

## **Wolf Pelt Competition Guidelines, Tips and Judging Criteria:**

Once again we anticipate enthusiastic participation in the wolf pelt competition and thank the BC Wildlife Federation, Guide and Outfitters of BC and the BC Wild Sheep Society for their continued support of our association. Their participation has enhanced the quality of the pelt preparation and the numbers of wolves harvested by trappers..

The first category in the competition will be the best handled and best overall pelt. The top winning pelts will be donated to the sponsoring associations. The pelts will be judged to see which will be best suited for taxidermy and mounting. The rest of the pelts will be judged with the same criteria – with a little less emphasis on the quality of the fur and a little more on the quality of handling.

Second is the draw category. Each of the wolves entered in the quality section will be entered into a draw category.

Finally, there will be a prize for the most pelts category. There is no limit on the 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 or cash.

Trappers may enter a caped head in all but the best handled and best overall pelt category. The cape must include, at a minimum, the nose and both ears. Wolves with mange or rub that trappers may not have entered in the past, are eligible.

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 the wolves entered in the quality section need be brought to the convention. We know that a number of you who take wolves are not able to attend and therefore lose out on a chance to win prizes. You will have the option of bringing them to the convention or taking them to a record keeper 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 prior to the convention and all entries will receive a chance in the draw for most wolves category. Please contact your local president to find out who will be recording in your area.

In all cases of dispute, the organizers will make the final decision. Only paid up members of the BCTA will be eligible for the competition and all wolves submitted to the competition must have been harvested in BC.

The top pelts in the best handled and best overall pelt competition become the property of the BCTA to be donated back to our generous sponsors. Cheques will only be given out at the convention for the top two pelts. Cheques for the remaining winners will be mailed out after the convention.

## Judging Criteria:

- 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.