

Puget Sound Open – Decoy Carving Contest

Rules and Details

Contest will be held on **May 19, 2012** at:
The Farmhouse Restaurant
13724 LaConner-Whitney Rd.
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

1. Decoys must be of a species common to North America.
2. Decoys may be made of wood, cork, or stretched canvas. Glass eyes are allowed. Machine duplicated decoys are not allowed.
3. Carving and painting should be functional enough to be used as tools for hunting.
4. No burning or fine-stoned texturing is allowed. However, simulated texturing using gesso, modeling paste, or texture paint in combination with combing, scratching, or brushing is acceptable.
5. Bills, tails, and other “vulnerable” areas must be durable and can be reinforced.
6. Ballast weights, keels, and tie-on devices are part of the decoy and will be judged as such.
7. In the water, the duck decoy must right from any position. Brant and geese must right from the side.
8. All entries will be reviewed by the judges for compliance to rules prior to floating. The final judging will be at a distance of 30 feet of the floating entry. Multiple entries can be in the water at the same time for comparison.
9. All markings identifying the carver will be covered.
10. Any decoy that splits, checks, or has paint deterioration prior to completion of the judging will be disqualified.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Craftsmanship - Relates to the technical skills involved in the carving. Are all glue lines blended in? Are eyes seated properly?

Serviceability - Will this entry work? Will it require special handling in a decoy bag or boat? Is it durable?

Accuracy - Are the feather patterns in the correct shape and color? Are the eyes in the proper position and alignment?

Projection - Will the entry display the species in low light conditions (dawn/dusk)? You can't see detail; does the silhouette identify? Canvasback vs. Scaup; Green Wing Teal vs. American Widgeon?

Overall Presentation - This category encompasses all of the data displayed and will be in the water at a distance of 30 feet.

All judging decisions are final.

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COMPETITION LEVELS

Open Division - Open to all who have placed in another competition or have carved enough to consider themselves above the Novice Division.

There are two classes in this division: Diver and Puddler. This division includes any waterfowl common to North America except for brant.

Open Division 1st and 2nd place winners of each class are purchase awards and belong to WBF.

First Prize: \$300.00 (per class) and Medallion

Second Prize: \$200.00 (per class) and Medallion

Third Prize: \$100.00 (per class) and Medallion

Brant Division - Open to anyone wishing to compete. Brant must be common to Washington State.

Brant Division winners are purchase awards (1st, 2nd, and 3rd places) and belong to WBF.

First Prize: Custom embroidered Filson Coat (\$225 value), plus \$150 and Medallion

Second Prize: Custom embroidered Filson Vest (\$150 value), plus \$75 and Medallion

Third Prize: Filson Bag (\$100 value), plus \$50 and Medallion

Confidence Division – Open to all carvers. Includes any specie thought to add confidence to a decoy spread – gulls, herons, shorebirds, cormorant, etc.

1st place only is a purchase award.

First Prize: \$200.00 and Medallion

Second Prize: \$100.00 and Medallion

Third Prize: \$50.00 and Medallion

Muskrat Division - Open to anyone wishing to compete. **Carving will be a drake barrow's goldeneye.** Entry must be made of wood. Entry will be judged floating. No other rules apply. Carver's are encouraged to carve and paint how they wish and not be restricted by rules.

1st place Muskrat Division is a purchase award and belongs to WBF.

Special entry fee of \$20 per decoy.

First Prize: \$500

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Youth Division - Open to all youth through the age of 15. This includes any waterfowl common to North America. Note that this division does not include purchase awards. No entry fee required.

First Prize: \$50.00 and Medallion

Second Prize: \$25.00 and Medallion

Third Prize: WBF Filson Hat and Medallion

Novice Division - Open to all who have not placed (first, second, third places) in any competition. This includes any waterfowl common to North America except for a brant. Note that this class does not include purchase awards.

First Prize: \$100.00 and Medallion

Second Prize: \$50.00 and Medallion

Third Prize: \$25.00 and Medallion

2012 Washington State Ducks Unlimited Decoy Contest. Open to anyone wishing to compete. **This year's carving will be a drake pintail.**

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place entries are purchase awards and will be raffled off at the Washington State Ducks Unlimited Convention Banquet in June.

Entry Fee is \$10 per decoy.

First Prize: \$400.00

Second Prize: \$200.00

Third Prize: \$100.00

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REGISTRATION

Registration fee is \$10.00 per entry (Muskrat Award \$20 per entry), \$15.00 for mail-ins (to cover return postage).

Registration starts at 8:00. Judging starts at 9:00 am and all decoys must be registered prior to then.

All decoys will remain on display at the show until 2:00pm. You are encouraged to mail in your entries if you cannot stay until the end of the show.

Please address mail-ins to:
Kurt Benson
8413 319th St NW
Stanwood, WA 98292

Purchase awards are auctioned off at the event. They help defray event costs and help greatly in the financing of the WBF Educational Programs. If a carver does not place and wishes to donate his carving to WBF, he will receive a 501(c)3 tax deduction slip the day of the event.

You can contact Kurt Benson with any questions on the contest:

TZTOY62@aol.com
(425) 231 - 6497