



RULES AND REGULATIONS

INTRODUCTION

The regulations contained herein set forth the rules and procedures governing the 2012 Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation World Elk Calling Championships™. The regulations are also an attempt to create high standards for all elk calling competitions.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH CONTEST REGULATIONS

Any entrant failing to comply with any of the requirements as herein set forth shall be disqualified from the contest and will be ineligible to compete.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the contest is to imitate actual elk sounds and to allow the contestants to demonstrate their ability to reproduce these sounds. Because not all elk sound exactly alike, it is expected that not all contestants will sound exactly alike. Every contestant has an equal chance to win.

AMATEUR DIVISIONS

There are five amateur divisions: 1. Men's Division, 2. Women's Division, 3. Voice Division*, 4. Youth Division, (11-17 yrs.), 5. Pee Wee Division, (10 yrs. and under)

An amateur elk caller is one who participates in competitions for fun and as a non-profit-making activity and who does not receive compensation for teaching elk calling or for other activities because of elk calling skill or reputation. Note: Excludes prizes awarded at Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation sanctioned calling competitions.

Contest officials reserve the right to reclassify contestants for the appropriate division.

** All entrants in the voice division must use only their voice to make sounds. Contestants will be allowed to use their grunt tubes to project calls. All grunt tubes must meet specifications as listed in the **calling devices/props** section of these rules.*

PROFESSIONAL DIVISION

There is one professional division.

Any entrant who owns a calling business or works as a sales representative or demonstrator for a calling business must enter the contest in the Professional Division. Contest officials reserve the right to reclassify contestants for the appropriate division. (This division criterion applies to both men and women.)

DIVISION REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of three contestants is required for each division. If fewer than three contestants register, that division will be eliminated and the contestants will have the option to upgrade to a higher division or be refunded their entry fee. Each caller will follow the same basic format as outlined in these rules. All contestants are required to call in

the preliminaries except the previous year's winner. The top five callers from each division will advance to the finals which will automatically include the previous year's winner. Exception – if the previous year's winner has changed divisions he/she will be required to call in the preliminary round.

Contestants cannot enter more than one individual division. If a contestant has entered the Professional Division in the past and wishes to enter the Men's or Women's Division this year, he or she may do so. However, contestants who are classified as Professional must always enter the Professional Division. The same applies toward the youth contestants. If a youth contestant wishes to enter the Men's or Women's Division one year and desires to enter the Youth Division another year, he or she may do so provided they meet the age limit for the Youth Division.

REGISTRATION

Contestants may register by mail, fax or on-site at the Las Vegas Convention Center. **All contestants must be pre-registered by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 2, 2012.** Entry fees are as follows: \$100 - Professional Division, \$35 - Men's Division, \$35 - Women's Division, \$35 - Voice Division, \$10 - Youth Division, \$10 - Pee Wee Division. All contestants must be current members of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation to enter. One membership per household is adequate.

CALLING DEVICES/PROPS

Only vocal calling or sounds produced by handheld or breath-operated instruments may be used. Contestants can only produce sounds specified by the announcer. Electronic devices and the use of props such as trees, antlers, breaking branches and other devices are prohibited. (Contestants are prohibited to operate instruments by stepping on them or squeezing them between their knees or under their arms.) Calls, grunt tubes, or any other instruments used can be a maximum of six inches in diameter and no more than three feet long. Calls in question will be measured by the officials. Contestants must be able to carry their calls to the calling area on their person. Duffle bags and backpacks are not allowed. A table will be provided for the contestants to put their devices on while they are calling.

CALLS

Contestants will base their calls on the following sequence. For the Professional, Men's, Women's, Voice and Youth divisions a maximum of 1 ½ minutes will be allowed (45 seconds for cow/calf sounds, 45 seconds for bull sounds). For the Pee Wee Division a maximum of one minute will be allowed (30 seconds for cow/calf sounds, 30 seconds for bull sounds). Each caller will be asked to produce both cow/calf sounds and bull elk sounds. Callers must produce sounds specified by the announcer within 15 seconds from the time the announcer asks. When the caller makes his/her first sound, an official of the contest will start a time clock. The contestant will be able to see the clock at all times when calling. A buzzer will go off at the end of the time limit. Any contestants who exceed the time limit will be disqualified from the contest.

CALLING SEQUENCE

The contestants will draw numbers and call in the order of the draw. The official scorekeepers will assign numbers to contestants as drawn. If a contestant misses his/her calling sequence during the preliminaries or finals, he/she will be automatically disqualified from the contest.

LOCATION OF CONTESTANTS

Contestants will call in an area designated by the contest officials. Contestants will be asked to remain in an area designated by the contest officials during the contest. Contestants will not be allowed to practice in the room at any time.

CONTEST OFFICIALS

There will be a minimum of at least three contest officials. The officials will be announced prior to the start of competition. The officials will inspect and approve all calling devices used by the contestants. The officials have the right to allow or prohibit any calling devices from being used. The decision of the contest officials is final.

LOCATION OF JUDGES

Judges will score each call from behind a screen which completely prevents them from seeing or identifying the contestants. This screen will be located in close proximity to the calling site.

JUDGES

Knowledgeable judges will be scoring the competition. Judges will be comprised of outfitters, guides, wildlife biologists, etc. No person shall serve as a judge if he/she is related to any contestant. There will be a minimum of five judges and a maximum of nine judges scoring. Judges will not be allowed to re-score any contestant once his/her scorecard has been submitted.

SCORING

Judges will evaluate each series of calls from one (1) through twenty (20), one (1) being the lowest, and twenty (20) the highest for a total possible score of 40 points per contestant per judge. The scorekeeper will eliminate the highest and the lowest scores of each contestant. Contestants will receive their scorecards, if desired, at the conclusion of the competition.

TIES

All ties determining award places will be broken by a call-off. Those contestants with equal total scores will be called back on stage and asked to deliver the same calls in the same order as in the preceding round. The contestant with the highest point total will be declared the winner of that place. Scores obtained in call-offs are used solely to break ties. Call-off scores are not figured in determining the total score.

WINNERS

The caller with the highest point total from the final professional round will be declared the 2012 Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation World Elk Calling Champion. The person with the second highest score will be declared the second place winner and the person with the third highest score will be declared third-place winner.

ANNOUNCER

Prior to the start of the contest, the contestants will draw numbers and the scorekeepers will record each contestant's name and number. The announcer will welcome the audience and participants, and then introduce the judges. The judges will be sequestered behind the screen and the announcer will begin by calling for contestant #1. Each contestant will be announced to the audience and to the judges by number only.

Example: Announcer will ask for contestant #1 to come up on stage. Contestant #2 will be asked to stand by. Announcer will then say, Contestant #1...cow/calf sounds...bull sounds...thank you contestant #1. Contestant #2...cow/calf sounds...bull sounds...thank you contestant #2"...etc.

Following the last contestant in a division, scores will be tallied by the scorekeepers. The contest officials will check the scores for ties. The announcer will read the names of the winners at the end of the competition for both the preliminaries and the finals.

PRIZES

First-place winners will receive the following: Professional Division - \$2,500 cash, Men's Division - \$1,500 cash, Women's Division - \$1,500 cash, Voice Division - \$1,000 cash, Youth Division - \$500 cash, and Pee Wee Division - \$500 cash. Second and third place prizes will also be awarded for all divisions.

VIDEO AND MEDIA COVERAGE

It will be required that all contestants sign a personal film/video/media release. Contestants who refuse to sign the waiver will be disqualified from the contest.

CONTESTANT CONDUCT

All contestants must adhere to the rules and regulations of the contest. Any contestants who harass the announcer, calling officials, scorekeepers, or other contestants will be disqualified indefinitely from all Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation calling contests. Anyone who approaches the scorekeepers table during the competition will be disqualified. This includes any family member even if he/she is not competing. Approaching the table will result in the disqualification of the family member competing.

CONTESTANT HISTORY

Contestants shall not have a criminal record containing felony convictions, game law violations, or any other history that may embarrass the Elk Foundation or inhibit its mission. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation reserves the right to disqualify contestants at its own discretion.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

All contestant protests must be put in writing and submitted to the contest officials. Such protests must state clearly the cause of the complaint or appeal, and must be delivered or mailed to a contest official within 48 hours after occurrence of alleged incident. Judging procedures will not be interrupted for protest investigation. Action on the protest will be handled by the contest officials. A written response will be mailed within 30 days after the protest is received. The decision of the contest officials in the matter shall be final.

CALLING TECHNIQUE:

Contestants will be allowed to discuss their calling technique with the judges at the conclusion of the contest finals on Saturday morning. However, if for any reason the judges are harassed by any caller, the contestant will be immediately disqualified from the competition. If there are any comments or concerns in regard to the competition, they should be directed in writing to the contest officials.

MANDATORY PRELIMINARY MEETING

9:30 a.m., Friday, February 3, 2012, Las Vegas Convention Center Exhibit Hall N 3-4

PRELIMINARY CALLING CONTEST

10:00 a.m., Friday, February 3, 2012, Las Vegas Convention Center Exhibit Hall N 3-4

MANDATORY FINALIST MEETING

8:30 a.m., Saturday, February 4, 2012, Las Vegas Convention Center Exhibit Hall N 3-4

FINALS CALLING CONTEST

9:00 a.m., Saturday, February 4, 2012, Las Vegas Convention Center Exhibit Hall N 3-4

SPECIAL NOTE:

All contestants are required to attend the mandatory contestant meetings for which they are registered. Failure to attend will result in disqualification from the contest. We will be drawing numbers for calling positions at this time and reviewing the rules and regulations of the event.