

JUDGES PANELS

It's hard for me to believe that when you start receiving this we will be less than two months away from the close of another awards program. At this point, the 30th Awards is shaping up to be our third-best Awards Program for number of entries received—trailing only the 27th and 28th. November 2, 2018, is the final day a trophy can be harvested and be eligible for entry into the 30th Awards Program—assuming it is cleaned and placed at a habitable room temperature (roughly 60° F) that day and then maintained there until the time of measurement on December 31; this year the date falls on a Monday. Also of note is that if the trophy is taken in the afternoon on November 2, it could not be scored until after that time on December 31. If a trophy is taken on the second, the first day is not until 24 hours later on the third. Keep in mind that to be included in this awards period, the entry must be postmarked by December 31, 2018.



As has been mentioned in this column before, please send in all entries as soon as possible as we inevitably receive a large influx right near the deadline, and all these must be reviewed prior to us being able to complete our invite lists. Early invitations will be going out to the 12 trophies that are currently in the Awards Period exceeding the current All-time top-ten ranking in their respective categories. Regardless of the numbers and scores of entries in a category, all top-ten qualifiers must be panel-verified.

While I know it has been written up before, and all Official Measurers were instructed on how panel judging takes place, I feel it is appropriate to review the purpose and procedure for any new readers of *Fair Chase*. Many trophy owners form a bond with the measurer, and the measurer will get questions concerning panel measurement when folks start receiving invitations for their qualifying trophies. The main

purpose of panel judging is to ensure the original scoring was done correctly. Our intention is not to penalize a trophy for the normal shrinkage that can take place in the one, two, three or possibly even four or more years since the trophy was taken. While identifying normal shrinkage is not the purpose of panel verification, we do have a shrinkage allowance that we know is commonly seen over this time that is taken into account when reviewing a score. If the panel finds a discrepancy in which the trophy may increase in score, even if it's only one-eighth of an inch, that change is updated. Generally speaking, the majority of trophies sent in are confirmed at their original entry scores. Of those that change, an equal percentage goes slightly up or down at every Judges Panel I have been involved in over the last decade. Each trophy is scored independently by two separate teams of two measurers. Each measurer turns in the score

TROPHY TALK



JUSTIN SPRING
B&C PROFESSIONAL MEMBER
Director of Big Game Records

chart to the panel chairman. Their addition and subtraction is verified by records staff and any discrepancies between the two teams are then highlighted. The panel chairman pulls in both teams to discuss the differences. Once both teams of judges agree and sign off on the correct measurements, the panel chairman compares their charts with the entry chart to identify discrepancies, confirm the entry score, or identify any necessary corrective measures. In most cases, the majority of the original measurements are accepted with only the erroneously taken measurements being replaced by panel measurements. If a discrepancy arises amongst the teams, the entire panel will get together to discuss the issue. If the panel cannot agree, the final decision lies with the Records Committee and its chairman



on correct procedure.

In addition to the top-invited trophies, and as we have done since the 27th Awards Program, we will be honoring any youth hunter age 16 or younger whose trophy was entered and accepted in the current Awards Period. These scores are generally not panel verified unless they also fall in the top of the category. We do ask they are sent in prior to the panel judging, which will take place April 23-27, 2019, so they can be included in the trophy exhibit. While we hope all the youth can send their trophy for display, young hunters are still welcome to attend even if their trophy isn't on display. If you know of a youth with a trophy or are concerned we may not have flagged a youth entry you submitted, please talk to the hunter or contact us to ensure we invite all accepted youth entries that qualify.

Bass Pro Shops and now also Cabela's have generously offered to allow the use of the store-to-store transfer to get invited trophies to Springfield, Missouri, where the 30th Big Game Awards Program will take place August 1-3, 2019. The trophy owner is responsible for getting their trophy crated, but once the trophy is crated, they just drop it off at their nearest Cabela's or Bass Pro store after

confirming with the Boone and Crockett Club Records Department. It is very important the trophy owners let us know as soon as possible if they are intending to attend and submit a photo via email of their mount. While we have plenty of space, we want to ensure the trophy display is tastefully done with all trophies equally highlighted. Beyond the photos, we will also produce unique shipping labels allowing us to track the trophies' routes to Springfield.

The tentative schedule of events is going to be very similar to the 29th Awards Program which was also held in Springfield in 2016. This includes a welcome reception for all attendees on Thursday night; the Jack Steele Parker Generation Next banquet, which honors all the young hunters in attendance who entered a qualifying trophy, on Friday night; and the Saturday night banquet honoring all those invited in attendance who entered a trophy qualifying in the top of each category.

We will be hosting a Field Generals Luncheon to honor the dedication and hard work of our volunteer Official Measurers. All OMs in attendance will be receiving lunch, a presentation given by the current Big Game Records Committee Chairman Dr. Richard Hale, and an



event-specific keepsake. The previous honorees all left with a Montana Silversmith custom belt buckle (pictured above). We invite all our Official Measurers to not only attend the Official Measurer activities, but also attend the other events to show support for those hunters participating in fair-chase hunting and ensuring the future of wildlife in North America.

Combine these events with the other lunches, auctions, raffles, the world-class Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium which is also the current home of Boone and Crockett's National Collection of Heads and Horns, Springfield's proximity to other popular destinations such as the White River

Official Measurers in attendance at the Field Generals Luncheon at the 29th Big Game Awards Program received this custom belt buckle.

WELCOME NEW OFFICIAL MEASURERS

CHATFIELD, MINNESOTA

OCTOBER 5-8, 2018

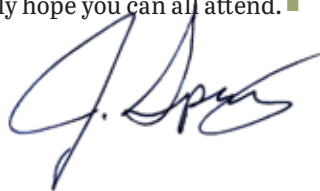
Barry Denison - Deepwater, MO
Mike C. Umbdenstock - Evansville, IL
Kodyz Wohlers - Council Bluffs, IA
Oviedo Baca - Chihuahua, MX
Michael Lamb - Noble, IL
Matthew V. Olson - Columbus, OH
Kyle Clark - Metairie, LA
Cody M. Belknap - Mediapolis, IA
Joshua Druen - Canmer, KY
Steve Cowles - Elmsford, NY
William J. Dixon - Fairbank, IA
Clifton Erickson - Bismark, ND
Matthew J. Hentrick - Dayton, OH
Jamie Kelly - Canton, MN
Stephen LePage - Lewistown, MT
Travis Paul - Corning, IA
Christopher E. Scott - Lancaster, PA
Mark Siekierski - Oxford, WI
Josh Weltz - Sioux City, IA
John S. Workman - Fordland, MO
Joseph C. Yosick - Shelby, OH

CHATFIELD, MINNESOTA - OCTOBER 5-8, 2018

Resort, and the ever-popular Branson, Missouri, and this event promises to offer something for the whole family.

The display of bighorn sheep is shaping up to be the best of its kind in recent history because not only will the current World's Record bighorn sheep be there, but other invited rams—three other 200-inch-plus rams from Montana, including another Montana ram taken in 2017 by young hunter Justin Sheedy that ties the previous hunter-taken bighorn record entered by Guinn Crousen in 2000. Staying on the theme of sheep, as I mentioned the newly renovated National Collection of Heads and Horns is displayed here. In its new home, Boone and Crockett's Director of Publications Julie Tripp and Assistant Director of Big Game Records Kyle Lehr have spent countless hours working with Bass Pro Shops to ensure the signage and overall look closely mimics how the collection was displayed in its original home at the Bronx Zoo at the turn of the 20th century.. The collection includes the legendary L.S. Chadwick Stone's sheep—which has been called by many the greatest North American big game trophy ever taken; the World's Record pronghorn donated by Mike Gallo at the 29th Awards and mounts that were in the original Bronx Zoo collection makes this the greatest and most historically significant collection of big game in the world.

While hunting seasons in some areas are winding down, and in others you are right in the thick of it, when you get around to reading this magazine with the most recent season's memories still fresh in your mind, start making plans to attend the event, and continue supporting the organization and system that has been fighting since 1887 for wildlife and their habitats. More information including firm dates, prices, discounted hotel room info, and surrounding activities will be arriving in your email and mailbox shortly. We truly hope you can all attend. ■



Each time an OM signs up a B&C Associate we'll put a credit by their name.

HERE'S THE BREAKDOWN

- 3 Associates – \$25 off any item in the B&C store
- 5 Associates – Buck Knife
- 10 Associates – B&C Boyt sling
- 25 Associates – OM Wool Vest
- 50 Associates – Sitka Gear (value up to \$350)
- 75 Associates – Yeti cooler and rambler package (value up to \$500)
- 100 Associates – *Congratulations!*
YOU'LL RECEIVE A KIMBER RIFLE!



YETI

SITKA
Performance Outdoor Apparel



NOTE: Limit to one rifle per year, three rifles per Official Measurer.

Associate Sign-Up Incentive Program Leader Board

*As of October 18, 2018

CONGRATS TO OUR TOP PRIZE-WINNERS!

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Stanley Zirbel – 42 | Chris Lacey – 4 |
| Bucky Ihlenfeldt – 34 | Robert Novosad – 4 |
| Charlie Adams – 20 | Harrell Wilson – 4 |
| Ken Witt – 18 | Mike Golightly – 3 |
| Daniel A. Doughty III – 13 | Daniel Hollingsworth – 3 |
| Philip A. Herrnberger – 11 | Stacey Kleinsmith – 3 |
| Jerry E. Lunde – 11 | Joe Lacefield – 3 |
| Mark Miller – 10 | Marvin D. LaRose – 3 |
| Jim R. Peterson – 7 | Ron Madsen – 3 |
| Ralph Stayner – 6 | Toby Montgomery – 3 |
| Ab England – 5 | John Ohmer – 3 |
| Carl Frey – 5 | Tim Rozewski – 3 |
| Michael Moline – 5 | Gary Wegner – 3 |
| John Bogucki – 4 | Brent Wilkes – 3 |
| Roger Kingsley – 4 | Robert Wood – 3 |

2 ASSOCIATE SIGN-UPS

Ricky D. Addison, Thomas E. Baine, Mark Bara, Don Biggs, Bob Black, Richard A. Bonander, Carl E. Brent, Jason Browning, Buck Buckner, John Basic, Brent Christensen, L. Victor Clark, Chad A. Coburn, Tim Donnelly, Dane K. Eider, Wyatt Goring, Hub Grounds, Arthur F. Hayes, Everett Headley, Gilbert Hernandez, John Hooten, Gary R. Howard, Stephen J. Hutton, Bill Nash, Jr., Clay Newcomb, Will Ogden, John Ramsey, Wayne Rodd, Eric M. Rominger, Eric Stanosheck, John Stein, Michael Trujillo, Gerry Wegner, Jim Williams, Jennifer Wood

1 ASSOCIATE SIGN-UP

Grant Adkisson, T.K. Atkinson, Brandon Baker, Mike Barrett, Erik Bartholomew, Michael Beaty, Steve Boero, Richard Burley, Dean H. Cook, Stephen L. Cook, Scott G. Corley, Brian Dam, Barry Dampman, Bob Davies, Robert Deis, John J. Detjen, Chad Dillabough, James Dowd, Randal Dufault, Tracy Dunkin, Gary D. English, Mark A. Erspamer, Luke Finney, Kevin Freymiller, Ronnie Gadberry, Valdemar Garcia, HP Giger, T.J. Gould, Robert Graber, Tony J. Grabowski, Clifford Gray, Len Goldman, Jeffrey Gunnels, Charles Harden, Donald Haseley, Everett Headley, Tony Heil, Steve Hooper, Tim Humes, Richard E. Johndrow, Walter E. Johnson, Derris R. Jones, Mark Jones, Rory Karczewski, William A. Keebler, Daniel Kunz, Edward Larimer, Clinton Latham, Neil Lawson, Macy Ledbetter, John Legnard, Larry Lueckenhuff, Dean Marguardt, Bria Martin, James W. Martin, Corey Mason, Micah Mauney, James McCloskey, Richard McDrew, Steve McMillen, Gary Mefford, Thomas Milne, Skip Moore, George M. Moore, Corey Neill, Ronald Newman, James Newport, Robert Newton IV, Brian Nietzel, Matt Nilsen, Frank S. Noska, Don Patterson, Don Perrien, Ron G. Pesek, Richard A. Pflanz, John Phillips, Mike Pillow, Ryan Rauscher, Joe Ream, Ronald S. Richman, Ken J. Rimer, Wayne Rodd, Arnold V. Sandoval, Michael W. Schlegel, Kevin Schilling, Jeffrey L. Schneider, Glen Sellsted, Curtis P. Smiley, Ted Spraker, Ralph C. Stephen, Kelly Stockdale, Darrel Sudduth, Ed Swanson, Stephen C. Swihart, Jr., Jerry L. Tkac, Victor Trujillo, Brent Trumbo, Tony Vidrine, Gary Villnow, Gene A. Wagner, Jr., Lee Wahlund, William Walters, Bill Ward, Brad Zundel

Current Associates! Would you like to give an Official Measurer credit for your renewal? Let them know when it is your time to renew and they will provide their OMID number to include with your renewal so they will receive credit.