



Neva Masquerade

General Standard

The Neva Masquerade is an ancient breed now believed to have been ancestral to all modern longhaired cats including both the Angora and the Persian. The overall impression should be a cat of great strength and size with excellent physical tone. This large and impressive cat has a distinctive semi-long, dense triple coat of sculptured appearance, and a thick, densely covered tail, with no trailing hairs. Tail should have a rounded or blunt tip. This is a cat of circles or roundness, rather than angular features. Males are generally larger than females.

Head	Slightly longer than broad, softly rounded, massive. The forehead is broad, just slightly rounded. In profile, there is a slight indentation, but no nose break or stop.
Ears	Medium size, well open at the base. Tips are rounded with well-developed hairs inside and tufts. The placement must show good width between the ears, which should tilt slightly forward
Eyes	Large slightly oval shaped, wide apart, set slightly obliquely.
Nose	Medium length and broad. The profile shows a slight indentation, but without a stop
Cheeks	Well-developed and rounded. High set
Jaws	Wide at the hinge, strong and gently rounded
Chin	Of good depth and slightly sloping back, in profile, creating a curve from the upper line of the nose.
Neck	Well-muscled, medium length and in proportion to the body
Body	Strong boned, broad chest, well-muscled of medium length, back carried slightly rounded. Body in proportion to create a rectangular appearance.
Legs	Strong, medium high to form a rectangle with the body.
Paws	Large, round and well tufted between toes
Tail	Long and thick, with a rounded tip. Covered on all sides by dense hair with no hairs trailing down
Condition	Excellent muscular condition is required. The coat is not presented like a Persian. Temperament - See List of Faults to Precede All Pedigreed Cat Standards List of Faults .

Scale of Points

Head (incl. shape, nose, profile & chin)	25	
Ears (incl. size, shape & placement)	10	
Eyes (incl shape & size)	5	40
Body (incl. shape, size, legs & paws)	20	
Tail (length & shape)	10	
Coat (quality, length & texture)	25	
Condition	5	60
Total		100

Faults & Penalties

Refer to general list of faults for all breeds plus:

Penalise:

- Fine boning or small build.
- Head round, long or narrow.
- Straight profile.
- Round eyes.
- Large ears or set too high.
- Thin long legs.
- Short tail.
- Coat fine, silky or lying flat.
- Out of coat except in summer.

Withhold:

- Any clearly expressed signs of Persian type.

Coat & Colour

Coat Length & Texture	Semi long, well developed. Very dense undercoat, not lying flat. Overcoat water repellent, slightly hard to touch. Guard hairs are solid, glossy. The Russians refer to this coat as being triple coated with hairs being of near equal length. A fully coated cat has well- developed shirtfront, a full frill and britches. The hair may thicken to curls on the underbelly and britches. Summer coat is distinctly shorter and less dense than the winter coat. Kittens can take up to 6 months to develop guard hairs.
Coat Colour & Pattern	Pointed pattern in all recognised point colours, with the exception of, chocolate, lilac, cinnamon, fawn, caramel and apricot. Note: Pointed pattern with white permitted.
Eye Colour	Blue.
Nose Leather, paw pads and eye rims	Appropriate to the point colour.

Breeding Notes

Allowable Outcross

Siberian

Notes

None

Standard Updates

March 2023 – Standard reformatted. This reformatted standard includes all previous updates and amendments.

For information on previous standard updates and amendments, please see the Register of Breed Standards Updates on the CCCA website or contact the CCCA Secretary.

19 November 2023 - "Foundation" section removed as this was not approved for inclusion in the reformatted standard.

23 August 2024 – NOTE regarding offspring from Neva Masquerade not being used in a Siberian program removed.

30 November 2024 – Removal of Temperament description as Temperament is now item k in the List of Faults to Precede All Pedigreed Cat Standards.