

# TROPHY TALK

## Two New World's Records



**Jack Reneau**  
Director  
Big Game Records

Stan Rauch looks for the bottom of the horn to start the length of horn measurement as Bob Hanson and Fred King look on.



IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE to announce, on behalf of the Boone and Crockett Club, new World's Records for bighorn sheep and muskox. Both trophies were re-scored and verified by an inaugural meeting of a Special Judges Panel that convened in Missoula, Montana, on August 15, 2001, for the sole purpose of certifying three potential World's Records (one did not show up). This brings to nine the total number of new World's Records the Club has announced in the last three months.

World's Records were verified by the 24th Awards Program Judges Panel that met during the first week of May for grizzly bear, Roosevelt's elk, tule elk, mountain caribou, barren ground caribou, non-typical Coues' whitetail, and Rocky Mountain goat. All seven World's Records were officially announced

at the 24th Awards Program Banquet held at Bass Pro Shops, Springfield, Missouri, on June 16th and mentioned in this column in the last issue of *Fair Chase*. See Craig Boddington's article on page 29 for the individual hunting stories of these trophies.

The new World's Record bighorn sheep, which scores 208-3/8 points, was taken by Guinn D. Crousen on November 28, 2000, on Luscar Mountain, Alberta. Guinn connected with this trophy just before dark on the 18th day of his hunt with guide Randy Babala. Guinn purchased the tag at the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation's Elk Camp 2000 auction.

Guinn's trophy replaces one of the oldest standing World's Records listed in B&C records books. The former World's Record bighorn was taken in 1911 by Fred Weiller at Blind Canyon, Alberta, and scores 208-1/8 points. It was destroyed in a tragic house fire in 1971. The oldest World's Record still standing in the records books is the woodland caribou, scoring 419-5/8 points, taken by former B&C Club member H. Casmir de Rham prior to 1910 in Newfoundland.

The new World's Record muskox was taken by Vicente S. Sanchez-Valdepenas of Zamora, Spain, while hunting out of Kugluktuk, Northwest Territories, during a Spring 1999 hunt outfitted by Fred Webb and Sons. The trophy scores 127-2/8 points and exceeds the previous World's Record taken in 1996 by 2/8ths of an inch. The complete hunting stories for this magnificent muskox and Guinn's bighorn sheep will be included in the next issue of *Fair Chase*.

### SPECIAL JUDGES PANEL APPROVED

This is the first time the Boone and Crockett Club has convened a Special Judges Panel to verify and finalize the score of a potential World's Record. Prior to the 25th Awards Program, which began January 1, 2001, owners of potential new

World's Records were required to wait until the next Final Awards Program Judges Panel convened to verify the status of their trophy. In some cases, owners waited more than three years to have their trophy certified by B&C as a World's Record.

The Boone and Crockett Club's Records Committee, which is the governing body of the Club's records-keeping activities, created the Special Judges Panel with the express purpose of verifying and announcing potential new World's Records as they are submitted during any triennial Awards Program. A Special Judges Panel will be convened on an "as needed" basis whenever a potential new World's Record trophy is entered. It is important to note, however, that the Club **will not require** trophy owners with potential World's Records to submit their trophy to a Special Judges Panel. Trophy owners still have the option of sending their trophy to be re-scored and verified by a Final Awards Program Judges Panel at a regularly scheduled triennial Awards Program, as in the past, if they so desire.

A Special Judges Panel consists of the chair of the Records Committee and an unspecified number of official measurers with preference being given to Official Measurers with experience on previous Final Awards Program Judges Panels. One member of the Special Judges Panel is designated as chair of the panel. The first Special Judges Panel that convened in August included Fred King as chair, with Bob Hanson, Randy Byers, Stan Rauch, and myself as members.

Each potential World's Record trophy submitted to the Special Judges Panel is re-scored by two teams of two measurers each. Any discrepancies in scores between the two teams and the entry score are resolved by the different teams of measurers first, and then by the chair of the Special Judges Panel and the chair of the Records Committee.

The score arrived at by the Special Judges Panel is final, whether or not a trophy is verified as a new World's Record. Trophies submitted

for verification are still expected to be submitted for display in the next Awards Program trophy exhibit (such as the one displayed earlier this year at Bass Pro Shops, Springfield, Missouri, at the close of the 24th Awards Program). Trophies that are re-scored by the Special Judges Panel are only eligible for Boone and Crockett Club medallions and certificates, including the coveted Sagamore Hill Award, if they are sent in for inclusion in the next Awards Program trophy exhibit.

#### SHRINKAGE ALLOWANCE APPLIES

The Records Committee also approved another significant change in the way the Club will handle potential World's Records in the future at Final Awards Program Judges Panels, as well as at Special Judges Panels.

Beginning in 1995, with the 22nd Awards Program Judges Panel, the Records Committee applied a "shrinkage allowance" rule. The rule states that a trophy's score remains at its entry score if the Judges Panel's score falls within the established shrinkage allowance for its category. The shrinkage allowance rule did not apply to potential World's Records.

Beginning with the 25th Awards Program entry period and the first Special Judges Panel, the Club will apply the shrinkage allowance rule to new potential World's Records. In other words, from now on, the score of a potential World's Record will remain the entry score if the score arrived at by either a Special Judges Panel or a Final Awards Program Judges Panel is within the shrinkage allowance for its category and no scoring errors are detected.

Finally, a trophy certified by any interim Special Judges Panel as a new World's Record will receive a special plaque noting that it is a World's Record. The Club will forward a World's Record plaque to Guinn Crouslen and Vicente S. Sanchez-Valdepenas for their respective trophies.

I am pleased to report that the

Club's first Special Judges Panel worked very well. Some adjustments in the machinations may be necessary in the future, but essentially everything went as expected. Trophy owners and the general public will not have to wait another three years to find out if Guinn's bighorn sheep, or Vicente's muskox are World's Records — the results of the first Special Judges Panel are now history. ▲▲▲

TOP: The first Special Judges Panel (clockwise from the top left — Fred King, Jack Reneau, Bob Hanson, Stan Rauch, and Randy Byers) is shown here with the two new World's Records.

BOTTOM: Randy Byers assists Stan Rauch in locating the quarter measurements on Guinn Crouslen's bighorn sheep.

