

NAEBA ANTLER COMPETITION RULES

As of May 12, 2010

Notes

1. Throughout these rules, the term “registered” refers to NAEBA Silver or Gold registered — “inventory” is not registered.
2. On page 5, please note the following addition: Antler from endemic restricted regions, but non-quarantined farms/ranches may be entered in hard or velvet antler competitions at non-farm competition locations.
3. On page 6, please note the following addition: A copy of the bull’s registration (Silver or Gold) must accompany the international antler competition entry form and will not be accepted without it.
4. On page 2, please note the following addition: NAEBA judges and judging system must continue to be used for hard antler.

AWARDS

Velvet Antler

The top three places will be recognized with awards at all competitions in the following classes:

2-year-old,	2-year-old Breeder's Three,
3-year-old,	3-year-old Breeder's Three,
4-year-old,	4-year-old Breeder's Three,
5-year-old,	5-year-old Breeder's Three,
6-year-old,	6-year-old Breeder's Three,
Mature,	Mature Breeder's Three

Hard Antler

The top three places will be recognized with awards at all competitions in the following classes:

- Spiker
- 2-year-old Breeder's Three,
- 3-year-old Breeder's Three,
- 4-year-old Breeder's Three,
- 5-year-old Breeder's Three,
- 6-year-old Breeder's Three,
- Mature Breeder's Three

Typical

- 2-year-old,
- 3-year-old,
- 4-year-old,
- 5-year-old,
- 6-year-old,
- Mature

Non-Typical

- 2-year-old,
- 3-year-old,
- 4-year-old,
- 5-year-old,
- 6-year-old,
- Mature

Breeder's Three Award

- The Get-of-Sire Award-the Breeder's Three-will be awarded in a class composed of three bulls of the same age, sired by the same sire, and born on the same farm.
- All three bulls need not be owned by the same owner, but they must have been born on the same farm.
- All three bulls must be DNA matched to the same sire through a sample submitted to the University of California-Davis laboratory and be NAEBA registered at Silver or Gold level.
- Prior to the international competition, all three bulls must be NAEBA registered (at Silver or Gold level) and DNA results must be available prior to entry into international.
- The antlers of a bull may be entered either in the Breeder's Three class OR as an individual in his respective age category-but not in both.
- Each of the three bulls will be given an individual CWI and then the three CWI's will be averaged (added up and divided by 3). The average and the individual CWI's will be published.
- The Breeder's Three groups with the highest average CWI's will be awarded first place through third place.
- Any disputes or "red flags" will be handled according to currently accepted procedure.

Required Declaration for Entry

The North American Elk Breeders Association promotes the elk industry. The antler competitions provide an opportunity for members and producers to market or select the best animal and genetics. No substance should be used to cause antler production to exceed an animal's genetic potential.

Random tests may be conducted from samples collected at the International Antler Competition; and the top three places at the International may also be tested. In accordance with the NAEBA Drug Policy, all antlers entered into competition in any NAEBA sanctioned event shall have the following declaration signed by the owner of the animal and antler.

{FOLLOWING TEXT INSERTED ON ENTRY FORM}

Required Declaration for Entry

These antlers do not contain, and the animal from which these antlers were harvested or shed was not administered (through injection, feed, or any other method), any substance designed or intended to enhance or cause an unnatural increase in antler production. Specifically, this elk was not given BST (Bovine Somatotropin) or growth hormones. Specific substances that are allowed, and therefore excluded from this policy, are feed and trace minerals and those substances good husbandry requires to prevent or treat disease, parasites, or injury, or those required to humanely harvest antlers.

I give my permission and consent to NAEBA to collect samples to test for drugs or other substances or to process a DNA test to insure that the DNA from this antler matches the DNA from semen marketed with this bull's name.

I further attest that the DNA from the entered antlers matches the DNA of the semen marketed with this bull's name and that the antlers entered into this competition were produced by the bull identified in this application and pictured in the photo attached to this application. I further certify that this animal is correctly and accurately represented as to age, ear tag number, and NAEBA registration number. The antlers have not been modified or repaired, and nothing has been done to increase the weight of the antlers since their removal from the animal. I make the statements and enter these antlers in this competition, believing all statements and representations to be true. I understand I am responsible for any false statements. The North American Elk Breeders Association and any other group holding a NAEBA sanctioned competition shall be held harmless from any claim against them as a result of information reported by me which is false or incomplete.

The following substances have been administered to this animal, not for the purpose of enhancing antler growth and not in violation of the above NAEBA Drug Policy:

Any participant in any North American Elk Breeders Association sanctioned antler competition may challenge any entrant in any NAEBA competition with regard to compliance with the requirements applicable to the event. All competitors entering into any NAEBA sanctioned antler competition agree to accommodate the challenge process and abide by the results of the process.

Signed _____

Weight Index (CWI) for Velvet Antler

- Each animal entered in the international competition will receive a Certified Weight Index (CWI)
- The results published will include class, place, bull name, sire name if available, and ranch or owner name, velvet weight, quality and style scores, and CWI.
- Antler from endemic restricted regions, but non-quarantined farms/ranches may be entered in hard or velvet antler competitions at non-farm competition locations.

Modified SCI Scoring System for Hard Antler

- The antlers can be cut off — they don't have to be shed naturally.
- Antlers must not be modified or repaired in any way. It will be permitted to attach the shed buttons to the cut-off antlers as long as the parting line is clearly visible.
- Antlers must be clean, or they may be refused entry.
- The Hard Antler Committee reserves the right to review any entry and re-measure any antlers at any time.
- The results published will include class, place, and bull name, sire name if available, ranch or owner name, main beam length, typical points, non-typical points, circumference, spread credit, and modified SCI score.
- See June/July 2001 *North American Elk* for information about judging hard antler.

Antler Judging Appeals Process

- Should there be any unique situation that causes a perceived loss of points to any entry; the entrant will be allowed to appeal to the judges present. The appeal and antler registration fee will be forwarded to the international antler competition.
- A decision by the senior judges, either velvet or hard antler, and the executive committee will determine whether the antlers will be allowed to compete at the international competition.
- The NAEBA senior velvet or hard antler judge-not the host-will be the decision maker regarding any questionable situations related to regional competitions.

International Antler Competition Entry Requirements:

- Any person who enters the international competition must be a NAEBA member in good standing.
- All bulls entered into international competition must be proven pure by purity test; or prove DNA back to pure animals; or show proof of purity via annual herd report.
- All bulls in the international competition must be registered at the Gold or Silver level. In order to register animals, one must be a NAEBA member.
- A copy of the bull's registration (Silver or Gold) must accompany the international antler competition entry form and will not be accepted without it.
- An entry fee of \$25 (USD) for each set of antlers must be prepaid.

Owner Responsibilities

- Pay appropriate fee for each qualified entry in the international competition.
- Arrange and pay for shipping of antlers from the international competition to the owner's designated site. See below for important note.

Important Notes

- The International Application for Entry requests the owner's intentions for the final destination of the entered sets of antlers.
- Owners of antler can take antler home in their own vehicles or arrange their own shipment home after the international.
- Owners may arrange for antler to be purchased at IAC, this must be documented with a written signed statement prior to release to buyer.
- If no arrangements are made, the antler becomes the property of NAEBA, will be sold and proceeds will go the NAEF as a charitable contribution in the owner's name.
- Winners of first, second, and third place or representative in each category at the International Antler Competition must be present for trophy photo to be placed in NAELK publication.
- Owner is ultimately responsible for getting antler to the international competition and checking in the antler during the designated check-in period.

Code of Ethics for NAEBA Judges

- Must follow judging protocol and procedures established at the NAEBA velvet and hard antler judging schools.
- As a representative of NAEBA, maintain a professional attitude and appearance.
- Treat all contestants and judges with respect.
- When a judge is competing at regional competition, judge may not judge in the class his entry is in as sanctioned judge, may not mix with the judges and may not criticize the judges. Judge is considered a competitor and should behave accordingly.
- Help to improve the judging system, support the industry, and be supportive of other judges.
- Noncompliance, complaining and criticism by judges create confusion. The perception we create has a tremendous effect on our industry. Make it positive.
- Group decisions regarding procedures and protocol will be done through the final approval of the judging committees and board of directors.
- Achieve and maintain superior knowledge of antler and activities associated with antler.
- A judge shall not engage in any activity that is a conflict of interest, which may lead to a conflict of interest, or which gives the perception of a conflict of interest.

Statistician Qualification Standard

- Demonstrate working knowledge of the velvet scoring system and the associated software program.
- Must be a member in good standing of NAEBA.
- Possess an excellent understanding of the antler competition registration process.
- Knowledgeable in the criteria used in the grading and evaluation of velvet.
- Exhibit an understanding of the production and harvesting of velvet.
- Demonstrate the ability to discuss the attributes of the velvet scoring system.
- Successfully complete one velvet judge's workshop.

Qualification as a Statistician is maintained on a yearly basis through successful completion of the annual velvet judges' workshop when available. A Statistician that does not complete the judges' workshop in a given year is disqualified from judging in that year unless an acceptable alternative workshop is attended. If no workshop is offered the qualification is maintained at previous level.

Velvet Judge Qualification Standard

- Must be a member in good standing of NAEBA.
- Demonstrate excellence as a Statistician in a sanctioned regional competition.
- Knowledgeable in the criteria used in the grading and evaluation of velvet.
- Exhibit an understanding of the production and harvesting of velvet.
- Demonstrate the ability to discuss the attributes of specific velvet and the judging process.
- Successfully complete one velvet judges' workshop.

Qualification as a Velvet Judge is maintained on a yearly basis through successful completion of the annual velvet judges' workshop. A Velvet Judge that does not complete the judges' workshop in a given year is disqualified from judging in that year unless an acceptable alternative workshop is attended. If no workshop is offered the qualification is maintained at previous level.

Senior Velvet Judge Qualification Standard

Demonstrate excellence as a Velvet Judge in two sanctioned regional competitions in a sanctioned international competition.

- Must be a member in good standing of NAEBA.
- Exceptional knowledge of the criteria used in the grading and evaluation of velvet.
- Exhibit an excellent understanding of the production and harvesting of velvet.
- Demonstrate the ability to speak before audiences as to the quality of specific velvet and the judging process.
- Successfully complete two velvet judges' workshops.

Qualification as a Senior Velvet Judge is maintained on a yearly basis through successful completion of the annual velvet judges' workshop. A Senior Velvet Judge that does not complete the judges' workshop in a given year is disqualified from judging in that year unless an acceptable alternative workshop is attended. If no workshop is offered the qualification is maintained at previous level.

Hard Antler Judge Qualification

- Applicant must be a member in good standing of North American Elk Breeders Association.
- Must be a certified measurer for Safari Club International, Boone & Crockett, or Pope & Young.
- Must attend the annual continuing education course for Hard Antler judges
- Above-mentioned certification must be current and in good standing.