

# **NORTH JERSEY AQUARIUM SOCIETY BREEDERS AWARD PROGRAM**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The North Jersey Aquarium Society (NJAS) Breeders Award Program is established with several goals in mind. They are as follows:

1. To recognize the achievements of NJAS breeders.
2. To promote NJAS member involvement in breeding fishes and other aquatic organisms.
3. To gather and disseminate information on breeding.
4. To make fish available to NJAS members.
5. To improve availability of selected species from time to time by providing incentives to members.

The program has two basic divisions, the Basic program and the Specialty program. The basic program has six recognized levels (Breeder, Advanced Breeder, Expert Breeder, Master Breeder and the Rosario LaCorte Award and the Dean Majorino Award). Fish are classified as to degree of difficulty by point value. The Specialty program is based upon the number of species bred and the number of spawns within a category. There are sixteen categories within the Specialty program. These are: Anabantids; Cichlids; (old world); Cichlids (new world); Characins; Catfish; Livebearers; Cyprinidids; Goldfish and Koi; Killifish; Marine; North American Natives; Botias, Eels and Loaches; Invertebrates; Odd Balls; Rainbow Fish; and Amphibians.

## **THE BASIC PROGRAM**

The Basic Program has the following levels:

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Breeder .....                                | 75 points   |
| (At least 50 points must be 5 or 10 point fish) |             |
| 2. Advanced Breeder.....                        | 150 points  |
| 3. Expert Breeder .....                         | 300 points  |
| 4. Master Breeder .....                         | 500 points  |
| 5. Rosario La Corte Award .....                 | 1000 points |
| 6. Dean Majorino Award .....                    | 1500 points |

Aquarists must spawn and raise at least 6 fry to 60 days of age (60 days after hatching for egg layers). The BAP Chairman or a member of NJAS Board of Directors must witness these fish after they are 60 days of age. This must be done at a general membership meeting or at one of the annual functions (fish show, work shop, etc) where an auction will take place. A BAP data sheet must be filled out and submitted. The breeder must put at least 6 of the 60 day old (or older) fish into the auction. The breeder can donate the fish to the auction or he may choose to receive 50% of the auction price.

**NO POINTS ARE AWARDED UNLESS THE FISH ARE PUT UP FOR AUCTION.**

For 15, 20 and 25 point fish, the breeder will be awarded five points less (10, 15 and 20 points) until writing an article describing in detail the spawning procedures for publication in the "Reporter". There will be no time limit for submission of the article. Articles worth five points may be written for five and ten point fish at any time if approved by the BAP chairman and the "Reporter" editor.

Alternately, the breeder may make an oral presentation accompanied by slides, video or other visual aids at a general membership meeting or at a society function (fish show, workshop).

Articles must be at least one page in length for a single species and at least 1½ pages for two related species. If help is needed in writing the article, a BAP committee member or an officer of the club will provide a ghostwriter.

### ADDITIONAL NOTES

Points are awarded only once for any species.

Hybrids are not allowed. It is strongly recommended that Rift Lake cichlids be housed as single species groups and not in community groups of different species.

Following a successful spawning, it is the breeders' own responsibility to see that his points have been properly recorded.

In the event of any confusion in the identification of a fish in a complex of similar fishes, reference to a published photograph must be made for each member of the complex in order to get credit for that species. In the event no published photograph exists, a color photograph shall be taken and filed with the BAP data form. In the event of a disagreement as to the identity of the fish spawned, the decision of the BAP Committee shall be final regarding the awarding of points.

The genus and species schedules provide guidelines for the scoring of points. It is impossible, however to assign specific points to every species available in the hobby. New fish are constantly being imported and introduced to the hobby. Name changes and trivial names add further to the confusion.

The BAP Chairman will make every effort to assign points on a fair and equitable basis. For this purpose, he may consult aquarists, experts and the literature for advice. In addition, a detailed and comprehensive data sheet is essential for evaluating fish.

Any participant may request a point consultation with the BAP chairman to discuss points awarded.

The similarity between related species when juvenile fish are involved may require further growth beyond 60 days before verification.

Point assignments will be reviewed periodically by the BAP committee.

**THE NJAS BAP PROGRAM DOES NOT ACCEPT POINTS OR CREDITS EARNED FROM PARTICIPATION IN ANOTHER BAP PROGRAM.**

Point Classification of Fishes Spawned

Five (5) Points:

Belontiidae – Betta (splendens, imbellis, smaragdina); Macropodus (opercularis, concolor); Trichogaster (pectoralis, trichopterus).

Callichthyidae – Corydoras (aeneus, paleatus).

Centrarchidae – any Elasmobranch spp.

Characidae – Astyanax mexicanus, Hemigrammus (unilineatus, caudovittatus);  
Gymnocorymbus ternetzi.

Cichlidae – Aequidens pulcher, Bujurquina paraguayensis, Cichlasoma (amazonarum, bimaculatum, portalegrense); Geophagus (brasiliensis, steindachneri); Heros (nigrofasciatus, apilurus); Herotilapia multispinosa, Nannacara anomala, Etroplus maculatus, any extra-Malawian Haplochromis spp. not listed elsewhere, any Pseudocrenilabrus spp., any mouthbrooding tilapias not listed elsewhere and Iodotropheus sprengerae.

Cyprinidae – Any Danio and Brachydanio spp., Tanichthys albonubes, Barbus (conchonius, semifasciatus); and Rasbora trilineata.

Cyprinodontidae – Aphysemon (australe, gardneri, scheeli); any Aplocheilichthys spp., Epiplatys (chaperi, dageti, sexfasciatus); Lucania (goodie, parva); Pachypanchax playfairi and any Rivulus spp. not listed elsewhere.

Goodeidae – Ameioba splendens, Ilyodon spp., Xenotoca eiseni.

Invertebrates – Snails of the genera Ampullaria, Vivipara, Campeloma, Melanoides, and Marisa.

Melanotaenidae – Any Australian rainbow not listed elsewhere.

Oryziatidae – Any Oryzias spp. not listed elsewhere.

Poeciliidae – Any poeiliid not listed elsewhere.

Ten (10) Points:

Ameuridae: Any Ameiurus spp.

Anablepidae: Jenynsia bilineata.

Atherinidae: Telmatherina ladigesii.

Badiidae: Badis Badis.

Bedotiidae: Bedotia Gaeyi.

Belontiidae: Any Colisa spp., any Macropodus spp. unless listed elsewhere, Trichogaster (microlepis, leeri) any Belontia spp., any Betta spp. unless listed elsewhere.

Callichthyidae: Any Aspidoras, Brochis and Corydorus spp. unless listed elsewhere, any Callichthys and Hoplosternum spp. unless listed elsewhere.

Centrarchidae: Any Enneacanthus spp.

Characidae: Any species not listed elsewhere.

Cichlidae: Any Aequidens, Apistogramma, Apistogrammoides, Bujurquina, Cichlasoma, Laetacara and Papiliochromis spp. unless listed elsewhere, Geophagus surinamensis, any Mesonauta spp., Pterophyllum scalare, any Heros of the subgenera Archocentrus, Thorichthys, Herichthys, and Heros unless listed elsewhere, Heros facetus, H. autochthon and H. oblongus, any Hypselacara spp., unless listed elsewhere. Neetroplus nematopus, all Hemichromis spp. unless listed elsewhere. Anomalochromis thomasi, Thysia ansorgii, any substratum-spawning tilapias unless listed elsewhere. Steatocranus casuarius, any Astatoreochromis spp., Haplochromis bakongo, H. polli, H. horei and Lake Victoria haplochromines unless listed elsewhere, Pelvichromis pulcher, any Lamprologus, Chalinochromis, Julidochromis and Telmatochromis spp. unless listed elsewhere, any mbuna spp., unless listed elsewhere.

Cyprinidae: Any *Barbus* spp. unless listed elsewhere, *Rhodeus amarus*, *R. ocellatus*, any *Esomus* spp., any *Pimephales* spp., *Cyprinus carpio* (nishiki-goi), *Carassius auratus* (goldfish), *Notropis hypselopterus*, *N. signipinnis* and *N. lutrensis*.

Cyprinodontidae: Any non-annual killifish unless listed elsewhere. *Cynolebias whitei*, *C. nigripinnis*, *C. alexandrii*.

Gobiidae: Any *Brachygobius* and *Morgunda* spp., *Tateurina ocellicauda*. Any species not listed elsewhere.

Helostomatidae: *Helostoma temmincki*.

Hemiramphidae: Any *Dermogenys* spp.

Invertebrates: Any freshwater crustaceans unless listed elsewhere.

Lebiasinidae: *Copella arnoldi*, *Copeina guttata*.

Loricariidae: Any *Ancistrus* and *Rhineloricaria* spp. unless listed elsewhere.

Melanotaeniidae: Any *Pseudomugil* spp.

Nandidae: *Polycentrus schomburgki*.

Percidae: Any egg-scattering and cave-spawning *Etheostoma* spp.

Poeciliidae: Any *Brachyrhaphis*, *Gambusia*, *Poeciliopsis*, and *Priapichthys* spp., *Belonesox belizanus*, any *Priapella* and *Carlhubbisia* spp.

Fifteen (15) Points:

Alestidae: Any species bred to date in captivity.

Ameiuridae: Any *Noturus* spp. bred to date in captivity.

Amphiliidae: *Phractura clauseni*.

Anabantidae: *Anabas testudineus*, any *Ctenopoma* species bred to date in captivity.

Anablepidae: Any *Anableps* spp.

Apogonidae: Any *Glossamia* spp.

Bagridae: *Mystus micracanthus*, *Lophiobagrus cyclurus*, *Phyllonemus typus*.

Belonidae: *Xenentodon cancellata*.

Belontiidae: Any *Parosphronemus* and *Sphaerichthys* spp. bred to date in captivity, *Betta macrostoma*, *Malpulutta kretseri*.

Callichthyidae: Any *Dianema* spp. bred to date in captivity, *Corydorus adolfoi*, *ambiacus*, *leopardus*, *metae*, *panda*, *reticulates*, *robinae* and *trietlii*.

Centrarchidae: Any species unless listed elsewhere.

Chandidae: Any species bred to date in captivity.

Characidae: *Hyphessobrycon herbertaxelrodi*, *H. pulchripinnis*, *Hemigrammas erythrozonus*, *Petitella georgiae*, any *Paracheirodon* and *Megalampodus* spp., *Moenkhausia pitteri*, *Inpaichthys kerri*, any *Nematobrycon* spp., *Boehlkea fredcochui*.

Cichlidae: *Acaronia nassa*, any representatives of the *Aequidens rivulatus* species complex, *Apistogramma nijseni*, *Taeniacara candidi*, *Astronotus ocellatus*, *Biotodoma cupido*, *B. wavrini*, *Biotoecus opercularis*, any *Crenicara* and *Crenichichla* bred to date in captivity, any *Geophagus* spp., unless listed elsewhere, any *Satanoperca* spp. bred to date in captivity. *Gymnogeophagus australis*, *G. cf. australis* and *G. rhabdotus*, any *Heros* of the subgenera *Amphilophus*, *Caquetaia*, *Hoplarchus*, *Nandopsis*, *Paraneetroplus* and *Theraps* unless listed elsewhere, *Etroplus suratensis*, *Hemichromis fasciatus*, *H. elongates* and *H. frempongi*, any *Chromidotilapia*, *Steatocranus*, *Nanochromis*, *Pelvicachromis* spp. unless listed elsewhere, *Tilapia joka*, *T. buettikofferi*, any mouthbrooding Lake Tanganyika cichlids unless listed elsewhere, any mouthbrooding tilapias endemic to Lakes Malawi and Tanganyika, *Pseudotropheus elongates*, *P. lucerna*, *P. tursiops*, *P. crabro*, *P. "ornatus"*, *Melanochromis "lepidophage"* and *Genychromis mento*, any haplichromine cichlids endemic to Lake Malawi unless listed elsewhere.

Cobitiidae: Any *Pangiophthalmus* and *Misgurnas* spp. bred to date in captivity.

Cyprinidae: Any *Rasbora* and *Notropis* spp. unless listed elsewhere. Any bitterling species not listed elsewhere, any *Abramis*, *Scardinius*, *Rutilus*, *Phoxinus*, and *Tinca* spp., *Zacco platypus*.

Cyprinodontidae: Any annual killifish unless listed elsewhere, any lampeyes (subfamily *Procatopodinae*), *Lamprichthys tanganicus*, *Adamas formosus*, *Aphyosemion* spp. of the *A. fulgens* group, *Aphyoplatys duboisi*, *Rivulaus xiphidius*, *Oxyzygo nectes dovii*.

Distichodontidae: Any *Neolebias* and *Nannaeithiops* spp. bred to date in captivity.

Embiotocidae: *Hysterocarpus traski*.

Gasteropelecidae: Any species not listed elsewhere.

Goodeidae: Any Characodon, Skiffia and Xenoophorus spp.

Hemiramphidae: Any Nomorhamphus spp.

Invertebrates: Any Macrobrachium spp. bred to date in captivity.

Lebiasinidae: Any species not listed elsewhere.

Loricariidae: Any Otocinclus, Parotocinclus, Hypoptopoma, Sturisoma, Sturosomatichthys, Farlowella, Hypostomus or Pterygoplichthys bred to date in captivity.

Luciocephalidae: Luciocephalus pulcher.

Melanotaeniidae: Iriatherina weneri, any Popondetta and Rhadinocentrus spp.

Nanidae: Any species not listed elsewhere.

Percichthyidae: Any species not listed elsewhere.

Percidae: Any egg-burying Etheostoma spp., any Ammocrypta and Percina spp.

Poeciliidae: Any species of the genera Plectrophallus, Xenodexia and Scolichthys, Poecilia picta and P. branneri.

Schilbeidae: Eutropiellus vanderweyeri.

Theraponidae: Any species bred to date in captivity.

Tomeuriidae: Tomeurus gracilis.

Umbridae: Any species not listed elsewhere.

Twenty (20) Points:

Apteronotidae: Any species bred to date in captivity.

Aspredinidae: Any species bred to date in captivity.

Auchenipteridae: Any species bred to date in captivity.

Characidae: Any Chalceus spp. bred to date in captivity.

Cichlidae: *Chaetobranchopsis australis*, *Pterophyllum altum*, *P. leopoldi*, *Symphysodon aequifasciata*, *S. discus*, *Uaru amphiacanthoides*, *Teleogramma brichardi*, *Cyathopharynx furcifer*, any *Cunningtonia*, *Optahlotilapia*, *Callochromis* and *Xenotilapia* spp. bred to date in captivity.

Curimatidae: Any species bred to date in captivity.

Gobiidae: Any species bred to date in captivity, unless listed elsewhere.

Gymnotidae: Any species bred to date in captivity.

Mochokidae: Any species bred to date in captivity.

Mormyridae: Any species bred to date in captivity.

Pantodontidae: *Pantodon buchholzi*.

Serrasalminidae: Any species bred to date in captivity.

Synganthidae: Any species bred to date in captivity.

Twenty-Five (25) Points:

Any fish or invertebrate **NOT** bred to date under aquarium conditions.



## THE SPECIALTY PROGRAM

The following is a list of categories and certification requirements in each category.

Category	Number of Species Required	Number of Spawns Required	Notes
Anabantids	7	14	
Cichlids – old world	10	20	1
Cichlids – new world	10	20	
Characins	8	16	
Catfish	6	12	2
Livebearers	8	16	3
Cyprinids	8	16	
Goldfish or Koi	2	6	
Killifish	8	16	4
Marine	3	6	5
N. American Native	4	8	6
Botias, Loaches and Eels	2	4	
Invertebrates	6	12	7
Odd Balls	2	4	8
Rainbow Fish	5	10	9
Amphibians	2	4	

Note 1 – Two (2) species must be other than Rift Lake Cichlids and no more than six (6) species may be mouthbrooders.

Note 2 – One (1) species must be other than Corydoras and/or Brochis.

Note 3 – Two (2) species must be other than Poecileids.

Note 4 – At least two (2) species must be soil spawners.

Note 5 – Only **true** marine varieties.

Note 6 – Habitat must be north of the Rio Grande. Only one (1) species may be a killie.

Note 7 – Two (2) species must be other than snails.

Note 8 – Gobies, Gudgeons, Tongues, Cartilages.

Note 9 – One species other than Melanotaenia.

In the specialty program, although point values are not counted, the same requirements must be met as in the Basic Program for each class of fish. Whatever is required of the aquarist to gain credit for a 5, 10, 15, 20 or 25 point fish in the Basic Program is also a requirement for receiving credit in the Specialty Program. Including the fish in an auction, writing an article, or both is also required in the Specialty Program.

For killifish and other continuous spawners, the eggs laid or fry expelled during a ten (10) day period will be considered a spawn. A maximum of three (3) spawns per species may be reported.

If a species of fish qualifies in more than one category, the aquarist will select the category in which to record the spawn. This decision is final and the spawn may not be reclassified at a later date. Subsequent spawns may be recorded in other appropriate categories.

Awards will be given to each participant as they achieve the certification in each category. In addition the following special awards will be given:

<b><u>AWARD</u></b>	<b><u>CRITERIA</u></b>
Advanced Specialist	- Certification in three (3) Categories.
Senior Specialist	- Certification in five (5) Categories.
Expert Specialist	- Certification in (7) Categories.
Master Specialist	- Certification in (9) Categories.
Grand Master Specialist	- Certification in (11) Categories.

In addition to all the previously mentioned awards in both the Basic and Specialty Programs, the BAP committee may from time to time recommend that a breeder be honored with the Grand Coup Award. This award may be recommended by the BAP committee and awarded by a vote of the NJAS Board of Directors for any outstanding or noteworthy accomplishment in the realm of fish breeding.

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