

# Greater City Aquarium Society

## Breeders Award Program

The purpose of the Breeders Award Program (BAP) is to give our members the opportunity to gain enjoyment as well as experience in the entire range of fish breeding and maintenance. Questions about the BAP should be referred to any member of the GCAS Board of Directors.

The program has two divisions: the Basic Program and Specialty Program. The Basic Program has five recognized levels; Breeder, Advanced Breeder, Master Breeder, Grand Master Breeder and Senior Grand Master Breeder and classifies fish as to the degree of difficulty and respective point value. Additional levels may be created, if necessary at the 1,000 point level and beyond, as required. The Specialty Program, however, does not recognize point value and only recognizes mastery in one specific category of fish.

### THE BASIC PROGRAM LEVELS

<b>Breeder</b> .....	<b>50 points</b>
(At least 20 points must be from the 10, 15 or 20 point categories)	
<b>Advanced Breeder</b> .....	<b>100 points</b>
(At least 40 points must be from the 10, 15 or 20 point categories)	
<b>Master Breeder</b> .....	<b>300 points</b>
(At least 30 points from each of the 5, 10 and 15 point categories, and, 40 points Accumulated from the 20 point category. 170 points may be from any category.)	
<b>Grand Master Breeder</b> .....	<b>500 points</b>
<b>Senior Grand Master Breeder</b> .....	<b>800 points</b>

### POINT CLASSIFICATION

#### **ANABANTOIDS**

5 points – none

10 points – All species not listed otherwise.

15 points – All *Macropodus* except *opercularis*, all *Betta* except *splendens* and *macrostoma*, all *Belontia*, all *Trichopsis* and *Helostoma*.

20 points – *Osphronemus gourami*, all *Sphaerichthys* and *Betta macrostoma*.

#### **CATFISH**

5 points – none

10 points – *Corydoras aeneus* and *paleatus* (including albino forms.)

15 points – All *Ancistrus*, *Aspidoras*, *Brochis*, *Dianema*, *Hoplosternum* and "Whiptail" *Loricariids* and all *Corydoras* not already listed.

20 points - All species not listed otherwise.

\* **Please note** : effective January, 2014, all C-, CW- and L- number catfish will be awarded BAP points in the same manner as catfish that have been identified with a Genus and Species name, including all defined First Time Spawning Bonus points listed in this document.

## CHARACINS

5 points – none

10 points – All Emperor Tetras.

15 points – All species not listed otherwise.

20 points – *Exodon paradoxus*, *Hyphessobrycon herbertaxelrodi*, all members of the “Hatchet Fish” complex, all *Prochilodus* complex, all *Anostomus*, *Paracheirodon axelrodi*, all *Phenacogrammus*, all *Serrasalminae* including *Metynnis*, *Myleus* and *Serrasalmus*.

## CICHLIDS

5 points – *Cichlasoma nigrofasciatus* and *Herotilapia multispinosa*.

10 points – All species not listed otherwise.

15 points – All Lake Tanganyika Cichlids not listed otherwise, “Red Devil” complex, all *Etroplus*, all *Apistogramma* complex (*Apistogramma*, *Apistogrammoides*, *Nannacara*,) all *Geophagus*, all Lake Victoria Cichlids, *Haplochromis moori*.

20 points – All *Symphysodon*, all *Uaru*, all *Crenicara*, *Astronotus ocellatus* (all color forms,) all Lake Tanganyika mouth brooders except *Tropheus* and *Tilapia*, *Cichlasoma* group *Parapetinia* (except *salvini* and *trimaculatum*,) all Madagascar cichlids.

## CYPRINIDS

5 points – *Tanichthys albonubes*, all *Danio* complex, all Australian Rainbows (except *Pseudomagil*.)

10 points – All species not listed otherwise.

15 points – *Barbus nigrofasciatus*, *Barbus semifasciatus*, all *Rasboras*.

20 points – *Barbus schwanfeldi*, all Cyprinid “Shark” complex, Koi.

## KILLIFISH

Due to the spawning habits of killifish, all species of killifish to be bred must be reported to the BAP Committee Chair prior to spawning so that proper witnessing techniques may be applied. All spawnings must be reported so that the date may be recorded.

5 points – *Aphyosemion australe*\* and *gardneri*\*, all *Oryzias*, *Aplo. Panchax*, *Epiplatys dageti*\* and *sexfasciatus*\*, all *Rivulis* not listed otherwise.

10 points – All species not listed otherwise.

15 points – All annuals except *Nothobranchius guentheri* and those not listed otherwise, *Fundulopanchax sjoestedii*, *Pseudoepiplatys annulatus*, *Aphyosemion* “Diapteron” complex, all *Procatopus*, *Lamprichthys tanganicanus*.

20 points – *Cynolebias dolichopterus*, *Nothobranchius rachovii*\*, *Pterolebias zonatus*, *Rivulis xiphidius*.

(\* = all color forms)

## LIVEBEARERS

5 points – All species not listed otherwise.

10 points – All *Goodeidae* complex, all *Belonesox*.

15 points – All livebearing Halfbeaks.

20 points – *Anableps anableps*.

## **ALL OTHER SPECIES**

5 points – None.

10 points – *Badis badis*, all Sticklebacks, Peacock Gudgeon (*Tateurnida ocellicauda*.)

15 points - All species not listed otherwise.

20 points – *Scatophagus argus*, all *Monodactylus*, all Loaches, all Eels, all *Mormyrids*, all Lungfish complex, all freshwater Stingrays, Dogfish and Sawfish, all freshwater and brackish Puffers, all Arrowanas, Bowfins, *Arapaima*, Snakeheads, Mudskippers.

**The C.A.R.E.S. Preservation program:** the Greater City Aquarium Society supports this program. As a symbol of our support, any fish that is part of the C.A.R.E.S. program and is bred as part of the GCAS BAP will receive an additional 10 points. It is the responsibility of the breeder to notify the BAP Committee that the species that has been bred is part of the C.A.R.E.S. program. The committee will verify that fact and award the bonus points.

## **First Time Spawning Bonus Points**

1<sup>st</sup> time within GCAS ..... Additional 10 points.

1<sup>st</sup> time within the U.S.A. .... Additional 50 points\*.

1<sup>st</sup> time in hobby ..... Additional 100 points\*.

\* You must write an article and have it published in an established periodical.

For first breeder points the fish must be identified by both genus and species. At the discretion of the BAP Committee Chair first GCAS breeder points may be given for a fish that has not been bred at GCAS for a period of no less than 10 years.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **SPECIES:**

Points are awarded only once for each species or subspecies. "Mollies" area genus which contains several species: *Poecilia latipinna*, *P. spheonops* and *P. verifera*. Being separate and distinct species, these are awarded separate point values; whereas the different color varieties of the common Molly are not.

Gold, Silver, Ghost, Marble, Black, Black Lace, Blushing, Veiltail, etc., Angelfish are all members of one species *Pterophyllum scalare*. If you spawn *Pterophyllum altum* or *P. dumerili*, these are separate species. A location or color morph variation, likewise, will not be considered a new species nor awarded first breeder points.

### **CHANGES IN POINT VALUE:**

From time to time the point value for a species may be changed due to new experience or conditions. If the number of points is increased, the new point value will go into effect immediately. Should a point value be decreased, a cut-off date will be announced which gives sufficient time to allow breeders who are in the process of qualifying to complete their work. No point increase or decrease shall be retroactive from the date of that change.

## **BASIC PROGRAM AWARDS**

Breeder's Award Committee certificates will be presented to every individual for a successfully completed and witnessed spawning. Distinctive certificates will be issued for the Breeder and plaques or trophies for the Advanced Breeder, Master Breeder, Grand Master Breeder and Senior Grand Master Breeder.

To qualify for an award, the following rules for the correct witnessing procedure must be observed:

### **Witnessing**

- 1) Fry are to be witnessed as soon as possible after they are free swimming.
  - A. Eggs must be spawned by the Breeder's own fish
  - B. If witnessed in the breeder's tank, the witness must see the breeding pair.
- 2) The aquarist must raise at least 10 fry to 60 days of age (60 days after free spawning for egg layers,) except for species as may be, from time to time, designated and approved by the Board of Governors. These fry must be brought to a meeting and presented for witnessing.

When an aquarist wishes to have a witness verify fry, he/she should contact a member of the B.A.P. committee or the Board of Governors, who will then designate or suggest a suitable witness. Note that all members of the B.A.P. committee and of the Board of Governors may be witnesses.

Breeders will supply the form which is to be the official record for the Breeders Award. It is the Breeder's responsibility to be sure that all information is complete and that all signatures are properly entered. The completed form will then be taken to the B.A.P. Chairman.

## **THE SPECIALTY PROGRAM**

**Please note:** Effective this BAP update, dated September, 2015, the Specialty Program has been discontinued. The rules have been kept in this document in the event that the Specialty Program is re-activated in the future.

In the Specialty Program, point values are not counted. However, the same requirements must be met as in the Breeder's Award Program for each class of fish. For example, if, as part of an effort to achieve the Catfish Specialist Award, you spawn *Corydoras aeneas* (a 10 point fish,) you must abide by the requirements of notifying a witness, 10 fry minimum, etc. If all the requirements are met, the fish is then eligible in both programs.

## **SPECIALITY PROGRAM AWARDS**

Awards in the Specialty Program are given to each participant upon fulfilling the requirements for certification in a class. The following Specialist awards are also given:

<b>Senior Specialist Award</b> .....	<b>4 Classes</b>
<b>Expert Specialist Award</b> .....	<b>7 Classes</b>

Here is a list of classes in the Specialty Program and the requirements that must be met for certification in each class:

<b>Class</b>	<b># of Species Required</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Anabantoids	4	
Cichlids (Old World)	8	No more than 4 species may be mouth brooders
Cichlids (New World)	8	
Characins	4	
Catfish <i>Aspidoras</i> or <i>Brochis</i>	4	1 species must be other than <i>Corydoras</i> ,
Livebearers	8	
Cyprinids	8	1 species must be other than a 5 point fish
Killifish	7	At least 2 species must be Annuals

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Questions about the BAP should be referred to BAP Chairperson Joe Graffagnino ([joeGraffagnino@yahoo.com](mailto:joeGraffagnino@yahoo.com)).