

IBC EXHIBITION STANDARDS

BOOK 1

SHOW BETTAS

2022-2023 Show Season

Section 1 – Show Manual

Section 2 – Judges Manual

Appendix

These IBC Exhibition Standards are made available to the public for promotion of the betta hobby and encouragement in developing show fish. They are not to be altered.

The IBC Standards are updated annually. Changes just made for the season are marked in red.

Please check on the ibcbettas.org website each show year for new copies of the Standards. New versions are usually released July/August each year.

If you would like to make suggestions for changes, please email the specifics to the IBC Judging Chair (jbchair@ibcbettas.org).

DEDICATION: This version of the Standards is dedicated to Dr. Gene Lucas, without whom we would not have the Betta hobby that we have today.

Effective Immediately: All Glofish© Bettas are banned from all IBC Shows in all IBC Areas in any show competition!

The biggest change is that the Wilds have been moved to their own Judging Manual. This was done as Area 6 wanted to make this separation so they could just print the parts they needed. After a long discussion the Judging Board decided that having two manuals might be the better way to display the standards so the two Judging Manuals were born. This newest update also clears up some of the issues with the previous version. First of all the Marble-Multicolor standards were entirely changed. You should find it easier to read this time. There was also updating on the Grizzled standard as well as all of the measurements were switched to metric. A special thanks and credit to the following individuals Dominikus Ferdinand, Daniel Indarta, Ferry Rabito Luhur, Shalan Nasha, Bobby Chua, Raja Karunanethi, Jimmy Nallas, Kenny Zhou, Mulyadi, Jordan Ariel Indarta and Hiroki Ishizu. Also thanks to the current Judging Board Daniel Indarta, Hiroki Ishizu, Jamie King, Lee Yao Tsung, Joty Atmadjaja, Kurt Bihlmayer, Shalan Nasha, Mulyadi and Luis Navarro. Also a special thanks to Aurelia Ogles who is always there when we need help and is always offering advice.

This was the previous introduction on the last version.

This version of the Standards comes from a lot of hard work from some of the most dedicated people in the Betta Hobby, the IBC Judging Board. The Judging Board members were Peter DeSouza, Aurelia Ogles, Jamie King, Hiroki Ishizu, Joty Atmadjaja, Kurt Bihlmayer, Mike Cuaresma, Shalan Nasha, Wind Wang, Ezekiel Lyon Goh, Mulyadi and Luis Navarro. I also would like to thank Kenny Seaw, Ezekiel Lyon Goh, Steven Tran and many others who contributed the photographs added to this document. This new version is a complete overhaul of the previous Standard and puts all of the information as well as the changes from the previous version in an easy to read format. We are also in the process of introducing new diagrams to make the Standards easier to understand. One of the first things you might notice is a comprehensive table of contents allowing you to find anything easily. We have also added examples to clarify concepts when needed, the best example is the Multicolor versus Marble pages. We are also experimenting with a change in the Wilds Standard to make them more like the show Bettas you might be used to. Other changes include the addition of Dragon, Alien, and other Standards people have been asking for.

Is this work complete? Never, the Standards will continue to change and this document will change with them. If you have any ideas or would like to work on new Standards let the Judging Board know so that you may be included in the next working group.

Gerald Griffin

Judging Board Chair

Note from the Judging Board:

Not all Bettas fit clearly defined categories. It is important to note that if you find one of these Bettas it still has to be judged and is to be judged to the best of the Judges ability within the standards as closely as possible. Remember that all General Faults still apply. Example, a Doubletail Veiltail would be judged against Doubletails unless it was entered in Variations. If judged in Doubletail it would be at a disadvantage because it would be judged on the Halfmoon Doubletail Standard. In Variations it would be Judged based on the what a Doubletail Veiltail should look like and all General Faults would apply. If for some reason it came up in competition with other Bettas for BOV or BOS then it would be judged again using the Halfmoon Doubletail Standard.

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CHAPTER 1: ABOUT IBC SHOWS

WHAT IS AN IBC SHOW?

An International Betta Congress (IBC) Siamese Fighting Fish show (usually called a Betta Show) is a huge exhibit of one of the most fascinating fish of the aquarium world. Though the fish gained its popular name from the Sport of the Orient, the IBC does not condone the fighting of bettas. Thus, an IBC show is, in effect, a beauty contest. Over the years, IBC members have tremendously altered the form and color of the fish through extensive selective breeding. Today's betta is a marvel of genetic engineering, a product of many years of hard work by hobbyists the world over. It is upon these variations that the IBC show system and judging rules are based.

WHY DOES IBC HOLD SHOWS?

WHAT ARE IBC JUDGING AREAS?

The International Betta Congress is divided into judging areas. This is done to aid in overcoming the obvious problems of attempting to maintain a betta show system, which must contend with national postal systems, airline connections, and language difficulties. These Exhibition Standards serve as guidelines for members in the areas. Each area may conduct its own, independent show circuit for area international point shows. The area boundaries are not firmly fixed, nor do they prevent exhibitors from showing their bettas in areas outside of their residence although they may only earn points in their own area.

Just like at any animal show or State Fair, there are ribbons and trophies to be had. But more importantly, IBC supports the show circuit because the competition advances the development of the Betta genus as the exhibitors seek to outdo each other in creating new betta forms and color variations. Of course, each exhibitor has his own reasons: points, trophies, fame, or just plain fun.



INTERNATIONAL BETTA CONGRESS AREA MAP

WHAT ARE IBC DISTRICTS?

Each IBC area may divide itself into districts. The benefit of this is permitting still smaller geographical areas for IBC shows. The map in Figure 2 is a breakdown of North and Central America, which are included in Area 1.

Figure 2: Districts in North America



WHY DIFFERENT TYPES OF SHOWS?

It is simply not feasible for some groups of people to host very large shows, so the IBC has created several different kinds (sizes, basically) to allow everyone a chance to put on a show. Area Representatives are responsible for setting up Area Class Lists and the show calendar for their area with input from their Area's membership.

Consideration is given to the needs of entrants and chapter hosts. Frequency of Area International shows is up to each Area (weekly, every 2 weeks, preferred months, etc.).

It is recommended that no two Area International shows occur on the same weekend in the same Area unless there is some other special factor such as major aquarium event, etc., in which case the Judging Board will consider the circumstances and may issue permission. Extreme weather temperatures and events may affect the calendar, but this is up to the rules of an Area.

Refer to the Area Class lists in Chapter 10 for any additional details on an Area's Show Calendar.

TYPES OF IBC SHOWS

THE IBC LOCAL SHOW:

The Local Show is the smallest of the four types of shows. It contains from two, four, or six classes up to the number in a District Show, and is ideal for an aquarium society to hold in conjunction with their annual general aquarium show for new clubs or for emerging regions where there are no Certified Judges yet. These shows must be judged using IBC Standards. It allows them to receive official IBC sanctioning for their efforts, which is not available for just the typical betta exhibit or section of most aquarium shows. Naturally, a Local Show receives the fewest number of fish from areas outside the city in which it occurs. Generally, a local event, 10 to 30 fish can be expected in this type of show. There is no limit to the number of Local Shows that may be held in a year. Local shows are now allowed to judge their own shows per IBC Standards, with the option of having an IBC Judge assisting by computer for questions.

THE IBC DISTRICT SHOW:

The District Show is the next largest, but still a modest size show. Fish from all over the IBC area can be expected, but most will come from the district in which the show is held. Expect 50-150 fish. A district show can limit their entries to no more than 100- 150 fish, with pre-registrations opened preferentially to district members first and then allowed to open to the rest of the area for entries. There is no limit on the number of District Shows in a year; however, none can be held on the same weekend as another district or area show scheduled in the same IBC District. A District Show consists of a 22 or so regular classes, though the number may vary slightly year to year. (See the current list of official IBC Show Classes found in Chapter 10).

THE IBC AREA INTERNATIONAL SHOW:

The IBC Area International Show is the largest of the normal shows held throughout the year. Entries typically number 300-500 and are received from all districts in the area including some from other countries. An IBC International Show is not allowed to limit the number of entries to less than 300 (though they may receive less). There is no limit on the number of Area International Shows that may be held in each Area within one year. However, they must not occur within two weeks of another show in the same area without permission from the Area Representative, or on the same weekend as a District Show previously scheduled in the same district. Exhibits consist of

the same groups found in the District Show, but with a further breakdown into the many separate competition classes, the exact number often varying from year to year. An area international show is given preference within a district. Exhibits consist of the same groups found in the District Show, but with a further breakdown into the many separate competition classes, the exact number often varying from year to year. (See the current list of official IBC Show Divisions and Classes in Chapter 10).

Watch out for weather problems: Breeder and Show Hosts should use protective shipping and use heat packs or cold packs as needed.

THE IBC CONVENTION SHOWS

A Convention is always held concurrently with the annual membership meeting of the IBC. Convention shows are usually the largest and typically number 600- 1000 entries from around the globe. Each IBC area may choose to hold its own area convention show. However, only one Area may host the General Convention (in place of its Area Convention). The General Convention show is selected amongst the Area Conventions by the Executive and Judging Boards.

There may be three types of Conventions:

- The General IBC Convention is held on behalf of all IBC members. There is a maximum of one per year. It contains the same class structure as the International Show, with the addition of optional fish and non-fish classes for art, crafts, and such. Convention shows are usually the largest and are normally the last shows of that area's show cycle. Area 2 starts their show year with their convention.
- The IBC Area Convention optionally, one may be held for the members of an area. There is a maximum of one per area, each year. The same classes are used as that area's International Shows or as the IBC Convention.
- The IBC District Convention may be held for members of a district, though it is not mandatory. These contain the same class structure as a District Show or International Show, but may include optional and non-fish classes as desired by the host

AWARDS

DISTRICT LEVEL YEAR END CHAMPIONSHIPS

DISTRICT CHAMPIONS: The exhibitors with the highest number of points gained in each division in Local , District, and District Convention Shows within each district that holds at least two such shows becomes that district's Champions.

DISTRICT GRAND CHAMPION: The exhibitor with the highest number of total points gained in Local, District, and District Convention shows within each district that holds at least two such shows becomes that districts Grand Champion. Any special awards for these exhibitors are up to the members of that district. The District Variety and Grand Champions may or may not reside in the district.

AREA YEAR END CHAMPIONSHIPS

An Area's year-end points are for people in that Area only. Out-of-Area entrants will get show awards, but not year -end. Area will be by IBC registered address, unless self-selected. People who legitimately are living/working in two Areas can have an exemption for their Areas if they register with the Judging Board.

Area Class Champions: In addition an Area may choose to recognize the exhibitors with the highest number of class points gained in each of the classes presented at Area International and General/Area Convention shows as the International Class Champion for each respective class within each Area.

Area Variety Champions: The exhibitors with the highest number of points gained in each variety presented at International and General/Area Convention shows may be recognized as the International Variety Champions for each respective variety within

Area Grand Champion: The exhibitor with the highest number of total points gained in all International and General/Area Convention shows will be recognized as the International Grand Champion within each area.

Area Top 20: Exhibitors with total points gained from International and General/Area Convention shows ranking 2 through 20 will be recognized for same within each Area.

New Breeder and Collector Group Winners: Areas that separate New Breeders and Collector Fish into separate groups may choose to recognize the top winners with the highest number of class points gained in each of the New Breeder and Collector Group's classes presented at Area International and General/Area Convention shows.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

For an Individual Show: The method of award presentation to those present at a show is up to the show committee. It is common to have an awards banquet where the results are read, and awards presented. The official announcement is publication of the results on the IBC Website. For winners who are unable to attend the show, awards will be sent through the mail.

For the Yearly Awards: The IBC holds an awards banquet at every Convention. At that time, the awards for the Convention Show itself are presented by the show committee and will be followed by the IBC yearly awards. Areas and districts may hold such award banquets as desired. IBC year-end awards are presented by the Judging Board or Judging Board Designee. the Judging Board (General Convention); the Area Representative (Area Convention); or

OPTIONAL

District Representative (District Convention).

MANDATORY

International Variety Championships (One Variety Championship award for each Variety.)

- One Warren Young Memorial trophy - the award for exhibitor who won the most Best of Show points during the show year. Each Area is allowed to create their own equivalent of the Warren Young Award.
- One President's trophy - or plaque is given to the exhibitor who wins the most points at the convention show and is usually presented by the IBC President (or Area Representative).
- Plaques or Trophies, 11 through 20 to receive premium certificates of merit or other awards.

- Convention Show Awards: One award for each of the first, second, and third place winners of the Convention show classes. If an Area has New Breeder, Collector or Art classes, then one award for each of the first, second and third place winners for those too.
- One award for each of the Best of Variety winners, male and female. One award for each of the Reserve Best of Variety winners, male and female.
- One award each for the Best of Show and Reserve Best of show male and female winners out of the Convention show classes, and one award each for the Best of Show and Reserve Best of Show male and female winners out of the New Breeders show classes if an area has them. Collector and Art Best of Show Awards are up to the host club.
- IBC Judging Board awards Grand champion and end of year awards for each Area.

POINTS

DISTRICT POINTS:

District level points are tallied by the District Representative unless there is none in that district. Alternatively, the IBC Judging Board Registrar or Area Representative will maintain the point tally.

- From a Local Show - points are counted only towards the District Championships.
- From a District Show - points count for District Grand Championships.
- From a District Convention Show - these also count toward the District Grand Championship awards, unless the show is an Area International show in which case, they count towards the Area Championship.

AREA POINTS:

Area International level points are tallied by the Registrar of the Judging Board or Area Representative for each Area.

- From an International Show points count toward the IBC Area International Class, Variety, and Grand Championship/Top 20 awards.
- From a General or Area Convention Show points also count towards the International, Class, Variety, and Grand Championship/Top 20 awards.

For the most Best of Show points IBC gives a special award to the person who gets the highest total of Best of Show bonus points in Area International and General/Area Convention shows. This award is known as The Warren Young Memorial Award in honor of one of the early great betta breeders.

Local Show points count for District Championships only, not toward Area International Championships. District Show and District Convention points count for District Grand Championships unless the District Convention show was an Area International show…

AWARD POINT SUMMARY

SHOWS	1ST	2ND	3RD	CONVENTIONS	1ST	2ND	3RD
LOCAL	10	5	2	DISTRICT CONVENTION	25	15	10
DISTRICT	15	10	5	AREA CONVENTION	30	20	15
INTERNATIONAL	20	15	10	IBC CONVENTION	30	20	15

VARIETY AND BEST OF SHOW POINT AWARDS

GENERAL/AREA CONVENTION: GROUP A

Best of Show Male/Female	125
Reserve Best of Show Male/Female	100
Best of Variety Male/Female	50
Reserve Best of Variety Male/Female	40

NEW BREEDER: GROUP B AND OPTIONAL COLLECTOR: GROUP C

Best of Show Male/Female	60
Reserve Best of Show Male/Female	40

INTERNATIONAL SHOWS: GROUP A

Best of Show Male/Female	100
Reserve Best of Show Male/Female	80
Best of Variety Male/Female	40
Reserve Best of Variety Male/Female	30

NEW BREEDER: GROUP B AND OPTIONAL COLLECTOR: GROUP C

Best of Show Male/Female	50
Reserve Best of Show Male/Female	30

DISTRICT SHOWS:

Best of Show Male/Female	40
Reserve Best of Show Male/Female	30

LOCAL SHOWS

Best of Show	20
Reserve Best of Show	15

The Points Addendum which are used to compute all championships is also in Chapter 10. Check your Area information in Chapter 10 for specific rules.

AWARD POINT SUMMARY

Area International Show, Area and IBC Convention points count for International Class, Variety and Grand Championships/Top 20. In Areas that have New Breeder classes, there are optional separate Class Championships for New Breeders.

The Best of Show (BOS) and Reserve Best of Show (RBOS) male and female each receive a bonus according to the scale shown on the point system. BOS and RBOS points count toward the Warren Young award and Grand Champion/Top 20. Best of Variety and Reserve Best of Variety count toward Class, Variety and Grand Championships/Top 20. New Breeder BOS and RBOS male and female count toward New Breeder Class Championships and Collector Top winners. District and Local BOS and RBOS count toward District Grand Champion.

FEES

There are three types of fees:

Show Sanction Fee: The amount charged the host club by IBC for approving a show.

Show Entry Fee: The amount charged an entrant by the host for showing his or her fish.

Judge's Fee: The amount paid to the judge for his or her services. (See Chapter 2)

Refer to Show request form and Area Class lists for show fees for Area International and District Shows. There is no show fee for Local shows.

All sanction fees are sent to the IBC Judging Board Chairperson or his/her designee along with the sanction request. Sanction fees must be paid BEFORE the show is officially sanctioned. Requested show dates may be reserved for 10 days by submitting the show request form on the IBC web page.to the IBC Judging Board Chairman or his designee identifying the club, type of show, and the date requested. The sanction fee must be received within 10 days after the date of the approval sent by the Judging Board Chair or Area or the show date will no longer be reserved for that club and will become available for any other club. The sanction fees should be paid on the website after the notification to pay. IBC will forward sanction fees from district level shows to the District Representative. If there is no Area or District Representative, the funds shall be forwarded to IBC Judging Board to be managed.

Refer to the Area and District Class lists for typical show entry fees per single fish entry and for pairs. The host club may set any value for an entry fee at or higher than the minimum provided that any amount different from the "typical area fee" is well advertised. If not noted otherwise in show advertisements, entrants will assume the "typical" value is correct. Review each chapter's posting of show information to see what their fee structure and incentives are.

IBC Shows will be open to entries from non-IBC members if non-members:

1. Pay at least 150-200% more than IBC members in entry fees.

2. Will not receive end-of-year awards.

IBC Shows are also sometimes open to entries from non-IBC members, if the chapter hosting the show allows it. Non-members entering pay at least 150-200% more than IBC members in entry fees. Giving a 200% example: If the show entry fee is 3 for members, then for nonmembers it would be 4.5 to 6. For non-members, there is an avenue for IBC Membership within the show circuit. If a non-member enters 8 or more fish in a show as a non-IBC

Member, they have the option of becoming an IBC member at the show and qualify for the member rate. Show Chairs will track this and register the membership with the IBC within the week following the show.

Funds obtained by host clubs from auction sales will be split between the owners of the items sold and the host club or other designated agency.

AUCTION FUND DISTRIBUTION FOR SHOW ENTRIES

Special auction items (non-fish items or non-entered fish) are not restricted to the splits shown below and will be set by the show host as desired.

Unless otherwise advertised, money from auction of show entries will be split between the exhibitor, and the show host basis. See Area information in Chapter 10 for recommended split. Money for special auction items may be split 50% exhibitor/50% show host.

The income split for all auction items including show entries for auction at all IBC Conventions is the same as for the Area between the exhibitors and the host club respectively, provided the host club handles the auction. If the host club does not wish to conduct the Convention Auction they must notify the IBC Judging Board Chairperson at least 30 days in advance of the auction date, in which case the auction will be 75% to the exhibitor and 25% to IBC.

CHAPTER 2: ENTERING AND HOSTING AN IBC SHOW

TYPES OF EXHIBITION CLASSES

IBC sanctions and promotes shows to display beautiful bettas. There are three groups of classes in an IBC sanctioned show. The number of fish entries in any International show in regular Self Bred classes is limited to 50 per each entrant, not to exceed 60 total fish entered (if you entered categories that have pairs or trios). The number of fish entries in the annual IBC Convention show will be limited to 60 per entrant, not to exceed 70 total fish entered, (if you entered categories that have pairs or trios). Entrant is either individual or family or collaboration as defined below.

GROUP A: SELF-BRED BETTAS

Regular classes are for IBC members in good standing. This group includes Individual and Family from Areas 1 through 7, Collaborations, and Chapters entrants. Non-members may sometimes show in this group at a higher entry fee than IBC members (see Fees). They are limited to no more than 10 entries and may not receive year-end awards. (This option is determined per chapter holding the show – check with the particular show rules.)

An Individual entrant is defined as one (1) person raising bettas in one fishroom. An Individual may occasionally have help from one other individual. Instances where another person comes in to feed the fish while the Individual is on vacation are acceptable for Individual entrants.

Family entrants are defined as spouses, parents and children, or siblings living in the same household and raising bettas in one (1) fishroom. Family entrants should use both/all names for the entry form name ("Sieg and Judy Illig"). Family members can also enter separately as individuals as long as they don't share fishroom duties for their own bred fish. If families do share fishroom duties, they are expected to enter as a family. All family entrants must all be IBC members in good standing. They are restricted to the same number of entries as an individual entrant.

Collaboration entrants are two or more individuals working closely together in different fishrooms to produce a line of bettas. Collaborations usually involve one person breeding the fish and then giving the young, unsexed juveniles to another person who will rear them in their fish room to showable size and training. Collaborations are not people who simply purchase fish. True collaborations involve multiple decisions being made along the way by both people on the breeding and raising of the fish. The difference between collaboration fish and family showing is that while family showing all work in the same fishroom together, in collaboration, the fishrooms are separate and often miles away from each other. Collaboration fish may be shown in regular classes and are eligible for year-end awards. Collaboration fish must be from people in the same Area working together. Both parties in a collaborative effort must be IBC members in good standing. Collaborations must register with the JB prior to showing with both parties names, member IDs, and lines they will be working together. They are restricted to the same number of entries that an individual entrant is. The JB will send the list of approved Collaborations to Show Chairs prior to the shows. Collaboration entrants must be renewed each year by the JB.

YEAR END AWARDS are reserved for individual, family, and collaboration betta hobbyists.

CHAPTER entrants are defined as two (2) or more members of the same IBC Chapter working out of two (2) or more fish rooms. CHAPTER entries are ineligible for year-end awards.

A betta OWNER (sometimes referred to as “collector”) is a person who owns a fish but did not breed it him or herself. These fish may be entered in a show, but only in the Collector or purchased fish category (see Group C below). (While Exhibitors own their fish, they are referred to as Collectors, since they did not breed the fish. Collector fish are shown in their own group, not to be mixed with breeders' classes. This includes any fish that an entrant did not breed themselves, whether literally bought from a store or online or another breeder, or a gift fish that somebody gave to them or a fish caught in the wild. Collector fish must have been in the owners' possession for at least one month before the show.

ALL entrants for Group A Self-Bred must and Group B New Breeder must:

1. Be IBC members in good standing (unless entering as a non-member, see 'fees')

2. Should have bred and raised the entered bettas themselves

3. Enter under their real names (the names listed in the IBC Membership). Entries with business or trade names only will be disqualified. People can put business or trade names in parenthesis after their real names if they want to. (Example: A correct entry would be Larissa Williams (alatri). Incorrect and subject to disqualification would be simply Alatri.)

(Exceptions for Area 2, which is all self-bred but with variable entries for IBC Member and non-members, and Area 6, which does not make a distinction between purchased and self-bred.)

GROUP B: NEW BREEDERS

New Breeders classes are for people who are just starting out breeding and showing bettas and who are IBC members in good standing. The intent of the group is to let people who do not have much showing experience and/or are new at breeding have a chance to compete in a smaller group of entrants with a smaller set of classes to enter in. There is also the chance to be the New Breeder Grand Champion, which can only happen once for a breeder, ever. New Breeder classes are limited to people living in the Area the show is being held in. (Area being the IBC Area, such as Area 1, 2, 6, or 7. So people from Area 2 cannot enter New Breeder in Area 7, etc.) New Breeders must be IBC Members.

While there are smaller class categories, bettas entered in New Breeder will still be judged by the regular IBC Standards for each form and color type.

New Breeder entrants may:

1. Show in New Breeder Group for two (2) show years. (Note losing New Breeder Status Below)
2. At any point while showing, choose to move to show in Group A with fish they have bred and raised. If they choose to show in Group A, they permanently lose eligibility to show in the New Breeders classes.
3. They may also exhibit fish they did not breed in Group C, Purchased Bettas.
4. Exhibit art entries in Group A: Arts & Crafts, without losing eligibility to show in the New Breeders classes.
5. Exhibit wild type bettas in Group A: Wild Types without losing eligibility to show in the New Breeders classes. Their points from wild Types classes will not be added to their New Breeder total. Note: Some Area Class Lists for New Breeder allow an “OTHER” class for Wild Type and Hybrid Type Bettas that are for New Breeder points.

If a New Breeder at the end of their first show year wins New Breeder Grand Champion, he/she will be ineligible to show in New Breeder for a second year and must move to showing in Group A. Any New Breeder winning at least three (3) New Breeder annual class championships in the same show year shall become permanently ineligible to enter in the New Breeder classes and at that point must enter in the Regular classes from then on. A New Breeder may elect to enter regular classes in and International/Convention Show, but permanently loses eligibility to enter as New Breeder, including the International/Convention Show in which the first regular class entry is made.

Judging will follow current IBC rules and standards. Apprentice Judges can conduct judging under the supervision of an IBC Certified Judge, or by Certified Judges. As in all shows, the judges' decisions are final. Judges are encouraged at their own discretion to notify New Breeders whose entries won 1st place in a class as to how such entry might have done in a regular class.

NEW BREEDER CLASSES:

SEE AREA SHOW CLASS LISTS FOR THE CURRENT NEW BREEDER CLASSES

GROUP C: COLLECTOR FISH (PURCHASED OR OTHERWISE ACQUIRED)

Owners of fish they did not breed or raise themselves may show these fish in the Collector Fish group. This includes any fish that an entrant did not breed themselves, whether literally bought from a store or online or another breeder, or a gift fish that somebody gave to them, or wild caught fish. Collector fish must have been in the owners' possession for at least one month before the show. Glofish® Bettas are banned from all Areas and may not be shown in any sanctioned IBC show.

While there are smaller class categories in the Collector Fish group, bettas entered in these will still be judged by the regular IBC Standards for each form and color type.

Exceptions:

- Area 6 continues to show collector/purchased fish in their regular show classes. Area 6 has always had this exemption and continues to keep it. Note, the Glofish® Bettas are still banned despite this exception.
- Area 2 chooses not to allow collector fish shown at any IBC show. All fish shown must be self-bred. However, some Area 2 shows sometimes hold a separate show for Collector fish in conjunction with the IBC show.

Each of these three (3) groups of classes will have their own show awards, including Best of Show and Reserve Best of Show awards for males and females. The largest awards will generally be for Group A. Group A also has Best of Variety for males and females. IBC Member entrants in groups A and B will accumulate points toward year-end awards for each class within that group. The exhibitors in Group A will also accumulate total points during the show season and a Grand Champion and Top 20 will be proclaimed at the annual IBC Convention at the end of the show season. In some Areas, the exhibitors who accumulate the most points in each Variety in Group A during the show season will be proclaimed Variety Champions for that group at the annual IBC Convention at the end of the show season.

ETHICS OF SHOWING

Showing is very much on an honor system for the people entering the shows. We expect that all other people entering the show will also hold to the high standards of breeding and showing. This includes following all the rules set out in the IBC Exhibition Standards, no matter if anybody can see you following them or not. We expect that the bettas you enter in Groups A and B (Self-Bred and New Breeders) will be bred by yourself, and grown to show size and trained for showing by yourself, using your own fishroom resources. If using shared resources, you'll enter as a family or collaboration. (Excepting Area 6 for their exemption on bred bettas.)

The IBC respects bettas in their natural state and strives to have the best possible fish from the work of breeding show lines. IBC expects the shown fish in all groups to be in their natural, originally bred condition and their fins are not "trimmed" nor have any other alternations. all fish to be treated humanely and respectfully, and we do not condone fighting bettas nor abuse of bettas. IBC expects entrants to engage in fair and friendly competition without interfering with fellow competitors.

ENTERING A SHOW

FINDING OUT WHEN A SHOW WILL BE HELD:

The official IBC journal, FLARE! publishes a list of the current upcoming shows planned for the year. Additionally, the IBC website located at http://www.ibcbettas.org also provides a list of shows. The Chairperson and Registrar of the Judging Board and the Judging board Area Representative maintain a list of the shows. FLARE! and the IBC web site provide such information as the mail-in address, phone numbers for the Show Chairperson, etc.

PREPARING FOR A SHOW

Participants should read the JB Participant Show Guide and know what is expected in preparing for and during a show. Entrants are reminded that shows committees are not expected to make any special efforts for them, and they will be treated just the same as every other entrant. If a participant makes a mistake in entry forms, bagging, or otherwise, that mistake is on the participants' end. A Show Chair is expected to make some effort for figuring things out, but participants should not expect great lengths if it was their mistake.

CATALOGING YOUR ENTRIES:

The Official Show Entry Form (IBC Form 3) is found in the Appendix. Updated versions are provided via FLARE! and the IBC website as changes in classes or the Exhibition Standards occur, and it is also available in the IBC Better Bettas online group. It can be easily copied for use and is reasonably self-explanatory. The Show Standards should be reviewed and matched for the current Class Lists. While Class Help is always an option, the Judging Board strongly recommends all entrants classify entries themselves. Be sure to mark the fish bags with an identifying number and include that number on the entry form. It would be advisable to keep a copy of the completed entry form so if problems arise, there will be an accurate record. Remember to specify names for Wild and Variation (and Hybrid and Glofish®) where applicable) entries.

All entry fees and return postage must accompany entries or fish will not be shown. Some shows accept PayPal as a pre-payment option. Contact the show chair and confirm whether PayPal is a payment option before shipping fish. Do not assume all chapters are able to accommodate PayPal as a method of payment.

MAILING YOUR FISH:

Express Mail or Priority Mail with overnight delivery is recommended.

REPORTING PROBLEMS:

By chance if something has gone terribly wrong, contact the Show Chairman for resolution. The Judging Board Chair may be contacted as well. The Judging Board will address all formal complaints.

COMMON ENTRANT ERRORS

- Do fill out the entry form completely and accurately. Place entry form and entry/return postage money in a separate, sealed bag for protection. A large Ziploc-type bag is suggested.
- Do double bag your fish.
- Do send bags for the fish to be auctioned or returned in, with a minimum size of 10 cm x 30 cm (4 x 12 inches).
- Do send plants if showing wild type bettas. Send plants in a separate bag from the fish.
- Do use heat packs depending on weather. Include separate new heat pack for return.
- Do not fill the bags completely with water.
- Do not label fish bags with water-soluble ink. Do not put more than one betta in a single bag. Do not expect single bagging to be sufficient.
- Do not feed your fish for 24 hours before shipping.
- Do not expect auction fish to sell for prices higher than $10. If they do, that is wonderful, but a sale price of $5 is more likely.
- Do not ship fish to the show too late or too early. Three (3) days in advance is best.
- Do not ship fish in colored (i.e. green, amber, blue) water.
- Do not ship fish in bags smaller than 10 cm x 30 cm (4 x 12 inches).

HOSTING A SHOW

BEFORE CONTACTING IBC:

It is best to determine what type of show to host and decide who will be Show Chairman before requesting a show. It is also advisable to thoroughly read the rules for hosting a show and discuss all of the many details with chapter members. A very useful guide, “Hosting an IBC Show,” is available through the IBC Technical Assistance Committee, and the IBC Judging Board has also put out a JB Show Chair Guide. All Show Chairs, no matter how experienced or not they are, are expected to review this Guide before their show. Review it when first planning the show, a month before the show, and the day before the show at minimum. We expect Show Chairs and Show Committees to represent the IBC and the IBC Standards, and to be detailed on their care for the entries and participants. See Chapter 10 for class lists and show checklist.

SUBMITTING A REQUEST:

IBC sanctioned shows are awarded to IBC Chapters and other groups or individuals when requested. To apply, complete the Show Request Form on the IBC website (IBC Form 4) to the Chairman of the Judging Board or his/her designee specifying the type of show desired and the preferred date. Include the name, address, and phone number of the Show Chairman, and the name of the Judge (if available). It is wise to indicate an alternate date or alternate type of show. The Judging Board Chairman or Area JB Representative will give official notice of acceptance. Chapters may request one Area International show date for the first half of the show year and one Area International show date for the second half of the show year. Refer to your Area Class list in Chapter 10 for dates.

IBC Chapters will be given preference over groups and individuals for any show date that has not been assigned.

In Areas where the show year season does not fill all show dates, chapters may apply for a second show in a season. These requests must be approved by the Judging Board.

Submit the IBC Show Request (IBC Form 4) at least 90 days in advance of the show. The Judging Board Chair, Registrar of the Judging Board and JB Area Representatives will have the most current list of active exhibitors

PAYING THE SANCTION FEE:

Area International and District shows require a sanction fee, which is to be paid in full within 10 days of receiving the approval notice from the JB. The Chairperson of the Judging Board will NOT grant a sanction until the fee is paid.

Judging Board Chairman or his designee identifying the requester, type of show, and the date requested. The Sanction Fee must be received within 10 days after the date on the e-mail approval message or the date will no longer be reserved and will become available for any other requester. If the requested date/type of show is not available, the sanction fee will be returned to the requester. After the show year starts no refund will be made for canceled shows barring unusual JB approval (as when the entire spring season was cancelled during the Covid19 Pandemic in 2020).

HOLDING A SHOW:

In the Chapter 10 there is a checklist for a show host to use when preparing and hosting a show. Check off each item where appropriate. The checklist also contains many valuable considerations. It is advisable to review additional material available in the Technical Assistance Library. Also, there are many IBC Chapters with much experience with show hosting. Do not hesitate to contact these clubs to ask for advice and mentoring. The first-hand, practical information they can provide will be invaluable to a new club embarking on hosting a show for the first time. Here is a preview of the checklist.

ARRANGING A DATE, LOCATION, AND JUDGE:

Be sure that the host chapter and the IBC Certified Judge clearly understand what will and what will not be provided to the judge free of charge. It is customary for the host club to provide at least the judge's meals and lodging.

ANNOUNCING YOUR SHOW:

To host a successful show, it is important to ensure that all IBC members in the host area are informed of the show date and location. Obviously, FLARE! and the IBC web site are the ideal mediums. Where possible, use the local media, flyers, newspapers, radio, and television to advertise your show. Provide as much information as possible in the sanctioning request form. Be sure to let people know if AUCTION ONLY fish will or will not be accepted.

PLAN THE PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

The number of fish entries in any International show in Regular classes is limited to 50 per each entrant, not to exceed 60 total fish entered if pairs or trios are entered. The number of fish entries in the annual IBC Convention show will be limited to 60 per entrant, not to exceed 70 total fish entered if pairs or trios are entered. Entrant is either individual or family or collaboration as defined earlier in this chapter.

The show checklist outlines the many things needed to host a successful show. Carefully gather all of these things ahead of time. This very important step will save a lot of last-minute running around.

1. Use approved IBC flat-sided containers, full to within 1-2 inches of the top of de-chlorinated/de-chloramined water (Prime is recommended). The Chairman of the Judging Board may approve deviations.
2. Plan for Wild Type bettas (non-Splendens) and Giant bettas: Use appropriate sized containers for larger species. Provide tight covers. Many of these types are prone to jump when disturbed. Most species of wild bettas will be shown in a container holding at least one gallon of water and a secure cover. Smaller species may be shown in smaller show containers The sexes should be separated either by using separate containers or a secure divider.
3. Black classes shall be provided with a white background (can be done by putting a white card/sheet behind them). All others shall have a solid background, black being the most common.
4. Place separator cards between all containers when not actively being judged.
5. Show host should have supplies needed during judging such as fluorescent and black light flashlights, straws, mirror, cards or paper to separate each entry, cards or forms for judges to fill out for each class and BOV/RBOV and BOS and RBOS.

Chapters are approved to purchase what they would like for show containers providing:

Containers must be of a firm plastic that can easily be seen through for both judging and photography. Any time containers get scratched up so their visibility is diminished, the host club should replace those containers.

Exception: Those chapters with existing half-gallon glass bowls can continue to use them. The glass bowls are not, however, approved for new purchases.

Containers for regular show fish must be no smaller than 10 cm wide by 10 cm depth by 10 cm tall. Preferred containers are larger than that in one dimension or another (such as the 'beanies' which are 10x10x20 cm (4x4x8 in), or the mini-keepers which are 18x10x13 cm (7x4x5 in).

Containers must have individual lids.

Exception: Area 2 has some chapters that use long lengths of plastic to cover multiple containers. Those chapters can continue using their method. This method is not, however, approved for new purchases/chapters.

All fish showing in a category *MUST* have the same container during the show so that all fish are judged under equal conditions. If for some reason, other containers must be used, then group the other containers to the other categories. (i.e., all regular class fish can be shown in one type, all new breeder class fish can be shown in a different one, and collector fish in a third.)

Host clubs must also keep on hand larger size containers for giants, small wilds, and large wilds. Giants and small wilds should be in nothing less than 15x15x15 cm (6x6x6 in) (ex - small kritter keepers are 23x15x18 cm (9x6x7 in)), and large wilds should be no less than 20x20x20 cm (8x8x8 in)(ex - med critter keepers are 28x18x20 cm 11x7x8 in)

Host clubs must plan their show settings to match their containers. This might entail building new stands. Consider resources, including available show space, when planning containers.

PLAN THE LABOR REQUIREMENTS:

Depending on the show location, size, and set up, a small number of helpers may be adequate, or an army of workers may be required. Do not underestimate the time it takes to fill 300 bowls with water and move them around. Watch out for the “gee, it’s great the show is over, guess I’ll go home” syndrome to hit as soon as the auction ends.

PLAN THE FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Many chapters hesitate to host IBC International Shows because of the imagined cost. It can be costly IF not properly planned. Do not promise the Judge more than the chapter can afford. Do not dream of presenting costly awards outside the chapter's ability to pay. Do actively seek sponsors from among IBC, the aquarium trade companies, and the local community.

PLAN THE AWARDS:

This is an item that can make or break a show financially and ruin a chapter's reputation if not handled properly. At the very least, you are required to provide the following minimum awards:

ALL SHOWS: Certificates or ribbons, at least, must be given to the First, Second, and Third place winners in all classes.

AREA INTERNATIONAL SHOWS: Group A Best of Show and Reserve Best of Show Male and Female should be the largest awards. Lesser but still substantial awards may be given for BOS and RBOS for Group B (New Breeder) and Group C (Collector Fish).

Best of Variety and Reserve Best of Variety Male and Female awards should also be given, though they can be in larger ribbons (rosettes) or certificates.

DISTRICT SHOWS: Best of Show and Reserve Best of Show Male and Female. If optional groups for Group B and C are used, provide awards for those as well. The awards can be ribbons or certificates for the optional classes.

LOCAL SHOWS: Best of Show

CONVENTIONS: Same as Area International Shows.

SHOWTIME

RECEIVING MAIL-INS AND REGISTERING ENTRANTS:

Be sure to have a logbook system (or computer software program) ready well before the show period begins so it can be used early for the registering of mail-in entries. A good logbook system will save time and headaches.

Host entries should be registered first. This is particularly true of the person who will receive the mail-in entries. Thus it is suggested that the person receiving mail-ins be permitted to register their entries as soon as possible. This is an ethical point that the IBC presumes host clubs recognize and will comply with on their own initiative. Host Clubs may set entry deadlines. These must be well advertised via online pages, the IBC website, and/or FLARE!. Host clubs may also accept entries to just prior of the judging. This is at the discretion of the host club. Whichever policy is being practiced, it must be extended to all potential exhibitors. Except under hardship circumstances with approval of both the Judge and Show Chair, NO entries are to be accepted after the judging starts.

Make sure the individual receiving fish has a way to be notified when mail-ins arrive. Open the boxes immediately to check the health of the fish. Note any problems. Determine if the fish require any special care if they have been subjected to improper mail handling. It would be wise to telephone or e-mail entrants if any unusual problems are encountered. Take pictures. Fish should be in their show containers as early as possible before the show starts, 24 hours prior is ideal. Exceptions to this may be caused by postal delay or other extenuating circumstances. Entries should not be mailed more than three (3) days before a show, particularly without the show host being contacted. Entrants should not expect the host club to offer special treatment such as custom water and chemical mixes. If you get fish early, jar them. In all cases, bettas must not be kept in sealed bags for more than 48 hours after you receive them. Keep the water temperature between 75 and 82 degrees.

Fish that arrive dead may be discarded unless the owner has specifically indicated that they wish dead fish to be returned to them. It is recommended that you contact the owner before discarding. Taking a photo of the DOA fish is advised. The entry fee for a fish dead on arrival is to be refunded.

Upon receiving a mail-in entry, register the fish as they are received and check for the entry fee payment, return postage payment, and any special instructions. A friendly phone call will usually result in the resolution of any disputes concerning payment of entry fees or return postage.

Here are some of the reasons fish die during shows, so keep your eyes open:

- Not having sufficient water, either in quantity or quality.
- Damage from someone visiting the show, placing something in the water, knocking the bowl off the shelf, etc. Crowd control is important.
- Not providing proper heat control. If the weather at the location of the show is severe, fish should not be returned through mail or commercial shipper, unless requested by the owner, until it is safe to do so.
- Postal delays.
- Fish arrive in ill health. Check over the fish when they arrive and note any problems.
- Improper handling by the airlines or postal service.
- Improper bagging and/or boxing of the fish by the host club or the entrant.

BENCHING THE FISH:

Ideally, the show room and bowls should be set up at least one day in advance so that the water in the bowls has sufficient time to adjust. Check the chlorine level in the show containers before adding fish and de-chlorinate if necessary. Fish must be benched in CLEAR water. If fish were shipped in medicated water that is discolored, be sure to do a complete water change so that water during the show is clear. Wild types can be benched with plants and/or peat moss in their bowls. Fish should be placed in containers and labeled as soon as it is practical to do so. Make sure the Variations and Wild Type (and where applicable Hybrid) entries are properly marked with the entrant's required label. The fish that require Judge's Help for classification should be kept together in one location with temporary bowl identification labels. If the water becomes fouled after the fish are benched then the water must be changed a minimum of 2 hours before judging.

FEEDING THE FISH:

Normally, the host club does not feed the fish. However, the host is expected to determine if an unusually lengthy delay has or will occur before the fish get home, and feed accordingly. If the fish are fed, change the water if it clouds up. If food is found in the show container during Judging the fish can be DQed!

SUPPORTING THE JUDGE:

The Judge is responsible for providing his or her own flashlight, straws, clipboard, and any other tool s/he uses for judging. The host club should provide the judge with an assistant to aid him or her in recording the bowl/entry numbers of the winners and aid in clearing up any registration or classification problems. It is always wise to have a copy of the Standards handy. The Show Chairman should make every effort to ensure that entrants or visitors do not disturb the Judge. It is a matter of courtesy to assist the Judge in obtaining refreshments when requested.

PHOTOGRAPHING THE FISH:

A member of the Show Committee should take digital pictures of BOS winners (if possible), and a selection of other show winners. These photos and/or videos are to sent back to the JB with award winners noted. The JB recognizes the resources this might take, so we're asking for best efforts, not an absolute.

ANNOUNCING THE WINNERS:

After the judging is completed, the Show Chairman may choose to keep the winners a secret until a special ceremony or banquet, or, if desired, may immediately make the results public. It is proper to mark the bowls with some sort of sticker or ribbon to indicate winners once the announcement event is complete.

CONDUCTING AN AUCTION

Auctions are held following most betta shows and, unless announced otherwise, most entrants will assume one will be held. If done properly, an auction and any associated raffles can be a big financial bonus for the host club. The IBC rules exist to provide some control and safeguards over the auctions due to their complexity, and to provide exhibitors and buyers balanced opportunities to profit from them. Particular care is necessary to avoid losses or misidentification of fish and ineffective management of records and money. You should always remember what the PARTICIPANTS expect. An Auction Committee should be appointed to handle the auction and to work out the procedures ahead of time. **Auction fish entered in the show should be auctioned before any Auction Only fish or items. Note! Any fish that is listed for Auction must be sold at Auction and not withdrawn for any reason other than a DQ due to health.**

The Buyers:

Expect the auction fish to be available for preview before the auction starts.

Expect the auction to start at the announced time and to proceed as efficiently and quickly as possible.

Expect to check out reasonably quickly and painlessly.

Expect to get the exact fish they paid for.

The Sellers:

Expect their fish to be given an even chance with the others, meaning they expect their fish NOT to be publicly faulted by the auctioneer. Badmouthing an auction item is not proper technique. Promoting an auction item's assets is expected. However, if asked an OBJECTIVE question, the auctioneer is expected to provide an honest answer as best as can be discerned.

Expect their fish to sell for a reasonable price.

Expect fish not sold to be returned unless they indicate otherwise.

Expect to receive their share of the auction money promptly and with an accounting of the fish sold and the sale prices. Sellers will sometimes donate the amount to the host club as a helpful gesture.

A show entry may not be sold for less than the minimum set by the owner, or $5 or equivalent per fish if no minimum was set.

The Guidelines and Techniques are: A 3/4 inch round green sticker or similar should be affixed to show bowls for fish that will be auctioned, or it can be identified on the show label, this can be done when benching before Judging. A special table may be provided to hold Auction Only fish if the host club allows them. There should be identifying Auction Numbers on the Auction Only fish. An Auction Committee should be appointed to handle the auction and to work out the procedures ahead of time.

They will need to consider and/or have the following:

1. One or more Auctioneers

2. A Recorder to look up names of the breeders and to record sales

3. Runners to aid the Auctioneer and to deliver fish to the baggers

4. Baggers to quickly remove the sold fish from their show containers

5. A Cashier to accept payment

6. The auction should be well publicized and open to the public.

7. Exhibitors and other participants may place fish and other items up for auction. The number may be limited depending on the time available.

8. Paired entries will be sold as a unit, not separately.

9. The Show Chairman is required to withhold fish from an auction if they are in ill health.

10. Any betta entered into the show as an auction fish cannot be withdrawn from the auction (except for #9 above).

11. Unsold auction fish will become property of the host club unless return postage is included with the entry fees.

Note for General Convention Auctions: The host club conducts the General Convention Auction with help from other IBC members. If the host club does not wish to conduct the General Convention Auction, the club must notify the IBC Judging Board Chairman at least 30 days in advance of the auction date.

RETURNING THE FISH AND THE AWARDS

The owner should receive mailed fish within 6 days of the closing date of the show, the sooner the better. Exhibitors should understand that their fish might not be mailed back on Monday following the show because there are sometimes large numbers of fish boxes to be shipped by the host club. Some of the fish may be mailed back on the following Tuesday. Holidays, postal strikes, airline strikes, and severe weather are valid reasons for delaying the return. It is imperative that fish be sent home in clean, fresh water.

The packing of fish for the return mailing should duplicate, within reason, the packing of arrival. If the owner provides bags, boxes, etc, these should be used. If the host club furnishes any bags, good judgment in selecting the type of bags is required. Bags should be roomy and strong enough to prevent tearing or bursting during shipping. Double-bagging of 1-mil bags is required, and adequate water and air space, depending on the size of the fish, is a must. A Waterproof Marker should be used to label the bags. Awards such as trophies, plaques, etc. with sharp points and edges must NOT be sent in the same box as the fish. Ribbons, certificates or any other paper awards can be added to the fish box as long as they are placed in a waterproof bag or container. A copy of the entrant's entry form with information about fish placings, and/or a print out of the entire show results (even if the results are preliminary), should also be included.

If a club chooses to return fish by some method other than that specified by the exhibitor, the club must get the prior permission from the exhibitor. If a club returns fish by a more costly method than that provided by the exhibitor—for example, one-day express mail rather than two-day priority mail—without the prior consent of the exhibitor, then the club must pay the difference in the cost.

The entrants are to notify the host clubs if the returned fish or the awards, auction checks, etc. do not arrive promptly. The Chairman of the Judging Board should be notified if problems are not resolved. Returning the fish improperly or in poor health is the single biggest area of complaint from show entrants. Such actions can ruin a club's reputation overnight. The cause is usually excessive delay in returning the fish, poor bagging, and/or allowing awards to damage the fish.

SPECIAL ATTENTION:

The Judging Board considers the proper and prompt return of entrants' fish and auction funds to be a top priority of the Show Chairperson. Thus, the Board will seriously consider appropriate action against an organization or individual who fails to diligently implement this procedure.

REPORTING RESULTS OF THE SHOW:

A show is not over until the final paperwork is done. Sample Show Reports are found in the back of these Standards and on the IBC website.

WITHIN 2 DAYS, preliminary show results are to be posted on the Internet using the IBC web site.

Return all show entrants' fish with copies of the preliminary show results and their entry form with winning places information on the first or second postal day following the show.

WITHIN 10 DAYS

1. Refund entry fees to entrants for fish that arrived dead or for fish that were too sick to enter (refunds are not required for fish that die after they are entered and benched). Also refund entry fees to entrants for fish that arrived too late to enter.

2. Send any awards and auction money that are due to the entrants and a letter of explanation for any problems.

3. Send the following to the Judging Board Chairperson and Registrar of the Judging Board:

- A copy of the official show results for updating point totals.
- An electronic copy of the full show log. Show logs must have all entrant 'label/remarks' on them.
- A letter explaining any special problems.
- The current Show Data Report as directed by the Judging Board from show year to show year.
- Digital pictures of BOS winners (if possible), and a selection of other photos with award winners noted.

4. Send a copy of the official show results to the Editor of FLARE!, Judging Board Registrar, Judging Board Chairman, JB Area Representative and Webmaster of the IBC Website for publication.

Need help? The Chair and the Members of the Judging Board are specifically charged with helping Show Chairs do their job efficiently. The names, emails, and phone numbers of the current Judging Board Chair and Members can be found in FLARE! and on the IBC web site. Show Chairs for either International or District Shows are automatically members of a Judging Board committee for the current show year. The Chair of the Judging Board should be consulted for a temporary ruling on a situation not covered by these Standards.

PENALTIES

The Judging Board may penalize clubs that have irregularities in their shows. Likewise, the Judging Board may also penalize an entrant for improper conduct.

USING THE IBC SHOW LOG SYSTEM

Standard reporting forms in this manual are suggested for use. Although these forms are recommended, any system may be used.

As entries are received, log them in on the MASTER accounting form known as the Continuous Number Log (1, 2, 3, 4, etc.). It is this sheet that will help to account for all the entries in the show and in the auction.

Then begin recording the entries from the Continuous Number Log into the Individual Class Logs. There is one Class Log for each class in the show.

Use one Class Log separately to temporarily keep track of the entries that are to be given Judge's Help in classification. Once a Judge has selected a class for each fish in this log, they MUST be re-entered on the correct Class Log.

For each entry, place a continuous number label on the bowl. Labels with the Class Log Entry number, and labels identifying variations or species if appropriate, are to be placed on the front panel of the bowl. All labels are to be above the water line.

Use the Continuous Number Log for the Auction. Entries in the show will be known by their continuous number, such as #235. Fish that are for sale but were not entered in the show should also have a unique auction number, such as #AO-4.

NOTE: It is also helpful to place the "for auction" label on the show containers at this time. This avoids the need to track down containers after they are benched, saving time.

SHOW LOG CONTENTS

Use Continuous Log Number sheets to record all fish, including those that are being handled for auction only. Use a separate log sheet for Auction Only fish that starts with the number AO-1.

Use Class Entry Log sheets, one for each class. A separate such sheet should be used to temporarily record the HELP fish.

Some additional special use sheets may also be kept. For example, a name/address sheet for all entrants, and perhaps one for all of the participants in the auction, can be useful.

One of the most important things to remember about the Log Book is: KEEP IT!
The specific Class Designators and names for the classes are found in the last portion of the Judges' Manual (See Chapter 10).

CHAPTER 3: IBC JUDGES

TERMINOLOGY

The definition of a term given by the Exhibition Standards may differ from other source definitions of the same term: an example term is “Cambodian.” The genetic definition and the Standards definition are not the same. Another example is that of the species designations. The IBC Judging Board is not a scientific organization and is not bound to scientific definitions of the species of the genus Betta. Thus, when the term Betta imbellis is used, it may or may not refer to a species. It does refer to an IBC recognized type of betta. During the judging of a show, the Exhibition Standards definition has precedence.

THE IBC JUDGING BOARD

The International Betta Congress Judging Board is one of two international boards elected by the membership of the Congress. The other, the International Executive Board, is charged with the administration of IBC as an organization. The International Judging Board consists of six Members at Large and one Area Representative from each qualified Show Area of the International Betta Congress as specified in the IBC Constitution. A Chairperson is internally elected from within this group. An Executive Board member designated by the Executive Board serves as a representative of same. If that member is a Certified Judge, he or she shall be a voting member. If not a Certified Judge, then he or she will be a non-voting member. The Judging Board is charged with the creation and maintenance of the show system. That is mechanically done through the development and maintenance of the Show Manual and Judge’s Manual.

COMMITTEES

- Committee on Judge’s Certification: this committee handles all matters dealing with Judge Certification and Judge Procedures.
- Committee on Judges’ Training: this committee handles all matters dealing with Judges' Training.
- Committee on Standards: this committee deals with the General and Special Standards sections of this manual.

AUTHORITIES

IBC CONSTITUTION

- Composition and election of the Judging Board IBC BY-LAWS:

Duties of the Judging Board

- Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson
- Duties of the Committee on Standards
- Duties of the Committee on Judge’s Training
- Duties of the Committee on the Maintenance of Judge’s Certification

IBC JUDGING BOARD MANUAL:

- Procedures used by the Board

PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES:

The Judging Board Operational Manual, which is the third section of these Exhibition Standards, is normally distributed only to members of the Judging Board and its committees. It may be obtained through the Technical Assistance Committee.

ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETINGS:

All Judging Board meetings at a convention shall be open to the membership of the Congress except where confidentiality is needed for individual cases before the board. The Chairperson of the Judging Board shall conduct business with each of the remaining members of the Judging Board via the approved group meeting site which is normally a closed web group, stating propositions for a vote and discussion of other business as the Chairperson deems advisable.

BUSINESS:

Only members of the Board may formally introduce business items at a meeting of the Board; however, any member of the Congress may submit proposed business items to a member of the Board for introduction. In addition, the Board shall be diligent in reviewing items published in FLARE! or online, which may represent suggestions of business items for the Board to consider. Whenever possible, proposed changes of the Exhibition Standards are to be announced in FLARE! or online prior to a Board vote to encourage comment from the membership.

CHANGES TO EXHIBITION STANDARDS AND SHOW CLASSES

Stability in the show class system is important. However, the Board may make changes to the class designations at each show year. When considering class additions/deletions, the Board should consider:

1. Class entry statistics: Classes consistently having fewer than 4 entries per show should be considered low in participation; more than 12 is high.
2. The Typing System: Changes must conform to the philosophical organization of the betta variations.
3. Mutations: Carefully be alert for new mutations that have become established as opposed to those that are in development. Encourage their establishment.
4. Show Impact: Cost and workload on host clubs should always be considered.

International and District Shows must be judged by IBC Certified Judges!

JUDGES:

IBC judges have one primary function: to apply the official IBC Standards when evaluating the entries in an official IBC Sanctioned Betta Show. They may, on occasion, also conduct training classes and present lectures as requested by interested organizations.

It is customary to provide the Head Invited Judge with meals and lodging during the show. Sometimes, the judge's travel expenses are also provided. However, any fees or remuneration received by an IBC judge is strictly between the judge and the Host Club. No Judge or Group of Judges may demand renumeration, including certain facilities not being offered by the show chair/host club. In Areas with large shows Judges should negotiate in all fairness with respect to the Judges and the Show Chair/Committee with terms that are beneficial to both.

Some judges may choose to come on their own at their own expense – this is their choice. Invited judges other than the Head Judge are expected to understand that a show's resources are limited, and they should help as they can.

Selection of the officially invited Head Certified Judge is at the discretion of the Show Chairperson, and neither uninvited Certified Judges nor Apprentice Judges normally receive fees or services. No uninvited Certified Judge or Apprentice Judge may be refused the right to judge unless that judge has rendered himself ineligible by engaging in unethical behavior at that show. The Head Judge will be either the Invited Judge or the senior Certified Judge when there is no Invited Judge. The Head Judge will have seniority over any uninvited judges and will oversee judges and the show judging. It is always best to arrange for a judge well before a show and, also, to be sure both the Host Club and the judge understand clearly what fees or services will or will not be provided. It is most unwise to wait until the show has begun to reach agreement. As a matter of courtesy an uninvited judge should inform the Show Chairperson of his/her intent to judge the show prior to arrival.

It is recognized that honest differences of opinion exist in many areas of the betta hobby: the designation of "species", the designation of "classes", betta genetics, and so forth.

JUDGE RESPONSIBILITIES

Follow the Standards: While merely stating rules may not resolve philosophical differences, an IBC Judge, by accepting certification, is ethically obligated to apply the Standards at all IBC Shows. The Standards permit subjective assessment of many aspects of judging, but they also provide specific guidance to be followed in most instances. The Judging Board cannot overrule a judge's decision unless it violates a rule of the Standards. However, Show Chairs are free to express to the Board any problems they perceive with a judge or his or her procedures for possible disciplinary action. Judges are expected to stay current on all IBC Standards.

There are two distinct types of IBC Judges:

TYPES OF JUDGES

1. CERTIFIED JUDGE:

An individual, having completed the certification process, who is authorized to judge without supervision at any IBC sanctioned show. The International Judging Board will work closely with the Area representatives to help establish programs for judge certification in the respective Judging Areas. These may vary in detail depending on Area need/circumstance. The membership of these Judging Areas is encouraged to further develop and maintain these programs. All certified judges can judge any area shows. The JB recommends, however, that judges from another area do team judging with an area judge before doing individual judging in that area. (For example, a judge from Area 2 can judge shows in Area 7, however, we recommend that the Area 2 judge first judge in conjunction with an Area 7 judge before the Area 2 judge judges an Area 7 show by themselves.)

2. APPRENTICE JUDGE:

Apprentice Judges are not authorized to judge IBC Shows without the supervision of an IBC Certified Judge. As a matter of courtesy, an Apprentice should inform the Show Chairperson and the Head Judge of his/her intent to judge the show prior to arrival. There should be no more than 2 apprentices allowed for each judge at any IBC sanctioned show without prior approval of the Judging Board (Area 6 now allows 2 apprentices for each judge).

All current and future IBC Certified Judges are certified for lifetime, provided that their IBC membership does not lapse for more than sixty (60) days and judge at least one international show every 2 years or place in the top 10. All Certified Judges are strongly encouraged to frequently review the IBC Judging Standards and to keep themselves aware of betta developments, including wild types.

A lapse of IBC membership in excess of sixty (60) days will result in decertification, necessitating fulfilling the recertification requirements to regain lifetime certification.

DURATION OF CERTIFICATION:

Certification can be lost in three ways:

1. Failing to keep IBC membership current: this means a lapse in IBC membership for a period in excess of sixty (60) days.

2. Failing to judge at least one IBC sanctioned Area international show in two consecutive show years or to place in the top 10 year- end points.

3. Revocation by the judging board:

A judge's certification may be revoked by majority vote of the Judging Board. The effective date is as specified in a registered letter to the judge from the Judging Board Chairperson or as published in FLARE!. A judge's certification cannot be revoked by the Board unless the judge has been notified of the pending action and is given at least 60 days to appeal.

In order to regain lifetime certification, a former judge must be a current member of IBC and must complete Item

RECERTIFICATION:

(1) or (2) plus Item (3) as follows:

1. Pass an open book test based on the Judging Standards provided by the Judging Board, or

2. Attend Judging Seminars 1 and 2 conducted by a member of the Judging Board or a Certified Judge authorized by the Judging Board

PLUS

3. Judge an IBC sanctioned Area International Show as an Apprentice Judge under an IBC Certified Judge and pass a visual test.

Suspended/Decertified Judge Caution:

If a judge who has lost his/her certification judges a show, the results will not be thrown out by the Judging Board unless the Show Chairperson was aware of the situation but permitted the judge to proceed anyway. That judge, however, has forfeited recertification through any process other than appeal to the Judging Board or the restarting of the full apprentice program.

CODE OF ETHICS FOR IBC JUDGES

IBC Judges, apprentices, and those who would become judges must adhere to the highest standards of honesty, integrity, discretion, and diligence. They must always remember that they represent the club in its most public activities and that the club is judged favorably or unfavorably by their actions. The following, while not all-inclusive, is a basic guideline.

Proficiency — a judge must continue to develop his or her proficiency and knowledge of the betta and the published Standards by which we judge.

Diligence — a judge must always judge fairly and strictly by the Standards, putting his or her personal preferences aside.

Withdrawal — a judge must withdraw from judging in any situation that would constitute an impropriety or the appearance of an impropriety.

Discretion — a judge must approach problems and disputes fairly and with discretion while seeking appropriate channels for resolutions, including those within the Judging Board and Executive Board, rather than simply publicly airing a grievance.

Teaching — a judge should share his or her knowledge not only with other judges and apprentices, but with the membership as well.

IBC Improvement — a judge should always be seeking ways to improve the Standards and other rules, procedures, and methods by which the IBC exists and propose appropriate changes in accordance with the IBC Constitution.

CHAPTER 4: JUDGING PROCEDURES

PREPARATION

Making Final Arrangements: Before traveling to a show, the judge should be certain of the arrangements made by the Show Committee and any fees or services being offered. Also, the judge should be certain what, other than judging, is expected of him or her. The judge should not expect anything that has not been previously agreed upon with the Show Chairperson.

Reviewing these Standards: Regardless of experience, a judge owes it to the Show Committee and exhibitors to thoroughly review the Standards and any current revisions before each show. IBC Judges are trained in these standards of judging and are primarily tasked to select betta winners based on the specific requirements found in the Standards. The overall emphasis in betta judging is conformity to the Standards, in other words, comparing the bettas in the show against the ideal betta. Of course, it is necessary to balance the "ideal" with the practical, thus bettas are also compared against the other entries in a class. This can mean that a less than "ideal" betta, as described in that Standard, may win a class. However, just because a betta may indeed be beautiful does not mean that it is acceptable for the traits described in the Standards.

Fish conforming most nearly to the Standards are to be given preference. The simple rule is: Fish are judged based on the way they look at that moment in time (and against the competitors present); not on the perception of their genetic background or physical/breeding potential, or how they looked or will look at any other time.

GENERAL JUDGING PROCEDURES

Showing bettas is an opportunity for IBC members to exhibit their breeding efforts and to compete with other IBC members for show awards. Preparing for a show is very labor intensive, and assistance from all available IBC members is encouraged.

The Head Judge will be either the Invited Judge or the senior Certified Judge when there is no Invited Judge. Any uninvited judge wishing to judge the show should notify the Show Chairperson at least a week prior to the show. Any judge wishing to judge a show must arrive with a current copy of the standards. It is the responsibility of the Head Judge to check on this before allowing the judge to participate in judging the show. During the set up for the show, judges should remain outside the showroom. However, a judge cannot be disqualified from judging simply because he/she has been in the showroom briefly for some compelling reason.

Apprentice judges are allowed in the show room to assist with the show set up, but they should refrain from lengthy or close-up viewing before the start of judging. Assistance in preparing a show (which is encouraged) must be done so as to avoid judges viewing the fish closely or reading any show entry records. **Any discussion with judges about ownership of any particular fish is prohibited.**

If Judges' Help is requested: Often an entrant will specifically request help in classifying an entry. The first step in show judging is for the judge to view Judges' Help fish and select the proper class for each fish. The show chairperson can call on any certified judge who doesn't have fish entered in the show to assist with reclassifying "class help" entries. The Head Judge present is responsible for all other show judging procedures.

Caution: If the judge selects a variation or wild type placement, the judge will advise the Show Committee of the appropriate bowl label.

Due Consideration: The cardinal rule of judging is: Each and every fish entered, regardless of its appearance, will be given due consideration by the judge.

Genetics: Judging gives no consideration to the genetics or supposed genetics of a betta entry. Phenotype (the way it looks) compared to the standards and to the competition present is the only consideration.

Aid to Judges: The Show Chairperson should provide the judge with an assistant to record the results of judging as well as to aid in any entry form consultations. It is welcomed for the assistant to consider the needs of the judge during a show, such as refreshments.

Apprentice Judges: Show judging is an opportunity for Certified Judges to carefully consider and conduct the training of Apprentice Judges. Certified Judges should discuss with each Apprentice Judge their experience and areas of strengths and weaknesses.

Certified Judges should assign judging tasks that will advance the abilities of Apprentice Judges. Certified Judges should actively involve Apprentices in the selection of the class winners, even though award decisions are the sole responsibility of the Certified Judge. Apprentice Judges are allowed to enter fish in the show but may not participate in the judging of a class where they have entered fish, and they may not identify fish they have entered. This also applies to Best of Show Judging. An Apprentice should step back when classes where they have entries are being judged. There is usually time after the show to ask/answer any questions.

Every effort must be made to avoid impropriety. Apprentice judges must use caution when entering shows, since they must judge at least 50% of the classes or a minimum of 100 entries. For details of what an apprentice can or cannot do during a show, see Judges and Apprentices at Shows, below.

Audience: The Head Judge is authorized to exclude any person from the judging area except the Show Chairperson. The Show Chairperson is also authorized to exclude any person from the show room other than the judges and their host club helpers. There is, however, much to be gained by allowing people to view and hear judging in progress. This promotes an understanding of the show system, betta traits, and judging, and generates greater interest in the hobby. The audience should not be allowed to disturb the judges in any way. Unless prohibited by the Judge or the Show Chairperson, entrants in a class may witness the judging, provided they make no comments, gestures, facial expressions, or take other actions which could influence or interfere with the judging. It is unethical for an entrant to do so. A formal complaint against an entrant by a show judge, Show Chairperson, or other entrant, forwarded to the Judging Board, may result in censure of the entrant.

JUDGES AND APPRENTICES AT SHOWS

JUDGES

1. All Judges who are going to Judge at a show are not allowed to be in the show room while fish are being unpacked and benched. They may help with pre-work such as setting up stands or filling water, but discussion about entries is prohibited while that judge is present. They cannot deal with any of the records in the show, which would include Show Chair or assisting on the computer before or during the show. Any discussion with judges about ownership of any particular fish is prohibited during the entire judging process.

2. The Head Judge involved in judging a show and members of their households may not have fish entered in the show. The Head Judge may not receive fish.

3. Other Judges who will be judging that show may enter fish in the show, but may not participate in the judging of a class where they have entered fish, and they may not identify fish they have entered. The Head Judge and the Show Chair should work together to ensure that judges don't judge classes they have fish in. If a Judge has fish in the show, they are not allowed to participate in BOV or BOS judging, even by observing (they must be well out of earshot, either in a different room or on the far side of where the judging is taking place). Judges may only receive fish boxes if there are literally no other club members who can do it, and they should not open the boxes unless the boxes are wet or there is other indication they might need immediate help (every effort should be made to find another club member who could receive fish other than a participating Judge).

4. A Head Judge should have been an IBC Judge for a minimum of one year, and have judged at least two shows under another judge. If an Area has no Judges that meet this requirement then this requirement is waived. When a judge has been asked to be a Head Judge by a Show Chair, the Head Judge must check in with the Judging Board to be briefed on any items that should be paid particular attention to during the show year. The Head Judge should also give a report back to the Judging Board after the show.

   Exception to benching fish - Judges may bench their own fish if they have fish entered in the show. However, they may not bench near other competitors benching, and discussion of other entries is forbidden. Giving the fish to the show committee to bench instead is highly encouraged.

   If a Judge is bringing other people's fish to a show (hand-carrying in, for example), the Judge must report this to the show chair and Head Judge and the Head Judge and Show Chair should exercise judgment in whether the judge should judge or not judge classes those fish are in. The preference would be for the judge not to judge those classes, however the Head Judge and Show Chair have the option of allowing it based on circumstances. The Judge should hand those fish to the show committee to bench and should not bench them directly unless a specific exemption is granted by the Head Judge and Show Chair.

   All IBC Judges can judge at IBC Shows. No IBC Judge can be refused by a Show Chair to judge at a show if they ask to judge. If an IBC Judge wishes to judge at a show that they have not been invited to, they should give the Head Judge and Show Chair a minimum of 7 days notice as a courtesy to arrange matters. However, they should be allowed to judge if they show up unexpectedly. The Judge is, though, requested to give notice if they can.

JUDGING TECHNIQUES

1. The Judging System: Judging to select the winning bettas is to be by faults-only comparison. Fish with the fewest faults and/or the least serious faults become the winners through the process of elimination. All General Standards faults and Special Standards faults must be considered. Ties are not permitted, so if two fish both have the fewest faults for an award, the judge must choose between them.

2. Light: Judges may use a standard flashlight as needed. If an LED flashlight is used, it must be the warm white LED which does not distort the color of the fish.

3. Moving the Show Bowls: The judge may move show containers as desired.

4. All fish in the show should be checked with a black-light before judging begins. Any fish found glowing in self bred classes are to be reported immediately to the Head Judge who will send a report to the Judging Board.

5. Disturbing the Fish: The judge is permitted and expected to take measures to get a reluctant fish to display. This may include tapping on the bowl, shaking it, moving it, placing other males or females in a different bowl against the bowl, and stirring the water (only with a straw; fingers, pencils, pens, etc. are not permitted). A straw or other object inserted into a bowl MUST be discarded to avoid contamination between show containers.

6. Carding/Uncarding: It is recommended that the fish not be uncarded for more than 30 minutes. Allow adequate time to judge but minimizing exposure time is best.

NO TIME LIMIT

The Show Committee is prohibited from imposing any time limit on the judging of a show. Of course, the Show Chairperson is encouraged to discuss any time problems with the judge

IBC CONVENTION

The IBC Judging Board is responsible for the judging of the IBC Convention show. If more judges are needed, additional Certified Judges (including judges who have entered fish in the show) may be called upon by the Judging Board Chairman or his/her representative to help with judging, with standard restrictions.

DECISIONS ARE FINAL

Decisions of the judge are final, except in the case of an obvious rule violation or oversight. The Head Judge should review all the classes and may question a judge about such an exception and ask him/her to rejudge the class.

If the original judge is not available, the head judge may rejudge or ask another judge to rejudge if needed.

GIVING AWARDS

Judges are to award all places in classes, provided there are enough legitimate and proper entries. If award positions are left vacant, any entries not placed must have been disqualified. This may mean a relatively inferior fish may win first place, but judging is to be done against the Standards and the competition. If there are no superior entries (which more closely match the Standards), that fish wins, unless disqualified.

The Show Committee may request the judge to select other “special awards,” such as fourth place, honorable mention, and so forth.

MULTIPLE JUDGES

If there is more than one Certified Judge for the show, the Head Judge assigns each judge classes for judging. The Head Judge has the option to have judges work in pairs whenever there are sufficient judges available. The assigned judge has sole responsibility for the classes judged. If a class is assigned to more than one judge, they must reach agreement on the results. If they cannot agree, the Head Judge’s decision is final.

JUDGING FOR THE BEST OF SHOW

While there is a weight in BOV and BOS towards general form (the traits all classes have in common), the judging for BOV and BOS should not be reduced purely to a form and finnage judging. All faults must be considered, and the question asked, "Is this fish the best representative of its class that it can be?" All fish should be given equal consideration, even if some of the fish are less vibrantly spectacular than their fellows – i.e. A multicolor should

not win over a cellophane simply because the multicolor is prettier. Detail on the fault levels is key at this stage of judging.

If more than one Certified Judge is judging the show, all judges should participate in the Best of Show judging unless they have fish competing for those awards. Agreement on the results is desired, but decision of the majority or Head Judge in the event of a tie is final.

Restrictions: Apprentice Judges must participate. If an Apprentice has a fish competing for Best of Show, that Apprentice will be excluded from the judging. Before the winners are made known, the Apprentice may repeat the procedure under instruction from a Certified Judge.

Procedure: Best of Variety winners are first selected from each respective mandatory Show Division. Wild and Optional Classes will not be considered. Reserve Best of Variety winners will also be selected from the first-place winners in each Show Division plus the 2nd place fish in the winner's class.

The First-Place winners in each variety of the male only classes will compete for Best of Variety/Reserve Best of Variety Male. Likewise, the First-Place winners in each variety of the female only classes will compete for Best of Variety Female/ Reserve Best if Variety Female. Once the Best of Variety fish are chosen the 2nd place fish from the same class as the Best of Variety will be brought up and will compete with the remaining first place winners for Reserve Best of Variety male and female, respectively. If there is no 2nd place winner in the class, the remaining 1st place winners will compete for Reserve Best of Variety male and female respectively.

NOTE: Wild Types Betta entries are awarded Best Entry and Reserve Best Entry (not separate male and female), but do not compete for Best of Show.

NOTE: Breeders Division class winners will be considered for BOV/RBOV appropriate to their respective gender and variety. The Pairs class entries will be separated for this purpose.

BEST OF SHOW MALE AND BEST OF SHOW FEMALE ARE SELECTED NEXT

1. The Best of Variety fish compete for Best of Show, Male and Female respectively.

2. The RBOV fish from the same variety as the just selected Best of Show fish will be brought in with the remaining variety winners to compete for Reserve Best of Show. Male and Female respective.

JUDGING OPTIONAL CLASSES

The judge may be occasionally asked to judge classes that contain artwork, photography, or other unusual entries. The standards provide a minimum of guidance in these instances, leaving it to the judge's personal preference and knowledge. All attempts should be made to judge these items as fairly as possible, taking into consideration the overall aesthetics, the representation of bettas or the betta hobby, the difficulty level, and other aspects of the art. The winning entries in these classes, whether they contain fish or not, do not compete for Best of Show. The host club may bring in other people who might be experts in artwork to judge the art entries. Note: Art classes are no longer optional.

DISQUALIFICATION—DO IT!

Judges are required to disqualify entries for all valid reasons listed in the standards. Failing to do so is not proper conduct by the judge. The fact that there will not be enough fish left in the class to present all awards should not be a consideration in the decision to disqualify.

Reasons for disqualification are found in both the General and Special sections of the standards.

PROCEDURE FOR DISQUALIFICATION OF AN ENTRY

1) The judge must first be certain that the entry can be legally disqualified in accordance with the guidance provided by the Standards.

2) When disqualification is appropriate, the judge must ensure that the fault is that of the exhibitor, not the Show Committee. If, for example, it is found that a Wild Type entry is not labeled, and the exhibitor did in fact send a label for that entry, this entry cannot be disqualified.

3) After deciding to disqualify, the judge must inform the Show Committee, stating the specific reason for disqualification. The Show Committee must withdraw the fish from exhibition and annotate the disqualification and reason on the entry form. The entrant must be informed of the reason for any disqualification.

4) If a fish is classified following a "class help" request and subsequently determined to be in the wrong class, it should be moved and the receiving class re-judged.

5) Before disqualifying for class error, the judge should request the Show Committee check the entry form to see if the entry may be moved.

6) Show Chairpersons who spot an administrative error in classification may request classification help from the judge on behalf of the exhibitor if the entry form indicates approval to reclassify. This should occur before the start of judging. If an administrative error in classification is discovered during the judging process, the entry must be moved to the class the entrant intended and the class re-judged if necessary. A Certified Judge may reclassify any entry he feels is in an inappropriate class, re- opening classes already judged when necessary. If the class is re-judged, the added entry need only be judged against the previously selected top three fish. Thus, it is wise to make the second step of the judging process a quick look through of the fish, looking for obvious misclassifications that need to be moved into other classes.

JUDGING SYSTEM

Using the General, Finnage, and Special Standards: The following chapters comprise the criteria used in judging bettas and apply to all betta shows sanctioned by the International Betta Congress. Though primarily intended as guidelines and rules for judges, all IBC members can benefit from a thorough understanding of these chapters. The Standards are divided into three major categories. The following list shows these three major categories and their sub-categories:

General Characteristics	Finnage Characteristics	Color Characteristics
Dimension	Dorsal	Solid color
Condition	Caudal	Bicolor
Deportment	Anal	Patterned
	Ventrals & Pectorals	

Emphasis in Judging: The Standards, as described in Chapter 5: General and Finnage Standards, Chapter 6: Color Standards, and Chapter 7: Special Standards, form the basis for judging Betta splendens. Chapter 8 and Chapter 9 relate to Wild Types and Special Exhibits respectively and must be referred to for judging those types.

FAULTS Relative weight of faults: Faults can vary in degree from slight blemishes to severe defects. The judge will determine the fault level. Faults are classified into the following types (specifics on faulting are found in the General and Specific Standards that follow this chapter):

For General, Finnage, or Color/Special Traits, deduct points as noted for the following:

Slight Faults	3 points
Minor Faults	5 points
Major Faults	9 points
Severe Faults	17 points
Disqualifying Faults	Disqualify

Emphasis in Judging: The Standards, as described in Chapter 5: General and Finnage Standards, Chapter 6: Color Standards, and Chapter 7: Special Standards, form the basis for judging Betta splendens. Chapter 8 and Chapter 9 relate to Wild Types and Special Exhibits respectively and must be referred to for judging those types.

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SUGGESTED STEP-BY-STEP JUDGING PROCEDURE FOR A CLASS

For each of the steps below, follow the standard sequence of Head, Body, Dorsal, Caudal, Anal, Ventrals & Pectorals, Color, and Pattern.

1) Observe each betta, looking for specific disqualifying faults. Have an assistant (usually a chapter member from the host club) notify the Show Chairperson, stating which entries will be moved to other classes. Disqualify entries that cannot be moved to other classes, and have an assistant notify the Show Chairperson, stating the reason for disqualification.

2) Observe each betta, looking for severe faults. Move entries that show severe faults away from the judging area (usually this means moving them to lower shelves on the show stands). A diseased fish should be moved to a Quarantine area completely away from other fish to avoid cross contamination.

3) Observe each remaining betta, looking for major faults. If possible, move entries that show major faults away from the judging area (for classes with few entries, make sure to retain three bettas in the judging area to receive first, second, and third place awards).

NOTE: Even though bettas have been moved from the judging area because of major faults, the judge should look back at them often during the judging process to determine if one or more of them might be better than a contending fish that has many minor and slight faults.

4) Observe each remaining betta, looking for minor faults. Line up the contenders from left to right in the judging area, so that the betta with the fewest minor faults is on the far left, followed in sequence by entries with more minor faults. At this point the judge may find it helpful to take notes listing the minor faults of the finalists. NOTE: Remember to compare eliminated fish to the finalists just to make sure the best fish have been chosen.

5) Observe each remaining betta, looking for slight faults. Consider repositioning bettas that have two or three minor faults if the next fish in line has fewer minor faults. Listing all slight and minor faults for each betta and deducting points may be necessary to determine which entries receive first, second, and third place awards. The fault table above shows how many points can be deducted for each type of fault. The entry that has the fewest deducted points receives the first place award, followed by the entry with the next fewest deducted points receiving the second place award, and so on.

6) Record the winners, sign the class judging card, and move on to the next class.

PROCEDURE FOR COMBINING OR SPLITTING: QUICK GUIDE

1. Assess which classes in the show have very small numbers, or huge numbers of fish.

2. Using the *show class system* and the *color typing system*, see which classes you could possibly combine or split.

3. Compare the advantages/disadvantages of combining and splitting those classes.

4. Keep in mind that rare forms or colors should be encouraged, it might be better not to combine them.

5. Do not combine different Varieties, unless the show is very small.

6. If in doubt, do not combine or split classes, go with the Area class list.

COMBINE AND SPLIT BASICS

The purpose of combining or splitting classes is to make the competition as fair as possible, while being competitive at the same time. The principles and ethics of showing in IBC must always be kept in mind: give due respect to the fish, and give due respect to the breeders and/or contenders. An important aspect to also keep in mind is encouraging the rarer forms or colors.

General rule: A class with 12 or more fish (after disqualifying any fish with disqualifying faults), containing at least 5 of a color/pattern, may be split to become a separate class (e.g. if a solid color class has 5 red entries and 7 blue entries, they should be split into a red class and a blue class).

A class with less than 4** fish shall be merged with another class of the same group (e.g. if a butterfly class has only 2 entries, it should be merged with other patterns).

**At judges' discretion, these numbers may be pushed by 1 either down (to require only 3 fish for a class) or up (to allow for max. 5 fish of a color/pattern to remain in a class together with others) depending on the overall quality of that specific class (e.g. if there are 3 outstanding fish of a color/pattern, then they may be split or remain as an own class.

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Obviously, splitting or combining show classes cannot be done just any way that suits a judge's fantasy. It is always done with respect to the IBC typing system.

Form: First you need to look at IBC standards chapter 10, show class system. The breakdown is by:

– gender (male, female)

– Fin length (longfin, shortfin)

– tail type (single tail, double tail, crowntail)

Color: Second you need to look at IBC standards chapter 6, special standards, basis for judging color. Here the breakdown is by:

– Groups (single color, bicolor, patterned)

– Subgroups (presence of black, or lack of black)

– Categories (presence of iridescence, or lack of iridescence)

– Subcategories (presence of opaque, or lack of opaque)

– Types (the actual colors: red, blue, opaque white, etc.…and the main patterns)

– Subtypes (i.e.: blue marble or red marble, as subtypes of marble)

COMBINING OR SPLITTING: DECIDING BY NUMBERS

There is no exact, precise mathematical rule for this. Judges need some common sense, and also some experience, to do this in a satisfactory manner. If you are hesitant, or cannot decide how to split or combine classes, don't do it. Leave the classes as per the Area class list. While judging, if you have an idea to split or combine any of the classes, it's best to discuss the idea briefly with another judge; the final decision belongs to the head judge.

Combining classes should be considered when there is only one Betta in a show class. It can be considered when there are 2 or 3.

Keep in mind that while you want the show to be more competitive by combining classes, you don't want to discourage people who breed rare colors ! The breeder who shows yellow Bettas is already competing with clear, orange, pastel and white fish…better not combine that class with another.
Combining or Splitting: Examples A few examples of what can be done, or that have been done in Area 2 shows.

Example #1 – A1. Red or Black Male [2 fish] combined with A3. Blue or Green/Turquoise or Steel Male [3 fish] –> A1+A3. Dark Solid Male [5 fish].

Example #2 – A12. Bicolor Female [1 fish] combined with A13. Multicolor Female [2 fish] combined with A14. Other Patterned (bf, marb, griz) Female [1 fish] –> A12/13/14. Bicolor and Patterned Female [4 fish].

Example #3 – D6. Show Plakat Multicolor Male [30 fish] –> split into D6-a Show Plakat Multicolor Dark bodied Male [18 fish] and D6-b Show Plakat Multicolor Light-bodied Male [12 fish].

Example #4 – B1. Longfin Doubletail Male [1 fish] and C1. Longfin Crowntail Male [1 fish] –> better to not combine fish from 2 different Varieties, out of respect for the breeders.

Example #5 – In a very small show (let's say 50 Bettas) –> consider simply using the varieties as classes.

Judging apples and oranges: Just do it as you would judge for Best of Show, by comparing each fish to it's own standard.

JUDGE TRAINING

JUDGING SEMINARS

Judging Seminars can be given by IBC Judges who:

a) have been a certified judge for at least two years

b) have judged at least four different IBC shows, at least three of them international

Because information is best relayed in common languages, other judges may also give seminars if they get prior approval from the Judging Board. We recommend, if possible, a combination of an experienced certified judge along with a judge who speaks the language where the seminars are being given. If enough notice is given, the Judging Board can work with the judge and show chairs to create guides for the seminars in the appropriate language.

Any Judges wishing to give a seminar must contact the IBC Judging Board Chair in a timely manner so that a Certified Judge attending the show may obtain the most current seminar information, and also to get the seminar onto the events calendar officially.

GIVING SEMINARS OUTSIDE A JUDGE'S AREA

Due to regional differences in IBC Standards (such as self-bred or purchased fish showing), the Judging Board highly recommends that Judging Seminars be given by an accredited certified judge from the area where the seminars are being held. Some circumstances due to travel or timing may make this impractical, or other instances might make it desirable to have a guest judge hold the seminars. In that case, approved judges from other areas may give seminars, but the Show Chair must notify the Judging Board ahead of time, and explain why the exception is being requested. To be qualified, judges must have judged at an Area Convention before giving a seminar outside their Area. Any judge who hasn't attended an Area convention needs to request an exception from the Judging Board. Note that all plans for seminars must go to the IBC JB Chair in a timely manner before the seminar, so it can go on the official show calendar, and the latest seminar information and materials can be distributed.

Apprentice Judges: Show judging is an opportunity for Certified Judges to carefully consider and conduct the training of Apprentice Judges. Certified Judges should discuss with each Apprentice Judge their experience and areas of strengths and weaknesses. Certified Judges should assign judging tasks that will advance the abilities of Apprentice Judges. Certified Judges should actively involve Apprentices in the selection of the class winners, even though award decisions are the sole responsibility of the Certified Judge. Apprentice Judges are allowed to enter fish in the show but may not participate in the judging of a class where they have entered fish, and they may not identify fish they have entered. This also applies to Best of Show Judging. An Apprentice should step back when classes where they have entries are being judged. There is usually time after the show to ask/answer any questions.

Every effort must be made to avoid impropriety. Apprentice judges must use caution when entering shows, since they must judge at least 50% of the classes or a minimum of 100 entries.

BECOMING A JUDGE

An IBC member must within a two (2) year period either prior to becoming an apprentice or during the apprenticeship period:

A) Participate in showing bettas bred by the exhibitor and place in the Group A (Breeder) or Group B (New Breeder) open classes of Betta splendens in at least 2 IBC Area International or District sanctioned shows - at least 3 total places must be earned in the shows; or B) Place in the top 20 during any show year. (Awards in Arts & Crafts, Wild Type bettas, or New Breeder or Collector groups and Local shows will not count for placement requirements

B) FILL OUT AN APPLICATION: An Application Form (IBC Form 10) is found online and in Chapter 10. This form should be filled out and submitted to a member of the Judging Board or to his or her designee prior to the start of the first apprentice event. An Apprentice has three years from the official start date to complete the training. The official start date is the date of last Seminar attended (of Judging Seminars 1, 2 and 3).

Alternatively, a person wishing to enter the Apprentice Program may apprentice one (1) show with a Certified Judge before attending the Judging Seminars. The signed Apprentice Application Form must be mailed to the Certification Chairman immediately following the event, and that show will start their official three year period. (A picture of the form may be emailed to the JB Area Representative.)

1. ATTEND JUDGING SEMINARS:

The Judging Board conducts three distinct Seminars at each IBC Convention. The Seminars may be given at other times during the year by any Certified Judge with prior approval from the Judging Board Chairperson. It is recommended that Seminars be given in conjunction with a sanctioned International Point Show or a District Show with a Certified Judge so that prospective apprentices may gain experience with live fish. Note: Seminars can only be given at IBC Sanctioned events by JB Members or Certified Judges approved by the Judging Board.

THE SEMINARS ARE:

SEMINAR I:

This seminar covers the general anatomy, nomenclature, and characteristics of a betta. It also includes an explanation of the least-faults judging system. The seminar emphasizes the General Standards. (See Chapter 5.)

SEMINAR II:

Here the TYPING SYSTEM is the primary subject with some introduction to the various Betta species. This seminar emphasizes the Special Standards. (See Chapters 6–9.)

SEMINAR III:

This seminar is conducted in the show room during actual judging. The apprentice trainee s will accompany the judge to observe and participate in judging fish. Unless there are no full apprentices, they just watch as the Certified judge and apprentices are judging. They may ask questions at the end of a class or show. This is the "hands on" opportunity to learn how to judge Bettas. The judge explains his or her thought process and techniques (such as bowl manipulation, use of straws, light reflection, etc.) as each fish is closely inspected to identify the best in the class.

These 3 seminars are independently distinct and may be given in any order, as determined by the instructor.

2. SERVE AS AN IBC APPRENTICE JUDGE:

As soon as the three Seminars are completed and the Application Form is approved by the Chairman of the Committee on Judge Certification, the applicant is officially an IBC Apprentice Judge. The new Apprentice Judge must now serve as a student under a different Certified Judge for each of the four Area International or District Shows (two must be International Shows). It is recommended that one show be a Convention. The Convention should be the last show judged; however, the only restriction is that it should not be the first show judged

The apprentice period MUST BE a minimum of one year from the time of the first event until the apprentice completes testing and placement requirements.

3. COMPLETE THE VISUAL JUDGING TEST:

The Visual Judging Test is to be taken during the last show of the apprentice program. The apprentice must judge four classes. The apprentice must: 1) demonstrate the ability to properly disqualify when the need arises, 2) demonstrate the ability to discern subtle color differences, 3) demonstrate the ability to properly reclassify entries, such as Judges Help, and 4) Rank the top three fish (from actual show results) in three out of the first four places (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th) for a minimum of three of the four classes judged to successfully pass the test. The Visual Judging Test is offered at Conventions (and other shows as approved by the Judging Board Chairperson). The test is normally administered only after the official show judging is completed so that when the show fish are used they are not unduly disturbed before BOV and BOS judging. See end of Chapter 4 for more details. Apprentices that fail the visual test may retake the test at the next opportunity.

4. COMPLETE THE WRITTEN JUDGING TEST:

Also, after completing the apprentice judging of four shows, the Apprentice Judge must successfully pass a Written (open book, with an approximate one hour time limit) Judging Test covering the Judge's Manual. The test is always provided at Conventions. The test may be made available at other times as approved by the Judging Board Chairperson. If a test failure occurs, the applicant may retest at the next occasion on which the test is given. 30% of the Written test will cover Chapters 1–4. 70% will cover Chapters 5–10. A pass rate will be 80%.

The Area Convention Show apprenticing is considered by the Judging Board as an integral part of judge training. The exposure to a large number of judges from throughout the Area is an invaluable experience. However, an Apprentice Judge may substitute an Area International Show or a District Convention Show in lieu of an Area Convention Show provided this additional requirement is met: At least one of the Shows judged must have a minimum of 300 fish entries.

5. RECEIVE THE JUDGE CERTIFICATE:

It is the responsibility of all those participating in the Judge Certification Program to insure that the Chairman of the Committee on the Maintenance of Judges' Certification or Area Representative is aware of all events completed toward achievement of certification. A Certified Judge's date of seniority is the date of certification. Periodic lists of Certified Judges are published in FLARE! and on the IBC website..

APPRENTICESHIP STAGE ONE: THE SEMINARS

1. Apprentices just starting out and taking Seminars 1 and 2 can do all other show work, up to and including Show Chairing. There are no restrictions on seeing the fish for Apprentices doing Seminars 1 and 2. They can enter fish in the show without restriction. Any discussion with judges about ownership of any particular fish is prohibited during the entire judging process.
2. Seminar 3 trainee apprentices are usually cautioned to not talk during the judging – ask questions after judging. Therefore it is preferred that a Seminar 3 trainee apprentice not be show chair or handle show registration, however he/she can help with equipment set-up and anything after the judging is finished. Contact JB Chair and Area Representative for permission for a Show Chair to attend Seminar 3.
3. Full apprentices are allowed to help in the show room, including benching the fish and receiving the fish boxes. They cannot deal with any of the records in the show.
4. Any discussion with judges about ownership of any particular fish is prohibited during the entire judging process. Apprentices are allowed to enter fish in the show, but may not participate in the judging of a class where they have entered fish, and they may not identify fish they have entered. The Head Judge should find out from the Show Chair what classes the apprentice has fish in, and assign the apprentice's judge to other classes. Apprentice judges must use caution when entering shows, since they must judge at least 50% of the classes or a minimum of 100 entries. During Best of Variety and Best of Show judging, an apprentice taking Seminar 3 who has fish in the show must step back and observe only. The apprentice with fish in the show is not allowed to interact or comment directly in BOV or BOS judging, although they may watch. There are no restrictions on apprentices without fish in the show during BOV or BOS showing. Any discussion with judges about ownership of any particular fish is prohibited during the entire judging process.

APPRENTICESHIP STAGE TWO: FIRST SHOW

Apprentices working their first show are allowed to help in the show room, including benching the fish and receiving the fish boxes. They cannot deal with any of the records in the show, or assist on the computer during the show. Any discussion with judges about ownership of any particular fish is prohibited during the entire judging process. They are allowed to enter fish in the show, but may not participate in the judging of a class where they or a member of their household have entered fish, and they may not identify fish they have entered. The Head Judge should find out from the Show Chair what classes the apprentice has fish in, and assign the apprentice to judge other classes. Apprentice judges must use caution when entering shows, since they must judge at least 50% of the classes or a minimum of 100 entries. If an apprentice or a member of their household has fish in the show, they are not allowed to interact or speak in BOV or BOS judging, although they may watch from a distance, even by observing they should be well out of earshot.

They can gain the experience of BOS judging during New Breeder and Collector BOS/RBOS judging. There are no restrictions on apprentices without fish in the show during BOV or BOS showing.

APPRENTICESHIP STAGE THREE: SECOND SHOW

Apprentices working their second show may only receive fish boxes if there are literally no other club members who can do it, and they should not open the boxes unless the boxes are wet or there is other indication they might need immediate help.

Assistance in preparing a show (which is encouraged) must be done so as to avoid viewing the fish closely or reading any show entry records. They are allowed to assist with the show set up in general, but should refrain from lengthy or close-up viewing before the start of judging (we encourage help that doesn't come into contact with the fish, like filling the containers with water). They cannot deal with any of the records in the show, which would include Show Chair or assisting on the computer during the show until after judging is complete. Any discussion with judges about ownership of any particular fish is prohibited during the entire judging process. They are allowed to

enter fish in the show, but may not participate in the judging of a class where they have entered fish, and they may not identify fish they have entered. The Head Judge should find out from the Show Chair what classes the apprentice has fish in, and assign the apprentice's judge to other classes. Apprentice judges must use caution when entering shows, since they must judge at least 50% of the classes or a minimum of 100 entries. If an apprentice or family member has fish in the show, they are not allowed to participate in BOV or BOS judging although they may watch from a distance and cannot speak. (There are no restrictions on apprentices without fish in the show during BOV or BOS showing.

APPRENTICESHIP STAGE FOUR: THIRD SHOW

Apprentices working their third show may only receive fish boxes if there are literally no other club members who can do it, and they should not open the boxes unless the boxes are wet or there is other indication they might need immediate help.

Assistance in preparing a show (which is encouraged) must be done so as to avoid viewing the fish closely or reading any show entry records. They are allowed to assist with the show set up in general, but should refrain from lengthy or close-up viewing before the start of judging (we encourage help that doesn't come into contact with the fish, like filling the containers with water). They cannot deal with any of the records in the show, which would include Show Chair or assisting on the computer during the show. Any discussion with judges about ownership of any particular fish is prohibited during the entire judging process. They are allowed to enter fish in the show, but may not participate in the judging of a class where they or a family member have entered fish, and they may not identify fish they have entered. The Head Judge should find out from the Show Chair what classes the apprentice has fish in, and assign the apprentice's judge to other classes. Apprentice judges must use caution when entering shows, since they must judge at least 50% of the classes or a minimum of 100 entries. If an apprentice or a family member has fish in the show, they are not allowed to participate in BOV or BOS judging although they may watch from a distance and not speak. (There are no restrictions on apprentices without fish in the show during BOV or BOS showing.

APPRENTICESHIP STAGE FIVE: SHOW 4 AND VISUAL TEST

Apprentices who are undergoing their final visual tests are not allowed to receive fish or be in the show room while there are fish being benched present. They cannot deal with any of the records in the show, which would include Show Chair or assisting on the computer during the show. Any discussion with judges about ownership of any particular fish is prohibited during the entire judging process. Apprentices doing their visual testing are allowed to enter fish in the show, but may not participate in the judging of a class where they or a family member have entered fish, and they may not identify fish they have entered. The Head Judge should find out from the Show Chair what classes the apprentice has fish in, and assign the apprentice to judge other classes. If an apprentice has fish in the show, they are not allowed to participate in BOV or BOS judging but may watch from a distance and not speak.

COMPLETING THE VISUAL JUDGING TEST:

The Visual Judging Test is to be taken during the last show of the apprentice program.

The apprentice must judge four classes. The apprentice must:

1) demonstrate the ability to properly disqualify when the need arises,

2) demonstrate the ability to discern subtle color differences,

3) demonstrate the ability to properly reclassify entries, such as Judges Help, and

4) Rank the top three fish (from actual show results) in three out of the first four places (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th) for a minimum of three of the four classes judged to successfully pass the test.

The Visual Judging Test is offered at Conventions (and other shows as approved by the Judging Board Chairperson).

The test is administered only after the official show judging is completed so that when the show fish are used they are not unduly disturbed.

Apprentices that fail the visual test may retake the test at the next opportunity.

Before show have apprentice handle Class Help. Make sure to doublecheck to make sure correct classes were chosen.

JUDGING TEST PROTOCOL 1 OR 2 BELOW.

Each apprentice must test separately and must successfully complete a minimum of 4 classes.

VISUAL TEST: PROTOCOL OPTION 1

This option uses existing classes from the show. Select 4 classes to be used for testing after the Judging is completed. Per the rules above, the test is administered only after the official show judging is completed to allow the winners to not be unduly disturbed (for BOV and BOS judging).

At least one class should be Longfin males.

At least one class should be short fin males.

At least one class should be females.

Do NOT label winners (The 1st and 2nd places will be taken to be judged for BOV and BOS, but do not have placing labels on their containers during the visual test.

Make sure any apprentices taking the Visual Test do not apprentice these classes (simplest way is not to allow apprenticing at all for these 4 classes).

When testing begin, make sure to recheck to verify that the same three fish would place 1, 2, 3. Deportment and condition may have changed. If there are multiple apprentices testing using the same classes, make sure to check between each to make sure your ranking remains the same. Again deportment and condition of individual fish may change. Your first place may suddenly be sitting on the bottom of the bowl tired out and refuse to move for the apprentice and vice versa.

VISUAL TEST: PROTOCOL OPTION 2

The Certified Judge who is supervising the test should set up 4 classes with at least 4 fish each.

Make sure to wait until after ALL judging is finished before selecting fish. If there is a time constraint, select non-placing fish after classes have been judged. This leaves placing fish for BOV/BOS judging.

At least one class should be Longfin males.

At least one class should be short fin males.

At least one class should be females.

Include fish that would have to be moved because of color, sex, etc. Try not to be too obvious. Not every test class should have a Move or DQ.

Certified Judge can choose to create a class appropriate for New Breeder or District Classes – like the Halfmoon Longfin males class which could have reds, blues, coppers, etc. judged together.

Turn fish containers around so show stickers cannot be seen, and put new stickers labelled A, B, C, D, (E) and Identify these new classes as 1, 2, 3, 4. Certified Judge first judges the classes, noting characteristics for DQ or move. Keep these results hidden.

APPRENTICE JUDGE TEST SCORE SHEET

Apprentice Judge: judge the class noting 1st, 2nd 3rd and any fish needing to be moved or DQed. Have them justify each place referring to color, form, finnage, and deportment, and any move or DQ.

Name of Apprentice Judge _____Certified Judge _____

Show Host _____ Date_____

Class One: A, B, C, D, (E) Name of Class _____

Placed: 1_____2_____3 _____

Special notations (DQ or move reason:)

Class Two: A, B, C, D, (E) Name of Class _____

Placed: 1_____2_____3 _____

Special notations (DQ or move reason:)

Class Three: A, B, C, D, (E) Name of Class _____

Placed: 1_____2_____3 _____

Special notations (DQ or move reason:)

Class Four: A, B, C, D, (E) Name of Class _____

Placed: 1_____2_____3 _____

Special notations (DQ or move reason:)

Between individuals taking the test, **Certified Judge** should look at each class to make sure nothing has changed. For instance a fish may have fin some kind of damage, or be suddenly deporting very poorly, etc. Make note of such a change in your own records. Watch the apprentice taking the test so you see if anything has changed while he/she is judging. (ie: a test that deported very badly for the Certified judge suddenly decides to show off and have great deportment. So a fish the Certified judge placed 4th before may suddenly be 1st).

Set this aside so no one see these results.

Certified Judge grades the apprentice's visual test. If the apprentice's results are markedly different from yours, have him/her justify how they judged each class. If you agree with his/her reasoning is valid, score them as passing the class.

This would not apply to automatic DQ such as wrong sex, missing fins, etc. If they miss the DQ or MOVE, that class should be noted as a Fail. Remember they must pass 3 out of 4 classes.

If the apprentice has passed, **CERTIFIED JUDGE MAKES SURE TO SIGN THEIR APPRENTICE FORM AND BOTH HIS/HER WRITTEN AND VISUAL TESTS** .

CHAPTER 5 GENERAL STANDARDS: BODY AND FINNAGE

THE IDEAL SHOW BETTA

The ideal show Betta is in excellent health as shown by its faultless condition and vigorous deportment. The body and fins are unblemished. There are no body scars, spots, and missing or misshapen scales. Fin rays are straight or smoothly curved. Fins are held rigidly erect and gills are fully flared. Movement is continuous and aggressive with violent response to any intruder.

The ideal show Betta presents nearly mirror-image symmetry above and below an imaginary mid-lateral line. This Betta is well proportioned with respect to fins and body size. The body is smoothly tapered toward the caudal peduncle. The dorsal fin approaches the anal fin in shape, width, and size. There is a 180-degree spread between first and last caudal rays. The outer margins of the dorsal, caudal and anal fins trace a continuous circular contour with no gaps between fins. Fins are broad and overlap at the edges. Secondary and tertiary divisions occur at even intervals along the lengths of fin rays.

The ideal show Betta exhibits brilliant coloration of uniform density. In solid color classes there are no off-color washes in the fins and no blotching or speckling of unwanted colors on the body. Patterned types have dark and bright colors in shades that produce the highest contrast. The overall appearance of color on this Betta is one of vivid, sparkling beauty

GENERAL STANDARDS

These standards cover the traits that Bettas share in common. The General Standards are judging guidelines that emphasize health and development of the physical traits of the Betta.

The Judging Areas: In this section are the details of the General Standards judging areas of Dimension, Condition, Deportment, and Finnage.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

The Components: Each Rating Area may have listed sub-areas to be evaluated called the Components.

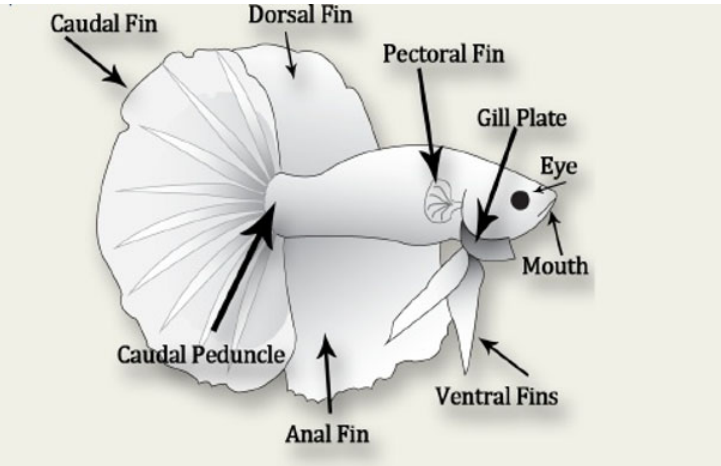
1) DIMENSION 2) CONDITION 3) DEPORTMENT

A. Size
    1. Body
    2. Fins
    3. Overall
B. Symmetry
C. Proportion
D. Shape
    1. Body
    2. Fins
    3. Overall

FINNAGE CHARACTERISTICS

(Size; Symmetry; Proportion; Shape)

Dorsal Caudal Anal Ventrals & Pectorals



OVERALL SHAPE

Overall ideal appearance of a quality Betta splendens (single tail or double tail) is a full circle with no open spaces between the three primary fins.

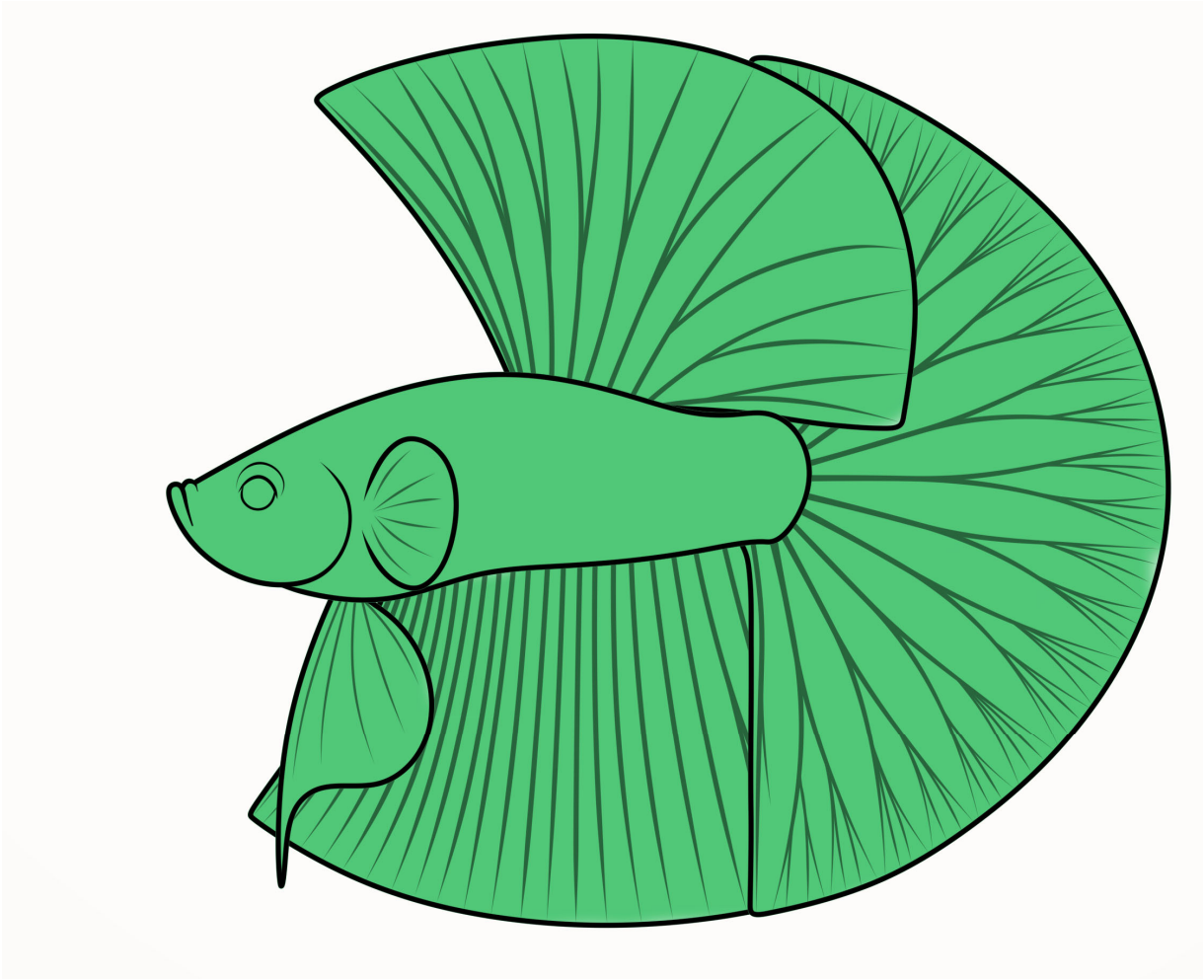


Diagram designed by Jacqueline Ferrigno

DIMENSION

BODY SIZE: Body size of males must be at least one and a half inches (3.8 cm) (1.5 in) long. Body size of Females must be at least one and a quarter inches (3.2 cm) (1.25”) long. (See Wild Types descriptions for size requirements in those species and Plakats.) Betta splendens that do not conform to these minimum body sizes will be faulted as severe if within (1.27 cm) 1/2 inch. Body size should be the last consideration when judging for the best fish in a class. All other things being equal (same number of faults deduction points), the larger fish should win.

Fin Sizes: The following fin sizes apply to male Betta splendens classes. Although the following describe fin length, judges and exhibitors must keep in mind that fins judging emphasis must be on their breadth and volume.

Dorsal Fin

Should be at least one-half the length of the body, measured from the base of the center fin ray to the outer tip of the same ray.

Caudal Fin

Should be at least one half of the length of the body as measured from the caudal peduncle to the center of the outer edge - NOT to the edge of the greatest extension.

Anal Fin

Should be at least one half of the length of the body measured from the base of the center fin ray to the outer tip of the center fin ray.

Ventral Fin

Length should be close to the length of the anal fin.

Pectoral Fin

Pectoral size is difficult to evaluate, especially if they are transparent. However, in general large full pectorals are desired.

SYMMETRY

The ideal Betta should be balanced with both body and fins defining smooth and continuous contours. The body should be nearly symmetrical above and below an imaginary mid-lateral line, excepting the region forward of the anal fin where body organs are housed. The silhouette of the three non-paired fins should be as close to a circle as possible with the outer margins of these fins tracing a continuous circular outline without gaps. In doubletail Bettas, the Judge should expect to see, as a norm, a higher degree of symmetry than shown by the singletail Bettas. The unpaired fins should display mirror- image symmetry above and below an imaginary mid- lateral line. This is due to the doubletail’s broader dorsal fin that can approach the breadth, volume and shape of the anal fin.

PROPORTION

A beautifully proportioned Betta is superior to one that is merely large. It is important that the fins and the body be in proportion to each other. If the fins are very large the body should be also. A disproportionately large (or small) unpaired fin detracts from the symmetry and overall beauty of the fish.

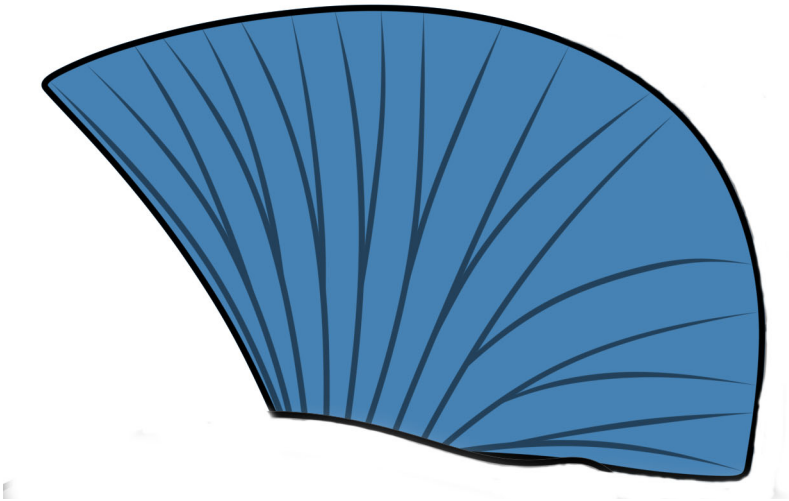
BODY SHAPE

The body should be a modified spindle shape that is somewhat heavier in the area of the ventral fins. It should taper cleanly toward the head and caudal fin with the tail junction, or peduncle, being thinner from side to side. It should be three to four times as long as it is "deep," top to bottom. The overall form of a Betta is very important. The body and its form in particular have a significant impact on the overall appearance of the Betta. The body must complement the fin structure, not overwhelm it. Example; a fat husky body with little finnage is a serious fault. Doubletail Bettas may have a deeper--top to bottom-- body than singletailed Bettas. The thicker body is acceptable, as long as it contributes to the support of the larger finnage of doubletails. (Form Variations, Plakats, and Wild Type entries will differ.)

FIN SHAPE

DORSAL FIN

Singletail Dorsal: The ideal shape is the Skyhawk type dorsal that sweeps forward. A variety of shapes are acceptable – semi-circle, quarter circle, rectangular - as long as breadth and volume are displayed. Triangular shape is unacceptable. As with the other fins, width and fullness are important, with maximum fin area a goal. Ideally, the dorsal fin will overlap the caudal fin and appear blended with it, though not physically fused. The first rays (closer to the head) must be comparable in length to the other rays.

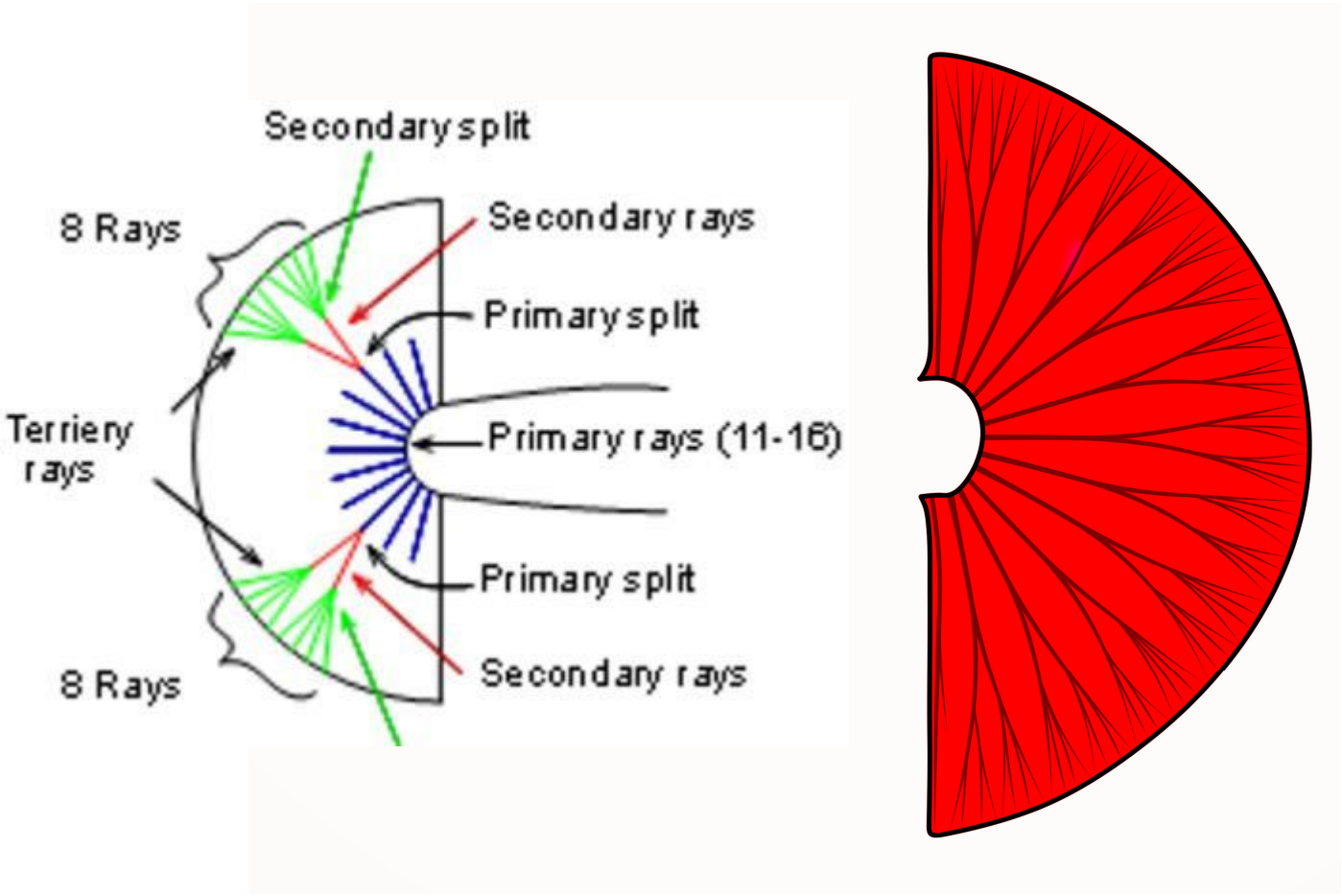


Doubletail Dorsal: The base of the dorsal fin of a doubletail Betta is expected to be considerably broader than that found in the singletail. The doubletail dorsal is, ideally, the mirror image of the anal fin in keeping with the concept of symmetry.

CAUDAL FIN

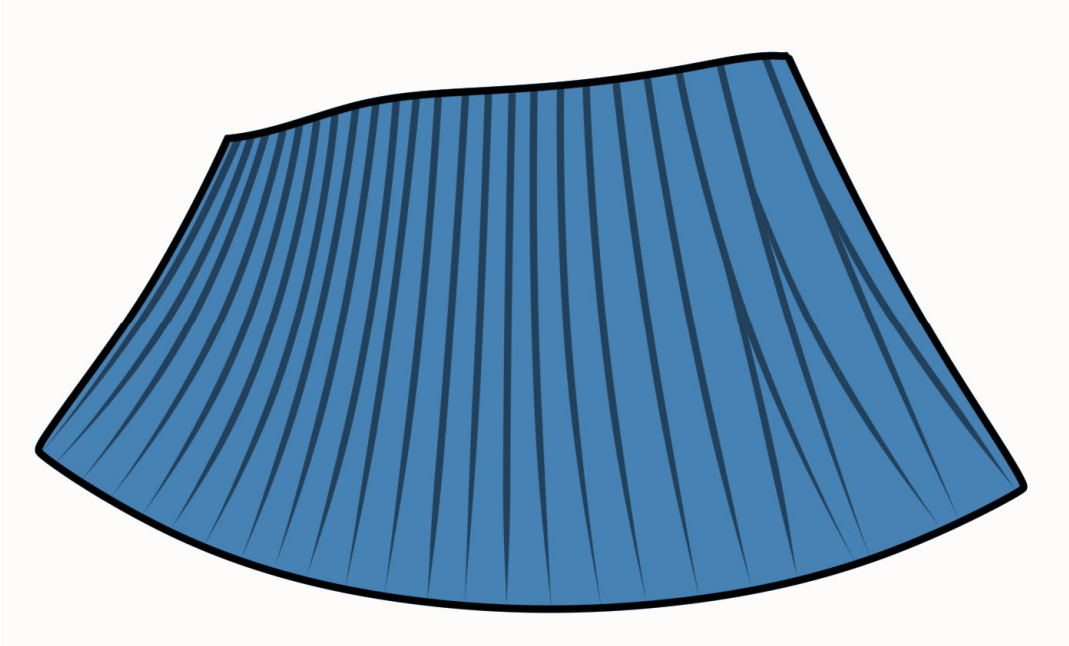
In singletail bettas, the ideal shape is a semi-circle that spreads to a perfect 180 degrees. Due to proper selection of breeders, fin ray branching, care, conditioning, and fin spread this is an elusive ideal to breed for and maintain. Because of this, some classes will sometimes not have specimens with this ideal caudal among them. In such classes, with all other things equal, the most symmetrical types having the widest spread and those with the least faults as described in the general fault guide and the special standards will have the best chance of placing. Caudal fins that slightly exceed 180° spread are neither favored nor faulted, over fish displaying 180° spread.

All caudals, including doubletail Bettas, should have rays evenly distributed above and below the centerline of the fish. Proportionate volume is ideal as opposed to length. Note: for the Doubletail Caudal - the volume in the upper and lower caudal should be equal and equally distributed above and below the centerline. The two caudals may overlap but should be separated all the way to the caudal peduncle. A half circle is ideal for the overall shape of the two caudal fins.



ANAL FIN

Shape to be roughly rectangular. The ideal shape of the anal fin is an isosceles trapezoid with the shorter side at the base of the fin at the body. In other words, the outer edge of the fin should be broader than the base. Front and back edges should not converge to a point forming a triangle. Volume and fullness are desired. Ideally, the anal fin overlaps, but does not fuse with, the caudal. Triangular shape in the anal fin is a form fault as is excessively long (1.5 to 2 times the width) anal fin. The anal fin should not extend beyond the bottom edge of the caudal fin.)



VENTRAL FINS

Shaped somewhat like a knife blade with the cutting edge to the rear. The front edge is slightly convex. Tips are pointed. Fins should be of equal length and not crossed. They must match each other. These fins should not be excessively short, nor long and thin. Fullness is desirable. Female ventral fins generally appear shorter in proportion to the body.

PECTORAL FINS

Pectoral fins are the most important in swimming, maintaining balance in the water, and rapid aggressive motion. Broad and long are preferred.

DOUBLETAIL BETTAS

Doubletail Bettas are expected to differ in several ways from the singletail:

1. Possess two distinct “tails” or caudal lobes instead of one, with a complete separation to the base of the caudal peduncle.
2. Possess a wider caudal peduncle to support the double lobes.
3. Possess a larger dorsal fin, nearly the size of the anal fin.
4. Their bodies are usually more “chunky” and often a bit shorter.
5. Bends in the caudal peduncle are expressed to a varying degree in almost all doubletail bettas. These are more easily noticed when viewing the fish from above. Easily seen bends should be faulted; if the bend is not excessive when viewed from above, the fish should not be penalized.



Butterfly Doubletail Male

Photo by Kenny Seaw

FEMALE BETTAS

Female Bettas of all types are of the same general form as their male counterparts, but with shorter fins and broader bodies. IBC encourages the maintenance of the distinctive female and male forms. Female Bettas vary considerably from males in several ways and should always appear "female."

JUDGING LONG-FINNED FEMALE BETTAS

1. Females are generally expected to be somewhat smaller overall. They are usually more rounded in the belly area than males.
2. Female fins are not expected to reach the same size or proportion of the male finnage. Female bettas should have broad voluminous fins, but not possess male finnage length.
3. Females are expected to show an egg spot.
4. Females may be less aggressive in their deportment.
5. The minimum size for show is 3.2 cm (1 ¼ inches).
6. Females are judged with the same general and color standards as males.

Disqualify: Egg-bound or showing no egg spot: excessive male finnage.
No visible egg-spot (disqualify)



Female Multicolor Betta

Photo by Steven Tran

GENERAL CONDITION

CONDITION

"CONDITION" considers the health of the Betta and the degree of body/fin "damage" that contribute to the overall appearance of a Betta. The fish should appear to be well nourished, vigorous, and with healthy fin and body tissue. Age can cause a reduced quality condition, such as excessive body size and curled fin rays.

Body

Perfect in appearance is the key. ANY nicks in the flesh, missing scales, protruding scales or other defects of the body material are to be faulted.

Fins

Though there are two sets of paired fins -- pectorals and ventrals -- and three unpaired fins -- dorsal, caudal, and anal -- certain aspects of development apply to all of the fins. Fin rays should be straight or slightly bent until they branch and grow parallel or fan out smoothly as they get farther from the base of the fin. Rays may extend beyond the webbing tissue -- called protruded or extended rays. If a fish exhibits extended rays, all fins should show extended rays, evenly spaced. Web tissue is to be full, strong, and undamaged. Margins should be smooth and unbroken except for fish showing extended rays. Fins should be carried erect with rays and webbing spread uniformly and fully. Pinholes, uneven edges that indicate former damage, splits in fins and "blown fins" are all indicators of the condition of the fish, the care the fish has been given and stress exposure. These are all faults ranging from minor to disqualification.

DEPORTMENT

Good deportment, often thought of as flaring, is an important trait for Betta splendens because, not only does it indicate vigor, it also allows other features, such as color, to be shown off to advantage. Though of a relatively small value, poor deportment can have disastrous consequences for the other components of evaluation. Poor deportment often gives the impression that the Betta "doesn't feel well", or is frightened. Obviously the fish must be studied as a whole when considering deportment. Each body/fin part plays a role. Caution: Wild type Bettas have considerably different deportment -- see descriptions. Other Betta species than splendens, particularly mouthbrooders, are frequently very nervous in bowls and consequently rarely flare. However, all fish regardless of species should appear alert with unclamped fins.

GENRAL FAULTS

DISQUALIFYING FAULTS – ALL CLASSES

1. Undersized body male (3.5 cm 1 3/8" body length, female (3.0 cm) 1 3/16" body length)
2. Swimming difficulty (due to excess finnage or swim bladder disorder).
3. Class error (fish entered in wrong class).
4. Non-splendens type not labeled.
5. Color or form variation not labeled.
6. Wrong sex for class.
7. Wrong species for class.
8. Hybrids in non-splendens class.
9. “Egg spot” on male, or no “egg spot” on female.
10. Female with excessive (male) finnage.
11. Malformed body (especially in double tails).
12. Missing external anatomical part, such as an eye, gill cover, or fin.
13. Extreme scale faults: Excessive irregular scale pattern/multiple misaligned scales.
14. Any sign of disease or illness.
15. Blindness (especially in Opaques and Albinos).
16. Egg bound (severely distended abdomen).
17. Shy or fearful behavior – does not rise from bowl bottom.
18. Any fish that has been artificially enhanced either by methods to improve color (example dying) or general appearance through fin trimming, ray removal, grooming or any other method will be disqualified.

*Undersized body male (3.75 cm 1.5" body length, female (3.25 cm) 1.25" body length) is now a Severe Fault in All Areas!

HEAD FAULTS – ALL CLASSES

1. Disfigurement of the lips (slight fault).
2. Small bump, small groove, or other slight deformity (minor fault).
3. Large bump, large groove, or other large deformity (major fault).
4. Head tilted (usually upward) out of alignment with body (severe fault).

BODY FAULTS – ALL CLASSES

1. Body stout or slightly fat (slight fault).
2. Doubletail body too short or stout (slight fault).
3. Body moderately too small for finnage (minor fault).
4. Body does not show ideal shape – minor anomaly. (minor fault).
5. Body has one or two misaligned scales (minor fault).
6. Body has several misaligned scales (major fault).
7. Body is “fat” or “skinny” (major fault).
8. Gill covers protrude outward when closed (major fault).
9. Body shows slight swayback or humpback (major fault).
10. Doubletail caudal peduncle bump or bend very noticeable (major fault).
11. Body shows excessive swayback or humpback (severe fault).

FINNAGE FAULTS – ALL CLASSES

GENERAL – ALL FINS

1. Projected rays on all fins, but some not even (minor fault).
2. One curled fin ray (minor fault)
3. Projected rays only on some fins (minor fault).
4. Outline of non-paired fins presents an oval rather than a circular shape. (minor fault)
   – does NOT apply to Plakats or females.
5. Gaps between the three unpaired fins - no overlapping (major fault).
6. Fins are too small for body (major fault).
7. Curled fin rays - more than one (major fault).
8. Fins not similar - some broad, some narrow (major fault).
9. Outline of non-paired fins presents a considerably non-symmetrical shape, such as a square, rectangular, or irregular shape. (major fault)

VENTRAL FINS

1. Crossed ventrals (slight fault).
2. Thin ventrals (slight fault).
3. Ventral fins – Single tip preferred, double tips (Slight Fault).
4. Extra long ventrals - except in Plakats (slight fault).
5. Noticeably short ventrals (minor fault).
6. Curled ventral(s) (minor fault).
7. Stubby ventrals (major fault).
8. Ventral fins bending outward (Major Fault)

DORSAL FIN

1. A few short rays on front of dorsal (slight fault).
2. Dorsal somewhat small in relation to anal and caudal (minor fault).
3. Singletail dorsal slightly narrow (minor fault).
4. Doubletail dorsal slightly more narrow than the anal (minor fault).
5. Doubletail and Singletail dorsal has no more than 3 stubby rays at the front edge (minor fault).
6. Doubletail dorsal has more than 3 stubby rays at front edge (major fault).
7. Singletail dorsal noticeably narrow (major fault).
8. Doubletail dorsal much more narrow than the anal (major fault).
9. Dorsal very small in relation to anal and caudal (major fault).
10. Singletail dorsal has more than 3 stubby rays (severe fault).

ANAL FIN

1. Long anal fin drops below bottom edge of caudal (minor fault)
2. A few front rays curled forward (minor fault).
3. Excessive rounding at front and bottom of anal fin approaching a “quarter circle” (major fault).
4. Front rays have severe forward curling at front (major fault).
5. Triangular shaped (severe fault).

CAUDAL (TAIL) FIN

1. Caudal edges straight but slightly rounded at the corners (slight fault).
2. Doubletail lobes are full, but separation not quite complete – separation still greater than ¾ (slight fault).
3. Caudal asymmetrical - droops slightly below midline (minor fault).
4. Doubletail lobes slight mismatch (minor fault).
5. First caudal edge rays short (minor fault).
6. Caudal slightly small - not proportional to dorsal and anal (minor fault).
7. Caudal edges not straight, slightly curved back away from head (minor fault).
8. Less than secondary branching (4 tips from primary ray) in females, or tertiary branching (8 tips from primary ray) in males (minor fault).
9. Less than 180 degrees between caudal edge rays, but more than 165 degrees (minor fault).
10. Doubletail caudal lobes separation between 1/2 and 3/4 (minor fault).
11. Caudal asymmetrical - droops 75% or more below midline (major fault).
12. Caudal very small - not proportional to dorsal and anal (major fault).
13. Doubletail lobes considerable mismatch in volume or shape (major fault).
14. Doubletail caudal lobes matched, but narrow (major fault).
15. Less than primary branching (2 tips from primary ray) in females, or secondary branching (4 tips from primary ray) in males (major fault).
16. Doubletail caudal lobes separation 1/2 or less (major fault).
17. Less than 165 degrees between caudal edge rays, but more than 150 degrees (major fault).
18. Doubletail caudal lobes mismatched and narrow (severe fault).
19. Non-symmetrical caudal type (severe fault).
20. Less than 150 degrees between caudal edge rays (severe fault).

CONDITION FAULTS – ALL CLASSES

1. Single small defect on any fin - pinhole or bent ray (slight fault).
2. Single moderate defect on any fin (minor fault).
3. Slightly frayed fin tip (minor fault).
4. Multiple small defects or single extensive defect (major fault).
5. Multiple moderate defects (severe fault).
6. Broken rays on any fin (severe fault)
7. Body scarred or missing scales (severe fault).

DEPORTMENT FAULTS – ALL CLASSES

1. Constant full display (Betta splendens), but exhibits only aggressive (not violent) response to intruder (slight fault).
2. Fins erect, but gills only occasionally flared, and exhibits only motion toward intruder (minor fault).
3. Fins occasionally erect, gills rarely flared, and not very responsive to intruder (major fault).
4. No display and unresponsive to intruder (severe fault).

HALFMOON — LONGFIN

DEFINITION

The Halfmoon Betta by definition is a Betta with a caudal spread of 180^0 making a crisp letter D with its tail. Although the General Standards assumes that all Bettas should be "Halfmoon" it is essential that the "Halfmoon" be a Halfmoon and the class is heavily faulted for not having the full 180^0 spread.

Caudal Fin
When viewed from the behind the caudal tail should be a straight line. If the tail has folds like a folding fan the Betta is no longer a half moon and should be disqualified. There are a number of ways that breeders have developed the "Halfmoon" with either tertiary or quaternary branching. Either is acceptable if the desired goal of 180^0 is achieved. Remember that all General Faults apply.

Anal Fin
The anal fin is expected to rectangular in outline rather sloping to a point. The last ray of the anal fin should be no longer than the rest of the rays. Moreover, the length of the anal fin should be equivalent to that the caudal and dorsal so as to insure that a pleasing, continuous oval like shape.

Dorsal Fin
The dorsal fin may be of any shape. A larger, better matching to anal fin. is preferred over a smaller one, provided that the size does not distract from the symmetry of the fish. The desired effect is typically achieved by an increase in the number of fin rays.

HALFMOON SPECIFIC FAULTS

1. Less than 15^0 over 180^0 Slight Fault
2. More than 15^0 over 180^0 but less than 30^0 over Major Fault
3. 30^0 or more over 180^0 Disqualify
4. Less than 15^0 under 180^0 Major Fault
5. More than 15^0 under 180^0 Disqualify
6. Anal fin longer than Caudal fin but less than 1.6 mm (1/16th inch) Slight Fault
7. Anal fin longer than Caudal fin but less than 3.2 mm (1/8th inch) Minor Fault
8. Anal fin longer than Caudal fin but less than 6.4 mm (1/4 inch) Major Fault
9. Anal fin longer than Caudal fin more than 6.4 mm (1/4 inch) Severe Fault
10. Anal Fin shorter than Caudal fin Severe Fault
11. Dorsal fin shorter than Caudal fin but less than 1.6 mm (1/16th inch) Slight Fault
12. Dorsal fin shorter than Caudal fin but less than 3.2 mm (1/8th inch) Minor Fault
13. Dorsal fin shorter than Caudal fin but less than 6.4 mm (1/4 inch) Major Fault
14. Dorsal fin shorter than Caudal fin more than 6.4 mm (1/4 inch) Severe Fault
15. Dorsal fin longer than Caudal fin Severe Fault

HALFMOON — SHORTFIN

Standard - The shortfin HM is a short-finned version of the symmetrical long-finned show fish. Shortfin Halfmoons can be shown in any color and are judged for color by adherence to the ideals of that color. In all other respects, the shortfin HM should mirror the standard show Betta in conformation and color. Specifically;

Anal fin: The anal fin is expected to rectangular in outline rather sloping to a point. The last ray of the anal fin should be no longer than the rest of the rays. Moreover, the length of the anal fin should be equivalent to that the caudal and dorsal so as to insure that a pleasing, continuous oval like shape. However a slightly longer (1/16") (1.6 mm) is tolerated matching the dorsal length, with emphasis on the rectangular outline.

Ventral fins: The ventral fins should be in balance of length of the rest of the unpaired fins to preserve the symmetrical look. Ventral fins are not expected to be of length comparable to that of the body.
The length should be about twice the height of the anal fin.

Dorsal fin: The dorsal fin may be of any shape. A larger, better matching to anal fin. is preferred over a smaller one, provided that the size does not distract from the symmetry of the fish. Like the anal a slightly longer (1/16") (1.6 mm) fin is tolerated. The desired effect is typically achieved by an increase in the number of fin rays.

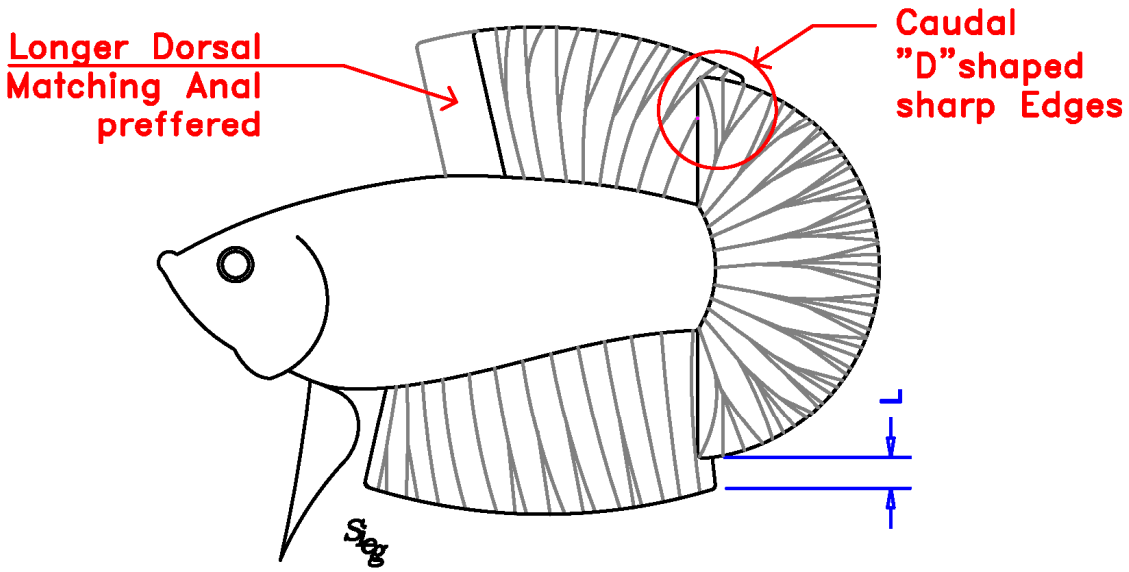
Caudal fin: The caudal spread is 180 degrees, has straight rays, sharp edges and the shape of a semi-circle (capital "D"), no longer than 1/3 length of the body. The rays should be evenly distributed above and below the centerline of the fish with a secondary branching (4-ray) or more without becoming too excessive.
A greater than 180 degree spread is not preferred above a 180 degree spread.

Pectoral Fins: As in other show bettas.

SHORTFIN HALFMOON SPECIFIC - FORM AND FINNAGE FAULTS

1. Anal fin slopes slightly from front to back (Slight Fault).
2. Ventral fins – Single tip preferred, double tips (Slight Fault).
3. Ventral fins overly long (Minor Fault).
4. Caudal Fin – most outer caudal fin rays shorter than other caudal fin rays (so-called „rounded edges") (Minor Fault)
5. Lack of primary branching in Dorsal (Minor Fault).
6. Dorsal fin not full and/or lacking wide base (Minor Fault)
7. Anal fin slope substantially from front to back and/or posterior edge extends substantially, (more than 1/16") (1.6 mm) below base of caudal (Major Fault)
8. Less than 180° caudal spread (Major Fault).

Short Fin Half Moon



L=Max. 1/16" or 1.6mm

CROWNTAIL — LONGFIN

DESCRIPTION:

Crowntails are a type of "fringe-finned" domestic betta (*Betta splendens, B. imbellis, B. smaragdina* and any of their hybrids) having fin rays that extend significantly beyond the webbed portion of the fins. The supporting webbing around the fin rays is reduced and the rays protrude past the edges of the fin membrane. The result is a scalloped appearance or the appearance of hyper- extended rays as seen in Crowntails where the webbing is substantially reduced.

A Crowntail is not the same as a "combtail" or just another fringe-finned betta. It must be emphasized that fringed-fin bettas can and should be shown in other color classes where the extended rays ARE NOT counted against them.

Ray extensions should be thick, straight and prominent. Slightly outwardly curved extensions in caudals with double-rays are desirable to give the "cross-ray" effect.

DEFINITION:

For the purposes of judging and placement in this class, male Crowntails shall be defined as bettas exhibiting at least 33% reduction in webbing versus ray length in EACH of the three primary fins (caudal, anal and dorsal). For females, the minimum is 25%. This requirement must be demonstrated in all three primary fins but does NOT need to be exhibited in ALL rays.

CROWNTAIL TYPES:

The illustrations at the end of this standard shows variations of webbing reduction commonly exhibited by Crowntails.

Double Ray – webbing is reduced at two levels; one between a pair of rays and the other (more profoundly) between two branches. 4-ray and 8-ray extensions are less common and the effect is almost always confined to the caudal fin.

Single Ray – Web margins are, ideally, uniform and webbing reduction is equal between primary rays and rays with branches.

Cross Ray – In the schematic, this is manifested by pairs of primary rays which curve over each other.

OTHER TYPES? Yes, as breeders play with the genetics of this type new variations of Crowntails will be produced. Judge them against what would be the standard.

FINNAGE REQUIREMENTS

CAUDAL

The caudal should display the splendor of a crown. The caudal rays should display at least double ray extension, 4 rays or more extensions are to be regarded as neutral. Caudal rays extension can either be straight or curved to cross for double-rays. Caudal spread requirements as for other single tails except for straight edge requirements. Straight caudal rays are acceptable but V rays and outward curving rays as in cross-rays are the preferred types.

Random Rays are single protruding rays in a double-ray or 4-ray Crowntail and are faulted.

ANAL

A slight gradual curling of the rays are acceptable but parallel and straight rays are preferred.

DORSAL

A slight gradual curling of the rays are acceptable but kinks and curls faulted per the General Fault guide.

VENTRAL

For Crowntails, the pair of ventral fins has to display a jagged appearance.

BALLOON EFFECT

A finnage characteristic which seems to be unique to the Crowntails is the “balloon” effect. This can be described as additional webbing between the primary or secondary rays to give a parachute-like effect. Additional webbing between the double rays of a double ray caudal are characterized as “balok’ – these have a triangular shape. Photos do not seem to do this effect justice – the way the folds move as the fish swims is what makes the effect so special. If evenly distributed, it is an acceptable but not preferred characteristic.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS IN JUDGING CROWNTAILS:

Desirable Traits for Crowntails:
1. 33% reduction in webbing material for each primary fin is a minimum for males.
2. 25% reduction in webbing material for each primary fin is a minimum for females.
3. Ray extensions should be uniform in balance, length and spacing.
4. Dorsal and anal ray extensions should be straight. A slightly proportionate curve toward the rear is acceptable.
5. Double ray or 4-ray extensions in the caudal fin only.
6. 50% reduction in webbing material in all three primary fins is IDEAL

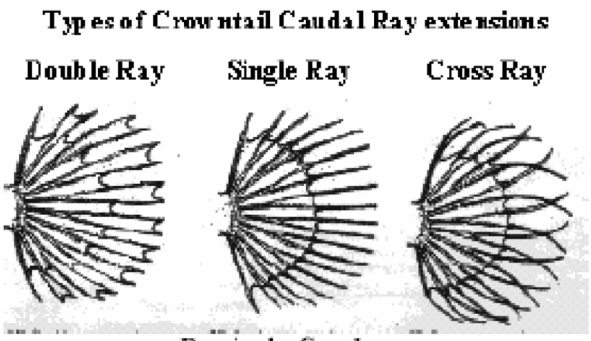
CROWNTAIL FAULT GUIDE

The General Standards outlined in this chapter shall apply for Crowntails. Fin Curl, ideal 180° spread for caudal fin, minimum size requirement, etc., are covered in the fault guide. Color traits delineated in the Special standards apply to Crowntails.

Below are additional considerations for Crowntails:

SLIGHT FAULTS
1. Ray extensions slightly thinning
2. Ray extensions displaying only single ray extension
3. Ray extension splits slightly out of proportion
4. Single “balloon” or balog folds
5. Balloon/balog effect present but missing between a few rays.

MINOR FAULTS
1. Ray extensions of different non-uniform length
2. Ray extensions displaying random rays
3. Curled or bent extended rays
4. Thinned out extended rays
5. Ray extension splits out of proportion
6. Ventrals lack jagged appearance



Drawing by Gene Lucas

7. 1 Broken ray extension
8. Several random balloon / balog folds
9. Balloon/balog effect present but missing between ~1/3 of rays.

MAJOR FAULTS
1. More than 1 broken ray extension
2. For fish with balloon/balog effect - distributed randomly over 1/3 to 2/3 of caudal
3. For fish with balloon / balog effect - present on only one fin

SEVERE FAULTS
1. Ray extensions <33% in one primary fin (<25% for females)

DISQUALIFICATION
1. Ray extensions <33% in 2 or 3 fins (25% for females)
2. Less than 9 rays in the dorsal fin

Singletail and Doubletail Crowntails are to be judged in the same color classes for Crowntails.

Fish that qualify as Crowntails as defined in this standard MUST be shown as Crowntails in an IBC sanctioned International show. The only exceptions are for Form or Color Variations.



CROWNTAIL — SHORTFIN

NOTE: There are two versions of the Shortfin Crowntail. One is the Plakat Version the other is the Shortfin Halfmoon Version. The Standards apply equally except for the Halfmoon Version is not expected to have a sloping anal fun but instead be rectangular. All other faults apply.

DESCRIPTION

The Crowntail Plakat and the Shortfinned Halfmoon are the short-finned versions of the Crowntail.

It features Crowntail webbing reduction on the fins, allowing rays of significant length to exceed the fin webbing as in "Crowntail" show Bettas, and features short fin length as in Short-finned Halfmoon Show Bettas.

DEFINITION

The reduction of the fin webbing with respect to extensions of the rays must be at least 25% in each of the unpaired fins (caudal, dorsal, ventral). A reduction in the webbing of 50% on the three unpaired fins is ideal.
This criterion must be present in each of the unpaired fins, but need not be present between each of the rays, to reach the minimum requirement. The rays must have regular length and regular spacing between them.
It is a short-finned fish; the length of the dorsal, anal and caudal fins must not exceed one third of the length of the body.

ANAL FIN

It should not be tapered. The last ray should not be extended or longer than the others. In addition, the length of the anal should be equivalent to the caudal and the dorsal so that the overall silhouette is pleasantly oval.

VENTRAL FINS

The length must be at least equal to that of the anal and they should not be crossed at all times.
Ventrals must have webbing reduction/extended rays.

DORSAL FIN

A broad dorsal, symmetrical in respect to the anal is preferred. Ideally the first rays should not be shorter than the other rays.

CAUDAL FIN

The preferred caudal fin angle is 180 °, the rays are straight, the caudal edges are straight.
Rays must be regularly spaced from top to bottom of the caudal.
Rays should have double branching (“Double-Ray”); four ray points (“DDR”) are tolerated but branching should not become excessive.
The IBC general standards are applied to Crowntail Plakat pertaining to minimum size, caudal angle, ray faults etc…

For females Crowntail Plakats the IBC general standard for females Crowntails will serve as reference.

SHORTFIN CROWNTAIL FAULTS

MINOR FAULTS

1. Anal slightly tapered.
2. Dorsal narrow and/or not broad enough at the base.
3. Ventrals too short.
4. Ray tips with no branching (“Single Ray”).
5. Short rays at the caudal edges, giving a rounded appearance to the edges of the caudal fin.
6. Lack of webbing reduction on the Ventrals.
7. Fin rays of different lengths.
8. Curled or bent rays
9. Irregular webbing reduction spaces between the rays.

MAJOR FAULTS

1. Anal very tapered.
2. Caudal fin angle less than 180 °.
3. More than one broken fin ray.

SEVERE FAULTS

1. Ray extensions less than 25% on one unpaired fin.
2. The length of one of the three unpaired fins exceeds one third of the length of the body.

DISQUALIFICATION

1. Ray extensions less than 25% on two or three unpaired fins.
2. The length of two or three of the unpaired fins exceed one third of the length of the body.


Photo by Ray Escobar

PLAKAT — TRADITIONAL

DEFINITION:

Plakats are the oldest of the domesticated Betta and are derived from animals bred for fighting. Show plakats bear certain distinctive features reflective of this ancestry. All plakats are short-tailed fish designed for rapid swimming. Specifically the dorsal and anal fins should not greatly exceed the body width and the caudal fin should not exceed 1/3 of the body length. Relative to other show Betta, the plakat body form is more stout and body mass greater. Plakats are expected to be notably more aggressive than other show Betta, to have the demeanor of a pit bulldog, and be constantly on the alert for intruders.

The plakat classes are defined on differences in body form and finnage as well as color, as detailed in the standards below. The two plakat forms are the traditional plakat and the show plakat. Either of two plakat forms may be entered in the regular and New Breeder classes. Here they are judged not only relative to one another, but by the degree to which they are faithful exemplars of their class.

The traditional plakat may be shown in any color. Show plakat classes are recognized in all color types.

Judging on color criteria is performed in accord with the relevant typing system articulated in Chapter 6 and the corresponding special standards in Chapter 7. In addition to these colors an additional color - wild type - is available for plakats alone and fish of this color may be shown in either the traditional or appropriate show plakat class. The wild-type body is dark brown, with several rows of iridescent spots mostly on upper part of body. Scales edged in black. The head is dark above, lighter beneath, with little or no iridescence. Eyes are dark with iridescent flecks. The dorsal fin is iridescent green-gold, with black rays, and black irregular cross bands (flecks). The caudal displays a black trimmed edge and both red and green iridescent coloration in no distinct pattern. The anal fin is colored similarly, but the posterior fin tip is red. The pectoral fins are colorless or black-edged and the ventral fins red, black and/or iridescent with white tips.

TRADITIONAL PLAKATS

The scope of these standards applies to male single tail plakats. Female double-tail plakats should go into regular double tail color classes for females.
The traditional plakat is a stout, heavy bodied aggressive fish with distinctive finnage.

DORSAL - The dorsal fin may be either uniformly rounded or come to point

ANAL - The anal fin has a trapezoid shape with the forward (anterior) edge shorter than the rear (posterior) edge. The posterior tip should be pointed (see figure at left). When flaring the rear edge of the anal fin should overlap the lower portion of the caudal fin.

CAUDAL - The caudal fin may be either spade shaped (see figure) or rounded. If spade-shaped the point should be at the midpoint of the fin. A caudal spread of 180° is preferred, but differs from the requirements for other show Betta and for other plakat classes in two respects. First the edges of the caudal fin are expected to be rounded rather than shaped in the configuration of the letter D (see figures). Second, the 180° caudal should not be achieved by greater than primary or secondary branching of the caudal fin rays. Thus the caudal spread in a traditional plakat is achieved by an increase in the volume of tissue between rays rather than by an increase in fin ray branching.

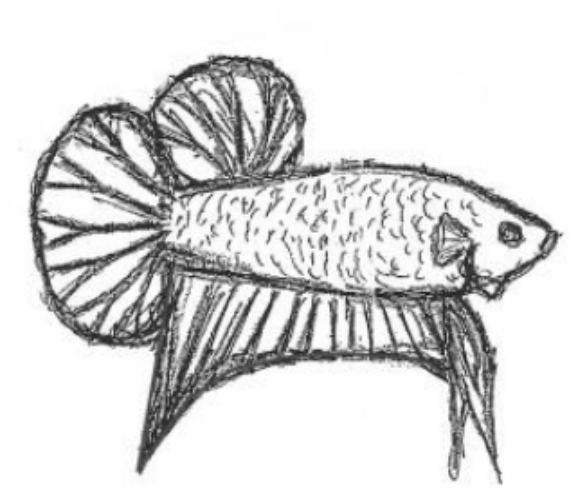
VENTRAL FINS - Ventral fins can be either full or thin, but are expected to be notably longer than in other show Betta, 2/3 the length of the length of the body (as measured from the base of the ventral fin to the caudal peduncle) or longer - see Figure.

PECTORAL FINS - As in other show Betta.

TRADITIONAL PLAKAT FORM AND FINNAGE FAULTS

1. Body excessively stout and heavy (Slight Fault)
2. Dorsal fin narrow (Minor Fault)
3. Ventral fins less than 2/3 body length (Minor Fault)
4. Caudal fin spread > 165°, but < 180° (Minor Fault)
5. Caudal branching greater than 2° (Minor Fault)
6. Anal fin fails to display extended pointed tip (Major Fault)
7. Caudal fin less than 165° (Major Fault)
8. Ventral fins 1/2 body length or less (Major Fault)
9. Body extremely slender like some other Betta species (Major Fault).

ALL OTHER APPROPRIATE GENERAL FAULTS APPLY.



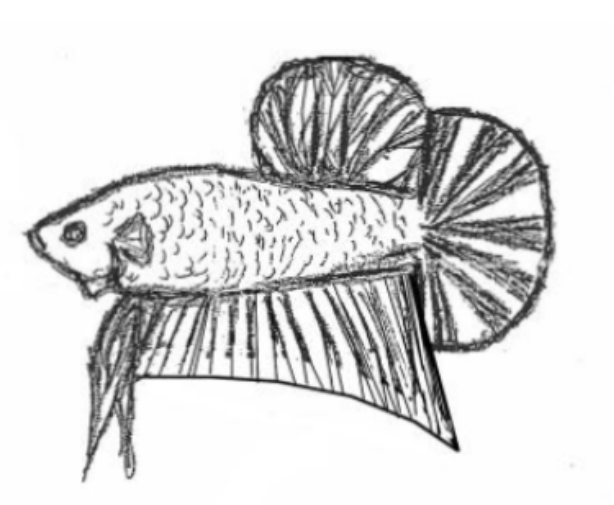
Traditional Plakat:

Longer ventral fins

Longer pointed anal fin

Halfmoon with rounded edges

Caudal branching not beyond secondary



Show Plakat:

Anal fin pointed, but less than a Traditional PK

Caudal forms a sharp D with more than secondary branching

PLAKAT — SHOW

SHOW PLAKAT STANDARD

This is the most common of the plakat forms bred today, combining traits of traditional plakats and show Betta. Like the traditional, the form is asymmetrical. The show plakat standard is the same in all respects to that of the traditional plakat with two essential exceptions:

Dorsal: The dorsal fin should be semi-circular and preferably snap open as a fan. In the most ideal situation the dorsal overlaps the upper part of the caudal. The upper front edge can be either sharp or slightly rounded. The capacity of the fin to open in this fashion is often achieved not by in increase in volume, but by an increase in fin ray branching and possibly a slight increase of rays. In the most ideal situation, the dorsal overlaps the upper part of the caudal. Overlap of the dorsal with the body is not desirable.

Caudal: Unlike the traditional plakat, the caudal fin is the same as the standard show Betta-. - -. The caudal spread is 180 degrees, has straight rays, sharp edges and the shape of a semi-circle (capital "D"), no longer the 1/3rd the length of the body. The ray splitting should be evenly distributed with a secondary branching (4-ray) or more without becoming too excessive. A >180 degree spread (over halfmoon, oHM) is not preferred above a 180 degree spread.

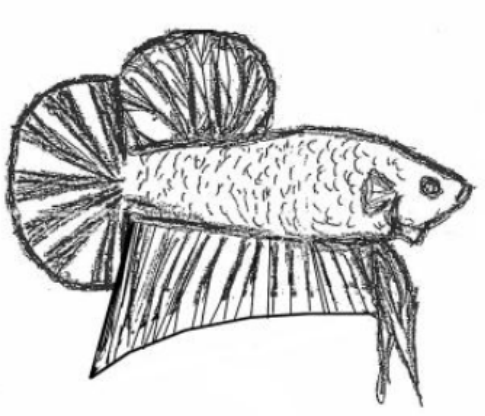
Anal: The anal fin has a trapezoid shape with the front rays (anterior) part shorter than the rear (posterior) part. From the front to the back the anal show as gradual slope coming to a pointed tip. The longest ray of the anal ideally should be at least twice as long or longer (preferred) as the length of the outer rays of the caudal. During flaring, the front should be directed forward and the back should overlap the lower part of the caudal.

Ventrals: The shaper of the ventrals mimic the blade of a knife with the cutting edge directed backwards. The ventrals have a full appearance, are equal in length and should not appear to be permanently crossed. The length of the ventrals should be at least equal to the longest ray of the anal.

SHOW PLAKAT FORM AND FINNAGE FAULTS

Pectoral fins: As in other show betta.

1. Ventral fins slightly less than 2/3 body length (Slight Fault)
2. Ventral fins – single tip preferred, double tips (Slight Fault)
3. Dorsal and anal-most caudal fin rays ("edge" rays) shorter than other caudal fin rays (so-called 'rounded edges') (Minor Fault)
4. Dorsal fin without primary branching (Minor Fault)
5. Ventral fins 1/2 body length or slightly less (Minor Fault)
6. Branching in caudal fin <3° (Minor Fault)
7. Anal fin fails to slope strongly from anterior to posterior (Major Fault)
8. Anal fin rounded and not coming to a point (Major Fault)
9. Less than 180° Caudal spread (Major Fault)



ALL OTHER APPROPRIATE GENERAL FAULTS APPLY.

PLAKAT — GIANT

DEFINITION

The Giant Plakat is just as the name implies. This particular form of Betta does not seem to have the growth regulation gene turn off when it should in regular Bettas. As a result, these Bettas keep growing for their entire life.

JUDGING GUIDE

Ventral fins: As in other show bettas.
Dorsal fin: As in other show bettas.
Caudal fin: As in other show bettas.
Pectoral Fins: As in other show bettas.

GIANT FORM AND FINNAGE FAULTS

1. Body is not stout and heavy at body length and thickness proportion around 1:3 (major fault)
2. Slender body at body length and thickness proportion more than 1:3 (severe fault)
3. Body length less than 6.35 cm (2.5 inches) for male (severe fault)
4. Body length less than 5.0 cm (2 inches) for female (severe fault)

ALL OTHER APPRORIATE GENERAL FAULTS APPLY

TRADITIONAL AND SHOW PLAKAT FEMALE BETTAS

Female Traditional and Show Plakat Bettas are of the same general form as their male counterparts, but with shorter fins and broader bodies.

The IBC encourages in this class the distinctive female Plakat form. Female Plakat Bettas vary considerably from males in several ways and should always appear "female."

Females are generally expected to be somewhat smaller overall. They are usually more rounded in the belly area than males. Female fins are not expected to reach the same size or proportion of the male finnage.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

1. The female Plakat is not expected to have the finnage of their long-fin female counterparts. The dorsal is expected to be smaller.
2. The dorsal of a female plakat may open like a fan as in the male form.
3. The anal fin will be shorter; with slight rounding at the front of the anal fin and will show an extended point at the tip of the fin.
4. Females are expected to show an egg spot.
5. Females should be more aggressive in their deportment than their long fin female counterparts.

TRADITIONAL FEMALE PLAKATS

The traditional female plakats will have the same caudal characteristics of their male counterparts. The caudal edges are expected to be rounded rather than in the shape of a semicircle (capital “D”). The dorsal fin will be smaller. The anal fin has a trapezoid shape with the forward (anterior) edge shorter than the rear (posterior) edge.

TRADITIONAL FORM & FINNAGE FAULTS

1. Body excessively stout and heavy (Slight Fault)
2. Dorsal fin narrow (Minor Fault)
3. Caudal fin spread > 165°, but < 180° (Minor Fault)
4. Caudal branching greater than 2° (Minor Fault)
5. Anal fin fails to display extended pointed tip (Major Fault)
6. Caudal fin less than 165° (Major Fault)

SHOW FEMALE PLAKATS

The show female plakats will have the same characteristics of the traditional female except that the caudal spread is 180 degrees, has straight rays, sharp edges and the shape of a semi-circle (capital “D”).

SHOW PLAKAT FORM & FINNAGE FAULTS

1. Body excessively stout and heavy (Slight Fault)
2. Dorsal fin narrow (Minor Fault)
3. Dorsal and anal-most caudal fin rays (“edge” rays) shorter than other caudal fin rays (so-called ‘rounded edges’) (Minor Fault)
4. Branching in caudal fin <3° (Minor Fault)
5. Anal fin fails to slope strongly from anterior to posterior (Major Fault)
6. Anal fin rounded and not coming to a point (Major Fault)
7. Less than 180° Caudal spread (Major Fault)

DOUBLETAIL — LONGFIN

DEFINITION

Doubletail Longfin Bettas come in two forms, the Halfmoon form that the Veiltail form. The Standard is written for the Halfmoon form.

Doubletail Bettas are expected to differ in several ways from the singletail:

1. Possess two distinct “tails” or caudal lobes instead of one, with a complete separation to the base of the caudal peduncle.
2. Possess a wider caudal peduncle to support the double lobes.
3. Possess a larger dorsal fin, nearly the size of the anal fin.
4. Their bodies are usually more “chunky” and often a bit shorter.
5. Bends in the caudal peduncle are expressed to a varying degree in almost all doubletail bettas. These are more easily noticed when viewing the fish from above. Easily seen bends should be faulted; if the bend is not excessive when viewed from above, the fish should not be penalized.

Caudal Fins
Doubletails in having two lobes should complete the 180 degree of the typical Halfmoon. Each Caudal fin may be 90 degrees or larger to arrive at the Halfmoon shape.

Anal Fin
Should be rectangular in shape as is the Halfmoon.

Dorsal Fin
Should be a mirror image of the Anal fin in length and in the length of the base of the Dorsal fin.

DOUBLETAIL SPECIFIC FAULTS:

1. Doubletail lobes are full, but separation not quite complete – separation still greater than ¾ (slight fault).
2. Doubletail lobes slight mismatch (minor fault).
3. Doubletail caudal lobes separation between 1/2 and 3/4 (minor fault).
4. Doubletail lobes considerable mismatch in volume or shape (major fault).
5. Doubletail caudal lobes matched, but narrow (major fault).
6. Doubletail caudal lobes separation 1/2 or less (major fault).
7. Doubletail caudal lobes mismatched and narrow (severe fault).

Photo by Kenny Seaw



DOUBLETAIL — SHORTFIN

TYPE A: VEILTAIL DOUBLETAIL PLAKAT

DEFINITION

Doubletail Short fin Bettas are the short fin counterparts of long-fin Doubletail Bettas based on the Veiltail. They can be shown in any color and General Color Standards apply.

Doubletail Plakats differ from the Single tail Show plakat as follows:

1. Extended dorsal, round or pointed tip, ideally mirror image of anal fin
2. Pointed anal and extended ventral fins, 2/3 body length
3. Two equal caudal lobes with separation to the base of the caudal peduncle
4. Caudal spread 180 degrees
5. Body not shorter than other plakat types to avoid “stubby” appearance

TYPE A: DOUBLETAIL PLAKAT FORM AND FINNAGE FAULTS

1. Ventral fins slightly less than 2/3 body length (Slight Fault)
2. Ventral fins – single tip preferred, double tips (Slight Fault)
3. Dorsal fin without primary branching (Minor Fault)
4. Ventral fins 1/2 body length or slightly less (Minor Fault)
5. Anal fin fails to slope strongly from anterior to posterior (Major Fault)
6. Dorsal fin fails to slope strongly from anterior to posterior (Minor Fault)
7. Dorsal fin not Full and or lacking wide Base (Minor Fault)
8. Dorsal has no more than 3 stubby rays at front edge (Minor Fault)
9. Dorsal has more than 3 stubby rays at front edge (Major Fault)

NOTE: Females of this type are shown in the regular DT female classes

ALL OTHER APPROPRIATE GENERAL FAULTS INCLUDING DT FAULTS APPLY

DOUBLETAIL — SHORTFIN

TYPE B DOUBLETAIL SHORTFIN HALFMOON

DEFINITION:

Doubletail Short fin Half-moon show fish differ from the Single tail Short fin Half-moon show fish as follows:

1. Short fin version of the symmetrical long finned double tail show fish
2. Anal fin is rectangular in outline rather than sloping to a point; last ray of the anal fin should be no longer than the rest of the rays
3. Length of anal fin equivalent to the caudal and dorsal
4. A slightly longer (1.6 mm) (1/16”) is tolerated matching the dorsal length with emphasis on the rectangular shape

TYPE B: SHORT FIN DOUBLETAIL HALFMOON FORM AND FINNAGE FAULTS

1. Anal fin slopes slightly from front to back (Slight fault)
2. Ventral fins overly long (Minor fault)
3. Lack of primary branching in Dorsal (Minor fault)
4. Dorsal fin not full and or lacking wide base (Minor fault)
5. Anal and or Dorsal fin slope substantially from front to back and/or posterior edge extends substantially, (more than 1.6 mm) (1/16”) below base of caudal (Major fault)
6. Height and length of the three unpaired fins over 1/2 body length – DQ and move to Long Fin Doubletail
7. Dorsal has no more than 3 stubby rays at front edge (Minor Fault)
8. Dorsal has more than 3 stubby rays at front edge (Major Fault)

NOTE: Females of this type are shown in the regular DT female classes

ALL OTHER APPROPRIATE GENERAL FAULTS INCLUDING DT FAULTS APPLY



LARGE PECTORAL

DEFINITION AND STANDARD

The Large Pectoral is known by many names however all apply to a Betta that has enlarged pectoral fins. When Judging these types of Bettas it is crucial to Judge from both sides and from above. Judging is as follows:

VENTRAL FINS: As in other show bettas.

DORSAL FIN: As in other show bettas.

CAUDAL FIN: As in other show bettas.

PECTORAL FINS: The pectoral fins should be in balance and equal in size. Big and round is desirable. However, pectoral fins with minor protruding rays are not considered a fault. The length should extend to 1/2 of the body length. Top view is strongly recommended.

LARGE PECTORALS - FORM AND FINNAGE FAULTS

1. Pectoral fins - less than ½ of the body length (minor fault)
2. Pectoral fins - uneven outer edge (minor fault)
3. Pectoral fins - less than 1/3 of the body length (major fault)
4. Pectoral fins- irregular shape (major fault)
5. Pectoral fins - unbalance shape (major fault)
6. Pectoral fins- Long but not broad (major fault)
7. Pectoral fins - more than 2/3 body length (major fault)
8. Pectoral fins - unequal size, size difference less than 1/3 at one side to another (major fault)
9. Pectoral fins - unequal size, size difference of 1/3 at one side to another (severe fault)
10. Pectoral fins - unequal size, size difference of 1/2 at one side to another (disqualifying fault)

ALL OTHER APPRORIATE GENERAL FAULTS APPLY



VEILTAIL

DESCRIPTION:

The Veiltail is the oldest form of long finned show betta (Betta splendens) that has no symmetry.

The ideal Veiltail has an asymmetrical appearance with a long caudal fin, narrow dorsal and an anal in the form of a trapezoid.

The rays in all fins must be evenly curved. The body should be strong and not too skinny.

CAUDAL FIN

The caudal fin has a broad base at the caudal peduncle, where the outer fin rays right at the peduncle must spread no less than 165°, ideally 180°. The rays climb up steeply from the caudal peduncle and then, after reaching the highest point at about 20% of the entire fin, bend round in a long, smooth arc to the end of the fin. The individual fin rays are ending staggered step by step becoming longer from the outside to the middle of the caudal, so that a kind of tip is formed, whereby the caudal fin looks like a brush in the form of a cat's tongue or a round shape with a flat tip. At the base of the caudal peduncle, the rays should emerge out of the entire caudal peduncle symmetrically to an imaginary center line from the head to the caudal peduncle. The length of the caudal fin should be one (1) body length. If it is 25% longer or more, it is considered a major fault. When flared, the caudal must be spread out over its entire length, although it should not be symmetrical based on a center line from head to tail, but must drop down.
The fin rays should not have more than primary branching, ending in not more than 2 branches per ray.
The margin of the fin should be smooth and unbroken and without any extended rays.

DORSAL FIN

The dorsal should not be too broad at its base, but extend in the shape of a sickle to end up in a pointy tip. The width of the base of the Dorsal should not be broader than half of the width of the anal, because otherwise the sickle shape is no longer given. If it is broader, it is a severe fault.
One third of the width of the anal is ideal, if it is less, it's a severe fault. The length of the dorsal fin should be at least ¾ of body length, but not longer than one (1) body length. The margin of the fin should be smooth and without any extended rays.

The dorsal should be spread upright at the base and extend toward the caudal. Overlapping of the dorsal and caudal is permitted and desirable.

Any ray splitting is undesirable.

ANAL FIN

The anal fin should have the shape of a trapezoid with two approximately equal 90° angles at the base near the body, whereby the shorter side of the trapezoid must be located toward the head of the fish.
It begins shortly behind the ventral fins and drops toward the caudal fin. The front fin rays should be at least ⅔ but not more than ¾ of the body length; the last fin rays should be no longer than a body length, measured from the mouth to the caudal peduncle, and not less than 90% of the body length.

The outline of the fin is smooth and softly rounded in the front area, the rays should get longer toward the back, ending in one (1) point, whereby a splitting of the fin rays is undesirable. Overlapping of the anal and caudal fin is not desired, but not considered a fault if overlapping only slightly.

VENTRAL FINS

Shaped like the blade of a knife with the cutting edge to the rear. They are narrow at their base and should not be voluminous, which means they should not be wider than ⅕ of the width of the anal fin at its base. They must end in one (1) point. Both fins are to be of equal length and should not cross each other.
They should be about ¾ of the length of one (1) body length.

VEILTAIL – LONGFIN FORM AND FINNAGE FAULTS

1. Body too stout or too narrow (minor fault)
2. Less than 180 ° but more than 165 ° caudal spread (minor fault)
3. Less than 150 ° spread of the caudal (severe fault)
4. Dorsal fin not sickle-shaped (minor fault)
5. Branching of caudal rays > 1 (major fault)
6. Branching of the dorsal OR the anal fin rays (major fault)
7. Branching of the dorsal AND the anal fin rays (severe fault)
8. Caudal fin ≥25% longer than one (1) body length (major fault)
9. Width of dorsal fin > ⅓ but < ½ of width of anal fin (minor fault)
10. Width of dorsal fin > half of the width of anal fin (severe fault)
11. Fin margin not smooth in one of the unpaired fins (slight fault)
12. Fin margin not smooth in two or more unpaired fins (minor fault)
13. Front anal fin rays < ⅔ of the body length (major fault)
14. Rear anal fin rays longer than one (1) body length (major fault)
15. Rear anal fin rays shorter than 90% of the body length (major fault)
16. Width of ventral fins > ⅕ of the width of anal fin (major fault)
17. Crossing ventral fins (slight fault)
18. More than one tip at the end of ventral fins (slight fault)
19. Ventral fins less than ¾ but more than ½ of body length (major fault)
20. Symmetrical appearance of one or more unpaired fins (disqualification)
21. Stubby ventral fins (less than ½ of body length) (disqualification)
22. One of the unpaired fins more than ¼ too short or too long (disqualification)

ALL OTHER APPROPRIATE GENERAL FAULTS APPLY AND ARE TO BE USED.

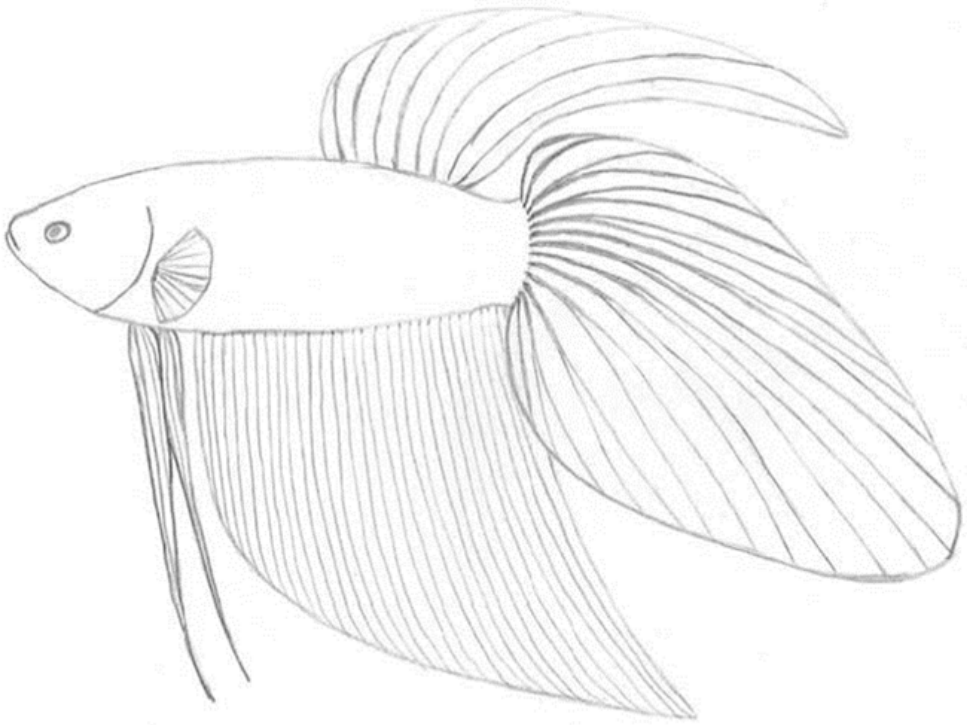
VEILTAIL FEMALES

Veiltail females have shorter fins than males. The dorsal and anal fin are not to exceed half a body length.
The caudal has a symmetrical oval shape with the longest fin rays in the middle (on an imaginary line from the head to peduncle).

The anal drops from front to rear at a slight angle and ends in a tip. The ventral fins should be as long as the longest ray of the anal and be narrow and end in a single tip.

The dorsal has a narrow base and shouldn't be longer than the maximum body width (height).

The same faults apply as described for the males, but for shorter fins, as mentioned above.



copyright Peter Bärwald Germany



Veiltail Female with near perfect form

Photo by Pavel Jicha

CHAPTER 6

SPECIAL STANDARDS:

BASIS FOR JUDGING COLOR

Unlike the General Standards which deal with the characteristics that the many types of Betta splendens share in common, the Special Standards deal with the traits that separate them, the colors, forms, and species. In these standards, like the General Standards faults are divided into Slight, Minor, Major, Severe, and Disqualifying. The Special Standards are arranged into several chapters, beginning with this explanation of the basis for judging color, in the following order: Chapter 6 – Basis for Judging Color; Chapter 7 – Show Stock; Chapter 8 – Wild Types; and Chapter 9 – Special Exhibits.

The color typing system is hierarchical, with Bettas categorized into increasingly refined groupings. Each level in the hierarchy has a name, given below, which will be referred to throughout:

Categorization of the Betta
- Groups
  - Subgroups
    - Categories
      - Subcategories
        - Types
          - Subtypes

The diagram above shows the names of the various units into which Betta colors and patterns are divided. This division system is called the COLOR TYPING SYSTEM. Understanding the Color Typing System will explain why certain colors are faulted the way they are. Knowing the Color Typing System will improve your ability to provide quality judging at shows.

The Color Typing System does not distinguish sex (male or female), nor tail type (single tail or doubletail)) with which the Class System deals. (see Chapter 10)

COLOR GROUPS

Bettas are considered to exist in five distinct groups:"
- Single Colored Bettas
- Bicolored Bettas
- Patterned Bettas
- Betta species
- Special Exhibit Bettas

If a Betta is judged, and found to be in violation of the GROUP characteristics appropriate for the class in which it is entered it will be disqualified. For example, a Traditional Cambodian male entered in the RED class must be disqualified. This violates the GROUP Single Color characteristics appropriate to the RED class. Thus, failure of a Betta show entry to comply with the GROUP requirements is in fact an error in classification by the entrant, and unless reclassified, will be disqualified. No special standard color fault is more serious than a GROUP fault.

SUBGROUPS, CATEGORIES AND SUBCATEGORIES

To understand the breakdown of hierarchical categories below the GROUP level, it is useful to recognize three COLOR FACTORS that all Bettas can potentially display. These provide a logical breakdown below the GROUP level:

Dark under coloration, or lack of it
Iridescence, or lack of it
Opaque, or lack of it

Subgroups are defined by the presence of dark under coloration or lack thereof, Categories are based on the presence or absence of iridescence, and Subcategories delineate opaque fish from those lacking opaque.
For example, the Single Color Group is divided into two subgroups based on the presence or absence of the dark under coloration

Subgroup 1: Dark Single Color
Subgroup 2: Light Single Color

CATEGORIES

By considering the presence or absence of Iridescence, the Subgroups are broken down into Categories:

Category 1: Non-iridescent
Category 2: Iridescent

Accordingly, the Subcategory level introduces a distinction based of the appearance of opaque. For example, the single color (GROUP), light (subgroup), iridescent (CATEGORY) is divided into two subcategories:

Subcategory 1: Non-Opaque
Subcategory 2: Opaque

The COLOR FACTORS which constitute the basis for defining Subgroups, Categories, and Subcategories hold only for two of the five Groups. Specifically, they apply to Group 1 (Single Color), and Group 2 (Bicolored).
Group 3 (Patterned Bettas) differ in that the subgroup categorization is based on the type of pattern present:

Subgroup 1: Butterfly
Subgroup 2: Marble
Subgroup 3: Multicolor

Lower levels in the Group 3 hierarchy also differ are specified in summary tables below.
Group 4 (Betta species) and Group 5 (Special Exhibit Bettas) also differ as specifically addressed in Chapters 8 and 9, respectively.

TYPES AND SUBTYPES

The lower levels of the Special Standards are constructed around the 11 currently recognized primary colors, 6 secondary colors, and 5 primary patterns.

Primary colors

Red	Blue	Pastel
Black	Steel	Opaque
Yellow	Turquoise	Orange
Clear	Green	

Secondary colors

Pastel Blue	Pastel Green	Pastel White
Opaque Blue	Opaque Green	Opaque White

Primary Patterns

Single color
Bicolor
Butterfly
Marble
Multicolor
NOTE: The Copper color complex may add some new colors to the Types and Subtypes.

SUMMARY AND EXAMPLES

With 6 levels in the hierarchy, an enormous number of combinations are possible. The class system, however, does not include show classes for all possible combinations. For example, we currently have no show class for a single color (Group), dark (Subgroup), iridescent (Category), opaque iridescent (sub-category) fish. This is evident in the following summary table, which is provided not only to illustrate this point, but also to summarize the rationale introduced above.

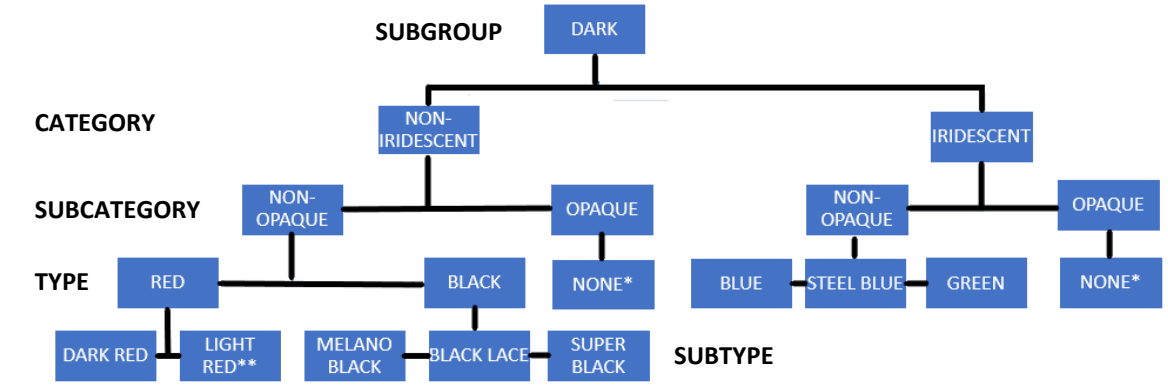
Detailed tables follow for the lower hierarchical levels included in each of the five GROUPS.

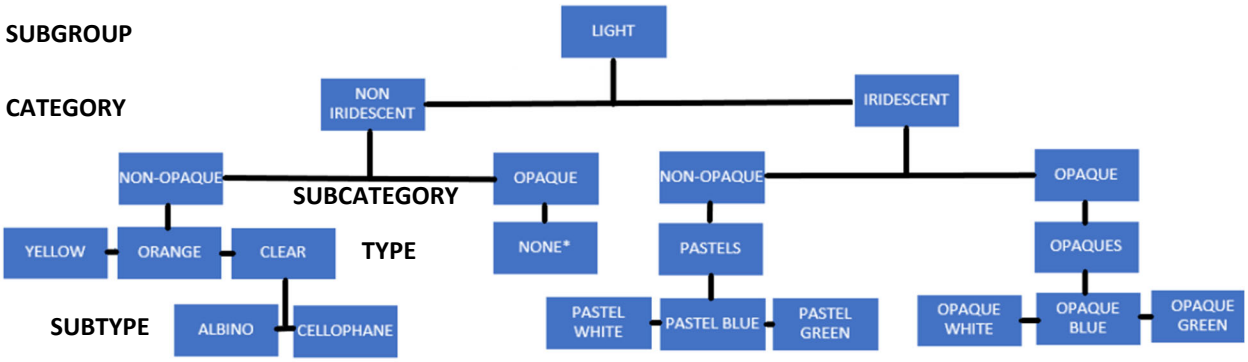
SUMMARY CHART: GROUP SINGLE COLOR

	Non-Iridescent		Iridescent	
	Non-Opaque	Opaque	Non-Opaque	Opaque
D	Red	None*	Blue	None*
A	Black		Steel Blue	
R			Turquoise	
K			Green	
L	Yellow	None*	Pastel Blue	Opaque Blue
I			Pastel Green	Opaque Green
G			Pastel White	Opaque White
H				
T				

***** Opaque Dark Bodied Bettas are possible but not recognized in the show circuit at this time.

GROUP 1: SINGLE COLOR



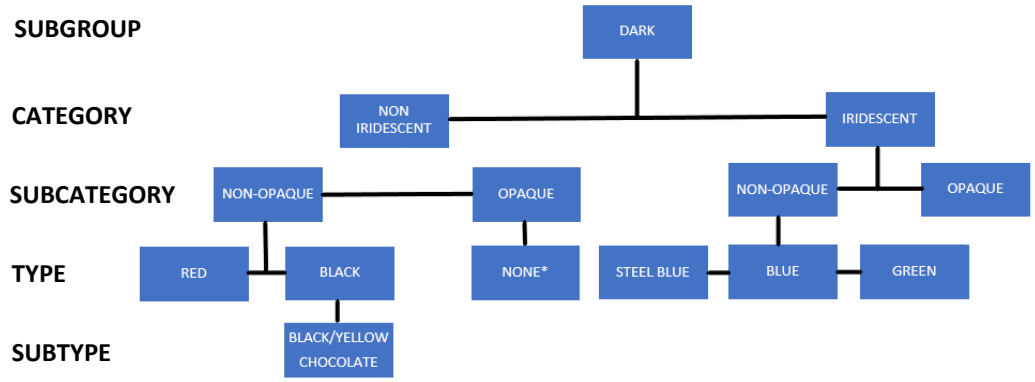


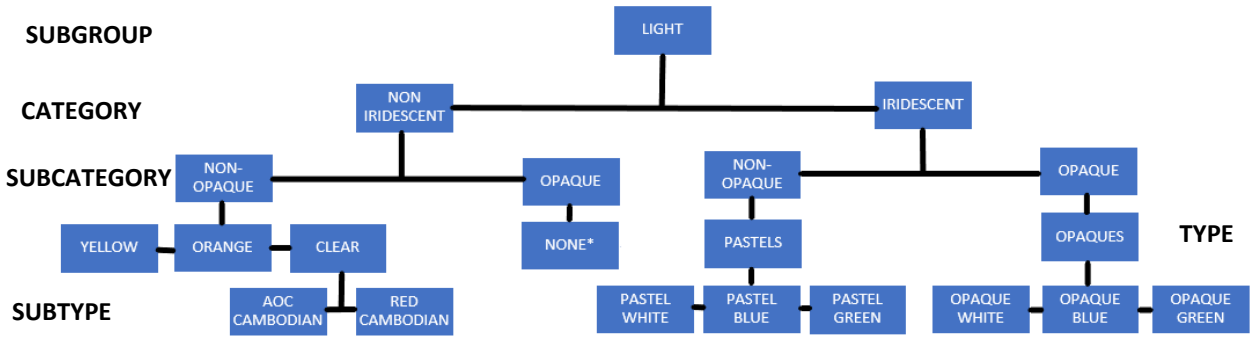
UNDERSTANDING THE SYSTEM CLASSIFICATION

In Group 1 we have the Single Color Bettas as a Group. We can then divide this group into Light Colored and Dark Colored as Subgroups. We can then divide this Subgroup of Light and Dark into Non-Iridescent and Iridescent Categories. Now the Categories can be broken down into the Subcategories of Non-Opaque and Opaque. The next level down are the types. For some colors it is a grouping such as Pastels or Opaques. For others it will be their colors. If there is a grouping then the next category is the colors that fit into that "Type". For example in Pastels we have the Pastel White (Steel Blue), Pastel Blue (Blue), and Pastel Green (Green).

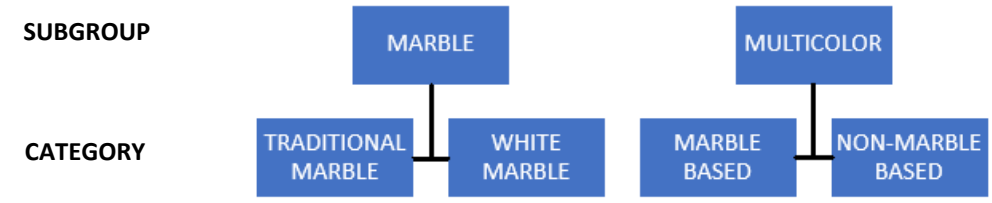
* Dark Bodied Opaques have been created however they are not typically seen in the show circuit.
** Although Light Bodied Reds belong on the other side of the chart they are an exception to the Light Bodied and shown in Dark Bodied since their base color is Red which is considered a Dark Color.

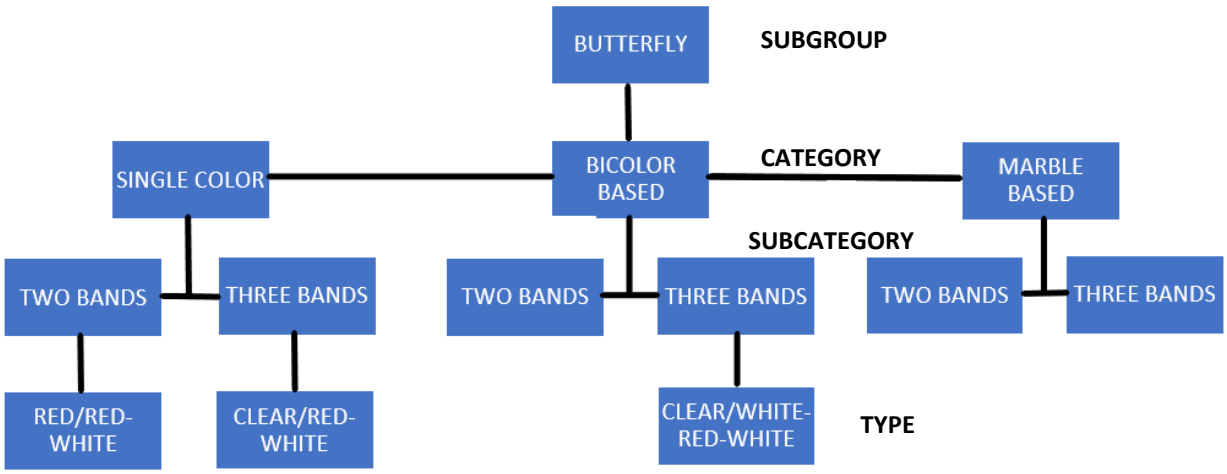
GROUP 2: BICOLOR





GROUP 3: PATTERNED





THE COLOR TYPING SYSTEM

GROUPS
1. Single Color
2. Bicolor
3. Patterned

Proper judging of Bettas requires an understanding of how to treat improperly classified fish (category faults) relative to properly categorized fish with color faults. Explicit instructions on color faults are provided in chapter 7 following next. Nonetheless, a brief survey here as to the system used in faulting is relevant. It may be useful to re-read this section after one has mastered material in Chapter 7.

CATEGORY FAULT GUIDES:

It seems there are always exceptions to the rules. To help you with this, there is a Category Fault Guide provided for each Category/Subcategory, and a Type Guide for each Type/Subtype whenever necessary to highlight exceptions to the general fault guidance provided by the chart above.
When using the guide, the first questions it will answer is, "What are the color faults on the various Betta color types?" The answer is listed on the guide. Thus, for whatever Color this guide is referring to, the presence of an iridescent color (Blue, Steel Blue, Turquoise, or Green) would be a severe fault, thus deducting 17 points.

Fault Deduction
Slight/-3 Minor/-5 Major/-9 Severe/-17 Disqualify

A JUDGE MAY RAISE OR LOWER, BY ONE LEVEL, THE RATING OF EXCEPTIONAL FAULTS

EMPHASIS OF COLOR JUDGING:

Judging for color is based on the particular unit of the Color Typing System in which a fault belongs, and that unit's unique traits. Judges must avoid the, "Isn't it the most beautiful Betta you've ever seen," syndrome. Fabulous Bettas which do not meet the criteria specified for its color unit are faulted, even though they may indeed be beautiful. As you read, you will gain an appreciation for the principles of color classification applied throughout the system. The various official Groups, Subgroups, Categories, Subcategories, Types, and Subtypes are defined in the next chapter (7). Where they do not pertain, or have no impact on the judging decisions, some of these breakdown units are omitted from the explanations, though they remain a part of the system as shown on the charts accompanying the text.

A COMPETE EXAMPLE

FAULT/DEDUCTION

SLIGHT/ -3 POINTS

MINOR/ -5 POINTS

MAJOR/ -9 POINTS

SEVERE/ -17 POINTS

DISQUALIFY

We will use an example taken from the section dealing with Black to illustrate the use of the color guides completely. Assume you are trying to rate the color of a BLACK Betta that has only one fault – the color STEEL BLUE is present on the body. At left and below is the general Category Fault Guide -9 points taken from the section of the Special Standards dealing with Dark Singlecolor Bettas.

The Dark Singlecolor subcategory is correct for all BLACK Bettas. You should notice that IRIDECENCE is a severe fault, but not shown on the guide, because BLACK is a NON-IRIDESCENT color, and iridescence violates the Category general characteristic. **Steel Blue** So it is assumed and need not be repeated on each guide. So our example Betta's color quality will be rated as SEVERELY FAULTED and lose 17 points BECAUSE Steel Blue, an iridescent color, violates the standard characteristic for the Category in which the fish belongs.

photo by Wasan Sattayapun



photo by Jim Sonnier

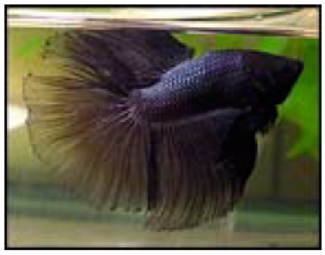


photo by Surat Bhutipanya



Color Guide:	**Major**	**Major**	**Major**
Judge's decision:	**Minor**	**Major**	**Severe**

The Type Guide: In the Type Guide (the one for TYPE – Black), you will notice -17 points some difference from the guide we just reviewed. STEEL BLUE, one of the iridescent colors is specifically listed as a MAJOR (not evere) fault. The other iridescent colors (Blue, Turquoise, and Green) aren't even mentioned. This is because the Type Guide only lists EXCEPTIONS to higher level guidance. If our Betta had Blue, Turquoise, or Green iridescence, it would still be severely faulted and lose 17 points. But since the Type Guide lists STEEL BLUE as an "exception" to the higher level standard, our Betta **Disqualify** will only lose 9 points for a MAJOR FAULT. Why is Steel Blue iridescence different? The answer is because it is of reasonable LOW CONTRAST giving it a different impact than the other iridescent colors. Few of the type guides are accompanied with an explanation of how they were constructed. However, as you gain familiarity with the Color Typing System, you will be able to determine the reason yourself.

CHAPTER 7

COLOR AND PATTERN GROUPS

GROUP--SINGLE COLORED BETTAS

Single colored Bettas show only one color on all body and fin surfaces, and in only one shade. There are two major subgroups:

Single Dark Color, and Single Light Color. These are further divided into specific Types for each single color. The ideal single colored Betta shows no color other than the one naming the Type (except for the color observed in the eye pupil and gills). Beyond general Betta characteristics that always apply, the primary concern of judges in evaluating this type of Betta, is the uniformity, density, and nature of the color. In some cases a particular shade is more desirable and will be specified. Some of the Guides will show where to place "shades" of the primary color, but they cannot cover the subtle variant shades. Judges must subjectively make determinations about color shading. Low contrast is important in all cases for Single Colored Bettas. The color should be rated by directly shining a flashlight on it. The flashlight must not contain a color lens, nor should the color be assessed by shining the flashlight through the fins from the rear. That is okay when looking for an "invisible" fin wash, but not when judging shade. Make sure that lighting is good enough to make accurate color judgements.

GROUP CHARACTERISTIC--Single color Absence of the single color pattern is a disqualifying fault.

SUBGROUP--SINGLE DARK COLOR

The term "dark" refers to the undercoating of black pigment that these Bettas have beneath the color that names the individual Type. The color names can be misleading. As an example, RED is often thought of as being, by definition "dark"--however, it is not the RED, but the RED WITH THE DARK UNDERCOATING that makes such a fish "dark". A Red Betta without that undercoating of black would be classified as a "Light Single Colored" Betta. NOTE: In recent years red strains without a black pigment undercoat have been established. These Bettas exibit and increase of red pigment that can make it difficult to discern a dark undercoat and phenotypically represent a "dark" color. THIS RED TYPE HAS A TEMPORARY EXCEPTION TO THE SUBGROUP SINGLE DARK COLOR REQUIREMENT OF AN UNDERCOATING OF BLACK PIGMENT, AND MAY BE SHOWN IN THE EXISTING RED CLASS.
General Basis of Faults of the Dark Single Colored Bettas:

Colors not applicable to this Subgroup (dark) are faulted if they appear to any degree on any of the fish of this type. The principles which determine the arrangement of the fault charts found in this portion of the text are:

---Light colors are faulted on Dark subgroup Bettas.
---Iridescence is faulted on non-iridescent category Bettas.
---If a second color is present--the higher the contrast, the more severe the fault.
---The degree to which a second color intrudes also affects the severity of the fault.

GROUP A—NON-IRIDESCENT BETTAS

SUBGROUP CHARACTERISTIC = DARK UNDERCOATING
Absence of the dark undercoating is a disqualifying fault.

CATEGORY--NON-IRIDESCENT
SUBCATEGORY—NON-OPAQUE
TYPE - RED

A brilliant red is desired. Judges should be strict in accessing color quality and uniformity. Red was at one time perhaps the most fully developed and set of all the dark single colors. Bettas exhibiting the most even shade body to fins of brilliant red are given preference. Because red is a member of both non-iridescent and non-opaque categories, even a slight appearance of iridescence (including metallic) or opaque is a serious deficiency. Any touch of color other than red is a fault to some degree, as determined by the Judge using the IBC color type system.

**EXCEPTION TO DARK BODY RULE

SUBGROUP=SINGLE LIGHT COLOR
A temporary exception is given to light body based reds that meet the standards ideal for red color, and are now allowed to compete in the red class for the time being. The fish that comes closest to the ideal red color standard, all else being equal, will be given the higher placing in the class. Reds that are obvious light body bicolors should be moved to the bicolor class.

Just as red bettas have been developed from dark-bodied lines, red strains have been developed from light-bodied bi-color (cambodian) lines. These fish lack the dark-bodied undercoating and often have cream or flesh colored parts on the head whereas reds with dark bodied undercoating would have a dark or olive coloring. Other than this mark of distinction, the light-bodied red can be difficult to distinguish from the dark-bodied red. As with yellow and orange, judges must beware of substantial contrast between the body and fin colors - unless reclassified to bicolor, disqualify.

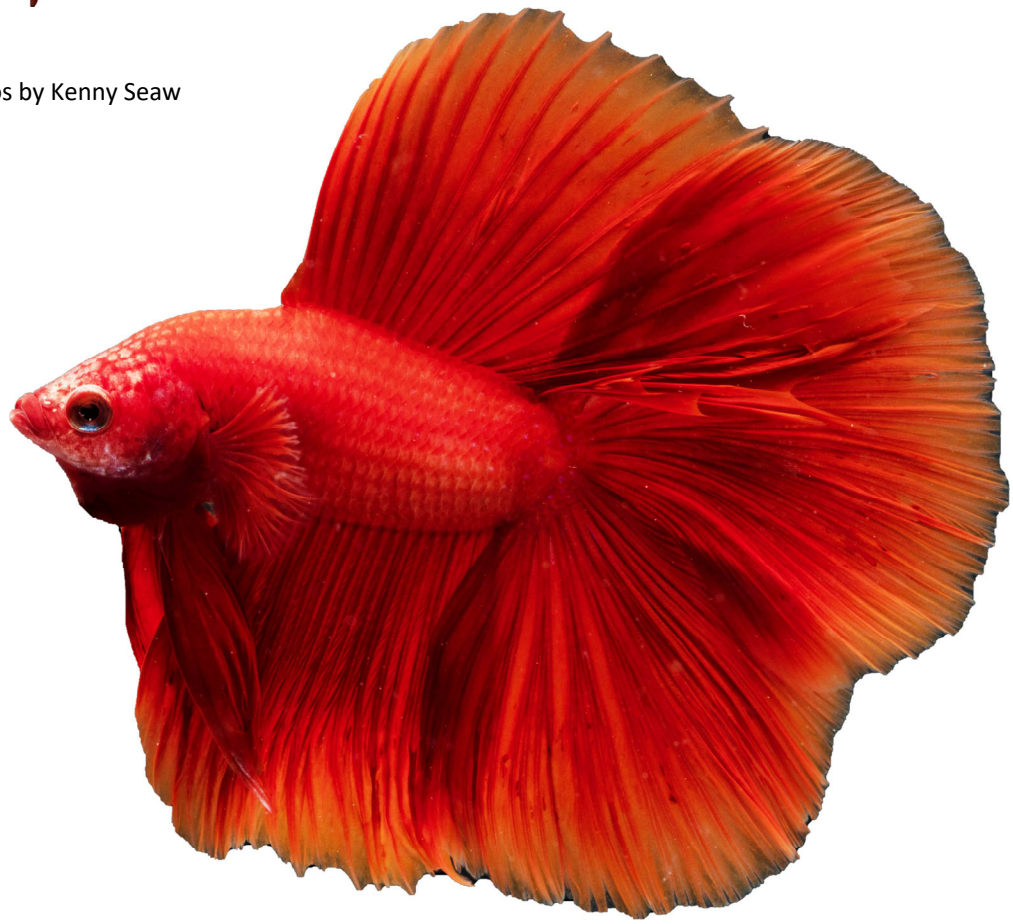
COLOR FAULTS OF RED BETTAS:

1. White ventrals (slight)
2. Color missing from pectorals (slight)
3. Black scales (minor unless extensive in which case it can be major; the judge should consider reclassing to Bicolor if severe)
4. Lighter shade of red on body vs. fins (minor unless excessive in which case it can be major; the judge should consider reclassing to Bicolor if severe)
5. Black edges on fins (minor)
6. Cream or flesh color on the head (minor unless extensive in which case it can be major)
7. Clear edges or streaks on fins (minor)
8. Presence of yellow or orange (severe)
9. Black spots, streaks or patches (major)
10. Presence of Iridescence (Major if only a few rays or scales)
11. Presence of Iridescence (Severe – if extensive, the Judge should consider reclassing to Multicolor)
12. Presence of Metallic iridescence (Severe – can be major if relegated to a few scales or fin rays)
13. Presence of Opaque (disqualifying fault; severe if restricted to ventrals)

COMPARISION OF DARK RED AND LIGHT RED



Photos by Kenny Seaw



CATEGORY-NON-IRIDESCENT
SUBCATEGORY—NON-OPAQUE
TYPE – BLACK

The ideal color is a very dark, dense, "black mollie" color. Other than green, black is the least fully set of the dark single colors. This is largely due to the requirement to breed for black without using the normally infertile black females. Some lines, for example, have used steel blue females extensively and thus, not surprisingly, have led to blacks with considerable iridescence present. This is particularly unfortunate since black; by its category definition is a non-iridescent color. As in Red, the presence of iridescence or opaque is serious. Because the iridescence problem is an offshoot of breeding problems, the presence of steel blue iridescence is not rated as seriously as in Red.
NOTE: A relatively recently developed (2003) combination of True Black and Black Lace provides "melano" females that are fertile. This type is called, "Double Black."

SUBTYPE—TRUE BLACK

A dark, "pitch" black is preferred - usually referred to as "melano." These often have the desired dark black on the fins but suffer from iridescence on the body. The latter must be faulted according to the extent and type of iridescence.

SUBTYPE—BLACK LACE

A black betta with translucent webbing between the fin rays. This type of black is much less desirable.

SUBTYPE—DOUBLE BLACK

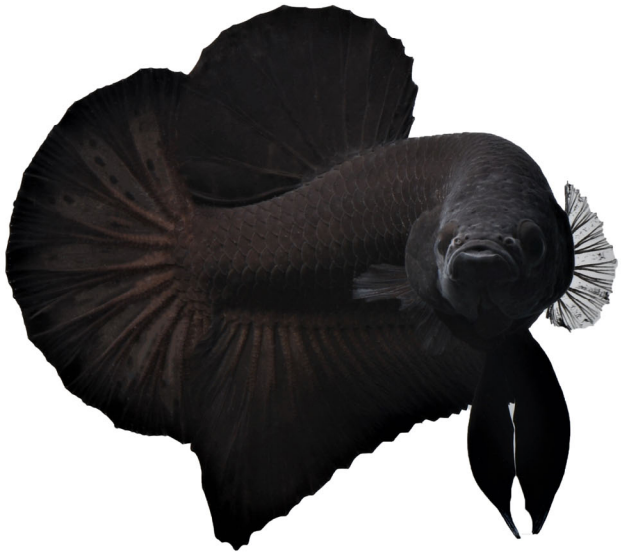
As for all blacks, a dark, "pitch" black is preferred without iridescence on the body and fins.

COLOR FAULTS OF BLACK BETTAS

1. White ventrals (slight)
2. Color missing from pectorals (slight)
3. Red on fins (minor unless extensive in which case it can be major or the judge can move to multicolor or butterfly class)
4. Clear on edges or streaks on fins (minor – can be major if extensive)
5. Presence of steel Iridescence (Major – if extensively covering body, should be moved to dark-body bi-colors)
6. Presence of green or blue Iridescence (Severe – if extensively covering body, should be moved to bi-colors) consider moving the Betta to the Multicolor class.)
7. Presence of metallic Iridescence (Severe – if extensively covering body, should be moved to Bicolor or Multicolor class if uneven spread). Intrusion of Metallic on the body can manifest itself as spots of yellow against a black background.
8. Presence of "Rust" (Severe but must be obvious)
9. Presence of Opaque is a Disqualifying fault unless restricted to ventrals)

COMPARISION OF BLACK BETTAS

Super Black Plakat Photo by Kenny Seaw





Melano Black

Photo by Ezekiel Lyon Goh

IRIDESCENT BETTAS

IRIDESCENT means: Blue, Steel Blue, Turquoise, and Green. These fish have a unique problem, that of anal fin wash. Visible wash follows the fault levels specified for the color of the wash. "Invisible" wash can only be seen by shining a flashlight through the fins from the opposite side from the viewer. The Judge ignores this type of wash.

One of the common concerns with the dark iridescent colors is learning to recognize them from each other. This chart shows their relative position on the "blue-green" scale:

Decreasing "blueness"———> <———Decreasing "greenness"

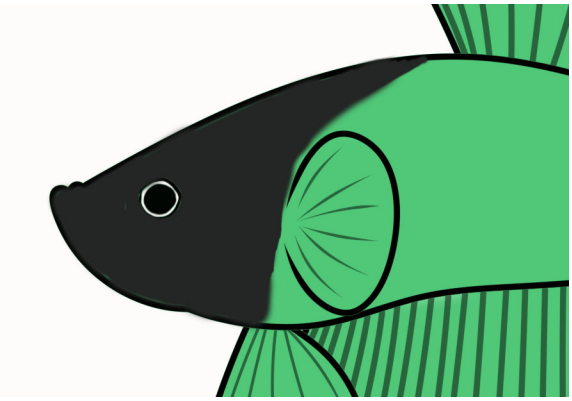
BLUE	STEEL BLUE	TURQUOISE	COMMON GREEN	TRUE GREEN

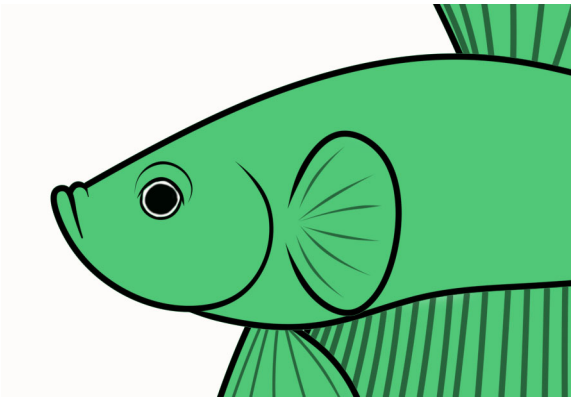
Another concern is the pervasiveness of the metallic genes in iridescent lines. Judges must judge phenotype and not the presumed genetics of show bettas. However, judges must be able to distinguish dark-bodied metallic bettas with an iridescent base from the iridescent bettas.

BLACK HEAD VERSUS MASKED HEAD—BOTH IRIDESCENT AND METALLIC

Dark Iridescent Bettas traditionally were bred with a black head. Several years later breeders developed a masked gene that covers the black head. Both forms are acceptable today in the show circuit.

Neither is actually preferred over the other. If the Betta has a mask it should be complete. If the Betta has a black head then it should be complete. Note: There is also a black headed Betta where the black comes straight up from the gills and does not slant back. Either form is acceptable.





FAULT LEVEL BLACK HEAD		FAULT LEVEL MASKED	
1. Some color intruding into	Minor	1. Black line on top of	Minor
2. Majority of the head cov-	Major	2. Large portions of black	Major

CATEGORY—IRIDESCENT

SUBCATEGORY—NON-OPAQUE
TYPE—BLUE

A deep Royal Blue is ideal. Blue, like all of the dark single colors (except green) is well established with a wide concurrence on its purity. It's presence in a non-opaque category makes the absence of all opaque an essential trait. This color often suffers from the presence of a color "wash", particularly in the anal fin. Though common, the presence of any other color is a fault.

COLOR FAULTS FOR BLUE BETTAS

1. White ventrals (slight fault)
2. Lack of blue iridescence on head (slight fault)
3. Lack of color on pectorals (slight fault)
4. Yellow wash (minor fault)
5. Red in ventrals (minor fault)
6. Barely visible metallic coloration, usually on lips & cheeks (minor fault)
7. Blue coloration fading in shades to steel (minor fault) or fading to shades of green or turquoise (major fault)
8. Blue coloration not of uniform hue (major fault)
9. Red wash (major fault).
10. Blue coloration not uniformly spread (severe fault). *
11. Small amount(s) of metallic coloration, up to 10% coverage (major fault)
12. Presence of any red color (severe fault unless relegated to ventrals).
13. Large amounts of Metallic coloration over 10% coverage requires moving to the dark metallic class
14. Absence of a dark undercoating (disqualifying fault).
15. Presence of opaque (disqualifying fault)

*All Dark Bodied Iridescent Bettas can have the traditional black head at no fault level.

CATEGORY—IRIDESCENT

SUBCATEGORY—NON-OPAQUE
TYPE—STEEL BLUE

Also called gunmetal blue, this color has a silver iridescence when compared to the Blue Betta. Perhaps slightly "grayer" in appearance to some observers. A "grayer", less bluish color is desired.

COLOR FAULTS FOR STEEL BLUE BETTAS

1. White ventrals (slight fault)
2. Lack of steel blue iridescence on head (slight fault)*
3. Lack of color on pectorals (slight fault)
4. Yellow wash (minor fault)
5. Red in ventrals (minor fault)
6. Barely visible metallic coloration, usually on lips & cheeks (minor fault)
7. Steel Blue coloration fading in shades to blue (minor fault) or fading to shades of green (major fault) or turquoise (major fault)
8. Steel Blue coloration not of uniform hue (major fault)
9. Small amount(s) of metallic coloration, up to 10% coverage (major fault)
10. Red wash (major fault).
11. Steel Blue coloration not uniformly spread (severe fault).
12. Presence of any red color (severe fault unless relegated to ventrals)
13. Large amounts of Metallic coloration over 10% coverage requires moving to the dark Metallic class
14. Absence of a dark undercoating (disqualifying fault).
15. Presence of opaque (disqualifying fault)

*All Dark Bodied Iridescent Bettas can have the traditional black head at no fault level.



Photo by Kenny Seaw

CATEGORY—IRIDESCENT

SUBCATEGORY—NON-OPAQUE
TYPE—TURQUOISE

Ideally, a darker shade of the color of the mineral Turquoise. This type of Betta has had a stormy past history because of its confusion with the Green type. Color preference is toward the lighter "aqua", "turquoise" tones of the blue rather than the darker green/yellow shades. It should appear to be a single even overall shade, rather than a mixture of blues and greens.

COLOR FAULTS FOR TURQUOISE BETTAS

1. White ventrals (slight fault)
2. Lack of turquoise iridescence on head (slight fault)*
3. Lack of color on pectorals (slight fault)
4. Yellow wash (minor fault)
5. Red in ventrals (minor fault)
6. Barely visible metallic coloration, usually on lips & cheeks (minor fault)
7. Turquoise coloration fading in shades to green (minor fault) or fading to shades of blue (major fault) or steel blue (major fault)
8. Turquoise coloration not of uniform hue (major fault)
9. Red wash (major fault).
10. Turquoise coloration not uniformly spread (severe fault).
11. Small amount(s) of metallic coloration, up to 10% coverage (major fault)
12. Presence of any red color (severe fault unless relegated to the ventrals).
13. Large amounts of Metallic coloration over 10% coverage requires moving to the dark metallic class
14. Absence of a dark undercoating (disqualifying fault).
15. Presence of opaque (disqualifying fault)

*All Dark Bodied Iridescent Bettas can have the traditional black head at no fault level.

CATEGORY—IRIDESCENT

SUBCATEGORY—NON-OPAQUE
TYPE—GREEN

Ideally, a grass or forest green. Darker rather than brighter shades are desired. Green is the least fixed dark single color type because it is complicated by a tendency to vary in shade. There are at least two distinct subtypes. Subtype 1, True Green, has preference though the second subtype is more common. Green is not to be confused with Turquoise which has a much more distinct blue hue. Teal color is from metallic and should be moved to dark-bodied metallic.

SUBTYPE--TRUE GREEN

This sub-classification contains those Green Bettas that have a true "forest green" or "grass green" and are given intentional preference when judging.

SUBTYPE--COMMON GREEN

Most "Green" Bettas are, in fact, this type, which is less desirable than true green. Common green is a bluish green fish although it has less blue than a turquoise--an often difficult fine hue distinction.

COLOR FAULTS FOR GREEN BETTAS

1. White ventrals (slight fault)
2. Lack of green iridescence on head (slight fault)*
3. Lack of color on pectorals (slight fault)
4. Yellow wash (minor fault)
5. Red in ventrals (minor fault)
6. Barely visible metallic coloration, usually on lips & cheeks (minor fault)
7. Green coloration fading in shades to turquoise (minor fault) or fading to shades of blue (major fault) or steel blue (major fault)
8. Green coloration not of uniform hue (major fault)
9. Red wash (major fault).
10. Green coloration not uniformly spread (severe fault).
11. Small amount(s) of metallic coloration, up to 10% coverage (major fault)
12. Presence of any red color (severe fault unless relegated to ventrals).
13. Large amounts of Metallic coloration, over 10% coverage, including teal and emerald requires moving to the dark metallic class
14. Absence of a dark undercoating (disqualifying fault).
15. Presence of opaque (disqualifying fault)

*All Dark Bodied Iridescent Bettas can have the traditional black head at no fault level.

CATEGORY—IRIDESCENT

SUBCATEGORY—OPAQUE

No Types within this grouping are officially recognized. Blue, Steel Blue, Turquoise, or Green dark bodies Bettas with an opaque covering would belong here.

GROUP—SINGLE LIGHT COLOR

General Basis of Faults of the Light Single Colored Bettas:
The "light" single colors differ from the single dark color Bettas primarily by lacking an undercoat of black coloration. The Colors not applicable to this Subgroup (light) are faulted if they appear to any degree on one of the fish of this type. The principles which determine the arrangement of the fault charts found in this portion of the text are:
---Dark colors are faulted on Light subgroup Bettas.
---Iridescence or metallic coloration is faulted on non-iridescent category Bettas.
---If a second color is present, and in high contrast with the main color, the more severe the fault.
---The degree to which a second color intrudes also affects the degree of severity of the fault.

SUBGROUP CHARACTERISTIC = Absence of dark undercoating Presence of the dark undercoating is a disqualifying fault.

CATEGORY—NON-IRIDESCENT

SUBCATEGORY—NON-OPAQUE
TYPE—ORANGE

Orange lines have been developed from marble and from light-bodied bi-color lines. The desired color is brilliant orange and yet "translucent" as in the flesh of a navel orange (and less like the peel). Red does not contrast as much as in yellow or clear bettas so it is not faulted as severely. Beware of light body bi-colors with orange fins - unless reclassified, disqualify.

COLOR FAULTS OF ORANGE BETTAS:

1. Red vein effect (slight fault)
2. Clear / lack of color in fins (minor fault)
3. Black specs (minor fault if few in number; major if substantial)
4. Red streaks on fins (minor fault)
5. Black spots, streaks or patches (major fault)
6. Iridescence or metallic coloration (severe fault unless relegated to a few fin rays detectable by flashlight which can be major fault)
7. Presence of Opaque (disqualifying fault)
8. The presence of Black under-coloration (disqualifying fault)
9. Iridescence on head (major fault)


Photo by Kenny Seaw

CATEGORY—NON-IRIDESCENT

SUBCATEGORY—NON-OPAQUE
TYPE—YELLOW

A brilliant yellow is ideal. Colors which tend to be very pale yellow or a brown tinted yellow are not desirable. Yellow results from a trait which transforms red, therefore the presence of red--except the vein line) is a serious error. WATCHOUT for Yellow Cambodians in a yellow class--unless reclassified, disqualify.

COLOR FAULTS OF YELLOW BETTAS:

1. Red vein effect (slight fault)
2. Clear / lack of color in fins (minor fault unless substantial which can be major fault)
3. Black specs (minor fault if few in number; major if substantial)
4. Red streaks on fins (major fault)
5. Brown tint on fins (major fault)
6. Black spots, streaks or patches (major fault)
7. Iridescence or metallic coloration (severe fault unless relegated to a few fin rays detectable by flashlight which can be major fault)
8. Presence of Opaque (disqualifying fault)
9. The presence of Black under-coloration (disqualifying fault)
10. Iridescence on head (major fault)



CATEGORY—NON-IRIDESCENT

SUBCATEGORY—NON-OPAQUE
TYPE—CLEAR

Transparent body and fins are ideal. Colors from the body organs, however, cause the body to appear "pink"--others use the words "flesh-colored" or "creme" to describe this same color. The presence of any other color is a serious error.

SUBTYPE-CELLOPHANE

A colorless Betta body--flesh colored--with transparent fins. Eyes are dark, not red. Occasionally the cellophane is thought to be a bicolor: Pink/Clear. While that view is understandable it is not correct in the standards definition of cellophane. The cellophane is considered a single color. The name of that color is "clear". The pink of the body is due to the flesh/organs of the fish.

SUBTYPE-ALBINO

Like cellophanes, these are colorless Bettas both in body and in fins. The eyes also show no coloration and are therefore red in appearance.

COLOR FAULTS OF CLEAR BETTAS:

1. Red vein effect (slight fault)
2. Yellow or orange (minor fault)
3. Black specs (minor fault if few in number; major if substantial)
4. Red streaks on fins (major fault)
5. Black spots, streaks or patches (major fault)
6. Iridescence or metallic coloration (severe fault unless relegated to a few fin rays detectable by flashlight which can be major fault)
7. Presence of Opaque (disqualifying fault)
8. The presence of Black under-coloration (disqualifying fault)
9. Iridescence on head (major fault)


Photo by Kristian Draganovic

CATEGORY—NON-IRIDESCENT

SUBCATEGORY—OPAQUE

No Types within this grouping are officially recognized. Yellow light bodied Bettas with an opaque covering would belong here.

CATEGORY—IRIDESCENT

SUBCATEGORY—NON-OPAQUE
TYPE—PASTELS

Pastel colors include Pastel Blue, Pastel Green, Pastel White, etc. All of these lack dark under-coloration and heavy iridescent density. Therefore "green" for example is considerably different from the definition of "green" when referring to a single dark color Betta. Opaque Bettas (described below), and even semi-opaque Bettas are not acceptable as Pastels.

All permitted entries must be non-red or Red-loss and light-bodied. Thus they cannot show red or black under coloration. A light "dusting" of iridescence should cover the entire body and fins of the fish. The fins may be transparent, or translucent. These fish should not show opaque, no matter how slight.

SUBTYPE—PASTEL BLUE

A light Sky Blue is ideal. Pale blue coloration that appears to lack the typical dark or "black" under-coloration. Must not show opaque, however slight. Its presence in a non-opaque category makes the absence of all opaque an essential trait. Though common, the presence of green tones is a fault.
A light pale Green is ideal. Pale green coloration that appears to lack the typical dark or "black" under-coloration.

SUBTYPE—PASTEL GREEN

Must not show opaque, however slight. Its presence in a non- opaque category makes the absence of all opaque an essential trait. Though common, the presence of blue tones is a fault.

SUBTYPE—PASTEL WHITE

A light, "silvery" White is ideal. Pale steel blue coloration that appears to lack the typical dark or "black" under-coloration. Must not show opaque, however slight. Its presence in a non- opaque category makes the absence of all opaque an essential trait. Though common, the presence of blue or green tones is a fault.

COLOR FAULTS OF PASTEL BETTAS:

1. Clear / lack of color in fins (minor fault unless >half in which case this is a major fault)
2. Black specs (minor fault if few in number; major if substantial)
3. Barely visible metallic coloration, usually on lips & cheeks (minor fault)
4. Secondary Iridescence color, i.e. blue on a green pastel (major fault)
5. Small amount(s) of metallic coloration, up to 10% coverage (major fault)
6. Presence of Opaque (severe fault - even if relegated to just the head); if the Opaque is prevalent the Judge should consider moving the Betta to the appropriate Opaque class.
7. The presence of Black under-coloration (disqualifying fault)
8. The presence of Red coloration (disqualifying fault unless they are small light spot or two of random Red color is to be faulted at the Judge's discretion)
9. Large amounts of Metallic coloration over 10% coverage requires moving to the light metallic class

CATEGORY—IRIDESCENT

SUBCATEGORY—OPAQUE
TYPE—OPAQUES

The fish under this category/subcategory are, by common practice called "opaques." Opaque colors include Opaque Blue, Opaque green, and Opaque White, etc. All of these also lack dark under coloration.

All permitted entries must be non-red or Red-loss and light-bodied. Thus they cannot show red or black under coloration. They MUST show opaque which covers the body.

SUBTYPE—OPAQUE BLUE

A light powder Blue is ideal. Basically contains the same colors as the Pastels. However, the fish is covered by a coat of Opaque pigment. Pale blue coloration which appears to lack the typical dark or "black" under-coloration is essential. Must show opaque. Though common, the presence of green tones is a fault.

SUBTYPE—OPAQUE GREEN

A light powder Green is ideal. Pale green coloration which appears to lack the typical dark or "black" under coloration. Must be opaque. Though common, the presence of blue tones is a fault.

SUBTYPE—OPAQUE WHITE

Brilliant dense white coloration which appears to lack the typical dark or "black" under-coloration. Must be opaque. Though common, the presence of non-white tones is a fault.

COLOR FAULTS OF OPAQUE BETTAS:

1. Clear / lack of color in fins (minor fault unless >half in which case this is a major fault)
2. Black specs (minor fault if few in number; major if substantial)
3. Barely visible metallic coloration, usually on lips & cheeks (minor fault)
4. Secondary Iridescence color, i.e. blue on a white or green opaque (major fault)
5. Small amount(s) of metallic coloration, up to 10% coverage (major fault)
6. Opaque covering eyes (disqualifying if the fish cannot see; it will not flare against a fish that it should see in a container next t it)
7. The presence of Black under-coloration (disqualifying fault)
8. The presence of Red coloration (disqualifying fault unless they are small light spot or two of random Red color is to be faulted at the Judge's discretion)
9. Large amounts of Metallic coloration over 10% coverage requires moving to the light metallic class

GROUP—METALLIC BETTAS

The metallic effect is generated by the spread of yellow-reflecting chromatophores over the body and fins of a fish. Against a dark background, this effect interacts with normal green and blue iridescence to generate dark-bodied iridescent fish of striking and unconventional hues. When combined with blue iridescence, the resulting fish is blue-green to teal-colored; when combined with steel, the fish adopt that unique coloration often marketed under the name 'copper'

SUBGROUP --DARK-BODIED SINGLE COLOR METALLIC

CATEGORY—IRIDESCENT
SUBCATEGORY—NON-OPAQUE

Dark-bodied metallic fish are judged by the same criterion, as are dark-bodied iridescent fish. Specifically faults regarding to the spread of iridescence and absence of red or yellow pertain. Dark-body iridescent standards call for the iridescent color to extend as far forward on the fish as possible. The same standard applies to dark-bodied metallic fish, that is, iridescence covering the gill plates, head, and lips are favored in dark-bodied metallic fish and their absence faulted.

The dark-bodied metallic fish are often unusually variable in hue, ranging from a purplish 'copper', to a shiny steel, to blue-greens, to a teal blue. Uniformity of color over the body of the fish is ideal, so that a uniform teal blue color or uniform copper color would be preferred over a fish with patches that are green alternating with patches that are blue. The same is true with black or red metallic in that the color needs to be uniform and not red-washed.

All general standards and special standards for dark-iridescent fish apply. Additional faults listed specific to the dark-bodied metallic Type are included.

TYPE – METALLIC COPPER (STEEL BLUE)

A deep shiny metallic copper color is desirable. Absence of all opaque is essential. Colors will vary in shade and hue from a new shiny copper penny to a darker color copper. Just like a true copper metal the spectrum of colors radiating back from a flashlight shined onto the fish will give you variations of purple, turquoise, blue and a pinkish purple. Given the fact that the known genetic background of this fish is derived from the steel blue color it will be referred to as "Copper" for clarification of it's color type.

TYPE—METALLIC TEAL (BLUE)

A deep shiny metallic teal green is desirable. Absence of all opaque is essential.
All general color faults for the iridescent green will apply to the metallic teal. The degree to which blue displays itself should be minimal. A greener teal shade is more desirable than a teal blue.

TYPE—METALLIC GREEN

A deep shiny emerald green is desirable. Unlike the grass green or common green, the metallic green should shine like an emerald. Absence of all opaque is essential. All general color faults for the iridescent greens will apply to the metallic green.

COLOR FAULTS FOR DARK SINGLE COLOR METALLIC

1. Gill plates and head display metallic sheen, but covering is incomplete (slight fault)
2. Metallic coloration uniform, but fading toward edges of unpaired fins (minor fault)
3. Head black, lacking metallic sheen (major fault)
4. Metallic coloration not of uniform hue (major fault)
5. Red wash (major fault)
6. Steel Metallic with presence of green color (major fault)
7. Steel Metallic with presence of blue color (minor fault)
8. Teal Metallic with presence of blue color (major fault
9. Green metallic with presence of blue color (major fault)
10. Green Metallic with presence of black (major fault)
11. Metallic coloration not spread over entire fish (severe fault)
12. Absence of metallic coloration (disqualifying fault)

The degree to which any other colors display should be minimal and preferably not noticeable without the use of a flashlight. Judges should consider the amount of the color intrusion and may rate such from minor to severe based on the relativity to which it degrades the desirable color.

ALL OTHER APPROPRIATE GENERAL AND SPECIAL FAULTS APPLY

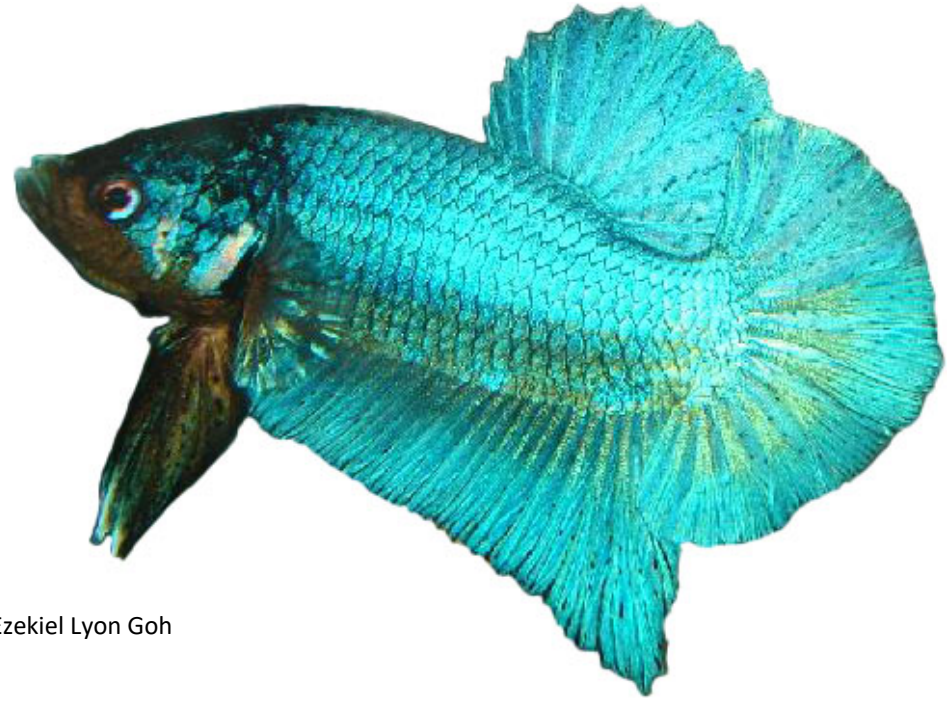


Photo by Ezekiel Lyon Goh

SUBGROUP -- LIGHT-BODIED SINGLE COLOR METALLIC

CATEGORY— IRIDESCENT
SUBCATEGORY—NON-OPAQUE

The light-bodied metallic bettas include any solid light-bodied single color (i.e. yellow, clear, orange, pastel, and opaque) fish that exhibit a metallic sheen, over the entire fish- Ideal is spread of metallic sheen over the entire fish including the head (mask effect). Some slang names of these fish may include: platinum, silver, gold, and yellow gold. Metallic patterned fish (i.e., bicolors, butterflies, marbles) are to be shown in the regular patterned classes or in color form variations if the exhibitor believes the color of sufficient novelty.
All general, as well as special standards pertaining to the color, apply for the light-bodied metallics. In particular, a yellow fish is judged by the yellow color standard, an opaque by the opaque standard, and so on. Fish are judged by the adherence to the ideal of their type and judged relative to one another by their respective departure from those ideals, as well as their adherence to the light bodied metallic standard.
One notable exception to the special standards pertains. In the non-iridescent solid colors, i.e., clear, yellow and orange, the presence of iridescence is faulted. The metallic effect is also iridescent, so in light bodied metallic classes the standards regarding absence of iridescence is taken to mean absence of blue or green iridescence.

SUBGROUP CHARACTERISTIC = Absence of dark undercoating: Metallic Sheen

CATEGORY— NON-IRIDESCENT
SUBCATEGORY—NON-OPAQUE
TYPE -- YELLOW OR GOLD METALLIC

The regular color standards for yellow will apply. A brilliant lemon yellow with a metallic sheen spread over the entire body is ideal. Pay special attention to the metallic sheen and make certain it is evenly spread over the fish. This type could easily be mistaken for Cambodian yellows as they also tend to show iridescence, which could be misconstrued for the metallic sheen.

TYPE—CLEAR METALLIC

The regular color standard for clear will apply. Transparent Body and Fins are ideal. The presence of any other color is a serious error. A clear metallic body will not appear pink as in the normal clear fish. The metallic sheen will shield the coloration from the body organs. They will appear very clear however their eyes will be dark as in the normal clear color.

TYPE—ORANGE METALLIC

A Bright true orange is the ideal color. The metallic orange would display a metallic sheen, which would make the orange appear richer in color. Imagine the wax effect on an orange color crayon and this would be very close to the ideal color desired.

COLOR FAULTS OF YELLOW/CLEAR/ORANGE METALLIC

1. Metallic sheen uniform over fish, but not extended over head (slight fault)
2. Metallic sheen uniform over fish, but fading or darkening toward the unpaired fins (slight fault)
3. Yellow metallic with blue or green iridescence (major fault)
4. Yellow metallic with the yellow color not uniformly spread over entire fish (major fault)
5. Variation of yellow metallic color – bright to dull (major fault)
6. Clear metallic with presence of yellow fin rays (minor fault)
7. Clear metallic with occasional dark spotting on body or fins (minor fault)
8. Clear metallic with blue or green iridescence (major fault)
9. Clear metallic with presence of any red color (major fault)
10. Orange metallic with variations in shade of orange color (minor fault)
11. Orange metallic with blue of green iridescence (major fault)
12. Orange metallic with presence of red color (major fault)
13. Orange metallic with the orange color not uniformly spread over entire fish (major fault)
14. Metallic sheen present but not uniformly distributed over fish (major fault)
15. Presence of a dark undercoating (disqualifying fault)
16. Absence of metallic sheen (disqualifying fault)

TYPE—PASTEL METALLIC

The color standards for the regular pastel colors will apply. Colors include Pastel Blue, Green, White, Lavender, etc. All of these lack dark undercoloration. All of the permitted entries must be non-red and light bodied and must not show red or black undercoloration. Metallic pastels will show as shiny colors or as regular pastels. Presence of any dark body color is a disqualifying fault.

SUBTYPE—PASTEL BLUE METALLIC

A light shiny sky Blue is ideal. Pale blue coloration, lacking a dark or black undercoloration.

SUBTYPE—PASTEL GREEN METALLIC

A light shiny pale Green is ideal. Pale green coloration, lacking a dark or black undercoloration.

SUBTYPE—PASTEL WHITE METALLIC

A light shiny White is ideal. White coloration may vary in shade from Platinum White to Silver. Metallic white must not be confused with Opaque. This subtype should show as a clear fish with a metallic shine, which gives it the appearance of Metallic White.

COLOR FAULTS OF PASTEL BLUE/GREEN/WHITE METALLIC

1. Metallic sheen uniform over fish, but not extended over head (slight fault)
2. Metallic sheen uniform over fish, but fading or darkening toward edges of the unpaired fins (slight fault)
3. Pastel Blue Metallic with variations in the shade of blue color (minor fault)
4. Pastel Blue Metallic with presence of green tones (major fault)
5. Pastel Green Metallic with variations in the shade of green color (minor fault)
6. Pastel Green Metallic with presence of blue tones (major fault)
7. Pastel White Metallic with the presence of blue or green tones (minor fault)
8. Pastel White Metallic with variations in the shade of the white color (minor fault)
9. Metallic sheen producing yellow fin rays (minor fault)
10. Metallic sheen present but not uniformly distributed over fish (major fault)
11. Absence of metallic sheen (disqualifying fault)

TYPE—METALLIC OPAQUE

The fish under this Category/subcategory are Opaques with a metallic sheen. All lack dark undercoloration, must be non-red and light bodied. They cannot show red or black undercoloration – must show opaque which covers the body. Colors include Blue, Green, and White. All general Opaque standards will also apply to the metallic opaques.
Typically Opaque refers to the build up of pigment over the body of the fish, which displays itself as a white or chalky coating. Uneven spread of the metallic iridescence will cause an opaque illusion on metallic fish. Particular attention should be paid to the extent of which the opaque presents itself on the entire body of the fish. An even spread is desirable.

SUBTYPE—METALLIC OPAQUE BLUE

A light shiny powder blue is ideal. Basically contains the same colors as the metallic pastels. However, a coat of Opaque pigment covers the fish. Pale Blue coloration, which appears to lack the typical dark or black undercoloration, is essential.

SUBTYPE—METALLIC OPAQUE GREEN

A light shiny powder green is ideal. Pale green coloration, lacking the typical dark or black undercoloration.

SUBTYPE—METALLIC OPAQUE WHITE

A brilliant shiny dense white color is ideal. White coloration, lacking the typical dark or black undercoloration.

COLOR FAULTS OF METALLIC OPAQUE

1. Metallic sheen uniform over fish, but not extended over head (slight fault)
2. Metallic sheen uniform over fish, but fading toward edges of the unpaired fins (slight fault)
3. Variation in the shade of the color (minor fault)
4. Metallic sheen producing yellow fin rays (minor fault)
5. Presence of green tones on the metallic opaque blue (major fault)
6. Presence of blue tones on the metallic opaque green (major fault)
7. Presence of non-white tones on metallic opaque white (major fault)
8. Metallic sheen present but not uniformly distributed over fish (major fault)
9. Absence of metallic sheen (disqualifying fault)

ALL OTHER APPROPRIATE GENERAL AND SPECIAL FAULTS APPLY

BICOLORED BETTAS

These are two color bettas. The body of a bicolor must be one single color and the fins must be one single, but different color than the body. Further categorization is determined by the specific body color. Technically, the Bicolor is one of the Patterned Bettas, but by common practice it is considered as a separate entry.

Different Colors?
The allowable fin and body colors are the same as listed under the Single Colored Bettas. Therefore, it is not necessary to describe the colors of each of the Bicolor Types below.

GROUP CHARACTERISTIC = Bicolor
Absence of the bicolor pattern is a disqualifying fault.

Emphasis of Judging Bicolored Bettas:
The primary concern centers on the two colors. Absolutely sharp restriction of one color to the body and the other to the fins is essential. The body colors are judged using the color descriptions found earlier. Contrast is also an important factor in judging bi- color bettas – all other things being equal a red-bodied fish with orange fins will not compete very well against a blue-bodied fish with yellow fins, since the latter shows much more contrast between the colors.

SUBGROUP—DARK BODIED BICOLOR

Those Bettas that have a dark body--colors include Extended Red, Black, Blue, Steel Blue, Turquoise, Green, Teal, Metallic Green, Copper, Metallic Purple—and any other fin color. Dark-bodied metallic and other colors which do not have a single color description in these standards, i.e. brown, should be shown in Color Variations class because there is no existing basis (single color standard) for judging the color of those fish. “Masked” fish – those with body color extending to the head and gill plates should not be faulted but given the advantage.

GENERAL BASIS OF FAULTS OF THE DARK-BODIED BICOLOR BETTAS:

Body colors which are not one of the six dark colors described earlier are not permitted and should be moved to a more appropriate class. The Fins can be one of the other dark colors or they may be one of the described light colors.

1. Contrast is important.
2. The body and fin colors should be strictly separated at the body/fin junctions.
3. If additional colors are present on the body or fins that is a fault treated as explained by the color fault guides for Single Colored Bettas. For example, a Red Body--with iridescence on it--is scored in accordance with the Red Color Guide. The fins, if they are black for example, are scored as in the Black Color Guide.

SUBGROUP CHARACTERISTIC = Dark body undercoating Absence of the dark body undercoating is a disqualifying fault.

CATEGORY--NON-IRIDESCENT
SUBCATEGORY—NON-OPAQUE
TYPE (SAME AS FOR DARK SINGLE COLORS)

Based on the color of the body refer to the appropriate Single Color Fault Guide. If there are unique Subtypes--those that have been given special recognition--they are included here. The Bicolor Subtypes are named in this format “Body/Fin”, thus Red/White means a Bicolor Betta that has a Red Body and White Fins.

SUBTYPE—BLACK/YELLOW (CHOCOLATE)

This is the only recognized subtype in this category.
The “black” of the body is a reduced color, closer to a brown.

CATEGORY—Iridescent
SUBCATEGORY—NON-OPAQUE
TYPE (SAME AS FOR DARK SINGLE COLORS)

This is where the Green/Yellow bicolor and all similar patterns would be placed.

CATEGORY—Iridescent
SUBCATEGORY—OPAQUE
TYPE (SAME AS FOR DARK SINGLE COLORS)

No Types within this grouping are officially recognized. Blue, Steel Blue, Turquoise, or Green dark bodied Bicolor Bettas with an opaque covering would belong here.

COLOR FAULT GUIDE FOR DARK BODIED BICOLOR BETTAS

1. Lack of body color on head (slight fault)
2. Lack of fin color on pectorals (slight fault)
3. Slight bleeding of body color into fins OR vice versa (slight fault if restricted to one of the unpaired fins; minor if on 2 or all 3 unpaired fins).
4. Third color intrusion (slight to severe depending on amount and particular color – see single color guide). Amount can be SLIGHT – a few rays, edge of one fin, or scales to SEVERE – i.e. nearly all rays in all unpaired fins color can be SLIGHT – green on turquoise to SEVERE – opaque on black (see single color guide) (amount severity + color severity) /2 = fault for 3rd color intrusion
5. Contrast between body and fin colors is poor (major fault). Slight bleeding of body color into fins AND fin color bleeds into body (major fault)
6. Substantial bleeding of body color into fins OR vice versa (major fault)
7. Bleeding of body color into 1/3 or more of one or more non-paired fins (severe fault)
8. Bleeding of fin color into 1/3 or over body color (severe fault)

SUBGROUP—LIGHT BODIED BICOLOR

A distinctly two-colored Betta with a light colored body, that is, flesh, opaque, pastel, orange, yellow, light red or any of these colors with metallic. Any color of fin different than the body color is acceptable.

GENERAL BASIS OF FAULTS OF THE LIGHT BICOLORED BETTAS:

Body colors which are not one of the light colors described above are not permitted.. The Fins can be one of the other light colors or may be one of the described dark colors.

1. Contrast is important therefore dark colored fins have preference over light fins.
2. The body and fin colors should be strictly separated at the body/fin junctions.
3. If additional colors are present on the body or fins that is a fault treated as explained by the color fault guides for Single Colored Bettas. For example, a Yellow Body—with iridescence on it—is scored in accordance with the Yellow Color Guide. The fins, if they are black for example, are scored as presented above in the Black Color Guide.

CATEGORY—NON-IRIDESCENT

SUBCATEGORY—NON-OPAQUE

TYPES—(BODY COLORS) YELLOW, ORANGE, CLEAR

This is the only Type with recognized Subtypes. The body must be “flesh” color, the fins may be any other color except clear. Any dark color of fins is considered high contrast. A light color, such as a “yellow Cambodian,” can be quite difficult to distinguish from a pale all-yellow Betta. “Cambodian” is defined as a flesh-colored body with fins of another color except transparent as in Cellophane.

SUBTYPE—CLEAR/RED (TRADITIONAL CAMBODIAN)

“Traditional Cambodian” is defined as a flesh- colored body with Red Fins. Fin colors other than red are commonly referred to as Cambodian AOC (Any Other Color) collectively.

The judging phenotype term Cambodian defined here should not be confused with the genetic definition of the “Cambodian” trait which is “absence of black pigment”. The latter definition is not used for judging. For classes named “Cambodian”, only a flesh- colored body—Cambodian or Cellophane—is permitted. If the class is further described as “Traditional Cambodian”, the body must be “flesh” color and the fin color is restricted to Red.

CATEGORY—IRIDESCENT
SUBCATEGORY—OPAQUE
TYPES—(OPAQUE BODY COLORS) BLUE, GREEN, WHITE

Example: Opaque White body/Red fins.
Color intrusion from either the body to the fins or from the fins to the body is one of the greatest variables in judging Bicolors.

COLOR FAULT GUIDE FOR LIGHT BODIED BICOLOR BETTAS

1. Lack of body color on head (slight fault)
2. Lack of fin color on pectorals (slight fault)
3. Slight bleeding of body color into fins OR vice versa (slight fault if restricted to one of the unpaired fins; minor if on 2 or all 3 unpaired fins)
4. Third color intrusion (slight to severe depending on amount and particular color – see single color guide)

amount can be SLIGHT – a few rays, edge of one fin, or scales to SEVERE – i.e. nearly all rays in all unpaired fins
color can be SLIGHT – green on turquoise to SEVERE – opaque on black (see single color guide!)
(amount severity + color severity) / 2 = fault points for 3rd color intrusion

5. Contrast between body and fin colors is poor (major fault)
6. Slight bleeding of body color into fins AND fin color bleeds into body (major fault)
7. Substantial bleeding of body color into fins OR vice versa (major fault)
8. Bleeding of body color into 1/3 or more of one or more non-paired fins (severe fault)
9. Bleeding of fin color into 1/3 or over of body color (severe fault)



Light bodied bicolor where the dragon overlay replaces the pale flesh colored body. Note some color intrusion on the fins.

Photo by Kenny Seaw

GROUP 3: PATTERNED BETTAS

All Bettas have a “pattern”. There are actually five patterns but, here again, we have a term that can be deceiving. The first two patterns are considered under their sections--the Single Color, pattern one and the Bicolor, pattern two, Bettas. So, normally when one hears the term “patterned” it refers only to the last three of the five patterns: the BUTTERFLY Bettas, the MARBLE Bettas, and the MULTICOLOR Bettas.

Emphasis of Judging Patterned Bettas:
Beyond general Betta characteristics that always apply, the primary concern of judges in evaluating this kind of Betta is the uniformity, density, and nature of the pattern. The fault levels allocated to color are assigned to the pattern and not the colors within the pattern.

GROUP CHARACTERISTIC = Non-singlecolor or bicolor
Presence of the singlecolor or bicolor pattern is a disqualifying fault.

SUBGROUP—BUTTERFLY

The Butterfly is a variegated Betta with a very specific fin pattern. The key is in the fins that display a banded pattern. Emphasis is placed on the contrast and crispness of the band not the coloring of the body and fins. The band should be crisp not just a lightening of opposing fin color. For example, a yellow Betta with yellow fins that have a lighter yellow outer band is not a butterfly but a fish with distinct yellow and clear bands on the fins is a butterfly. Bands should scribe an even oval around the fish. There are two forms the banding may take: A fin pattern with two bands, where the fins are divided in half by two opposing colors, and a multiple, three or more, band pattern, where the fins are divided equally between the number of bands. The multiple band pattern is sometimes difficult to identify since two of the bands, though distinct, may be subtle but different shades of the same color. In this case, shining a flashlight from behind the fins may aid in detecting this trait but the lack of definition between bands is considered a fault. The body color of the Butterfly Betta and the color in the first fin band may be either a single color, bicolored, marbled, or multicolor.

GENERAL BASIS OF FAULTS OF THE BUTTERFLY BETTAS

The principles which determine the fault levels found in this portion of the text are:

1. For two band fins, the bands should occupy 1/2 the fin on all fins.
2. For multiple band fins, each band should occupy 1/[number of bands] of the fin area on all fins.
3. The dividing line between fin bands should be straight and scribe an oval around the Betta.
4. The degree to which a second color intrudes, lack of crisp definition, also affects the degree of severity of the fault.

SUBGROUP CHARACTERISTIC = Butterfly Pattern
Absence of the Butterfly pattern is a disqualifying fault.

BUTTERFLY— SINGLE COLOR BASED
SUBCATEGORY — TWO AND MULTIPLE BANDS
TYPE – RED / RED-WHITE

In this kind of butterfly the body must be one color. The inner band on the fins can be but does not have to be the same color as the body. The outer fin band should occupy the appropriate percentage of the fin/fins and maintain a different single color within the band. Bettas of this Category are named in the following sequence: Body color/Inner band--Outer band. Though only one subtype is shown here to represent them, there are actually many: Red/Red-clear, etc. The color possibilities are same as those shown in the Single Color group.

BUTTERFLY— BICOLOR BASED
SUBCATEGORY — TWO BANDS

Bicolor based butterflies are just like the Bicolor group of Bettas except that the fins have a third color in the outer bands on the fins. Again, the outer band ideally is one color and covers 1/2 the area of each fin.

TYPE—CLEAR/RED-WHITE

This is a representative of the Types that are available. Rather than list all of them, let it be sufficient to say that the body and inner band are those colors found among the Bicolor group with an outer band of any other color. This type is commonly called a Cambodian butterfly.

SUBCATEGORY—MULTIPLE BANDS

For these, the outer bands ideally cover 1/[number of bands] of the area of each fin. If there are 3 bands, for example, each band covers 1/3 of the fin area.

TYPE—CLEAR/WHITE-RED-WHITE

While all multiple banded Bettas might be impressive, it is the unique contrast of the dark central band that made the Tutweiler Betta famous.

BUTTERFLY—MARBLE BASED
SUBCATEGORY—NONE

The body must be as described in the Marble Classification. The inner fin band may be any solid color or it may be marbled though that would probably disrupt the inner band's appearance of uniformity. In the later case, the outer band must still be distinctly different than the inner band. Sharp division of the marble pattern is preferable to blending.

BUTTERFLY—MULTICOLOR BASED

SUBCATEGORY—NONE

The body and inner band must conform to the Multicolor Betta as described in the Multicolor Classification. The outer band/bands may contain different colors in the same band. Sharp division and contrast between bands is preferred to blending.

COLOR FAULTS OF BUTTERFLY BETTAS:

1. Lack of butterfly pattern in pectoral fins (slight fault)
2. Lack of butterfly pattern in ventral fins (minor fault)
3. Jagged separation between colors on pattern in one unpaired fin (minor fault)
4. Blurred, non-crisp separation between colors on pattern in one unpaired fin (minor fault)
5. Slight third color intrusion (not part of pattern) on fins (minor fault)
6. Less than ½ of fin length but more than ¼ occupied by one of the two colors in one fin (minor fault)
7. Bleeding of fin pattern color into body (minor fault)
8. On 3-banded patterns – 3rd band is less than ¼ of length of fin (minor fault)
9. On 3-banded patterns – 3rd band is missing on dorsal fin (minor fault)
10. Lack of contrast between colors in pattern (minor fault)
11. On 3-banded patterns – 3rd band is missing on caudal or anal fin (major fault)
12. Jagged separation between colors on pattern in two or more unpaired fin (major fault)
13. Blurred, non-crisp separation between colors on pattern in two or more unpaired fin (major fault)
14. Less than ½ of fin length but more than ¼ occupied by one of the two colors in two or more unpaired fins (major fault)
15. Less than 1/4 of fin length occupied by one of the two colors in one unpaired fins (major fault)
16. Lack of butterfly pattern in any unpaired fin (major fault)
17. Less than 1/4 of fin length occupied by one of the two colors in two or more unpaired fins (severe fault)
18. Lack of butterfly pattern in 2 unpaired fins (severe fault)
19. Lack of butterfly pattern (Disqualifying fault)



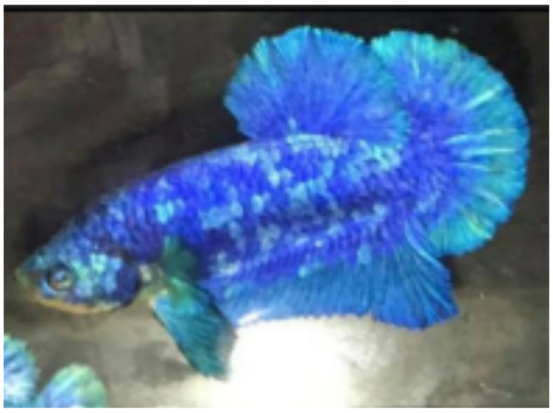
Examples of Butterfly Bettas

Pictures by Kenny Seaw

SUBGROUP—MARBLE

Marble is a coloration that is grouped within the patterned class. The keyword is the 'marbling effect'. This marbling effect pattern is caused by a gene called transposon, or known as the jumping gene. The way it works is by reducing certain pigments, or groups of pigments in an area of the fish body and finnage, leaving the fish losing its primary color in a certain area, showing a 'marble' effect. The marbling effect can appear in patches, flecks, dots, streaks, or other abstract patterns. A marble fish should be showing a cohesive pattern and the pattern should be distributed evenly all over the fish.

The complexity in the pigmentation of betta fish nowadays explains that marbling effect can happen in either light based fish or dark based fish. But even though marble can happen in a dark-dark or light-light combination, the best fish still needs to have good contrast, in the form of light-dark, iridescent-non iridescent, or opaque-non opaque.



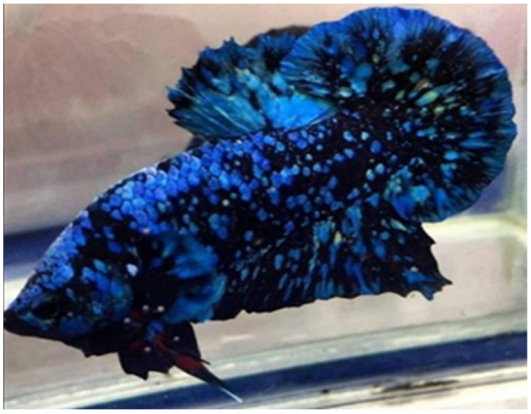
Example of a low contrast marble



Example of a light based marble



Examples of a dark non iridescent based marble



Example of a dark based iridescent marble







Examples of a marble fish:





The fishes above looks more uniform, having a well distributed and similar pattern. The patterns on the finange are an extension of the pattern on the body.



The fish on the left looks less uniform, since the pattern does not extend, the body being flecks, and the finnage being patches and streaks. The fish will appear more uniform if the body also shows patches and streaks.

SUBGROUP—MULTICOLOR

Multicolor is also grouped within the patterned class. In genetic point of view, all multicolor fish now are actually complex colored fish that are affected by the marble gene or other layer modifier gene with the accompaniment of the marble gene. This brings a multi layered fish with many color combinations.

Nowadays, multicolor fishes without interaction with the marble gene will most of the time be looking like fishes with color degradation, like a color washed effect. Which brings up classification problems as fishes like that only have 1 body color, or 2 if it has a blackhead, or piebald. These types of fishes are still able to compete within the multicolor class, however these fishes will have serious disadvantages compared to other fishes which are more developed.

Examples of a non-marble multicolor

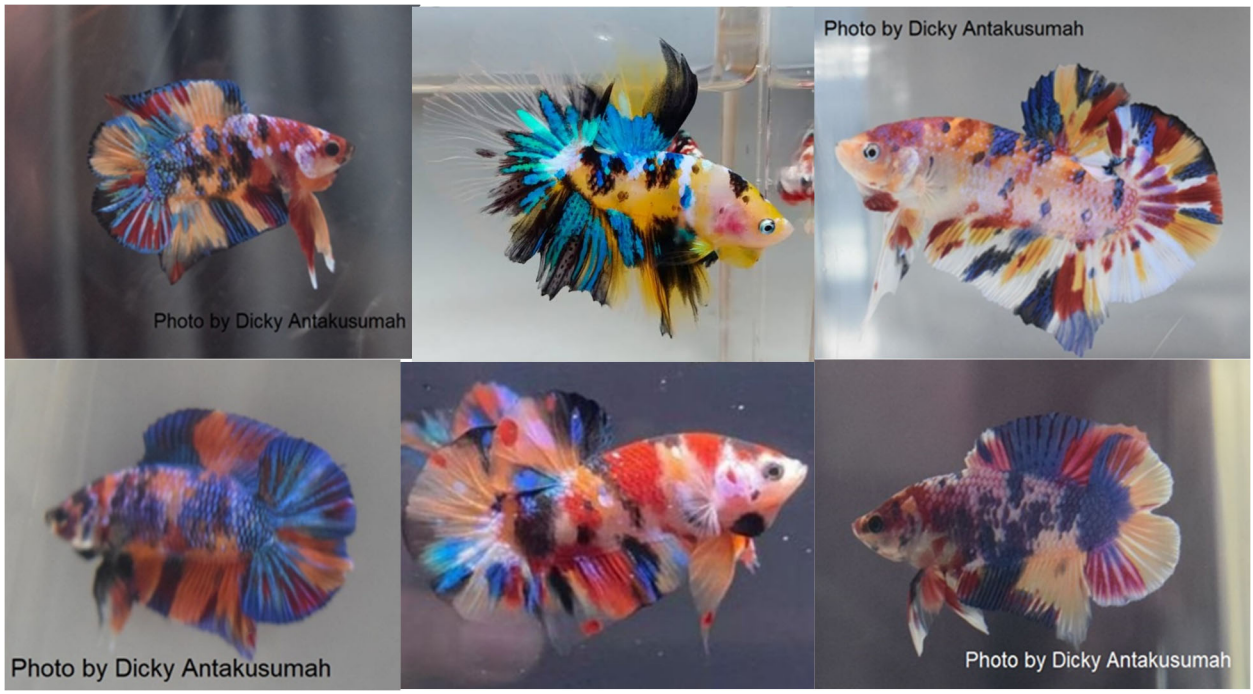


A good multicolor fish should have a minimum of 3 colors, with at least 1 of the colors a bright color. The bright color here can be a light base color, or an iridescent color that will make the combination more appealing. To make an ideal combination, the body and each unpaired fin should have minimum 3 colors. The color don't have to be the same.in each part, but in total there are minimum 3 colors in the fish. Although more color in the variation will be better.

The combination can be in patches, flecks, streaks, or any abstract patterns, but must be showing good contrast between the colors with good separation and attractive pattern color combination. Domination of one color in the combination are not preferred. Cellophane is also counted as color.

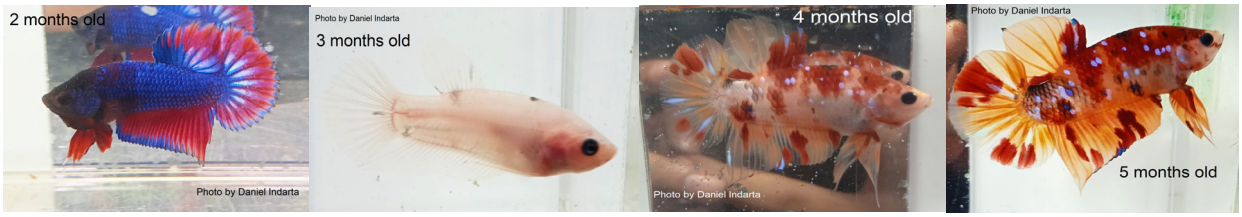
Examples of multicolor betta:





NOTES

We can conclude that multicolor class is now dominated by a marble fish with more complex coloration (marble complex). To see the evidence of marble genes exists in one fish is by observing the color development of the fish in several stages. Their color as a juvenile will be different from the adult stage. The color and patterns of the fish can change several times during the stages of development. It's the proof that the fish has a transposon gene working on it.



The color development of the same fish, showing the transposon gene in work.

No.	MARBLE	MULTICOLOR
1	Maximum 3 colors in each section, but the color must be the same with the other sections	Minimum 3 colors in each section, but the color in each section may differ from the other sections
2	Contrast	Contrast
3	Must be well distributed	Good separation, attractive pattern combination

FAULTS OF MARBLE BETTAS:

1. Have to show a marbling effect on the body and all unpaired fins. No marbling effect - DQ or reclass to other potential classes.
2. To create a marbled effect, the fish has to have a minimum of 2 colors, with a good contrast. (light-dark, iridescent-non iridescent, or opaque-non opaque). Having poor contrast - severe fault
3. Maximum of 3 colors, if more than 3 colors will be moved to multicolor due to the complexity of the coloration.
4. Not having marble pattern on ventral - minor fault
5. Thin edges butterfly pattern - tolerable
6. Butterfly pattern on 2 unpaired fins - major
7. Butterfly pattern on 3 unpaired fins - move to the butterfly class.
8. For 2 color marble:

- Body being single color - DQ or reclass, 1 color dominates 60-80% - major, 1 color dominates >80% - severe
    - 1 unpaired fin being single color - severe (if 2 sections x 2)
    - 1 unpaired fin 1 color dominates 60-80% - minor, 1 color dominates >80% - major (if 2 sections x 2)

9. For 3 color marble
    - Body being single solid color - DQ or reclass, only 2 color - severe, 1 color being 15-30% - minor, 1 color less than 15% major
    - 1 unpaired fin only 2 color - major (if 2 sections x 2)
    - 1 unpaired fin 1 color being 15-30% - slight, 1 color less than 15% minor (if 2 sections x 2)
10. Intrusion of a color:
    - Slight intrusion - minor fault
    - Medium intrusion - major fault
    - Excessive intrusion - severe



This fish have a good marble pattern, but on the cellophane, the black pigment still intrudes slightly. This fish does not need to be moved to the multicolor class



This fish have a good marble pattern, but some metallic intrusion still can be found on the scales. This fish does not need to move to multicolor class

FAULTS OF MULTICOLOR BETTAS:

1. Minimums have 3 color combinations. Less than 3 colors - DQ
2. Dull color combination - major fault
3. Lack of bright color - major fault.
4. Poor contrast between the colors - severe fault.
5. Ventral fins have at least 2 color combinations. Less than 2 color - slight fault
6. One color dominant on the body >80% over the others - (major)
7. One color dominant on one of the unpaired fin >80% over the others - minor (if 2 sections x 2 and so on)
8. 2 color occur : (total min 3 color combination)
   - in the body - minor fault
   - in one unpaired fin - slight fault
   - in two unpaired fins - minor fault
   - in all unpaired fins - major fault
9. 1 color occur: (total min 3 color combination)
   - in the body - severe fault
   - in one unpaired fin - major fault (if 2 sections x 2)
10. Thin edges forming a butterfly pattern - tolerable
11. Butterfly pattern on 1-2 unpaired fin - tolerable
12. Butterfly pattern on 3 unpaired fins - move to butterfly class

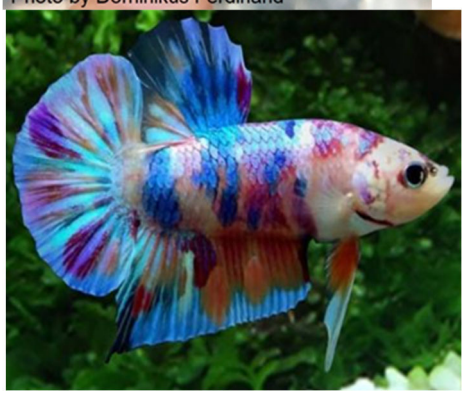
Example of multicolors with a good color separation:



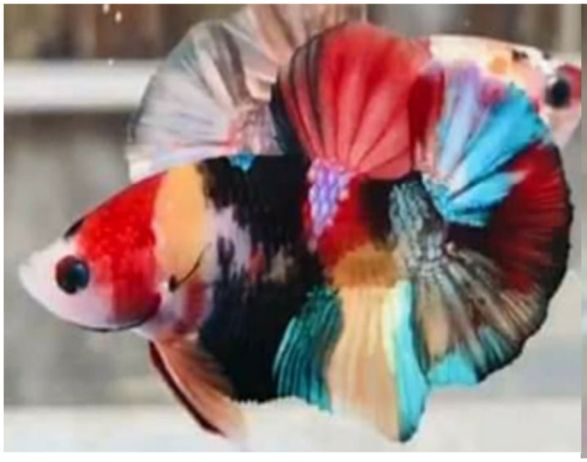


Example of multicolors with dull colors:





These fishes still show contrast between the colors eg: white to red, blue to white, black to cello-phane, etc. But the appearance of those colors all together looks dull.



This fish has 7 colors in total; red, orange, yellow, black, cellophane, teal, and steel blue. Good color separation and attractive combination, the fault will be:

- 2 colors in the dorsal fin - slight fault
- and from this picture, the ventral fins seem to only have 1 color - slight fault



This fish has 5 colors in total; red, black, blue, cellophane, and white. But we can find something interesting in this case here. The dorsal and caudal fins have 3 colors in each. But 1 color dominates (The red color in the dorsal, and the blue in the caudal), while the other 2 are very little. The standard will acknowledge the fault as: 1 color dominant on the dorsal, and caudal fin - 2x minor fault. Also we can notice that the color combination in the fish are dominated by dark colors.

NOTES: Some of the picture used were taken from social media, members are allowed to submit their pictures to the Judging Board of IBC.

IBC Standard Review Team:
1. Shalan Nasha
2. Dominikus Ferdinand
3. Bobby Chua
4. Jimmy Nallas
5. Kenny Zhou
6. Raja Karunanethi
7. Daniel Indarta
8. Jordan Ariel Indarta

SUBGROUP—MARBLE

TYPE—DALMATIAN

DEFINITION

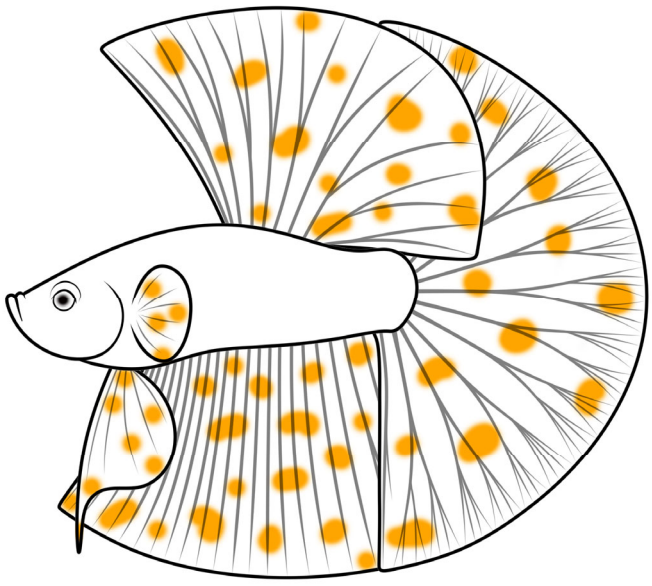
The dalmatian is a non-marble solid or bicolor betta with contrasting spots on all unpaired fins (See image). Dalmatian Bettas typically have flesh colored bodies however some may have a non flesh colored body.

GENERAL BASIS OF FAULTS OF THE DALMATIAN BETTAS:

Fins must be solid colored with well defined, evenly spread, contrasting spots that make up 25%-33% of unpaired fins.

COLOR FAULTS OF DALMATION BETTAS:

1. 15- 25% Dalmatian pattern on unpaired fins (minor fault)
2. Less than 15% Dalmatian pattern on unpaired fins (major fault)
3. Lack of Dalmatian pattern in one unpaired fin (major fault)
4. Lack of Dalmatian pattern two or more unpaired fins (severe fault)
5. Lack of definition in Dalmatian spots (minor fault)
6. 25% Butterfly pattern on 2 or more unpaired fins (minor fault)
7. Over 25% Butterfly pattern on 2 or more unpaired fins (Major fault or reclassification)
8. Less than 25% Marble pattern (minor fault)
9. More than 25% Marble pattern (major fault or reclassification)





SUBGROUP—ORCHID

DEFINITION

A black fish with color streaks of dark iridescent color between each ray of all the unpaired fins. The iridescent color can be steel blue, blue, turquoise, and gold metallic, with steel blue being the most common color. The body of an ideal Black Orchid should be a solid dark black through out and not show the presence of marbling or red wash. A uniform depth of color from tip of the mouth to the end of the ray fins is ideal. There should not be any bleeding of iridescent color into the body.

Black Coppers are a black fish with Gold Metallic Iridescence between the rays. Either fish could be described as having a sunburst sun ray pattern.

Black Orchids/Black Coppers can be found in all the fin types, but are most common in Halfmoons, and Crown-tails.

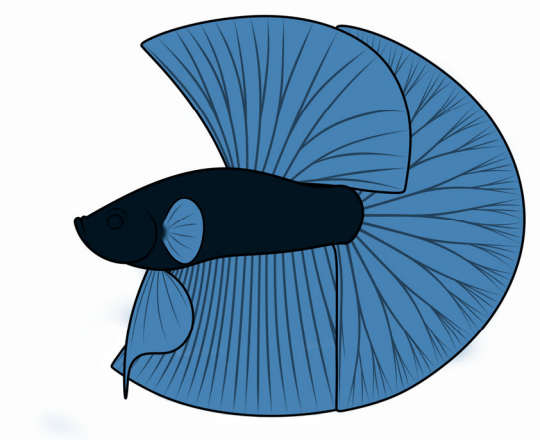
FAULTS FOR ORCHID BETTAS

Faults for Black Orchids/Black Coppers are similar to the faults for Blacks.

1) Clear pectoral fins, should be black……..Slight fault
2) White Ventral fins……..Slight fault
3) Iridescent color missing between on ventral fins……..Slight fault
4) Iridescent color missing between two rays of the unpaired fins……..Slight fault
5) Iridescent color missing between rays of more then one unpaired fin……..Minor fault
6) Red on fins……..Minor fault
7) Clear fin edges……..Minor, unless extensive, then…….. Major fault
8) Iridescent color on body……..Minor fault
9) Presence of metallic on body……..Minor fault….if extensive, should be moved to another class. Metallic on body may manifest itself as yellow spots on a black body.
10) Presence of red wash, rust……..Severe fault
11) Presence of marbling…….Severe fault….Move to Marble
12) Presence of Opaque, unless only on ventral fins, DQ Factor….may be moved to different class. Marble or Multi color class.


Photo by Sam Chua

The picture shows the most common color of Orchid however with the way the color covers the fins, this Crowntail should be considered a butterfly.



SUBGROUP—GRIZZLED

DEFINITION:

Grizzle is a coloration that is grouped within the patterned class. The grizzle gene seems to be working by inhibiting pigment formation in some areas of the scale and fins. That is why some area of the iridescent coloration becomes colorless, or another explanation is that it clogs some pigment to a certain area or certain scales and fins area.

From the way that the grizzle gene works, it shows two distinct pattern formations, on the body since the gene works in the area of each scale the fish appears to show random peppering, or powdering. However since the finnage is a large area that isn't limited to a certain scale, the pattern formed is different than the one shown on the body. The patterns formed on the finnage usually consist of either swirls, paint brush effect, splotches, fading away, among others. Both the fins and body of the fish should show distinctly two shades of iridescent color (any one of the iridescent colors combined with the lighter pastel or opaque base color). Fish exhibiting an even spread, close to 50% iridescence and 50% base color are preferred. No color is preferred over the other.

The development of betta lately creates different patterns and coloration (phenotypes), sometimes we need to understand the basics of. In the context of grizzle, the different genetic sources of fish that the breeder chooses for crossing will create different phenotypes of the grizzle they produce. Some grizzle have patterns that reach the face, while other grizzle patterns do not reach the face. Both variations are acceptable.



We need to be aware that the gene that works in grizzle is different from the one that works in the marble gene. That is why even if some grizzle might look like a marble betta, it cannot be moved to the marble class and cannot be judged as a marble fish.



A question might be raised regarding these two examples of fishes that are commonly called “mascot” either red or yellow in coloration. These fish exhibit the grizzle coloration in the body area but they are not showing a complete reduction within the finnage, instead the coloration that shown here are the butterfly/variegated fin layer modifier.



FAULTS OF GRIZZLED BETTAS:

1. The presence of other colors
    a. black - minor fault (if the black is extensive (20-30%) - Major)
    b. clear on finnage - minor (if extensive (20-30%) - Major Fault)
    c. red - major fault (If the red is extensive (20-30%) - severe fault)
    d. yellow/orange - major fault (If the yellow/orange is extensive (20-30%) - severe fault)
    e. More than 30% (If the color intrusion more than 30%, the judge should consider moving it to the multicolor class - refer to multicolor pattern definition)
    f. Only on ventrals - (black/clear) Minor, (red/yellow/orange)- Major
2. Lack of Peppering effect on the body - Major fault
3. Lack of paint brush stroke effect on one unpaired fin - minor fault
4. Lack of paint brush stroke effect on two or more unpaired fin - major fault
5. Lack of pattern on ventral/ pectoral - slight
6. The presence of one color either iridescence or the lighter base color is higher, between 60%-75% - major fault
7. Fish with 80% or more pastel or opaque base color - DQ (These should be moved to either pastel or opaque class)
8. Fish with 80% or more iridescent base color - DQ (These should be moved to iridescent class)
9. Fish with a Banding (not 3rd color)
    - 1 unpaired fin - minor fault
    - 2-3 unpaired fins - Major
    (If the banding pattern is form by the 3rd color, the judge should consider moving it to the butterfly class - refer to butterfly pattern definition)

NOTES: Some of the picture used were taken from social media, members are allowed to submit their pictures to the Judging Board of IBC.

IBC Standard Review Team:
1. Shalan Nasha
2. Dominikus Ferdinand
3. Bobby Chua
4. Jimmy Nallas
5. Kenny Zhou
6. Raja Karunanethi
7. Daniel Indarta
8. Jordan Ariel Indarta

SUBGROUP—DRAGON SCALE

DEFINITION:

The Dragon scale color pattern is a distinct characteristic with the scales thickened by a heavy layer of metallic color over the body with a full mask over the head, giving the appearance of armor plating, like the mythological dragon. There are commonly two types of dragons, solids and bicolors.

Solid dragons have a heavy layer of one color with the same color in the fins. Most common types are white, yellow, gold or blue.

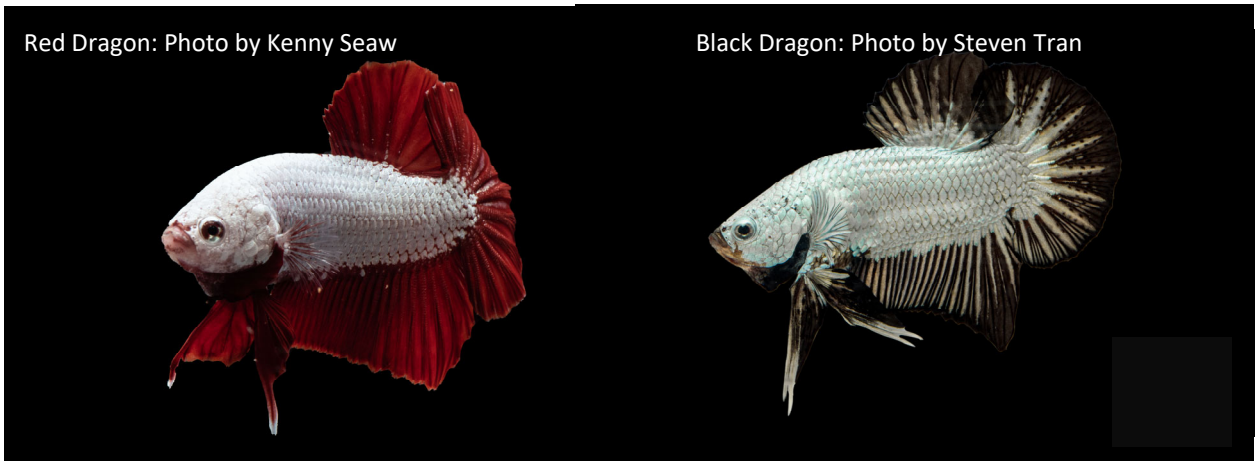
A Bicolor dragon has Heavy iridescence or metallic color over the body, usually white, with full mask and fins of other colors. The best ones have high contrast with a clear separation of color between the body and fins. Body color bleeding into the fins is like a wash and should be faulted. Common dragon bicolors have white or silver body with black, red, yellow/gold or orange fins.

After judging the consistency of the dragon scale pattern on the body, the judging of colors would follow the rules for colors or patterns. For instance, the optimal dragon bicolor should have clear division of colors between body and fins. A bicolor with spread of the body color into the fins would be proportionately pointed down as described in the Bicolor standard.

Patterned fishes with dragon scale are not commonly found. If a class like Bicolor or Marble have at least 5 dragons the judge may choose to split the class.

DRAGON SCALE FAULTS

1.	Should be easily seen and uniform	Ideal
2.	Most scale margins visible	Slight Fault
3.	Head displays dragon, but covering is incomplete	Major Fault
4.	Head lacking dragon	Severe Fault
5.	Dragon pattern uniform, but fading in parts of the body	Minor fault
6.	Over 75% but less than 90% of the scale margins visible	Minor Fault
7.	Over 50% of the scale margins visible but less than 75%	Major Fault
8.	Less than 25% of the scale margins visible	Severe Fault
9.	Dragon pattern on scales not uniform (major fault)	Major Fault
10.	Dragon not spread over entire fish (severe fault)	Severe Fault



SUBGROUP—PINEAPPLE

DEFINITION:

A subcategory of Patterned, pineapple as a fishnet pattern sometimes referred to as 'pineapple' because of the crosshatch effect of the scales on a yellowish body. It is a two-colored fish that has edges on each scale of a distinctly different color. The most common is a black edge on each scale on the body.

The body scales should be uniform across the body and arranged in the order being consistent with same size pattern across the body. The body and scale color must be distinct from the edge of the scale, with strong contrast preferred. Usually, the underlying body color and the color of the fins is the same, as in the example in the above pictures. The gold with the scales with black edges give the impression of netting over the body similar to a pineapple. Degree of depth of color in the body may vary, sometimes darker than the color of the fins.
Fins may also have a thin banded edge (ie: black) of the same color as the scale edges. Note the thin banded edge should be on all three major fins and of the same width.

SCALE PATTERN FAULTS

Note: Prior to this classification these Bettas were placed in Dark Bodied Bicolor under the terms Black/Yellow Bicolor, Chocolate, or Pineapple.

1.	Should be easily seen and uniform	Ideal
2.	Most scale margins visible	Slight Fault
3.	Over 75% but less than 90% of the scale margins visible	Minor Fault
4.	Over 50% of the scale margins visible but less than 75%	Major Fault
5.	Less than 25% of the scale margins visible	Severe Fault

BANDING FAULTS

1.	Continuous banding	Ideal
2.	Mostly continuous banding	Slight Fault
3.	Banding not continuous	Major Fault

Notes: If black edge banding greater than 15% move to Butterfly. Future Revision may add other colors which will change the


Photo by Salvador Alemany


Photo by Kasey Clark

SUBGROUP—WILDTYPE BASED

TYPE—ALIEN

DEFINITION:

Having dark wild type bars in the dorsal fin and anal fin. These bars may extend into the caudal fin. The center of the body scales are expected to have color (typically iridescent) however the dark margins of the scales must also be seen. They are expected to have a full mask on the head. Pelvic fins are also short, and the body shape is expected to resemble imbellis in being slender not stocky like smaragdina or splendens. May come in both Halfmoon or Wild Caudal tail form. Due to the highly inbred nature of this strain, it suffers from a low fecundity and therefore linebreeding is out of the question.

ALIEN STANDARD:

1. The head must be fully coated, not bulging, convex, beautiful curves
2. Cheeks coated without other colors mixed
3. The body scales arranged in order being consistent, same size pattern across the body
4. The dorsal fin has beautifully arranged patterns where the barring forms continuous lines
5. The caudal fin pattern is beautifully lined forming continuous bands.
6. The anal fin is beautifully decorated with stripes of continuous bands.
7. Ventral fin, if patterned with, should also be banded.
8. Body must be long, slender – imbellis shaped, not fat like splendens.
9. All 4 parts of the pattern must be accepted by the size, thickness of the pattern. And the spaces should be equal in all 4 sections.
10. The symmetry of the top half bottom
11. Swimming must be elegant. Should flare easily.

ALIEN FAULTS

DORSAL FIN

1. 50% dark color banding 50% body color	ideal
2. Less than 50% dark banding but more than 25%	Minor Fault
3. Less than 25% dark banding	Severe Fault
4. No banding	DQ

ANAL FIN

1. 50% dark banding 50% color	ideal
2. Less than 50% dark banding but more than 25%	Minor Fault
3. Less than 25% dark banding	Severe Fault

CAUDAL FIN

1. 50% dark banding 50% base color	Ideal
2. Less than 50% dark banding but more than 25%	Minor Fault
3. Less than 25% dark banding	Severe Fault

PELVIC FINS

1. 2/3 of body length	Severe Fault
2. 1/2 of body length	Major Fault
3. 1/3 of body length	Slight Fault
4. 1/4 of body length	Ideal

BODY

1. Slender imbellis like	Ideal
2. Body stocky like Splendens	Major Fault
3. Scale Pattern Margins Should be easily seen	Ideal
4. Most scale margins visible	Slight Fault
5. Over 75% but less than 90% of the scale margins visible	Minor Fault
6. Over 50% of the scale margins visible but less than 75%	Major Fault
7. Less than 25% of the scale margins visible	Severe Fault
8. No scale margins visible	DQ

MASK

1. Present	ideal
2. Over 75% of the mask present but less than 90%	Minor Fault



A Copper Alien Betta



Nearly perfect banding on the Dorsal Fin

OPTIONAL NEW GROUPING SYSTEM

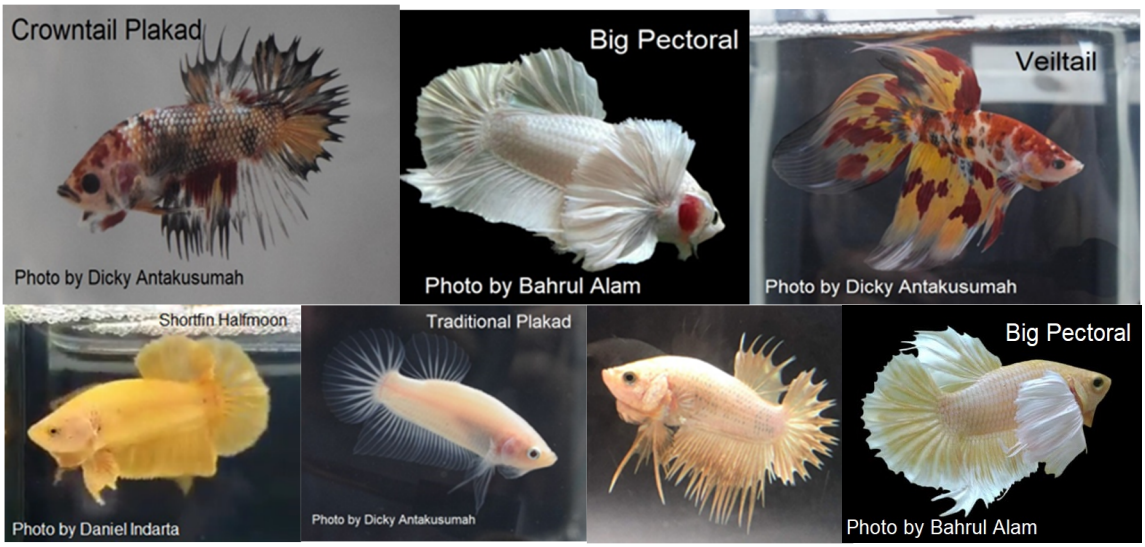
AREA 6 TRIAL

The new grouping option in our Show Class List needs to be considered a.s.a.p. A more systematic class list will help us to maximize the opportunity for our betta hobby to expand, also at the same time help the organizer to minimize the burden of having a show with too many classes.

The suggestion is to re-organize some established classes and new upcoming potential classes into 2 big groups. Which are:

A. OTHER FORM VARIATION GROUP

CLASSES	SUBCLASSES
1. LARGE PECTORAL LONGFIN/SHORTFIN	*Option of colors:*
2. TRADITIONAL PLAKAT	*(all color, solid, pattern, multi, etc.)*
3. VEILTAIL	
4. DOUBLETAIL VEILTAIL	
5. SHORTFIN HALFMOON	
6. CROWNTAIL PLAKAT	
7. ETC.	



B. OTHER COLOR VARIATION GROUP

This group will accommodate other colors of betta that are not in our regular class list as shown by some photos below. The crosses between color varieties, followed by genetic mutation, creates a new betta fish that cannot be described by previously existing classification. That's why we have to expand the possibilities of new classification of this modern betta, surely with cautious consideration of the genetic background as also the phenotype of the fish.

SUB CATEGORY	CLASSES	SUBCLASSES
SINGLE BODY BASE	RED BASE	SOLID BODY FANCY
	ORANGE BASE	PARTIAL IRIDESCENT FANCY
	YELLOW BASE	NON MARKING FANCY
	BLACK BASE	MARKING FANCY
	CELLOPHANE BASE	SPARKLING IRIDESCENT FANCY
		IRIDESCENT HELMET FANCY
		FIN VARIATION FANCY
COMPLEX BODY BASE	NON IRIDESCENT KOI BASE FANCY	
	IRIDESCENT KOI BASE FANCY	
IRIDESCENT COVERED	IRIDESCENT COVERED FANCY	
	IRIDESCENT MARKING FANCY	

The classes are flexible for options of the subclasses. Show organizers can choose accordingly which form and color variation that is most common in his/her area that can bring the most potential entries to the show. The organizers also can determine which classes are specified for which finnage form. Is it shortfin, longfin, in more detail; plakat, halfmoon, double tail or crowntail, etc

Example. In one show class list of Color Variation Division can be:

1. RED BASE SOLID BODY FANCY plakat
2. RED BASE MARKING FANCY plakat
3. YELLOW BASE MARKING FANCY plakat
4. BLACK BASE SPARKLING IRIDESCENT FANCY plakat
5. BLACK BASE FIN VARIATION FANCY plakat
6. NON IRIDESCENT KOI BASE FANCY plakat
7. IRIDESCENT KOI BASE FANCY halfmoon
8. IRIDESCENT KOI BASE FANCY double tail halfmoon
9. IRIDESCENT MARKING FANCY plakat

In this case, also an option for the organizer to merge no 7 and 8 together as IRIDESCENT KOI BASE FANCY Longfin

Note:

In this classification, terminology of FANCY is being used not to represent the fish commercial name, but because the word FANCY also means beautiful, attractive, and exquisite.

UNDERSTANDING THE COLOR VARIATION

The betta color variation easily can be grouped into 2 major categories. Following the IBC standard, they are divided to: NON IRIDESCENT colors, which are cellophane, yellow, orange, red, and black (further will be called BASE COLOR). Then the IRIDESCENT colors, which are normal iridescent, opaque, metallic, and thickening opacity/dragon scale. Whatever the color variation the fish has, the combination will surely be a mix between those colors. Some might form a simple combination, while others will be more complex.

BASE COLOR VARIATION GROUP

Described as a group of fishes that have visible of a non iridescent color in their body. The color in their body can be a single color or a mix of 2 non iridescent colors. That option then can be followed by partly covered one or more iridescent colors as more complex color variation.

How to determine the overlap of phenotype, as some fish might look like they are in between two classes?

1. We need to observe and find out the fish phenotype looks like only a side product of breeds.
2. Remember, not all fish can or need to be classified.
3. In the present time maybe the class for certain phenotypes is not available yet. But if the fish are bred-through and show potential development in future, then we can adjust the classes.

NOTES: some of the picture used were taken from social media, members are allowed to submit their pictures to the Judging Board of IBC.

The colors combination in the finnage can vary, which will be the determining factor for the subclasses. Which are on the following pages:

Classification and Description:
Dominikus Ferdinand
Daniel Indarta
Ferry Rabito Luhur

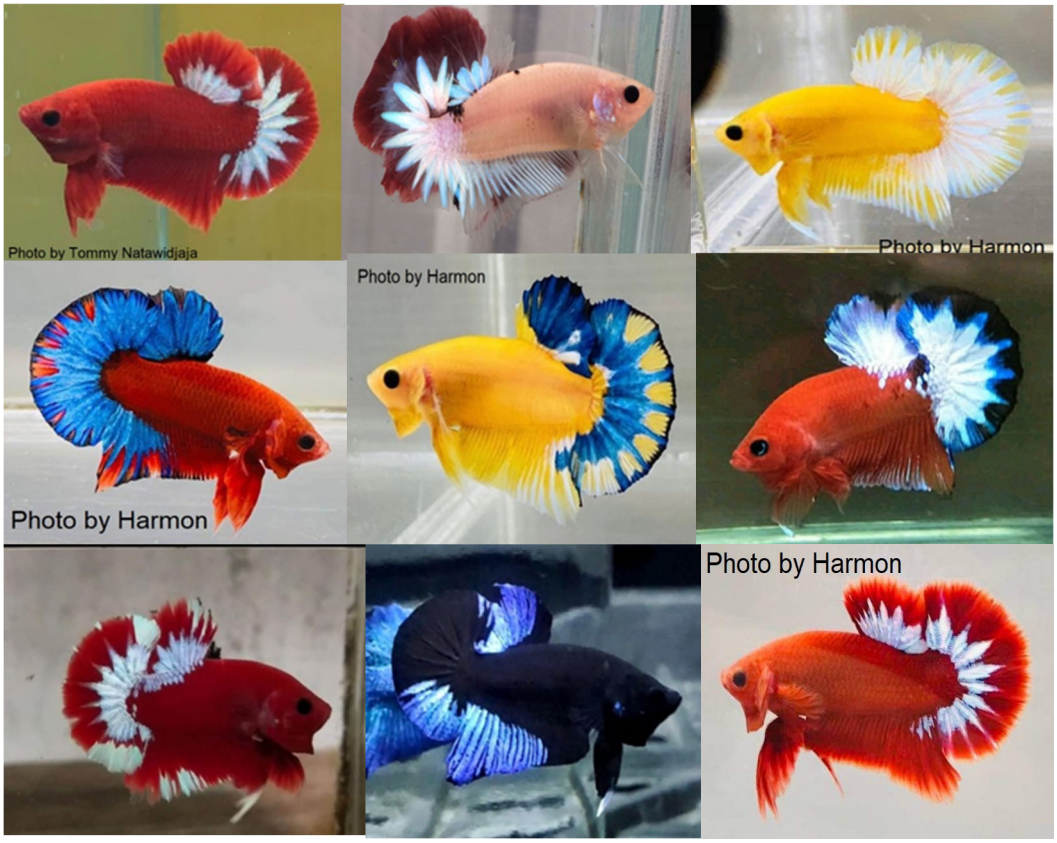
Standard Review Team:
Shalan Nasha
Bobby Chua
Raja Karunanethi
Kenny Zhou
Jordan Ariel Indarta

1. SOLID BODY FANCY

Description:

- 1 non iridescent color on the body and fins
- not covered or having any iridescent marking on the body
- 1 or more iridescent color on the fin

The fish in this class would look like:



FAULTS

1. Presence of 2nd color on ventral/pectoral fin - slight
2. Not intense body base color - major
3. Presence of 2nd non iridescent color on the body and fins (less than 10%) - major. If more than 10% - reclass to Koi Base class.
4. Presence of iridescent color on the body and head (less than 10%) - minor. If more than 10% - re-class to Non Marking/Marking/Partial Iridescent Fancy class.
5. 1 unpaired fin being solid color – major. 2 unpaired fins – severe, 3 unpaired fins – DQ.
6. Presence of 2nd non iridescent color in 1 unpaired fin – major. If on 2 or more unpaired fins - Reclass to Fin Variation Fancy

2. PARTIAL IRIDESCENT FANCY

Description:

- 1 non iridescent color on the body and fins
- 1 iridescent color on the body and fins. showing a patchy pattern, some part covered, some part not covered, ideally 30% - 70%
- Crisp separation between the iridescent and non iridescent color

The fish in this class would look like:



FAULTS

1. Presence of 2nd color on ventral/pectoral fins - slight
2. No clear color separation between the iridescent and the non iridescent color – minor.
3. Presence of 2nd iridescent color on the body and/or fins (less than 10%) - minor. If more than 10% - reclass to Marking Fancy Class
4. Not intense non iridescent body color - major
5. Presence of 2nd non iridescent color on the body and fins (less than 10%) - major. If more than 10% - reclass to Koi Base class.
6. Less than 10% iridescent color on body - reclass to Solid Body Fancy
7. 1 color dominated more than 70% - major.
8. Presence of 2nd non iridescent color on one of the unpaired fin – major. If on two or more unpaired fins – reclass to Fin Variation Fancy.

NOTES: For this class if the pattern distribution fits the marble category then it can be reclassed to the marble category.

3. NON-MARKING FANCY

Description:

- 1 non iridescent color on the body and fins
- 1 Iridescent color in the body and fins
- Continuous and compact iridescent color spread from peduncle to maximum 70% of the body
- Crisp separation between the iridescent and the non iridescent base color.

The fish in this class would look like:



FAULTS

1. Presence of 2nd color on ventral/pectoral - slight
2. No clear color separation between iridescent and non iridescent color - minor
3. Not intense non iridescent body color - major
4. Presence of 2nd non iridescent color on the body and/or fin (less than 10%) - major. If more than 10% - reclass to Koi base
5. Head must show an intense and clean non iridescent base color. Presence of iridescent color on the head - major (full mask iridescent will be move to Iridescent Covered class)
6. 1 unpaired fin being solid color – major, 2 unpaired fins – severe, 3 unpaired fins – DQ
7. Presence of 2nd iridescent color on the body (less than 10%) - major. If more than 10% - reclass to Marking Fancy Class
8. Presence of 2nd iridescent color on the unpaired fins is not preferred. In 1 unpaired fin - minor. In 2 or more unpaired fins - major.
9. Presence of 2nd non iridescent color on the unpaired fins is not preferred. In 1 unpaired fin - major. In 2 or more unpaired fins - reclass to fin variation
10. Discontinued iridescent color spread on body – reclass to Partial Iridescent Fancy

Notes:
Presence of banding on unpaired fins will not move the fish to butterfly class

4. MARKING FANCY

Description:

- 1 non iridescent base color on the body and fins
- 2 Iridescent color on the body and finnage (one is dark and the other is light iridescent)
- Continuous and compact iridescent color spread from peduncle to maximum 70% of the body with the 2nd iridescent color as a marking above it
- Crisp separation between the color

The fish in this class would look like:



FAULTS

1. Presence of 2nd color on ventral/pectoral fins - slight
2. No clear separation between color – minor
3. Not intense non iridescent body color - major
4. Presence of 2nd non iridescent base color on the body (less than 10%) - major. If more than 10% - reclass to Koi Base.
5. Head must show an intense and clean non iridescent base color. Presence of iridescent color on the head - major (full mask iridescent will be moved to Iridescent Covered class)
6. No contrast between iridescent color - major
7. 1 unpaired fin being solid color - major. 2 unpaired fins - severe. 3 unpaired fins - DQ.
8. 1 iridescent color dominating the other iridescent color on the body (above 70%) – major.
9. Lack of 2nd iridescent color on 1 unpaired fin - slight. 2 unpaired fins - minor. 3 unpaired fins - major.
10. Presence of 2nd non iridescent color on the unpaired fins not preferred. In 1 unpaired fin - major. In 2 or more unpaired fins - reclass to Fin Variation Class.

Notes:
Presence of banding on unpaired fins will not move the fish to butterfly class

5. SPARKLING IRIDESCENT FANCY (GLITTERING FANCY)

Description:

- 1 non iridescent base color on the body and fins
- 1 Iridescent color, well distributed sparkling pattern on the body and fins (glittering effect)
- Ideally it has 30-50% sparkling iridescent pattern

The fish in this class would look like:



FAULTS

1. Lack of sparkling pattern on ventral/pectoral - slight
2. Presence of 2nd iridescent color - minor
3. Presence of 3rd color on ventral/pectoral - minor
4. Iridescent on unpaired fins appeared as lace – minor.
5. Not intense non iridescent body color - major
6. Presence of 2nd non iridescent color on the body (less than 10%) - major. If more than 10% - reclass to Koi base
7. Ideally it has 30-50% sparkling iridescent pattern. Sparkling iridescent less than 30% - major. Sparkling Iridescent more than 50% - major, more than 70 % - severe, the pattern will look too dense.
8. Few sparks join together forming small patch – minor, bigger patch - major
9. 1 unpaired fin being single color – minor, 2 unpaired fins – major, 3 unpaired fins – severe.
10. Presence of Masking iridescent on the head - reclass to mask / helmet iridescent class
11. Presence of 2nd non iridescent color on the unpaired fins not preferred. In 1 unpaired fin – major, in 2 or more unpaired fins – reclass to Fin Variation Class.

6. IRIDESCENT HELMET FANCY

Description:

- 1 non iridescent color and 1 Iridescent color specifically formed a helmet masking
- Other non iridescent color and or iridescent color on the fins are undesirable

The fish in this class would look like:



FAULTS

1. Presence of 2nd color on ventral/pectoral - slight
2. No clear color separation between color - minor
3. Presence of 2nd iridescent color - minor
4. No intense non iridescent body color - major
5. Presence of 2nd non iridescent color on the body (less than 10%) - major. If more than 10% - reclass to Koi Base
6. A helmet masking iridescent on the head is a must. Mask not fully covered - Major. Not covered until lower part operculum - minor. Not reaching until side part operculum – severe
7. Body can have or don't have iridescent color. Iridescent color on the body maximum covers 50% of body area. More than 50% - severe
8. Presence of 2nd non iridescent color on the unpaired fins not preferred. In 1 unpaired fin – major, in 2 or more unpaired fins – reclass to Fin variation.

7. FIN VARIATION FANCY

Description:

- 1 non iridescent color on the body,
- Body can be solid or have partial/marking/non marking/sparkling/helmet characteristics.
- Minimum consist of 3 colors in overall fish.
- Minimum 2 colors on the unpaired fins, consist of non-iridescent with non-iridescent or non-iridescent (other than non-iridescent body color) with iridescent color.

The fish in this class would look like:



FAULTS

1. No intense non iridescent body color - major
2. Presence of 2nd non iridescent color on the body (less than 10%) - major. If more than 10% - reclass to Koi base
3. 1 unpaired fin being single color – major, 2 unpaired fins – severe, 3 unpaired fins – DQ.
4. No contrast at 1 unpaired fin – minor, 2 unpaired fins – major, 3 unpaired fins – severe.
5. Other color fault on body from other color variation class also applied

Notes:

Presence of banding on unpaired fins won't move the fish to butterfly class

8. NON IRIDESCENT KOI BASE FANCY

The condition of 2 base colors appearing together in one body of fish was not considered possible until the so-called 'KOI' betta appeared. Since the combination of the base color looks like a KOI fish, then the name is used to ease people to imagine what the fish in this class looks like.

Description:

- 2 or more non iridescent colors on body
- No iridescent in the body and fins

The fish in this class would look like:



FAULTS

1. No clear separation between base color - minor
2. No contrast between non iridescent color - major
3. Presence of iridescent color in the body and fins (less than 10%) - major. If more than 10% reclass to Iridescent Koi Base class
4. Only 2 colors forming a pattern, which one of the color less than 10%, or 2nd color only presence as color intrusion - DQ

Notes:
If the pattern distribution fits the marble or multicolor category, then the fish could be to entered their respective classes.

9. IRIDESCENT KOI BASE FANCY

Description:

- 2 or more non iridescent base colors in body
- Minimum 1 Iridescent color in body or/and fins.

The fish in this class would look like:



FAULTS

1. No clear separation between non iridescent color - minor
2. No contrast between non iridescent color - major
3. No clear separation between non iridescent color with the iridescent - major
4. The 2 non iridescent color has to be clearly seen. 1 color less than 10% - reclass to single base color fancy classes.
5. The iridescent color appears as an effect/ accent. Thus the domination of iridescent color (covers more than 70%) – severe. If fully covered with iridescent reclass to Iridescent covered
6. Presence of iridescent color on the body and fins less than 10% - reclass to non iridescent koi base.

Notes:
If the pattern distribution fits the marble or multicolor category, then the fish could be entered in their respective classes.

KOI BASE/IRIDESCENT KOI BASE	**MULTICOLOR**
Must show at least 2 non iridescent color on body	Non iridescent colors is not a requirement
No color minimum requirement in body and/or finnage	Must have minimum 3 colors in body and finnage

IRIDESCENT COVERED COLOR VARIATION GROUP

1. IRIDESCENT COVERED FANCY

Description:

- 1 iridescent color fully covers the body
- Minimum consist of 3 colors in overall
- The fins minimum having 2 colors.

The fish in this class will looks like:



FAULTS

1. One iridescent color covers the body. Less than 10% intrusion of other iridescent color - minor. Other iridescent colors more than 10% - move to Iridescent Marking Fancy Class.
2. Presence of non iridescent color on body less than 10% - major. More than 10% - reclass to body base color classes.
3. Contrast between the colors. No contrast - severe
4. 1 color in 1 unpaired fin – major, in 2 unpaired fins – severe. In 3 unpaired fins - DQ

Notes:
Presence of banding on unpaired fins won't move the fish to butterfly class

2. IRIDESCENT MARKING FANCY

Description:

- 2 Iridescent color in the body. One is the iridescent spread, the other is the marking pattern. (one is dark and one is light iridescent).
- Minimum consist of 2 colors in overall

The fish in this class would look like:



FAULTS

1. No clear separation - major.
2. Body covered by 2 iridescent colors. One of the iridescent colors less than 10%, or only present as color intrusion - move to Iridescent Covered Fancy Class.
3. Presence of non iridescent color on body less 10% - major. More than 10% - reclass to body base color classes.
4. Contrast between the colors. No contrast - severe

Notes:
If the pattern distribution fits the marble or multicolor category, then the fish could be entered in their respective classes.
Presence of banding on unpaired fins will not move the fish to butterfly class

CHAPTER 8

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

EXIBITS:

Bettas in this group are quite a mix of types. Simply put, it contains those other than the Single Color, Bicolor, Patterned and Wild Types that have been previously described. Also, there is a subgroup for optional exhibits, such as photography.

GROUPED PAIRS

EMPHASIS OF JUDGING:

The Bettas are judged as a unit, not as individuals. Ideally the pair is compatible in size with the female being slightly smaller than the male. The pair must exhibit the ability to be a genuinely compatible pair for breeding.

Entries in this classification are comprised of a male and a female with the emphasis on breed ability – to perpetuate that type of Betta. Pair entries desirably will exhibit the best traits and characteristics for their type. The intent of this class is to exhibit the best breedable pair.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

The pair must match in form, color and finnage while taking into account the differences in male and female form and finnage. Thus, while a red male and a blue female may in fact be breedable, they cannot be shown as a breeder pair. Should a pair member die before the judging starts, the remaining member will be automatically entered in the appropriate single fish class.

Any type of Betta may be shown in pairs including the variations (assuming both show the variation). Entries must be siblings from the same spawn. Pairs will be shown as two groups- Splendens and Wild type.

There are two exceptions to the breedability requirement

1. Blue pairs may be shown although a cross would not produce blue fry.
2. Black males may be exhibited with either fertile or infertile black females.

Examples of pairs not permitted are:

1. Black male/Steel Blue Female (or any other color mismatch).
2. Betta imbellis male/Betta splendens female (or any other 'species/variation' mix).
3. Bubblenest builder male/Mouthbrooder female.
4. Singletail male/Doubletail female.
5. Pairs exhibiting the same faults. (Emphasis is placed on refraining from entering pairs that would not be entered singularly in a regular show class – therefore pairs displaying the same color fault such as red wash, irregular color patterns, etc., are not recognized as displaying exceptional qualities)

GUIDELIINE: Judge for all standard Betta characteristics, applying appropriate guidelines for the color/ classification represented by the fish. All form standards for each breed will apply as outlined by that particular standard.

ALL GENERAL FORM AND FINNAGE AND COLOR FAULTS APPLY. MATCHING FAULTS THAT ARE MAJOR TO SEVERE AS EXPLAINED IN PREVIOUS PARAGRAPHS ARE SUBJECT TO DISQUALIFICATION.

FAULTS :

1. Variations in color shades between the pair (major fault)
2. Patterned pairs not exhibiting the exact same color or pattern distribution (severe fault)
3. Size mismatch that would impede breeding (severe fault)
4. Mismatched dorsal fins such as St to DT (disqualifying fault)
5. Improperly matched pairs, as outlined in examples of pairs not permitted (disqualifying fault)

Ignore Black Female Infertility. This is essential since you are to judge on phenotype, and cannot be expected to know for certain that the female exhibited is infertile.

NEW TRAIT:

Bettas authorized here do not conform to the standard colors and/or form requirements of the previous Show Stock descriptions. They are the unusual and rare, or new colors and/or forms. Here, the judges are looking for the unusual color or the unusual form that may well become a standard of tomorrow. A high degree of subjectivity can be expected from the judging of these classes.

NEW COLOR:

This category is for color or pattern variations; a showcase for the Betta colors of tomorrow. Breeders who discover a mutation or create a new color or color pattern variation may display their find, and its progressive development through this classification. As the trait becomes available in larger quantities, the breeder should also exhibit them as matched trios to demonstrate stability of the color. Eventually it may become significantly popular and receive a Type designation of its own. Exhibitors may also use this Category for color 'oddities' that are not being developed further.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Bettas that fit other color classifications are not permitted in this one, and if not reclassified before the judging begins, are to be disqualified.

Exhibitors are required to label their entries, and to be specific. In particular, the label will be used by the judge to establish criterion for assessing the fish. A fish labeled "half black", therefore will be judged on the extent to which the fish is truly half-black, how clean the line separating the black and non-black region is, the depth and purity of the black, etc. For this reason it is essential that the exhibitor provides a descriptive label which will allow judges to assess the fish relative to an imagined ideal of that coloration. Names used to market Bettas, if not descriptive, are inappropriate. The exhibitor notes the label information on the entry form, and the show committee insures that the label is properly prepared and affixed to the show bowl.

Some examples labels are:

Inadequate Label	Sufficient Label
Color	Purple
Mixed Colors	Alternating color stripes
Johnson Betta	Tangerine pastel
Symmetrical Marble	Half Black

GUIDELINES FOR JUDGES

No Label? – Disqualify!

Judges should be reluctant to disqualify fish on the basis of the label and should do so only if the label and their inspection of the fish leaves them with no idea of the variation they are being asked to judge. If the judge can detect the variation but finds the label inadequate, s/he should judge the class in accord with his or her criteria and place a note on the entry form as suggested label. If it is necessary to disqualify any entry that is not sufficiently labeled, the judge should insure that the fault lies with the exhibitor, not the show committee.

Apply all standard judging criteria, except for the particular color or color pattern.

Use the label name or description as criteria. For example, if the name is "purple" treat the variation of color as if it were in a class called "purple". When judging single-color fish, judge for uniform color shade, intensity of color and degree of and contrast of second and third color intrusion.

When comparing dissimilar variations to each other:
-Give preference to those colors or color patterns that are most clearly developed.
-Because variations is the first step to the development of a new strain, if several entries exhibit the color variation, that variation should have an edge over other different color variations shown on single entries.
-Some highly sought after color and color pattern variations are: Orange, Purple, Gold, striped Bettas, etc. See All About Bettas, page 49.

FORM

This category is for variations of structure, a showcase for the fish form of tomorrow. Breeders who discover a mutation or create a new form variation may display their find, and its progressive development through this classification. As the trait becomes available in larger quantities, the breeder should also exhibit them as matched trios to demonstrate stability of the trait. Eventually, the variation may become significantly popular and receive a Type classification of its own. Exhibitors may also use this category for structural 'oddities' that are not being developed further. IBC does not condone the use of hormones, radiation treatment, or other techniques that may artificially alter a Betta's genetic inheritance. Judges who have reason to suspect that an entry has been so treated will judge the fish anyway, but file a written report, identifying the owner and the reason for suspicion, with the Judging Board.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Exhibitors are required to label their entries and to be specific. The exhibitor notes the label information on the entry form and the show committee insures that the label is properly prepared and affixed to the show bowl.

Inadequate Label	Sufficient Label
Form	Hearttail
Form of Fish	Fusetail
Form of Tail	Tripletail
Scales	Doubletail Plakat

GUIDELINES FOR JUDGES

Disqualify an entry that is not sufficiently labeled, after insuring that the fault lies with the exhibitor, not the show committee. If the label is improper, judges should disqualify the entry even if the variation is obvious.

- Apply all standard judging criteria, except for the particular item of variation.
- Use the label name or description as a criteria (for example), if the name/label is 'tripletail', judge the equality of the lobes, depth of split, etc., as if the class existed.
- When comparing dissimilar variations to each other:
    - Give preference to those form variations that are most clearly developed.
    - Give preference to those forms that appear to the judge to have potential for development into an actual variant strain. Thus if several entries exhibit the variation, that variation should have an edge over other form variations shown on single entries.

Some undesirable traits are:

- Reduction in the number of fins;
- Reduction in the relative size of the fin;
- Traits reducing vision, deportment, symmetry or health;
- Transfer of male form or finnage to females, or the reverse.

Some highly sought after form variations are:

- Tripletail;
- Sailfin Dorsal;
- Hearttail;
- Fusetail;
- Fusefin (dorsal, caudal and anal actually become one fin)
- Giant Bettas
- Double-tail Crowntail

TRAIT DEVELOPMENT: FORM AND FINNAGE

Ignoring the color of a fish in not easy but it is often just as important to consider another trait. In this case it is the development of the body and fins. Bettas considered appropriate for this class should have extensive development of the body and/or fins.

Special Notes:
1. Bettas entered in this class will not be moved or disqualified for misclassification.

OPTIONAL

Novelty classes are included during convention shows. They may also be included in any other sanctioned show as desired by the host club.

None of the Optional classes compete for Best of Show Awards, IBC points or the end-of-year awards. Judging is uniquely difficult since IBC provides no training and only sketchy standards for these classes. The judge is free to make his decisions entirely on his own personal preference. Whenever possible it would be ideal to select an art oriented Judge to evaluate the first three of these classifications.

ART:

PHOTOGRAPHY

Unlike the fish classes, the exhibitor in an optional class (except the last two categories) must also be the creator/artist. Entries by a second party will be **disqualified**, unless entered in the name of the creator or artist.

This classification is open to film entries, including still photography, digital or video taping or motion picture exhibits. However, the entries are judged on their artistic representation of the Betta, not on educational content.

The photographic setting must not reveal the exhibitor's identity or the work will be disqualified. Placing a small piece of paper over any signature or initials can conceal the identity. Do not use tape if it can damage the item.

Special Requirements

Betta theme is required. The exhibitor is responsible for all display arrangements including any needed stands, lighting, projection devices and so forth.

Guidelines for Judges
Consider the physical condition of the entry.
Is it framed appropriately?
Is the entry damaged?

Consider the subject.
Is it uniquely interesting?
Is it an appropriate presentation of setting?

Consider the print quality

Is it in sharp focus?
Is it free from enlargement or film defects?

ILLUSTRATION

This category is specifically for oil, acrylic or watercolor paintings; pen and ink; pencil or chalk drawings, and other such illustrations.

Special Requirements

Betta theme is required. The exhibitor is responsible for any special display requirements such as stands or lights.

If the artist has signed or initialed the exhibit on the display side, the show committee must conceal the signature/initials or the work will be disqualified.

Guidelines for Judges

Consider the physical condition of the entry.
Is it framed appropriately?
Is the entry damaged?

Consider the subject.
Is it uniquely interesting?
Is it an appropriate presentation of setting?

CRAFT

This unique classification serves for the exhibition of all other types of work not permitted in the previous two classifications. Some typical inclusions might be: figurines of clay, glass, metal or wood; leatherwork items; needlework items, manuscripts, etc.

An entry may be disqualified only if it should be in the previous two classifications, the identify of the exhibitor is revealed, or the exhibitor is not also the creator or artist.

Special Requirements

Betta theme is required. As in the other two classes, the exhibitor is responsible for any display requirements.

Guidelines for Judges
Does the object carry a Betta theme?
Artistic items have preference over novelty items.

THE IBC NEW BREEDER CLASSES GROUP B

Effective 7/15/06
Revised 6/29/21

The New Breeder group shall consist of members who are just beginning to show fish they have bred.

This program is open to new IBC members and Non-IBC members. This program is open to anyone who has never placed 1st, 2nd, or 3rd as an individual in any regular IBC show class in an International/Convention Show. Note: Showing in wilds only previous to the 2021 show year are exempt.

Entrants may show in the New Breeder group for two show seasons. A Non-IBC member may show for the first show season, however, after that first season the entrant must become an IBC member to continue to show in IBC shows. At the end of the second season all entrants must show in Regular classes.

Any New Breeder winning at least three (3) annual class championships in the same show year shall become permanently ineligible to enter in the New Breeder classes and at that point must enter in the Regular classes from then on. A New Breeder may elect to enter regular classes in and International/Convention Show, but permanently loses eligibility to enter as New Breeder, including the International/Convention Show in which the first regular class entry is made.

Judging will follow current IBC rules and standards. Apprentice Judges can conduct judging under the supervision of an IBC Certified Judge, or by Certified Judges. As in all shows, the judges' decisions are final. Judges are encouraged at their own discretion to notify New Breeders whose entries won 1st place in a class as to how such entry might have done in a regular class.

NEW BREEDER CLASSES:

SEE AREA SHOW CLASS LISTS FOR CURRENT CLASS LISTS

CHAPTER 9

AREA CLASS LISTS AND IBC FORMS

GROUP A: BREEDER (Self-bred)

Variety A: Halfmoon – Longfin Singletail

A1. Red STM
A2. Black STM & Black Lace STM
A3. Light Solid non-metallic STM yellow, cellophane, white, pastel, orange
A4. Royal Blue STM
A5. Steel Blue STM
A6. Green/Turquoise STM
A7. Dark Body Metallic STM, All Solid Colors
A8. Light Body Metallic STM, All Solid Colors
A9. Marble, STM, one color must be Flesh (cello), white or light color
A10. Patterned STM dark or light bodied incl. Pineapple, Grizzle, Black orchid, other black based patterns.
A11. Multi STM.
A12. Butterfly STM
A13. Halfmoon STM Bicolor (Light body & dark body)
A14. Dragon Longfin STM, Light Body BiColor with any colored fins
A15. Non-iridescent Dark STF: red, black, black lace
A16. Light Solid STF: yellow, cellophane, white, pastel, orange
A17. Royal Blue STF
A18. Steel Blue STF
A19. Green/Turquoise STF
A20. Metallic STF, All Solid light and dark colors
A21. Marble STF one color must be. flesh, white or light color
A22. Patterned STF dark or light bodied incl. Pineapple, Grizzle, Black orchid, other black based patterns STF
A23. Multi STF
A24. Butterfly STF
A25. Bicolor STF (Light body & dark body)
A26. Dragon Longfin STF Light Body BiColor, any colored fins.

Variety B: Shortfin (Traditional & Show Plakats; and Symmetrical Shortfins)

B1. Show Plakat STM Solid dark non-iridescent
B2. Show Plakat STM Dark iridescent
B3. Show Plakat STM Light non-metallic (see A3 above)
B4. Show Plakat STM Marble 2 or 3 colors of which one must be. Flesh (cello), white or light color
B5. Show Plakat STM Metallic All Solid dark & light colors
B6. Show Plakat STM Marble or Patterned dark or light bodied incl. Pineapple, Grizzle, Black orchid, other black based patterns.
B7. Show Plakat STM Multi
B8 Show Plakat STM Butterfly
B9. Show Plakat STM Bicolor (light body and dark body)
B10. Dragon Shortfin STM Light Body BiColor, any colored fins
B11. Traditional Plakat STM Solid Colors
B12. Traditional Plakat STM Patterned & Multi
B13. Symmetrical STM All colors
B14. Sym. & Plakat STF Dark Solid color non- iridescent
B15. Symmetrical and Show Plakat STF Dark Solid Irid.
B16. Sym & Show Plakat STF Metallic Solid dark & light
B17. Sym.. & Show. Plakat STF Light Solid non-metallic: (yellow, cellophane, white, pastel, orange)
B18. Symmetrical & Show Plakat STF Marble or Patterned STF dark or light bodied incl. Pineapple, Grizzle, Black orchid, other black based patterns
B19. Sym. & Show PK STF Multi
B20. Symmetrical and Show Plakat STF Butterfly
B21. Show PK & Symmetrical STF Bicolor (lgt & dk body)
B22. Dragon Shortfin STF Light Body BiColor, any colored fins
B23. Traditional Plakat STF All colors

Variety C: Other Recognized Forms

C1. Crowntail HM STM, All colors
C2. Doubletail Male - All types, All colors
C3. Veiltail STM – All Colors
C4. Crowntail Plakat STM, All Colors
C5. Large Pectorals All longfin and shortfin STM
C6. Crowntail HM STF All colors
C7. Doubletail Females All types, All colors
C8. Veiltail STF, All Colors
C9. Large Pectoral All longfin and shortfin STF
C10. Crowntail Plakat STF, All Colors
C11. Giant Plakat Male & Female
(Males: Minimum body size 6.35 cm /2.5 inch tip of nose to peduncle; female 5.08 cm /2 in. min, nose to peduncle).

Variety D: Breeders Division: Variety D now earns its own BOV (instead of *moving to appropriate Var. A, B, C for BOV judging as has previously been done).*

D1. Color or Form Variations Male, incl. other colors and other fin types like deltas, roundtails, rosetails, HM greater than 195 °, etc.. **Must Label Variation**
D2 Color or Form Variations Female, incl. other colors and other fin types like deltas, roundtails, rosetails, HM greater than 195 °, etc. **Must Label Variation**
D1 and D2 Must label with clear description of variation. Do NOT use abbreviations or trade names.
D3. Form and Finnage Male
D4. Form and Finnage Female
D3 & D4 Form and Finnage allows all forms, HM, PK, VT, CT, DT. Judged by standards of that form
D5. Pairs Longfin Halfmoon, VT, CT, DT, LP, etc.
D6. Pairs – Shortfin and any mid length fin
D5 & D6 Pairs: Aliens and hybrids may be shown but are not eligible for BOV or BOS & must be labelled as noted in D7.
D7. Hybrids & Aliens male & female – **NOT** Eligible for BOV or BOS *Describe & label intent, list species of hybrid*

Variety E: Wild Type Bettas – Not Eligible for BOS/RBOS
Select one pair or trio from E1, E2 or single from E3 for Best of Variety and one for Reserve Best of Variety. These receive points toward an end of year Wild Type award and Area Championship
All entries MUST LABEL species.
E1. Bubblenester Pairs or Trios, Large & Small
E2. Mouthbrooder Pairs or Trios, Large & Small
E1 & E2 ***(Trios must label sex. Trios are not awarded extra points)***
E3. Single Entry Bubblenesters or Mouthbrooders –
Singles may be divided as Bubblenester/ Mouthbrooder.
Wild Pairs that have one fish die before judging may be placed in E3

GROUP B: NEW BREEDER (Self Bred)

NB1. HM STM Solid color
NB2. HM Patterned STM,
NB3. Plakat/Shortfin STM Solid color
NB4. Plakat/Shortfin STM – Patterned
incl. BiColor, Marble (see B4), Pineapple, Black Orchid, and 2 & 3-colored Multis
NB5. Plakat/ST Male patterned with 4 or more colors.
NB6. DTM, All types, All colors
NB7. CT, LP and VT STM, All Colors
NB8. HM STF Solid color
NB9. HM STF Patterned
NB10. Plakat & Symmetrical STF Solid color
NB11. Plakat & Symmetrical STF Patterned
NB12. All other females, CT, VT, DT, LP, All colors
NB13. Any other type: giant, Variations, etc. Male & Fem
Variations MUST LABEL color or form variation
NB 14. Hybrid, Aliens and Wild Types *; All Hybrid and Wild Type entries MUST LABEL SPECIES. NB 14* **NOT eligible for BOS/RBOS)**

GROUP C: COLLECTOR

(Purchased by entrant, Given to entrant; or Caught wild by entrant)
Note: GloFish® fluorescent ornamental bettas must be shown in these classes. They must be labelled so a judge knows to use proper lighting. *Refer to legal agreement with Spectrum and 5D for more information regarding labelling and selling them at an IBC show.*
CC1. HM STM Solid color
CC2. HM STM Patterned
CC3. Plakat/Shortfin STM, Solid color
CC4. Plakat/Shortfin STM patterned including
Marble (see B4), Butterfly, Bicolor, Pineapple, Black Orchid, and 2 &3 colored Multis
CC5. Plakat/Shortfin STM patterned 4 or more colors.
CC6. DTM, All types, All colors
CC7. CT or VT or LP STM – All colors
CC8. HM STF Solid color
CC9. HM STF Patterned
CC10. Plakat & Symmetrical STF Solid colored
CC11. Plakat & Symmetrical STF Patterned
CC12. All other females CT, VT, DT, LP, All colors
CC13. Any other type: Giant, etc. Male & Female. *All Variations MUST LABEL color or form variation; .*
CC14 Hybrid, Aliens and Wild Types *; All Hybrid and Wild Type entries MUST LABEL SPECIES. CC14* **NOT eligible for BOS/RBOS)**

70 Group A Classes (Breeder – Self Bred)
14 Group B Classes (New Breeder - Self Bred)
14 Group C Classes (Collector)
4 Optional Junior Classes (Self-Bred)
3 Art Classes

ARTS AND CRAFTS

AC1. Photography
AC2. Illustrations
AC3. Crafts

OPTIONAL CLASSES

Juvenile Betta Classes - Self-Bred
Minimum 1.27 cm/½ inch/ -body up to 2.8 cm/1.1 inch body for females and 3. cm /1.3 inch body for males up to 3.25 CM MAX.
JB1. Halfmoon STM, all colors/patterns
JB2. Other Longfin Males, all colors/patterns-
Doubletail, Crowntail, Veiltail, Large Pectorals
JB3. All Short finned Males, all colors & patterns. *Show, traditional, and symmetrical plakat, CTPK, DTPK, LPPK & Junior Giants.* Junior Giant Min. size 5.0 cm/2 inch to Max. 5.9 cm/2.3 inch, tip of mouth to peduncle
JB4. All Females; Junior Giant females up to 3.25 cm
Entrant must list tail type on entry form & label

Abbreviations:			
CT	Crowntail	**SF**	Short fin
DT	Doubletail	**STF**	Singletail Femal
HM	Halfmoon	**STM**	Singletail Male
LP	Large Pectoral	**SYM**	Symmetrical
PK	Plakat	**VT**	Veiltail
		WT	Wild Types

Additional information:

- **Note: If not specified, classes are to be judged with all colors/patterns**
- AREA 1 SHOW YEAR IS FROM
End of convention through Area 1 Convention of the following year.
Clubs may add additional optional classes.
- NO Collector or Optional classes earn points towards area or district championships. Nor do Non-IBC members. However areas may award special year end awards for top winners in Collector & Art classes
- Standard Auction split for Show fish:
75% exhibitor, 25% show host.
- **Entry fees must be advertised by club at least 30 days in advance**

Show Awards

1st, 2nd, 3rd places, all classes
Best of Variety, **Group A** Varieties A-D (Regular Classes)
Reserve Best of Variety, **Group A** Varieties A-D
Best of Show, **Group A** (Regular Classes)
Reserve Best of Show, **Group A** (Regular Classes)
** Above Best of Variety and Best of Show awards are one each for male and female;*
Best of Variety, Variety E (Wild Types), one entry only
Reserve Best of Variety, Var E (WT), one entry only **Best of Show & Reserve BOS, Group** B
(New Breeder one each for Male and Female) Optional:
Collector BOS & Reserve BOS Male & Female *Club may present other optional awards incl. JR & Art*

AREA 1 LISTA DE CLASES PARA SHOWS INTERNACIONALES 2022-2023

GRUPO A: CRIADOR

Variedad A: Aletas Largas – Caudal Sencilla

A1. Rojo MCS
A2. Negro MCS & Negro Translucido MCS
A3. Color Claro no-metálico MCS amarillo, celofán, blanco, pastel, anaranjado
A4. Azul royal MCS
A5. Azul acero MCS
A6. Verde/Turquesa MCS
A7. Cuerpo Obscuro Metálico MCS, Todos los colores Solidos
A8. Cuerpo Claro Metálico MCS, Todos los colores Solidos
A9. Mármol, MCS, Un color es color carne (celofán), blanco o color claro
A10. Patrón de Color MCS cuerpo obscuro o claro incluye Pineapple, Grizzli, Negro Orquídea, Otros patrones color negro.
A11. Multicolor MCS.
A12. Mariposa MCS
A13. Bicolor MCS, Cuerpo Claro & Cuerpo Obscuro
A14. Dragon MCS, Cuerpo Claro Bicolor, aletas de cualquier color
A15. No-iridiscente Obscuro HCS: Colores Rojo, Negro y Negro Translucido
A16. Color Claro HCS: amarillo, celofán, blanco, pastel, anaranjado
A17. Azul royal HCS
A18. Azul acero HCS
A19. Verde/Turquesa HCS
A20. Metálico HCS, todos los colores obscuros y claros
A21. Mármol HCS un color debe ser color piel, blanco o color claro
A22. Patrón de Color HCS Obscuro o color claro. Pineapple, Grizzli, Negro Orquídea, otros patrones obscuros HCS
A23. Multicolor HCS
A24. Mariposa HCS
A25. Bicolor HCS (Cuerpo Claro & Cuerpo Obscuro)
A26. Dragon HCS Cuerpo Claro Bicolor, aletas de cualquier color.

Variedad B: Aletas Cortas (Tradicional y Show Plakats: Simétricos Aletas Cortas)

B1. Show Plakat MCS Solid Obscuro No-iridiscente
B2. Show Plakat MCS Obscuro iridiscente
B3. Show Plakat MCS Claro no-metálico (Ver clase A3)
B4. Show Plakat MCS Mármol 2 o 3 colores de los cuales uno debe se color piel (celofán), blanco o color claro
B5. Show Plakat MCS Metálico. Todos los sólidos obscuros y claros
B6. Show Plakat MCS Mármol o patrón de Color Obscuro o cuerpo claro incl. Pineapple, Grizzle, Negro Orquídea, y otros patrones color negro.
B7. Show Plakat MCS Multicolor
B8 Show Plakat MCS Mariposa
B9. Show Plakat MCS Bicolor (Cuerpo Claro y Cuerpo Obscuro)
B10. Dragon Aletas Cortas MCS Cuerpo Claro Bicolor, Aletas de cualquier color.
B11. Tradicional Plakat MCS colores solidos
B12. Tradicional Plakat MCS Patrón de Color y Multicolor
B13. Simétrico MCS todos los colores
B14. Simétrico & Plakat HCS Obscuro color solido no-iridiscente
B15. Simétrico y Show Plakat HCS Obscuro Solido Iridiscente.
B17. Simétrico & Show. Plakat HCS Color Claro no-metálico: Amarillo, celofán, blanco, pastel y anaranjado
B18. Simétrico & Show Plakat HCS Mármol o patrón de Color HCS Oscuro o cuerpo claro incl. Pineapple, Grizzli, Negro Orquídea, y otros patrones de base negra
B19. Simétrico. & Show PK HCS Multicolor
B20. Simétrico y Show Plakat HCS Mariposa
B21. Show PK & Simétrico HCS Bicolor (Cuerpo claro y oscuro)
B22. Dragon HCS Cuerpo Claro Bicolor, aletas de cualquier color.
B23. Tradicional Plakat HCS todos los colores

Variedad C: Y Otras Formas Reconocidas

C1. Corona aletas largas MCS, Todos los colores
C2. Doble Cola Macho - Todos los tipos, Todos los colores
C3. Cola de Velo MCS – Todos los colores y patrón de color
C4. Corona Plakat MCS, Todos los colores y patrón de color
C5. Pectorales Largas Todos los de aletas larga y Aletas Cortas MCS
C6. Corona aletas largas HCS Todos los colores y patrones
C7. Doble Cola Hembras Todos los tipos, Todos los colores
C8. Cola de Velo HCS, Todos los colores y patrones
C9. Pectorales Largas Todos los de aletas larga y Aletas Cortas HCS
C10. Corona Plakat HCS, Todos los colores
C11. Gigante Plakat Macho & Hembra
(Machos: Tamaño mínimo de cuerpo 6.35 cm /2.5 pulgadas de la nariz al pedúnculo; Hembra 5.08 cm /2 in. min, nariz a pedúnculo).

Variedad D: CRIADOR: Variedad D Ahora se otorga BOV para esta variedad (en vez de mover el ganador de la variedad D a A, B o C como se juzgaba antes)

D1. Variaciones de Color o Forma **Macho**, incl. otros colores y Otros tipos de aletas como delta, rosetail, cola redonda, más de 195°, etc. **Se debe documentar la variación**
D2 Variaciones de Color o Forma **Hembra**, incl. otros colores Otros tipos de aletas como delta, rosetail, cola redonda, más de 195°, etc. **Se debe documentar la variación**
D1 y D2 Se debe documentar claramente la variación. No se permiten abreviaciones o nombres comerciales.
D3. Forma y Aletas **Macho**
D4. Forma y Aletas **Hembra**
D3 y D4 permiten todas las formas, HM, PK, VT, CT, DT. Juzgar a cada forma de acuerdo con su standard
D5. Pares Aletas Largas, VT, CT, DT, LP, etc.
D6. Pares – Aletas Cortas y otros tamaños de aletas
D5 & D6 Pares: Aliens y híbridos pueden competir pero no son elegibles para BOV o BOS y deben ser documentados y etiquetados como se describe en D7.
D7. Híbridos & Aliens Macho y Hembra – **NO** Eligible para BOV o BOS **Describir el objetivo y la hibridación**

AREA 1 LISTA DE CLASES PARA SHOWS INTERNACIONALES 2022-2023

Variedad E: Bettas Salvajes – No Eligible para BOS/RBOS

*Seleccione un par o trio de E1, E2 o uno solo de E3 para Best of Variety BOV y uno para reserva Best of Variety RBOV. Los ganadores reciben puntos para la competencia de fin de año de Bettas Salvajes y de campeonato de Área. **Todos los participantes deben documentar la especie.***

E1. Nido de burbujas. Pares o trios, grandes y pequeños

E2. incubación bucal. Pares o trios, grandes y pequeños

E1 & E2 ***(Identificar el sexo cuando son trios. Los trios no reciben puntos extra)***

E3. Un solo pez. Nido de burbuja o incubación bucal – Cuando se presenta un solo ejemplar se puede dividir en nido de burbuja o incubación bucal. Cuando muere un pez de una pareja el pez que sobreviviente puede competir en E3.

AREA 1 LISTA DE CLASES PARA SHOWS INTERNACIONALES 2022-2023

GRUPO B: NUEVO CRIADOR

NB1. HM MCS Color Solido
NB2. HM Patron de Color MCS,
NB3. Plakat/Aletas Cortas MCS Color Solido
NB4. Plakat/Aletas Cortas MCS – Patrón de Color incluyendo Bicolor, Mármol (ver B4), Pineapple, Negro Orquídea, 2 y 3-colores Multicolores
NB5. Plakat/ST Macho Patron de Color con 4 or mas colores.
NB6. DTM, Todos los tipos y Todos los colores
NB7. CT, LP y VT MCS, Todos los colores
NB8. HM HCS Color Solido
NB9. HM HCS Patrón de Color
NB10. Plakat y simétrico HCS Color Solido
NB11. Plakat & simétrico HCS Patrón de Color
NB12. Hembras-Todas, CT, VT, DT, LP, Todos los colores
NB13. Cualquier otro tipo: Gigante, Variaciones, etc. Macho y Hembra, *Variaciones* ***DEBEN DOCUMENTAR*** *color o variación de forma*
NB 14. Hibrido, Aliens y Salvajes *; todos los híbridos y salvajes* **DOCUMENTAR LA ESPECIE. NO es eligible para BOS/RBOS**

GRUPO C: COLECCIONISTA

(Comprado o Regalado al participantes o capturado por el participante)
Nota: GloFish® peces ornamentales fluorescentes deben competir en estas clases. Deben ser etiquetados pare que el juez pueda usar la iluminación adecuada. Ver el contrato legal con Spectrum y 5D para más información de como documentar y vender estos peces en un evento de IBC.
CC1. HM MCS Color Solido.
CC2. HM MCS Patrón de Color
CC3. Plakat/Aletas Cortas MCS, Color Solido
CC4. Plakat/Aletas Cortas MCS con Patrón de Color incluyendo el Mármol (ver B4), Mariposa, Bicolor, Pineapple, Orquídea Negro, y 2 y 3 colores Multicolores
CC5. Plakat/Aletas Cortas MCS Patrón de Color 4 o más colores.
CC6. DTM, Todos los tipos, Todos los colores
CC7. CT o VT o LP MCS – Todos los colores
CC8. HM HCS Solid color
CC9. HM HCS Patrón de Color
CC10. Plakat & simétrico HCS Solid color Rojo
CC11. Plakat & simétrico HCS Patrón de Color
CC12. Hembras - Todas CT, VT, DT, LP, Todos los colores
CC13. Cualquier otro tipo: Gigante, etc. Macho y Hembra. *Todas las variaciones* ***deben ser documentadas*** *– La variación de forma o color.*
CC14 Hibrido, Aliens y Salvajes *; Todos los híbridos y Salvajes* ***DEBEN DOCUMENTAR LA(S) ESPECIES(S).*** **NO es eligible para BOS/RBOS)**

ARTES Y ARTESANIAS

AC1. Fotografía
AC2. Ilustraciones
AC3. Artesanías

CLASES OPCIONALES

Bettas jóvenes - Criados
Mínimo 1.27 cm / ½ pulgada/ ¬cuerpo hasta to 2.8 cm / 1.1 pulgada de cuerpo para Hembras y 3. cm / 1.3 pulgadas de cuerpo para Machos hasta 3.25 CM MAX.
JB1. Aletas Largas MCS, Todos los colores/patrones de color
JB2. Otros Aletas Largas Machos, Todos los colores y patrones de color. Doble Cola, Corona, Cola de Velo, Pectorales Largas
JB3. Todos los machos de aletas cortas, Todos los colores y patrones de color. *Show, tradicional, y simétrico plakat, CTPK, DTPK, LPPK & Junior Gigantes*. Junior Gigante tamaño Min. 5.0 cm /2 pulgadas hasta un máximo de 5.9 cm / 2.3 pulgadas de la punta de la boca al pedúnculo
JB4. Hembras-Todas; Junior Gigante Hembras up to 3.25 cm. El participante deberá documentar y etiquetar el tipo de aleta caudal en la forma de inscripción y etiqueta

Información Adicional:

- **Nota: Si no es especificado, las clases deben ser juzgadas en las clases de Todos los colores y patrones de color**
- AREA 1 LA TEMPORADA DE SHOW ES DESDE: El final de la convención hasta la convención siguiente del Área 1.
  Los chapters pueden agregar clases adicionales.
- Las clases de coleccionista u opcionales **NO** ganan puntos para los campeonatos de Área o de distrito. Tampoco acumulan puntos los participantes que no son miembros de IBC. Las áreas pueden presentar premios especiales para el fin de temporada a los ganadores en las clases de coleccionista y clases de Arte
- Repartición de ganancias de las ventas de peces en los eventos. 75% para el dueño del pez y 25% para el Organizador del evento.
- **La tarifa de inscripción para los peces debe ser anunciada por el club por lo menos 30 días antes del evento.**

AREA 1 LISTA DE CLASES PARA SHOWS INTERNACIONALES 2022-2023

70 clases Grupo A (Criador - No Comprado)
14 clases Grupo B (Nuevo Criador-No comprado)
14 clases Grupo C (Coleccionista)
4 opcional – Clases Junior (Criado, No comprado)
3 clases de Arte y artesanías

Abreviaciones:

LF	Aletas Largas	**SF**	Aletas Cortas
CT	Corona	**HCS**	Hembra Caudal Sencilla
DT	Doble Cola	**MCS**	Macho Caudal Sencilla
HM	Media Luna	**SYM**	Simétrico
LP	Pectoral Larga	**VT**	Cola De Velo

Premiaciones

1er, 2do, 3er lugares, todas las clases
Best of Variety (BOV), Grupo A Variedades A-D (Clases Regulares)
Reserve Best of Variety, Group A Varieties A-D
Best of Show, Group A (Regular Classes)
Reserve Best of Show, Group A (Regular Classes)
** Above Best of Variety y Best of Show awards are one each for male y Hembra;*
Best of Variety, Variety E (Wild Types), one entry only
Reserve Best of Variety, Var E (WT), one entry only
Best of Show & Reserve BOS, Group B (New Breeder one each for Male y Hembra)
Optional: **Collector BOS & Reserve BOS Male & Hembra**

2021-2022 Area 1 – District Show Class List (effective July 1, 2021)

The IBC District Show is the next largest show from an Area/International show. A district show is allowed to limit their entries to a maximum of between 100-200 fish (though they might receive less), with pre-registrations opened preferentially to district members first and then allowed to open to the rest of the area for entries. There is no limit on the number of District Shows in a year; however, none can be held on the same weekend as another district or area show scheduled in the same IBC District.

Bold are the original entry classes (LF1, SF2, CO3, etc) that the entrant should use in entry forms. The grey italic sub-classes are the possible splits that a judge might use during a show if there are 8 or more entries in the class and a clear division for sub-classes. Judges can also split further if they see appropriate splits. Note that fish commercially known as "Dragon" are to be shown as either Solid Metallic or Bicolor classes, and fish commercially known as "Koi" are to be shown in Patterned (Marble) class. ***GloFish® fluorescent ornamental bettas may ONLY be shown in Collector/Purchased classes. Refer to IBC agreement with Spectrum and 5D for the legal requirements went showing or auctioning these fish at an IBC show. GloFish® must be labelled so the judge knows to use proper lighting.***

District Group A: Self-Bred Classes

Type: Longfin Halfmoon Singletail

LF1. Dark Solid Longfin Male
Dark Solid – Red, Black, Black Lace
Dark Solid – Blue, Steel,
Turquoise, Solid Dark
Metallic (Light & Dark, all)

LF2. Dark Solid Longfin Female
(as above LF1)

LF3. Light Solid Longfin Male
Light Solid - Yellow, Orange
Light Solid - Opaque White, Pastel,
Cellophane, Light Solid Metallic

LF4. Light Solid Longfin Female
(as above LF3)

LF5. Patterned Longfin Male
(per standards, including: Bicolor,
Multicolor, Marble, Butterfly, Grizzled,
Pineapple, Black Orchid)

LF6. Patterned Longfin Female
(as above LF5)

Type: Shortfin Singletail

SF1. Traditional Plakat Form Male
Solid
Patterned (per standards)

SF2. Traditional Plakat Form Female
Solid
Patterned (per Standards)

SF3. Solid Show Plakat Male
Dark Solid – Red, Black
Dark Solid – Blue,
Steel, Turquoise
Metallic Solid (light & dark, all)

SF4: Patterned Show Plakat Male
(per standards, including: Bicolor,
Multicolor, Marble, Butterfly, Grizzled, Black
Lace)

SF5. Shortfin Female – Solid (all types
(divide as needed)

SF6. Shortfin Female Patterned (all types) (as above SF4)

SF7. Halfmoon Shortfin (Symmetrical) Male
Solid
Patterned (per standards)

Type: Other Recognized Forms incl. Doubletail, Crowntail, Veiltail, Large Pectoral – long fin and short fin, combinations

CO1. Crowntail Male
Solid Color STM
Patterned (per standards) STM
Doubletail Crowntail
Shortfin Crowntail

CO2. Doubletail Longfin Halfmoon Male
Solid
Patterned (per standards)

CO3. Veiltail Male
Solid
Patterned (per standards)

CO4. Solid Female DT, CT, VT, LP
Solid DT
Solid CT
Solid VT
Solid LP

CO5. Patterned Female DT, CT, VT, LP
Patterned DT
Patterned CT
Patterned VT
Patterned LP

CO6. Giant Shortfin Male and Female
(Minimum body size 2.5 inch/6 cm tip of nose to peduncle
Solid
Patterned (per standards)

CO7. Large Pectoral Male (all types: LF, SF, DT, VT)
Solid
Patterned

Abbreviations:
LF=Longfin
SF=Shortfin
DT=Doubletail
VT=Veiltail
LP=Large Pectorals
PK=Plakat

Note: Chapters have the option of restricting class entries when there are only a limited number of containers for that class. For example, if the chapter has only 10 large size containers for wilds or giants, then show chairs should let participants know and the first entries will get the 10 slots. Chapters may also limit how many entries per person in a restricted container selection.

Awards

Best of Show, Regular Self-Bred (Group A)
Male and Female
Reserve Best of Show, Regular Self-Bred (Group A)
Male and Female
1st, 2nd, 3rd places, all classes

*Other awards by chapter **optional***
Best of Show, New Breeder (Group B)
Male and Female
Reserve Best of Show, New Breeder (Group B)
Male and Female
Best of Show, Collectors (Group C)
Male and Female
Reserve Best of Show, Collectors (Group C)
Male and Female
Wild Type Best of Variety (can be single, pair or trio)
Wild Type Reserve Best of Variety

Class Totals
Regular Classes: **18** (could be more subclasses)
Optional:
*Additional Self-Bred, Junior, Trials and Wilds: 5_*
New Breeder Classes: 6 (could be more subclasses)
Collector Fish Classes: 8 (could be more subclasses)
Arts & Crafts: 4
Total Classes **41** (+subclasses) (18 reg, 23 opt)

Judges are allowed to use the judging option of combining and splitting classes depending on entry numbers, so the final class list may not be the same in each show.

Clubs may add additional optional classes. NO optional classes earn points towards District championships.

AREA 1 SHOW YEAR IS FROM July 1 through June 30 of the following year. In USA and Canada shows cannot be held Nov. 15 through Mar. 15 due to weather.

If a district has at least 2 district and/or local shows, Districts may award District Championships. Districts may choose to award separate Self Bred and New Breeder championships whether the fish are shown together or not. Exhibitor must note New Breeder on entry form so District Registrar is notified.

Standard Auction split for Show fish: 75% exhibitor, 25% show host. Non-show items, 50/50.

Recommended show entry fee is
Members: $3 Single entry & Div. 3 Wild Type (Pairs/Trios/Single Entries) $5. Per entry in D4: Pairs.
Non-IBC members: $4.5 single/all Wild Type; $7.5 D4 pairs
If a club chooses other entry fee it must be advertised at least 30 days in advance.

IBC Area 1 Districts

1: Alaska, Hawaii, California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, Arizona, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico

2: Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana

3/4: Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, DC

5: Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands

6. Canada

7. Mexico, Bermuda, Bahamas, Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Virgin Islands, Central America

(Note: Districts 3 and 4 are combined for showing, though we are currently leaving them separately numbered for convenience)

Area 2 - IBC Show Class List: 2021

Group A: Regular Classes

Variety A: Longfin Singletail Halfmoons
A1. Red or Black Halfmoon Male
A2. Dark Iridescent or Metallic Halfmoon Male
A3. Light Solid Color Halfmoon Male
A4. Bicolor Halfmoon Male
A5. Butterfly Halfmoon Male
A6. Multicolor or Patterned Halfmoon Male
A7. Dark Solid Color Halfmoon Female
A8. Light Solid Color Halfmoon Female
A9. Bicolor Halfmoon Female
A10. Multicolor or Patterned Halfmoon Female

Variety B: Doubletails (both longfin and shortfin)
B1. Longfin Doubletail Male
B2. Shortfin Doubletail Male
B3. Doubletail Female (long- and shortfin)

Variety C: Crowntails (both longfin and shortfin)
C1. Solid Color Longfin Crowntail Male
C2. Bicolor or Patterned Longfin Crowntail Male
C3. Longfin Crowntail Female
C4. Shortfin Crowntail Male
C5. Shortfin Crowntail Female

Variety D: Shortfin Singletails
D1. Traditional Plakat Male
D2. Traditional Plakat Female
D3. Red or Black Show Plakat Male
D4. Dark Iridescent or Metallic Show Plakat Male
D5. Light Solid Color Show Plakat Male
D6. Bicolor Show Plakat Male
D7. Butterfly Show Plakat Male
D8. Multicolor or Patterned Show Plakat Male
D9. Dark Solid Color Show Plakat Female
D10. Light Solid Color Show Plakat Female
D11. Bicolor Show Plakat Female
D12. Multicolor or Patterned Show Plakat Female
D13. Halfmoon Shortfin Male

Variety V: Veiltails
V1. Veiltail Male
V2. Veiltail Female

Division E: Breeders Division
winners to go to appropriate BOV category
E1. Color or Form Variations Male
E2. Color or Form Variations Female
E3. Form and Finnage Male*
E4. Form and Finnage Female*
E5. Pairs
E6. Large Pectoral Form Male (TRIAL CLASS)

* Participants cannot enter here. Only judges are allowed to move fishes into these Classes.

Division F: Wild Type Betta Pairs (Optional)
Not Eligible for BOV or BOS
F1 Small / Large Bubblenesters
F2 Small / Large Mouthbrooders

Division G: Arts & Crafts (Optional)
Not Eligible for BOV or BOS. Must be the work of the entrant.
G1 Photography
G2 Illustration
G3 Crafts

Group B: New Breeder Classes

NB1. Veiltail Male
NB2. Longfin HM Male ST/DT
NB3. Crowntail Male ST/DT/PK
NB4. Shortfin Male ST/DT
NB5. Veiltail Female
NB6. Longfin Female HM ST/DT/CT
NB7. Shortfin Female

Note: If not specified, classes are to be judged with all colors/patterns

Note: Form and Finnage allows *all* forms – longfin, doubletail, crowntail, shortfin and veiltail. They should be judged for the form standards for the fish of that form so entered.

Note: Area 2 has chosen not to participate in the "purchased fish" IBC option. All fish entered must be self-bred.

Note: Area 2 has chosen to use the area judging option of combining and splitting classes depending on entry numbers, so the final class list may not be the same in each show.

Regular Classes: 38
Trial Classes: 1
Wild Classes: 2
(optional) Arts & Crafts: 3
(optional) New Breeder Classes: 7

50 Total Classes

Awards and/or Certificates
1st, 2nd, 3rd places, all classes
Best of Variety, Group A Variety Classes
Reserve Best of Show, Regular (Group A)
Best of Show, Regular (Group A)
Reserve Best of Show, New Breeder (Group B)
Best of Show, New Breeder (Group B)
"Best of awards are one each for male and female"
Other awards by chapter optional.

Area 2 Show Year January-December. Typical Show fee 3 Euros per entry. Typical auction split 80 breeder, 20% club.

GloFish® fluorescent ornamental bettas cannot be shown in Self Bred classes. They must be shown only as purchased fish. Only if a club adds such optional class(es) can they be shown. The GloFish® must be labelled so a judge knows to use proper lighting. Refer to legal agreement with Spectrum and 5D for more information regarding labelling and selling them at an IBC show. These entries would receive show awards, but would not be judged for BOV or BOS and would not receive championship points.

Area 3 – IBC Show Class List 2021

Group A : REGULAR CLASS

Division A: Longfin Singletail HM
A1. Red STM
A2. Black STM
A3. Dark Iridescent STM
A4. Light Solid Color STM
A5. Bicolor/Butterfly/Pineapple STM
A6. Marble/ Grizzled STM
A7. Metallic Dark STM
A8. Metallic Light STM
A9. Multicolor STM

Division B: Doubletail
B1. Dark Solid Color DTM
B2. Light Solid Color DTM
B3. Patterned DTM
B4. Metallic Dark/Light DTM
B5. Multicolor DTM

Division C: Crowntail
C1. Red/Black CTM
C2. Dark Iridescent CTM
C3. Light Solid CTM
C4. Bicolor/Butterfly/Pineapple CTM
C5. Marble/Grizzled CTM
C6. Black Lace CTM
C7. Metallic Dark CTM
C8. Metallic Light CTM
C9. Multicolor CTM

Division D: Shortfin Singletail/Doubletail
D1. Red STM Show Plakat
D2. Black STM Show Plakat
D3. Dark Iridescent STM Show Plakat
D4. Light Solid Color STM Show Plakat
D5. Bicolor/pineapple STM Show Plakat
D6. Butterfly STM Show Plakat
D7. Marble STM Show Plakat
D8. Grizzled STM Show Plakat
D9. Metallic Dark STM Show Plakat
D10. Metallic Light STM Show Plakat
D11. Multicolor STM Show Plakat
D12. Solid DTPK
D13, Pattern DTPK

Divison E: Giant Shortfin Singletail (Min 6.25 cm Body)
E1. Giant Solid Dark/Light Show Plakat
E2. Giant Pattern Show Plakat
E3. Giant Metallic Dark/Light Show Plakat
E4. Giant Multicolor Show Plakat

Regular Class : 40 Classes

Optional Class : 38 Classes

78 Class Total

Group B : OPTIONAL CLASS

Division F: Female
F1. Solid Color HM/DT Female
F2. Patterned Color HM/DT Female
F3. Solid Color Show CT Female
F4. Patterned CT Female
F5. Solid Color Show Plakat Female
F6. Patterned Show Plakat Female

Division G: Junior Classes (Size Max 3.25 cm)
G1. Solid Color HM Junior
G2. Patterned HM Junior
G3. Multicolor HM Junior
G4. Solid Color DTHM Junior
G5. Patterned DTHM Junior
G6. Multicolor DTHM Junior
G7. Solid Color CT Junior
G8. Patterned CT Junior
G9. Black Lace CT Junior
G10. Solid Color Show Plakat Singletail & Doubletail Junior
G11. Pattern Show Plakat Singletail & Doubletail Junior
G12. Multicolor Show Plakat Junior
G13. Giant Solid Color Show Plakat Junior (Min 5cm - 5.9 cm max body tip of mouth to peduncle)
G14. Giant Patterned Show Plakat Junior (Min 5cm - 5.9 cm max body)
G15. Giant Multicolor Show Plakat Junior (Min 5cm - 5.9 cm max body)

Division H : Form and Finnage Classes
H1. Longfin Singletail
H2. Doubletail
H3. Crowntail
H4. Shortfin Singletail

Division I: Traditional Classes
I1: Veiltail Solid Color
I2: Veiltail Any Other Class
I3: Traditional Plakat Solid Color
I4: Traditional Any Other Class

Division J: Wild Type Betta Pairs
J1. Bubble-nesters (small size)
J2. Bubble-nesters (medium/large size)
J3. Mouth-brooders (small size)
J4. Mouth-brooders (medium/large size)

Division K: Trial (Temporary) Classes
K1. Large Pectoral Longfin or Shortfin
K2. Other Form Variation
K3. Fancy base orange/red/yellow
K4. Any Other Color
K5. Breeder class (2 female, 1 male or 1 female. 2 male

Awards
1st, 2nd, 3rd places, all classes
Best of Division, Regular Classes
Best of Show, Regular Classes
Other awards by chapter optional.

LISTA DE CLASES – DE AREA 4 PARA SHOWS INTERNACIONALES – 2021-2022

GRUPO A: CRIADOR (pez criado)

Variedad A: Halfmoon – Aletas largas cola simple

A1. Rojo STM
A2. Negro & Lazo Negro STM
A3. Solido claro STM (amarillo, celofán, blanco, pastel, naranja)
A4. Azul Real STM
A5. Azul Acero STM
A6. Verde/Turquesa STM
A7. Cuerpo oscuro Metálico STM (Todos)
A8. Cuerpo claro Metálico STM (Todos)
A9. Mármol, Grizzle, Piña, Orquidea Negra & 3 Multi STM
A10. Patrones (Mármol & 4 o más colores múltiples) STM.
A11. Mariposa STM
A12 Halfmoon STM Bicolor
A13. Dragón de aletas largas macho, Bicolor de cuerpo claro y aletas coloreadas.
A14. No-iridiscente Oscuro STF (rojo, negro, lazo negro)
A15. Solido claro STF (amarillo, celofán, blanco, pastel, naranja)
A16. Azul Real STF
A17. Azul Acero STF
A18. Verde/Turquesa STF
A19. Metálicos STF (todos los colores claros y oscuros)
A20. Mármol, Grizzle, Piña, Orquidea Negra, & 3 Multicolor STF
A21. Patrones (Mármol & 4 o más colores múltiples) STF
A22. Mariposa STF
A23. Bicolor STF
A24. Dragón de aletas largas hembra, Bicolor de cuerpo claro y aletas coloreadas.

Variedad B: Aletas cortas (Tradicional & Show Plakat; Aletas simétricas)

B1. Show Plakat STM Solido oscuro no-Iridiscente
B2. Show Plakat STM Oscuro iridiscente
B3. Show Plakat STM Claro no-Metálico (mirar arriba categoría A3)
B4. Show Plakat STM Mármol
B5. Show Plakat STM Metálico colores claros y oscuros
B6. Show Plakat STM Mármol, Grizzle, Piña, Orquidea Negra, & 3 Multi color
B7. Show Plakat STM (Mármol & 4 o más colores)
B8 Show Plakat STM Mariposa
B9. Show Plakat STM Bicolor
B10. Dragón de aletas cortas macho, Bicolor de cuerpo claro y aletas coloreadas.
B11. Tradicional Plakat STM Color solido
B12. Tradicional Plakat STM Patrones
B13. Simétricos STM TODOS LOS COLORES
B14. Show & Simétricos Plakat STF Color oscuro solido No- iridiscente
B15. Show & Simétricos Plakat STF oscuro solido Iridiscente
B16: Show & Simétricos Plakat STF Claros y oscuros Metálicos
B17. Show & Sim. Plakat STF Solido Claro No-metálico: (Amarillo, celofán, blanco, pastel, naranja)
B18. Show & Simétrico Plakat STF Mármol, Grizzle, Piña, Orquidea Negra, & 3 color Multicolor
B19. Show & Simétrico PK STF Patrones y 4 colores
B20. Show & Simétrico Plakat STF Mariposa
B21. Show & Simétrico PK STF Bicolor
B22. Dragón de aletas cortas hembra, Bicolor de cuerpo claro y aletas coloreadas.
B23. Plakat Tradicional STF Todos los colores

Variedad C: Otras formas reconocidas

C1. Corona HM STM, Todos los tipos y colores
C2. Macho Doble cola – Todos los tipos y colores
C3. Cola de velo Macho STM
C4. Corona Plakat STM
C5. Pectorales grandes de aletas cortas y largas STM
C6. Corona HM STF todos los tipos y colores
C7. Hembras doble cola todos los tipos y colores
C8. Cola de velo STF
C9. Pectorales grandes de aletas cortas y largas STF
C10. Corona Plakat STF Todos los colores
C11. Plakat Gigante Macho y Hembra
(Machos: tamaño mínimo de cuerpo 6.35 cm /2.5 inch desde la boca hasta el pedúnculo caudal; hembras 5.08 cm /2 in. min, desde la boca hasta el pedúnculo caudal).

Variedad D: Divisiones de criados:

Volver a clase apropiada. A, B, C para jueceo de BOS

D1. Variaciones en el color y forma Macho (2 colores multicolores Otras variables de aletas como deltas, roundtails, rosetails, HM mayor a 195 °, etc.).
D2 Variaciones en el color y forma Macho (2 colores multicolores Otras variables de aletas como deltas, roundtails, rosetails, HM mayor a 195 o, etc.)
D1 y D2 Deben etiquetarse con una descripción clara de la variación. NO utilice abreviaturas ni nombres comerciales.
D3. Forma y aletas macho
D4. Forma y aletas hembra***D3 & D4 Forma y Aletas permite todas las formas, HM, PK, VT, CT, DT. Son juzgados por los estándares de esa forma.***
D5. Parejas aletas largas Halfmoon,VT CT,DT,LP, etc.
D6. Parejas aletas cortas
D7. Híbridos M y H
D7. Describe la intención de esta hibridación, lista las especies originales (No son elegibles para BOV o BOS)
D8. 'Alien' **M** y **H** En fase de prueba, no es elegible para BOS o BOV

Variety E: Especies Salvajes – No Elegible para BOS/RBOS *Seleccionar un par o trio de E1, E2 o una forma simple E3 para el mejor de variedad y uno para el mejor de reserva de variedad Ellos reciben puntos en variedad salvaje a finales de año. Los campeonatos de área e internacionales* ***deben etiquetar las entradas.***

E1. Pares o trios de Bubblenesters (largo & pequeño)
E2. Pares o trios Criadores bucales(largo & pequeño)
E1 & E2 ***(Los tríos deben etiquetar el sexo. Los tríos no reciben puntos extra)***
E3. Ejemplares únicos de E1 o E2 – *(se dividen en Bubblenester / Mouthbrooder) Si un ejemplar par muere el restante se mueve aquí.*

GROUP C: COLECCIONISTA

(Comprado, regalado,
o atrapado salvaje por el participante)

CC1. HM STM color solido
CC2. HM STM con patrones
CC3. Plakat/aletas cortas STM, Color solido
CC4. Plakat/Aletas cortas STM con patrones (incl. Mármol, Mariposa, Bicolor, BEN (Piña), Orquidea Negra, y 3 colores Multi)
CC5. Plakat/Shortfin STM patrón 4 or mas colores.
CC6. DTM Todos los colores
CC7. CT or VT ST M – Todos los colores
CC8. HM ST hembra Color solido
CC9. HM ST hembra con patrón
CC10. Hembras Plakat & Simétrica ST Color Solido
CC11. Hembras Plakat & Simétrica ST Patrones
CC12. Otros tipos de hembras CT, VT, DT, LP
CC13. Otras variaciones (Deltatail, roundtail, rosetail, etc.), especies Salvajes, Gigantes, Machos y Hembras. *Todas las variaciones **DEBEN ETIQUETAR** la variación de color o forma; Las entradas de tipo salvaje **DEBEN ETIQUETAR LAS ESPECIES. CC13 Especies salvajes NO son elegibles para BOS / RBOS)***

Premios

1º, 2º, 3º Lugar, Todas las clases
Mejor de Variedad, **Grupo A** Variedad A-C (Clases regulares)
Ganadores cat. D va a A, B, C para el jueceo de BOV/RBOV
Reserva Mejor de variedad, **Grupo A** Variedades A-C
Mejor de Show, **Grupo A** (Clases regulares)
Reserva de mejor de Show, **Grupo A** (Clases regulares)
** BOS y BOV se otorgan tanto a machos como a hembras(1 para cada uno).*
Mejor de variedad, Variedad E (especies salvajes), una entrada solamente.
Reserva de mejor de variedad, Var E (especies salvajes), solo una entrada.
Mejor de show y reserva, Grupo B (Nuevo criador uno para cada macho y hembra Opcional: Coleccionista BOS y Reserve BOS Masculino y Femenino
El club puede presentar otros premios opcionales incl. JR y arte

Abreviaciones:		**SF**	Aletas cortas
CT	Corona	**STF**	Cola simple Hembra
DT	Doble cola	**STM**	Cola Simple Macho
HM	Halfmoon	**SYM**	Simétrico
LP	Pectoral grande	**VT**	Cola de velo
PK	Plakat	**WT**	Wild Types/ Salvajes
BEN	Borde de Escala Negro (piña)		

CLASSES OPCIONALES

Clase junior (pez criado)
(Mínimo 1.27 cm/½ inch/ -cuerpo por encima de 2.8 cm/1.1 inch cuerpo para hembras y 3.3 cm /1.3 inch para machos
JB1. Halfmoon STM (todos los colores/Patrones)
JB2. Otras variedades de Aletas largas Machos (todos los colores/Patrones)
Doble cola, Corona, Cola de velo, Pectorales grandes.
JB3. Todos los machos de aletas cortas (todos los colores/Patrones) *Show, tradicional, y Plakat simétrico, CTPK, DTPK, LPPK y clases Gigantes (*Gigantes juveniles tamaño mínimo 5.0 cm/2 inch al Max. 5.9 cm/2.3 inch (desde la boca hasta el pedúnculo caudal)
JB4. Todas las hembras
(El participante debe indicar el tipo de cola en la entrada)

Arte y Artesanías
AC1. Fotografía
AC2. Ilustraciones/ pinturas/ técnicas mixtas/ Escultura/ Grabado
AC3. Artesanías

69 Clases Grupo A (Criador)

13 Clases Grupo C (Coleccionista)

4 Clases opcionales Junior (criador)

4 Clases opcionales Arte

Información adicional:

- **Nota: Si no se especifica, las clases se juzgarán con todos los colores / patrones.**
- AREA 1 SHOW AÑO DE
- 1 de julio hasta la Convención del Área 1 del año siguiente. En EE. UU. Y Canadá, los espectáculos no se pueden realizar del 15 de noviembre al 15 de marzo debido al clima.
- Los coleccionistas o clases opcionales no suman puntaje
- Los miembros que no pertenezcan a IBC no acumulan puntuación para el campeonato
- • Subasta estándar:
- 75% expositor, 25% Chapter anfitrion.

Las tarifas de inscripción deben ser anunciadas por el club con al menos 30 días de anticipación.

IBC Area 5 Class List 2021

INTERNATIONAL BETTA CONGRESS®

Division 1: Regular Classes
Variety A: Halfmoon Singletail and Doubletail
Males (Both Purchased and Self-bred)
A1. Solid Color Singletail Halfmoon Male
A2. Non-solid Color Singletail Halfmoon Male
A3. Doubletail Halfmoon Male

Variety B: Purchased Plakat Males
B1. Red or Black Solid Color Show Plakat Male
B2. Dark Iridescent or Metallic Solid Color Show Plakat Male
B3. Light Solid Color Show Plakat Male
B4. Bicolor or Banded Show Plakat Male
B5. Multicolor Show Plakat Male
B6. Marble or Grizzle Show Plakat Male
B7. Traditional Plakat Male

Variety C: Self-Bred Plakat Males
C1. Non-iridescent Solid Color Show Plakat Male
C2. Iridescent or Metallic Show Plakat Male
C3. Bicolor or Banded Show Plakat Male
C4. Multicolor Show Plakat Male
C5. Marble or Grizzle Show Plakat Male

Variety D: All other Forms Males
(Both Purchased and Self-bred)
D1. Crowntail Male (longfin or shortfin)
D2. Extended Pectoral, Veiltail, or Doubletail Plakat Male
D3. Giant Male

Division 2: Special Classes
(Both Purchased and Self-bred)
(Winners to go to appropriate BOV category.)
E1. Form and Finnage Male
E2. Form and Finnage Female
E3. Color or Form Variation Male
E4. Pairs

Division 3: Females (Both Purchased and Self-bred)
(Extended Pectoral Females to be judged in the appropriate tail form class)
F1. Singletail Halfmoon Female
F2. Doubletail, Crowntail, or Veiltail Female
F3. Solid Color Plakat Female (regular or Giant size) (purchased fish only)
F4. Non-solid Color Plakat Female (regular or Giant size) (purchased fish only)
F5. Solid Color Plakat Female (regular or Giant size) (self-bred fish only)
F6. Non-solid Color Plakat Female (regular or Giant size) (self-bred fish only)

Division 4: Optional Classes
(Winners cannot compete for Best of Variety or Best of Show awards)
J1. Junior Shortfin Males (self-bred fish only)
J2. Junior Longfin Males (self-bred fish only)
J3. Junior Females (any form) (self-bred fish only)

Note: If not specified, classes are to be judged with all colors/patterns
Note: Pairs and Form and Finnage classes allow "all" forms. They should be judged for the form standards for the fish of that form so entered.
Note: Fish entered in Form & Finnage classes may be moved to their appropriate color classes at judges' discretion, judges may also move any fish from a regular class into Form & Finnage classes at their discretion.
Note: Males: DQ under 1 inch [2.5cm]. Severe fault 1"-1.5" [2.6-3.80cm]
Females: DQ under 0.75" [2.0cm]. Severe fault 0.75"-1.25" [2.1-3.2cm].
Note: Form or Color Variations Class is for New Color or Form Developments. A descriptive name MUST be noted on the tanks.
31 Total Classes
Awards and/or Certificates:
1st, 2nd, 3rd places, all classes
Reserve Best of Variety, Division 1 Variety Classes; Best of Variety, Division 1 Variety Classes
Reserve Best of Show, Regular/Female; Best of Show, Regular/Female
Best of Show and Reserve Best of Show awards are one each for male and female.
This class list is final, there will be no changes made during the show.

GloFish® fluorescent ornamental bettas must be shown only in Purchased classes Divisions 2, 3, or 4 and must be labelled so a judge knows to use proper lighting. They cannot compete for BOV/RBOV or BOS/RBOS. Refer to legal agreement with Spectrum and 5D for more information regarding labelling and selling them at an IBC show.

Area 5 – Local Show Class List 2021

The Local Show is the smallest of the four types of shows. It contains fewer classes and is ideal for an aquarium society or new betta club. It allows them to receive official IBC sanctioning for their efforts.
A Local Show receives the fewest number of fish from areas outside the city in which it occurs. An IBC Certified Judge is NOT required although the IBC Standards should be followed by the judge. IBC Apprentice and Trainee Judges may judge a Local Show as can any local expert. There is no limit to the number of Certified Shows that may be held in a year.

HALFMOON MALE

A1. DARK/LIGHT SOLID

A2. DARK/LIGHT SOLID IRIDESCENT/ METALLIC

A3. BICOLOR / PATTERNED / MULTICOLOR / MARBLE / GRIZZLE

SHOW PLAKAT MALE

B1. DARK SOLID NON- IRIDESCENT (RED/BLACK)

B2. LIGHT SOLID NON – IRIDESCENT

B3. LIGHT/DARK SOLID IRIDESCENT / METALLIC

B4. BICOLOR / BUTTERFLY

B5. MARBLE / GRIZZLE

B6. MULTICOLOR

CROWNTAIL MALE (LONG/SHORT FIN)

C1. DARK/LIGHT SOLID

C2. BICOLOR / PATTERNED / MULTICOLOR / MARBLE / GRIZZLE

DOUBLETAIL MALE (LONG/SHORT FIN)

D1. DARK/LIGHT SOLID

D2. BICOLOR / PATTERNED / MULTICOLOR / MARBLE / GRIZZLE

FEMALE

E1. HALFMOON / PLAKAT (REGULAR / GIANT SIZE)

E2. CROWNTAIL / DOUBLETAIL / VEILTAIL / LARGE PECTORAL/ HYBRID

OTHER CLASSES

F1. LARGE PECTORAL

F2. OTHER TAIL TYPES (VEILTAIL , GIANT, HYBRID)

AREA 6 – IBC SHOW CLASSLIST 2023

GROUP A : REGULAR CLASS

DIVISION A : LONGFIN SINGLETAIL HM
A1. Red STM
A2. Black STM
A3. Dark Iridescent STM
A4. Light Solid Color STM
A5. Bicolor/Butterfly/Pineapple STM
A6. Marble/Grizzle STM
A7. Metallic Dark STM
A8. Metallic Light STM
A9. Multicolor STM

DIVISION B : DOUBLETAIL
B1. Dark Solid Color DTM
B2. Light Solid Color DTM
B3. Patterned DTM
B4. Metallic Dark/Light DTM
B5. Multicolor DTM

DIVISION C : CROWNTAIL
C1. Red/Black CTM
C2. Dark Iridescent CTM
C3. Light Solid CTM
C4. Bicolor/Butterfly/Pineapple CTM
C5. Marble/Grizzle CTM
C6. Black Orchid CTM
C7. Metallic Dark CTM
C8. Metallic Light CTM
C9. Multicolor CTM

DIVISION D : SHORTFIN SINGLETAIL/DOUBLETAIL
D1. Red STM Show Plakat
D2. Black STM Show Plakat
D3. Dark Iridescent STM Show Plakat
D4. Light Solid Color STM Show Plakat
D5. Bicolor/Pineapple STM Show Plakat
D6. Butterfly STM Show Plakat
D7. Marble STM Show Plakat
D8. Grizzled STM Show Plakat
D9. Metallic Dark STM Show Plakat
D10. Metallic Light STM Show Plakat
D11. Multicolor STM Show Plakat
D12. Solid DTPK
D13. Pattern DTPK

DIVISION E : GIANT SHORTFIN SINGLETAIL
(Min 6.25 cm body)
E1. Giant Solid Dark/Light Show Plakat
E2. Giant Patterned Show Plakat
E3. Giant Metallic Dark/Light Show Plakat
E4. Giant Multicolor Show Plakat

Regular Class : 40 Classes

Optional Class : 46 Classes

Total Class : 86 Classes

AWARDS:
1st, 2nd. 3rd places, all classes
Best of Division, Regular Classes
Best of Show, Regular Classes
Other awards by chapter optional

GROUP B : OPTIONAL CLASSES

DIVISION F : FEMALE
F1. Solid Color HM/DT Female
F2. Patterned HM/DT Female
F3. Solid Color CT Female
F4. Patterned CT Female
F5. Solid Color Show Plakat Female
F6. Patterned Show Plakat Female

DIVISION G : JUNIOR CLASSES
G1. Solid Color HM Junior
G2. Patterned HM Junior
G3. Multicolor HM Junior
G4. Solid Color DTHM Junior
G5. Patterned DTHM Junior
G6. Multicolor DTHM Junior
G7. Solid Color CT Junior
G8. Patterned CT Junior
G9. Black Orchid CT Junior
G10. Solid Color Show Plakat STM/DTM Junior
G11. Patterned Show Plakat STM/DTM Junior
G12. Multicolor Show Plakat STM/DTM Junior
G13. Giant Solid Color Show Plakat Junior
G14. Giant Patterned Show Plakat Junior
G15.Giant Multicolor Show Plakat Junior
(Giant Junior BO 5-5.9cm)

DIVISION H : FORM AND FINNAGE CLASSES
H1. Longfin Singletail
H2. Doubletail
H3. Crowntail
H4. Shortfin Singletail/Doubletail

DIVISION I : WILD TYPE BETTA PAIRS
I1. Bubble-nester (small size)
I2. Bubble-nester (medium/large size)
I3. Mouth-brooders (small /medium size)
I4. Mouth-brooders (large size)

DIVISION J : OTHER FORM VARIATION CLASSES
J1. Veiltail
J2. Traditional Plakat
J3. Large Pectoral
J4. Crowntail Plakat
J5. Shortfin Halfmoon

DIVISION K ; OTHER COLOR VARIATION CLASSES (TRIAL)
K1. Solid Body Fancy
K2. Partial Iridescent Fancy
K3. Non Marking Fancy
K4. Marking Fancy
K5. Sparkling Iridescent Fancy
K6. Iridescent Helmet Fancy
K7. Fin Variation Fancy
K8. Non Iridescent Koi Base Fancy
K9. Iridescent Koi Base Fancy
K10. Iridescent Covered Non-Marking Fancy
K11. Iridescent Covered Marking Fancy

DIVISION L : BREEDER CLASS
L1. Breeder Class (2m1f or 1m2f)

Area 7 – IBC Show Class List for 2021-2022

GROUP A: Regular Self-Bred Classes

Variety A: Longfin HM Singletail
A1. Solid Longfin HM Male
A2. Patterned Longfin HM Male
A3. Solid Longfin HM Female
A4. Patterned Longfin HM Female

Variety B: Doubletail
B1. Solid Doubletail Longfin Male
B2. Patterned Doubletail Longfin Male
B3. Shortfin Male Doubletail (all colours/patterns)
B4. Solid Doubletail Female (long and short)
B5. Patterned Doubletail HM Female (long and short)

Variety C: Crowntail
C1. Solid Longfin Crowntail Male
C2. Patterned Longfin Crowntail Male
C3. Shortfin Crowntail Male (all colours/patterns)
C4. Solid Crowntail Female (long and short)
C5. Patterned Crowntail Female (long and short)

Variety D: Shortfin Singletail
D1. Traditional Plakat Form Male
D2. Solid Show Plakat Male
D3. Patterned Show Plakat Male
D4. Shortfin Halfmoon Male
D5. Solid Shortfin Female
D6. Patterned Shortfin Female

Division E: Breeders Division
winners to go to appropriate BOV category
E1. Colour and Form Variations
(describe the variation)
E2. Form and Finnage (all fintypes allowed)
E3. Pairs (must match form and color types)
E4. Giant Shortfin (male and female) (TRIAL Class)
E5. Large Pectoral (male and female) (TRIAL Class)
E6. Veiltail Longfins (male and female) (TRIAL Class)

Division F: Wild Type Betta Pairs
Not Eligible for BOV or BOS
F1. Bubblenesters – small
Coccina complex
F2. Bubblenesters – medium/large
Splendens and Bellica complexes
F3. Mouthbrooders – small
Albimarginata, Picta, Dimidiata, Rubra, and Foerschi complexes
F4. Mouthbrooders – medium/large
Akarensis, Anabantoides, Edithae, Enisae, Pugnax, Unimaculata, and Waseri complexes

Division G: Arts and Crafts (Optional)
Not Eligible for BOV or BOS. Must be the work of the entrant.
G1 Photography - original
G2 Manipulated Photos ("Photoshopped")
G3 Illustration
G4 Crafts

GROUP B: New Breeder Classes
NB1. Longfin Male (HM and VT)
NB2. Doubletail Male (long and short)
NB3. Crowntail Male (long and short)
NB4. Shortfin Male
NB5. Solid Female (all types)
NB6. Patterned Female (all types)

GROUP C: Collector Classes (Optional) include purchased fish, fish given to exhibitor or wild-caught by exhibitor
GloFish® fluorescent ornamental bettas must be shown in these classes. They must be labelled so a judge knows to use proper lighting. Refer to legal agreement with Spectrum and 5D for more information regarding labelling and selling them at an IBC show
P1. Longfin HM Male
P2. Doubletail Male
P3. Crowntail Male
P4. Shortfin Male
P5. Large Pectoral Male
P6. Giant Shortfin Male
P7. Veiltail Male
P8. Solid Female (all types)
P9. Patterned Female (all types)
P10. Wild Type Bubblenester (pair) *(not eligible for BoP)*
P11. Wild Type Mouthbrooder (pair) *(not eligible for BoP)*

Note: Area 7 has chosen to use the area judging option of combining and splitting classes depending on entry numbers, so the final class list may not be the same in each show.

Regular Classes: 23

- Trial Classes: 3

- Wild Classes: 4

- Arts & Crafts: 4 (optional)

New Breeder Classes: 6

Purchased Classes: 11 (optional)

40 Total Classes

Awards
1st, 2nd, 3rd places, all classes
Best of Variety, Group A Variety Classes
Reserve Best of Variety, Group A Variety Classes
Best of Show, Regular Self-Bred (Group A)
Reserve Best of Show, Regular Self-Bred (Group A)
Best of Show, New Breeder (Group B)
Reserve Best of Show, New Breeder (Group B)
Best of Show, Purchased (Group C)
Reserve Best of Show, Purchased (Group C)
* *Best of awards are one each for male and female*
Other awards by chapter optional

Area 7 District Class List, 2022-2023

(Effective July 1, 2021)

The IBC District Show is the next largest show from an Area/International show. A district show is allowed to limit their entries to a maximum of between 100-200 fish, with pre-registrations opened preferentially to district members first and then allowed to open to the rest of the area for entries. There is no limit on the number of District Shows in a year; however, none can be held on the same weekend as another district or area show scheduled in the same IBC District.

District Group A: Regular Self-Bred Classes

Division A: Longfin HM Singletail
A1. Solid Longfin HM Male
A2. Patterned Longfin HM Male
A3. Longfin Halfmoon Female

Division B: Doubletail and Crowntail
B1. Doubletail Male (all types)
B2. Crowntail Male (all types)
B3. Doubletail Female
B4. Crowntail Female

Division C: Shortfin Singletail
C1. Traditional Form Plakat Male
C2. Solid Show Plakat Male
C3. Patterned Show Plakat Male
C4. Halfmoon Shortfin Male
C5. Shortfin Female (all types)

Division D: Other
D1. Colour or Form Variations
D2. Giant Shortfin (male and female) (Trial Class)
D3. Large Pectoral (male and female) (Trial Class)
D4. Veiltail (male and female) (Trial Class)
D5 Wild Type Betta Pairs (*Not Eligible for BOS*)

Division E: Arts & Crafts [OPTIONAL]
Not Eligible for BOV or BOS. Must be the work of the entrant.
G1 Photography
G2 Illustration
G3 Crafts

Group B: New Breeder Classes [OPTIONAL]
NB-1 Longfin Male (HM and VT)
NB-2 Doubletail Male (long and short)
NB-3 Crowntail Male (long and short)
NB-4 Shortfin Male
NB-5 Solid Female (all types)
NB-6 Patterned Female (all types)

Group B: Collector Fish Classes [OPTIONAL]
Include fish purchased by the entrant, given to the entrant or caught wild by the entrant.
GloFish® fluorescent ornamental bettas must be shown in these classes. They must be labelled so a judge knows to use proper lighting. Refer to legal agreement with Spectrum and 5D for more information regarding labelling and selling them at an IBC show
P-1 Longfin Male (HM and VT)
P-2 Doubletail and Crowntail Male (long and short)
P-3 Shortfin Male (all types)
P-4 All Other Varieties (e.g. Trial classes)
P-5 Female (all types)
P-6 Wild Type Betta Pairs

Note: District shows are allowed to use the judging option of combining and splitting classes depending on entry numbers, so the final class list may not be the same in each show.

Regular Classes: 20
- Variations: 4
- Wild Classes: 1
- Arts & Crafts: 3 (optional)

New Breeder Classes: 6 (optional)
Purchased Fish Classes: 6 (optional)

32 Total Classes

Awards
1st, 2nd, 3rd places, all classes
Best of Show, Regular Self-Bred (Group A)
Reserve Best of Show, Regular Self-Bred (Group A)

[optional awards]
Best of Show, New Breeder (Group B)
Reserve Best of Show, New Breeder (Group B)
Best of Show, Purchased (Group C)
Reserve Best of Show, Purchased (Group C)

** Best of awards are one each for male and female*

Other awards by chapter optional

Area 7 Districts:

District 1 - Western Australia

District 2 - Northern Territory and South Australia

District 3 - Queensland

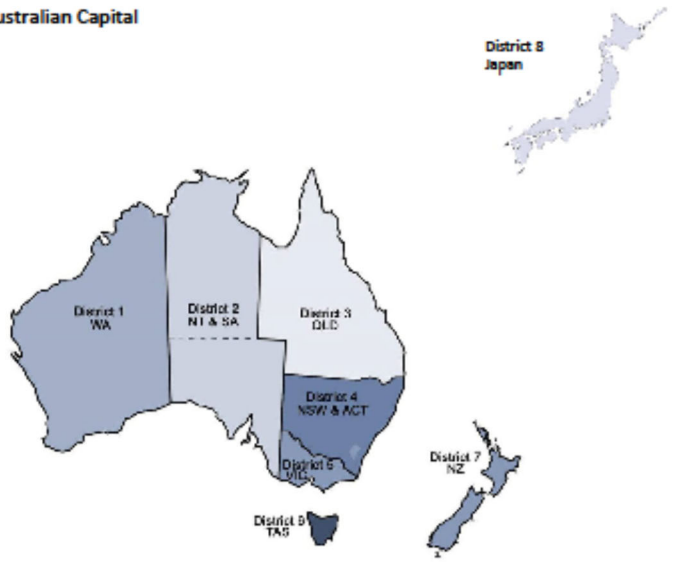
District 4 - New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory

District 5 - Victoria

District 6 - Tasmania

District 7 - New Zealand

District 8 - Japan



INTERNATIONAL VIRTUAL SHOW CLASS LIST FOR 2022-2023

BREEDER (Self-bred)

Variety A: Long Fins (HM) Single Tail

A1. Red (Light or Dark) & Black STM ---Non-iridiscent
A2. Light Solid STM (Opaque, Clear, Yellow, Orange, Pastel)
A3. Dark Solid STM---Iridiscent (Royal Blue, Steel or Green/Turquoise)
A4. Ligth Body Metallic STM (All Solid Colors)
A5. Dark Body Metallic STM (All Solid Colors)
A6. Patterned STM (Marble & Dalmatian).
A7. Patterned STM (Grizzled, Butterfly, Pineapple, Black Orchid)
A8. Patterned STM (Multicolor)
A9. Bicolor STM (Light body & dark body)
A10. Dragon Scale STM (Light Body BiColor with any colored fins)
A11. Red (Light or Dark) & Black STF ---Non-iridiscent
A12. Light Solid STF (Opaque, Clear, Yellow, Orange, Pastel)
A13. Dark Solid STF---Iridiscent (Royal Blue, Steel or Green/Turquoise)
A14. Light and Dark Body Metallic STF (All Solid Colors)
A15. Patterned STF(Marble, Dalmatian & Multicolor)
A16. Patterned STF (Grizzled, Butterfly, Pineapple or Black Orchid)
A17. Bicolor STF (Light body & dark body)
A18. Dragon Scale STF (Light Body BiColor with any colored fins).

Variety B: Shortfin (Traditional & Show Plakats; and Symmetrical Shortfins)

B1. Show Plakat Solid STM--- Red (Light or Dark) & Black---Non-iridescent
B2. Show Plakat Light Solid STM (Opaque, Clear, Yellow, Orange, Pastel).
B3. Show Plakat Dark Solid--- Iridescent (Royal Blue, Steel or Green/Turquoise)
B4. Show Plakat Dark Body Metallic STM (All Solid Colors)
B5. Show Plakat Light Body Metallic STM (All Solid Colors)
B6. Show Plakat Patterned STM (Marble & Dalmatian)
B7. Show Plakat Patterned STM (Grizzled, Butterfly Pineapple, Black Orchid)
B8. Patterned STM (Multicolor)
B9. Bicolor STM (Light body & dark body)
B10. Dragon Scale STM (Light Body BiColor with any colored fins)"
B11. Traditional Plakat STM Solid Colors
B12. Traditional Plakat STM (All Patterned)
B13. Symmetrical Plakat STM--- Shortfinned Halfmoon (All colors)
B14. Show & Symmetrical Plakat Red (Light or Dark) & Black STF ---Non-iridiscent
B15. Show & Symmetrical Plakat Light Solid STF (Opaque, Clear, Yellow, Orange, Pastel)
B16. Show & Symmetrical Plakat Dark Solid STF---Iridiscent (Royal Blue, Steel or Green/Turquoise)
B17. Show & Symmetrical Plakat Light and Dark Body Metallic STF (All Solid Colors)
B18. Show & Symmetrical Plakat Patterned STF (Marble, Dalmatian & Multicolor)
B19. Show & Symmetrical Plakat Patterned STF (Grizzled, Butterfly, Pineapple or Black Orchid)
B20. Show & Symmetrical Plakat Patterned STF Bicolor (Light body & dark body)
B21. Show & Symmetrical Plakat Patterned STF Dragon Scale STM (Light Body BiColor with any colored fins)"
B22. Traditional Plakat STF (All colors/patterns)
B23. Traditional Plakat STF All colors

Variety C: Other Recognized Forms

C1. Crowntail Male Long Fins (HM) Solid (all)
C2. Crowntail Male Long Fins (HM) Patterned (all)
C3. Crowntail Male Plakat Solid (all))
C4. Crowntail Male Plakat Patterned (all)
C5. Crowntail Female Long Fins / Plakat Solid (all) & Patterned (all)
C6. Double tail Male Long Fins Solid (all)
C7. Double tail Male Long Fins Patterned (all)
C8. Double tail Male Plakat Solid (all)
C9. Double tail Male Plakat Patterned (all)
C10. Double tail Female Long Fins/ Plakat Solid (all) & Patterned (all)
C11. Veiltail Male Solid (all) & Patterned (all)
C12. Veiltail Female Solids (all) & Patterned (all)
C13. Large Pectorals Long Fins (HM) Male Solids (all) & Patterned (all)
C14. Large Pectorals Plakat Male Solids (all) & Patterned (all)
C15. Large Pectorals Female Long Fins /Plakat Solids (all) & Patterned (all)
C16. Giant Male betta
C17. Giant Female betta

Variety D: Breeders Division:

D1. Color Variations (Male and Female)
D2. Form Variations (Male and Female)
D3. Alien/Other/ Wild /Hybrid (Male and Female)

All entries MUST LABEL new Varieties/ species.

INTERNATIONAL VIRTUAL SHOW CLASS LIST FOR 2022-2023

COLLECTOR CLASS

Collector CC (Purchased by entrant, Given to entrant; or Caught wild by entrant)

CC1. Long Fins(HM) Male Solid (all)
CC2. Long Fins (HM) Male Patterns incl. Marble, Dalmatian, Butterfly, Bicolor, Pineapple, Black Orchid, Dragon scale and Multicolor 3 colors
CC3. Short fins Male Plakat Solid (all)
CC4. Short fins Male Plakat Patterns incl. Marble, Dalmatian, Butterfly, Bicolor, Pineapple, Black Orchid, Dragon scale and Multicolor 3 colors
CC5. Short Fins (Plakat) Male Patterns 4 or more colors.
CC6. Double tail Male (All types HM-Plakat /all colors and patterns).
CC7. Crowntail Male (All types HM-Plakat /all colors and patterns).
CC8. Veiltail Male (All colors and patterns).
CC9. Large Pectoral Long Fins (HM) & Short Fins (Plakat) Male Solid (all) y Patterns (todos)
CC10. Long Fins (HM) Female Solid (all)
CC11. Long Fins (HM) Female Patterned (all)
CC12. Short Fins (Show & Symmetrical) Female Solid (all)
CC13. Short Fins (Show & Symmetrical) Female Patterned (all)
CC14. Other varieties Female (Crowntail (HM y PK),Veiltail, Doble Tail (HM y PK), Large Pectorals (All colors and patterns).
CC15. Other types: Alien, Hybrid, Wild, Giant, etc.
Male & Female.

OPTIONAL CLASSES

Arts and Crafts AC
AC1. Photography
AC2. Illustrations
AC3. Crafts

Abbreviations:		**SF**	Short fin
CT	Crowntail	**STF**	Singletail Female
DT	Doubletail	**STM**	Singletail Male
HM	Halfmoon	**SYM**	Symmetrical
LP	Large Pectoral	**VT**	Veiltail
PK	Plakat	**WT**	Wild Types

Additional information: Basic knowledge to combine or split classes (page 35 and 36 of the IBC Standard):

This is done in order to make the competition as fair as possible, and at the same time more competitive. The principles and ethics of the IBC exhibition must take into account respect for the fish and even more so for the breeders or participants.

General Rules:
1-To open a class there must be at least 4 fish (exception when there are 3 very good fish).
2-A class with less than 4 fish will be merged with another class of the same group (for example, if the Red Solid class has 2 fish, it will be merged with Dark or Light Body Solid, even with Iridescent Solids). It all depends on the number of fish exhibited; merges can be made even with 3 or 4 classes of the same group (e.g. 2 Solid Red fish, 1 Solid Orange fish and 2 Royal Blue Solids ---A1-A3). See page 35 of the Manual "IBC Standard".
3-It may happen that a fish is left alone in its class, to make a decision consult with the "Head Judge".
4-The annual calendar starts at the General Convention and ends the following year at that year's convention. At the end of the IBC competitive season (July-June) the JB will be given the points of the participants (IBC members) in a list of the best 20 in accumulated points, as well as a ranking by countries. These results will be published in all IBC information

Show Awards
1st, 2nd, 3rd place, all classes.
Best of Variety, Breeders Variety A-D
Variety D winners fish will be sent along with A, B, C for BOV/RBOV judging.
Reserve Best of Variety BOV, Breeders Variety A-D
Best of Show, BREEDER
Reserve Best of Show, BREEDER
Best of Show, COLLECTOR
Reserve Best of Show, COLLECTOR
* Best of Variety and Best of Show awards are one for the male and one for the female;

Class A/B/C/C/D
Points for Virtual Ranking
First place: 10 points.
Second place: 5 points.
Third Place: 2 points.
BOS Male: 20 points.
BOS Female: 20 points.
RBOS Male: 15 points.
RBOS Female: 15 points.

LISTA DE CLASES PARA SHOWS VIRTUALES 2022-2023

CRIADORES

Variedad A: Aletas Largas (HM) Cola Simple

A1. Sólido Rojo (claro/oscuro) & negro Macho ---No iridiscente
A2. Sólido claro Macho (Opaco, Celofán, Amarillo, Naranja, Pastel).
A3. Sólido oscuro Macho Iridiscente (Azul Real, Acero o Verde/Turquesa)
A4. Metálico cuerpo claro Macho (todos los sólidos)
A5. Metálico cuerpo oscuro Macho (todos los sólidos)
A6. Patrones Macho (Mármol & Dálmata).
A7. Patrones Macho (Grizzled, Mariposa, Pineapple, Orquídea negra)
A8. Patrones Macho (Multicolor)
A9. Bicolor Macho (cuerpo oscuro/claro)
A10. Escama Dragón Macho (cuerpo claro bicolor con cualquier color en aletas)
A11. Sólido Rojo (claro/oscuro) & negro Hembra ---No iridiscente
A12. Sólido claro Hembra (Opaco, Claro, Amarillo, Naranja, Pastel).
A13. Sólido oscuro Hembra Iridiscente (Azul Real, Acero o Verde / Turquesa)
A14. Metálico cuerpo Oscuro/Claro Hembra (todos los sólidos)
A15. Patrones Hembra (Mármol, Dálmata & Multicolor)
A16. Patrones Hembra (Grizzled, Mariposa, Pineapple u Orquídea negra)
A17. Bicolor Hembra (cuerpo claro/oscuro)
A18. Escama Dragón Hembra (cuerpo claro bicolor con cualquier color en aletas)

Variedad B: Aletas Cortas (PK) Cola Simple (Tradicional, Show & Simétrico)

B1. Show Plakat Sólido Macho Rojo (claro/oscuro) & Negro--No-iridiscente
B2. Show Plakat Sólido Claro Macho (Opaco, Celofán, Amarillo, Naranja, Pastel).
B3. Show Plakat Sólido Oscuro Macho Iridiscente (Azul Real, Acero o Verde/Turquesa)
B4. Show Plakat Metálico cuerpo oscuro Macho (Todos los Colores sólidos)
B5. Show Plakat Metálico cuerpo claro Macho (Todos los Colores sólidos)
B6. Show Plakat Patrones Macho (Mármol & Dálmata)
B7. Show Plakat Patrones Macho (Grizzled, Mariposa Pineapple, Orquídea negra)
B8. Show Plakat Patrones Macho (Multicolor)
B9. Show Plakat Patrones Bicolor Macho (cuerpo claro/oscuro)
B10. Escama Dragón Macho (cuerpo claro bicolores con cualquier color en aletas)
B11. Plakat Tradicional Macho (Todos sólidos).
B12. Plakat Tradicional Macho (Todos los patrones)
B13. Plakat Simétrico Macho-- Media Luna Aletas Cortas (todos los colores y patrones)
B14. Plakat Show & Simétrico Rojo (claro/oscuro) & Negro Hembra ---No-iridiscente
B15. Plakat Show & Simétrico Solido claro Hembra (Opaco, Claro, Amarillo, Naranja, Pastel).
B16. Plakat Show & Simétrico Solido oscuro Hembra---Iridiscente (Azul Real, Acero o Verde/Turquesa)
B17. Show Plakat & Simétrico Metálico Cuerpo Oscuro/Claro Hembra
B18. Plakat Show & Simétrico Patrones Hembra (Mármol, Dálmata & Multicolor)
B19. Plakat Show & Simétrico Patrones Hembra (Grizzled, Mariposa, Pineapple u Orquídea negra)
B20. Plakat Show & Simétrico Patrones Hembra Bicolor (cuerpo claro/oscuro)
B21. Plakat Show & Simétrico Patrones Hembra Escama Dragón (cuerpo claro Bicolor con aletas de otro color)
B22. Plakat Tradicional Hembra (todos los Colores/patrones)

Variedad C: Otras formas reconocidas

C1. Corona Macho Aletas Largas (HM) Sólidos (todos)
C2. Corona Macho Aletas Largas (HM) Patrones (todos)
C3. Corona Macho Aletas Cortas (Plakat) Sólidos (todos)
C4. Corona Macho Aletas Cortas (Plakat) Patrones (todos)
C5. Corona Hembra Aletas Largas/Aletas cortas sólidos (todos) y patrones (todos)
C6. Doble cola Macho Aletas Largas Sólidos (todos)
C7. Doble cola Macho Aletas Largas Patrones (todos)
C8. Doble cola Plakat Macho Sólidos (todos)
C9. Doble cola Plakat Macho Patrones (todos)
C10. Doble cola Hembra Aletas Largas/Aletas Cortas Sólidos (todos) y Patrones (todos)
C11. Veiltail Macho Sólidos (todos) y Patrones (todos)
C12. Veiltail Hembra Sólidos (todos) y Patrones (todos)
C13. Pectorales Grandes Aletas Largas (HM) Macho Sólidos (todos) y Patrones (todos)
C14. Pectorales Grandes Aletas Cortas (Plakat) Macho Sólidos (todos) y Patrones (todos)
C15. Pectorales grandes Hembra Aletas Largas/Aletas Cortas Sólidos (todos) y Patrones (todos)
C16. Gigantes Machos
C17. Gigantes Hembras

Variedad D: Criadores:

D1. Variación de color (Macho/hembra)
D2. Variación de forma (Macho/hembra)
D3. Alíen/Híbridos/Tipo Salvaje/Wild (Macho/hembra)
Todas las entradas DEBEN ETIQUETAR las nuevas variedades/ especies.

LISTA DE CLASES PARA SHOWS VIRTUALES 2022-2023

COLECCIONISTAS

Coleccionista CC (Comprado por el participante, regalado al participante; o capturado en estado salvaje por el participante)

CC1. Aletas Largas (HM) Macho Sólidos (todos)
CC2. Aletas Largas (HM) Macho Patrones incl. Mármol, Dálmata, Mariposa, Bicolor, Pineapple(piña), Black Orchid (orquídea Negra), Escama Dragón y Multicolor 3 colores.
CC3. Aletas Cortas (Plakat) Macho Sólidos (todos)
CC4. Aletas Cortas (Plakat) Macho Patrones incl. Mármol, Dálmata, Mariposa, Bicolor, Pineapple (piña), Black Orchid (orquídea Negra), Escama Dragón y Multicolor 3 colores
CC5. Aletas Cortas (Plakat) Macho Patrones 4 o más colores.
CC6. Doble Cola Macho (Todos los tipos HM-Plakat/todos los colores y patrones).
CC7. Coronas Macho (Todos los tipos HM-Plakat/todos los colores y patrones).
CC8. Cola de Velo Macho (todos los colores y patrones).
CC9. Pectorales Grandes Aletas Largas (HM) y Aletas Cortas (Plakat) Macho Sólidos (todos) y Patrones (todos)
CC10. Aletas Largas (HM) Hembra Sólidos (todos)
CC11. Aletas Largas (HM) Hembra Patrones (todos)
CC12. Aletas Cortas (Plakat Show & Simétrico) Hembra Sólido (todos)
CC13. Aletas Cortas (Plakat Show & Simétrico) Hembra Patrones (todos)
CC14. Otras variedades Hembra (Coronas (HM y PK), Cola Velo, Doble Cola (HM y PK), Pectorales Grandes
CC15. Otros tipos: Alíen, Hibrido, Salvajes, Gigantes, etc. Macho & Hembra.

CLASES OPCIONALES

ARTE AC
AC1. Fotografía
AC2. Ilustraciones/pinturas/ técnicas mixtas/ Escultura/ Grabado
AC3. Artesanías

Información adicional:
Conocimiento básico para combinar o dividir clases (página 35 y 36 del Estándar IBC):

Esto se hace con el objetivo de que el concurso sea lo más justo posible, y a su vez más competitivo. Los principios y la ética de la exhibición en IBC deben tenerse en cuenta el respeto hacia los peces y más aún a los criadores o participantes.

Reglas Generales:
1-Para abrir una clase debe haber como mínimo 4 peces (excepción cuando hay 3 peces muy buenos).
2-Una clase con menos de 4 peces se fusionara con otra clase del mismo grupo (por ejemplo, si la clase Sólido Rojo tiene 2 peces, se fusiona con Sólido Cuerpo Oscuro o Claro, incluso con Sólidos Iridiscentes). Todo depende de la cantidad de peces exhibidos; las fusiones pueden hacerse incluso con 3 o 4 clases del mismo grupo (ejemplo, 2 peces Sólido Rojo, 1 pez Sólido Naranja y 2 Sólidos Azules Real ---A1-A3). Consulte página 35 del Manual “Estándar IBC”.
3-Puede ocurrir que un pez quede solo en su clase, para tomar una decisión consulte con el “Juez Principal”.
4-El calendario anual inicia en la convención General y finaliza al año siguiente en la convención de ese año. Al final de la temporada competitiva IBC (julio-junio) se le entregara a la JB los puntos de los participantes (miembros IBC) en una lista de los mejores 20 en puntos acumulado, así como un ranking por países. Estos resultados serán publicados en todos los sistemas informativos y redes sociales de IBC.
5-Las clases Coleccionista y Arte no acumulan puntos para el ranking virtual anual.

Premios

1º, 2º, 3º lugar, todas las clases.
Mejor de variedad, **Criadores** Variedad A-D
Los ganadores de variedad D se envían junto con A, B, C para juzgar BOV/RBOV.
Reserva Mejor de Variedad BOV, Variedades A-D
Mejor de Show, **CRIADOR**
Reserva de Mejor de Show, CRIADOR
Mejor de Show, **COLECCIONISTA**
Reserva Mejor de Show, **COLECCIONISTA**
** Los premios al Mejor de la Variedad y al Mejor de Show son uno para el macho y otro para la hembra;*

Clase A/B/C/D
Puntaje para ranking Virtual
Primer lugar: 10 puntos.
Segundo lugar: 5 puntos.
Tercer Lugar: 2 puntos.
BOS Macho: 20 puntos.
BOS Hembra: 20 puntos.
RBOS Macho: 15 puntos.
RBOS Hembra: 15 puntos.

SHOW CHAIR CHECK LIST

IBC Standards Form - Show Host Guidelines Checklist

Update 2020

Refer to Chapter 2: Hosting a Show for more details.

1. DATE, LOCATION AND JUDGE:

__ Pick a date and choose show type and Submit Request online, ninety (90) days in advance

__ Pay the Fee upon notice from JB and submit flyer to be posted online at IBCbettas.org Upcoming Shows & Flare

__ Arrange for a Head Judge (settle arrangements on .any travel expenses or overnight accommodations)

__ Arrange for a Show room/building.

__ Decide who receives Registration forms, Mail-ins, payment

2. ANNOUNCING YOUR SHOW

__ Distribute Flyers to club online pages, social media, Pet Stores, Newspapers, Radio, Television, etc. It should include tentative schedule, address for mails ins and payment and deadline for pre-registration.

3. PLAN THE PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

__ Flat sided Show Containers with lids like Beanie Boxes.

__ Clean Show Containers.

__ Larger Containers for Wild Types.

__ Show benches/stands and tables.

__ Dividers to place between the bowls (Index Cards, paper).

__ Room Temperature Controlled.

__ Lighting.

__ Water containers(at least 2, one for clean water, one for dirty), hoses and the like (places to fill from and drain to).

__ Water conditioner and generic meds. And isolation area for sick or dead fish.

__ Black (or white) background for tables and/or stands.

__ Extra tables for registration, trophy display, raffle, refreshments and the like. Clipboards

__ Computer & printer with paper. Make sure you have on-site internet connection or hotspot.

__ Materials to rebag the fish for the return trip home.

__ **Removable** Labels for show containers (entry/continuous numbers and auction stickers), tape, water proof markers for bags

__ Cash for change at registration and auction.

4. PLAN THE LABOR REQUIREMENTS

__ Someone to go to the airport or wait for the postman for late arrivals.

__ People to set up the tables, show containers, water system, etc.

__ Someone who handles pre-registration and on site reg. This person must be familiar with show log system.

__ Someone to assist the Judge.

__ People to run the auction.

__ People to rebag/rebox the fish.

__ People to break down show.

__ Someone to promptly return mail the fish.

5. PLAN THE AWARDS

__ Awards ordered for classes, BOV/RBOV, BOS/RBOS.

6. RECEIVING, REGISTERING ENTRIES

__ Book/log system. Computer program strongly recommended.

__ Person receiving mail-ins must open box upon arrive to check condition of fish and other materials in box. Save any documents and payments in box until at show to distribute.

__ Follow club plan like keep fish inside shipping box until ready to bench.

__ At show site keep box and return materials together.

__ Be prepared for any onsite registration (collect forms, payments, stickers, etc.)

7. BENCHING THE FISH

__ People to handle the water system and setting up the show containers/labels.

__ Water should be treated and allowed to sit for at least 1 hour before using.

__ Show Containers and Lids for containers.

__ Labels go at the top left with Class Numbers showing on front and Continuous Numbers on Side or front. Auction stickers on front. All Stickers should be above water line.

__ Post Class Signs with Class Number (and Description).

__ Set up your "Class Help" class for judges to place into classes..

__ Once registration is closed and Class Help have been entered, print Judges Sheets to note place for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd. BOV/RBOV and BOS/RBOS and any other notations like DQ.

__ All Apprentice and Certified Judges must keep away from the Show fish and Registration until judging starts.

__ Preprinted signs, Registration forms for walk-ins, etc.

8. SUPPORTING THE JUDGE

__ Copy of the Standards on hand (digital and/or paper).

__ Other things the Judge/s may need, straws, flashlights.

__ Set specific time for judging to start, rope off area if needed to allow judges to work unhindered.

9. ANNOUNCING THE WINNERS.

__ Winner stickers for the bowls.

__ When/where to announce pass out Awards. Remember to RECOGNIZE ALL YOUR WORKERS.

10. CONDUCTING AN AUCTION (prepare fish night before)

__ People identified to run it (auctioneers, recorder, cashier, person who bags fish (idea: use paper bags for each buyer).

__ Start on time!

__ Bags or 16 oz deli cups for fish

__ Bidder Identifier Cards.

11. RETURNING FISH AND AWARDS

__ FISH SHOULD BE MAILED BACK ON MONDAY AFTER SHOW, unless it is a holiday. Include preliminary results in box

12. AVOID COMMON ERRORS

__ Do NOT fail to use the bags an entrant sends; this is the most common complaint. Follow all their requests if possible.

__ Do not mail awards in boxes with fish. Mail awards separately within one week of show.

13. REPORTING THE RESULTS

__ To all show entrants (tentative results ASAP on line & in box)

__ Submit Final, triple-checked Results online to Registrar of the Judging Board and email to Editor of FLARE! by 1 week after show.

__ Send copy of show log and show report to Registrar of JB

14. SEND AUCTION MONIES and AWARDS

__to sellers within 1 week, pay bills, reimburse all show expenses, Mail Awards.

15. KEEP ALL YOUR RECORDS!

To: IBC Show Chairs From: IBC

Judging Board

Subject: Following Show Procedures

All Show Chairs are directed to pass this on to members of their Show Committee, including all helpers, whether in your chapter or from another. We want to make sure it reaches all people who are working on shows.

There have been some incidents in recent IBC sanctioned shows regarding issues involving inventory, scheduling, and problems with returned fish bagging and boxing. Because of this, we are sending out a reminder to all shows that everybody needs to be careful and follow all protocols during all stages – before, during, and after a show.

The first two chapters of the IBC Standards covers showing. They are a little bit out-dated, and we are working on updating them to make them more current and applicable, but in the essence of the Standards, they are still the guides we follow. The old show checklist in the appendix, form 2, also needs a bit of updating, but is very much the key to what show committees should do.

The main parts we want to re-emphasize right now are:

1. Plan your show!

   Think about what this means in terms of both physical inventory you have on hand, and also, and probably most importantly, the people you have available to help. No matter how many times your club has done this before, check it again! Check before every show.

   a. Inventory
      CHECK YOUR INVENTORY! Even if you have done a show with 400 fish in it before and you "know" those beanies/bowls/containers are in your storage – don't take it for granted! Well before your show, at least a month before, you should do a full inventory of your items and MAKE SURE you have those things and that they're in good repair.
      Give yourself time to get new items if storage has damaged things, or if somehow a box has been mislaid.

   b. People
      You MUST have enough help to carry out a show. Shows cannot be one-person responsibilities. There is a Show Chair to oversee everything and to coordinate it all, but the Chair should not be the one to do everything. Form a Committee and get helpers and make sure that you have enough people at every point along the way to do the job. Look at the checklist and think about what is needed in a show. There have to be people who can:

Do advertisement and sponsorship, Arrange for awards, Do pre-registration (usually the Show Chair or your specific computer person), Receive the boxes and check the fish (be sure and plan for late-arrivals!) (your head judge cannot be the person receiving the fish and checking them), Set up the show space, Unpack the fish (working with the show chair for labeling and benching), Judges helpers, Auctioneer and Runners, Baggers, Break-down, Fish Return, Show Results compilation, Auction money, and Awards mailing.

Nobody can do all this themselves. Nobody should even **think** about doing it all themselves. Make sure you have the right number of people who can help with every stage, and also arrange for back-ups for just in case.

If you do not have the resources... consider a smaller show. Lately, all we've seen for a while have been IBC International Shows. There are other options for shows. We also have Local Shows and District Shows, which are generally smaller shows. You can also impose more limits than we have listed in the IBC standards, such as only allowing registrants to enter a maximum of 25 fish instead of 50. (If you plan on imposing restrictions over what IBC Standards call for, check with the Judging Board first and get their okay.)

2. Show Schedules

Make sure that your show schedule matches your resources. There are a couple of chapters which hold one-day international shows. A one-day show is a very, very, VERY tight timeline. Everything must be coordinated and executed almost perfectly with enough people doing exactly what they need to do to carry it off. Most shows are generally two-day shows, with judging on one day and the auction on the second. This allows for more time and a smaller work force to concentrate on the jobs they need to. UNLESS YOU HAVE THE RESOURCES, DO NOT PLAN A ONE DAY INTERNATIONAL SHOW.

a. Set-up needs to be done at least one day before the show, so the fish have a minimum of overnight to adjust to the water and the location.

When you're unpacking boxes, keep in mind that entrants expect to be contacted ASAP if they have any DOAs or sick fish at the show. Show committees should not put this off until after a show – call them or email them immediately if there are problems.

Entrants are often also rushed when they are packing their own boxes, and we've all seen packing and bagging that... isn't quite the best it could be for the fish. One thing that show committees should consider is when *anything* at all out of the norm shows up initially, whether boxes are packed oddly, fish are bagged with too little air or water, or dead fish, is TAKE A PICTURE. Most people will have cameras and even video on their phones or just for the show. Use them to record what happened so if an entrant has an

issue, you've got evidence that the club did the best they could. If you want to be really careful, photograph the inside of each box before you put the lid on to ship it back.

If a show has time during unpacking, you might want to have helpers make a quick note for each box to how the entrant had packed them in the first place – for many shows, it can be rare that the same people are unpacking that are packing later, so leave guides for the people packing. Especially if the boxes and bags inside are outside the IBC standards (1/3 water with a third of a cup, with 2/3 air).

b. Judging a 300-400 fish show will take roughly between 5-7 hours. Do NOT run your judges short on time! IBC regulations require that there is no time limit on judges while they are working. Be smart about this in your schedule and do not schedule anything else too soon.

   If the Head Judges agrees, it's allowed to let the public in to see already-judged fish, as long as the judging for the remainder (usually Best of Variety and Best of Show) is kept segregated away from the public and the public not allowed to interfere in any way. But make sure your head judge is okay before even trying to schedule anything like this.

c. Auctions are up to you – every show does them a bit different. Review in the standards what the expectations on both Buyer and Seller are, and make sure to do the best for both parties that you can. NO BAD-MOUTHING OF FISH IS ALLOWED! You must give equal consideration to all fish that are up for sale. Before judging, any fish that are sick should have been pulled – none of these fish should be auctioned. Check again after judging because sometimes a fish can develop symptoms later.

   No matter how you do auctions, remember that you need to separate out the auction fish from the non-auction fish ahead of the auction, and CHECK the fish! Make sure that all the fish for auction are present that are supposed to be, and that NO fish that are supposed to be returned are in it.

   Allow enough time for auctions, and make sure the people coming to the show are prepared for it.

d. Packing up the fish to go home is one of the last parts for a very long show day, and the importance of it cannot be stressed enough. These are people's show fish. Their babies. The fish they've spent time and money and resources on. The entrants have every expectation that a show will take good care of their fish and will send them back to them in good condition. Shows should be VERY careful to make sure they do.

   If entrants are present at the show, and are going to take their fish home directly, they should do their own bagging and packing. A show committee member must check their

sheet at the end to make sure they have all correct fish before leaving (entrants can get tired too). If an entrant is present but is having the fish mailed back, they should also do their own bagging, to make sure things are done as they want them to be. Some entrants might have to leave sooner than the bagging, though, and then the show committee should treat their fish as any other being mailed back.

Pay attention to what it says in the show standards about bagging the fish. While no show entrant should expect special treatment for their fish, the entrants should expect due consideration for the bagging and packing of their fish into their return boxes.

All fish going home should be in bags labeled in permanent sharpie with their continuous number so the entrant can match the number on the bag to the log that includes the show placements. Do not rely on the stickers alone! Stickers get wet, roll, or can otherwise be made unreadable. Always put the continuous number on the bag, and then double-bag over that.

Fish should generally have at least 1/3 cup of water in their bags – enough to completely cover all fins and let them move freely. An exceptionally large-finned fish might need a bit more water for safey in shipping. They should have 2/3 air in the bag. The actual dimensions of the bagging will vary from entrant to entrant based on how big a box they sent, and how many fish they expect to go back in it. Some entrants use less than 1/3 cup of water or only 1/2 air.

Some entrants might have instructions on how they want the fish packed. If the instructions are excessive, this would fall under 'special treatment' and the show chair might ask them in the future to tone it down. A simple water-marked bag or a cup with a line marked should be adhered to. If there is something about the instructions or the bags to boxes that doesn't make sense, though (such as asking for a certain amount of water, but that water plus the air ratio means not all the bags will fit in the box), then the show chair should call the entrant and find out what the entrant actually wants done.

If there's anything that a show chair feels might have to change on an entrants shipping, such as two boxes needed, then the show chair should call the entrant. This is specified in the Standards, and it MUST be adhered to. The entrant needs to know if anything changes and they need to be able to give direction for their fish.

All fish must be double-bagged! Read the standards, make sure that every fish in the box has been double-bagged.

After all the fish are double-bagged and boxed, then somebody on the show committee should double-check all the bagging and boxing. It's usually late at night and people are very tired at the end. With all the good will in the world, mistakes sometimes happen.

It should be scheduled into a show list for a duty for somebody to make sure that everything is okay before the fish are sent out. This doesn't have to be that night – often this can take place the next morning by the person assigned to mail back the fish. Make sure that person has enough bags and packing material that if they have to redo any part of the packing that they have adequate resources for it.

THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT! It's emphasized in the standards for a reason. A chapter can have the greatest show ever at the time, but if the fish don't make it back okay, everything is ruined both for entrants and chapters. We've had chapters successfully hold shows for many years, and then after a disastrous fish return experience, never hold another one. We want shows to be successful *all* the way, from beginning to end – make sure you get the fish back safely!

(Don't forget to also put the show results in with the boxes. (More about that in 3.))

After the boxes are shipped, make sure entrants have tracking numbers for all their boxes and they can know when their fish have gone out and when they should arrive.

3. The show isn't quite done yet! After the fish are shipped back, there's still a few more things to be done.

    a. The first one is the show results. All the preliminary results that were taken at the show should be checked and double-checked with the hard-copy judges sheets. They should be entered onto the formal IBC Show Results form, checked again to make sure you have the current year for the form and all the results, and then sent out. You *have* to send them to multiple places, so don't forget! Before publishing, you might also want somebody else to review, just to triple-check. Accurate show results are important. Rushing the show results simply to get them out can have many unintentional repercussions down the line. Entrants might be asking for the results the day of the show... it is NOT recommended to send them that quickly! Too many other things being done that day. Take that extra day, go over the results, check them, and make sure before posting.

    But DO compile the results *at* the show so that you can ask the judges if there are any questions at all! This is very important – you can't change results after judges have gone home, so if there's something that looks a bit strange, get it asked while there's still time! You also need to send a copy of the preliminary show results for entrants in their return box with the fish. If on computer, a printout of the show log for that entrant is good. If hand-done, mark the awards on the entry forms. (show log print outs are recommended).

    Attached is a guide to how to double-check results. Review that guide for more tips.

Show results should be sent to: All Show Entrants, the Judging Board Chair and Registrar (the person who keeps the year-end point totals), the FLARE, the webmistress, and the Better Bettas mailing list. Some chapters have been so eager to get results out, they post to BB and then think they're done. They're NOT done until all of the above have gotten the results. (Don't forget the entrants – not all of them will be watching the mailing lists.) Most especially don't forget the Judging Board! We can't do year-ends without the results. You can send pdf copies of the results to everybody else, but the Judging Board needs the Excel version – it helps us in the year-end tallies.

b. Judge's Comments. If the judges wrote down comments on the fish during judging, be sure and get those comments back to the entrants!

c. Auction money and shipping reconciliation.

d. Awards.

4. Questions and disputes after a show are... well, they're not common, but they're not rare. Expect some of the entrants to come back to the show chair with questions. Sometimes about the placement, sometimes about the auction, and sometimes about the fish. These will usually be simple questions and requests for clarification or information. Sometimes, they're actual problems that have occurred.

   If there are ANY problems that an entrant has with their fish being returned, show chairs are expected to give this top priority.

   Please cc the Judging Board Chair on any issues that arise so the JB is aware of them. The Judging Board Chair will not take any action unless the show chair and the entrant cannot resolve the problems, but the Judging Board does need to know what is going on. Too many times in the past, people have had issues repeatedly that the judging board has had no knowledge of because nobody has ever told us. It says in the Standards to first contact the show chair, then the JB... but we'd rather the JB was cc'd at the same time, please.

   Likewise, if a Show Chair has any problems with an entrant or excessive special requests (or demands) or rude behavior in asking for show results, than please let the Judging Board know about this as well. We won't necessarily take any action right then unless somebody submits a formal complaint, but we do want to know about these things happening.

This review guide for show procedures is not intended to supersede the Standards. The Standards are still the key to our shows, even if they do need updating at the moment. This guide is being put out right now as an extra reminder and direction to show chairs and chapters to ensure that you think about the shows – all parts of a show. As we said at the start, there have been some problems. In some ways,

there will always be problems. I don't know of a single show, ever, where everything ran perfectly from beginning to end with no mistakes and no problems. But we can hope to minimize them, especially if we pay attention to what we're doing and don't get complacent.

Review your inventory, review your resources. Plan your schedule to match what your chapter can handle. Don't let one person take on too much work. Have back-ups. Check the bagging and boxing before shipping out.

Make it a successful show. From beginning to end.

If you have any questions, please contact the Judging Board Chair at jbchair@ibcbettas.org

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Steps for Ensuring Accurate Show Results

1. Make sure all judges sign their judging cards so that you don't have to chase around figuring out who judged a class or needs to re-judge.

2. Double check your transfer of the 1st/2nd/3rd place fish onto the results form. It helps to have someone read the info to you from the judging sheets while you check the form. Then double check the BOV/BOS placements as well from the final judging sheet.

3. You might also want to keep a plain print out of the results form while you're entering things into the computerized log form. Hand-write the continuous number in each of the spots on the results form so you can tell at a quick glance what has been judged. (In pencil, in case a class change shifts results.)

4. Check any class that appears to have zero placements to be sure they really had zero entries or were all moved/DQ'd. Sometimes classes get skipped, or judging sheets get lost. Make sure you catch this error **before** judging is complete!

5. Enter your total entries for each class from the show log (**not** the judging sheets!) and double check any class that had more entries than placements to be sure the additional entries were actually DQ'd.

6. It helps to do the above steps right after the main judging is complete and before BOV/BOS judging starts so you can question the judges directly on any discrepancies. Mistakes discovered after the judges have gone home are very difficult to fix.

   HINT! Have the judges take a nice break after all the class judging is done and before BOV/BOS starts so that the fish are rested, the judges are rested, and you can take this opportunity to go over the paperwork to this point.

7. If there's time, and a willing Head Judge, you might hand them the physical results form that you've been hand-writing on, and have the judge quickly check the results, making sure that the first place fish really are the best in the class. (This completely depends on timing, though, so it won't always be possible.)

8. For Best of Variety, check the class and winner of each fish. Every Best of Variety fish should be 1st place in its class. Be sure the "winning class" corresponds to the winning fish. The class points are awarded according to this entry, so please be sure it is accurate.

9. For Reserve Best of Variety, all the fish/winners should have placed 1st, unless they were in the same class as the BOV fish, in which case they would be the 2nd place winners in that class.

10. Check to be sure the BOS male and female were also Best of Variety winners.

11. Check the RBOS male and female to be sure they were also Best of Variety winners, unless they were from the same variety as the BOS fish, in which case they should be RBOV winners.

12. Check the New Breeder BOS/RBOS in the same way - BOS should be first place winners in their class, and RBOS should be first as well, unless from the same class as the BOS fish.

13. Be sure to fill in head judge, judges, and apprentices at the top of the form. This is how judges keep their certification, so make sure to include everyone!

14. For E1 Variations and for F Wild Types, list the variations/species of the winners, **and** all fish entered. We track variations to consider whether or not to create a new class, so even if the variation didn't place at the show, we want to know it was shown so we can make informed decisions about the creation of trial classes. For Wild Types, it's good to know what species are being bred and shown during the show year.

15. Once you are happy with the accuracy of the results, post them to Betterbettas and any other IBC group you'd like to. Currently Betterbettas is where people expect to see results, but also posting them to the IBC and your club's Facebook pages is another option. Clubs like to see the results, so it's nice to share with everybody even if they're not IBC members.

16. Finally, please email a copy of the results to both the JB chair and the current JB registrar, using the jbchair@ibcbettas.org and registrar@ibcbettas.org emails (or whatever the current emails listed in Flare are). You also should send copies to the entrants (you can send a link to the files in BB), the IBC website editor, and the FLARE! editor.

17. Afterwards: Save all your show paperwork until the end of the show season. Definitely keep a copy of the show log, including class moves, and all of the original judging sheets. You never know when a question about the results may come up. Once the show season ends, feel free to trash them (unless your show was at the very end of the season, in which case, keep them for one more just to be sure).

Addendum to Chapter 1 of the IBC Exhibition Standards 2020-2021

Award Point Summary

Points are given for in each class.	**1st, 2nd, 3rd** places
IBC Local* show:	10, 5, 2
IBC District show:	15, 10, 5
IBC International show:	20, 15,10
District Convention:	25, 15, 10
Area Convention:	30, 20, 15
General Convention:	30, 20, 15

For IBC International Point Shows:

Group A:

Best of Show Male/Female:	100
Reserve Best of Show Male/Female:	80
Best of Variety: Male/Female:	40
Reserve Best of Variety:	30
Best in Wild Types 40, Reserve Best	30

For IBC International Point Shows:
Group B:

Best of Show Male/Female:	50
Reserve Best of Show Male/Female:	30

For IBC District Point Shows:

Best of Show: Male/Female:	40
Reserve Best of Show Male/Female:	20

For IBC Local Shows:

Best of Show:	20
Reserve Best of Show:	15

For IBC General /Area Convention:

Group A:

Best of Show Male/Female:	125
Reserve Best of Show Male/Female:	100
Best of Variety: Male/Female:	50
Reserve Best of Variety:	40

Group B:

Best of Show Male/Female:	60
Reserve Best of Show:	40

Area, District, and New Breeder Champion rankings: Class points + BOV/RBOV + BOS/RBOS points

Variety Champions in Self Bred Group A: Class points+BOV/RBOV points (Area International shows only)

Warren Young Best of Shows Winner: BOS/RBOS points from Area International shows only

President's Award: Person who wins most points (Class+BOV/RBOV+BOS/RBOS points) at Convention show.

- **An IBC District or International show must be judged by a Certified Judge.**
- **Local shows must be judged using the IBC Standards, but do NOT require an IBC Certified Judge. If possible, it is recommended that during judging an IBC Certified or Apprentice Judge be consulted, at least through video conferencing,**

IBC Show Entry Form

IBC Form 3-E : 9/14/15

Name: _____ **Email:** _____ **Phone:** _____

(contact information is important in case the Show Chair must call during the show)

Address: _____

(Street Address, City, State, ZIP or Code, and Country) ***(This will be used for return shipping and awards unless otherwise specified.)***

IBC Member? Y/N _____ **Showing in Regular, New Breeder, or Purchased?** _____

(If IBC member, enter member number (from IBC card) - optional this year, will enforce next year) **Purchased fish also need to indicate on form*

Show: _____ **Return by:** _____

(chapter holding show and date of show) *(USPS Express or Priority, Fed Ex, Carry-in/out, or other)*

Special Instructions: *(such as insured return, fish should not be moved, what to do if fish don't sell, special packing requests, etc.)*

(Note - entrants should not expect special service - if it's outside of standard guidelines, check ahead of time with the show chair to see if it can be done.)

STATEMENT: By filling out and sending in this form, I agree to abide by all show rules of the IBC, and agree that the IBC, the Host Club, and the show site assume no responsibility for condition of entries, although they will do everything possible to protect the fish.

Entrant Fills OUT THIS PART:						Host to entrant (not necessarily on return form)				
Fish #	Collector /Purchased	Class	Auction Y/N	Minimum Bid	Label/Remarks:	Contin. #	Final Class #	Award	Sold	For
EX-1	*N*	*E1*	*Y*	*$ 7.00*	*Copper Lace: A pattern of metallic coverage that co*					
EX-2a	*N*	*F2*	*Y*	*$ 12.00*	*MAP: Channoides Male (sold as pair)*					
EX-2b	*N*	*F2*	*Y*	*pair*	*MAP: Channoides Female (sold as pair)*					
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										
11										
12										
13										
14										
15										
16										
17										
18										
19										
20										

If you send more than 20 fish use the second tab on the excel sheet. If you need help in determining the correct class for your entry, write "HELP" in the class column. Enter single fish on one line each. Enter pairs on two lines, changing the entry numbers and marking them as entry A and B (i.e. 4a, 4b). Please specify in the remarks which of the pairs are male/female. Wilds should list their species in the label/remarks. If the wild entries are for the MAP program, please note that in remarks - all MAP entries are to be auctioned off. Variations should be noted in label/remarks - if there is not enough room for a proper variation label, write as much as you can in, and then also email it to the show chair. **PLEASE** number your fish bags with the number in the left column above. (i.e. if you have five fish, please mark the bags as #s 1-5, in the order in which they were entered above).

MONEY ENCLOSED BY ENTRANT *(enclosed check, or sent paypal ahead of time)*

For # _____ Single Entries: _____

For # _____ Pair Entries: _____

Return Postage: _____

TOTAL: $ -

See Chapter Show Information for specific entry fees.

MONEY RETURNED BY HOST

Auction Share (if any): $

Excess Postage (if any): $

Refunded entry fees (if ar $

TOTAL $ -

(totals to be provided to entrant, not necessarily on this form)

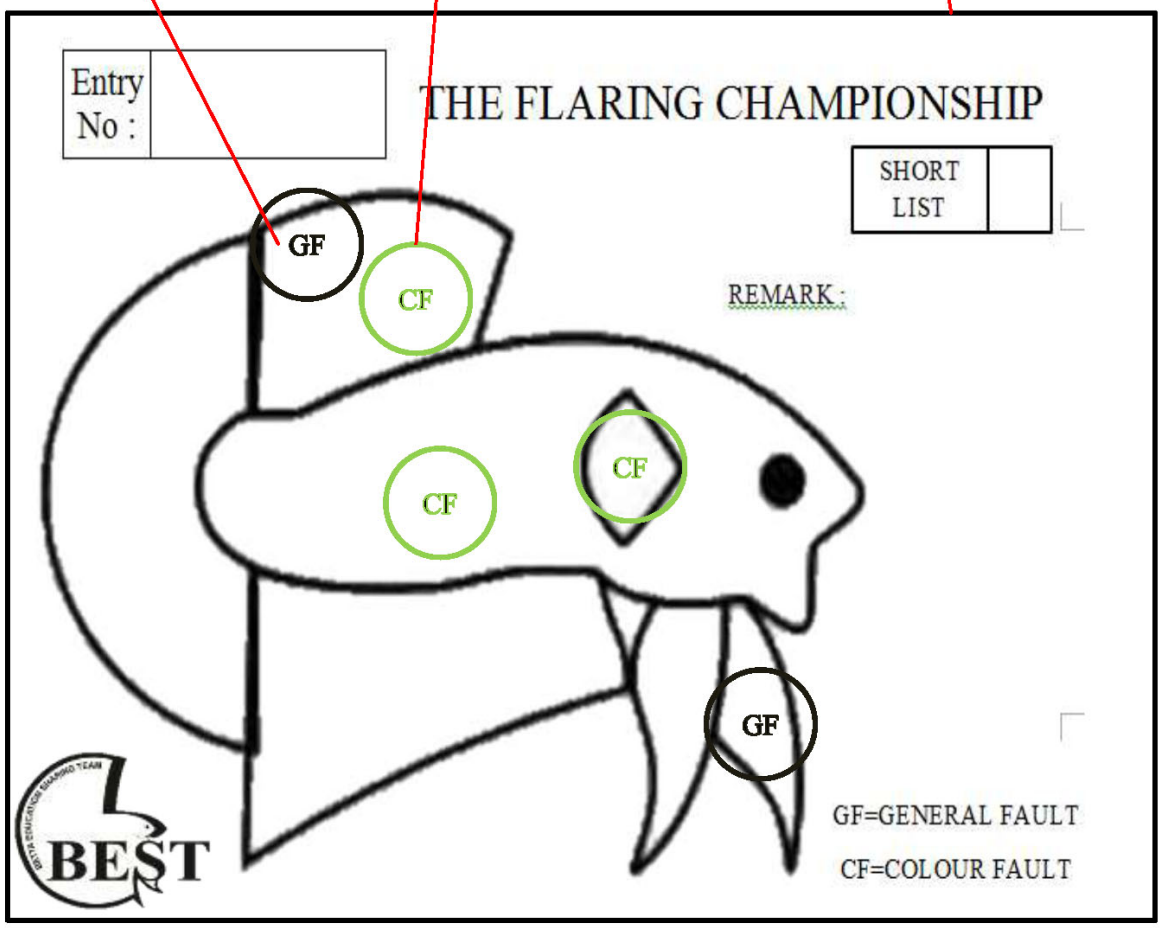
EXAMPLE
JUDGING FORM

*Use only GC and CF Stamp Chop on the part and stick to tank

Represent General fault at here

A6 size

Represent colour fault at here



Entry No :	

THE FLARING CHAMPIONSHIP

SHORT LIST	

REMARK :



GF=GENERAL FAULT

CF=COLOUR FAULT

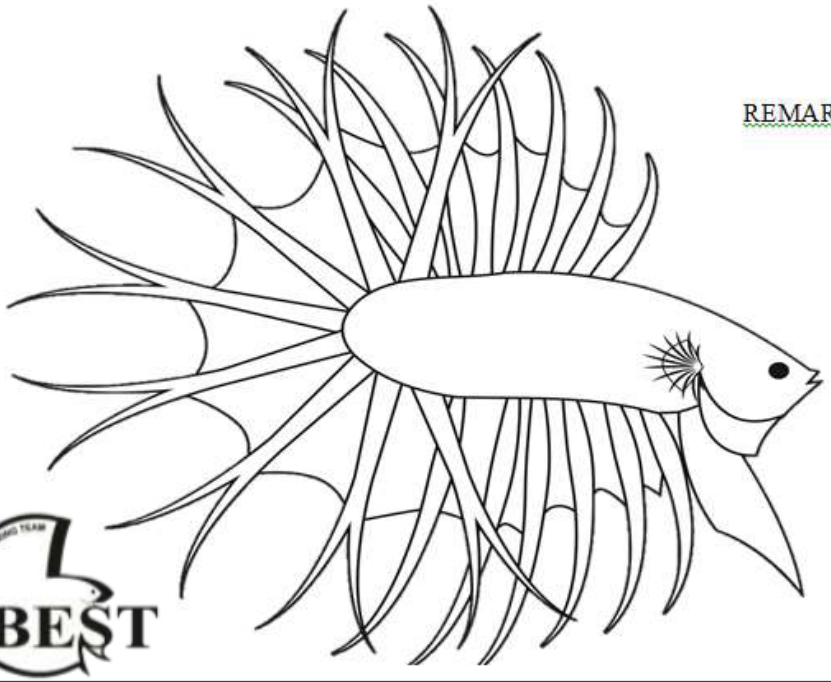
BEST

Entry No :	

THE FLARING CHAMPIONSHIP

SHORT LIST	

REMARK :



GF=GENERAL FAULT

CF=COLOUR FAULT

BEST

Entry No :	

THE FLARING CHAMPIONSHIP

SHORT LIST	

REMARK :



GF=GENERAL FAULT

CF=COLOUR FAULT

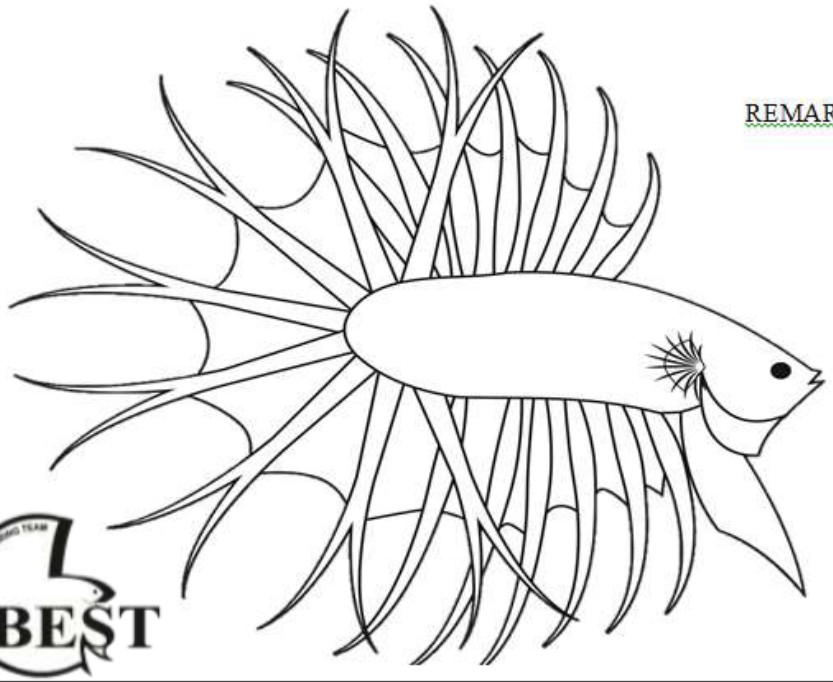
BEST

Entry No :	

THE FLARING CHAMPIONSHIP

SHORT LIST	

REMARK :



GF=GENERAL FAULT

CF=COLOUR FAULT

BEST

INTERNATIONAL BETTA CONGRESS®

You have 2 ways that you may pay your annual dues:

1. By Check or Money Order: Make check or money order payable to IBC (in U.S. funds only). Complete the form below and mail both items to: Stacy Fenhaus, 10408 E. Cloudcroft Dr. Hereford, AZ 85615. **OR**

2. Dues may be paid on-line at our website – www.ibcbettas.org, or directly at www.Paypal.com . Our email address is **bettacongress@yahoo.com**.

- **Electronic[1] or paperless FLARE**

  - □ $20 Individual
  - □ $22 Family
  - □ $14 Junior <under 16>

Please note that a family membership refers to all members of a family that live at the same residence.

- **Paper [2] black & white mailed FLARE**

  - □ $35 Individual (North America only)
  - □ $37 Family (North America only)

  - □ $40 Individual (all other areas)
  - □ $42 Family (all other areas)

  - □ $29 Junior <under 16> (all locations)

  - □ $50 Associate (fish hobby organizations and commercial entities)

- □ Lifetime Membership (for individuals and families only) - $500

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Country: _____

Phone: (___) _____ (optional)

Email required access to the IBC Website Member's Only Content: _____

[1] **Electronic memberships are processed within 48-72 hours of receipt of payment.**
[2] **Please allow 2 weeks for mailing of documents if you join at the paper level.**

October 2016

International Betta Congress
Apprentice Judge Program Application

Name of Apprentice: _____
(Must match IBC membership records!)

Address: _____

Area: _____ IBC Membership #: _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

I hereby apply for entry into the IBC Apprentice Judge Program. I agree to abide by the requirements and rules set forth in the IBC Judging Standards.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Accepted By: _____
Signature of IBC Judging Board Member

Prerequisites, Verification of Showing Requirements

Verified By: _____
Signature of the Chair of Judge Certification, JB Chair, or Area Representative

First Stage, Completion of:

Seminar I: Date: _____ _____
Signature of IBC Certified Judge

Seminar II: Date: _____ _____
Signature of IBC Certified Judge

Judge Shadowing: Date: _____ _____
(Seminar III) Signature of IBC Certified Judge

Approved By: _____
Signature of the Chair on Judge Certification, JB Chair, or Area Representative

Congratulations! You are now an IBC Apprentice Judge. You have three years to finish your apprenticeship.

Record of Show Apprenticing:

Show 1: _____ _____ _____
Date Type of Show Signature of Certified Judge Apprenticed With

Show 2: _____ _____ _____
Date Type of Show Signature of Certified Judge Apprenticed With

Show 3: _____ _____ _____
Date Type of Show Signature of Certified Judge Apprenticed With

Convention: _____ _____
(or Final Show) Date Signature of Certified Judge Apprenticed With

Visual Test: _____ _____
Pass Date Signature of Certified Judge Administering

Written Test: _____ _____
Pass Date Signature of Certified Judge Administering

Date of Certification: _____ _____
Signature of Chair on Judge Certification or Judging Board Chair