

Georgia Wildlife Federation / Georgia Chapter National Wild Turkey Federation
Call Makers Competition
Georgia State Championship and Georgia Wildlife Federation Open Championship
Hunting Calls 2010 Rules, Announcements and Categories
(Open to all call makers)

I. CHARTER

The basis for this competition is to determine each call's stand-alone merit of how well it performs in the hands of a hunter. The judges of this competition will be a qualified panel of experienced hunters who will grade each call on the prescribed criteria. Please note that this is not a contest to determine who the best caller is, rather it is a contest to determine the best call in each specific category.

While it is expected that call makers can run their own calls with great precision, the question with hunters is, how simple or easy the call is to use and how much does it sound like the game they pursue. In determining and selecting the best hunting calls each year, the Georgia Wildlife Federation (GWF) strives to ensure fairness and impartiality without prejudice towards commercial or custom call makers or with the design of any call entered in the hunting call competition. Criteria for determining and selecting the best call places equal emphasis on sound quality and tone, ease of use, versatility and its ability in attaining what is commonly referred to as a break over.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RULES

The purpose of the hunting call competition is to select the most consistent, user friendly and best sounding calls. Entry into the Georgia State Championship is limited to Georgia residents and is open to commercially manufactured or custom, hand made or hand tuned calls. The Georgia Wildlife Federation Open is open to any call maker, regardless of residence, following the same criteria as above. Calls will be judged in both the State and Open by category and class. A Georgia State Champion and a Georgia Wildlife Federation Open Champion will be awarded. Awards will be given by category as well as Best of Class.

All entries will be sold at the silent auction at a 50/50 split (unless entry fee waiver is elected for 100% donation) at the 2010 Perry Great Outdoors Show. The 50/50 split entitles the call maker to 50% of the auction bid and the remaining 50% goes to support the GWF. Name recognition and competition placement (if applicable) will be displayed with each entry at the auction.

General Hunting Calls Competition Rules:

1. **All call makers are required to pre-register all calls they plan to enter in the 2010 competition by February 1, 2010.**
2. Entries must be original works and must have been completed during or after March 2008. Entries must be signed and dated by the call maker.
3. All call makers are limited to two entries per category.
4. Call makers are responsible for selecting the category in which they wish to enter each call. The GWF reserves the right to place any call in a different category than the one designated by the entrant if the GWF believes the call is more correctly suited to a different category/class.
5. **Pre-registered calls may be sent directly to the GWF or delivered in person** at the Hunting Call Registration desk near the Call Makers Gallery on Friday, February 12, 2010 from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. (The Perry Great Outdoors Show)
6. Entries shipped to the GWF must be received no later than February 1, 2010 at the following address:
Georgia Wildlife Federation
Hunting Call Competition
11600 Hazelbrand Rd.
Covington, Ga. 30014

Hunting Calls

7. **The following procedure is required when sending in your call(s) and the Registration Forms. The form has 2 copies...one copy must go on the outside of the box and one is for your records. It is very important that this procedure be followed. Please do not put the form inside the box; it must be on the outside so we can get your call(s) registered without opening the box. This will help us expedite the registration and transporting of the many calls in this competition.**
8. All entries shipped to the GWF will be opened at the show site.
9. It is the call maker's responsibility to place an acceptable insurance value on the entry for shipping purposes, as GWF will not be held responsible for any loss or damage to entries that are beyond the control of the contest.
10. **All entries will be required to remain at the Show until Sunday, February 14, 2010. Buyers will be allowed to pay for and pick up calls bought beginning Sunday afternoon, February 14 at 2:00 p.m.**
11. **ENTRY FEES**
 - a. **The entry fee is \$20 per call** for all entries that the call maker wishes to split half the proceeds with the GWF, or,
 - b. **The entry fee is free per call** for all entries that are deemed 100% supportive. The artisan will not receive any moneys from the sale of the call under this option.
12. Checks will be mailed out from GWF Headquarters approx. 30 days after the show.
13. **Restrictions:** Calls made with box turtle or turtle shell are not permitted.
14. Call makers wishing to place business cards near their pieces may do so after judging is completed and ribbons have been placed.

III. DISTINCTION OF CLASSES AND CATEGORIES FOR HUNTING CALLS

Entries are limited to (2) two calls per category and should be the original work of the entrant.

Class I

Category 1 – Short Box: Hinged-lid design; traditional double-sided design e.g. (Cost, Lynch, Turpin).

Category 2 – Long Box: Hinged-lid design; long paddle design e.g. (Eminence fence post caller style, Cost style boat paddle).

Category 3 – One Sided Box: Hinged-lid design e.g. (Lynch fool proof).

Class II

Category 4 – Slate and Striker

Category 5 – Glass and Striker

Category 6 – Other Friction Call and Striker (i.e. aluminum, copper, rock, etc.)

Class III

Category 7 – Turned Trumpet Call: Turned or machined barrel with mouthpiece, mouthpiece is not required to be turned.

Class IV

Category 8 – Wing bone, cane and other material: Two or three wingbones, cane or other materials such as wing bone/rubber tubing/cow horn are permissible.

Class V

Category 9 – Scratch Box Design

Category 10 – Push-Pin Call

Category 11 – Trough Call and Striker: e.g. (Ray & Ira Chisholm, Pap Nelson, Ben Lee).

Class VI

Category 12– Duck Calls

Class VII

Category 13 – Turned or Carved Strikers: Strikers must be hand turned on a lathe or carved by hand. Strikers will be judged by running on three different calls that have been pre-selected by GWF or its representative.

Class VIII

Category 14 – All Other Calls (Crow, Owl, Predator, Grunt, etc.)

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IV. JUDGING

1. Only the following characteristics of each call will be scored.
 - a. Ability to produce turkey like sounds. (Examples include but are not limited to: yelp, cluck, kee-kee, cackle, cutting of the hen, purr, putt, gobble, tree call).
 - b. Ease of use to produce turkey like sounds (i.e. how simple or user friendly is the call to use).
 - c. Tone, pitch, and sound quality.
 - d. Break over or roll over.
 - e. Versatility (i.e. the ability to obtain a vast range of turkey like sounds, both spring or fall type calls, gobbler or hen sounds, and the ability to sound like more than one turkey).
2. A panel of five (5) judges will individually rate each entry.
3. Scores of each call are totaled following the removal of the high and low score. The winner of each category will then be determined by the highest score.
4. A sample score sheet is attached for informational purposes. However, the GWF reserves the right to make changes (to the scoring sheet) it deems necessary prior to judging.
5. All judges are required to be available at the hunting call display area in the exhibit hall on Saturday, at 9 A.M. Judges will be issued special badges to the exhibit hall at the time of registration. The preliminary round of judging will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 13th. The Honorary Chairman of this event will serve as facilitator. Judging normally takes 8 hours.
6. The process of how calls are judged is as follows:
 - Step 1: Based on the five (5) criteria, the panel of five judges will individually select a minimum of three (3) calls with a maximum of five (5) calls per category during the preliminary rounds. These selected calls will advance to the final round.
 - Step 2: For the final round, **each judge will individually score each entry** in each category
 - Step 3: The calls with highest six (3) scores in each category will be declared: 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners and receive ribbons.
 - Step 4: In the event of a tie score, the calls in question will be re-scored by the judges to determine the winner.
 - Step 5 – Step 12: The call scoring the highest score in the final round of each class shall be recognized as this year's Best of Class winner.
 - Step 13: Next the judges will independently score the eight (8) Best in Class winners. The call with the highest score shall be declared the Best of Show in Hunting Calls and have earned the title GWF/GA. NWTF State Champion or GWF Open Champion for Hunting Calls.
 - Step 14: Once judging is completed, all trophies and awards will be placed.
7. Winners of the hunting call division will be announced Saturday, February 13, 2010 as soon as judging is completed and scores are tallied. in the exhibit hall.

Hunting Calls

V. OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. Bidding on ALL Silent Auction Calls will begin on Saturday, February 13, 2010 immediately following the judging. The silent auction on the hunting calls will close at 2:00 PM Sunday, February 14th. All calls will be sold to the highest bidder or will be considered sold when the “Buy it now” price is utilized.
2. Call makers may place absentee bids by filling out the bidding form and including it with their registration form.

VI. AWARDS

BEST OF STATE GWF/ GA NWTF Champion Call Maker of the Year	\$500.00 and Plaque
Best of Class I Box Call Categories 1-2-3	\$100.00 and Best of Class Ribbon
Best of Class II Friction Call Categories 4-5-6	\$100.00 and Best of Class Ribbon
Best of Class III Turned Trumpet Call Category 7	\$100.00 and Best of Class Ribbon
Best of Class IV Wing Bone Call Category 8	\$100.00 and Best of Class Ribbon
Best of Class V Scratch Box, Push Pin, Trough Call Categories 9-11	\$100.00 and Best of Class Ribbon
Best of Class VI Duck Calls	\$100.00 and Best of Class Ribbon
Best of Class VII Turned or Carved Strikers	\$100.00 and Best of Class Ribbon
Best of Class VIII All Other Calls	\$100.00 and Best of Class Ribbon
1st Place for each category	Ribbon
2nd Place for each category	Ribbon
3rd Place for each category	Ribbon
OPEN GWF/GA NWTF Champion Call Maker of the Year	\$500.00 and Plaque
Best of Class I Box Call Categories 1-2-3	\$100.00 and Best of Class Ribbon
Best of Class II Friction Call Categories 4-5-6	\$100.00 and Best of Class Ribbon
Best of Class III Turned Trumpet Call Category 7	\$100.00 and Best of Class Ribbon
Best of Class IV Wing Bone Call Category 8	\$100.00 and Best of Class Ribbon
Best of Class V Scratch Box, Push Pin, Trough Call Categories 9-11	\$100.00 and Best of Class Ribbon
Best of Class VI Duck Calls	\$100.00 and Best of Class Ribbon
Best of Class VII Turned or Carved Strikers	\$100.00 and Best of Class Ribbon
Best of Class VIII All Other Calls	\$100.00 and Best of Class Ribbon
1st Place for each category	Ribbon
2nd Place for each category	Ribbon
3rd Place for each category	Ribbon