

OFFICIAL MEASURERS OPEN MEETING

KYLE LEHR
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF
BIG GAME RECORDS

Thank you to all who were able to attend the Official Measurers (OMs) open meeting at the 30th Awards. It was great to see everyone and talk shop.

At this open meeting, we took some time to introduce those in attendance who are also members of the Records Committee and introduced some of the other committee chairs that work closely with the Records Committee—a sort of behind-the-scenes biopic for our OMs about how the various committees all work together. Mark Streissguth, who is in charge of records outreach, spoke briefly on his role with the Records Committee and what being the chair of the records outreach means. Jayson Arnold, who chairs the Associates Committee, explained how both committees work together. He acknowledged the great work that OMs do to recruit new Associates and the success of the Official Measure Associate Drive which has brought in 847 Associates.

We heard from Mike Opitz, co-chair of the Auction Committee, who explained his involvement with the Club after he was introduced as the incoming Records Committee chair. Richard Hale, introduced as the incoming vice president of the Records Committee, spoke about the operation of the Records Committee, including some of the topics the committee discusses from time to time. We also heard from Buck Buckner on the history of his time with the Club and his involvement with the Records Committee, including how he ended up being the Vice President of Big Game Records.

It was an honor to listen to everyone and get a feel for how the Records Committee functions and how all the Club's committees work together for the success of the Club and conservation.

See you in another three years! ■



INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN OFFICIAL MEASURER?

All trophies entered in the Boone and Crockett Club's Records Program must be measured by an official Boone and Crockett Club measurer. Measurers serve at the discretion of the Club. Any individual interested in becoming a measurer must first attend a measurer training class sponsored by the Club's Records Department.

If you are interested in becoming an Official Measurer for the Boone and Crockett Club send an email requesting a measurer application or download the Official Measurer Application online. When completing your application, please include information such as: previous measuring experience (state programs, contests, etc.), if you are able to travel to measure trophies, and references.

Completed applications are kept on file and reviewed periodically. Please note that the Club only appoints approximately 20-50 new measurers per year, and that we receive hundreds of applications for those few openings. Any updated information you submit will be attached to your application.

30TH BIG GAME AWARDS JUDGES PANEL

The panel judging serves as a verification process. Certain allowances for shrinkage are made. Trophies retain their original entry score if, during the panel measurement process, the scores obtained fall within preset shrinkage limits of the original measurement. Panel Judges and Consultants are selected by the Records Chair and Director of Big Game Records. The consultants, who have been Judges at previous panel judging sessions, assist the Judges and provide continuity to decisions made at previous Judges Panels. The Judges Panel is coordinated by a Chairman of Judges selected by the Records Committee.

Teams of two Judges each are assigned to measure each trophy submitted to the panel judging. Each trophy is measured a minimum of two times by independent teams. If differences arise, they are resolved by a joint effort of the teams themselves or the

Consultants and Chairman of Judges. Often this may result in a third remeasurement of the trophy that resolves differences.

Judges are selected based on service to the Club, experience, and geographic location. Typically, a minimum of two Measurers are selected from Canadian Provinces to serve on each panel. One or two Pope and Young Club representatives, such as P&Y's records committee chairman, are asked to serve on the panel. Upon verification by the Chairman of Judges and the Records Office, panel scores are final.

Panel Assistants may also serve on a Judges Panel. They do a variety of jobs, such as uncrating trophies, staging trophies, assisting with photographing trophies, etc.

In addition to the 30th Big Game Awards Judges Panel, a Special Judges Panel was called and held on Vancouver Island in May of 2019. Its purpose was to confirm the new World's Record Roosevelt's

elk and confirm the score on an Atlantic walrus entry, which could not be present at the Awards events due to importation restrictions.

Heading up the Special Panel was Official Measurer Fred Pringle of Victoria, BC. Two teams of two measurers consisting of Kim Brunt, Brian Sift, Craig Stolle, and Charles Veasey measured each trophy independently. Both trophies were confirmed to have been scored correctly and the entry scores were verified.

INVITATION CRITERIA

The Boone and Crockett Club receives and processes big game entries over Entry Periods lasting three years in duration. These culminate in the triennial Big Game Awards events. Variations of these events have been held since 1947. As part of this process, Boone and Crockett Club

conducts an Awards Banquet during which the Club's highly coveted medals and/or certificates are given in recognition of top-ranking specimens of these North American big game species.

The top five ranked entries in each category are invited to a central location where they are remeasured by a select panel of judges. This judging amounts to a verification of scores of the top few trophies in each category received during the previous Entry Period. Only those trophies that receive an invitation to the Final Awards Judging and are sent in and certified by the Judges Panel, are eligible to receive a Place Award. ■



Stanley G. Zirbel, Roy E. Grace, Frederick J. King, and Patrick H. McKenzie panel measure Stephen Tucker's non-typical whitetail deer.

In April 2019, the 30th Big Game Awards Judges Panel convened in Springfield, Missouri, at the Bass Pro Shops flagship store to verify the scores on the invited big game entries. Back Row from Left: Justin E. Spring, Roy E. Grace, Edward L. Fanchin, Patrick H. McKenzie, Eldon L. "Buck" Buckner*, L. Victor Clark, Roger W. Atwood, Guy Hooper, Heath L. Dreger, Frederick J. King*, Kyle M. Lehr, Dale Weddle, Eli Randall, David P. Rippeto. FRONT Row from Left: Jayson F. Arnold, Curtis R. Siegfried, Jack Reneau, Stanley G. Zirbel, Ken Witt, Richard T. Hale*, Kyle C. Krause, Charles W. Rehor, Michael J. Opitz. * Previous Judges Panel Chairman.

