

FOR THE RECORD

Our major influx of trophies is in full swing as I write this column, and things so far are looking pretty good in terms of numbers. When forecasting entries, we look back at the last couple awards programs and try to figure out entry rates for the year to plan out processing times. As of this writing, we are about 200 entries ahead of normal for this period approaching the close of the 30th Awards, which, by the way, is December 31, 2018. While that may seem a long way out, if you are holding any entries, please submit them to us as soon as possible. Even if you are waiting for a tag or another document from the hunter, please don't hold them for more than a couple weeks. Once they are in the system, we can help by sending notices requesting these documents and making sure all the materials are received, and the trophy is accepted.

All entries must be postmarked by December 31, 2018, to be eligible for the 30th Awards Program. Every close of an Awards Program finds us waiting for final materials on numerous trophy entries. However, if the requested material is not received in a timely manner after the deadline, then the trophies will have to be moved to the 31st Awards Period which is set to close December 31, 2021.

Unfortunately, this is also the time we have the highest number of unhappy trophy owners with regard to final scores, Official Measurer conduct, etc. Again, I ask each

Official Measurer (OM) to review the OM code of conduct with special attention to the sections saying you won't score trophies where there is a perceived conflict of interest and will refrain from expressions of public opinion that may be contrary to policies or procedures of the Club, including expressing opinion publically about other OM's abilities. If Official Measurers are mindful of public perception and work to inform the folks for whom they are scoring that the records book was never intended to be a competition amongst hunters, most, if not all, of the complaints we field would cease.

The records were designed to recognize and track

wildlife management and bring attention to those hunters who were able to take a mature male specimen past its breeding prime while limiting themselves to the rules and ethics of fair chase. We strive to gauge wildlife management successes and failures. If someone tells you they don't care about their name in a book, let them know the intention of records is far more weighted towards conservation than personal recognition.

We are ever indebted to the majority of our measurers who perform their duties year in and year out precisely and professionally. Unfortunately a few bad cases we have had to deal with recently stick out, so I would like to discuss a few

issues we have been seeing as a heads up to everyone. I ask all our official measurer's keep an eye out that you don't get inadvertently pulled into one of these situations.

Please do not release original score charts to the hunter or, especially the media, prior to them being reviewed by Missoula. We ask all original score charts that meet or are close to the minimum entry score be submitted directly to Missoula. Giving the trophy owner a copy of the entry score sheet is appropriate and encouraged but please let them know

TROPHY TALK



JUSTIN SPRING
B&C PROFESSIONAL MEMBER
Director of Big Game Records



The special judges panel met at the Wild Sheep Foundation (WSF) headquarters in Bozeman, Montana, to score the new World's Record bighorn sheep. FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Official Measurer Pat McKenzie, WSF President and B&C Professional Member Gray Thornton, Official Measurer Roger Atwood, Montana Governor Steve Bullock, B&C Professional Member Justin Spring, Official Measurers Fred King, B&C Professional Member Jack Reneau, L. Victor Clark, and B&C Chief of Staff and Professional Member Tony Schoonen.

it is a preliminary score until it is reviewed and accepted. This especially holds true for high ranking trophies be it for a state, county, weapon specific harvest, etc.

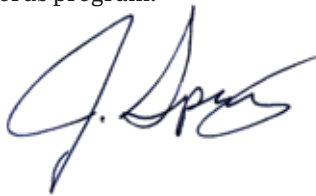
Many trophies are green scored each year which we leave up to the measurers' discretion. If a green score is performed a score sheet should not be produced and/or released. When we do green scores here in Missoula I will tell the hunter a ballpark figure. Then schedule a time after the drying period to officially score the trophy for them.

These requests are in an effort to ensure clarity and reinforce all of our measurers' individual abilities. When a score that has been previously published changes it is very hard to explain to the public the reasons for it and it ends up discrediting the original measurers' ability in their mind.

Please note that a new World's Record bighorn sheep was just confirmed. The history of the island that produced it as well as the press release can be found on page 62.

Our spring is quickly getting booked with two Official Measurer workshops scheduled for May and June in Missoula and one just completed in British Columbia. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming an Official Measurer, applications can be found online at www.boone-crockett.org. As noted in April's recent edition of Kyle Lehr's monthly e-newsletter, there may be a slight delay in processing times as we are in the process of testing our new database and entry software. We still do not have a solid date when this will be activated, but when it is, there will be some very exciting changes in terms of the ease of submissions for our Official Measurers as well as material needs notifications and other major upgrades to our current processing methods.

Please keep sending us any scoring questions, and as always, thanks to all Official Measurers for their tireless work in promoting the records program. ■



Each time an OM signs up a B&C Associate we'll put a credit by their name.

HERE'S THE BREAKDOWN

- 3 Associates – \$25 off any item in the B&C store
- 5 Associates – Buck Knife
- 10 Associates – B&C Boyt sling
- 25 Associates – OM Wool Vest
- 50 Associates – Sitka Gear (value up to \$350)
- 75 Associates – Yeti cooler and rambler package (value up to \$500)
- 100 Associates – ***Congratulations!***
YOU'LL RECEIVE A KIMBER RIFLE!



YETI

SITKA



NOTE: Limit to one rifle per year, three rifles per Official Measurer.

Associate Sign-Up Incentive Program Leader Board

*As of April 13, 2018

CONGRATS TO OUR TOP PRIZE-WINNERS!

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Stanley Zirbel – 34 | Roger Kingsley – 4 |
| Bucky Ihlenfeldt – 31 | Michael Moline – 4 |
| Ken Witt – 18 | Harrell Wilson – 4 |
| Daniel A. Doughty III – 9 | Mike Golightly – 3 |
| Jerry E. Lunde – 9 | Daniel Hollingsworth – 3 |
| Ralph Stayner – 6 | Chris Lacey – 3 |
| Carl Frey – 5 | Ron Madsen – 3 |
| Mark Miller – 5 | John Ohmer – 3 |
| Ab England – 4 | Tim Rozewski – 3 |

2 ASSOCIATE SIGN-UPS

Ricky D. Addison, Thomas E. Baine, Mark Bara, Don Biggs, John Bogucki, Richard A. Bonander, Jason Browning, Buck Buckner, John Busic, Brent Christensen, L. Victor Clark, Chad A. Coburn, Hub Grounds, Gilbert Hernandez, John Hooten, Stephen J. Hutton, Stacey Kleinsmith, Joe Lacefield, Marvin D. LaRose, Toby Montgomery, Bill Nash Jr., Will Ogden, Eric M. Rominger, Eric Stanosheck, Gary Wegner, Brent Wilkes, Jim Williams, Jennifer Wood, Robert Wood

1 ASSOCIATE SIGN-UP

Grant Adkisson, T.K. Atkinson, Mike Barrett, Bob Black, Steve Boero, Richard Burley, Dean H. Cook, Stephen L. Cook, Scott G. Corley, Brian Dam, Robert Deis, Chad Dillabough, Tim Donnelly, James Dowd, Randal Dufault, Tracy Dunkin, Gary D. English, Mark A. Erspamer, Luke Finney, Kevin Freymiller, Ronnie Gadberry, HP Giger, TJ Gould, Robert Graber, Tony J. Grabowski, Clifford Gray, Len Goldman, Jeffrey Gunnels, Charles Harden, Donald Haseley, Arthur F. Hayes, Everett Headley, Gary R. Howard, Tim Humes, Richard E. Johndrow, Walter E. Johnson, Derris R. Jones, Mark Jones, Edward Larimer, Clinton Latham, Neil Lawson, John Legnard, Bria Martin, James W. Martin, Corey Mason, Micah Mauney, James McCloskey, Steve McMillen, Thomas Milne, Skip Moore, George M. Moore, Corey Neill, Clay Newcomb, Ronald Newman, James Newport, Robert Newton IV, Matt Nilsen, Frank S. Noska, Robert Novosad, Don Patterson, Don Perrien, Ron G. Pesek, Jim R. Peterson, Richard A. Pflanz, John Phillips, John Ramsey, Ryan Rauscher, Ronald S. Richman, Ken J. Rimer, Wayne Rodd, Arnold V. Sandoval, Michael W. Schlegel, Jeffrey L. Schneider, Glen Sellsted, Curtis P. Smiley, Ted Spraker, John Stein, Kelly Stockdale, Darrel Sudduth, Ed Swanson, Stephen C. Swihart Jr., Jerry L. Tkac, Michael Trujillo, Victor Trujillo, Brent Trumbo, Tony Vidrine, Gene A. Wagner Jr., Lee Wahlund, William Walters, Gerry Wegner, Brad Zundel

Current Associates! Would you like to give an Official Measurer credit for your renewal? Let them know when it is your time to renew and they will provide their OMID number to include with your renewal so they will receive credit.