

August-September 2022

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AKA Reporter





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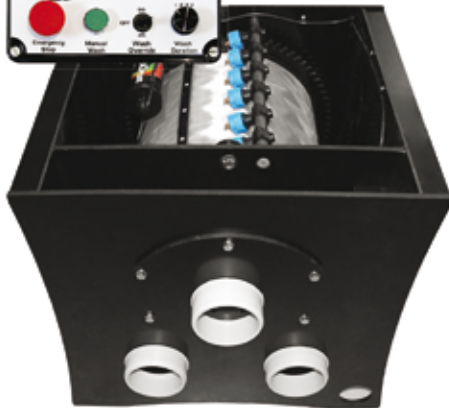
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AKA Reporter



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President's Report



Currently Kate and I are in sunny Scotland and far away from the activities of our club. However it gives me the opportunity to consider some ideas for activities for AKA before Christmas.

I'd like to offer AKA's congratulations to all the WA Koi Club

exhibitors and members on their success at their recent koi show. To Allan Bennett and Phong Ta for once again taking out the top trophies. I'm pleased to also report that a contingent of our AKA members made the trek this year to support our Friendship Club in the West, including Lee Nguyen who was their ZNA Head Judge.

We need to plan for AKA's 23rd Annual Young Koi Show. I would tentatively suggest the Meeting Room at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre where there are BBQ facilities and a rather pleasant outlook. We have the Japanese-style clear show bags and should consider allowing all 18 varieties this year in Class 2 (200–299 mm) and Class 3 (300–399 mm). I would suggest Sunday 18 September. Start at 10.00 am, judging 10.45 am, followed by BBQ lunch and departure, say 2.30 pm.

Secondly, we have previously spoken about organising a Sunday Pond Tour in October. I'd suggest Sunday 16 October as the date. We will start by meeting at the huge pond of Anthony and Romy Waring's Dural home at 9.30 am; then onto Kate and my ponds at West Pennant Hills for morning tea, and finally head off to Dave and Mandy Keen's magnificent set up at Sommersby on the Central Coast hinterland for a leisurely lunch and pond inspection of Dave's state-of-the-art pond and filtration set-up. Then an early afternoon return home.

One of the recent topics that came up on our AKA WhatsApp site via TK Hing was about Kohaku, and the need to dramatically try to improve this variety here in Sydney. Suggestions included the need to try to create a register of the various parent koi bloodlines our members have and are using. Sharing fry to increase the number of quality koi raised could also be considered. It was also mentioned that too many breeders keep

way too many numbers of fry, resulting in poor growth rates, etc. For years many breeders have mixed sanke bloodlines across their kohaku with the negative result being the loss of pure blood kohaku.

By establishing known bloodlines of Kohaku e.g. Allan Bennett's line, Ming's line, Ralf's line, Bill Youl's line, etc., we might get to see which spawning will give us the best kohaku offspring to use going forward.

I would also promote the idea this coming breeding season with our focus on Kohaku, that early next year—say in March—we could hold a Kohaku Breeders' night to gauge which results might show some promise. Just an idea.

See you at the September Meeting night.

Yours in koi

Ian Andrews, President, AKA ■

An advertisement for AKA Koi Auctions. The text "AKA KOI AUCTIONS" is written in large, bold, black letters at the top. Below the text is a stylized illustration of a red and white koi fish swimming upwards. A grey auctioneer's gavel is positioned above the fish, with motion lines indicating it is being used. To the right of the fish, a hand is shown holding a smartphone, with a signal icon above it, indicating that the auction accepts credit cards. At the bottom of the advertisement, the text "NOW ACCEPTS CREDIT CARDS" is written 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

Meetings of the AKA

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 8 August 2022

The August meeting of the AKA will be on Monday 8 August 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. Breeding Kohaku—Tips and Tricks
8. Raffle Draw

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

Meeting of the AKA, Monday 12 September 2022

The September meeting of the AKA will be on Monday 12 September 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: Kate Andrews, on Koi Appreciation—Kohaku.
8. Raffle Draw

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

Koi food

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

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:

Branko Medanic
Russell & Robyn Downes
Graeme Downes
Simon Chung ■

AKA's banking details

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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 6th Aug 2022
Saturday 24th Sept 2022
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 September 3rd 2022
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

The basics of koi assessment during judging

Part 4: Finish



For those following this series you should have already seen the three preceding articles.

- 1–Body
- 2–Skin
- 3–Pattern

A quick recap with some additions:

Body—covers shape, bodyline, physiology, plus posture and swimming form. These last two concern how a koi displays itself. A koi that is unable to maintain equilibrium is demonstrating a fault that may not be visible.

Quality—skin quality (*teri*), homogenous colour, *sashi*, *kiwa*.

Pattern—distribution of colours, balance.

This leaves us with one last element—**Finish**—which deals with the position of the colours, and variety characteristics.

Continuing with the analogy of a painting the appreciation point 'Finish' can be considered as applying the finishing touches. In this case, to all the other elements we've previously mentioned, i.e. body, skin and pattern.

With much of this element dependent on specific varieties it becomes difficult to discuss it in general terms. It requires specifics over and above the very basic guidelines in the article on pattern.

However, as this series will conclude with an insight into the judging seminars I will go a step further and discuss some of the specific elements of Sanke appreciation as Dave Brown has an illustration of a Sanke that probably predates me joining my first ever koi club.

Sanke are one of the older established varieties and also one of the big three (Gosanke) that have dominated the major awards at koi shows around the world and from the beginning of time (koi show wise). The first GC of the AJNPA was a Sanke.

I have seen many Western publications that suggest Sanke are a cross between a Kohaku and a Shiro Bekko. However, Masayuki Amano in his book *Live Jewels—General Survey of Fancy Carp*, one of the oldest Japanese publications with some English language, says they came about through a crossing of Ai Goromo and Kohaku, and furthermore that both Sanke and Shiro Bekko occurred from the spawning. The origins of these two varieties are not so important. What is important is that once they were established they were expected to conform to some laid-down standards. For the Shiro Bekko it was easy. Hi and Ki Bekkos had been around for years and their key feature was the sumi pattern on the body. Please note: there is no mention of a head pattern. So basically a stepping stone pattern starting at the shoulder and going down the body. Like any pattern 'balance' is the key. Therefore, a feature of the Bekko is a clean head devoid of pattern.

For the new kid on the block—the Sanke—a new standard was required. A melding of the Kohaku for the beni pattern and the Bekko for the sumi was the accepted solution. This is what probably gave birth to the notion that a Sanke

is a cross between a Kohaku and a Bekko. As far as the components of its pattern are concerned, that's true, even if its biological ancestors weren't.

So our Sanke standard is a combination of red and black patterns on a white skin. (*Beni and Sumi on Shiroji*) I once heard it mentioned on a video that a Sanke must have a good Kohaku and Bekko pattern, but please take note, that isn't what I've just written. I've just stated patterns of red and black. This may sound like a moot point but I have seen Sanke that fit the Kohaku/Bekko ideal that look really messy and not attractive at all. A Sanke requires a pattern constructed of those two colours that work together to provide a pleasing BALANCED pattern.

This ancient graphic of Dave's illustrates the essence of Sanke very well. A combined, balanced, red and black pattern. On its own the Bekko pattern isn't very exciting but combined with the red it's a different story. I first became aware of Dave's illustration in 1988 and in all likelihood it became imprinted on my subconscious.



A more modern example is photo A, above right. This fish was the 45bu Champion at the 54th ZNA International Show and features in an article in *Nichirin* by Tadao Endo of the ZNA Iwate Chapter. In his assessment of the sumi he makes no reference to a Bekko pattern. He focuses on how the two large sumi markings on the left hand side complement the overall pattern to make a good Sanke.



Photo A

I agree because this Sanke has a Sanke pattern that is balanced and takes my eye from head to tail.

Sumi on the head

One of the Bekko traits is the clean head and this has given rise to the notion that a Sanke can't have sumi on its head. Some even suggest that that means such a koi should be considered as a Showa. Dave Brown as covered the Sanke vs Showa debate in issue 34 so I won't got into that any further. But, Sanke do appear quite regularly with sumi 'before the shoulder'. Quite often to the detriment of the balance of the pattern. However, some don't. A good example is the photo B, a Sanke that I regularly saw in magazines prior to seeing it in the flesh at two consecutive AJNPA shows. Yes it has sumi on the head and No! it doesn't upset the balance of the pattern. Sometimes contrary guidelines may actually be complementary—a sort of Yin-Yang relationship. So beware of treating guidelines like rules. A sumi spot like photo A can be considered a positive when assessing pattern and a negative under the heading of Finish.



Photo B

In the upcoming judging exercise opportunities exist where the weight you give both positives and negatives can be expressed. On that note I will leave you with an example of a ZNA Seminar judging paper.

The next article in this series will focus on a theoretical exercise wherein I will supply 5 graphic images of Sanke and ask you to rank them in order according to the aforementioned criteria.

That same exercise has been undertaken by five koi judges and you can compare your findings against theirs. I've asked them to supply some of their reasoning by way of explanation. ■



A superb koi pond and Japanese-style garden.

Showa—a dramatic picture

Kate McGill-Andrews

Introducing Showa

Showa, or more correctly, Showa Sanshoku, is a member of the so-called 'big three' koi varieties, (*Go-Sanke*—Kohaku, Sanke and Showa). The red and white Kohaku is easily recognisable, but Sanke and Showa both demonstrate red, (*hi*) black (*sumi*) and white (*shiro*) patterns. To distinguish Showa (photo 1), remember that they may be thought of as 'black-based' koi, meaning that the distribution of sumi is distinctive, generally appearing on both forehead and nose, as pectoral fin joints (*motoguro*) and as large, often jagged patterns on the body, reaching below the lateral line. Showa may be either fully scaled (*wagoi*), or *doitsu*. *Doitsu* means that the koi has only single rows of large scales on either side of the dorsal line and along each lateral line photo 2).



Photo 1 A powerful impression.

Classifying Showa

Classifying Go-Sanke koi is not generally a problem for most hobbyists; they are usually well recognised. However, the tri-coloured, non-metallic koi varieties Showa and Sanke are still regularly confused, particularly due to the emergence of modern (*Kindai* - photo 3) Showa with larger areas of white skin and the development of Sanke, particularly in Japan, with more powerful, very dense sumi markings. It has been suggested that cross breeding with Showa to improve the quality of Sanke sumi may be the reason for the change in Sanke appearance, since obvious Sanke (from the body and fin sumi markings) occasionally demonstrate sumi on the head, a Showa trait (photo 4).

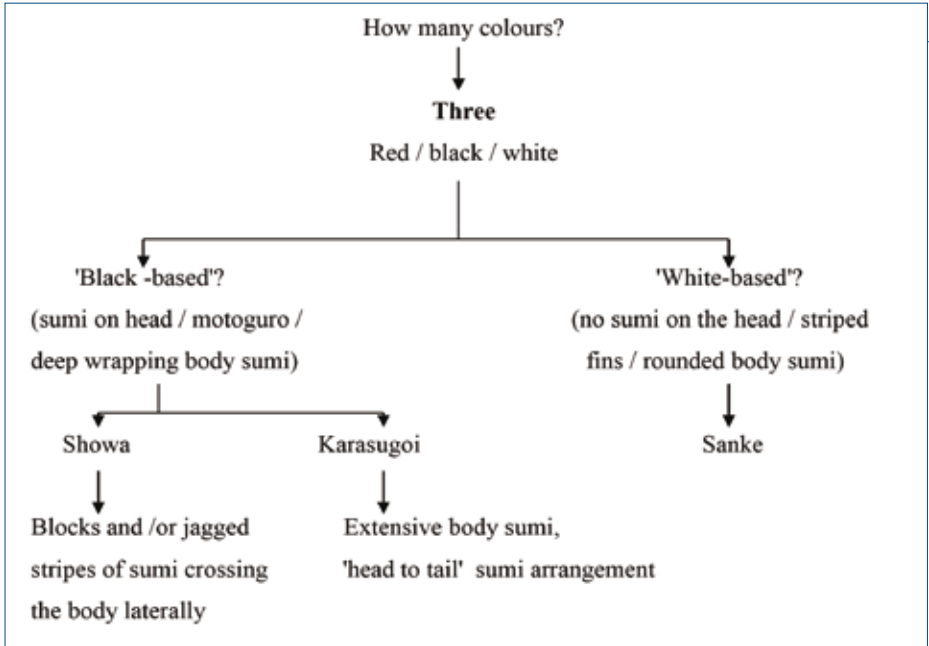
Traditionally, Showa had very heavy sumi patterns (photo 5), easily recognisable. It is also important to remember that if *hi* appears only on the forehead of a Showa, it is classified with *Tancho*, not Showa.

In distinguishing Showa from Sanke when there is some doubt, the simplest line of questioning to follow relates to the positioning of the sumi.

Is the koi 'black-based' or 'white-based'?

As opposed to 'black-based' sumi positioning, explained above, 'white-based' means that the head displays no sumi, (or at most, a small spot or two on the forehead or cheek, never on the nose) and fins have no *motoguro* (black joints), instead being either plain white, or showing small sumi stripes (*tejima* or *tezumi*). On the body, sumi markings are generally smaller than those on 'black-based' koi, more rounded in appearance and usually confined above the lateral lines. Compare the sumi of the Showa in photo 1 with that of the classical Sanke in photo 6. The differences are very obvious. However, looking at the Aka Sanke in photo 4, some confusion is perhaps more understandable.

It is worth noting that the 'black-based' *Karasugoi* (crow koi, classified with *Kawarimono*), although generally only black and white, occasionally demonstrate some *hi*, the most common example being a *Beni Kumonryu*, always *doitsu*. Sumi arrangement usually distinguishes *Beni Kumonryu* from Showa. Sumi patterns on the body, usually very extensive, tend to run laterally



Key points for classifying Showa.



Photo 2 Doitsu Showa.



Photo 3 Kindai Showa.



Photo 4 Sanke.

from head to tail (photo 7), very different from the patterns generally seen on Showa—usually in large blocks or “lightening stripes”, often crossing the back and head from side to side.



Photo 5 Traditional style Showa with heavy sumi.



Photo 6 A classic Sanke.



Photo 7 Beni Kumonryu, note lateral sumi.



Photo 8 Hi Showa, excellent sumi and kiwa.



Photo 9 Boke or undeveloped sumi.



Photo 10 Kanoko Showa.

Showa includes:

- Traditional Showa—a ‘black-based’, black, red and white koi with very predominant sumi arranged in large blocks on both head and body (photo 5). White patterns tend to be minimal. Pectoral fins generally demonstrate motoguro.
- Hi Showa—a Showa, which at first glance appears to be a Hi Utsuri. Only hi and sumi are readily visible from above. However, unlike Hi Utsuri, somewhere on a Hi Showa,

(a three coloured, ‘black-based’ red, white and black koi), a clear line may be seen separating red and very minimal white patterns, usually discovered low down around the sides of the koi, or on the tip of the nose. Unlike Hi Utsuri, a Hi Showa will always have white finnage. Photo 8 shows an excellent example, as hi patterns dominate the back with only very small areas of white skin appearing on the head and peduncle areas.

- Showa—a ‘black-based’, black, red and white koi with each of the three colours appearing



Photo 11 Koroimo Showa.



Photo 12 Tancho Showa



Photo 13 Kin Showa.



Photo 14 Mature Showa.



Photo 15 Note the head is bent to the right.



Photo 16 Bent back pectoral fins.

in roughly the same proportions, still regarded as an 'ideal' balance. The Showa in photo (1) is a useful example.

- Kindai (modern) Showa—shiro and hi patterns predominate, as shown on photo 3. Sumi can be quite minimal, and is characterised by its separation from hi, giving a 'lighter-weight' impression.
- Kage Showa—All white skin on the body has a shadowed, or reticulated appearance. True Kage Showa is classified with Kawarimono under ZNA rules. Confusion with Boke Showa, (photo 9) – demonstrating some

undeveloped, reticulated sumi), is common.

Boke Showa is classified with Showa. NOTE: Kanoko (dappled fawn) Showa (photo 10), where some, or all hi patterns appear as very small markings on individual scale areas, is classified with Kawarimono. Koroimo Showa, (photo 11), with a reticulated effect over hi patterns, as well as distinct Showa sumi, is classified with Koroimo, as is Goshiki Showa, demonstrating a reticulated or vignette effect over hi and white (or white alone—modern or true Goshiki). Tancho Showa, (photo 12) with a single hi marking appearing on the forehead, is



Photo 17 Menware or lightening stripe of sumi down the head.



Photo 18 Poor quality shiroji.



Photo 19 Kiwa of sumi is ragged.



Photo 20 A nicely balanced Showa.



Photo 21 A Showa without head sumi.

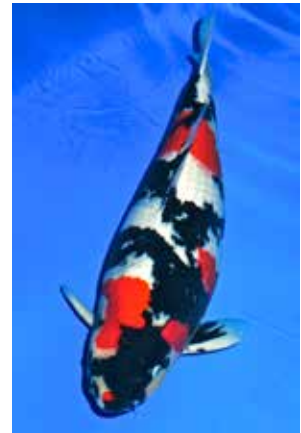


Photo 22 A Showa without head sumi.

classified with Tancho and the metallic Kin Showa with Hikari Utsuri (photo 13).

Showa may also demonstrate kin-gin-rin scaling, (at least 2-3 complete rows of very shiny scales on either side of the dorsal). *Gin* scales are silver, appearing on shiro and sumi, while *kin* scales look gold, appearing on hi. Kin-Gin-Rin Showa is classified with Kin-Gin-Rin A.

Appreciating Showa

- A real achievement for Showa, (photo 14) demonstrates a koi with a fully mature, powerfully impressive figure. Notice the widest point of the body is at the shoulder, with a gentle curve to a well-muscled tail area

or peduncle, completing the strong outline. The head displays the broad, blunt nose so attractive on large koi. Compare the figures of the koi in photos 3 and 14. Impressions, from the figure alone, are very different, emphasising its critical importance. A thin peduncle or rather narrow, pointed head are common for Showa. True deformities, for example the head set at an angle to the body (photo 15) or bent back (angel) pectoral fins (photo 16) are unfortunately, also seen all too often for this variety.

- The requirement for high skin quality is always a given. White ground should look pure white, soft and smooth without visible scale edges. Compare photos 14 and 18. Dull, yellowish, shiroji is highly undesirable. Fukurin, a subtle mesh or light vignette effect most clearly visible on white skin, is now often seen on mature Go-Sanke (Kohaku, Sanke and Showa) and is an admired feature of high quality, glowing skin (photos 14 and 23).
- Hi (or *beni*) should look thick and homogeneous, by which we mean that the colour should be even within and between pattern elements (see photos 1 and 8). The texture of hi on the head may look a little different because there are no scales, but the colour should match that on the body, when hi development is complete. Remember, hi on the body, during rapid growth and development of a koi may look a little lighter. A darker central line within each scale area on hi patterns, at this stage; can indicate hi colour and density will “catch-up” later.
- The quality, position, state of development and quantity of sumi is vital to the impression created by a Showa, as it is for Utsurimono. Large blocks of fully developed, lacquer-black, dense, glossy sumi present a powerful image very much associated with Showa. Photos 1, 8 and 14 demonstrate this very strong impression. Occasionally, Showa will also present areas where sumi has vignette effect, incompletely finished (*boke*), which is particularly attractive and often adds to, rather than detracts from the overall impression created by the koi, as demonstrated in photo 17. Sumi should appear on the head of a Showa and is often very distinctive, as shown in photo 1. The classical ‘lightening stripe’ head pattern is called *menware* or *hachiware* (photo 17).

- Edges of both sumi and hi markings have different requirements depending on whether they face the head or tail. Trailing edges (facing the tail—*kiwa*) should look sharply defined, either following scale borders (*maruzome*) or cutting across them (*kamisori*). Compare photos 19 and 8. Sharp, smooth kiwa enhances the impressiveness of sumi. Good kiwa of sumi is more difficult to achieve than kiwa of hi. Leading edges of pattern elements against white skin may show a blue or pink, blurred border respectively, where sumi or hi can be seen through shiro. This effect is called *sashi* and, if present, should look even along each border and involve no more than one scale width. Sumi against hi should not demonstrate *sashi*. If visible, it is likely to indicate a thin hi plate.
- Patterns are never prescribed, but desirable features include a good balance of all three colours from nose to tail (photo 20). A match between nose and final tail pattern element is pleasing; for example, a little white on the nose is ideally matched by white just before the tail. In contrast to photo 20, the Showa in photo 21 has no sumi on the head, which appears rather out of balance with the heavily patterned body. Interestingly, for Showa, a deficit of hi in an area can be effectively balanced by sumi, as photos 1 (minimal head hi) and 22 (large window without hi on the body) demonstrate.
- Although not essential for appreciation, black pectoral fin joints (*motoguro*) are an important part of the impression created by a Showa. Ideally, they should involve no more than a third of the fin area, have neat borders and look symmetrical. Photo 2 provides a useful example.
- Not so easy to judge from a photograph, the deportment of the koi should be good. It should look alert, swim freely and hold out its fins. It should also be level in the water.

A dramatic picture

Showa, like Utsurimono, generally display very eye-catching sumi (photo 23), often arranged in highly dramatic and memorable patterns, complementing the other colours in a unique way, particularly if sumi is bordered by white

and pattern edges are very sharply defined. White skin tends to look whiter because of the lovely blue interface between black and white. A top quality Showa, regardless of style, is hard to beat for dramatic impact (photos 1, 20 and 23).

In Australia, Showa is a variety having benefited from a lot of attention (photo 24). Because only a small proportion of Showa result from any spawning (the black fry), hobbyists have found it a useful variety to concentrate breeding experiments on, given the small volumes of water generally available to raise fry. The advantage of not having to either raise hundreds of thousands of baby koi before the first cull, or to indiscriminately discard (or give away) a large part of every spawn before the koi even hatch due to lack of space, has made Showa breeding an attractive proposition. In consequence, Australian koi hobbyists have been rewarded by the appearance of some exceptional Showa in recent years, easily approaching Japanese standards of quality. Only final size is often lacking, a problem throughout all varieties in Australia and something our most dedicated breeders are working hard on, to remedy. ■



Photo 23 A dramatic picture.



Photo 24 Tosai Australian Showa.

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

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A Showa story

In late 2008, the Australian spring, Lars Lindberg hatched a Showa spawning containing about half a dozen fry like none he had produced before. They grew exceptionally well and had excellent conformations. As they reached a size at which their quality became apparent, excitement mounted. These were very special koi. Lars and his wife Ros very kindly allowed Ian and I to purchase my favourite of the group, laughingly christened “Nugget”, because of all the awards she was bound to achieve as she matured. At this stage she had little developed sumi, but truly beautiful skin (photo 25).

Horrifyingly, a few months after we took her home, our Showa rapidly developed a dreadful Aeromonas infection, resulting in a huge hole in her side. We think she may have initially damaged her skin, charging around after food, allowing the infection to take hold. I cannot recall how many antibiotic injections and topical treatments she stoically endured, taking everything so calmly then returning to feeding avidly. She never gave up, although Ian and I came close to doing so over the many months it took, before she started to heal properly. At this stage, she became a beloved pond pet, we never thought she would be a show koi; she would be too badly scarred. However, over the next few years the scars faded entirely, a very rare occurrence. No pattern elements were adversely affected and in 2013 she fulfilled all our initial hopes, taking Grand Champion at the Australian Koi Association Show at 60 cm. Nugget has been a koi in a million and was always a real character in the pond. Now retired, she will remain special to us as long as she lives. ■



Photo 25 Nugget at 39 cm.



Photo 26 Nugget at 60 cm.

AKA Mid Northern Region, Coffs Harbour

Gavan Gribble

Some time ago our Coffs club determined that we should conduct a koi show. However we realised that if we did it in the time frame wanted we were likely to compromise the quality of the Sydney event as our event would be so big. So we postponed the concept, which left us with a gap to fill.

OK—stop laughing. Now the serious bit.

As a precursor to our own local show we agreed to stage a ‘judging criteria’ event; something that was aimed at growing members’ knowledge of what constitutes a better-than-average fish, what fish they may therefore wish to breed with, and certainly which fish they would enter in a show environment.

To do this we will stage the event over three or four major concepts:

1. In the April 2022-Number 652 ZNA *Nichirin* magazine they published a seminar article wherein they asked subscribers to score five Kohaku koi against standard pre-determined ZNA judging criteria. We will ask members to do just that—but perhaps use Sanke.
2. Then, discuss the outcomes and the critical components of that assessment. We may even do it against the magazine criteria as well as a set of five Sankes. To be determined.

3. Now the even more interesting bit. We propose to have five previously-unseen live Sanke’s for the members to assess. Live fish that have not been seen by members, bar perhaps one.
4. We go through the same ZNA criteria process and then work our way through why fish A was better than fish E, for example.

We see the benefits in member education, giving members a reason to attend (a live fish present), being able to critique their own fish against now known and preferred standards, and then being able to make informed decisions when buying their next fish.

The very real and most valuable components here are (a) live fish, (b) ZNA standards to compare with and (c) informed opinions to explain why.

I have included below the relevant judging criteria from *Nichirin* magazine. ■

koi A		koi B		koi C		koi D		koi E	
順位 RANK 総合得点 SCORE		順位 RANK 総合得点 SCORE		順位 RANK 総合得点 SCORE		順位 RANK 総合得点 SCORE		順位 RANK 総合得点 SCORE	
体形 Body (40)		体形 Body (40)		体形 Body (40)		体形 Body (40)		体形 Body (40)	
質 Quality (30)		質 Quality (30)		質 Quality (30)		質 Quality (30)		質 Quality (30)	
模様 Patterns (20)		模様 Patterns (20)		模様 Patterns (20)		模様 Patterns (20)		模様 Patterns (20)	
仕上げ Finishing (10)		仕上げ Finishing (10)		仕上げ Finishing (10)		仕上げ Finishing (10)		仕上げ Finishing (10)	
品種特性 Variety Characteristic		品種特性 Variety Characteristic		品種特性 Variety Characteristic		品種特性 Variety Characteristic		品種特性 Variety Characteristic	
memo		memo		memo		memo		memo	

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Please see clearwaterkoi.com.au for all ProfiDrum models available.

2022 Dave Pogson Memorial Breeders Trophy

Kate McGill-Andrews

Our May General Meeting night set the stage for the annual Dave Pogson Breeders Trophy, with twelve entries of 10 koi in each bin, an excellent turnout. Lee Nguyen and Paul Miglionico judged the competition and found the overall standard high, warranting commendation to all the breeders entering. Quality just seems to improve every year.

For newer members, this award was set up to remember Dave Pogson, who really encouraged koi hobbyists to breed their own koi. Members are asked to enter a group of koi that exhibit uniform growth, excellent conformation and quality as well as being a fine example of the variety they represent. Although not a rule set out for the competition, ten koi of the same variety are preferred, being far more challenging to produce.

Believe me, from Ian's and my experience, this is a huge ask. In the last thirteen years or so, this is only the third time we have managed to produce ten babies remotely worth entering! Generally, we end up with only two or three youngsters with any promise at all.



Above: superb kin-gin-rin scaling on Kim and Tai's group of koi.

Below: an excellent turnout, 12 bins for the competition.





Above: Kim and Tai, delighted to win the Jack Cohen Memorial prize.

Left: Kim and Tai's tategoi Kin-Gin-Rin Showa wins the Jack Cohen Memorial Award.



This is a very difficult competition for several varieties. For example, Showa and Shiro Utsuri very rarely achieve any depth of red (hi) or sumi (black) so young. Unfortunately for this competition, besides consistency of appearance between the koi exhibited, at least some degree of finish is also required. For the competition this year, Kim and Tai Trieu entered a batch including both Showa and Utsurimono most of which also demonstrated incredibly bright kin-gin-rin scaling. Quite an achievement and one of the Showa went on to win the Jack Cohen Memorial Award for best individual tategoi (a koi with future potential, but already beautiful on the day).

After much discussion, Lee and Paul awarded the Dave Pogson trophy to a bin holding ten really superb Yamabuki Ogon, very well grown and like 'peas in a pod' (photo 5). A remarkably uniform group of excellent koi, all with good body shape and shine. Congratulations go to Heinz Zimmermann who won this year.

Congratulations to everyone participating— koi in every group had merit. Your continued efforts to improve the quality of your koi will contribute to the long-term betterment of koi in Australia and our club. We all look forward to seeing many of the koi exhibited at future shows. ■



Above: a very special group of Yamabuki Ogon.



Above: Heinz Zimmermann (centre) takes out the 2022 Dave Pogson trophy.



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 _____

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Name of spouse or partner _____

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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

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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

MEDICINE

Malachite Green	20 gms	\$30.00
Methylene Blue	18 gms	\$30.00
Clean Fish CF 50	1 litre	\$45.00
Condy's Crystals	200 gms	\$30.00
Oil of Cloves	100 ml	\$30.00
Hydrogen Peroxide	600 ml	\$10.00

PUMPS

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HIBLOW 60 litre/hour	\$500.00
HIBLOW 80 litre/hour	\$530.00
Aquarium Air Pump	\$25.00

WATER

Sodium Thiosulphate	1 kg	\$15.00
Extra Water Purifier	500 ml	\$10.00

MISCELLANEOUS

Carbonate hardness raising	2 kg	\$6.00
'Virkon S' broad spectrum disinfectant	250 g	\$25.00
Air Tubing Clear (roll)		\$50.00
Plastic Bags (large) each		\$2.00
AKA Club Baseball Caps		\$20.00

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pH Test Kit	\$20.00
Carbon Hardness Test Kit	\$20.00

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.

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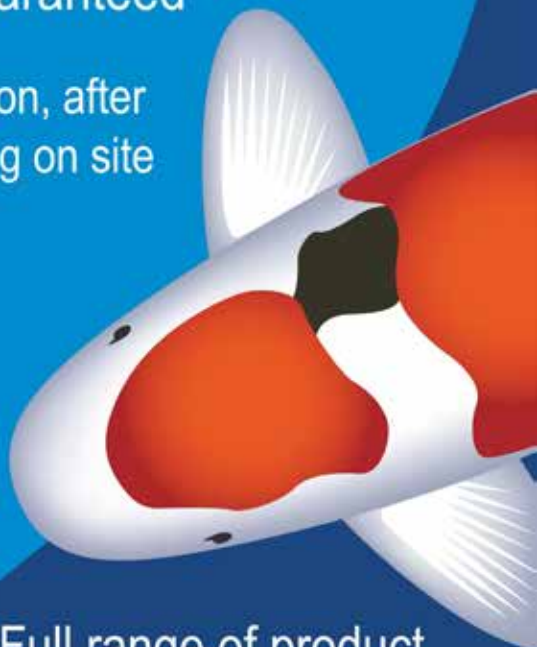
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