

Hastings Branch Competition Rules

2nd of June 2010

Antler, Horn & Tusk (AHT) Competitions

1. Competitor eligibility and general conditions of the AHT competition

The competition is open to all current financial members of the Hastings branch of the NZDA (i.e. branch life, senior and associate, student, junior and registered family members.)

Any entries taken whilst a competitor was not a financial member or was a non-member, as determined by the branch executive and constitution, will not be eligible for entry into the competition, but all new members that have taken an AHT trophy in the six months prior to their joining the branch will be eligible to enter it into the “Mavis Davidson Cup”.

All sections of the competition are open to juniors and jointly taken entries, but any senior or jointly taken entry is not eligible for entry into the competitions’ Junior Trophy category.

There are no restrictions on the number of entries that can be made by any one competitor in the branch AHT competition.

An official branch competition form or card must accompany each entry, which is to be completed correctly and signed by the competitor as a declaration of the entries compliance with the rules.

All entries must be presented for judging at the designated venue before the set deadline, as determined by the branch executive. Late entries will not be accepted.

2. General definitions and eligibility of entries for an AHT competition

The definition of the terms “wild game” and “fair chase” will be as they are determined, at the time, by the national body of the NZDA for the purpose of the competition.

All eligible entries must be from such a wild game animal that was taken in New Zealand under those “fair chase” conditions within the previous twelve (12) months. The head must be verified by a branch official within three (3) months of its procurement.

All entries must have been procured in a sportsman like manner, therefore conform to the current NZDA code of ethics.

Any entry **WILL NOT** be eligible for a Hastings branch AHT competition if any of the following circumstances or methods were used in the acquisition of the head.

-if a trophy fee was paid for the animal. (Note: this does not include access fees, private land fees or any payments made to a guide for his services.)

-if the animal was prevented in anyway from escape; by either high wire fencing, corral yards or any other entrapment fixture or snare device causing the same or a similar impediment.

-if the animal was taken using any form of artificial lighting or through the use of night vision equipment.

-if the animal was shot from any aircraft, powered vehicle or vessel.

–if the animal was chased, coursed or captured by dog(s) at any time during the hunt that secured the entry, with the only exception being made for the hunting of wild pigs.

All AHT entries must be presented in an un-mounted full skull or jaw state and be in a clean and wholesome condition for measuring, as determined by the judges. In the event of a broken skull the head judges own discretion will apply as to the validity of the entry.

The antlers, horns or tusks at the time of entry must be in their natural and unaltered state i.e. as it was at the time it was taken. There must have been no interference with its actual condition such as the sharpening of points, removal of points or by the addition of any artificial colouration.

Any antlers taken in velvet, whether they were hard or soft, are considered prohibited entries in all NZDA competitions.

3. Responsibility of compliance with the rules and breach penalties

It is the responsibility of the competitor to assure the legitimacy of his / her entry and its compliance within the rules of the competition.

An ignorance of the rules of the competition is not a valid excuse for breaching them and the submitting of an entry is deemed to be acceptance of the rules.

Any proven dishonesty, in regards to the entries legitimacy or of the information that was provided by the competitor for the competition, will result in the disqualification of that competitor from the event.

If the case of proven dishonesty brings disrepute on the NZDA or the Hastings branch it may incur further disciplinary action as considered appropriate by the branch executive.

4. Categories for the Antler, Horn & Tusk (AHT) competition

Antlered game animals;

- Champion Deer Head (all deer species) - E.J. Herrick Memorial Cup
- Best Red Deer Head - Lester Masters Memorial Cup
- Best Sika Deer Head (conforming only) - Les Taylor Cup
- Best Sika Type Head (Non-conforming) - J. Hanaray Cup
- Best Sth. Island Antlered Game Animal - A. Richards Cup
- Best Other Deer Species - Merit Certificate
- Best Visual Head (all deer species) - Carlton Sports Cup
- Best Non-typical Head (all deer species) - Gavin Hall Cup

Horned game animals;

- 4.2.1 Best Sth. Island Horned Game Animal - M. & A. Lyver Cup
- 4.2.2 Best Wild Rams Horns - D. Adamson Cup
- 4.2.3 Best Wild Goats Horns - M. Motley

4.3 Pig Tusks;

- 4.3.1 Best Pig Tusks (Un-drawn tusk) - Masters Cup
- 4.3.2 Best pig Tusks (Drawn tusk) - Merit Certificate

4.4 Special Categories;

- 4.4.1 Junior Trophy - S. Webby Shield
- 4.4.2 Prospective Member - Mavis Davidson Cup(cert.)

4.5 Entry conditions for the Special categories

- 4.5.1 The Junior Trophy section for the S. Webby Shield is;

-open to all members that were under the age of eighteen (18) at the time the animal was taken.

-open to all junior AHT entries and is judged on the Douglas Score Equivalent System.

- 4.5.2 The Prospective member section for the Mrs Mavis Davidson Cup is;
-open to new members who are financial at the time of the competition, but weren't when the animal was taken.

5. AHT competition systems and procedures

The AHT judging panel will be comprised of at least two (2) qualified Douglas Score measurers and two (2) suitably trained scribes.

Each entry will be measured jointly by two official Douglas scorers who must agree on the final score result.

All AHT entries will be judged using the certified Douglas Score System, except for the following sections;

The Carlton Sports Cup "Best Visual Head" entries which must be judged on their visual symmetry, balance and structure.

The Gavin Hall Cup "Best Non-typical Head" entries which are visually assessed on the abnormality of their antler configuration.

The Masters Cup "Best Pig Tusks" (un-drawn Tusk) entries which are judged using the NZDA system.

All Sika head entries will be first assessed for their conformity to the type using the "Withey System for the conformation of Sika skull and antlers" and be separated out into two (2) categories for the purpose of the competition; i.e. Conforming and Non-conforming.

The head judge(s) will decide on any questionable points that arise during the measuring event and his / her decision will be final on the day, pending any formal protests.

Any objections to the competition results should be made as a formal protest and must be notified to a member of the branch executive within a twenty four (24) hour period following the completion of the judging event and then be presented in writing, detailing the complaint, to the branch secretary within an additional forty eight (48) hour period.

Photographic Competitions

6. Eligibility & General Conditions for Photographic Entries

The competition is open to all current members of the Hastings NZDA branch, as listed in the AHT section above.

All competitors must have been fully financial members of an NZDA branch at the time the photograph was taken or during the period of the video/film work.

All entries must have been taken in accordance with the NZDA national rules.

All entries must have been taken by the entrant, on land and without any form of mechanical conveyance, within New Zealand during the previous twelve (12) months; an exception is allowed for the video/film entries to use any mechanical equipment and machinery to capture the raw footage.

All entries are to be the work of the entrant only, with exception for the printing of a final image, no other person or professional may be involved in the editing, dubbing, compilation or production of the entry.

Any entries that are taken in a manner or that contain subject matter that is not considered to be in the spirit of sportsmanship or is considered to be a direct violation of the NZDA code of ethics and the concept of fair chase will be disqualified from the competition.

All entries are to be accompanied by a Hastings Branch entry form and must be submitted before the notified deadline for judging, as no late entries will be accepted.

7. Responsibility of Compliance with the Rules and Breach Penalties

It is the responsibility of the competitor to assure the legitimacy of his / her entry and its compliance within the rules of the competition.

An ignorance of the rules of the competition is not a valid excuse for breaching them and the lodging of an entry is deemed to be an acceptance of the rules.

The judges shall advise the Branch executive immediately of any apparent breaches of the rules. Any person found deliberately contravening the rules shall have **all** of their entries disqualified from the Photographic competition.

Any objections to the competition results should be made as a formal protest and must be notified to a member of the branch executive within a twenty four (24) hour period following the completion of the judging event and then be presented in writing, detailing the complaint to the branch secretary, within an additional forty eight (48) hour period.

8. Special Rules for Colour Slides and Prints

An entrant may not submit a total of more than three (3) slides or prints into any one section.

All photographs must be no larger than 178mm x 127mm (7"x 5"max.) for Hastings NZDA branch competitions.

(Note: Except for the entries into the G. Te Kahika Photo Album "Human Interest" section, all of the Hawkes Bay inter-branch competitions are only 150mm x 100mm (6"x 4"max.).

Each print or slide is to have the entrant's name and entry number written onto a removable label attached to the reverse side, and must have a title or description corresponding to the title that is listed on the entry form.

Slides may be mounted in glass, so long as a standard carousel projector can project them. A piece of coloured adhesive tape or similar to mark the bottom left hand corner (as viewed) of the front of the slide should be applied to prevent the slide being viewed the wrong way round.

It is the head judge's decision to decide the eligibility of any repetitive entries that may have been submitted. Any copies of an existing photo or plate will be automatically disqualified from the competition.

There will be no restriction on the equipment used to capture the image for the entry, but, any trick photography or entries derived from either a superimposed negative or through the use of digital composite work will not be accepted into the "open" or "Human Interest" categories.

Any digital composite prints will only be eligible to enter the "Best Digital B&W or Colour Print" category.

9. Categories for the Photographic Competition

Colour Slides and Prints;

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| 9.1.1 Best Big Game Animal Image | - Photography Cup |
| 9.1.2 Best Other Wildlife Image | - H/N Wines & Spirits Cup |
| 9.1.3 Best Scenic Image | - R. Griffiths Trophy |
| 9.1.4 Best Native Flora Image | - Tree Surgeons Trophy |

9.2 Colour Slides Only;

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| 9.2.1 Best Colour Slide | - Epherm Hannah Trophy |
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9.2 Photographic Prints Only;

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| 9.2.1 Best Colour Print | - M. Ingpen Photo Album |
| 9.2.2 Human Interest | - G. Te Kahika Photo Album |
| 9.2.3 Best Digital B&W or Colour Print | - Merit Certificate |

9.3 Video Film;

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| 9.4.1 Best Video | - G. Richards Cup |
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10. Entry Conditions for the Photographic Categories

Photography Cup; Best Big Game Animal Image

Category is open to all colour slides and prints of NZ big game animals.

Subject must be of a living species of Deer, Pig, Goat, or other horned big game animal considered by the NZDA as big game.

Havelock North Wines & Spirits Cup; Best Other Wildlife Image

10.2.1 This category is open to all colour slides and prints.

10.2.2 Subject matter to consist of any other wildlife and the category is to be divided into three (3) sections: - Section 1 - birds
- Section 2 - small mammals
- Section 3 - Reptiles, insects & amphibians

10.2.3 All three sections will be judged separately and the best three entries from each section will be awarded merit certificates.

10.2.4 The best image from each section will compete for the H.N. Wines trophy, which will be decided on by assessing the difficulty of capturing the image.

10.3 R. Griffiths Trophy; Best Scenic Image

10.3.1 This category is open to all colour slides and prints.

10.3.2 Subject matter must consist of scenic images that are relative to deerstalking activities.

10.4 Tree Surgeons Trophy; Best Native Flora Image

10.4.1 This category is open to all colour slides and prints.

10.4.2 Subject matter must show New Zealand native plants or fungi depicted in their natural ecosystem and must have been taken within the big game hunting areas of the country.

10.5 Ephem Hannah Trophy; Best Colour Slide

10.5.1 Entries are chosen out of the open image categories; but, only the colour slides are eligible to enter.

10.6 M. Ingpen Photo Album; Best Colour Print

10.6.1 Entries are chosen out of the open image categories; but, only the colour prints are eligible and excludes all entries in the "Human Interest" category.

10.7 G. Te Kahika Album; Best Human Interest Print

10.7.1 Subject matter must contain evidence of human activity, e.g. camp scenes, hunting activities etc.

10.7.2 Scenic photos will only be accepted when the focal point of interest involves such human activity. e.g. A hunter standing on a ridge with a trophy, the scenic background although being important to the overall shot is of secondary importance.

10.7.3 All entries must be pertaining to hunting and hunting country and shall have been taken from land (i.e. not from boats, helicopters, planes etc).

10.7.4 No print for entry shall be masked or in anyway altered from the original negative format.

10.8 Merit Certificate; Best Digital B&W or Colour Print

- 10.8.1 Print must be derived from digital media only and must not be entered in any other of the competition categories.
- 10.8.2 Digital prints may be a composite of various images and must, with exception only for the final printing, be entirely the work of the entrant.
- 10.8.3 The person entering a composite digital print must be the owner of the copyright of all of the images that make up the entered print.
- 10.8.4 Subject matter is to consist of any single image or blended images of living big game animals or wildlife depicted in its wild state and/or of scenic shots or other activities relative to deerstalking.

10.9 G. Richards Cup; Best Video or Film

- 10.9.1 The competition is restricted to amateur filmmakers only; the use of any professional filmmaker in any part of the production is prohibited.
- 10.9.2 There are no restrictions on the equipment used in the production of the video or film entry.
- 10.9.3 All entries should be adhered to a maximum running time of 20 minutes.

11. Photographic Judging Systems and Procedures

- 11.1 The branch shall appoint 3 experienced photographic judges, preferably one of them should be a professional photographer.
- 11.2 Any person that has entered into a particular competition section, or that their family members have got entries in, cannot judge for that section and must declare his conflict of interest before judging commences.
- 11.3 Each judge shall use a separate score sheet and shall allocate points on the following basis:
 - 60 points –Subject matter. With special emphasis placed on stalking ability where applicable or for the difficulty of acquiring the photographic picture.
 - 30 points –Photographic technique, including focusing, exposure, composition, background, etc.
 - 10 points –For presentation ie: no scratches and marks.
- 11.4 The photographer always retains copyright. Any photos, videos or slides used by the Branch in any publication will award credit to the photographer and cannot be used by the Branch without the owners consent in writing.
- 11.5 The winners' name for the relevant categories will be engraved on the appropriate trophy which will then be held by the recipient for one year. All winners and place getters of all of the various sections will receive a certificate of merit, with up to 3 places awarded in each section.
- 11.6 Duplicates of the images may be taken by the branch of the first 3 place getters in each section for the purpose of building a library if the branch desires to do so.