

Tropical Fish Club of Erie County Inc.



Membership Handbook

TROPICAL FISH CLUB OF ERIE COUNTY

CHAPTER ONE

*** CONSTITUTION ***

Article 1. Name:

The name of this club shall be "The Tropical Fish Club of Erie County".

Article-2. Purpose & Objective:

The purpose of this club shall be to bring hobbyists of Tropical Fish & Aquatic Plants together who are interested in breeding, raising and or showing fish and aquatic plants.

To help educate the public in how to take care of and maintain Tropical Fish & Aquatic Plants.

To aid members through lectures, films or slide presentations on different aspects of the Tropical Fish Hobby.

Article 3. Amendments to Constitution:

This constitution may be amended, repealed or supplemented by a majority vote after the following have been done.

- a. Submitted in writing to the Chairman or Secretary.
- b. Read by the Chairman or Secretary at the next regular meeting following the submission.
- c. Acted upon by membership at the next regular meeting.

Article 4. Effective Date

This Constitution was accepted on June 15, 1987.

CHAPTER TWO

*** BY-LAWS ***

Article 1. Membership:

Membership in the club is open to anyone interested in the tropical fish hobby.

Members: There will be (3) classifications of members.

1. Junior Member - under the age of 18.
2. Individual Member
3. Family Member - all members of family living under same roof, children under 18 yr. of age.

Membership Dues: Dues for membership as follows:

Junior Member	\$5.00 per year.
Individual Member	\$10.00 per year.
Family Member	\$15.00 per year.

1. Dues will be due on the annual date of first month paid.
2. No members resigning from the club during the year, shall receive any refund.
3. Any member may bring guests. They do not have to join and are not excluded from any programs. Guests attending three or more meetings must join the club.

Article 2. Conditions of Withdrawal or Expulsion:

- a.) Resignation: Any person wishing to resign as an officer or member of the club shall request such in writing to the Chairman or Secretary. The resignation will become effective after a majority vote of Executive Board.
- b.) Removal: Any member who discredits or injures the club or who deliberately violates the Constitution or By-laws shall be subject to expulsion. Any presentation must be in writing stating all justifications for expulsion. After an investigation by the Executive Board, and they feel it is deemed necessary to expel, a majority vote of all members is necessary for expulsion of the member.

Article 3. Meeting:

- a.) Regular meetings of the club shall be the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. If in the case of holiday or unusual circumstance, notification of change will be approved by the Executive Board.
- b.) Special meetings of the club may be called by the Chairman or with approval of Executive Board by written request to Secretary. No other business except that specified in the notice shall transpire at special meeting.
- e. Executive Board meetings will be held as deemed necessary by Chairman. All board meetings are open to any member and they shall be able to voice opinions but have no vote at such meetings.

Article 4. Quorums:

At general meetings a quorum shall be 1/3 of all eligible voting members in attendance. A quorum shall be necessary to conduct any business of the club at a general meeting.

Article 5. Voting:

- a.) Voting on business at a meeting by quorum with a majority vote.
- b.) All members at least 10 years of age have a vote in all business and election matters.
- c.) Voting for officers shall be by secret ballot at the November meeting annually. A quorum must be present. All offices shall be for 2 years, commencing in January.
- d.) Members must have been in good standing since the September meeting to be eligible to vote & run for office.
- e.) Nominations to be made at October meeting by nominating committee. At November meeting, nominations from the floor will be taken. A member not present at election meeting may be nominated from the floor for any position by prior approval of said member. A second is necessary on all nominations from the floor.
- f.) The Secretary shall distribute, collect & tally the ballots and report the results to the Chairman. Each eligible member may cast (1) vote for each office. Any defeated candidate may run for another office.
- g.) elections require a majority vote of members present.
- h.) No absentee ballots are allowed.
- i.) After the Chairman has received the results of each office, he shall announce the results to the membership. When all offices have been filled, a motion to destroy the ballots must be received.
- j.) The number of votes cast for any candidate shall not be announced. However any candidate suspecting irregularities in their results may privately inspect the ballots.
- k.) There is no limitations on the numbers of members from one family who may hold any office.
- l.) If a vacancy should occur, the unexpired term of the position shall be filled at the next general meeting.
- m.) Executive Board Members (all elected officers) must make one half of all Executive Board meetings during the year, in order to be considered in good standing. Excused absences will not count against this. At time of elections any officer that has not made this requirement, it will be made known before nominations are taken to fill the position

Article 6. Fiscal Year:

Fiscal year of the club will be January 1st thru December 31st.

Article 7. Executive Committee:

Chairman: Shall preside at ALL meetings. Shall appoint all committees and be a member of such. Shall give a report of past-year's accomplishments at the October meeting. Shall be informed of all special meetings but will vote only in case of ties.

Ass't. Chairman: Shall in case of absence of Chairman carry on functions of Chairman and any other duties deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.

Secretary: Shall take minutes of all meetings, receive all communications and write letters on behalf of the club. Make a monthly report at all regular meetings of meetings that have taken place.

Treasurer: Shall have charge of all moneys of the club, keeping accurate records of all receipts and expenditures and give a financial report at all regular meetings.

Board--of Directors: There shall be eight (8) Directors each having a 2 year term. There shall be 4 Board positions elected each year, one which may be a junior member. The Board of Directors shall control and manage all the affairs and business of the club. Board Members must attend one half of all board meetings to remain in good Standing.

Article 8. Committees & Duties:

B.A.P.: Chairman shall take care of all fish breeding by members. Record such, assign points, keep records of and report such breeding to affiliated National Organizations. Also distribute certificates and awards to successful breeders.

H.A.P.: Same as B.A.P. except for plants.

Membership: Shall record all memberships and renewals of the club. Shall keep accurate Records and notify members when dues are due.

Editor (Newsletter): Shall take care of preparing bulletins to notify members of meetings, special events and news of the club.

F.A.A.S. Rep. Shall report at all regular meetings on any business being transacted by The Federation of American Aquarium Societies

C.A.O.A.C. Rep. Shall report at all regular meetings on any business being transacted by The Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs

Library: Shall be in charge of all books, magazines and other publications that the club owns. Shall make available all such items to the members at regular meetings.

Bowl Show: Shall take care of entries, secure a judge, report results and present certificates to the winners. Shall also keep a tally of all points for awards at the end of the year.

Exchange Editor: Shall receive publications from other clubs and report regularly on articles of interest and also let members know of reprints or mentions in other publications of articles by our members.

Ways & Means: Shall be in charge of all club items for sale. Take care of ordering and making all items available at regular meetings.

Aquarist of the Year: Shall tabulate all points as outlined in Aquarist of the Year rules and shall give a quarterly point report.

Article 9. Signing Authority & Expenditures: Signing on behalf of the club can be done by the Chairman or Treasurer and any amount over \$250.00 must be approved by the Executive Board.

Article 10. Borrowing powers: On recommendation of Executive Board, the Chairman will be in charge of borrowing moneys on behalf of the club.

Article 11. Inspection of Books: At the November meeting an audit of Treasurer books, any member wishing to aid & see books shall be present at such meeting.

Article 12. Disputes and Disagreements: Any dispute or disagreement shall be in writing. An impartial committee shall be set-up and shall give a report to the Executive Board who has the ultimate decision in the matter.

Article 13. Affiliations: The club shall be affiliated with the Federation of American Aquarium Societies, Canadian Association of Aquarium Clubs

Article 14. Publication & Emblem & Colors: Publication shall be monthly. Ad rates from stores to be set annually by Executive Board.

Emblem



Article 15. Winding up & dissolution: In case of dissolution of club, all assets to be (Future Date)

Article 16. Amendment & Revisions: In writing to Secretary as per Constitution.

Article 17. Official Address: 5725 Herman Hill Road, Hamburg, New York 14075

Article 18. General Provisions & Procedures:

General Meeting:
Welcome
Roll call of Officers
Secretary's Report
Treasurer's Report

Committee Report
Membership
F.A.A.S.
C.A.O.A.C.
BAP
HAP
Ways & Means
Bowl Show
Publication
Library
Exchange Editor.
Old Business
New Business
Good of Club
Door Prize
Adjournment

Article 19 Effective Date: These By-laws accepted on June 14, 1987

Revised on April 17, 1990 , Revised on March 17, 2009

CHAPTER THREE

Breeder's Award Program

Purpose

To encourage members of TFCEC to breed aquarium fish and aquatic animals. To support in the efforts to maintain captive lines of endangered or threatened species. To help in the shared learning regarding hard to spawn species. To recognize these achievements and make a wider range of tropical fish and aquatic animals available to its members.

Requirements

- A.** All members in good standing are eligible to participate

- B.** The BAP Chairman must be notified within 7 days after free swimming fry

- C.** Six fry must be brought to a General Meeting for verification no sooner than two (2) months after free swimming. These fry must be donated to TFCEC for sale as described in Rule #7.

- D.** A completed Breeder's Award Report Form must accompany any fry.

- E.** An article describing the spawning is required for all spawns in groups C & D. The article will be printed in the newsletter. No points will be awarded for a spawn if this article is not submitted within 6 months of verification.

Awards

- A.** A Certificate will be presented to the breeder each time a fish is bred and all requirements are met.

- B.** The Breeder Award is a plaque awarded for completing the requirements of any given class.

<i>NOVICE BREEDER</i>	<i>100 Total Points</i>
<i>ADVANCED BREEDER</i>	<i>200 Total Points</i>
<i>SENIOR BREEDER</i>	<i>300 Total Points</i>
<i>EXPERT BREEDER</i>	<i>600 Total Points has bred 9 fish from Group D</i>

MASTER BREEDER

900 Total Points, reached EXPERT BREEDER has completed 8 classes

GRAND MASTER BREEDER

Must have become MASTER BREEDER, Completed 11 classes and bred at least 5 Target Fish

Point Classifications

1. Livebearers

Group A: 5 Points

All Poecilia, Xiphophorus, Gambusia, Heterandria or those not in Group B,C, D

Group B: 10 Points

All Halfbeaks, Belonesox and Goodeids

Group C: 15 Points

All Alfaro and Jenynsis

Group D: 20 Points

Anableps species, livebearing stingray species

Target Fish 20 Bonus Points

Anablep species, livebearing Stingrays species, Hubbsina turneri, Allotoca dugesi, Skiffia francesae, Jenysia lineata

2. Catfish

Group A: 5 Points

None

Group B: 10 Points

None

Group C: 15 Points

All Corydoras and Otocinclus

Group D: 20 Points

All Not listed previously

Target Fish 20 Bonus Points

Hypostomus plecostomus, Synodontis species, Panaque species., Pimelodid species, Doradid species

3. Barbs and Minnows

Group A: 5 Points

All Danios, Brachydanio, Tanichthys albonubes, Melanotaenia splendida (including all subspecies like inornata and rubistriata)

Group B: 10 Points

All Barbs not listed in other point groups. All species of the genera Glossolepsis, and Pseudomugil, Bedotia geayi, All Melanotaenias species not listed elsewhere. Telmatherina ladigesi and Chalatherina heikobleheri

Group C: 15 Points

Barbodes everetti, Puntias filamentosa, Capoeta arulius, All Rainbows not listed in other groups

Group D: 20 Points

Barbodes lateristriga, any African Barb species such as Barbodes fasciolatus, Barbodes macrops, Barbodes kerstenii, and Barbodes trispilos. Barbodes schwanefeldii (tinfoil barb), Pseudomugil tenellus,

Target Fish: 20 Bonus Points

Barbodes schwanefeldi (tinfoil barb) Iratherina wernerii (featherfin rainbow)

4. Rasboras

Group A: 5 Points

None

Group B: 10 Points

None

Group C: 15 Points

Rasboras trilineata (Scissortail Rasboras) , Rasbora borapetensis (Redtail Rasbora)

Group D: 20 Points

All species not listed in other groups

Target Fish 20 Bonus Points

Rasboras heteromorpha (harlequin) Rasboras espei

5. Tetra and Characins

Group A: 5 Points

None

Group B: 10 Points

Inpaichthys kerri (royal tetra), Nematobrycon lacortei (rainbow tetra), Nematobrycon palmeri (emperor tetra) Gymnocorymbus ternetzi (black tetra)

Group C: 15 Points

All species not listed in B or D

Group D: 20 Points

Any Neon, Cardinal, Silver Dollar, Piranha, Bleeding Heart, Serpae, Congo or Bucktooth Tetra, All species of Carnegiella and Gasteropelecus (hatchets)

Target Fish: 20 Bonus Points

Phenacogrammus interruptus (Congo Tetra), Cheirodon axelrodi (Cardinal Tetra), Arnoldichthys spilopterus (Red Eye Tetra)

6. Killifish

Group A: 5 Points

Aplocheilichthys lineatus, A. panchax, Epiplatys dagati, Fundulopanchax gardneri, F. australe , Pachypanchax playfairi and any Oryzia species

Group B: 10 Points

All mop spawners not in Group A, except Pseudoepiplatys annulatus

Group C: 15 Points

All Peat spawning except those in Group D, *Aphysemion shoestedi*, *psuedoeiplatys annulatus*

Group D: 20 Points

Austrofundulus, *Northobranchius*, *Pterolebias* and *Rofoffia* species

Target Fish 20 Bonus Points

Austrofundulus dolichopterus (Saberfin Killie) *Pterolebias zonatus*

7. Anabantids

Group A: 5 points

Macropodus opercularis (Paradise fish, all varieties) *Trichogaster trichopterus*

Group B: 10 Points

Betta splendens, *Betta picta*, *Colisa* species, *Trichogaster leeri*

Group C: 15 Points

All species of *Macropodus*, except those listed in other groups. All species from genera *Belontia* and *Trichopsis* (croaking Gourami). All species of Wild Bettas, such as *Betta smaragdina*, *Betta unimaculata*, and all other species not listed in other groups.

Group D: 20 Points

Bettas in the *coccina* complex (*coccina*, *tussyae*, *brownorum*, *livida*, *persephone*, *miniopinna*, *burdigala*, *rutilans*) *Helostoma temminicki* (kissing) and *Parosphromenus* species (*licorice* and related species) Chocolate Gourami, and any *Anabas* species, All *Ctenopoma* species

Target Fish 20 Bonus Points

Sphareichthys osphromemoides (Chocolate Gourami), Any *Ctenopoma*, *Betta albimarginata*, *Luciocephalus pulcher*

8. Cichlids

Class A: 5 Points

All mouthbrooders from the genera *Sarotherodon*, *Hemihaplochromis*, *Tilapia*, *pseudocrenilabrus* and *Haplochromis burtoni* and other closely related *Haplochromis* species. *Achocentrus nigrofasciatus* (convicts) and *Herotilapia multispinosa* (rainbow cichlid)

Class B: 10 Points

Pterophyllum scalare (Angels all varieties) *Geophagus steindachneri*, *Geophagus brasiliensis*, *Gymnogeophagus balzani*, *Apistogramma* sp., *Parachromis managuensis*, *Thorichthys meeki*, *Cichlosoma octofasciatum*, *Archocentrus spilurus*, *Nannacara anomala*, *Neetroplus nematrops*, and all substrate spawning Central, North and South American Cichlids except those listed in other groups. *Steatocrannus casuarius*, all mouthbrooding species from Lake Malawi and Victoria, plus all substrate spawning African and Asian cichlids except those listed in other groups.

Class C: 15 Points

All species from genera Caquetaia, Cichlasoma, Crenicara, Crenicichla (unless noted elsewhere), Geophagus, Gymnogeophagus, Heros and Satanoperca (except those in other groups), Astronotus ocellatus, plus all mouth brooding species of South America except those in other point groups. Etroplus maculatus, Haplochromis moori, all species of the genera Lamprologus, and Steatocranus, (except those listed in other point groups) all substrate spawning species from Lake Tanganyika.

Class D: 20 Points

All species from the following Crenicichla complexes: lacustris, strigata, and vittata. Symphysodon aequifasciatus, Teleocichla species, and Uaru Anphiacanthoides. Etroplus suratensis, Teleogramma species, (except those listed in other groups) all substrate spawning species of Lake Tanganyika.

Target Fish 20 Bonus Points

Any Uaru, Any Symphysodon (Discus), Cyathopharynx species

9. Sharks, Loaches and Eels

Group A, B, C

None

Group D: 20 Points

Acanthopthalmus species (kuhli types), Misgurnus anguillicaudatus (dojo or weather loach) All others not listed and those on Target list

Target Fish 20 Bonus Points

Labeo bicolor (Red Tail Shark), Botia macrantha (Clown Loach)
Mastacembelus armatus (Spiney Eel)

10. Marine

Group A:

None

Group B: 10 Points

Aiptasia species anemones all bristleworms and their allies, Copopods

Group C: 15 Points

Tubeworms, mushroom anemones, brittle starfish, pygmy seahorse, neon gobies, Pseudochromis, Pomacentridae, polyp stoney coral

Group D: 20 Points

All marine fish not listed in other groups

Target Fish 20 Bonus Points

Any Marine Fish not listed in Groups

11. All Other Species

Group A: 5 Points

None

Group B: 10 Points

Any Badis species, Dario species

Group C: 15 Points

Goldfish (all varieties) Chanda, Nannostomus, Thayeria species, Chlamydogobius eremius (desert goby)

Group D: 20 Points

Mudskipper, Scat, Mono, Leaf Fish, Butterfly Fish, Gobies(not list in other groups), Koi, Anostomus or Leporinis species, Mogurda mogurnda

Target Fish 20 Bonus Points

Brachygobius xantholzi (Bumblebee Goby), Monodactylus sebae, Pantodon buchholzi (butterfly fish), Hypseleotris compressus (Empire Goby), Mudskippers

12 Native

Group A: 5 Points

Gambusia affinis, Heterandria Formosa, Poecilia latipinna and all livebearing species native to the United States

Group B: 10 Points

All Cyprinodon species (pupfish), Elasmoma evergladei (pygmy sunfish) Jordanella floridae (Florida Flag Fish)

Group C: 15 Points

All sunfish (except those in other groups), All Minnow and all other egg-laying species native to the United States.

Group D: 20 Points

None

Target Fish 20 Bonus Points

Rainbow Darter, Sculpins

13 Aquatic Animals

Group A: 5 Points

All Freshwater snails

Group B: 10 Points

Native Frogs (Leopard, Bull) and Invertebrates, (crayfish) all native to the United States

Group C: 15 Points

Shrimp, (Crystal, Red Claw, Cherry, Ghost), Lobsters (blue, red, aov.), Frogs: African Clawed, Dwarf, Tree, Dendrobates all species except those in Group D, Fire Belly Toads

Group D: 20 Points

Newts, Salamanders, Toads all Bufo species, Frogs: Dendrobates sp of auratus, Pumilio, histrioncus, Agalychinis, Pacman, Pipa Pipa, Turtles all species, Axolotis

Target 20 Bonus Points

Axolotis and Pipa Pipa

Class Requirements

	<i>Regular</i>	<i>Advanced</i>	<i>Master</i>
<i>1. Livebearers</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>2. Catfish</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>3. Barbs and Minnows</i>	<i>5*</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>4. Rasboras</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>5. Tetras and Characins</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>6. Killifish</i>	<i>4**</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>7. Anabantids</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>8. Cichlids</i>	<i>6***</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>9. Sharks, Loaches & Eels</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>10. Marine</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>11. All Other Species</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>12. Native</i>	<i>3****</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Aquatic Animal</i>	<i>5*****</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>30*</i>

**** 3 Barbs and 2 Minnows***

***** at least 1 mop and 1 peat spawner***

****** 3 Substrate and 3 Mouthbrooder***

******* 1 Livebearer and 2 egglayers***

******** at least 3 non snails***

General Rules

1. Points for all fish bred are accumulated for the purpose of awarding BREEDER plaques only. This way the member may follow their own progression through the BAP Program.
2. Credit will be awarded to the breeder only once for any species. Only distinct species will be recognized. Different collection locations, color, fin or other varieties, and albinos ARE the same species and will be considered to be such: credit will be given only once.
3. The breeding must have occurred under the breeder's own care and the breeder must have full jurisdiction over the fate of the parents and young.
4. Some species normally produce few young, or breed over an extended period. For such species breeders may apply for credit with the six young that have come from more than one spawning of the parents. The BAP committee will consider each spawn individually.
5. The BAP Committee has final authority to determine the identity of submitted species. The decision will be based on recognized, published literature of recent copyright.
6. In the instance of distinct, but unidentified species, a certificate will be awarded for each only if reference can be made to a description and/or photograph in recognized literature. Alternatively, a recognizable photograph and the specific description may be submitted with

the Breeding Report. In such case, the certificate shall read as “unidentified” as depicted with notations such as “Whiptail Catfish, *Sturisoma* sp.” if the genus can be established.

7. Special problems in classifying fish for BAP credit include; “species complexes”, synonymous species names and different species impossible for the hobbyist to differentiate from each other. Credit will only be given once to each breeder.
8. Under no circumstances will hybrids be recognized or accepted in the BAP.
9. The use of hormones to induce spawning is prohibited.
10. The Target List, an additional 20 Bonus Points will be awarded in addition to the 20 Points in Group D. If a Target Fish is bred repeatedly the Target status of that species may be re-evaluated by the BAP Committee.
11. Aquatic animals are species of interest to the aquarium trade and are not considered a pest or live food. Example hydra, gammarus.
12. Any person who spawns a fish that has never been bred in captivity before, will receive a plaque plus 50 Bonus points, instead of the 20 Target Points. An extensive research will be undertaken before such an award will be given. In no instance will more than 70 points be awarded for the same spawn..
13. Any person transferring membership to TFCEC from another club will receive TFCEC BAP point values for the spawns verified by their previous club. Their request for assignment of points must be submitted in writing to the BAP Committee, along with a record of verified spawns from the previous club. However, the transferred species are not eligible for Class or Target species plaques.
14. The first six (6) fry In Groups A,B,C,& D must be donated to TFCEC and any remaining sales will be split 70/30 with the breeder. In the case of Target Fish the 6 fry will auctioned and the breeder will receive a split of 70/30 of the sale.
15. This breeders award program was revised July 2008. Any and all awards earned by a member prior to that date remain awarded. All species bred prior to this date will be converted to the new format.

The BAP Committee

1. The BAP Committee is responsible for reviewing the ongoing program, assigning proper credit, and maintaining BAP records of members. All aspects of the program are subject to review by the BAP committee and decisions of the committee are final..

2. The BAP Committee will maintain all records for individual members listing all species spawned, the classes credited and the points awarded.
3. Periodically, a roster of participating members with their cumulative record will be published. Upon the periodic publication of the BAP roster, it is the breeder's responsibility to see that their species records are correct and the appropriate points have been credited.
4. The BAP Chair and the TFCEC President are responsible for signing individual species certificates prior to issuance to the breeder.

Tropical Fish Club of Erie County Breeders Award Program Report Form

Breeder	Fish Breed
Name: _____	Class: _____ Group: _____ Points: _____
Address: _____	Scientific Name: _____
City: _____ Zip: _____	Common Name: _____
Phone: _____	Email: _____

Conditioning of Parents
Size: Male _____ Female _____
Sex Identification: _____
Tank Size: _____ **Filtration:** _____ **Temp:** _____
Lighting Type: _____ **Hours/Day:** _____
Food: Type: _____ **Times/Day:** _____

Spawning Information
Spawn Date: _____ **Type:**

	Livebearer		Mop or Plant Spawner
	Mouthbrooder		Soil or Peat Spawner
	Substrate		Egg Scatter
	Bubble Nest		Other

Tank Size: _____
Temp: _____
Filtration: _____

Other Fish Present: _____

Care of Eggs
Number of Eggs: _____ **Fungus Preventative Used:** _____ **Type** _____
Eggs left with parents?
 _____ **Yes (indicate type of parental care)** _____ **No (indicate method used)**

Care of Fry
Date of Hatch: _____
Tank Size: _____ **Temp:** _____ **Filtration:** _____
Fry: When were they free swimming: _____ **Growth Rate** _____
Number of Fry 1st Day _____ 30 Days _____ 60 Days _____
Foods: 1st Foods Fed: _____ Age _____ Times/Day _____
 2nd Foods Fed: _____ Age _____ Times/Day _____

Additional Notes : _____

Breeders Signature: _____
Verified By: _____
Chairman: _____ **Date** _____

Award Obligation:
 _____ **Article**
 _____ **Auction**
 _____ **Presentation**

CHAPTER FOUR

Horticultural Award Program

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this program, is to encourage members of TFCEC to propagate aquatic plants: to recognize these achievements and make a wider range of aquatic plants available to it's members.

2. REQUIREMENTS

- A. All members in good standing of TFCEC are eligible to participate.
- B. The plant with which you wish to receive credit, must be brought to the general meeting for verification. These plants must be donated to TFCEC for sale as described in General Rule #6.
- C. A complete Horticultural Report Form must accompany all plants.
- D. An article describing the propagation of plants in the "Sexual Reproduced Plants" must also accompany the plant.

3. AWARDS

A certificate will be presented to the horticulturist each time a plant is propagated and all requirements are met.

An award plaque will be awarded for completing the requirements of any given class.

CLASSES

- A. Beginning Aquatic Horticulturist
30 points or 4 species (1 species must be from a 10 point or higher plant).
- B. Aquatic Horticulturist
100 points or 12 species (2 species must be from a 15 or 20 point plants).
- C. Senior Aquatic Horticulturist
160 points or 20 species (2 species from with 15 points and 2 from 20 point plants).
- D. Expert Aquatic Horticulturist
240 points or 28 species (1 Flowering species).
- E. Master Aquatic Horticulturist
300 points or 35 species (1 sexual reproduction of a plant).
- F. Grand Master Horticulturist
600 points or 70 species (3 sexual reproduced plants)
- G. Honorary Doctor of Aquatic Horticulturist

4. GENERAL RULES

1. Points for all plants propagated are accumulated for the purpose of awarding Horticulturist plaques only. This way you may also follow your own progression through HAP.
2. Points will be given only once for each distinct species. The genus and only one species name will be accepted.

The following books will be used for determining the correct scientific names :

Aquarium Plants by Dr. Karel Rataj & Thomas Horeman

Encyclopedia of Aquarium Plants

Aquarium Plants, by Holger Windelov

Aquarium Plants by ChriManual of Aquarium Plants by Cohn O. Roestl
Kassselmann

3. Plants must be propagated in the aquarists own aquarium or pond, not obtained elsewhere.

4. The following will be considered the basis for propagation:

A. Floating Plants

Doubling the amount

B. Bunch Plants

Doubling the amount determined by count of rooted growing stems.

C. Propagation by runner or stem.

One healthy plant capable of living independently of the parent plant, while the parent plant is also alive and in good health. Bunch plants not allowed in this category.

D. Propagation Sexually

One plant reproduced by sexual means from the aquarists parent plant. Seeds and reproduced plants must be from the members own plant, not from a store or other horticulturalist.

E. Flowering

Must be verified when in full bloom, attached to the members own plant in his aquarium or pond. This plant is kept and not donated.

5. Species not listed in the point classification list will be awarded points by the Hap Committee.

6. The first plant must be donated to TFCEC and any remaining sales will be split 50/50. Any other plants other than the required one, can be sold at the Horticulturalists discretion.

7. Any person transferring to TFCEC from another club will receive our point value.

A record of verification of propagation's must be received from the previous club.

8. The TFCEC HAP committee and Officers reserve the right to reject any propagation that is questionable.

Flowering -Extra points will be awarded for plants that flower. Points will be the same as those designated for that species for propagation. Example -myriophyllum flowering 10 points, cryptocoryne flowering 15 points.

Sexual Reproduction -Extra points will be awarded for plants produced from seed obtained from mother plant belonging to the horticulturist claiming the credit. Example a Madagascar Lace plant that blooms and produces seed, from which a new plant is grown, receives 20 points.

Beginning Aquatic Horticulturist --3 plants or 30 points

Aquatic Horticulturist --100 points

Senior Aquatic Horticulturist --160 points

Expert Aquatic Horticulturist --240 points

Master Aquatic Horticulturist --300 points

Grand Master Aquatic Horticulturist --600 points

Honorary Doctor of Aquatic Horticulturist --1500 points

20 *Aeschynomene fluitans*

15 *Acorus*

20 *Aldrovanda*

15 *Alternanthera*

15 *Alismoides (Alisima)*

10 *Ambulia (synonym for Limnophila)*

10 *Ammannia*

5 *Anacharis*

20 *Anubias*

15 *Aponogeton (Asian type)*

A. crispus

A. elongatus

A. enchinata

A. natans

A. undulatus

Except 20 *A. rigidifolius*

20 *Aponogeton (Madagascar)*

A. bernerium

A. boivinianus

A. capuronii

A. longiplumulosus

A. madagascariensis

A. stachysporous

A. ulvaceus

10 Arundo donax
5 Azolla
10 Bacopa
 Except B. myriophylloides
20 Barclaya
10 Blyxa
15 Bolbitis
10 Botomus
10 Cabomba
 Except 15 Cabomba piahyuensis
10 Calla palustris (Hardy Water Calla)
10 Caltha palustris (Marsh Marigold)
10 Cardamine
10 Carex
15 Caulerpa
5 Ceratophyllum
5 Ceratopteris
15 Clodaphora
10 Crassula
15 Crinum
15 Cryptocoryne
10 Cyperus
10 Diandra (Water Hedge)
15 Didiplis
15 Dionaea muscipula (Venus Fly Trap)
15 Drosera (Sundews)
10 Dulichium arundinaceum
15 Echinodorus
 Except 10 E. tenellus
5 Egeria
15 Eichhornia
10 Elatine
10 Eleocharis
5 Elodea
10 Equisetum (Horsetails)
10 Eriocaulon
10 Eriophorum agustifolium
15 Eusteralis
10 Fontinalis
10 Glossadelphus zollenger
10 Glossostigma
5 Glyceria
15 Gracilia
5 Gymnocoronis
15 Halimedia
10 Heteranthera

15 Hottonia
10 Houttunia cordata
10 Hydrilla
15 Hydrocharis
10 Hydrocleys
10 Hydrocotyle
10 Hygrophila
10 Juncus
10 Iris (Water and Bog types)
15 Isotes
10 Lagarosiphon
20 Lagenandra
5 Lemna
10 Lilaepsis
15 Limnobium
10 Limnophila
10 Limosella
10 Lindernia
10 Lobelia
10 Ludwigia
 Except 15 L. glandulosus
 15 L. acuata
10 Lysimachia
15 Marsilea
10 Mayaca
10 Mentha aquatica
10 Menyanthes trifoliata
10 Micranthemum
10 Microsorium
10 Myriophyllum
10 Mysotis scorpiodes
10 Najas
20 Nelumbo
15 Nepenthes (Pitcher Plants)
10 Neptunia aquatica
15 Nesaea
10 Nitella
10 Nomaphila
15 Nuphar
Except
20 N. Lutea
15 Nymphaea
10 Nymphoides
10 Oenanthe javanica
10 Orontium aquatica (Golden Club)
20 Ottelia
15 Peltandra virginica
10 Phyllanthus
15 Physostegia
10 Pinguicula (Bladderwort)
10 Pistia

15 *Peltandra virginica*
10 *Phyllanthus*
15 *Physostegia*
10 *Pinguicula* (Bladderwort)
10 *Pistia*
10 *Pontederia*
10 *Potamogeton*
5 *Riccia*
5 *Riccocarpus*
5 *Ruellia*
15 *Rorippa*
10 *Rotala*
Except
15 *R. indica*
5 *Sagittaria*
5 *Salvinia*
10 *Samolous*
15 *Sarracenia* (Pitcher Plants)
10 *Saururus cernuus*
10 *Scirpus*
15 *Siam suave*
10 *Sphagnaceae* (Spaghnum Moss)
5 *Spirodela*
10 *Shinnersia*
15 *Spathiphyllum wallisi*
15 *Telanthera*
15 *Thalia*
15 *Trapa*
10 *Typha* (Cattails)
10 *Utricularia*
5 *Vallisneria*
15 *Ventricaria*
5 *Vesicularia*
10 *Wolffia*
15 *Zephyranthes*
5 *Zosterella*

Exclusions

The following list of species are excluded from eligibility due to state and federal regulations.

Azolla pinnata
Hydrocharis morsus-ranae
Hygrophila polysperma
Limnophila sessiliflora
Salvinia auriculata
Salvinia molesta

Horticultural Award Report Form

Name: _____ Reproduction Points: _____
Address: _____ Scientific Name: _____
City: _____ Common Name: _____

Plant Coloration: _____

Type of Reproduction: Cutting __ Runners __ Seeds __ Root Division __

Conditioning and Environment: Size of Tank or Pond _____

Temperature _____ Water ph _____ Nourishment _____
Bottom Medium _____ Depth _____
Lighting Type _____ Hours Per Day _____
Watts _____

Water: Changes per Month _____ Percentage Changed _____
Replacement Water: Aged _____
Rainwater _____

Miscellaneous:

Types of Fish Present _____
Snails Present _____ Type _____
Any Algae on Plants _____ Color of Algae _____
Names of any other plants In Tank or Pond _____

Propagators Signature _____ Award Obligation
Article _____

Verified By _____
Auction _____

Chairman _____ Date _____

Presentation _____

CHAPTER FIVE

Aquarist of the Year

Purpose

The purpose of the Aquarist of the Year is to recognize club members for their work and contributions to the Tropical Fish Club of Erie County. During the time between January 1, and December 31, of each given year., a tabulation of points per person will be kept. An update of point standings will be listed in the publication for the first three quarters of the year. The final tabulation of points and the recipient of the Aquarist of the Year will be presented at the Annual Awards Banquet. The points will be awarded to individuals only, and not to families. Each person who is covered by a membership will be included in the award program. You must be a paid-up member of the Tropical Fish Club of Erie County to participate.

Point Assignments

Attending Club Meeting	1 point/month
Entering Bowl Show	1 point/month
Officer of the Club (all elected offices)	1 point/year
Officer attending Board Meeting	1point/per meeting
Committee Chairpersons of the following BAP, HAP,WAP, Bowl Show	5 points/year
Committee Chairman of all others on list of committees	2 points/ year
Chairman of an Event (Auction, Home Show, etc.)	5 points/event
Co-chairman of an event (same as above)	5 points/event
Serving on an Event Committee	1 point/event
Working at a Club Event (ex. auction)	5 points/event
Writing an article for the Publication	3 points/issue
Editor of Newsletter	11 points per year
Writing a Monthly Column for Publication of 200 words or more	3 points/issue
Committee Reports are considered responsibility of the chairperson and will not earn points	
Present a Program at Monthly Meeting	5 points/per time
Present a Program at another Club's Monthly Meeting	5 points/club
Present a Program to a group or organization on behalf of TFCEC	5 points/per time
Special Club sponsored service (must contact President)	1 point per occurrence (max. 12)
Bowl Show Judge	1 point/month
Donation to the Club in Mini-auction	1 point/month
Donation as a door prize	1 point/month
Enter another Club's Fish Show	2 points/per show
Participate in the Home Show	2 points/event
Participate in the Breeder's Award Program	1 point/per spawn turned in
Participate in the Horticultural Award Program	1 point/per propagation turned in
Each new membership brought to a meeting	1 point/member
Working at another clubs function	2 points/per club function

CHAPTER SIX

Bowl Show Rules

Each month there will be 2 categories: Fish of the Month and Any Other Variety. Please read the following rules, and if you have any questions, call Larry Gibbs.

1. Bowl Show is open to any member of TFCEC
2. Exhibitors must be in attendance at the meeting
3. The Bowl Show will have 1 division
4. Fish must be shown in containers with at least one flat side. No plants, gravel, decorations, or exhibitor identification will be allowed.
5. Fish will be judged on:
 - A. Size (based on mature size of fish)
 - B. Color
 - C. Health (no diseases)
 - D. Quality
 - E. Deportment (the way the fish shows itself)
6. There are two categories each month. There is a limit of one entry per person per class.
7. Each place is worth points, to be totaled for the entire show season, January through December.

Trophies or plaques will be awarded to the top three in each division.

Point system is as follows

1st place:	5 points
2nd place:	4 points
3rd place:	3 points
4th place:	2 points

Any other entries in the show which do not place: 1 point

8. People's Choice Award: each month the attendees at the meeting will vote on the People's Choice. Tickets deposited will be entered in a drawing for a door prize each month.
9. Awards: Each month, first, second and third place winners in each category will receive ribbons in addition to bowl show points. The People's Choice Award will be a certificate plus a prize.
10. Any entry must be the property of the exhibitor for a minimum of 30 days.
11. Any fish placing in either category will not be allowed to be shown again during the remainder of the bowl show season.
12. All fish to be shown as a single, unless noted in the category in which it is entered.
13. Decision of the judges in final and not subject to appeal.
14. The Bowl Show Chairman reserves the right to change the Bowl Show categories.

CHAPTER SEVEN

Annual Tropical Fish and Supply Auction

The auction will be a 70/30 split auction, 70% of the selling price goes to the seller and 30% to the Tropical Fish Club of Erie County Inc. **NEW See rule #8 NEW**. All items will be auctioned off to the highest bidder.

PLACE: Patchin Fire Hall 8333 Boston State Road, Boston NY

DATE: SUNDAY, November 8, 2009

TIME: REGISTRATION: 9:00 A.M.
AUCTION 11:00 AM SHARP!!!!

Procedures and Rules:

1. **Each seller must register and receive ID letters before placing items in the auction. ITEMS MUST BE NUMBERED CONSECUTIVELY 1-10, 11-20 ETC.** The items will be auctioned off by number, all #1, #11, #21 etc. items will be auctioned first, followed by all #2, #12, #22 etc. There will be tables for each number 1-10. Sale items are to be placed on the corresponding tables. After table 2 a lottery will be held for the remaining Tables. The order in which they are picked will be the table that will be sold next. No items may be renumbered or moved from the original positions.

2. Buyers may register to charge their purchases, or pay cash at the time of the sale. Each buyer that registers will be given a buyers ID number. These are to be used during bidding and purchase of an item.

3. All items must be properly labeled: item letter and number, brief description, type of species, quantity, and also if the fish are a pair, trio, male or female, if known. On dry goods items, mark the condition of the item. **Sellers name and Phone number is suggested.**

4. **On dry good items only a limit of 5 like items will be accepted** (ex. 5 bags of flake food)

5. **Selling increments will be \$1.00. NO ITEM WILL BE SOLD FOR LESS THAN \$1.00-
-if it does not sell, it will be returned to the seller.**

6. **Proper bagging is necessary.** Fish and plants must be in proper fish bags (available from most fish stores). **NO BAGGIES, ZIP LOCK BAGS OR TWIST TIE BAGS ALLOWED.** There will be a 50 cent re-bagging charge if re-bagging is necessary. This will be deducted from your auction money. Double bagging is suggested.

7. **Minimum bid:** Sellers may place a minimum bid on an item. This should be a reasonable price. Any item with a minimum bid that does not sell at the minimum bid will be put to the side. If the seller so requests a lower price, these items will be auctioned at the end of all the numbered 10 items.

8. **NEW: Any single item that sells for \$50.00 or more, there will be a maximum club split of \$15.00, all other proceeds for that item goes to the seller.**

9. **The Tropical Fish Club of Erie County Inc. and the Patchin Volunteer Fire Company will not be responsible for any personal injury or any damages or losses incurred before, during or after the auction.**

10. All unclaimed items become the property of the Tropical Fish Club of Erie County Inc.

11. **Payment:** The auction staff will keep track of all transactions throughout the auction. Buyers may pay their tab anytime before leaving. Sellers may settle up after all of their items have sold or if the seller chooses to leave early, a check will be mailed to the seller. However, **all purchases must be paid for before leaving.** No checks will be accepted, **CASH ONLY.**

**Tropical Fish Club of Erie County
Membership Form**

Name: _____			
Address: _____			
City: _____	State: _____	Zip: _____	
Phone: _____	E-Mail Address: _____		

Type of Membership and yearly dues. (Choose one)			
_____ Family \$15.00	_____ Individual \$10.00	_____ Junior \$5.00	
Amount Paid: _____	Date: _____		

Where did you hear about our club: _____
or Who: _____

To help the club members get to know you a little better and be more responsive to your interests, please complete the following questions. If this is a Family Membership, list the names of other members in your family.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

I am _____ a Novice _____ Experienced _____ Advanced in the hobby of maintaining tropical fish and aquariums.

I currently have _____ # of aquariums and am interested in:

Community Fish _____	Types of Fish _____
Species Tanks _____	_____
Breeding Fish _____	_____
Propagation of plants _____	_____

I would like information or programs on the following:

Dues may be paid at any club meeting or by sending this form along with a check or money order for the correct amount to the club membership chairperson:

Teri Seufert
5725 Herman Hill Road
Hamburg, New York 14075