

## **Quick overview of the Bettas4all Standard©**

This quick overview summarizes the content of the Bettas4all Standard© and is written with the purpose to familiarize the reader with the contents of the document which sometimes can be rather technical and complex. The Bettas4all Standard© was developed to promote vital, healthy and balanced show Bettas. As the Bettas4all Standard© gives a clear description of the various show varieties, it can serve as a guideline for both hobbyists and judges. The Bettas4all Standard© was developed by a group of dedicated international, experienced Betta hobbyists with a shared passion for these beautiful fish including the show scene and community.

### **Preface**

The preface informs the reader of the latest developments of the current version of the Bettas4all Standard©.

### **Introduction**

The introduction gives an overview of the guiding principles behind the Bettas4all community.

### **Show Classes**

The show classes are the different categories in which all fish can be subdivided at shows. This subdivision is made when all the fish are benched and mostly takes place on the evening preceding the show. In order to promote a more interesting and challenging competition the Bettas4all Judging Team has the option to split show classes when there are at least six fish of a certain sub-variety which are entered by a minimum of two breeders. A good overview of the various show classes can motivate hobbyists to aim their breeding program towards a certain goal for the upcoming show season.

### **General Characteristics**

The chapter on the general characteristics of a show Betta include a description of the vitality, size, overall balance, form and color of the fish. All these characteristics are essential to determine the chance that a particular fish has to win in comparison to other fish within the same show class. This careful and objective observation of the characteristics of fish is important during the judging procedure, but is also essential during the selection process where hobbyists decide which fish will become show fish and/or breeders.

### **Finnage Characteristics**

The chapter on finnage characteristics describes the ideal form and dimensions of the finnage varieties in the various show classes, such as plakats, veiltails, halfmoons, crowntails and doubletails. These also include trial classes with new varieties that are becoming more popular in the latest years. The description of the finnage characteristics are extremely detailed and constitutes one third of the whole standard.

### **Color Characteristics**

Besides form, the color of a show Betta is an essential aspect during the division of show classes, the judging procedure and selection of a fish as show fish and/or breeder. The chapter on color characteristics describes the ideal color with respect to intensity, contrast, distribution and pattern.

### **Awards**

A unique feature of the Bettas4all Standard© is the fact that the number awards in the various show classes depends on the number of fish present in that particular show class. In addition, show points for the prestigious Bettas4all Masters Competition are automatically assigned to participants when his/her fish placed in any of the show classes or a special prize at Bettas4all-sanctioned shows.

### **Bettas4all Shows**

Shows which are judged according to the Bettas4all Standard© can be Bettas4all-sanctioned or Bettas4all-associated. This chapter of the standard explains the difference between both types of shows and describes all aspects of Bettas4all shows, including the team of people organizing, judging and helping the show. The chapter also covers in detail several practical aspects such as the number of entries, how to manage the setups and gives suggestions on how to face the financial aspects related to a show.

### **Bettas4all Judging Manual**

The manual is a detailed description of all the aspects that need to be considered during the judging procedures at a show. These include the benching, the sorting of the show classes and the duties of the judges with an exhaustive description of the role of the Head Judge.

### **Bettas4all Judging Board and Certified Bettas4all Judges**

This chapter introduces the Bettas4all Judging Board and describes the function and responsibilities of a certified Bettas4all Judge and how to apply for the training program to become a certified Bettas4all judge.