



2024 BREED COUNCIL POLL

AMERICAN WIREHAIR

AMERICAN WIREHAIR BREED COUNCIL SECRETARY BALLOT

For the Term May 1, 2025 – April 30, 2027

Please vote for only one candidate.

- ☐ Jan Rogers (Stephenville, TX)
☐ Abstain
-

1. PROPOSED: Add a Color Class for straight-coated cats.

American Wirehair Color Class Numbers

All Championship Wire Coated Colors.....9900 9901

(Wire-coated cats in All all accepted colors and patterns as defined in the standard (including OWC), Show Standards and Other Wirehair Colors and patterns with the exception of those showing evidence of hybridization resulting in the colors chocolate, lavender, the himalayan pattern or these combinations with white, etc.)

Straight Coated Colors.....xxxx xxxx

(Straight-coated cats in all accepted colors and patterns as defined in the standard (including OWC), with the exception of those showing evidence of hybridization resulting in the colors chocolate, lavender, the himalayan pattern or these combinations with white, etc.)

AOV.....9998 9999

RATIONALE: allowing straight coated cats to be shown and earn titles to encourage growth in the breed and the breed council.

YES: _____

NO: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

2. PROPOSED: If #1 passes, amend the General Description, COAT Description and PENALIZE as follows, with no change to the Point Score:

GENERAL: the American Wirehair is a spontaneous mutation. The WIRED coat, which is not only springy, dense, and resilient, but also coarse and hard to the touch, distinguishes the American Wirehair from all other breeds. The STRAIGHT coat variation is dense and thick. Characteristics is are activity, agility, and keen interest in its surroundings. The American Wirehair can be shown in either the wired version or in the straight haired (non-wired version) in the appropriate class.

HEAD: in proportion to the body. Underlying bone structure is round with prominent cheekbones and well-developed muzzle and chin. There is a slight whisker break.

NOSE: in profile the nose shows a gentle concave curve.

MUZZLE: well-developed. Allowance for jowls in adult males.

CHIN: firm and well-developed with no malocclusion.

EARS: medium, slightly rounded at tips, set wide and not unduly open at the base.

EYES: large, rounded, bright, and clear. Set well apart. Aperture has slight upward tilt. The color should reflect intensity, and complement the color of the cat.

BODY: medium to large. Back level, shoulders and hips same width, torso well-rounded and in proportion. Males larger than females.

LEGS: medium in length and bone, well-muscled and proportionate to body.

PAWS: firm, full and rounded, with heavy pads. Toes, five in front and four behind.

TAIL: in proportion to body, tapering from the well-rounded rump to a rounded tip, neither blunt nor pointed.

COAT – Wired coat: springy, tight, medium in length. Individual hairs are crimped, hooked, or bent, including hair within the ears. The overall appearance of wiring and the coarseness and resilience of the coat is more important than the crimping of each hair. The density of the wired coat leads to ringlet formation rather than waves. That coat, which is very dense, resilient, crimped, and coarse, is most desirable, as are curly whiskers.

COAT – Straight coat: Coat is dense and thick. Medium in length but straight haired. Some waves and slight crimping may be visible at base of tail and inside ears, along with curly whiskers.

PENALIZE: deep nose break. Close lying coat.

DISQUALIFY: incorrect coat. Kinked or abnormal tail. Long or fluffy fur. Incorrect number of toes. Evidence of hybridization resulting in the colors chocolate, lavender, the Himalayan pattern, or these combinations with white.

RATIONALE: The standard point allocation stresses to continue to emphasize the coat, wired or straight coated, without differentiating between other aspects of the breed. By giving the straight coated offspring a way to earn titles, improve their status within the breed, there is hope to revitalize the breed.

YES: _____

NO: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

INFORMATION ONLY (Requested by Breeds & Standards Committee):

3. PROPOSED: Should the American Wirehair breed consider becoming a division of the American Shorthair breed, with straight-coated cats being “shown as” American Shorthair? (Note, this same question will be on the American Shorthair ballot).

RATIONALE: The only outcross for the American Wirehair is the American Shorthair. Currently, straight-coated offspring of American Wirehairs can be shown in an AOV Class of American Wirehair, to little effect. If the proposals (#1 and #2) above pass the Breed Council, it would create somewhat of a “look alike” of the American Shorthair. This question is to determine whether there is interest in another option.

YES: _____

NO: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

Ballots must be completed online, or received in CO, by Thursday, December 12, 2024.