INTRODUCTION
The regulations contained herein set forth the rules and procedures governing the 2020 Regional Qualifying Events for the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) World Elk Calling Regionals™ (WECR). 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.

DIVISIONS
There are six divisions:
1. Professional Division*
2. Men's Division
3. Women's Division**
4. Voice Division***
5. Youth Division, (11-17 yrs.)
6. 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 RMEF-sanctioned calling competitions.

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

* Any entrant who owns a calling business or works as a sales representative, ambassador, demonstrator or any official capacity, as determined solely by RMEF, for a calling business must enter the contest in the Professional Division. (Female professionals may choose to compete in the Women’s division.)

**In an effort to bolster participation in the Women’s Division, entrants may be either amateur or professional. (By way of information, “amateurs” defeated competitors with “professional” credentials to win both the 2017 and 2018 WECC Women’s Division titles.)

*** 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.
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. Each caller will follow the same basic format as outlined in these rules.

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, unless they are female and choose to compete in the Women’s Division instead. 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
In Denver, contestants may only register at the show site until 12 p.m. on Saturday, January 11, at either RMEF’s Great Elk Tour (Booth #F1054) or the Sportsman of Colorado booth (#827).

In Salt Lake City, registrations will be accepted at the RMEF Great Elk Tour booth on the expo hall floor, or in Rooms C-D in the lobby of the Mountain America Expo Center. Registrations will also be accepted online. All registrations will close at 5 p.m., Friday, March 20, 2020.

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.

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, he/she will be automatically disqualified from the contest.

LOCATION OF CONTESTANTS
The competition will be held at the Adventure Theater within the Colorado Convention Center (Denver ISE) and the Mountain America Expo Center (Salt Lake City ISE). 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 competition and will not be allowed to practice in the room at any time.

CONTEST OFFICIALS
Contest 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 that completely prevents them from seeing or identifying the contestants. This screen will be near 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 may receive their scorecards, if desired, after 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.

In case of a second ties within the top 3 finishers, we will have a head-to-head call-off. Both callers will get on the stage and be randomly placed on each side at the same time. They will each be asked to make their best bull bugle (announcer will say caller one, best bull bugle...caller two, best bull bugle). The judges will then circle either caller one or caller two on their card.

WINNERS
The caller with the highest point total in each division will be declared the winner. The person with the second highest point total will be declared the second place winner. The person with the third highest point total will be declared the 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. If there are a large number of participants in a division, staffers may determine to hold a preliminary round to determine five finalists who would advance to take part in a finals round. 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 (if needed) and the finals.
PRIZES
The prize package for the Denver event totals $2,000 and breaks down as follows:
  Professional Division – 1st Place-$650, 2nd Place-$350, 3rd Place-$200
  Men’s Division – 1st Place-$450, 2nd Place-$225, 3rd Place-$125
The prize package for the Salt Lake City event totals $5,000 and breaks down as follows:
  Professional Division – 1st Place-$2,000, 2nd & 3rd Place-Gear prizes TBD
  Men’s Division – 1st Place-$1,000, 2nd & 3rd Place-Gear prizes TBD
  Women’s Division – 1st Place-$1,000, 2nd & 3rd Place-Gear prizes TBD
  Voice Division – 1st Place-$500, 2nd & 3rd Place-Gear prizes TBD
  Youth Division – 1st Place-$250, 2nd & 3rd Place-Gear prizes TBD
  Pee Wee Division – 1st Place-$250, 2nd & 3rd Place-Gear prizes TBD

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 RMEF calling contests. This includes any family member even if he/she is not competing.

CONTESTANT HISTORY
Contestants shall not have a criminal record containing felony convictions, game law violations or any other history over the last 10 years that may reflect poorly on or inhibit the RMEF. RMEF 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 emailed 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 after the contest finals. 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 regarding the competition, they should be directed in writing to the contest officials.