

TROPHY TALK

Trophy Plaque Now Available to Trophy Owners



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A year ago the Records Committee took on the task of upgrading recognition items for trophies accepted in the Club's Awards Programs. Some trophy owners were suggesting it was time to create a new certificate, and others were recommending the availability of a trophy recognition plaque that would be optional to trophy owners who wanted something more substantial than a certificate to memorialize their trophy and commemorate their accomplishment.

The redesigned acceptance certificate was announced in the Winter 1996 issue of *Fair Chase*. These highly attractive certificates, which feature a photograph of B&C Club founder Theodore Roosevelt, are given to trophy owners when the Club accepts their trophy in the Club's Archives. Trophy owners who no longer have their original acceptance certificate,

or would like one of the new ones, can obtain it for \$10 by contacting the Club's headquarters in Missoula. The new certificates have turned out to be quite popular as hundreds have already been ordered.

After considerable research, the Records Committee finally settled on an attractive shadowbox that was depicted and offered for sale in the Spring 1996 issue of *Fair Chase*. I didn't have the opportunity to discuss it in my column in that issue because we didn't settle on a design, supplier and price until we were going to press. Julie managed to generously squeeze an order form in the last issue to avoid any more delays in announcing its availability. Based on the orders we've received to date it is already quite popular.

I would, therefore, like to "formally announce" the availability of the Club's Awards Recognition Plaque, which is ac-

tually a shadowbox consisting of an 8x10 inch walnut frame with a black velvet background. The name of the owner, category, score and location of kill, date of kill and entry period are engraved on a black metal plate with gold letters and a rendition of the Club's logo. The shadowbox is optional for trophy owners at an introductory price of \$59.95, plus \$4.25 shipping and handling for each plaque ordered.

An order form can be found on page 47 of this issue of *Fair Chase*. Include a copy of your acceptance certificate with your order, or be sure to give the category, score and acceptance date for your trophy so that we can locate your trophy's file. Also, be sure to include the spelling of your name as you would like it to appear on the plaque and a current UPS shipping address. Allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery. These handsome plaques are well made and will memorialize your trophy-of-a-lifetime.

You will find an order form for the B&C Awards Recognition Plaque on page 47 of this issue.



POTENTIAL WORLD'S RECORD ELK ON HOLD

The Records Committee has retracted the acceptance of Alan C. Ellsworth's potential new World's Record typical American elk (447-7/8 points) that was listed in the "Recently Accepted Trophies" section of the Spring 1996 issue of *Fair Chase*.

Ellsworth's file was reactivated pending receipt of more information on its origin, about which very little is known at present. Additional concerns were raised about its authenticity since we recently learned that one potentially large abnormal point near the base of the G-2 point is broken off at its base. If this point were present, it is possible that it would never

be a World's Record since abnormal points are deducted from the final score. Its absence was neither mentioned on the original score chart nor was it detected during the original review of the photographs submitted with the entry materials.

NON-TYPICAL MULE DEER MINIMUM LOWERED

The Records Committee recently met and changed minimum scores for non-typical mule deer and Central Canada barren ground caribou. The minimum for entering a non-typical mule deer in the all-time records book is now 230 points, a 10 point reduction from the previous 240 point minimum established for the category in 1968. The awards book minimum was lowered at the same time from 225 to 215 points. These changes are effective immediately and follow similar changes in the typical mule deer minimums announced in the Winter 1994 issue of *Fair Chase*. The typical mule deer minimums are currently set at 180 and 190 points for the awards and all-time records books, respectively.

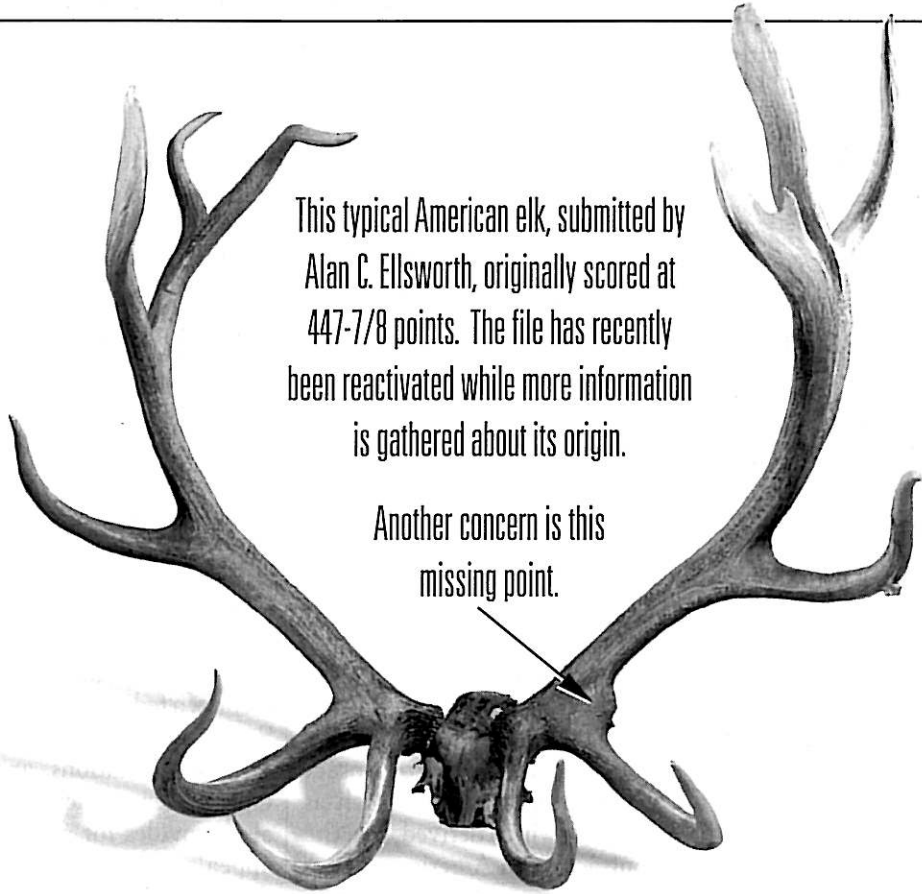
These changes mean that all non-typical mule deer accepted in the past for listing in the awards books between 230 and 240 points will automatically be listed in future editions of the all-time records book. In addition, these changes are expected to result in a considerable increase in new entries in this category.

CENTRAL CANADA BARREN GROUND CARIBOU MINIMUM RAISED

The minimum score for entering a Central Canada

barren ground caribou in the Club's archives has been raised to 345 points for the awards book and 360 points for the all-time records book. The former minimums were 330 and 345 points, respectively.

These changes shouldn't come as a surprise to anyone since the minimums were set quite low when the category was established in 1982 to drum up interest in the new category. No one had any ideas of what the minimums should be since the caribou herds were virtually unhunted at that time by sport hunters. The new category was an instant success, but interestingly enough we've had very few entries at or near the current awards minimum score of 330 points. The bulk of entries have been at 345 points or better, which means to me that the odds of getting a bull larger than 330 points in Northwest Territories is excellent.



This typical American elk, submitted by Alan C. Ellsworth, originally scored at 447-7/8 points. The file has recently been reactivated while more information is gathered about its origin.

Another concern is this missing point.

The new minimums for Central Canada barren ground caribou will take effect on January 1, 1998, at the start of the 24th Awards Entry Program, which means we are still accepting entries at 330 points or better. If you have procrastinated entering a trophy between 330 and 345 points you've got until December 31, 1997, to do so. Trophies below 345 points will no longer be accepted or listed after that date.

Central Canada barren ground caribou entries accepted between 330 points and 345 points before January 1, 1998, will be listed in Boone and Crockett Club's 23rd Big Game Awards book that will be released in 1998. Entries accepted at the current all-time minimum between 345 and 360 points will be listed for the last time in the Club's 11th edition of *Records of North American Big Game* that will be released in 1999 or later.

NEW MINIMUMS FOR CENTRAL CANADA BARREN GROUND CARIBOU

The minimum score for Central Canada barren ground caribou has been raised to 345 points for the awards book and 360 points for the all-time records book.

The new minimum will take effect on January 1, 1998.