

## **Wolf Pelt Competition Guidelines 2012**

### **Tips and Judging Criteria**

Once again we anticipate enthusiastic participation in the wolf pelt competition, as it has become one of the great highlights of the BCTA Convention. A special thank you to the Guide Outfitters Association of BC, the BC Wildlife Federation, the BC Wild Sheep Society, and the Wild Sheep Foundation for their continued support of our association. Their participation has enhanced the quality of the pelt preparation and continues to increase the numbers of wolves harvested in the province by trappers.

- The first category in the competition will be best handled and best overall pelt. Please see the insert below for the criteria. The top winning pelts will become property of the BCTA and will be donated to the sponsoring organizations. If you wish to keep your wolf, please do not enter it in this particular category. The pelts will be judged to see which are best suited for taxidermy mounting.
- The second category is the draw category. Each of the wolves entered in the quality section will automatically be entered into the draw category, as well as the wolves entered by you from the list supplied by your local president or local assigned verifier for the competition.
- The third and final category is for most pelts. There is no limit on the number of entries a member can have; a pelt can be entered in all three categories. The more pelts you enter, the better the odds that you will walk away with a prize of equipment and/or cash.
- All entries must be properly dried.
- Pelts entered in previous years may not be re-entered.
- All entries will be marked for identification.
- No tanned pelts will be accepted.

Please Note: Only wolves entered in the quality section need to be brought to the convention. We know that a number of you who take wolves are not able to attend the convention and therefore lose out on a chance to win the prizes.

For the draw category and most wolves category, you have the option of bringing them to the convention or taking them to the record keeper (local president) in your area. The record keeper will record all the information and mark a permanent spot on the pelt so that it can only be entered once. This information will be forwarded to the Association on or before April 2<sup>nd</sup>, as the convention is April 13-15. Please contact your local president to find out who will be recording for your area.

In all cases of a dispute, the organizers will make the final decision. Only paid-up members of the BCTA will be eligible to enter the competitions, and all wolves entered must have been harvested in BC during the open trapping season. It has been brought to our attention that some trappers are able to trap nuisance wolves out of season by permit and may have been entering them in the competition. This will not be allowed.

Also please note, only wolves harvested by the trapper themselves or immediate family member may be entered in the competitions.

Cheques will be given out at the convention for the top four pelts in the best handled and best overall category, as well as for top three in the most wolves category. Cheques for the remaining winners will be mailed out after the convention.

If you have any question or concerns, or for more information, please contact Brian Dack at 250-578-8338.

## **Judging Criteria:**

**Attention Wolf Trappers! As a result of our long term planning, please note that the wolf competition judging criteria has been changed slightly. The judges names will also now appear on the bottom of the score sheets.**

- General appearance & overall shape.....10 pts
- Nose - skinned out and shaped.....10 pts
- Eyes - complete and uncut.....10 pts
- Lips - complete and split... ..10 pts
- Ears - complete and turned (cartilage must stay on).....15 pts
- Tail - split straight and clean.....10 pts
- Feet - complete, skinned to the last knuckle, claws on.....15 pts
- Leather - clean, no oil or grease, excess sawdust removed.....10 pts
- Fur - clean, grease, blood, and dirt removed.....10 pts

Total possible: 100 pts

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To give all members a better chance at the current prizes in our annual Wolf Pelt Competition, we have come up with a set of guidelines to help all wolf trappers realize the very best from their pelts.

### 1) When Freezing:

If you must freeze the pelt, do not roll it up, as the thick fur will not allow it to cool fast enough and patches of taint may appear. Always try to flesh the pelt before freezing.

### 2) When Skinning:

- a) Leave genital sack and anus on the pelt.
- b) Split the tail.
- c) Leave main pad on pelt. Cut around pads edge for easier fleshing. Most importantly, skin toes to last knuckle and pack with paper towel.
- d) Turn ears but leave cartilage in. Cut ear butts at widest point to dry.
- e) Skin eyes very carefully. Try to get well behind the eye lids.

- f) Properly split the lips all the way to the fold, trying not to cut whisker butts on the upper lip.
- g) Remove all cartilage from the nose.

3) Washing:

Pelts should only be washed in cold water with liquid soap.

4) Drying:

Borax should not be used. A small amount of salt may be used in ears and toes to help preservation while drying.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Brian Dack 250-578-8338.