

TROPHY TALK

27th Awards Program Entries



Jack Reneau
DIRECTOR
Big Game Records

We are one year and two months into the 27th Awards Program, and things are looking better than ever for hunters. To date, we have received more than 2,000 entries

since the start of the 27th Awards Program on January 1, 2007. If this pace keeps up, we will have a record number of 6,000+ entries in this Entry Period (2007-2009). We could end up with well over 1,000 more entries in this Awards Program than the record number of 4,843 received during the 26th Awards that included the years 2004, 2005, and 2006.

This increase is obviously due in part to better and increasing wildlife management programs implemented by the various states, provinces, and Mexico. It is also due in large part to Official Measurers sending in score charts for all trophies they score that exceed B&C's minimum scores, a policy implemented by the records office nearly a year ago. Once Official Measurers send their score charts to the records office, we solicit the entry materials needed to get these trophies in the records book. Whether or not all these trophies are accepted, the score charts will give us a better idea of the scoring activity of each measurer, as well as the number of trophies making minimum score that are measured but not entered in B&C. Remember, all original charts prepared for trophies meet-

ing B&C's minimum score must be sent in to the office.

Early indications are that the quality is coming in just as well. There isn't room to mention all the big ones being accepted, but I would like to mention a few of the more noteworthy. For example, Ryan Hatfield, my assistant, accepted a typical whitetail deer taken near Meath Park, Saskatchewan, in 2006 by John Tarala and Maurice Berezowski with an incredible entry score of

In the more diminutive typical Coues' whitetail deer category, Frank Lawrence entered a specimen scoring 126 points that he harvested in Sonora, Mexico, in 2006. At this score it ranks in the top all-time 20 typical Coues' whitetail deer ever recorded by B&C.

Chad A. Meropolis was just notified that we accepted a bighorn sheep, scoring 206 points, that he took during the 2007 Alberta hunting season near Sphinx Creek.

There are only four other bighorn sheep, including the current World's Record (208-3/8 points), recorded by B&C that are larger than Chad's ram.

In January of this year, we accepted a typical American elk, scoring 428-6/8 points, taken in Grant County, Utah, by Ron Skoronski in November 2006. Not only is it the new state record for Utah, but at its entry score, it is actually the fourth-largest typical American elk ever taken by a modern-day hunter. Who said these aren't the good old days?

As if that isn't enough, there are many other outstanding trophies in the pipeline that will rank near the top of their categories. For example, we just received word that a non-typical whitetail buck taken by Helgie Eymundson during Alberta's 2007 deer season near Athabasca was recently scored at 276-1/8 points, and that the entry materials are on the way to B&C's office. If you've been on the internet, you've probably already

heard about this incredible buck with extensive palmation near each beam tip. If not, check it out on Trophy Watch® on B&C's web site www.booneandcrockettclub.com. Click on the binoculars on the home page. If you don't have a computer, visit a friend

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OFFICIAL MEASURER CODE OF CONDUCT

AS A BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB OFFICIAL MEASURER, I UNDERSTAND THAT I SERVE ON A CONTINUING APPOINTMENT RENEWED BIENNIALY AT THE DISCRETION OF B&C'S RECORDS OF NORTH AMERICAN BIG GAME COMMITTEE. I WILL:

- Make myself available to score trophies for B&C that make B&C minimums;
- Score all trophies accurately;
- Contact B&C's Records Department with scoring questions prior to scoring difficult, controversial, and questionable trophies;
- Not charge for scoring, nor will I solicit gifts, tips, and/or donations, excluding reimbursements;
- Assist the trophy owner with entering his/her trophy, including providing all necessary forms and a list of entry requirements;
- Defer from scoring trophies where it may be perceived that I have a conflict of interest;
- Be mindful of the due diligence process, especially in announcing to media, public, or private individuals potential rankings or significance of trophies I measure;
- Not knowingly rescore trophies already officially scored by another B&C Official Measurer without prior permission from B&C's Records Department;
- Report to B&C any violations of law and/or the Entry Affidavit, as well as allegations of suspicious activities regarding potential trophy entries; and
- At any time I am representing B&C, either publicly or with individual trophy owners, conduct myself in a manner that reflects positively on the Club.

TRAILBLAZERS IN CONSERVATION, FAIR CHASE IN SPORT HUNTING, AND SHARED USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Code of Conduct

The Records Committee has recently approved an official Code of Conduct for B&C Official Measurers. The purpose of this document is to standardize all contingencies that Official Measurers encounter.

202-3/8 points, and a gross score of 236-6/8 points. At its entry score it ranks as the 9th largest typical whitetail ever taken, in spite of 14-4/8 inches of abnormal points. The typical frame of this trophy scores 222-2/8 points alone.

and get him to look it up. There are hours of entertaining viewing on Trophy Watch.

This is probably a good time to mention that the scores of the trophies mentioned above, including the Eymundson buck, are not necessarily their final scores; the scores I mentioned are their entry scores. Before their entry scores are considered final scores, their files must be checked for adding errors, completion of entry materials, and potentially may be verified by either the 27th Awards Program Judges Panel that will meet in April 2010 or by the submission of two additional score charts prepared by two different Official Measurers after the Judges Panel meets in 2010. If the entry scores of any of these trophies are not verified by the 27th Awards Judges Panel, they will be asterisked in future records books until their scores are verified, starting with *Boone and Crockett Club's 27th Big Game Awards* book that will be published in 2010.

Reno Selected for 27th Awards Program in 2010

The Records Committee has selected Reno, Nevada, as the location for the 27th Big Game Awards Program Banquet and related activities during June 24-26, 2010. The Awards Program Banquets are a premier event in the hunting community. If you've never been to one, you have no idea what you're missing. Not only do you have the opportunity-of-a-lifetime to literally view many of the largest trophies ever taken, but it's an excellent time to visit with the hunters who took them and hear their hunting

stories first hand. Who knows, you may meet someone who becomes a dear friend and hunting partner for the rest of your life. You may even gather enough information to take your own B&C trophy. So, mark your calendar and plan to attend.

Skull Scoring Box Shipping Fee

In my last column, I announced the availability of a deluxe, all-aluminum skull-scoring box. I am pleased to say that sales are going quite well. I do, however, need to clarify the shipping fee. These scoring boxes are available for \$295, plus \$20 for shipping and handling in the US. The shipping fee for boxes sent to Canada is \$45. Since this wasn't mentioned in my last column, the records office has honored the \$20 shipping price for scoring boxes shipped to Canada during January and February. As of March 1, 2008, the shipping and handling fee for scoring boxes mailed to Canada is \$45. Measurers wishing to place an order for a scoring box should place their order through the Official Measurers' web site, or by calling (888)840-4868. Be sure to reference item code TMBDL when ordering. ■

B&C Official Measurer Arnold Sandoval (below) with the mule deer stag he took near Ely, Nevada, during the 2006 mule deer season. Stag bucks make outstanding trophies, but they are not eligible for entry in B&C because they never shed their velvet and their antlers keep growing. This is a result of a hormone imbalance.



BOOK REVIEW

Maine's 29th Annual Big Game Records Publication

The Maine Antler & Skull Trophy Club (MASTC) recently released its latest records book, the *29th Annual Big Game Records Publication*. This edition includes listings for MASTC trophies taken during the 2006 season according to method of harvest. There are dozens of interesting hunting stories about deer, bear, and moose taken by Maine hunters, as well as hundreds of photographs of hunters with their Maine trophies. MASTC maintains its records by method of harvest and by which category the trophy was entered, whether Current, Merit, or Honorable Mention.

Also included are historical lists of Maine's trophy whitetail deer (typical and non-typical), moose, and bear. You can obtain a copy of MASTC's *29th Annual Big Game Records Publication* for \$29 by sending a check or money order to: Maine Antler & Skull Trophy Club, 150 Ames Rd, Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426. The price includes shipping and handling. The Maine Antler & Skull Trophy Club's web site is (www.mastc.info).

Big Game Records of New York State

The New York State Big Buck Club has just released the 14th edition of *Big Game Records of New York State*. This latest edition includes 5,987 entries in 13 different categories, including records for gun, bow, and muzzleloader for both deer and bear. This number is a significant increase in the number of entries over the 339 trophies listed in the first edition published in 1978. In the center of the book, there are 45 pages of field photographs of happy hunters with their deer or bear trophies. The photographs include trophies taken with both firearms and archery equipment. Included is

a listing of the top-10 entries in each county for gun and bow. Any deer or bear taken in New York, regardless of year taken, is eligible for listing in this publication. To order a copy of the 14th edition of *Big Game Records of New York State*, send a check for \$20 to: Records Book Office, c/o Dallas Sumner, 8895 Plainville Dr., Baldwinsville, NY 13027, or order online at www.NYS-Big-Buck.org. The price includes shipping and handling.

BOOK REVIEW NOTICE

There are many state, provincial, and private organizations publishing local records books that use Boone and Crockett Club's copyrighted scoring system with permission of the Club. Since there is no single reference source for these books, and because there are many hunters who collect them, we will review them as time and space permit. Only those books that use the Boone and Club's copyrighted scoring system and terminology will be considered for review. Please note that the Boone and Crockett Club cannot vouch for the accuracy of the data contained in these books. Some of the books may include trophies that were not scored by certified Boone and Crockett Club Official Measurers. If there is a question about the status of a trophy listed in any of these books, the Boone and Crockett Club's records books/archives are the final reference source to settle any and all discrepancies.

