

REGISTRATION:

1. **Callers must be current members of the NWTF.** Contestants 18 years and older must be current NWTF members (\$30). Contestants 17 years and younger must be current JAKES members (\$5). Current members have a card to prove their membership. Non-members may join at the time of registration.

2. **Please Note: If the NWTF receives a contest result form and any contestants are not members, then these persons will be disqualified, and will not qualify for the Grand National Competition.**

CALLING CONTEST GUIDELINES:

1. Review all rules and answer all questions with callers and judges present.
2. Calls should be chosen from this list: cluck, putt, tree call, plain yelp of the hen, cutting of excited hen, adult hen assembly call, fly down cackle, kee kee run, purr, and caller's best call. Calls can be combined.
3. A minimum of 3 and no more than 5 calls will be asked in each division.
4. Each caller will be asked to give the required call when announced by the Master of Ceremony in two brief series.
5. There will be a one-minute time limit for each call required (ex. 3 calls, 3 mins. 4 calls 4 mins.).
6. There will be no practicing of calls within the hearing range of the judges during the contest.
7. Excuse judges prior to drawing for calling positions. Instruct judges that they are to have no contact with the callers.
8. Establish a time to draw for calling position. Make all callers aware of the specified time when the drawing for calling positions is to occur. If a caller does not show up for the roll call, drop him/her from the contest. Always have 1 more number in the hat than the total number of callers entered ex. if there are 12 callers, use 13 numbers.
9. Each contestant draws a number to determine the order of calling. The contestant that draws number 1 immediately draws another number. He/she will call in both positions, but only the second call will count for score, the first score is thrown out.
10. **Please Note:** If a contestant does not draw number one (1), then a second drawing will be held on voluntary basis. If a contestant chooses he/she may draw in second drawing but, if the contestant prefers to keep the number drawn in the first drawing then they do not have to enter the second drawing. If no contestants wish to draw a second time then the contestant with number 2 (two) will start the contest and call as number one (1) and as the number two- (2) positions. Only the score derived while calling the second calling position will count for score.
11. Excuse callers until the contest begins. Instruct callers that they are to have no contact with the judges.
12. The NWTF is currently reviewing options to the outlined procedure. Changes may be forth coming at a later date.

JUDGES

1. A minimum of 5 judges must be used. Judges should possess high personal integrity and should have a good knowledge of wild turkeys and turkey calling.
2. Designate a master of ceremonies, a head judge who is assisted by at least 4 other judges, and at least 3 scorers. Judges should not be facing the audience. Nor should the judges be able to see each caller perform.
3. Rotate judges from year to year. Try to avoid always using the same judges.
4. If possible, select judges that do not represent call manufacturers to avoid possible conflicts.
5. Judges will award a numerical score on the score sheets provided for each call based on their judgment of the caller's ability.
6. A point scoring range of 1 - 50 points for gobbling contest and the owl hooting contest and a point scoring range of 1 - 20 for the wild turkey calling contest is used to further reduce the risk of tie and the need for a call off.

SCORING:

1. All scores will be recorded in ink by the judges.
2. After each contestant, a runner will collect all score sheets and deliver them to the scorer's table.
3. Scorers should use silent calculators with tapes.
4. Scorers will tabulate and record all scores on the combined tally sheet. Add each score sheet up and write the total score at the bottom of each sheet. A contestant's final score will be derived by dropping the highest and lowest TOTAL score sheets of each caller and then add the remaining score sheets together, which will be the grand total score for each caller. Example, if a caller receives a total scores of 73, 76, 70, 77, & 74, you would drop the 70 & 77 and add remain scores = Grand Total score of 223. Staple all score sheets together to give to the contestants after the competition.
5. Ties will be broken by a call off. Contestant's with equal Grand total scores will be called back on stage and asked to deliver the same calls in the order as in the preceding round. Contestants in a call off will call in the same order as the preceding round. The highest point total in the call off will be declared the winner of that place. Scores obtained in call off are used solely to break ties.
6. Allow the callers five minutes to review scores at the end of the contest. Do not announce winners until all scores have been checked by the contestants.
7. Additional rules may be added if necessary, however, these basic rules must be followed.

DIVISIONS:

Several divisions are usually held at local contest. In some cases organizers try to have too many divisions at a contest and end up exhausting the judges, callers, and the audience. Three or four divisions are plenty. Remember, keep the contest fun for everyone and be sure to promote the good work done by the NWTF. Some of the typical ones are state, local, open, youth, owl hooting, and gobbling.

- **Open Contest** - open to anyone who wishes to enter - suggested ages: 21 and older. Winners must be 21 years of age to qualify for the grand nationals.
- **State Championship**- held to attain a state champion - suggested ages: 21 and older. Winners must be 21 years of age to qualify for the grand nationals.
- **Resident Contest** - must be a resident of the state. A valid driver's license is proof of residency. This division does not qualify to enter the grand nationals.
- **Intermediate Division** - suggested ages: 16-20 years old. This division does not have to qualify to enter the grand nationals. Open to anyone in this age group.
- **Junior (JAKES) Division** - suggested ages: 15 years and under. This division does not have to qualify to enter the grand nationals. Open to anyone in this age group.
- **Amateur Division** - any person who has never won or placed in a calling contest. (Contest organizers may further define this category.) This division does not qualify to enter the grand nationals.

GRAND NATIONAL CONTEST AGE LIMITS

- Grand National Senior Division: 21 and older
- Grand National Intermediate Division: 16 – 20
- Grand National Junior Division: 15 and younger

**The Intermediate and Junior divisions do not have to qualify for GNCC – registration is open to all.

PLEASE NOTE: Contest organizer's may set their own age limits for each division.(Example if a 18 year old caller wins your Senior Open or State division - they would not qualify for the Grand National Senior Division because the age limit is 21 and older.)

Contestants under 21 may compete in the Senior Division at a local calling contest, but may not compete in both an Intermediate and a Senior Division in the same contest.