

October–November 2022

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# AKA Reporter





## DracoDrum

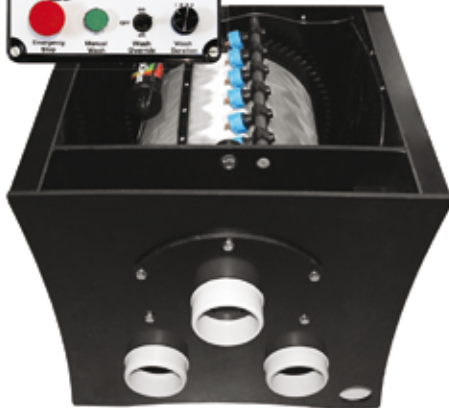
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# AKA Reporter



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Our cover this month: Greg Collins being presented with GC Trophy by Paul Miglionico at the first Mid Northern Koi Show.

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# The Australian Koi Association Inc.

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Ethel Allen\*; Ian Andrews; Jack Cohen\*; Mary Cohen; Max Farrugia; Ron Farrugia; Barbara and Bryce Hough; Arthur Johnston; Gordon Kilborn; Yvonne Louis; Betty and George Ludbrook; Kate McGill-Andrews; Dorothy Miglionico; Paul Miglionico; Ken Newton; Dave Pogson\*; John Rhodes; Arthur Robinson; Alan Walter\*; Barbara Walter\*; Harry Watson\*; Robert Wood\*; Heinz Zimmermann. \*Deceased

## All correspondence

Australian Koi Association, 17 Westmore Drive, West Pennant Hills NSW 2125

# President's Report



It is good to be back after missing the last two AKA meetings whilst we travelled to Scotland to celebrate 'Mum's' 100th birthday. Both Kate and I managed the journey without running foul of COVID-19, which we were both grateful for despite some close

family contacts coming down with it shortly before and after our visit.

On the koi scene here, it was very pleasing to see that our Northern members successfully held their first koi show, with a huge effort put in by many hands to make it a successful day. Pleasing to see it even had television coverage by both local Coffs TV Stations. Thank you to Gavin and his members who made it happen and a thank you to Paul (and Dorothy) Miglionico for making the journey to judge the koi. See his full report in this issue.

Be aware that at this time of year, especially after such a long cold winter, our filters are often not operating at full capacity with the bio still recovering its efficiency levels. Watch your nitrite level; these often get high and cause your koi to flash (koi keepers often then start adding unnecessary treatments BEFORE checking their pond parameters). So check nitrites.

It is also the time of year where a lot of keen koi breeders are starting to prepare their breeding mops and spawning tanks. Many of our members may have spare fry to give away in the coming weeks. So even if you can't do a full spawn yourself, why not prepare a small tank and try and grow some fry. This is a wonderful way to learn more about the hobby and you may even grow a future champion!

I have been approached by ABC *Play School* who are looking at producing a 'Children's Pet' program and might include koi as one of the pets that children keep. It's early days, but if anyone in the Sydney area has children or grandchildren involved with their koi let me know, otherwise they may go with children as 'props' on one of our ponds.

I'd like to also mention that our AKA WhatsApp koi chat group has been very active

covering topics such as pond building, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), selecting parent koi and the importance and benefits of water changes. I see this group as a positive part of our koi club and thank TK Hing for his initiative. I hope a few more members also join the group; please contact TK.

We are currently looking at the first Saturday in December as the date for this year's AKA Christmas Party dinner. Unfortunately, we have just learned that our wonderful Chinese restaurant venue at the Marconi Club is closing their doors in the next two weeks as their lease comes to an end. Nevertheless, we are determined to find another suitable venue and will advise via our newsletter just as soon as details can be arranged.

*Yours in koi*

*Ian Andrews, President, AKA ■*

An advertisement for AKA Koi Auctions. The top half features the text 'AKA KOI AUCTIONS' in large, bold, black letters. Below the text is a stylized illustration of a red and white koi fish swimming upwards. To the right of the fish is a hand holding a credit card, with a signal icon (three curved lines) next to it. The bottom half of the advertisement features the text 'NOW ACCEPTS CREDIT CARDS' in large, bold, black letters. Below this text are logos for VISA, Mastercard, American Express, Apple Pay, Google Pay, and eftpos.



# AKA News and Events

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## Meetings of the AKA

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Our monthly meetings are held at the Georges Hall Community Centre. Meetings are on the second Monday of each month with the exception of December when no meeting takes place. Details of all our meetings are also on AKA's Facebook page.

Remember all members and visitors must register, preferably using the QR code via the Service NSW app, as AKA is now a registered COVID Safety Plan business. ■

## Meeting of the AKA, Monday 10 October 2022

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The October meeting of the AKA will be on Monday 10 October 2022 at the Georges Hall Community Centre 188 Birdwood Rd, Georges Hall, 7.30 pm.

1. Welcome to members and guests
2. Apologies
3. Confirmation of minutes of previous monthly general meeting.
4. Raffle
5. Reports
6. General Business
7. Guest speaker: Mr Ralf Boehner sharing his expert knowledge on breeding and raising koi.
8. Raffle Draw

Note that any COVID-19 lockdowns will cancel any meeting. ■

## Meeting of the AKA, Monday 14 November 2022

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The November meeting and Annual General Meeting of the AKA will be on Monday 14 November 2022 at the Georges Hall Community Centre 188 Birdwood Rd, Georges Hall, 7.30 pm.

1. Welcome to members and guests
2. Apologies
3. Confirmation of minutes of previous monthly general meeting.
4. Raffle
5. Reports
6. General Business
7. Guest speaker: Adam Holden will present an overview on ProfiDrum state of the art equipment.
8. Raffle Draw

Note that any COVID-19 lockdowns will cancel any meeting. ■

## Koi food

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It is hoped that we can continue to provide as necessary any koi food requirements from our four outlets. We will require payment upfront or similar, and with no direct contact—our suppliers (see advertisement in this magazine) can arrange for food orders to be left out ready for pick up, having nil face-to-face contact.

Have you tried AKA's **Sinking Koi Pellets** yet? Seems that many of our more experienced koi keepers have given this food a big tick and are getting great results feeding it to their koi. It's best to feed one lot of floating and next feed give them the sinking. Give it a try and I'm sure you will see the improvements in your koi. ■

## New members

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New members are always assured of a friendly welcome when attending the AKA's monthly meetings. Help and advice is available if required and our Supply Officers can provide you with koi food and accessories at favourable prices. Call our membership officer (details on page 2). We welcome the following new members:

Nikki Adams  
Bo Chen  
De Ming Chen  
Greg and Angela Hammond  
Hussain Al-Saliman  
Lynne & Cody Sheridan  
Ann Speed  
Michael Townsend ■

## AKA's banking details

*Australian Koi Association,  
NAB BSB 082 343  
A/C 8525 90813.*

*Please always enter your  
name on the transaction.*

## AKA Auction Dates



Held at Fairfield City Showground (bottom of markets) Commencing at 10.00 am. Quality fish at reasonable prices! Food and refreshments available. Fish food and other fish keeping supplies also available.



Bankstown City  
NSW Chapter  
Zen Nippon Airinkai

Tentative dates only

**Saturday 12th Nov 2022**

Current COVID-19 restrictions as administered by NSW Government means that all these dates are tentative and will be confirmed or cancelled at a date closer to the auction date.



## AKA Membership Renewal

*After more than 15 years, regretfully, it has been acknowledged we must increase our Club's Membership fees to \$40. All our costs year on year, have risen continuously and have been absorbed by the Club but we have reached the point where the margin is becoming too large.*

*Remember, AKA provides many benefits to members (subsidised koi food and events) and will continue to do so, as well as publishing your AKA Reporter Magazine.*

*Membership renewals are due 1 July.*

## KSA Auction Dates

**Saturday October 8th 2022**  
**Saturday December 3rd 2022**

Current Covid-19 restrictions as administered by Fairfield Council means that all these dates are tentative and will be confirmed or cancelled at a date closer to the auction date.

New venue for KSA auctions is Fairfield City Showground (bottom of markets), Smithfield Road, Prairiewood

# AKA Mid Northern Region Chairman's Report

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To each and all of those members who contributed to the 21 August Koi Show—well done!—congratulations and thank you.

Of course there are some special thanks to some special people.

Robyn, you seemed tireless even under difficult

circumstances, your creativity and contribution was genuinely appreciated.

Bob my thanks to you too for manning that desk—your fish looked fantastic.

Aidan, you had a lot of critical work to do, not just in set up and exit but also in Shadow Judging—great effort and contribution—might just have to get you cloned.

Peter Colgan too needs to be mentioned in despatches for his continued efforts over long periods of time both leading up to the event and during the event; thanks Pete.

Steph Nicholson (far too formal)—Steph (and a relatively new comer from KSA), what a wonderful contribution and richly deserved recognition.

Thanks Steph—Marty too please.

I need to thank a member we might not see too often but whom in the background is a constant presence—Paul Battlgia. Paul's efforts via securing vouchers was so good for us—thanks my friend—fish next time, eh?

To all those members who simply turned up on the day, thank you—it was good to see you there supporting the venture.

The event was quite a tour de force for our Chapter, we had much to prove and we did just that.

In some eight weeks we mounted the largest koi show outside Sydney (WA excluded). 82 fish entered from 12 exhibitors, a brand new venue (and I believe future venue), stunning setting, participative and cooperative venue shareholders, TV and press presence, all captured in conjunction with sponsor support that will remain in situ going forward.

Well done Chapter.

I must also mention the level of cooperation being offered by the KSA and I extend our thanks to their President Garry O'Bryan for his willing help.

Perhaps the most important call of the day has to go out to AKA Sydney for presenting us with the opportunity of seeing a remarkable judge in action.

Paul Miglionico drove up to Coffs to judge for us and not just was his judicial presence outstanding, but his company and friendship was too.

What an amazing depth of understanding that gentleman has when it comes to our hobby. I can't wait to have more to do with Paul—remember our phone interface some 12 months ago? Let's do it again.

Big thanks to Allcare Ponds' Ros and Lars for their wonderful support.

Getting all those pieces of the ship simply assembled was difficult enough, getting it into the bottle undamaged was an even more demanding experience—nonetheless exceptionally rewarding.

I was about to say 'can't wait for the next one', but I can, I really can—very demanding.

One thing that did arise from the event is our need to regain our admin rights to websites, Facebook pages, etc.

I will contact John Irwin re those matters and re-establish our presence in that regard.

We had significantly strong social media presence for our event and my thanks go to those who put the effort in to make that happen.

Great input, great return and great feedback post the event.

My congratulations to the Grand Champion, Reserve Champion, Greg Collins and Wayne Stoves, and Junior Champion (AKA Friendship Award)—4me (whoopee).

To all those people exhibiting fish well done and thanks.

Watch this space for next year Mr Jahn (will keep 10 spots open for you?) and my compliments to Garry Curtis—good to see you again Garry, a turning point I hope. Rod Hooper, start saving up for lunch.

G. Collins, it's head to head for the Kohaku size 2 (probably three next year). Bring it on



mate. Should be fun.

Thanks everyone , a great event, one that has put us squarely on the national koi map and you had a hand in doing it.

OK, the financials (my thanks to the Treasurer for this detail). In my mind I had a likely cost of \$1,000, yet I thought that with any luck we might just get to a breakeven point, but it would require hard work and luck (they seem to go hand-in-hand don't they).

So, most simply:

	EXPENSES	INCOME
	-----	-----
Allcare Ponds	\$329.00	
Kennards Hire (Toilets)	\$438.00	
Garden Mania (venue)	\$400.00	
Vistaprint (Business cards)	\$48.98	
Officeworks (printing etc)	\$138.24	
Bunnings	\$75.00	
Sydney Remittance (MShip)	\$80.00	
Lions		\$100.00
Donations (7 x \$50)		\$350.00
Coffs Mayoral Fund		\$100.00
Sponsors		\$700.00
Entries		\$164.00
Raffles		\$119.00
Sales		\$232.00
Banner		\$80.00
Membership		\$80.00
	=====	=====
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1509.22</b>	<b>\$1925.00</b>

Therefore, a surplus of \$415.78.

Note that we are not yet able to include any definitive \$ figure ex-Lions, estimated at \$100.00+.

What additionally has to be recognised in this area is that we retained equipment to the value of \$329 (Allcare ponds, an air pump), a banner \$80, as a donation ex the venue, business cards \$48.98, Bunnings purchases, air stones, etc., and some ancillary other matters that are unaccounted for, e.g. trophies ex-Sydney AKA.

Other material ex-Officeworks are also items that will be taken up in club admin usage, e.g. marking pens and duct tape, etc.

Note too that we did not incur any costs relating to the judge's travel to and from Coffs Harbour.

*Gavan Gribble*  
*Chairman, AKA Mid Northern Region* ■

## AKA Pond Tour

Sunday 16th October



We are pleased to provide details for this year's Pond Tour. We will be meeting at Joe and Rita Borg's Oakhurst residence at 8.30 am for a visit of their koi facility. Leaving there at 9.30 am. Next pond we need to drive along the M7/M2 to arrive around 10.00 am at Ian and Kate's Pond at West Pennant Hills for morning tea.

We anticipate departure from Ian and Kate's would be around 11.30 am to head north to Wisemans Ferry Rd Somersby to the new home of Dave and Mandy Keen for a leisurely lunch and an inspection of their state-of-the-art koi pond and magnificent koi.

Members are then free to head home.

Please advise Ian 0418 255 897 or ia222@hotmail.com if you wish to attend to allow for catering. Address details will then be issued.

## AKA Annual Membership Fee \$40 due 1 July

**If paying via EFT please ensure  
 your name is included on the  
 transfer notice.**

# A visit to the AKA Mid Northern Region Chapter Koi Show

*Paul Miglionico*

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I was very honoured to have been invited, (with Heinz Zimmermann), to Judge the Mid Northern Region Koi Show in Coffs Harbour. Unfortunately, Heinz was delayed overseas and missed out on a fantastic show.

Dorothy and I left Sydney on Saturday and had a pleasant trip reminiscing about the last time we had made this journey—for our honeymoon, 35 years ago! We could not believe the changes over that period of time—no not us—the drive and the city!

We arrived around 3.00 pm and after a quick stop at our hotel we went out to the show venue to see how the set up was going and introduce ourselves to the local club members.

'Garden Mania', about 15 minutes from Coffs Harbour, had been chosen and Gavan Gribble and the team definitely got it right with this venue; plenty of parking, a lovely level area to set up the show bins in a picturesque nursery.

Alicia, the owner, had an amazing collection of bromeliads brought in for sale and all the plants were at very reasonable prices compared to Sydney.

After introductions and some time spent talking to members, we left to recharge the batteries before the Sunday koi show.

Since the weather was so nice, we managed a quick look around the town—almost unrecognisable from our last visit but a really thriving community.



**Show site all ready to go.**

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I was recommended a restaurant to take Dorothy to called 'Marias'. No surprises with a name like that—it was Italian! Excellent service and food—but with a word of warning—if you order the 'Diavolo Pizza' be prepared—it is HOT! Definitely one to avoid if you don't like chilli!

Coffs Harbour really turned on an absolutely glorious show day! At the show I met Aidan



**The awards.**

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**Entrance to the show area.**

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Dawson (previously introduced), who coordinated all the paperwork and he was well organised. Just over 80 koi had been entered.

Shusui was a special category at this show. Metallic koi included all varieties.



**Paul Miglionico with Greg Collins—happily taking out Grand Champion.**



**Gavin and Pooney happy with their winning Kohaku**

Non-metallic koi included all other varieties other than Kohaku, Sanke, Showa and Shusui for a total of seven varieties to be judged.

Four sizes were tabled: Size 1, up to 20 cm; Size 2, 20 to 29.9 cm; Size 3, 30 to 39.9 cm, and Size 4, 40 cm and above.

Judging commenced at 10.00 am and by that time I had been introduced to all new and old Chapter members.

Dorothy enjoyed selecting some beautiful bromeliads as well as talking to all the ladies who make the heart and soul of the club.

Gavan had organised NBN Channel 9 as well as Channel 7 to have coverage of the show that morning. They arrived just after judging began. NBN put out an excellent coverage on the 6.00 pm Sunday news while Channel 7 went to air on Monday at 6.00 pm. Something to consider for the Sydney Koi Show next year!

Judging progressed well; I had Aidan as



**Paul Curtis receiving his Best in Variety Metallic.**



**Grinners and hard workers—Rod Hooper, Steph Nicholson, Mhairi Waqua and Robyn Brierley.**





Getting the props up for the koi show.

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Grand Champion Sanke

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Thanks to the support of Ros from Allcare Ponds for their generous decorations and prizes.

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Reserve Champion.

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**BIV Metallic.**

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**High quality male Kohaku from Peter Colgan's line.**

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'shadow' on the day as well as Peter Colgan acting as Senior Steward.

Grand and Reserve Champions were selected first. Since these two koi take no other awards it is always best to judge them first.

Grand Champion this year went to Greg Collins and Wayne Stoves with an impressive male 67 cm Sanke, the largest Gosanke exhibited at the show. The koi had excellent conformation and good placement and finish of hi and sumi patterns.



**BIV Showa.**

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**Gavan's metallic koi bred by Karl Schnell looked good on the day.**

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variety championship.

Greg also took out best Sanke with another Size 3 male koi showing good depth of sumi and a nicely balanced hi pattern, as well as best Showa, with a young Size 4 female koi and best non-metallic koi with a Size 4 Chagoi.

The Utsuri variety champion went to Mhairi Waqa. The koi was a Ki Utsuri with a solid body conformation, clean base colour and deep



**BIV Shusui.**

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Greg and Wayne also took Reserve Champion with another well-conformed male 55 cm Sanke, again having nicely finished hi and sumi.

After these two koi were selected I progressed to judging the rest of the categories, beginning with Size 1. There was some very promising young koi. A lovely nidan (two-step) Kohaku won the AKA Friendship Trophy as best koi in size 1. The koi belonged to Gavan and Pooney Gribble and demonstrated future potential. A very well-deserved award!

Working through the other sizes, all placements were made by 12.30 pm. Only the best in variety remained to judge after a short lunch break.

My notes reflect that a very nice Size 3 Kohaku with excellent skin quality and very neat pattern edges (kiwa/sashi) owned by Greg won that





**Mhairs Waqa's beautiful pond.**

wrapping sumi.

Shusui variety championship went to Gary Curtis. Some discussion was made later about the water in Coffs Harbour, developing black speckles on this variety are often attributed to hard water.

Metallic variety Champion also went to Gary Curtis. His doitsu Hariwake Ogon had a good body conformation with neatly balanced pattern.

I really enjoyed talking to numerous people on the day and explaining some points about koi appreciation.

It was lovely to see Margaret Smith, a founding member of our club at the show.

Aidan controlled the paperwork perfectly, asking numerous questions whilst I was judging. Peter Colgan too did sterling service.

Peter also exhibited some very nice Kohaku, a variety he specialises in.

Some of the ladies in the club really deserve special mention for all their hard work on the day: Robyn Brierley, Stephanie Nicholson, Mhairs Waqa and Pooney Gribble.

With formalities finished we stayed at Stephanie and Martin's place overnight. They were so hospitable; we could not have been made to feel more welcome. Thanks Steph and Martin.

Apart from having the most adorable Australian terrier puppies to keep us amused



**Hard working Aidan Dawson was Gavan's paperwork wrangler ensuring all results were correctly entered on the day.**

they put on an amazing hibachi dinner with wagyu steak, chicken and assorted vegetables. Gavan and Pooney Gribble joined us; so good to enjoy all the company and have a chance to compliment the group on all their hard work for the club—Gavan is Chairman.

Up early the next day and I mentioned a love of fishing—10 minutes later we were at the beach! Martin is also a keen fisherman and you only have to say the word and the bait and tackle come out. Whilst Dorothy was exploring the rock pools with Steph, Martin and I were in waist deep water catching bream.

What a wonderful morning it was! Back home for a bacon and egg breakfast, then after expressing our heartfelt thanks and saying our goodbyes, we went on to Mhairs Waqa's place to see the beautiful Balinese-inspired garden she has created around her koi pond. Gavan called in to say farewell as we headed back to Sydney.

It really was a superb weekend. I wish the club all the very best and look forward to going back to Coffs Harbour with Dorothy in the next few months as there is still a lot of the area we would like to visit, plus other ponds to see!

Until next time. Well done Mid Northern Region Chapter—it was a remarkably good event. ■

# The basics of koi assessment during judging

## Part 5: Judging Seminar

by *Bernie Woollands*

For those of you that have been following this series of articles, this is where we provide an opportunity to put what you've understood into practise. For those of you reading about judging seminars for the first time, we will be having a virtual seminar. For those of you that are already familiar with this concept I'll include some tips and hints about the real thing.

### Introduction

We have within the ZNA judging circles a device we call the 'Points System', which we use to convey information between each other during seminars and occasionally when judging.

These seminars are multi-purpose. They are used:

- as educational tools for ZNA members,
- as refreshers for judges,
- as well as examinations for Local Certified Judges wishing to become Assistant Certified Judges.

ZNA has 5 categories for judges.

1. Trainees.
2. Local Certified (LCJ.)
3. Assistant Certified (ACJ).
4. Certified (CJ).
5. Honorary Certified (for retired judges after long or exemplary service to ZNA).

For the most part training to be a judge takes place at koi shows where trainees are shown the ropes by qualified judges in the field. This training is augmented by seminars such as the one I'm about to describe.

This training takes place at formal seminars within our chapters as well as the International meetings of the ZNA. Those chapter seminars often take place at their koi shows. The chapter seminars are deployed for members education and can follow a different format.

At the International Meeting in Japan; which is run in parallel with the AJNPA show, a seminar is held at which all attending judges regardless of their rank participate. It is not a competition but a chance to calibrate each individual's skill level according to the adjudicating panel's results; in other words, a refresher, a lesson as opposed to an exam.



**Shoji Saito presents Bernie Woollands with his plaque for achieving Certified Judge status."**

The LCJ-to-ACJ examinations only take place at the International Meeting. I shall not be discussing those exams. They are about assessing competences. I shall concentrate on the seminars deployed for education. I shall describe the formula for the seminars held in Japan, as those held by the chapters can differ slightly.

The format for those educational seminars are as follows: 5 koi are put on display and have to be compared against each other and ranked according to the criteria we have covered in this series of articles. Those criteria are:

- Body (Taikei)
- Skin Quality (Hada) (Shitsu)
- Pattern (Moyo)
- Finish (Shiagari)

For each criterion there are a maximum number of points available. These points allow the participants to express their opinion about any degree of difference between the koi for each criterion.

For the participants there is a time limit of seven minutes for this process during which no conferring with other participants is permitted. It's an individual exercise.

The organising body limits the number of



participants allowed around the display vat(s) at any one time. Therefore, these seminars can go on for a long time depending upon the total number of participants.

When judging any category (class/size) at a show, a judge has to study every koi in that category, but depending on the show rules, may only need to choose two or three winners. In some shows they are allowed to omit a prize if a koi does not reach a certain standard. But at the seminars they have to rank every koi in order, according to each different criteria.

Anybody with knowledge of military training might be familiar with the phrase ‘Train hard—fight easy. The same principle is at work here, but it is ‘Train hard—work easy’; our work being the judging koi in a real-time environment at the Airinkai’s shows.

### The format

The attendees are given 3 pieces of paper: one to write down their results on and the other to record their notes. The results paper is very small with just 5 boxes (1st through 5th) onto which you write the identity (A to E) of the koi in the order you rank them overall.

They receive two copies of the second paper which is more elaborate. An example of which

was shown in the last article. It has an individual photograph of each koi and underneath each is a column with fields for Body, Skin, Pattern, Finish plus a further field for Variety Characteristic. Into the first four fields you should note the points you award each koi for each criterion.

Each criterion has a finite number of points:

- 40 for Body
- 30 for Skin
- 20 for Pattern
- 10 for Finish.

NB: The points for skin are to be shared out equally between the relevant colours. So for example a Sanke it is 10 for Shiroji, 10 for Beni and 10 for Sumi.

If a koi achieves perfection in any category it can be given maximum points. Otherwise points have to be deducted for any imperfections noticed. The participants can be as brutal or as forgiving as they like. When the Panel reveal their points they can compare and consider their assessments with the model answers i.e. those supplied by the Panel.

It should be borne in mind that the judges that make up the Adjudicating Panel have no such time or conferring constraints. In addition they may have been involved in the prior selection of the koi for the seminar.

Remember: The participant has 7 minutes to assess the 5 koi and make notes. At the end of that 7 minutes they must hand in the 1st paper. Afterwards they are taken to a quiet room where they can tidy up their notes before handing in the tidy copy of the second paper. For this they are allowed 10 minutes.

After which they have to wait for the final part of the seminar where the Adjudicating Panel will reveal their answers. Often this is the next day.

To conclude this series of articles we are going to stage a virtual exam. On the following page you will find 5 koi graphics. If you want to participate you need to examine them and fill in the judging paper (also on a following page). Our judging panel will be revealed further on in this issue along with their model answers and explanations.

When comparing your results against the panel do not get too obsessed about the points you allocate. For instance you might consider the body on Koi 1 to be superior to that of Koi 4 by 5 points and allocate 27 and 22 points accordingly. If the Panel judges are more generous or more stingy than you it doesn't matter. The salient point is the points difference. If the Panel has also stated that Koi1 is superior to Koi 4 by 5 points you've done well.

In addition to revealing their points the Panel will give an explanation as they do so.

### Graphics vs photos

I've deliberately chosen to use graphics for this exercise rather than photos which is the norm. I've done this for several reasons. One, a judges comment might upset the owner of the real fish. Two, photos can be interpreted differently by different people. Three, by using graphics I can contrive to ensure that all the elements that will be detailed in the judges comments are clearly visible.

### Virtual vs real

Sitting at home looking at a virtual magazine where the koi are static and where nobody is standing over you with a stopwatch is a long way from these tests in real life. There, the fish are in a vat, or sometimes spread over several vats, and the fish are on the move. I once did an seminar where I never clearly saw the head of one of the fish during those allocated seven minutes because it was always swimming under the other fish.

I've attended other exams where there were additional fish in the vats that weren't in the competition, by way of a distraction. I

even attended one where one of the vats was deliberately cloudy. Dastardly as these additional distractions are, they are typical of some of the conditions found on the show circuits. Remember it's 'Train hard—work easy.'

A useful tip that I was given at one of these real seminars was to give each fish a name that identifies it quickly. A lot of time can be taken up reconciling a fish you've just assessed in the vat with its photo on the paper. However, this will not be a problem with this virtual test. All koi are clearly labelled.

For anybody reading this that has undergone one of these seminars/exams in real life the Panel's reveal can be annoying. Quite often they reveal something that you missed. Just remember they had longer to examine the koi and could confer. Participants have to experience a baptism by fire!

### A final note

When designing this exercise I chose to include a number of issues that are causes for consideration during the judging process. I sought to include issues from every facet of the judging i.e. body, skin, pattern and finish. Having done so I randomly selected them and distributed them amongst the exhibits. Dave Brown had the task of illustrating them in the graphics. Having done so, they were sent to the judges to assess and compile the set of model answers.

To wrap up this series of articles they are providing explanations to some of their decisions in the spirit of education.

For the purposes of judging they were told to consider the length of the koi to be 65 cms. ■

### Virtual seminar results to follow in the next issue of AKA Reporter.

*New outlet for  
AKA Supplies*

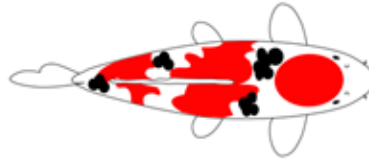
**We have a new outlet for  
AKA Supplies. Thanks to Heinz  
Zimmerman (0428 478 594)  
for establishing the Bass Hill  
location for koi food, etc.**

Zen Nippon Airinkai Official Judging Seminar



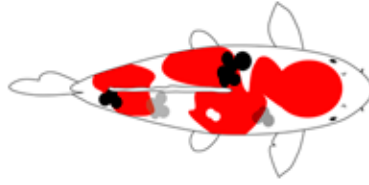
koi ranking by your judge

BODY									
QUALITY	Hi sumi skin								
PATTERN									
FINISHING									
VARIETY CHARACTERISTIC									
memo								total point	



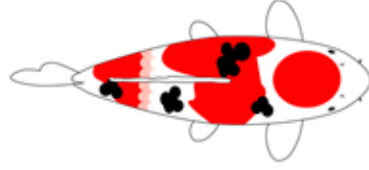
koi ranking by your judge

BODY									
QUALITY	Hi sumi skin								
PATTERN									
FINISHING									
VARIETY CHARACTERISTIC									
memo								total point	



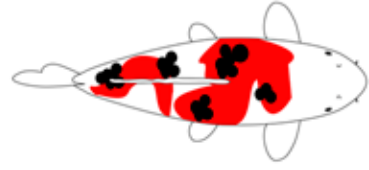
koi ranking by your judge

BODY									
QUALITY	Hi sumi skin								
PATTERN									
FINISHING									
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memo								total point	



koi ranking by your judge

BODY									
QUALITY	Hi sumi skin								
PATTERN									
FINISHING									
VARIETY CHARACTERISTIC									
memo								total point	



koi ranking by your judge

BODY									
QUALITY	Hi sumi skin								
PATTERN									
FINISHING									
VARIETY CHARACTERISTIC									
memo								total point	

model ranking

A	B	C	D	E
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chapter

	name
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## Buy, swap and sell

Buy, swap and sell notices can be placed free by members.  
Please call Ian Andrews on 0418 255 897 or email [ia222@hotmail.com](mailto:ia222@hotmail.com)  
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RELN oval tub 1000 L, 2300 x 1100 x 550 mm \$100  
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# ProfiDrum

**ProfiDrum is pleased to announce that it has partnered with Clear Water Koi as Australia's sole distributor for ProfiDrum Filters.**

ProfiDrum is the worlds No:1 choice for Koi hobbyist who want the very best in pond filtration as they know the best possible water quality creates the perfect environment for producing outstanding healthy Koi.

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**No other rotary drum filter has the build quality, reputation or reliability of a ProfiDrum Filter.**

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The ProfiDrum Eco 45/40 has been designed for the Koi hobbyist who wants the very best in Koi pond filtration. All critical components are made from durable 316 stainless steel whilst the housing is made with economical polypropylene. The ProfiDrum Eco 45/40 uses a 70 micron stainless steel mesh for the best possible water quality with a maximum flow rate of 25,000 liters per hour.



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*ProfiDrum Eco 45/40 Specifications: 94cm L x 60cm W x 54cm H, 3 x 110mm inlets, 2 x 110mm outlets, 1 x 110mm waste, 25,000 litres per hour.*

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*ProfiDrum CombiBio 50 Specifications: 207cm L x 82cm W x 97cm H, 4 x 110mm inlets, 2 x 110mm outlets, 1 x 110mm waste, 100 to 200 liters K1 Bio Media, 50,000 liters per hour.*

## BlueLab Guardian Monitor

The BlueLab Guardian Monitor is the industry standard for aquaculture, hydroponics and professional Koi hobbyist alike. The BlueLab Guardian Monitor provides 24/7 continuous monitoring of pH, TDS and temperature so there's no need for manual measurements and spot checks. This not only saves you time and money but provides you with continuous and accurate measurements of your pond water allowing you to maintain the perfect environment for your healthy Koi.



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**For all inquiries please call 0419 165 782 or [info@clearwaterkoi.com.au](mailto:info@clearwaterkoi.com.au)**

**Clear**  **WaterKoi**

# The forthcoming ZNA International Show

## A date for your diary

*Kate McGill-Andrews*

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At last! After the COVID-19 desert of the last three years, finally, Japan is opening up to international visitors and shows are again being held. One of, if not the most, significant ZNA shows is scheduled for 11–13 November this year, a must for any 'Koi Kichi' with thoughts of travelling to Japan in the near future. The 58th International Nishikigoi Show is being staged at Tani Fish Farm, Narita, Chiba, about an hour outside Tokyo. Narita of course, is a major Japanese airport site, so very convenient for international visitors to the show. Additionally, Narita village itself is beautiful with a magnificent temple and garden site—a place Ian and I have visited several times over the years when time has allowed.

Tokyo, only an hour away on the train, could also be added to your itinerary, offering an amazing array of different experiences from the ancient (the magnificent temples and interesting shopping in the Asakusa district) to the ultra-modern, high-fashion areas epitomised by the Ginza. Definitely something for every taste, not to mention the incredible array of dining



**One of the beautiful temples in Narita.**

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**The ZNA Koi Show.**

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**A tranquil lake on the Narita temple site.**

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**Have a ride in a rickshaw.**

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opportunities!

The ZNA International Show offers an incredible experience to see some absolutely top class Go-Sanke koi (Kohaku, Sanke and Showa) as well as excellent Utsurimono, Koromo and superb quality more unusual varieties like Matsukawabake and Kin Kikokuryu. I have



**A magnificent temple at Asakus, Tokyo.**

---

always come away from this show having seen a really special and memorable koi, the 'S Legend' being a classic example; a Kohaku so close to perfect she achieved a 100% vote for Grand Champion, probably a once in a lifetime event.

Definitely one for the koi calendar. ■





Another view of the lake at the Narita temple site.

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Narita village street.

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Street in Narita village.

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# Membership application/renewal

All details are kept confidential and will only be used by the AKA for the purpose of keeping in touch with you.

## Tick appropriate box:

- New member application for Sydney branch.....
- New member application for Mid-Northern branch.....
- Membership renewal (due 1 July every year).....

## Fees:

- Membership (includes your family) ..... \$40.....
- Junior (under 16) ..... \$15.....
- Total ..... \$\_\_\_\_\_

## Your details:

First name \_\_\_\_\_

Second name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of spouse or partner \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

*I apply for membership and agree to abide by the regulations of the Australian Koi Association*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please send a copy of this form to:

AKA Membership Officer  
 Heinz Zimmermann  
 Mobile 0428 478 594  
 Email zimmo55@yahoo.com.au

EFT Details:  
 Australian Koi Association  
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No.3 High-protein Crumble	1 kg	\$20.00
No.4 High-protein Crumble	1 kg	\$20.00
Baby Koi Pellets	1 kg	\$20.00
Pond Sticks (great in winter)	4 kg	\$50.00
AKA Growth Food	5 kg	\$40.00
AKA Growth Food (small pellet)	5 kg	\$40.00
AKA 42.5% Hi Protein Sinking	5 kg	\$60.00
Orca Quick Grow Medium	10 kg	\$95.00
Orca Quick Grow Small	10 kg	\$95.00

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Malachite Green	20 gms	\$30.00
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Condy's Crystals	200 gms	\$30.00
Oil of Cloves	100 ml	\$30.00
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Please Note: Members' orders for supplies for delivery at the monthly meetings are to be in the Tuesday prior to the meeting.

Members ordering supplies for postal delivery should send money order or cheque payable to Australian Koi Association to PO Box 6222 Dural DC 2158.

For postal orders email Anthony Waring at [anthony@personalautomotive.com.au](mailto:anthony@personalautomotive.com.au) with your order and address, and Anthony will calculate delivery costs.

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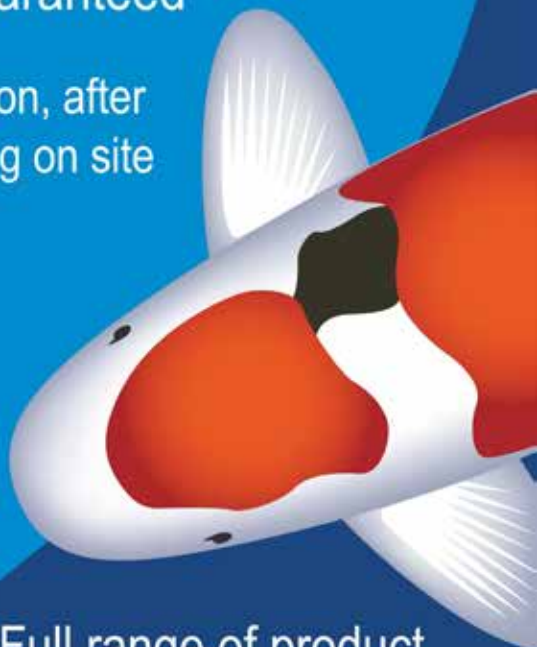
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