

# Greater City Aquarium Society

## Breeders Award Program

As of August, 2019

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 BAP Chairperson Joseph Graffagnino ([joeGraffagnino@yahoo.com](mailto:joeGraffagnino@yahoo.com)). The BAP program and forms are available on the Greater City website ([www.GreaterCity.net](http://www.GreaterCity.net) in the Contact page).

The program has two divisions: the Basic Program and Specialty Program. The Basic Program has seven recognized levels; Breeder, Advanced Breeder, Master Breeder, Grand Master Breeder, Senior Grand Master Breeder, Advanced Grand Master Breeder and Senior Grand Master Breeder. The Basic Program classifies fish as to the degree of difficulty and respective point value. Additional levels may be created if necessary.

The Specialty Program is designed to recognize mastery in one, or more, 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>
<b>Advanced Grand Master Breeder</b> .....	<b>1,200 points</b>
<b>Advanced Senior Grand Master Breeder</b> .....	<b>2,000 points</b>

### POINT CLASSIFICATION

#### **ANABANTOIDS**

- 5 points – none
- 10 points – All species not listed otherwise.
- 15 points – All *Macropodus* except *opercularis*, all *Betta splendens* and species not listed otherwise, all *Belontia*, all *Trichopsis* and *Helostoma*.
- 20 points – *Ctenopoma* & *Microctenopoma* species, *Macropodus opercularis*, *Osphronemus gourami*, all *Sphaerichthys* and *Betta foerschi*, *gladiator*, *hendra* and *macrostoma*.
  - **Prohibited in NYS are all *Channa* species (Snakeheads) and *Parachanna* species (African snakeheads) and *Clarias batrachus* species (Walking Catfish).**

#### **BRACKISH WATER**

- 5 points – none
- 10 points – none
- 15 points – none
- 20 points – All species, to include *Archiris* species, Archer fish, *Brachygobius* (bumblebee goby) species, monos, mudskippers, puffers, and scats.
  - **Prohibited in NYS are *Neogobius melanostomus* (Round Goby) and *Proterorhinus marmoratus* (Tubenose Goby), *Tinca tinca* (Tench/Doctor fish).**

## 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 algae eaters, and other species not listed otherwise.

\* **Please note** : 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 NEW WORLD

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

10 points – All species not listed otherwise.

15 points – *Herichthys*, Central American and South American species unless otherwise noted.

20 points – All *Symphysodon*, *Uaru*, *Crenicara*, *Pterophyllum altum*, all *Retroculus*, *Taeniacara*, *Tahuantinsuyoa* and *Teleocichla* species, and all Madagascar cichlids.

## CICHLIDS OLD WORLD

5 points – None

10 points – All Lake Victoria cichlids, Lake Malawi cichlids

15 points – All Lake Tanganyika Cichlids and West African species, all *Etroplus*, all Lake Cameroon type cichlids.

20 points – None

## CYPRINIDS

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

10 points – All species not listed otherwise.

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

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

- **Prohibited in NYS are All types of *Hypophthalmichthys* species and *Mylopharyngodon piceus* (Carp), *Tinca tinca* (Tench/Doctor fish).**

## KILLIFISH

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

10 points – All species not listed otherwise.

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

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

\* Means all color, types and location 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*.

- **Prohibited in NYS are *Gambusia affinis* (Western Mosquitofish) and *Gambusia holbrooki* (Eastern Mosquitofish)**

## MARINE FISH

5 points – none

10 points – none

15 points – none

20 points – Any true salt water fish species.

- **Prohibited in NYS are *Petromysus marinus* (Sea Lamprey).**

## ALL OTHER SPECIES

5 points – None.

10 points – All Sticklebacks, Peacock Gudgeon (*Tateornida ocellicauda*)

15 points – Leaf fish and all species not listed otherwise.

20 points – All *Badidae*, *Dario* and *Nandus* species, *Scatophagus argus*, all *Monodactylus*, all Loaches, all Eels, knife, ghost, elephant nose species, all *Mormyrids*, all Lungfish complex, all freshwater Stingrays, Dogfish and Sawfish, all Arowanas, Bowfins, *Arapaima*.

- **Prohibited in NYS are *Misgurnus anguillicaudatus* (Weather Loach), *Proterorhinus semilunaris* (Western Tubenose Goby), *Petromysus marinus* (Sea Lamprey).**

**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 ***Modern Aquarium***.

For first breeder points the fish must be identified by both genus and species.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

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

### **SPECIES:**

Points are awarded only once for each species or subspecies. "Mollies" are a genus which contains several species: *Poecilia latipinna*, *P. sphenops* 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 will likewise 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 scientific discoveries or species rarity, or difficulty in fry maintenance. 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, Senior Grand Master Breeder, Advanced Grand Master Breeder and Advanced 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 after they are free swimming and are at least 60 days old.
  - 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 (The fry must be brought to a meeting and presented for witnessing, or the breeder must present a video of the 2 month old fry that show at least 10 fry, or a high-quality photograph with a clear identification of 10 fry of that species, or at the breeders location of spawn by an approved witness.

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 given to the B.A.P. Chairperson.

## THE SPECIALTY PROGRAM

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.

## SPECIALTY 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:

**Senior Specialist Award** ..... **4 Classes**  
**Expert Specialist Award** ..... **7 Classes**

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

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