

TROPHY TALK



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The Entry Affidavit & Technological Advances

Have you noticed that technological advances in hunting equipment seem to be increasing at an exponential rate lately? Several months ago, news reporters across the nation announced the advent of on-line hunting in Texas — more commonly referred to as computer-assisted remote hunting. You could flick on your computer first thing in the morning and actually aim at and shoot an animal on-line in the comfort of your home while still dressed in your bathrobe and preparing breakfast. Someone you've never met would then

retrieve, process, and ship it to you — all for a fee of course. Fortunately, Texas Parks and Wildlife quickly outlawed computer-assisted remote hunting, and other states are considering and implementing similar legislation.

Technological advances do not stop there. Every time you turn around, there is another electronic hunting gadget to increase an individual's odds of locating and dispatching a game animal. Included among some of the more recent devices are thermal imaging devices for scouting and/or re-

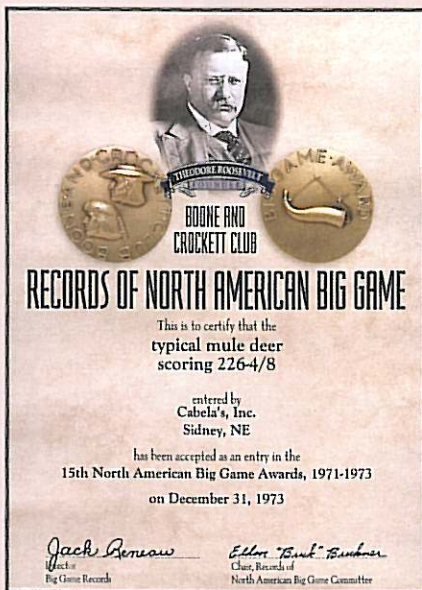


covering hit animals, night-vision optics, scopes with built-in rangefinders, updated versions of electronic game calls of all sorts, and trail cameras that can transmit real-time images to someone with a laptop computer. A hunter doesn't even have to check his trail camera anymore to remove film or download a memory card. He can view real-time photos being taken by his trail cameras from the comfort of his home or from a treestand. Who knows where this technology will end, but it shouldn't surprise anyone if someone isn't working on some star-wars laser beam firearms that will do away with bullets someday.

These items were reviewed by the Club's Records Committee at its December meeting, and Item 3 of the Entry Affidavit, which must be completed and submitted by all hunters submitting a trophy, was modified by the committee. Item 3 now excludes from entry in B&C trophies taken with the, "Use of electronic communication devices to guide hunters to game, artificial lighting, electronic light intensifying devices (night vision optics), sights with built-in electronic range finding capabilities, thermal imaging equipment, electronic game calls or cameras/timers/motion tracking devices that transmit images and other information to the hunter."

POST CARD REPORTING SYSTEM REPLACED

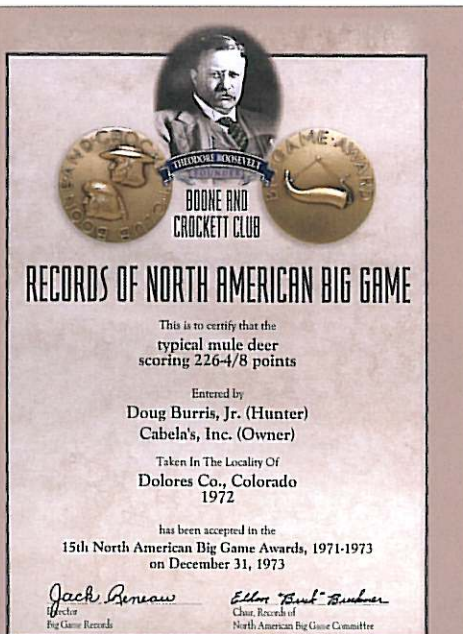
The records department is no longer asking Official Measurers to submit report cards for trophies they score. Unfortunately, the information we received was incomplete. A few score shoppers were detected, but



OLD

REVISED ACCEPTANCE CERTIFICATES

Trophy acceptance certificates are presented to everyone whose trophy is accepted in the Club's Awards Programs. Until recently, these certificates included the name of the owner, the hunter's city and state, date accepted, and the entry period. Much of this data wasn't relevant to the hunter, the hunt, and the trophy, so the information on the certificates has been updated to include more relevant information. In addition to the category and score, the new



NEW

certificates will include the name of the hunter if different than the owner, and the date and location of kill. Anyone interested in obtaining a new certificate for a trophy with the additional information mentioned above can do so by calling 888/840-4868. The cost is \$10 per certificate. Provide the operator with your name, the category and score of your trophy, as well as the date accepted, if known. Delivery will take two to three weeks.

OLD version of Item 3, Entry Affidavit: Use of electronic communication devices, artificial lighting, or electronic light intensifying devices.

NEW version of Item 3, Entry Affidavit: Use of electronic communication devices to guide hunters to game, artificial lighting, electronic light intensifying devices (night vision optics), sights with built-in electronic range finding capabilities, thermal imaging equipment, electronic game calls or cameras/timers/motion tracking devices that transmit images and other information to the hunter.

this system wasn't as useful as it could have been.

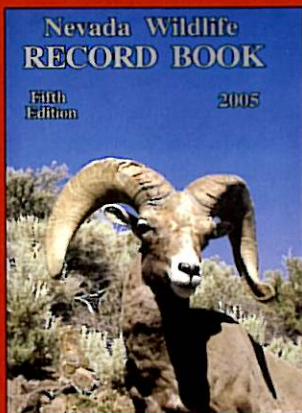
Instead, the records committee is asking Official Measurers to submit original score charts for all trophies they measure, which score within a few points of the Awards Program minimums and higher. B&C still wants Official Measurers to assist trophy owners in collecting and submitting their entry materials to B&C whenever possible. However, many Official Measurers have informed us that they have incomplete files, including stale-dated checks, of trophy owners who never fulfilled all the entry requirements. From now on, Official Measurers should forward copies of all score charts and incomplete files to the records office in Missoula after they have exhausted all attempts to complete the files themselves, and staff there will contact trophy owners in an attempt to complete their entries.

This new procedure will have several advantages. First, the records office will be more effective in detecting people "shopping for scores." Secondly, these score charts will be used to solicit entry materials from trophy owners whose trophies have been scored, but who have not submitted their trophy within a reasonable time frame. If things go as expected, the records office should be able to help trophy owners who have lost their score charts or who have not received them from their Official Measurer for one reason or another.

Before the score charts are forwarded, Official Measurers should be sure the information box on each form is completely filled in with the location and date of kill, as well as the name of the hunter and owner and the latter's address, and telephone number. In the near future, score charts will also provide space for the hunter's email address. ■

RECORDS BOOK REVIEW

NEVADA WILDLIFE RECORD BOOK



The 5th edition of the *Nevada Wildlife Record Book* was released late in 2005 by the Nevada Wildlife Record Book Committee. This edition includes 2,500 trophies in 10 categories of big game hunted in Nevada. There are more than 150 color photos and 30 new hunting stories. New for 2005 is a spiral-bound companion Field Edition that includes scoring tips and score charts. The cost for the 5th edition is \$55, including shipping and handling. If you want the field edition, the total cost for both books, including shipping and handling is \$80. The field edition cannot be ordered separately. To place your order on line, go to www.nevadarecordbook.com. Otherwise, send your check or money order to NWRB, P.O. Box 1707, Reno, NV 89505.

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 Crockett 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.

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