

Aquatic Experience – Chicago 2017

The (ACA) American Cichlid Association Fish Competition

The ACA Competition takes place on November 3-5, 2017 as part of the Aquatic Experience-Chicago show, held at The Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center Hotel, 1551 N Thoreau Dr, Schaumburg, Illinois 60173.

A competition of multiple classes in nearly all new and old world cichlid groups with awards given out in each class. This is a great opportunity to share your enthusiasm of your particular breed with other old, new and potential hobbyist... plus the opportunity for you to show off your fish!

General Rules and Regulations

Exhibitor Qualifications

1. Entries are open to anyone. One does not need to be an ACA Member to enter.
2. No limit on the number of entries per contestant.
3. No entry will be in more than one class per entry.
4. One entry per tank.

Entry Fees and Deadlines

1. The cost for each entry is \$10.00
2. Each contestant receives one (1) 3-Day Show Floor Only pass (This pass is per contestant, not per fish entry). 3-Day Pass is for the contestant only – any additional persons must purchase a day pass or weekend pass online or at show site.
3. Discounted 3-day seminar only pass will be available to all contestants at show site for \$39.
4. All entry forms and fees must be received no later than 8:00pm (Eastern Standard Time) on October 19, 2017
5. To enter click **here** or go to www.AquaticExperience.com
6. All exhibit entries MUST be set up on Thursday, November 2, 2017 between 8:00am and 8:00pm only. If any exhibit needs to be relocated for any reason, only the Show Committee staff will be allowed to do so.
7. Tampering with any exhibit other than your own is strictly forbidden.
8. Judging will take place Friday between 9:00pm and 11:59pm, only the judges will be permitted in the show area during this time.
9. Decisions of the judges on class changes, disqualifications, and show results will be final.
10. Awards will be announced on Saturday at 10:30am in the competition area.
11. Cash awards given to 1st place winner in each class, plus \$100 Reserve Best of Show and \$500 Grand Prize

General Rules

1. All entry exhibits will be under the control of the ACA/AE Show Committee.
2. Entry exhibits may not be dismantled or removed prior to 4:00pm on the Sunday November 5, 2017.
3. All entry exhibits must be removed from the show area by 6:00pm on Sunday, November 5, 2017.
4. Any entries not removed by 6:00pm on Sunday will become property of ACA/AE.
5. Aquatic Experience, American Cichlid Association and the Hotel will NOT be held responsible for any loss or damages incurred during the show.
6. ACA Committee and AE management will do its utmost to ensure the highest amount of care and security is provided to each entry.
7. ACA Committee and AE management reserves the right to periodically modify and make changes to these rules as it deems necessary.

Specific Info

Equipment

1. AE will provide aquarium kits in standard 10 and 20H sizes. The kits will include power filters, heaters and lids with lighting.
2. Black gravel with a neutral background will be in each and every tank for a more natural exhibit.
3. No background color, text or graphics will be allowed to be added by the exhibitor until after the conclusion of the judging. No equipment or decorations may be placed inside the tanks unless provided by the Show Committee.
4. Tanks will be bare except for provided equipment.
5. Tops will be provided for all tanks to prevent jumpers.
6. Municipal water treated with dechlorinator will be available on site. Contestants choosing to bring their own water are advised to coordinate prior to arrival at the convention.
7. Aquatic Experience will provide stands for tanks.
8. No sprays, window cleaners or other chemicals will be permitted in the show area except for approved dechlorinators and other water treatment chemicals.
9. ACA Committee and AE management will not be responsible for contestant's equipment, materials or supplies left in Show Room.