

TROPHY TALK



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Big Game Records

Potential World's Record - Bighorn Update

In the summer issue of *Fair Chase*, we announced a potential new World's Record bighorn sheep had been picked up on April 10, 2014, near the Gregg River in Alberta on a reclaimed mining site.

It was green-scored at 209-1/8 points six days later by three B&C Official Measurers working together as an unofficial panel. At this score, it exceeded the current World's Record, which scores 208-3/8 points, by 6/8ths of an inch. This may not sound like much, but when you're talking about a World's Record, it is significant.

The remains of the ram were encapsulated in snow when the horns were found. Even though it was obvious from the condition of the carcass that the ram had been dead many months, it had to dry at ambient room temperature for 60 days before it could be officially scored for the records book.

The same three scorers convened and officially scored the ram at the game and fish office in Edmonton, Alberta, on June 10, 2014. When the panel finished its work, everyone was truly shocked—including me. The ram's final entry score is 205-7/8 points. Instead of being a new World's Record, it ranks 5th in B&C's records books. It had shrunk a mind boggling 3-2/8 inches in 60 days, underscoring the importance of applying a 60-day drying period to picked-up trophies.

While we have to admit that we expected some shrinkage, 3-2/8 inches was much more than anyone expected. Nearly every single measurement was less, which means the horns had obviously absorbed a considerable amount of moisture during the winter months under the snow. The measurers also reported that the horns had visible cracks when they officially measured them on June 10th. They said the cracks were not present when they green-scored it.

Needless to say, a Special Judges Panel will not be convened in the future to rescore this trophy.

Official Measurers: Out-of-Date Score Chart Usage a Serious Problem

While processing trophy entries recently, I realized that a good number of trophies are being submitted on outdated and invalid scoring forms. One entry was received on

a P&Y score chart and a non-typical white-tail deer was entered on a typical whitetail form. Both are invalid.

I noted that other entries are being submitted on score charts that have been out-of-date since as far back as the 1980s, which means they have one of B&C's old Virginia return addresses on them. While score charts may look alike, they are not. My guess is that the use of old scoring forms is one of the reasons trophy entries sometimes get lost in the mail; trophy owners send them to old B&C address where they are being sent to a circular file.

More importantly, all older score charts have out-of-date Entry Affidavits on the back that are not acceptable. This means that trophy owners are inconvenienced, and lots of time, postage, and money are wasted because owners need to once again complete a current and acceptable Entry Affidavit. This can be costly if they have to go to a Notary Public or a Commissioner of Oaths (Canada) who charge for their services.

Another problem with older score charts is that they do not have a line for the trophy owner's email address, for which we added a line to the information box on the front of the score chart a number of years ago. Email addresses may seem unnecessary, but we must have them to communicate with trophy owners. More importantly, we will need email addresses for all trophy owners when our system is updated early next year as we plan to eliminate the "material needs" letters that are mailed to trophy owners and replace them with email requests.

The only score charts acceptable for trophy entry are those with a 2012 copyright date on the front. So, please destroy all your old scoring forms immediately, and order a supply of current score charts.

The easiest way for Official Measurers to obtain a supply of score charts is to go to B&C's website boone-crockett.org and print out the score charts they need. To download the score charts, click on the Big Game Records banner at the top of the home page, then drop down to *Scoring Your Trophy* and click on *Score Chart PDFs* where you can select the score charts you need. The primary stipulation for using the score chart PDFs is that you must print the front and back of each score chart on one sheet of paper.

Measurers can also call (406) 542-1888 or send an email (bcclub@boone-crockett.org) to place an order. Finally, you can mail your requests to Boone and Crockett Club,

250 Station Dr., Missoula, MT 59801. There is no acceptable reason to continue to use out-of-date forms.

While you're at it, please also destroy all old Hunter, Guide, and Hunt Information forms, except for those with 2012 print dates. These are the only versions of this form that ask if the trophy was taken on private or public land, and additional data, such as age and gender of the trophy owner that are not on any older forms.

New Official Measurers Appointed

The records office would like to congratulate and welcome 61 new scorers who successfully completed one of three workshops we conducted this year. Two workshops were held in Missoula, Montana, and one, coordinated by Alan Cain of Texas Parks and Wildlife, was held at the Kerr Wildlife Management Area in Hunt, Texas. Nineteen states and three Canadian provinces were represented by the attendees.

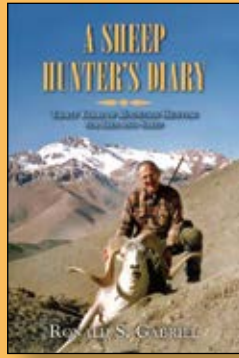
We welcome these men and women and look forward to working with them in the decades to come. We're confident that they'll do a great job representing B&C into the future.

The Club conducts an average of two workshops each year, though we don't conduct workshops during most years when we have an Awards Program banquet. The current standardized workshops were designed and begun by former B&C Executive Director William H. (Harold) Nesbitt in 1976. Since then we have conducted nearly 60 workshops and trained some 1,300 Official Measurers. All have been taught uniformly.

In order to be considered for a B&C Official Measurer appointment, candidates need to successfully complete a 3-1/2 day, hands-on scoring workshop that covers all aspects of Boone and Crockett Club's Records Program. Anyone interested in becoming a B&C scorer needs to submit a workshop application that can be obtained from B&C's website boone-crockett.org or by calling the Club's headquarters at (406) 542-1888. All applicants will be considered, but application does not guarantee an invitation because there are far more applicants than openings. Preference is given to enthusiastic applicants from areas where our needs are the greatest. ■

New Official Measurers

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|----------------------|------------------|
| Craig Bowen | Bertram, TX |
| Rebe Barrientos | San Antonio, TX |
| Casey Bishop | Littleton, CO |
| Tommy Baine | Tunica, MS |
| Roy Banaszak | Bay City, MI |
| Scott Bestul | Lewiston, MN |
| Richard Bush | Arlington, TX |
| Ruben Cantu | San Angelo, TX |
| Chad Coburn | Victor, IA |
| Michael Conci | Trail, BC |
| Justin aDreibelbis | Austin, TX |
| Stephanie Damron | Brenham, TX |
| Linda Demmer | E. Lansing, MI |
| Bill Demmer | E. Lansing, MI |
| Mark Erspamer | Charlotte, TX |
| Devin Erxleben | Brownwood, TX |
| Joel Edwards | Lordsburg, NM |
| Clinton Faas | El Campo, TX |
| Carl Frey | Blackfoot, ID |
| Curtis Gray | Little Rock, AR |
| Donne Griffiths | Meridian, TX |
| Tim Gillespie | Missoula, MT |
| Ray Henicke | Abilene, TX |
| Jeff Hanselka | La Vernia, TX |
| Larry Holland | Garland, TX |
| Kelton Hatch | Kimberly, ID |
| Daniel Kunz | Alice, TX |
| Don Kahl | Ralls, TX |
| Tom Kalsbeck | Miltona, MN |
| Stacee Kleinsmith | Anchorage, AK |
| Mark Lange | Columbus, TX |
| John Legnard | Conifer, CO |
| D. Heath McBride | Brady, TX |
| Dan McBride | Burnet, TX |
| Denny McLanahan | Canadian, TX |
| Todd Montandon | Canyon, TX |
| Corey Mason | Tyler, TX |
| John McEachern | San Angelo, TX |
| Dean Marquardt | Granbury, TX |
| Chris Mitchell | San Antonio, TX |
| Gary Mefford | Sheridan, WY |
| Brent Milliron | Laurel, MT |
| Mike Moline | Brighton, CO |
| James Newport | Pearsall, TX |
| Clay Newcomb | West Fork, AR |
| Jeff Olson | Willernie, MN |
| Raymond Osgood | Escondido, CA |
| Micah Poteet | Lufkin, TX |
| Larson Panzy | Dulce, NM |
| Rick Pflanz | Huntingburg, IN |
| Brent Ryll | Naramata, BC |
| Ron Ratz | Whitehorse, YT |
| Annaliese Scoggin | Midland, TX |
| Wade Spence | Imboden, AR |
| Robin Spring-Wheeler | Schaghticoke, NY |
| Kyle Tator | Dulce, NM |
| Brandy Vance | Meridian, TX |
| David Vinson | Clayton, GA |
| Daniel Walker | Cotulla, TX |
| Mark Walter | Kenedy, TX |
| Alan Wood | Oak City, UT |



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