

Candidate Requirements & Suggestions for the **Koi Health Advisor (“KHA”) Program**

Requirements

Students and Graduates of the Program **must**:

§ agree that participation in the Program does not make the participants employees of the Associated Koi Clubs of America (“AKCA”) or its affiliates. Successful candidates, i.e., those who are certified by the Program, will be considered volunteers and members of an AKCA committee.

§ agree not to violate applicable federal, state or local laws pertaining to activities relating to the KHA Program.

§ stipulate that they are not now nor do they have plans to become, a koi professional.

§ not charge a fee for any koi related advice or assistance rendered to others.

§ be nominated by an AKCA club in good standing for participation in the KHA Program. Such nomination process is entirely a club matter and is not controlled in any way by the AKCA.

§ be a member in good standing of an AKCA associated club.

Highly recommended

Have, have access to or be willing to acquire:

§ a computer and be able to connect to the Internet and send and receive email.

§ an adequate (in the sole judgment of the course instructor[s]) microscope and associated materials (slides, cover slips, etc.)

§ the testing materials including minimum (A must have@) test kits suggested by the course instructor.

§ any and all other materials required by the course instructors, e.g., text books

Should,

§ be willing to, and capable of, travel to the Ahands-on@ lab class/sessions held at regional locations and to do this at the candidate=s own expense

§ have the time, capacity and the commitment to study the course material

Recommended

Should be willing and able to:

§ speak at club meetings and do other things to promote good koi husbandry particularly in the participant’s home area.

§ travel a reasonable distance to visit troubled ponds - this means having adequate transportation.

§ make a reasonable number of pond visits if requested to do so particularly in times of high need, e.g., typically in Spring time.

§ take the continuing education courses as may be suggested by the Program

Should have:

§ been in the hobby long enough to have developed “a sense of the fish,@ i.e., to know when a fish is acting normal for a given situation and when they are not.

§ a telephone, an answering machine and be willing to field calls regarding pond/koi problems

Nice to have

Should have or be willing to acquire:

§ the capacity to effectively deal with people especially people who may be in distress.

§ the A nice to have@ test kits and other materials not considered mandatory but likely to be needed and/or useful by the course instructors.

Sponsorship

It is suggested that individual clubs consider sponsoring their KHA candidates as these people may well provide a highly desirable service to the club upon successful completion of the Program. This sponsorship could take the form of funding some or all of the required and/or desirable course materials and textbooks. This might also include some or all of the KHA =s phone and/or Internet and/or travel and/or necessary supply replacement costs.