

Judge's Profile

Mrs Loraine Smith

A cat owner all my life, I first purchased a pedigree Birman male as a pet in 1985 and became fascinated with the breed. In 1988, I decided to enter the world of cat breeding, and advised by wise and experienced Birman breeders, chose my first entire female to start a breeding program.

After considerable success in showing some of my home-bred Birmans at GCCFV Shows, I fell in love with the look of the Norwegian Forest Cat in a cat encyclopaedia and did extensive research into the breed. When I heard of the first NFCs to be imported into Australia, I purchased one of the first kittens to be born in this country as my entire stud.

As a pioneer of this breed in Victoria, I took much interest in judging standards, principles of breeding, feline medicine, genetics, etc., and was encouraged to try my hand at judging early in 2003, when I was accepted onto the Group 1 Judges' Training Course at the GCCFV.

With many thanks to the able assistance and guidance of my very capable senior judge tutor, Mrs Evelyn Hird, and also judge tutor, Mrs Greta Nyman, I successfully completed this course in 2004 and undertook the required assignments to qualify as a CCCA judge.

Living on two acres in rural Cranbourne has enabled me to expand my cattery and continue to breed both my chosen breeds, so I also wish to thank my loving and (almost always) tolerant husband, Rex, without whose support I would never have been able to indulge myself in my chosen hobbies of cat-breeding and show judging. Thanks are also due, of course, to the GCCFV for allowing me the chance to train and qualify as a Group 1 Judge.

