

SCNA STANDARD FOR THE AYAM (MAYLASIAN TYPE) SERAMA

The main characteristics for the Ayam Serama include: a straight head, a short back, perpendicular wings, and a long, full tail (when fully grown). The tail should not touch the comb. When the Ayam Serama is standing you can draw a straight line from the middle of the eye through the middle of the leg, but it is preferred for the beak to be on a perpendicular line to the legs.

The characteristics that should be demonstrated in an Ayam Serama:

The main characteristics are: performance (25%), body (15%), head & tail feathers (25%), head & comb (15%), color (10%), wings (10%), feathers (5%) and feet (5%).

- **Performance (Gaya)**: the maximum score for performance is 25%. Performance is defined as how the Ayam Serama is behaving. It should flap its wings, make vocal sounds, lift its legs like a soldier on parade, and have a tremulous neck (the neck shivers when the bird becomes excited). A bird that squats, lacks confidence, style or presence, or remains still for too long is penalized and awarded a low score.
- **Body (Tubuh)**: the maximum score is 15%. The body must be held upright, with a full breast and short back so that the neck should touch the tail without leaving a gap. A well developed and muscular body is desirable with a double breast being very popular in competition. The tail should not bypass the perpendicular line that goes through the legs (no squirrel tail). The body should be strapping and round. When viewed from above the breast should appear larger than the rear portion. When viewed from the side the body appears V-shaped, the chicken should be short in the back and broad in the shoulder portion.
- **Tail (Ekor)**: the maximum score is 15%. There should be at least 5 main tail feathers, of complementing lengths (they should taper in size neatly) for example there should be no short feathers in between the long feathers. The main tail feathers should overlap slightly and uniformly. The Lesser Side Sickles (soft glossy, shaped feathers that hang on each side of the tail) should be well curved

and have a lustrous shine. The tail should be perpendicular, at a 90-degree angle compared to the body of the rooster, and slightly concave at the end of the back. The tail should not lean left or right. Both sides of the tail must be equal in feather quantity. The tail should be of medium fullness and not overly fanned or overly tight. See the leaf of the Betel Vine for an example of a perfect desired shape.



- **Sickle Feathers (Lawi)**: the maximum score is 10%. The sickle feathers should be pronounced and situated right at the front of the tail, closest to the neck. They should extend at least one inch above the rest of the tail, they should be stiff, and when the Ayam Serama is relaxed, should be held in the center of the body in an upright position. Soft, floppy sickles or sickles that are too long and curl over are faulty and undesirable.
- **Wings (Savap)**: the highest score is 7%. The wings on an Ayam Serama are very important to the entire stance of the bird, and must be held in a vertical position when the bird is relaxed. An excited bird must not pull the wings backwards and up, this is poor form and such birds lose points. When excited or in beauty contests the Serama should lift its wings forward in front

of the legs as though a puppet lifting its arms. The wings should not be too long so as to prevent upright chest carriage or so as to cause a bird to lean forward to accommodate its wings. The perfect length of the wing is to the level of the foot and not dragging the floor. When standing, the wings are perpendicular but pointing a little towards the back.

- **Head (Kepala)**: the highest score is 10%. This means the head and its attributes, including: comb, wattles and beak. The head of the Ayam Serama must be held at over 90 degrees, leaned back and lowered down as far as possible with some birds head position being lower than the top of the breast (this characteristic is very desirable and called by many "the submarine type"). The head of the Serama is small and broad, with a strong curved beak which should be yellow (if the legs are yellow) or a dark color (if the legs are dark in color). The comb should be relatively small and smooth with 4-6 serrations which should be neat and fine.
- **Color (Warna)** the highest possible score is 8%. The more beautiful the color and the more shine on the feather the higher the points allocated. Colors that are given preference are reds, golden, lemon / yellow-buff, black-red and brown. Less desirable are whites, dirty whites, mottled and grays. Beautiful vivid and bright colored birds are far more likely to gain higher points at a beauty contest. The feather color has to be symmetrical on the Ayam Serama body (same colors on tail as on the chest). The wings and sides of the Ayam Serama will carry the colors distributed symmetrically on both sides.
- **Feather condition (Bulu)**: the highest possible score is 5%. Ayam Seramas must be beautiful, and so the condition of the feathers plays a big role in their appearance. All feathers should be intact and in good condition with no signs of damage, fading, or scrubbing. In Malaysia the birds are dipped in water often to prevent the feathers from becoming dry and brittle, thus maintaining a beautiful luster and sheen to the feathers and preventing splitting and curling. A smooth, tidy and unruffled look is desired. Bathe the chicken 3 or 4 days before the show. Do not bathe the day before the show.

- **Feet (Kaki) and legs (Alas):** The highest possible score is 5%. The desirable colors are bright yellow legs (if feathers are lighter color) and darker (if feathers are darker color). Feet should be long, clean, and upright when standing, not weak when walking. The legs of the Ayam Serama must be fairly long, though not overly long so as to make the bird appear overly tall.

Ayam Serama must never have short stumpy legs like the Japanese bantam, this is severely discouraged. This is a very bad trait. In Malaysia the Ayam Serama has strong straight legs which should stride confidently without the appearance of squatting or bending the knees excessively. Points are deducted for birds that squat during a beauty contest. The legs should not be tight (there should be space between them) and they should be parallel, well balanced and matched to the size (length) of the wings. The thigh should be muscular and not too long. The spurs should be in the center section of the leg, sharp, small and concave to back of the legs.