; look at the leg stripes and face ribbons of the caramel to see the subtle differences from the blue.



Seal/Brown CPP
and Blue, TCR

7. BREEDING FOR CLEAR COLOURS AND PATTERNS:

It's not always possible to know the different gene variations carried by a mated pair of cats, but it is possible to take steps toward breeding for clear colours and patterns. Once again you are advised to familiarise yourself with the Tonkinese Standard of Points and the Tonkinese Exhibitors Guide (produced by the TBAC) so that you know what you should be breeding for – the correct colour tones, and the quality of the tortoiseshell or tabby markings.

7.1 Selfs (single coloured cats) – in self-coloured Tonkinese a clear coat is required, i.e. without sign of tabby markings. If you wish to breed only the self-coloured cats you should avoid mating your cat with a heavily marked self or a tabby, especially a mackerel or spotted tabby as these are the most dominant

patterns and very difficult to breed out. When breeding the red, cream or apricot selfs there will be some tabby markings but careful selection of breeding pairs can help to minimise the markings in the kittens; avoid breeding with cats that have markings on the torso or strong leg markings.

7.2 Tortoiseshells – It is not possible to breed for clarity, or constancy, of tortoiseshell markings, but if you wish to show your cat (in pedigree or household pet classes) it is recommended that you select a cat with the clearest possible expression of the BCR, TCR or CPP coat-pattern. Note that areas of red, cream or apricot may show tabby markings, so the advice given regarding the red, cream and apricot selfs is also valid here.

7.3 Tabbies - be sure to read Section I Points 2.2.b and 2.2.c. The actual variety of tabby-pattern in the Tonkinese is irrelevant; the aim is to produce clearly marked cats that also have good examples of the BCR, TCR or CPP coat-patterns. By their nature the Tonkinese coat-patterns are not as obvious in tabbies (especially the ticked tabbies) as they are in selfs or tortoiseshells.

If you wish to breed tabbies select cats with the clearest markings. If you wish to breed tabbies for showing avoid breeding ticked tabbies together, a fully ticked tabby (homozygous for ticking) has very little or no leg markings and without the leg markings it is impossible to see the correct TCR coat-pattern expression.

7.4 Chocolates – This colour is specifically mentioned as it often confuses breeders and judges of the Tonkinese. The chocolate colour presents a more extreme reduction of pigmentation than the brown or blue in the Tonkinese, Burmese and Siamese. Generally by the time they are 7-8 weeks old the CPP kittens will have clear blue eyes and a bright white torso, the TCR will give the impression of a pointed coat-pattern but will have a warm-toned pale ivory torso, and the BCR will also look pointed but will have a pale golden toned torso. This reduction of pigmentation is also presented in the cinnamon and, to a lesser degree, in their dilute colours lilac and fawn.

7.5 Dilutes – The Dilute Modifier gene is not a health risk but does pose a risk to the future continuation of the pure dilute colours (blue, lilac, fawn and cream). So it is increasingly important to try to keep the dilute colour clean, otherwise eventually all blues, lilacs and fawns will be caramel and all creams will be apricot. Unfortunately there is not yet a DNA test available for the dilute modifier, and a cat does not have to be a dilute to carry the gene, so breeders should keep careful records of their kittens' colours and should make it clear to new breeder owners that their cat carries the Dm gene.

8. GCCF BREED CODES ACCEPTABLE IN THE TONKINESE PEDIGREE

The three tables show the only GCCF breed codes that are permitted in a Tonkinese pedigree. They list both the old breed numbers and GCCF EMS breed codes (active from June 2014) for the Tonkinese, Burmese and Siamese.

TONKINESE

BCR – add coat-pattern code **31**

TCR – add coat-pattern code **32**

CPP – add coat-pattern code **33**

	Self		Tortie		Tabby		Tortie/Tabby	
Brown	74	TOS n	74e	TOS f	74t	TOS n 21	74et	TOS f 21
Blue	74a	TOS a	74g	TOS g	74at	TOS a 21	74gt	TOS g 21
Chocolate	74b	TOS b	74h	TOS h	74bt	TOS b 21	74ht	TOS h 21
Cinnamon	-	TOS o	-	TOS q	-	TOS o 21	-	TOS q 21
Lilac	74c	TOS c	74j	TOS j	74ct	TOS c 21	74jt	TOS j 21
Fawn	-	TOS p	-	TOS r	-	TOS p 21	-	TOS r 21
Red	74d	TOS d	-	-	74dt	TOS d 21	-	-
Cream	74f	TOS e	-	-	74ft	TOS e 21	-	-
Apricot	74fn	TOSem	-	-	74fnt	TOS em21	-	-
Caramel (Blue, Lilac or Fawn based)	74n	TOS m	74p	TOS km	74nt	TOS m 21	74pt	TOS km 21

Note: Cinnamon and Fawn Tonkinese colours were accepted after the introduction of GEMS, so they don't have a pre-GEMS breed number.

BURMESE on the Full Register (CS) - *not* CSREF, CSEXP or CSSR.

	Self		Tortoiseshell	
Brown	27	BUR n	27e	BUR f
Blue	27a	BUR a	27g	BUR g
Chocolate	27b	BUR b	27h	BUR h
Lilac	27c	BUR c	27j	BUR j
Red	27d	BUR d	-	-
Cream	27f	BUR e	-	-

SIAMESE on the Full Register (CS) - *not* CSREF, CSEXP or CSSR.

	Self		Tortoiseshell		Tabby		Tortie-Tabby	
Seal-point	24	SIA n	32b1	SIA f	32/1	SIA n 21	32t1	SIA f 21
Blue-point	24a	SIA a	32b2	SIA g	32/2	SIA a 21	32t2	SIA g 21
Chocolate-point	24b	SIA b	32b3	SIA h	32/3	SIA b 21	32t3	SIA h 21
Cinnamon-point	24k	SIA o	32b7	SIA q	32/7	SIA o 21	32t7	SIA q 21
Lilac-point	24c	SIA c	32b4	SIA j	32/4	SIA c 21	32t4	SIA j 21
Fawn-point	24r	SIA p	32b9	SIA r	32/9	SIA p 21	32t9	SIA p 21
Red-point	32a	SIA d	-	-	32/5	SIA d 21	-	-
Cream-point	32c	SIA e	-	-	32/6	SIA e 21	-	-
Caramel-point (Blue, Lilac or Fawn based)	24n	SIA m	32b8	SIA k	32/8	SIA m 21	32t8	SIA k 21
Apricot-point (Cream based)	32fn	SIA em	-	-	32/10	SIA em 21	-	-

10. KEEPING THE BREED'S DEVELOPMENT VISIBLE FOR THE FUTURE

It is strongly recommended that breeders inform stud owners of litter details including the number of kittens, colours, coat-patterns and any health problems. This will help stud owners to make more informed choices about accepting queens, and to provide more information for breeders when selecting appropriate studs for their queens.

It is also recommended that the same information be provided to the TBAC for the Tonkinese pedigree database.

Other Breed Registries

Please be aware that cats registered with other Registries (e.g. TICA) may not conform to the requirements of this Breeding Policy.

11. ASSISTANCE FROM THE TONKINESE BAC

The TBAC has produced a Guide for Tonkinese Exhibitors, which, in combination with this Breeding Policy and the Standard of Points, is effectively a Tonkinese blueprint for breeders and exhibitors. These documents are available to download from the Tonkinese BAC web site <https://tonkinesebac.weebly.com/>

If you need help to understand any of the above matters, to understand the Tonkinese Registration Policy, to find the inbreeding co-efficient for a particular cat or you are looking for help with a pedigree please feel free to contact the TBAC. If we are unable to help we will be able to advise you on where help may be found.

If you believe that your Tonkinese has been incorrectly registered by the GCCF registrar you should inform the Tonkinese BAC as soon as possible with copies of supporting documentation (i.e. full pedigree and registration document of the cat in question).

If you would like some help with any of the official Tonkinese documents (Registration Policy, Breeding Policy or Standard of Points, please feel free to contact:

Tonkinese BAC Secretary

tmails@ntlworld.com

See the Tonkinese BAC web site for current details

www.tonkinesebac.weebly.com

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TONKINESE BREED ADVISORY COMMITTEE

www.tonkinesebac.weebly.com

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For further reading on the Tonkinese:

- Tonkinese Cats (ISBN 185279087-3) via Amazon etc.
- Tonkinese Cats – A History (ISBN 978-1-907652-68-4) via www.lindavousden.uk
- Tonkinese Cats At Home – via www.lindavousden.uk
- Tonkinese In Colour – via www.tonkinese.info