

Raleigh Aquarium Society Breeder Awards Program Rules

Section 1 – Purpose

- Promote the breeding of aquarium fish and invertebrates
- Increase the availability of rare or hard to obtain species
- Recognize individual achievements in breeding
- Encourage research into spawning difficult species
- Share spawning techniques with club members
- Preserve genetic quality

Section 2 – Awards

- The BAP 12 month award season runs from November 16 to November 15
 - The participant’s BAP point process for a species must be completed by 11:59pm EST on November 15 to count for the current BAP year
 - All program awards are presented at the December club meeting
- Point Level Breeder Awards
 - Points are awarded for the successful spawning and raising of each species
 - The more difficult to maintain, spawn, and raise the fry, the higher the point value
 - Awards are earned by achieving a specified number of points
 - There is no time-limit to progress from level to level
 - Points do not expire

Breeder Award Level

Points

Grand Master Breeder	1500
Distinguished Master Breeder	1000
Master Breeder	750
Expert Breeder	500
Advanced Breeder	300
Intermediate Breeder	150
Breeder	50

- Breeder of the Year Award
 - The award is earned by achieving the highest number of points during the BAP season
- Specialty Awards
 - Awards are earned by achieving a specified number of verified spawns for a specific category of animal

Section 3 – Rules and Process for Point Level Awards

- Rules
 - Participant points are awarded after successfully breeding a species of fish or invertebrate and completing the program activity requirement
 - Successful breeding is defined as raising six offspring to the age of sixty days beyond the date they are actively foraging and eating.
 - For egg-laying species, the eggs must be laid in the participant's own tank
 - For live-bearing species fry must be birthed in the participant's own tank
 - Fish submitted for points must be from a single spawn
 - For continuous spawners and colony breeding, the eggs laid, or fry expelled in a 14-day period will be considered one distinct spawn
 - All fry must be from the same colony in the same aquarium
 - Color forms
 - A maximum of three color forms per species, one of each of the 3 types may be submitted per species for points
 - Type 1 Wild
 - Color form of the species as found in the wild
 - Variances in wild color forms from different collection points may not be submitted for additional points
 - Type 2 Domesticated
 - A color pattern different than the wild color form
 - A color that can be reproduced through breeding and is not a one-time, accidental color abnormality
 - Amelanistic is considered a domesticated color form
 - Type 3 Albino color form
- Process
 - To receive points, participants:
 - Submit the BAP form online through the RAS website

- Provide an image or video of six fry to the BAP chairman for verification
- Complete one program activity requirement in accordance with the complete BAP process guide as published on the RAS website

Section 4 – Rules and Process for Specialty Awards

- Rules
 - Participants are awarded credit for their first and subsequent additional spawns
 - If a species qualifies in more than one category, the participant will select the category in which to record the spawn
 - Subsequent spawns may be recorded in other categories
 - A maximum of three spawns per species may be submitted per category
 - excludes Shrimp – Caridina and Shrimp – Neocaridina categories
 - Each entry in the specialty program must be from a distinctly separate spawn (not multiple groups from the same spawn)
 - For killifish and other continuous spawners, the eggs laid, or fry expelled in a ten-day period will be considered one distinct spawn
- Process
 - To receive points, participants:
 - Submit the BAP form online through the RAS website
 - Provide an image or video of six fry to the BAP chairman for verification
 - Complete one program activity requirement in accordance with the complete BAP process guide as published on the RAS website

Section 5 – BAP Program Governance

- The BAP Chairman has the authority to administer, interpret, and update the program in conjunction with the BAP Committee
- The BAP Chairman has final authority over BAP activities and decisions
- The BAP Chairman should maintain a BAP Committee consisting of at least two RAS BAP participants in addition to the chairman
- If a participant does not agree with the decision of the BAP Chairman, the participant may appeal the decision to the RAS Board of Directors
- Rule updates may alter points awarded for successful spawns. Updating historical points is complicated because it can alter participant award

levels and end-of-year rankings. Therefore,

- Point changes will not alter previously recorded breeder levels or end-of-year rankings
- Rule updates will not decrease a participant's previously awarded points
- Rule updates may increase a participant's previously awarded points
- The points awarded for a submission may be adjusted up or down by the BAP Chairman to correct administrative inaccuracies.
- When a rule change is made that will either prevent future submissions or reduce the points awarded for a species, BAP participants will receive six months advance notice of when the change will go into effect. Any species turned in during this six-month period will receive the higher point value
- If an unexpected rule conflict is created by these rules, the advantage will go to the participant and the rules will be clarified and updated

Revision History

Date	Version	Author/Revised By	Description
	1.0	Larry Jinks	
12/4/2020	2.0	Paul Parks	
7/18/2023	2.1	Matt DeGroodt	Award levels updated following changes made in 2021, simplification of language and process, no changes to overall program rules from 2.0