

BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB'S 29TH AWARDS PROGRAM

TROPHY TALK



JACK RENEAU

B&C PROFESSIONAL MEMBER
Director of Big Game Records

I would like to announce that the 29th Big Game Awards Program Banquet and related activities will be held in Springfield, Missouri, during July 13-16, 2016. A brief preliminary schedule of this premier international sporting event for hunters and conservationists is listed to the right. The 29th Awards Program trophy display will once again feature over 100 of the finest big game trophies ever taken by modern-day hunters and recorded by B&C.

The public display of trophies will be in America's Wildlife Museum and Aquarium, a world-class museum facility scheduled to open in Springfield, Missouri, next spring. The museum, which will be ranked among the top ten museum and aquarium operations in the nation, is an excellent location for hosting such a prestigious event. The museum is dedicated to the American hunter and angler and to the history and successes of conservation. Nothing is a better expression of the successes of conservation than a B&C Awards Program.

An awards program is a unique opportunity for hunters such as you and me to view under one roof a goodly number of exceptional trophies from most of the 38 categories of native North American big game recognized by the Club (excluding jaguar), and to personally visit with the hunters who harvested them. They can share their hunting stories with you on where and how they got the big one that didn't get away, and perhaps you can pick up some tips that will enable you to take a B&C trophy of your own in the future. Who knows, you may even meet someone like you who may become a lifetime friend and hunting companion.

Star attractions scheduled to be in the trophy display are three new World's Records. The first is a tremendous pronghorn taken by Mike Gallo in Socorro County, New Mexico, in 2014. Mike's great buck scores 96-4/8 points, which is 1-4/8 points greater than the two pronghorns that previously tied for World's Record status at 95 points.

As if a new World's Record pronghorn isn't enough, we'll be inviting another World's Record breaker taken by Dale Hislop in Mohave County, Arizona, in 2014, that scores 95-4/8 points. It also exceeds the previous two World's Records.

The second World's Record that will be on display is the new first place bighorn ram, which was announced earlier this year. It was picked up near Longview, Alberta, in 2010, and scores 209-4/8 points, topping the previous World's Record by a whopping 1-1/8 inches. Although it may not have been taken by a hunter, it is still an incredible

BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB'S 29TH NORTH AMERICAN BIG GAME AWARDS

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 21, 2015

Early notices sent to owners of accepted World's Records and trophies falling in B&C's All-time top-10 for each category, and/or the top two or three trophies accepted in each category in the 29th Awards Program inviting them to send their trophy to the 29th Awards Program, Springfield, Missouri, for judging, display, awards banquet, and related activities.

DECEMBER 31, 2015

Official close of the 29th Awards Program Entry Period (2013-2015).

JANUARY 22, 2016

Notices sent to remaining trophy owners with trophies accepted after the close of the 29th Awards Program on December 31, 2015, inviting them to send their trophy to the 29th Awards Program location for judging, display, awards banquet, and related activities.

MARCH 9-28, 2016

Receipt period at Bass Pro Shop's stores for invited trophies being shipped free-of-charge via Bass Pro Shop's to Springfield, Missouri.

APRIL 1-25, 2016

Receipt period for invited trophies at B&C's warehouse in Springfield, Missouri. Trophies not being shipped via Bass Pro Shop's must arrive at B&C's warehouse in Springfield, Missouri, during this time period in order to be eligible for the 29th Awards Program Final Judging.

APRIL 26-30, 2016

29th Awards Program Final Judging: re-measurement and certification of invited trophies for possible award at the 29th Awards Program Banquet on July 16th.

JULY 13-16, 2016

29th Awards Program, auction, Jack Steele Parker Generation Next Banquet, Field General's Luncheon, Awards Banquet, auction, and related activities at the University Plaza Hotel in Springfield, Missouri.



Boone and Crockett Club
29TH BIG GAME AWARDS



The 28th Awards Program trophy display held in Reno in 2013 is just an example of the quality of trophies that you can expect to see in Springfield this coming summer.

example of the successes of hunter-supported wildlife management, and deserves to be recognized for what it represents.

The third World's Record to be displayed is Heinz Naef's Alaska-Yukon moose, scoring 263-5/8 points, that was featured in a previous issue of *Fair Chase*. Heinz took his incredible bull along the Yukon River in Yukon Territory in 2013.

We don't know all of the trophies that will be there at this time, but we will be inviting a number of trophies that rank in the All-time top ten for their category, including grizzly bear, woodland caribou, and typical Coues' deer to mention only a few. I can assure you that there will be a number of other top-ranking trophies.

In addition to an incredible trophy display, there are a number of truly exciting events to attend. The first and most obvious is the 29th Awards Program Banquet, where the trophy owners who took the top-ranking trophies will be presented with B&C medallions and plaques recognizing their unique accomplishment. Perhaps one will be awarded the coveted Sagamore Hill Award.

Another exciting activity is an event that has become known as the Jack Steele Parker Generation Next Banquet. All youth hunters, 16 years old and younger who have taken a B&C trophy will

be invited to be recognized for their accomplishment of a lifetime. Official Measurers will once again be recognized for their contributions to B&C's records program activities at the Field General's Luncheon.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend B&C's 29th Big Game Awards Program. I've attended 12 such events and can assure you that you won't regret that decision. Each Awards Program is a "Highlight of a Lifetime" for those who attend. I look forward to seeing you there!

29TH AWARDS PROGRAM DEADLINE

I want to take this one last opportunity to remind everyone, especially Official Measurers and trophy owners, that December 31, 2015, is the deadline for entering trophies in B&C's 29th Awards Program (2013-2015). Perhaps more importantly, it is also the deadline for getting a trophy listed in *Boone and Crockett Club's 29th Big Game Awards* book, that will be published in the

TOP: The World's Record bighorn sheep scoring 209-4/8 points, was picked up near Longview, Alberta, in 2010. **MIDDLE LEFT:** Mike Gallo's pronghorn beat the World's Record score by 1-4/8 inches with a score of 96-4/8 points. **MIDDLE RIGHT:** Dale Hislop's pronghorn exceeded the previous two World's Records at 95-4/8 points. **BOTTOM:** Heinz Naef's Alaska-Yukon moose is another World's Record scoring 263-5/8 points.



TROPHY TALK

fall of 2016, as well as the 14th edition of the All-time records book, *Records of North American Big Game* that will be released in the fall of 2017.

Trophy owners who miss this deadline will not be listed in an awards book until 2019, and/or the next All-time records book until 2023. In my opinion that's a really long time to wait to see your name in print, so please don't miss the deadline.

Because of the 60-day drying period, the last day a hunter can harvest a B&C trophy in 2015 and still enter it in the 29th Awards Program was November 1, 2015. A hunter in this situation would have had to clean his/her trophy the day they harvested it and immediately started the drying process the same day. They would also have to make arrangements in advance with a B&C Official Measurer to have his/her trophy scored on

December 31, 2015, and drop the entry materials in the mail that same day to get it post-marked by the deadline.

Entry materials received for trophies post-marked after the deadline will be entries in the 30th Awards Program that closes December 31, 2018, and will be featured in future records books.

NEW B&C POLICIES ANNOUNCED

In the spring 2015 issue of *Fair Chase*, I listed six new policies in "Trophy Talk" affecting trophy entry in B&C's records program, on subjects such as drones/unmanned aerial vehicles, and multi-antlered cervids. Since that issue, B&C's Records Committee has announced seven new policies that I would like to list in this column.

This may sound like we are creating a lot of new policies recently, but this isn't the case. A few of these have already been a part of the Entry Affidavit that every hunter submitting a trophy must sign. Some of these new policies were created to address new situations that have recently come up. B&C's policies ensure that all trophies accepted in its records program

are taken within B&C's fair chase guidelines and rules.

CUSTER STATE PARK ELIGIBILITY

Bison, bighorn sheep, deer, elk, and pronghorn trophies taken from within the boundaries of Custer State Park, South Dakota, are eligible for entry in B&C.

FIRST NATION AND MÉTIS PEOPLES

Trophies taken in Canada by First Nation and Métis peoples must be taken in accordance with all provincial/territorial hunting regulations (possession of a current provincial hunting license) and in compliance with B&C's rules of Fair Chase to be eligible for entry in B&C.

FREAK TROPHIES

Every once in a while a hunter takes a trophy that can only be identified as a "freak." That is, one or both antlers may not have a discernable main beam or any normal points on one or both antlers, and cannot be scored using B&C's scoring system. Such trophies are not eligible for entry in B&C's records program, but will be reviewed by B&C's Records Committee on

a case-by-case basis.

REMOVE TROPHY FROM RECORDS PROGRAM

Trophy owners who wish to remove their trophy from B&C's records program and records books for any reason can only do so in writing. A telephone call is not acceptable. They must submit either a letter or email to the records office expressing their wishes. The entry fee in such cases will be forfeited.

SILENCERS/SOUND SUPPRESSORS

Trophies taken with the use of sound suppressors in states and provinces where they are legal are eligible for entry in B&C.

TRACKING DOGS TO RECOVER WOUNDED GAME

Wounded trophies recovered with trained tracking dogs in states and provinces where the use of tracking dogs is legal for recovering wounded game are eligible for listing in B&C.

TROPHIES TAKEN WITH AIR GUNS

Trophies taken with the use of air guns in states and provinces where they are legal are eligible for entry in B&C. ■

Jack Reneau

All the Official Measurers in attendance at the 28th Big Game Awards in Reno, 2013. We will honor the hard work of all our Official Measurers at the Field Generals Luncheon in Springfield.

